



Gold, Gold, and More Gold

Bonair wines have been picking up more than their share of awards this past year. The 1995 Morrison Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon is the most awarded. It received gold medals at the Los Angeles County Fair (Wines of America Competition) and the Central Washington State Fair. It received a silver at the San Francisco Wine Competition and bronze medals at the San Diego Wine Competition and the Tri Cities Northwest Wine Competition.

The 1995 Chateau Puryear Vineyard Reserve Chardonnay received a silver at the Tri Cities Northwest Wine Competition and a bronze at the American Wine Festival. These were the only competitions that the wine was entered in because winning with chardonnay is a real crap shoot.

The 1997 BFD Riesling received a silver at Tri Cities Northwest Wine Competition (the highest award given a Riesling and the only silver) and a bronze at the New World International Wine Competition.

The 1998 (Johannisberg) Riesling was awarded a double gold at the Central Washington State Fair - the only competition it was entered in. A double gold is given when all judges independently award the wine a gold medal.

Last but by far not least, the Bonnie Bonair was awarded a bronze medal at the Los Angeles County Fair (Wines of America Competition) - the only competition it was entered in.

Changes Galore

If you haven't been to visit us lately, you are in for a surprise. We have been busy this year. First, we expanded the tasting room by removing the wall behind the tasting bar and pushing the bar back five feet- a Herculan effort but well worth it for the added space on busy weekends.

Then we tackled the outside. Our entire driveway and parking lot are paved with cobblestones. No more summer dust or winter mud. As you drive in, you will pass Lake Bonair reflecting the house and vineyard. You might also notice the medieval tower which houses our handicapped restroom and ties our new barrel aging facility to the Bonnie Bonair Building.

Inside the winery, the old barrel room now houses three new 2500 gallon stainless steel tanks. We are enjoying the additional room.

Harvest Hell

Harvest arrived and stayed late this year. Our first grapes came in on September 24 and the last ones on November 1. Every vineyard came in short of grapes this year, but long on quality. Summer made us nervous with the cool weather, but the grapes ripened to perfection during our warm September. They are all now pressed and the wines are quietly lounging in the barrels and tanks.

Current Releases You Really Need to Get You Through the Winter

1997 Yakima Valley Chardonnay- smooth buttery chardonnay- always a hit.

1997 Chateau Puryear Reserve Chardonnay- our newest release of this legendary ultra-buttery wine.

1998 BFD Riesling- absolutely the best with Thai food, stir fry, and all kinds of shellfish.

1998 Riesling- crisp, fruity and a little sweet. Just right with fruits and cheeses. Sunset- always a hit for holiday parties and sunset watching.

Bonnie Bonair- the favorite of many! We made enough this year so we won't run out.

1996 Morrison Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon- lose this one in the wine cellar for a few years and yahoo!.

1996 Chateau Puryear White Label Cabernet- new release. Extremely limited production- Get it now.

1996 White Label Merlot- another very limited wine. Enjoy this while waiting for your cabs to age.

1998 Late Harvest Riesling- super good balance of acid and sugar. Great after dinner wine.

Summer Solstice Mead- Honey wine with bing cherry juice added. Serve chilled with chocolately desserts.

Winter Solstice Mead- Honey wine with cinammon and clove added. Try serving this one heated after coming in from the cold. Delicious!



A panoramic view of Chateau Puryear and Bonair Winery as seen from Lake Bonair.

Gorton Votes Against Washington Wineries

Senator Slade Gorton recently voted against small Washington Wineries in favor of out-of-state wholesale distributors and large California wineries.

In a bill of large economic importance to the wine industry of Washington, but not covered by the local press, Senator Gorton voted for an amendment known popularly as "The twenty-first amendment enforcement Act." This act, an amendment to the Juvenile Justice Bill, was sponsored by the wholesale liquor lobby to protect their monopoly on the market, not to protect juveniles from ordering a \$20 bottle of cabernet sauvignon for a weekend party. Mother's Against Drunk Driving (MADD) withdrew their support of the amendment when it became obvious to them that the legislation did little to protect minors but instead was designed to protect the monopoly held by distributors.

For those not aware, Washington wine is not nationally distributed because the market is controlled by a small number of wholesale distributors in each of 50 states who favor large California wineries. Large California wineries have preferred rates on shipping, and offer huge incentives to move their product. Washington wineries are small by comparison and cannot gain national distribution via the three-tier distribution system. Our only hope was the internet, using direct-to-consumer shipping. Senator Gorton has helped end this avenue to the national consumer by voting for this bill which Balkanizes even further the direct shipping web that exists in the United States. Only fourteen states are legal to ship wine presently. Now cities, counties, and even precincts in these legal states can make it illegal to ship wine directly to consumers. Thanks to Senator Gorton's vote, this will be a violation of federal law. Keeping up with all of these laws in a large country will be impossible for small wineries, therefore making the shipping of wine directly to the consume a very risky proposition - subjecting the winery to federal prosecution and the loss of the federal basic permit.

