

# J. Emerson, Inc.

FINE WINES & CHEESE

5716 Grove Avenue • Richmond, VA. 23226 • (804) 285-8011

Visit our website - [www.jemersonfinewine.com](http://www.jemersonfinewine.com)

STORE HOURS: Mon. - Sat.: 9:00am to 8:00pm

CELEBRATING OUR 25<sup>th</sup> YEAR

## JANUARY 2010 NEWSLETTER

New Arrivals • Staff '09 Favorites • New Year's resolutions • January Value Wines

### Our January 2010 tasting

#### ARGYLE WINERY

Thursday, January 28th from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm at our Store on Grove Ave.

A list of wines will be posted in the store and there will be special pricing for purchases made during the tasting.

BEER TASTING – Brooklyn Brewery – Thursday, Jan 21, 2010 – 5:30-7:30pm

### MONTHLY SPECIALS

	<u>Jan.'09</u>	<u>USUAL</u>	<u>CASE (cs.btl. cost)</u>
*2006 STEP ROAD "Blackwing" Shiraz (South Australia)	\$ 6.95	\$11.95	\$ 80 (\$6.67)
*2008 PALAZZONE "Dubini" Bianco (Umbria, Italy)	\$ 8.95	\$10.95	\$100 (\$8.33)
*2006 STEPHEN VINCENT Cabernet Sauvignon (California)	\$ 9.95	\$11.95	\$110 (\$9.17)
*2008 VALLE DELL'ACATE "Case Ibidini" Insolia (Sicily, Italy)	\$ 9.95	\$11.95	\$110 (\$9.17)
2007 PUIG-PARAHY "Cuvee Georges" Rouge (Cotes du Roussillon, FR)	\$ 11.95	\$13.95	\$130 (\$10.83)
2008 JEAN DUMONT "Les Mureaux" Chinon (Loire Valley, France)	\$ 12.95	\$15.95	\$140 (\$11.67)
2008 DOMAINE D'ELISE Petit Chablis (Burgundy, France)	\$ 13.95	\$16.95	\$145 (\$12.08)
2008 WOLFBERGER Pinot Gris (Alsace, France)	\$ 13.95	\$15.95	\$145 (\$12.08)

### A NOTE ABOUT THE MONTHLY SPECIALS CASE:

The JANUARY case price is **\$104.95** and is **reduced 33%** from the regular prices. Here is the line-up and as always, there are 2 each of the first four wines (\*) and 1 each of the last four wines.

**\*2006 STEP ROAD "Blackwing" Shiraz** – "...aged in French and American oak for 12-18 months. It exhibits a spicy nose with meaty, blue and black fruit aromas and flavors. This leads to a medium to full-bodied wine with good balance and a medium-long finish. This excellent value should be consumed over the next 2-3 years." (WA # 173)

**\*2008 PALAZZONE "Dubini" Bianco** - a dry, succulent Orvieto in everything but name. Light and refreshing with apricot, and dried honey aromas.

**\*2006 STEPHEN VINCENT Cabernet Sauvignon** - wild berry, brewed tea and spice notes with firm tannins. This pleasant and straightforward cab delivers more taste than the price would indicate- a store favorite.

**\*2008 VALLE DELL'ACATE "Case Ibidini" Insolia** - Made from 100% Inzolia, these native Sicilian grapes were aged 4 months in stainless steel tanks, followed by 2-3 months ageing in bottles, it has aromas of white flowers, citrus fruits and wild roses. It is refreshing, dry, with well-balanced acidity and pairs well with appetizers, seafood, and vegetable dishes.

**2007 PUIG-PARAHY "Cuvee Georges" Rouge** - "a cuvee of Carignan and Grenache with a bit of Syrah, raised in tank (from which I tasted it) – smells of blackberry, wood smoke, toasted walnut, rosemary, and marjoram; offers a brightly-fruited, slightly tart and grainy palate impression, and finishes with a pungency of herb and fruit skin, a vigorous brightness, chalk and stone minerality, and sheer grip (accompanied by a faint "chew") that can scarcely be expected from a wine destined to sell for so little. This whistle-clean beauty should remain virtually inert in tank, so that when Puig finally gets around to bottling and selling it, you will be able to count on at least a couple of years of very satisfying and versatile performance at table – not to mention amazing value. 90-91pts." (WA #183)

**2008 JEAN DUMONT "Les Mureaux" Chinon** – "Supple and fruity wine with an intense color of black cherries. Aromas of red fruits with a hint of rose. Beautifully balanced on the palate." (Winery notes.)

