



Join us for Saturday afternoon wine tastings, 2 to 6:30 p.m.

This Saturday, May 22nd

Wines of Rosenthal Wine Merchant

Presented by Michael Kane, New England Manager, Rosenthal Wine Merchant

Whites

Domaine La Manarine Côtes du Rhône Blanc, 2009

The Rhône is red wine country with only 5% of total wine production white wine, but even so the whites have special character from distinctive native grape varieties and even the fabled Châteauneuf-du-Pape has five white grape varieties permitted among the thirteen total varieties. Domaine La Manarine's Côtes du Rhône blanc is made from Bourboulenc and Clairette, both permitted in Châteauneuf-du-Pape. White peach, lime zest, minerals and flowers carry through on both the palate and the nose and the refreshing acidity make this a nice complement to all kinds of cheeses.

Reg. \$16.99 Special \$15.29

Domaine des Trois Toits Muscadet Sevre et Maine Sur Lie, 2008

Muscadet is one of those underrated wines that I will always keep among my regular wine choices for its honest pleasures and sheer value. If I see a Muscadet on a restaurant wine list (and it's a current vintage- Muscadet is almost always for now rather than for later), that 's a strong clue someone there is thinking about quality and value, particularly if they have raw bar offerings. Even without its natural food partner of shellfish, Muscadet has a bracing, stony minerality and lemony bright texture that makes your palate wake up and feel alive. Domaine des Trois Toits is a quiet flag bearer of this classic style and its Muscadet is true to its roots, or rather stones, in this region between the rivers Sevre and Maine.

Reg. \$15.99 Special \$14.29

Marc Deschamps Pouilly-Fumé, Les Porcheronnes, 2006

The dynamic duo in the world of Sauvignon Blanc, Pouilly-Fumé and Sancerre are sister wine regions entwined by the ribbon of the Loire River. The stately sister Pouilly-Fumé commands the right bank and the domaine owned by Marc Deschamps since 1991 has been part of this terroir for several generations. The domaine has a mere 7 hectares (17 acres) of vineyards in the hamlet of Les Loges on the banks of the Loire River. Les Porcheronnes is made from several vineyards and is consistently one of our favorite bottlings from Deschamps. Great intensity and zest with a fresh evergreen, almost piney, quality to the aromas and flavors of minerals, herbs and juicy citrus.

Reg. \$26.99 Special \$24.29

Reds

Château Soucherie Anjou, 2008

The Loire Valley is justifiably known for its brilliant white wines from Sauvignon Blanc (Pouilly-

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Fumé, Sancerre), Chenin Blanc (Vouvray, Savennières), and Melon de Bourgogne (Muscadet). Nonetheless red wines abound here as well from Cabernet Franc, Gamay, Pinot Noir and Malbec (known locally as Cot). Located in the town of Beaulieu-sur-Layon in the western Loire Valley, Château Soucherie has been making wine in the 18th century based primarily on Chenin Blanc and Cabernet Franc. Made from estate-grown, hand-harvested Cabernet Franc, the Anjou rouge has brambly, smoky, peppery red fruit aromas with mineral-tinged red berry, plum and tart cherry flavors. A terrific picnic wine, this is the kind of good, honest wine traditionally found in Parisian bistros.

Reg. \$17.99 Special \$15.99

Domaine Rollin Père et Fils Hautes-Côtes de Beaune Rouge, 2007

In yesterday's wine column (The Pour) in the Dining section of The New York Times titled "Bordeaux: A Red Goes Gray", Eric Asimov wrote, "for a significant segment of the wine-drinking population in the United States, the raves heard around the world (for 2009 Bordeaux) were not enough to elicit a response beyond, perhaps, a yawn." If not hallowed, now high-priced, Bordeaux, where has the energy and excitement gone? For both casual and committed wine enthusiasts, they have gone to Burgundy, to the Rhone and to the Loire when it comes to France (see comments of Laura Maniec, wine director, B.R. Guest group in same article). The 2007 vintage in Burgundy offers both ready drinkability and classic characteristics, a satisfying combination for capturing our interest and Remi Rollin's fresh, energetic Pinot Noir engages both the palate and the mind.

Reg. \$25.99 Special \$24.39

Domaine Monpertuis Côtes du Rhône, Vignoble de la Ramière, 2008

Côtes du Rhône is a type of wine in which we consistently find value and satisfaction no matter the relative ups and downs of vintages. Paul Jeune's Domaine Monpertuis has become a go-to source for good, honest Côtes du Rhone as well as compelling Châteauneuf-du-Pape. Sumptuous, well-balanced texture with aromas of fruit liqueur and spice, Vignoble de la Ramiere is 100% Grenache from a favored site across the river from Châteauneuf-du-Pape. This wine from Paul Jeune goes from strength to strength and is an incredible bargain.

Reg. \$16.99 Special \$15.29

- Jeff Gledhill

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