Spring 1986

No. 17, The Gadding Vine, Spring 1986

Markko Vineyard

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.kent.edu/markko_documents
Part of the Tourism and Travel Commons, and the Viticulture and Oenology Commons

Recommended Citation
http://digitalcommons.kent.edu/markko_documents/16

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the Markko Vineyard at Digital Commons @ Kent State University Libraries. It has been accepted for inclusion in Markko Vineyard Documents by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Kent State University Libraries. For more information, please contact earicha1@kent.edu.
ll winter in the valley the river whispers along, so soft at night your ears cannot convince your dream you are actually there. But you are learning to make that sound of river late in spring. I will show you how. Make your mouth half open. Now shape your lips like an almond and breathe in a steady breath, thinking the word hoo, but not so fast you make even the hint of hiss. Now you know the river is at your side. You reach out a hand, drop it like a bird’s head to test the river. Cold.

Stephen Dunning
Professor of English & Education
University of Michigan

A VIEW FROM THE HILL

After a relatively mild winter with a low of only -10°F, the Vineyard look is healthy with bud-kill running about 10-15% on the first go-through. We’re closely watching the new trunk development after two damaging winters in a row — (‘83 & ‘84) — and are carefully pruning to avoid the possibility of over cropping; achieving a balance of yield and vigor is critical. We’re expecting 40% more vineyard acreage will produce fruit this season. With good spring weather, it should be a harvest to celebrate.
BROther DAVID — his legacy

On November 14, 1985, Brother David Petry, O.S.B., a monk of St. Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad, Indiana, died peacefully after a long illness. This gentle, most unassuming man, with the optimism and generous nature of a Saint, was a friend and mentor for many years. He began his life in the monastery as a baker and left it as a knowledgeable winemaker and grape grower — a man to whom Arnie turned to for advice and wisdom in the early years of Markko. Arnie and Bill Worthy were fortunate to visit St. Meinrad a number of years ago as guests of Brother David, and remember his vigor and enthusiasm for the work that consumed him. His brothers wrote of him “He was not one given to frenzied activity ... He was a man of measured life. He loved the out-of-doors and found in Creation a real source and inspiration for his prayer life.”

The Ohio Wine Producers have established an annual scholarship in Br. David’s name to be awarded at the OSU Grape Wine Short Course. It will go to an individual in the wine industry who best exemplifies the character and dedication he displayed. The first recipient at the annual meeting in February was Br. Dominic of St. Meinrad who has taken over the management of the vineyard there.

TAKING STOCK

We took on a small grafting job this winter, selecting only the hardiest vines for propagation. With the help of Greg Johns, manager of the Kingsville Grape Research Station, we were provided with the time-saving Omega grafting machine resulting in 800 or so grafts ready for the nursery in the spring. We’re experimenting with a small number of Pinot Gris which we thought would be an interesting trial if they take.

California researchers are looking at a particular bacteria that causes ice to form on leaves and plants in freezing temperatures nicknamed “ice plus”. By removing a certain gene from this bacteria, it appears that it’s possible to lower the temperature at which water will crystallize producing what’s called “ice minus”. California growers may test the new bacteria this year.

HAVE Truck . . . Will TRAVEL

We’d like to thank our many Markko friends who took advantage of free delivery service during the Christmas holidays. Your response gave us one of our best months for sales in history. We would like to be able to offer this service more often if there’s a need, so check with us before you order to see if we plan to be in your neighborhood. We are pleased with the UPS service and feel they do an excellent job of low cost delivery in a very short time. Either means of delivery should allow for quick service and convenience. All we need is your order.

WINE LIST . . . update

Availability of award-winning wines is limited in some lots as follows:
- Pinot Noir - 10 cases remaining
- Riesling (404) sold out
- ’80 Cabernet (02) 20 cases remaining
Several nice Rieslings are scheduled for release in the next month or so. Notices will be sent to all Case Club members.

LOOKING AHEAD

May 31 . . . Blessing of the Vines, Markko Vineyard, 12:00 noon
June . . . Ohio Wine Month
June 14 — Picnic, music by Barb and Uncle Dave, on the hammer dulcimer and guitar
June 21 — Chardonnay Cup Chess Tournament, 9:30 a.m.
August 16 — Rotary sponsored Walleye Derby, 6:00 a.m.
For more information on any one of the events, call the Winery.
Additional notices will be sent.