**2008 DOMAINE D'ELISE Petit Chablis** - "Lively, fruity, delicate and minerally, this classic Petit Chablis is particularly recommended with 'fruits de mer' or as an apéritif. Domaine d'Elise was created in 1970 on the uppermost slopes of a hillside above Premier Cru 'Côte de Lechet'. It was taken over in 1983 by Frederic Prain, who realised the estate's potential with just four workers. The cellar nestles at the centre of 13 hectares of stony vineyards. Vinification is gentle, with the wine rested a long while on its lees." (Winery notes.)

**2008 WOLFBERGER Pinot Gris** - Great acidity with juicy flavors of Clementine, yellow peach, spice and off dry.

## SATURDAY WINE TASTING

Every Saturday between 2pm and closing we will offer wines to taste and enjoy while shopping. Check out our web site on Friday to find out what we will be opening!

### OUR OWN EMERSON LATE BOTTLE VINTAGE PORT TRUFFLES – \$4.95 and \$5.49

#### EMERSON'S DELIVERS!

Consult with us on wines for your party or event and we will deliver directly to your home or office. Our regular deliveries will be made on Friday afternoons. There is no minimum order but there will be a delivery charge of \$10. Our regular service areas are zip codes 23226, 23229 and 23221.

#### 2010 - OUR 25<sup>th</sup> YEAR

Firstly, we want to thank all of our customers for making 2009 a very good year in spite of the economy. We hope our customers shop locally not because they want to support local businesses but because we offer good pricing, great wines well kept and attentive service. Secondly, as 2010 begins our 25<sup>th</sup> year we will be featuring specials throughout the coming months for our newsletter subscribers as a way to show our appreciation for supporting us all these years. Look for them in your e-mail inbox.

#### JANUARY VALUE WINES

*Not necessarily the least expensive wines but rather those that deliver outstanding taste relative to price.*

**2007 Kermit Lynch Cotes du Rhone** (Rhône Valley), a delicious, natural tasting blend of Grenache, Syrah, Cinsault and Mourvedre--this vintage of this wine is outrageous! Here are Mr. Lynch's comments: "*Fruit aromas like plum and blackberry dominate, with suggestions of black pepper. It's full-bodied, but perhaps not in the usual sense of the term: there is no hard, vulgar tannin, nor does its gut hang out over its belt buckle. Intense might be a more appropriate word than full bodied.*" **\$15.95**

**2007 D'Arenberg "The Stump Jump" White Blend**, -(Riesling, Marsanne, Viognier, Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay)"The whites start with the 2007 The Stump Jump White, a light to medium straw-colored wine. The nose offers up minerals, pit fruits and citrus leading to a crisp, refreshing, dry, fruit-filled mid-palate. It has surprising length for its humble price. Drink it over the next 12-18 months. The d'Arenberg portfolio is loaded with values. The winery works with over 140 growers to fashion their superb blends." 87pts. (WA #178) **\$11.95**

#### NEW ARRIVALS

**2007 Jim Barry "Lodge Hill" Shiraz** (Clare Valley, Australia), - "The 2007 The Lodge Hill Shiraz is a single vineyard cuvee which spent 14 months in seasoned American and French oak. It displays a nose of cedar, pepper, lavender, smoked meat, and blueberry. This leads to a full-bodied, plush, easy-going wine with plenty of flavor and length. It way over-delivers for its modest price." 90+ pts (WA #186) **\$21.95**

**2008 Pazo de Senorans Albarino** (Rias Baixas, Spain), "The 2008 Albarino is sourced from the oldest vines in Rias Baixas, fermented in tank and aged on its lees with batonnage. Light gold-colored, it delivers an attractive nose of mineral, white peach, and lemon zest. Smooth textured on the palate, tropical flavors emerge along with lively acidity. This lengthy Albarino will drink well for another three years. Pazo de Senorans is usually a candidate for Albarino of the year made by anyone other than Raul Perez." 90pts. (WA #183) **\$24.95**

