

April 15, 2009

# The Sommelier Says....

Hello and welcome to the newsletter for <http://www.wine-sommelier.com/>

## **Greenblatts in Hollywood**

Having season tickets to the Pantages Theatre has its advantages; one being it forces you to get outta town and try dining in other parts of the Southland. Last week we were heading to see Mamma Mia (I do not suggest it) and I was looking for a new place to have dinner. I researched where I always do my research, Wine Spectator Online. One of the perks of having an online subscription to the magazine is their huge listing of great wine bars and restaurants. I use it all of the time when traveling. This evening we were looking for something that had good food and a great wine list. I found Greenblatts Deli in Hollywood, on Sunset.

Parking was easy, which is not always the case in Hollywood, plenty of parking behind the restaurant. We seated ourselves easily and I was taken back by the wine store that is attached to it. It consisted of mostly French wines, with some Italian and California wines sprinkled in. The prices were very reasonable, you can spend anywhere from \$10 to \$800 for a bottle of wine. They also have an excellent cheese selection.

While Bev was looking over the menu, I walked around looking for something nice but not too much money. I found a wonderful Chateauneuf du Pape from Le Vieux Donjon 2005, which WS had rated with 95 pts and was the #3 wine in 2007. They had it for \$62 a bottle. Our waitress brought over the bottle and presented us with two perfect wine glasses from Spiegelau.

Bev ordered the Lasagna and I got Kourtney our servers' recommendation of the Hot Brisket Dinner served over a bed of noodles. Both dishes were cooked perfectly. The total bill was just under \$95. So when you consider that 2/3 of the bill was the wine it was a pretty darn good deal.

The service was excellent, (Kourtney with the huge dimples and film student) the wine selection (200,000 bottles), the cost of the wine- *you are NOT paying restaurant prices you are paying wine store prices*, the \$5.95 corkage fee and the excellent food- I don't need another reason to travel to Hollywood- I will be coming back!

8017 Sunset Blvd, Hollywood, Ca  
<http://greenblattsdeli.com/>

## **Wine Basics at Herzog Winery**

Wednesday, April 22nd - 7 pm

Join me for an educational evening where I will cover Wine Basics - where it comes from, how it is made, the magic of the wine label, selecting, serving, and storing wine. This seminar will include a tasting of four Herzog wines. \$10 per person, please call for reservations 805-983-1560.

## **Americans Are Buying More Wine**

According to a new survey from The Harris Poll, 58% of Americans are buying wine, and slightly more of it than they did five years ago. In the nationwide poll of 1,475 U.S. adults age 21 and older who buy or drink wine, 67% said they buy a bottle of wine once a month or less, while 8% buy a bottle twice a week or more—up from 3% in 2004.

Twenty percent of wine drinkers said they drink wine twice a week or more, while 18% drink two to three times a month, and 54% once a month or less. Although 90% said they drink or buy wine from the United States, the study showed Americans are also consuming more wines from Australia, Chile, Argentina, and South Africa, while consumption of Italian and French wine has declined since 2004. Respondents were currently drinking relatively little wine from countries such as Turkey, Poland, Israel, Greece, Portugal, and New Zealand, but many said they would consider buying those countries' wines.

Since 2004, U.S. wine buyers have remained consistent in the amount of money they spend on a bottle of wine, according to the poll. Twenty-seven percent said they spent less than \$10 on their last bottle of wine, while 30% reported spending \$10-14. At the other end of the price scale, 20% said they spent more than \$20, and 37% spent \$30 or more.

## **From Decanter Magazine**

### **Red wine increases the woman's sex drive**

Red wine increases the female libido, research has found.

According to a study carried out by the Santa Maria Nuova Hospital in Florence, drinking one to two glasses of red wine a day increases female sexual desire.

The study investigated 789 Italian women aged between 18 and 50.

Drinking red wine not only helps to release inhibitions, but also has a direct effect on sexual activity. Women who drink one to two glasses of wine a day were found to be more sexually active than those who abstain. Dark chocolate, which is rich in antioxidants, has a similarly positive effect on the female libido.

Anybody for Port and Chocolate? Drink up ladies! ☞

## **Looking ahead**

\*-**April 22 Wine Basics at Herzog Winery**

\*- **May 16 Wine Spectator Grand Tasting in Las Vegas**

<http://www.winespectator.com/GrandTour/WSgrandtour.html>

\*- **June 14 Ojai Wine Festival**

[www.ojaiwinefestival.com](http://www.ojaiwinefestival.com)

\*- **July 17-18 California Wine Festival-Santa Barbara**

<http://www.californiawinefestival.com/>

Cheers-

Tim

**If you would like to be removed from this list, please reply to me at [tim@wine-sommelier.com](mailto:tim@wine-sommelier.com) and request removal from this list.**

**If you know someone that wants this to be added to this list, please have him or her send me an email requesting to be included too!**