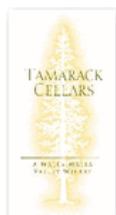


# Club Cork Newsletter

## January 2006

Happy New Year! Welcome to the first month of 2006 – Central Oregon Wine of the Month Club. Over the last month, we've been tasting wines trying to find the perfect pair to start out the new year. There were several contenders, some of which you might see in the following months, however, the the following two stood out above the rest. Staying with a regional theme, both wines are produced in the west. One from a well know winery in Napa Valley, California; the other from a very up and coming winery out of Washington. Enjoy! Emily & Mark Pelletier

**REMINDER: Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup> is the next delivery date.**



## Tamarack Cellars – Merlot 2003

\$24.99

Columbia Valley, Washington

Tamarack Cellars was founded in 1998 by Ron & Jamie Coleman. While the Tamarack Cellars tasting room is located at the restored WW II fire station and barracks at the Walla Walla Airport Complex, fruit for the Tamarack wine comes from select vineyards all over Washington's wine growing regions, including the Walla Walla Valley, Yakima Valley, Red Mountain and Columbia Valley appellations. Tamarack Cellars produces a variety of wine, including Cab, Syrah and Chardonnay, but it is the Columbia Valley Merlot that stands out – it's unique and intense flavors delight the taste buds. This wine is excellent now but can be cellared and enjoyed through 2009.

**Tasting Notes:** 85% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Cabernet Franc  
The flavors are almost piercing in their intensity with loads of classic dark cherry and ripe fruit that lingers and becomes richer and more intriguing in the mouth. You should also get generous blackberry, currant and sweet spice flavors, with favoring oak on the fine-grained finish, lingering well.

### Technical Data:

pH – 3.57  
Total Acidity – 0.63  
Alcohol – 13.98  
1,456 cases produced

### About the Columbia Valley Region

Washington State's largest appellation is the Columbia Valley, which stretches to Wapato in the west and Milton-Freewater, Ore., in the southeast. While most of the Columbia Valley is in Washington, the appellation does stretch across the Columbia River into Oregon from The Dalles to Milton-Freewater.

### Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> – Valentine's Day

Visit Cork Cellars and pick up a special wine to share with your Valentine. Select a beautiful pre-wrapped bottle for no extra charge.



To reorder wine call 549.CORK (2675). Free delivery to Bend for orders over 6 bottles. 6-bottle and case discounts. Call for details.

# Miner Viognier ~ \$19.99

## Napa Valley, California

Founded in 1998, Miner produces a sensational portfolio of wines, all with individualistic style and true Napa Valley quality. We were introduced to Miner wines this past summer at the Lake Oswego Wine Festival, and while all the Miner wines are excellent, it was the Viognier that intrigued us immensely. Viognier is not a common grape (compared to Chardonnay) – but is, what we consider, an excellent alternative. And, there is no better introduction to the grape than with this wine. Deservedly, it won “Best of Show” at the Lake Oswego Wine Festival, and continues to be a favorite of ours. Viognier can be paired with a variety of foods, including seafood & poultry.

**Tasting Notes:** Intensely tropical and fresh, ripe and racy. With glowing lucidity, a nose full of honeysuckle blossoms and plush peach tones, this Viognier finishes with a refreshing tang that won't disappoint its fans (and will surely convert the cynical). Whole cluster pressed to perfection and stainless steel fermented... always delicious.

### Technical Data:

3,332 Cases  
100 % Viognier  
14.3% alcohol  
Stainless Steel Fermented

### Viognier Facts

Viognier is a really tough grape to grow – possibly worse than Pinot Noir even. Not only that, it's a tough wine to make. But, if it's done well, it's an absolute treat. Many are surprised by the taste; the color and nose hinting at something sweet but the actual taste being dry.

## Tasting Notes

**Tamarack Cellars Merlot 2003**  
Columbia Valley, Washington

**Miner Viognier 2004**  
Napa Valley, California

Nose:

Taste:

When/Where Served:

Food with wine:

Comments:

Nose:

Taste:

When/Where Served:

Food with wine:

Comments:

### Previous Wine Club Selections

#### OCTOBER 2005

**Opolo Sangiovese**  
SOLD OUT

**Opolo Roussanne**  
\$19.99/bottle  
LIMIT 2 bottles!

#### NOVEMBER 2005

**Soter Vineyards Pinot Noir**  
SOLD OUT

**Sokol Blosser Evolution**  
\$13.99/bottle  
6 or more: \$12.59/bottle  
12 or more: \$11.50/bottle

#### DECEMBER 2005

**Russell Creek Tributary**  
\$19.99/bottle  
6 or more: \$17.99/bottle  
12 or more: \$15.50/bottle

**Ecosse Sparkling Brut**  
\$22.99/bottle  
VERY LIMITED!