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Markko Vineyard

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I DREAM OF CHARDONNAY WITH A LIGHT, GOLDEN AIR . . .

a little trite perhaps, but if you've tasted our 1988 Chardonnays, than you know what we're talking about.

A big vintage - five lots, each subtly different and just as good; so rich and elegant that you think of candlelight and roses on an anniversary.

Our Chardonnay has a range to it that few vineyards can match. One vintage is "crisp and firm," - flinty, like an early apple; other years, soft, with a delicate finish.

Who says Ohio wines can't compete with the best in the world? Did you know that our '88 beat Mondavi's $18.00 Chardonnay in a recent head-on challenge? No kidding. It did.

This is a vintage to tell your friends about (and I guess you have because they're showing up.) The '88 is as perfect at a picnic as it is at a palace. Put some away now because it won't be around very long . . . . it ages well.
OFF THE LEES . . . . After three weeks of harvest, you want to put your head in the sand where it's dry. Should we pick? . . . Okay, let's pick. No, better not. RAIN! It's hard to unwind when decisions rest on the edge of 'calling it wrong'. . . . Thinking back over the whole season, weather seemed to figure into just about everything that went on at Markko. It rained (or threatened to) on every single event this year . . . how about infinite rain, Mr. Yeats? Again, you came to Markko for a variety of events beginning with The Blessing of the Vines on June 2 where Father Lukehart gave his final wave over the grapes (he's moved to a new assignment); and again in June on the 16th for Hilmak's succulent perch fry . . . on July 14, (while I was in Madrid, roasting) you joined your fellow chessmasters in a chilly Chardonnay Cup Tournament . . . on September 15, everyone showed up for the Odds 'n Ends Sale coming from as far as Cincinnati and Pittsburgh to look for a bargain or two . . . A donation of $85.00 went to the Conneaut Public Library collected at the O&E book sale. Thank You! . . . The following weekend, a wedding was held on the steps of the winery - a first for us . . . Hope to see you again at Sandisfield House December 1 and 2, and lots of times in-between . . . Thanks to every one of you who sent in their card opposing an increase in the wine tax. . . . I'm afraid we'll all feel the bite on this.

Catch this one - a challenge to anyone who can produce a Chardonnay that tops Markko's best in a blind tasting. Save your own favorites. More on this later.

"Wine offers a much deeper enjoyment than just the pleasure of its drinking. It is a healthful beverage which restores and fortifies the human spirit. Wine is truly a celebration of life."

- Dr. Joseph Baird, Jr.

THE SHIRT OFF YOUR BACK

T-shirts are a dime a dozen, right? But everyone who sees this one, wants one. A hand-screened design of a monk hoeing his vineyard is framed with the words "GLADDEN THY HEART." Printed in forest green and grape purple on a white, all-cotton shirt. Sizes: M, L, XL only. $12.50 ea.

"I do recommend one winery that has pleased me time and time again. Markko Vineyard in Conneaut does a good job with a Chardonnay that has a lemony, fresh-apple fruitiness, good, clean varietal character and plenty of body."