



V. RICHARDS WINE TASTING

February 17, 2012

PRESENTED BY: GRASSROOTS WINE

Chateau La Graviere - Entre deux Mers Blanc - 2010- a blend of the grassy, acidic Sauvignon Blanc and the fatter, almost oily Sémillon. It's one of the great blends in the wine world. The nose is so aromatic and fruity that our blind tasters thought this wine might hail from New Zealand. Among the aromas are grapefruit, passion fruit, lemon, and lime. In the mouth There's lots of fruit, along with a bit of vegetalility, refreshing acidity, and a long citrus finish.

Cliff Lede Sauvignon Blanc – Napa Valley 2010 This vineyard resides on ancient, weathered, alluvial fans of silty impoverished soils that contribute an intense brightness and mineral austerity. Gravenstein apple and Meyer lemon greet the nose with floral, high notes of peach blossom. Pineapple and lychee are supported by fine-tuned minerality. A luscious mid-palate expands into a rich and long finish.

Laureau - Savennieres Les Genets – Savennieres 2009 Aromatically a very fresh, clean, polished style, showing purity and great harmony. There are notes of pear fruit, with a slightly honeyed tinge, elegantly presented, and suggestive of some good substance within. Very stylish on the palate, pure, defined, quite linear but with beautifully polished and softened edges. This lies a gentle and refined structure underneath though. Very approachable on the palate, the finesse being very accessible, but there is still a fine extracted substance and grip to it. A beautiful style, with lovely depth.

NOCO - Pinot Noir "Sonoma Coast" - 2009 Several prized sites were involved in the composition of this wine. Spanning from the cool, windy Petaluma Wind Gap, to the heart of the Russian River Valley, to the Mayacamas Mountains of the Sonoma Valley, to the foggy Green Valley Russian River Valley. All sites were meticulously farmed at low yields and harvested by hand. Aromas of Pomegranate, sour red plum, orange pekoe tea followed by flavors of Rainer cherry, rhubarb, blood orange, dried porcini mushroom.

Chateau du Barry – Bordeaux 2009 A gold medal-winning claret, Made by Chateau Roc de Baodun, an estate on the western side of Guillac, just across the river from St Emilion, Chateau du Barry is blended from Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Cabernet Sauvignon. Good ruby colour with aromas of ripe plums and tangy cherry fruit. The wine is unoaked allowing the fruit to come to the fore. The 2006 is drinking at its optimum now it has nice fruits on the early palate with a smooth mid palate and a soft, tannin finish. A well made, attractive, easy-drinking claret. Enjoy with red meats, game and cheese.

Chateau Smith Cabernet Sauvignon – Washington State 2009 by Charles Smith Wines 91pts Wine Spectator"Supple and inviting, with complex avors of dark berries and plum shaded with hints of bacon and star anise. The finish rolls along unimpeded by the polished tannins. "Savory and supple. Flavors of cassis, dark berries and pipe tobacco coat the palate for a long and satisfying finish.....Not French - 'MERICAN!