Spring 1987

No. 19, The Gadding Vine, Spring 1987

Markko Vineyard
CROSSING OHIO WHEN POPPIES BLOOM IN ASHTABULA

1
Go away. Leave the high winds of May blowing over the fields of grape vines near the northwest corner of Pennsylvania.

Leave the doorstep peonies pushing high bosoms at passers-by in northern Ohio towns in May.

Leave the boys flying light blue kites on a deep blue sky; and the yellow, the yellow spilling over the drinking rims of the buttercups, piling their yellows into foam blown sea rims of yellow;

Go away; go to New York, Broadway, Fifth Avenue, glass lights and leaves, glass faces, fingers; go . . .

2
Pick me poppies in Ohio, mother.
Pick me poppies in a back yard in Ashtabula.

May going, poppies coming, summer humming: make it a poppy summer, mother; the leaves sing in the silk, the leaves sing a tawny red gold; seven sunsets saved themselves to be here now.

Pick me poppies, mother; go, May; wash me, summer; shoot up this back yard in Ashtabula, shoot it up, give us a daylight fireworks in Ohio, burn it up with tawny red gold.

— Carl Sandburg
Good Morning, America

SPRING AWAY

With apologies to Sandburg and his vision of poppies and summer in Ohio, we encourage you to spring away to the country — specifically our part of the country here on South Ridge Road. It won’t be long before the woods around the Winery bloom with large flowered trillium, May apples and wild dogwood and the vineyard begins to “shoot up this backyard” in Conneaut.

Markko provides a relaxed, informal gathering place where friends and families can meet and share a little Chardonnay and a bit of cheese and bread around the picnic table. Pack your own picnic or join us for one of the spring/summer events noted in the calendar.

We’re open every day of the week (except Sundays) from 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. and in the evenings by reservation only. (Please call ahead if you’re interested in a tour and tasting and your group is over 6 in number.) We’ll be glad to furnish a list of restaurants, motels and interesting places to visit if you plan to stay in our area a little longer.

CALENDAR

MAY 30 — BLESSING OF THE VINES; Saturday Noon in the east vineyard (Underridge Road)
JUNE 19 — TWILIGHT JAZZ AND A PICNIC; Friday night, 7 - 11 p.m.; $15.00 per person; limited seating by reservation only.
JULY 11 — CHARDONNAY CUP BLITZ – CHESS TOURNAMENT; Saturday, 10:30 a.m., lunch, wine and prizes included; $15.00 per person by reservation.
AUG. 8 — JUG DAY
SEPT. 19 — ODDS ’N ENDS SALE
OCT. 10, 11 — COVERED BRIDGE FESTIVAL; information: (216) 593-1411.

SINKER OR SWIM

One of the catchier slogans relating to tourism in Northeast Ohio comes from a handsome brochure put out by the Ashtabula County Planning Commission: if their slogan — “Something’s Fishy in Ashtabula County!” — doesn’t lure you, maybe you’ll bite on this one: Conneaut — The Last Resort. Let it be said, we’re not afraid to reel out any line in order to get your attention!
THE VIEW FROM HERE

The key to ultimate success in growing Vitis vinifera wine grapes in the Lake Erie region and in fact the entire eastern United States, lies in preventing the extreme low temperatures (below —10) that cause winter bud-kill and trunk damage.

With the assistance of Kent State University Assistant Professor Thomas Schmidlin, a climatologist who's done extensive research on climate kill and vine injury, we've installed an Orchard-Rite wind machine to try to combat the problem.

The Ohio Grape Industries Program has funded the installation of this 35 foot tower through a $3,000.00 research grant, allowing us the use of the machine for two years as an experimental venture. Cal Plummer of Plummer Supply installed the machine in March.

Since we had a mild winter this year, we haven't put the machine to work, but it will be available in the event of a late spring frost and of course for next winter's blow or whatever Ohio's fickle weather decides to send us.

MEDAL-LING

1983 Cabernet Sauvignon (Lot 32) — Bronze
Ohio State Wine Competition, Columbus, Ohio

Covered Bridge Cabernet Sauvignon — Silver
Ohio State Wine Competition, Columbus, Ohio

1985 Riesling (Lot 560) — Silver*
Wineries Unlimited International Competition, Lancaster, Pennsylvania

* This was the only silver medal awarded in this category. Unfortunately all 200 cases have been sold and enjoyed

HEARD ALONG THE GRAPEVINE

Several recent reviews of the delectable menu and wine list at Rigsby’s in Columbus included this good news about Markko’s 1983 Chardonnay Reserve:

“ ... the woody thickness of an oak 2-by-4 Only people who worship a true viniferous god understand that something so outstanding can come from an Ohio grape.”
— Doral Chenoweth, Columbus Dispatch

“ ... an intense almost dark (for a Chardonnay) wine with a thick texture, a full-bodied flavor and yet an almost perfumy but crisp aroma. An excellent food wine.”
— Jon Christensen, Columbus Monthly

The bad news is we’re sold out of this particular Chardonnay, but the 1983 non-reserve is still available at $8.00 a bottle or $86.40 a case. We also have a little of the delicious, dark ’81 Chardonnay left, in case lots only, for $55.00.