**2007 The Seventy Five Wine Company "The Sum" Proprietary Red** (Napa Valley, California) - "The real star, and a great bargain, is the 2007 The Sum – The Seventy-Five Wine Company. This is an absolute steal when it comes to high-class wine. A blend of 75% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Syrah, and 10% Petite Sirah, there are 5,200 cases of this wine, which is truly outstanding and an amazing value. Sweet blue and black fruits, camphor, and spice box all jump from the glass of this dense, medium to full-bodied, juicy, supple wine, which is a hedonist's dream come true. This is a beauty to drink over the next 4-5 years. Don't dare pass it by!" 90pts. (WA #186) **\$21.95**

**2005 Ferrando "Ettichetta Bianca" Carema** (Piemonte, Italy), "The 2005 Carema Ettichetta Bianca is a beautiful, graceful red laced with sweet scents of tobacco, mountain herbs, spices and dried cherries. A mid-weight core of fruit is supported by firm yet well-integrated tannins and the finish retains plenty of freshness, both of which should allow the Ettichetta Bianca to drink beautifully over the next decade, if not longer. Notes of herbs, smoke and autumn leaves resonate on the close. This is a wonderful effort from Ferrando. Anticipated maturity: 2010-2023. What a pleasure it is to taste these new releases from Ferrando, a reference-point producer of fine Nebbiolo based in the upper reaches of Piedmont." 91pts. (WA #185) **\$41.95**

**2002 Trimbach "Cuvee Frederic Emile" Riesling** (Alsace), "The superbly-concentrated 2002 Riesling Frederic Emile is now on the market – still a touch austere, but with strikingly refined complexity and sheer mineral mass. Broth-like carnal and chalky traits here put one in mind of Chablis. Here is a wine to strain through your teeth, and one possessed of vivacious, ripe acids, with lemon, grapefruit and faintly bitter black fruit notes over a foundation of chalk, leading to a

long, juicy finish. Give this another year in your cellar and for it to be worth following for at least another decade thereafter. Drink 2009-2018" 92pts. (WA #175) **\$62.95**

**2007 Louis Carillon Puligny-Montrachet**, "A highly aromatic nose of green fruit, acacia blossom and citrus leads to racy, pure and vibrant middle weight flavors that possess a discreet touch of minerality and excellent length for a villages level wine. This delivers first-rate quality for its level and is recommended." 89-91pts (Burghound 6/1/2009) **\$61.95**

### **OUR NEW YEARS RESOLUTIONS**

- 1.) Remember that small production wines are not better – there are just fewer bottles.
- 2.) Worry less about whether or not a Champagne is a grower-maker and more about whether the Champagne is good.
- 3.) Drink more Amarone.
- 4.) Use the descriptions in wine reviews for guidance and ignore the points.
- 5.) Drink Gewürztraminer and try to enjoy it.
- 6.) Make it our mission to convince people that a “big” wine is not necessarily a better wine.
- 7.) Be more like Radar – play more, worry less and enjoy the moment.
- 8.) Share the joy of German Riesling.
- 9.) Drink more Virginia Cabernet Franc, Viognier and Chardonnay because they’re excellent wines!
- 10.) Try harder not to be pompous wine asses.

### **WHAT WE DRINK WHEN WE DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DRINK**

We don't like the idea of staff picks because it is our belief that we should strive to understand our customers' tastes and deliver the wine that suits their palette not ours. However here are a few wines that are, like a '75 Volvo, safe, sturdy, reliable and ready to go:

2007 Domaine La Bastide, Syrah, France– *clean dark fruit flavors with some meatiness but not your Rhone barnyardy nonsense.* **\$9.95**

2007 J. Palacios “Petalos” Bierzo, Spain– *luscious fruit with herbal and cigar box notes & a smooth long velvety finish. Made from the Mencia grape, the best Spanish grape of all time!* **\$23.95**

2008 “Dr. L” Riesling, Germany – *soft, welcoming and very food friendly; balanced with great acidity – perfect.* **\$11.95**

2007 Kali Hart Pinot Noir, California– *OK, it's not very Burgundian and so what – great sweet fruit & soft tannins, California dreamin'* **\$23.95**

2007 Vijra Langhe Rosso, Italy – *Delicious, pure red fruit, moderate tannins goes with any Italian food, a great Piedmont value* **\$13.95**

2006 Clos Siguier, Cahors, France – *Cahors, the home of real Malbec – sumptuous but a lighter style.* **\$15.95**