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Markko Vineyard

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PRIZE WINES
1st place - Ohio State Fair Competition
1988 Chardonnay lot 895
1988 Chardonnay lot 891
1987 Cabernet
Bronze Medal - AWS wine competition
1988 Chardonnay lot 895

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

a little trite perhaps, but if you've tasted our 1988 Chardonnays, 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. . . . Who will they pick on next? It is important to raise our collective voices about this issue. WINE IS A FOOD or haven't they heard. 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 . . . We can't close this harvest without saying thank you to our picking crew of 20 and our regulars in the cellar. "Every man works better when he has companions working in the same line . . ." Nowhere is it more evident than in a small business like ours. To you, our customers - the ultimate judge - thank you for deciding in favor of our case.

"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.

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"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."

- Robert Parker,
Parker's Wine Buyer's Guide
1989-90