Do not bother to be quick. The public will not ask whether you have completed your work in three days but whether it is beautiful.

SEBASTIANO CONCA
# WINE LIST

**CHARDONNAY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Lot Numbers</th>
<th>Price Bottle</th>
<th>Price Case</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>Lot 025, 029, 041</td>
<td>8.00</td>
<td>86.40</td>
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<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>Lot 121, 123</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>55.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>Lot 361, 363, 367</td>
<td>8.00</td>
<td>86.40</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lot 369 split</td>
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**JOHANNISBERG RIESLING**

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<th>Lot Numbers</th>
<th>Price Bottle</th>
<th>Price Case</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>Lot 316</td>
<td>13.00</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>split</td>
<td>8.00</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Lot 462</td>
<td>7.00</td>
<td>75.60</td>
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**CABERNET SAUVIGNON**

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<th>Lot Numbers</th>
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<th>Price Case</th>
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<tr>
<td>1979</td>
<td>Lot 91</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>60.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>Lot 11, 12</td>
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<td>86.40</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>split</td>
<td>4.50</td>
<td>97.20</td>
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<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>Lot 21</td>
<td>9.00</td>
<td>97.20</td>
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<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>Lot 31, 32</td>
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<td></td>
<td>split</td>
<td>4.50</td>
<td>97.20</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>magnum</td>
<td>15.00</td>
<td>81.00</td>
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**COVERED BRIDGE**

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<th>Wine</th>
<th>Price Bottle</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Riesling</td>
<td>6.00</td>
<td>65.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chardonnay</td>
<td>7.00</td>
<td>75.00</td>
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<td></td>
<td>magnum</td>
<td>12.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cabernet Sauvignon</td>
<td>7.00</td>
<td>75.00</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>magnum</td>
<td>12.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Picnic White</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>43.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picnic Red</td>
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<td>43.00</td>
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4/15/87

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**WINE ORDER**

SOLD TO:  
NAME ____________________________  
STREET ____________________________________  
CITY __________ STATE ____ ZIP ______  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WINE LOT NO.</th>
<th>QUANTITY</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
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(Ohio residents 6% tax) ______  
($6.00 pr. case) UPS ______  
TOTAL ______

SHIP TO: (If different from address above)  
NAME ____________________________  
STREET ____________________________________  
CITY __________ STATE ___________  
TEL. ___________ ZIP _______________  

SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS: ____________________________  
__________________________________________________  

GIFT MESSAGE ____________________________________________________________________________  
__________________________________________________  

____ Check enclosed _____ Visa _____ MC  
Cardholder’s Signature ____________________________  
Expiration date _________________________________  
Tel. ___________________________________________  

Thank you for your order.
Friday, June 19
Twilight Jazz
and a
Picnic
7 p.m. - 11 p.m.

**MENU**

- Chardonnay
- Hors d'oeuvres
- Stuffed Chicken Breast
- East Bay Rice
- Zucchini with Vermouth
- Belgian Endive and Orange Salad
- Lemon Cream Wafers with Strawberry Sauce

By Reservation Only $15.00 Per Person

**VACATION OUR WAY**

If you’re planning a trip to Northeast Ohio, you’ll find plenty of reasons to stay around and enjoy the many cultural and natural resources available within an hour’s drive from Conneaut. A sample follows:

**West of Conneaut:** *Blossom Music Center* — Summer home of the Cleveland Orchestra plus theater, dance and star performers; information: 1-800-362-0804.

*Ohio Light Opera* — College of Wooster; performances of Gilbert & Sullivan operettas; information: (216) 263-2345.

*Grape Jamboree* — Geneva, Ohio; September 26, 27; information: P. O. Box 92, Geneva, Ohio 44041.

*Great Lakes Marine and U. S. Coast Guard Memorial Museum* — East end of Walnut Blvd., Ashtabula harbor, Ohio 44004; information: (216) 964-6847 or 964-9648.

**East of Conneaut:** *Chautauqua Institution* — Chautauqua, New York; music, lectures, classes, dance and theater; information and tickets: (716) 357-6200.

**In and around Conneaut:** *Farmers Market* — Saturday mornings; Main St., Conneaut (across from City Hall).

*Walleye Derby* — July 25 at Conneaut Public Dock; information: (216) 593-2402.

*Conneaut Township Park* — Public beach, picnic tables, slo-pitch, tennis courts, public docks.