Everyone talks economic development in Eastern Washington, but when our own Senator votes to shut down commerce for one of our more economically viable sectors, it is totally ignored by the media. It would be interesting if the local media would report how much Senator Gorton has received from the Wine and Spirit Wholesalers of America in campaign contributions. For the record, Doc Hastings and Patty Murray both voted against this anti-Eastern Washington legislation.

When Slade Gorton says he voted to protect juveniles from purchasing booze over the internet, remember, he really voted for maintaining the wholesalers monopolies and against the economic viability of the region's farmers and wineries and the limiting of choice by adult consumers to buy Washington, not California wine. It is sad day when Slade Gorton votes with Strom Thurmand to do the wine industry in.

Bellevue Delivery Dec. 4 & 5

Bonair wines are always found at your favorite one-stop shopping center- Bonair Winery. We are open during the winter on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from 10:00-4:30. Call ahead for other weekdays to make sure we are here. You might be surprised to find our wines showing up at your favorite store or wine shop within the state of Washington. When in doubt, ask the wine dude or dudette. If you are a valuable customer they can get our wines for you by calling our 800 number.

For those of you who live in the Puget Sound area and are not too excited about driving over the Cascades to pick up wine here, enjoy our 12th annual BELLEVUE DELIVERY. You order the wine using our enclosed order form. We will brave the elements to deliver the wine to our friends' house in Bellevue the first weekend in December. You can pick it up there, visit a little with us, and save a ton of driving. We can also ship the wine directly to your doorstep any place in Washington and to some selected progressive states (e-mail or call for further information). This is truly non-hassle Christmas shopping at its easiest.

THANKSGIVING IN THE WINE COUNTRY

Don't forget our annual Yakima Valley Wine Growers event- Thanksgiving in the Wine Country, always held the three days after Thanksgiving. We all provide yummy food samples and recipes to go with our wines. Come and see what Chef Gail has concocted for this year. This is a fun way to do your Christmas shopping and get away from the crowded malls. Free parking. Free wine tasting and food. Free conversation and comraderee. Come join us!

NOTES FROM BONNIE BONAIR

I spent a lot of time this fall balanced high on the fork lift painting our buildings. Nice view from up there, but pretty scary. We have another full time employee- Alfonso- who keeps the grounds looking beautiful and does a lot of our vineyard work. We have just purchased 6 acres north of our property, so our own estate wines will be expanding in the future. And now that cold weather has put an end to our outside work, it is time to wax up the skis and head out. Keep in touch with us via E-mail or phone and hope to see you at the winery or at the Bellevue Delivery. And remember, we do love those pictures of you holding bottles of our wine in strange places- keep them coming and check them out on our website.

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 fax (509) 829-6410 E-mail: winemaker@bonairwine.com

wine	qty	price	ext
'97 BFD Riesling		\$ 7.95	
case		\$ 81.09	
'97 Yakima Valley Chardonnay		\$ 10.95	
case		\$ 111.69	
'97 Reserve Chardonnay		\$ 17.95	
case		\$ 183.09	
NV Big Bottle Chardonnay		\$ 12.00	
case (6 bottles)		\$ 60.00	
'96 Morrison Cabernet Sauvignon		\$ 17.95	
case		\$ 183.09	
'96 Estate Cabernet Sauvignon		\$ 24.00	
case		\$ 244.80	
'96 Merlot		\$ 24.00	
case		\$ 244.80	
'98 (Johannisberg) Riesling		\$ 6.50	
case		\$ 66.30	
Sunset		\$ 6.50	
case		\$ 66.30	
Bonnie Bonair		\$ 9.95	
case		\$ 101.49	
'98 Late Harvest Riesling (1/2 bottle)		\$ 6.50	
case		\$ 66.30	
Summer Solstice Mead		\$ 9.95	
case		\$ 101.49	
Winter Solstice Mead		\$ 9.95	
case		\$ 101.49	

Case prices already reflect a 15% case discount. (12 bottles per case).
 You may take a 15% discount from bottle price for mixed cases, also.

wine total _____
 subtotal _____
 7.6 % sales tax for Washington Residents _____
 total _____

Shipping per case (\$17 in Washington, elsewhere call) _____

Nname _____
 Street Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone () _____ - _____ Payment • Visa • MC • Check
 Card # _____ exp. / _____