

VINTNERS CLUB

a California non-profit, public-benefit corporation

(founded in 1971)

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LUXURY FRENCH CHAMPAGNE & CALIFORNIA SPARKLING WINE GALA and RETROSPECTIVE OF THE LEGENDARY 1990 VINTAGE

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Wednesday, December 1, 2010

at

Villa Taverna, San Francisco

As December approaches, we look forward to once again enjoying friendships and comradery in an atmosphere of holiday cheer and twinkling lights. Our annual celebration featuring the beverage once associated with luxury and the anointment of European kings will spotlight a retrospective of the **1990 vintage** in all its glory. Aficionados remind us that this vintage was **rated 97 points** and that it is widely regarded as the finest vintage of the last century in the Champagne region of France. All the bottles that we have assembled have been optimally stored and aged for the past 20 years and we look forward to enjoying their seamless, integrated, and elegantly woven tapestries of flavors. We will also have a rare opportunity to comparatively evaluate some contemporary *grands crus* and *premiers crus* Champagnes as well as some phenomenal premium California sparkling wines made in the traditional methode champenoise. Our selection will include:

1990 Champagne Charles Heidsieck, Brut Millésimé, grand cru, Reims (98 points and rated the topmost Champagne of the vintage!)

1990 Champagne Taittinger, Brut, grand cru, Reims

1990 Champagne Pol Roger, Extra Cuvée de Réserve, grand cru, Epernay

1990 Champagne A.R. Lenoble, Blanc de Blancs, grand cru, Damery

Champagne Veuve-Clicquot Ponsardin, Reims

Champagne G.H. Mumm, Reims, (en magnum)

Champagne Henriot, Blanc de Blancs, grand cru, Reims

Champagne H. Billiot, Brut Rosé, grand cru, Ambonnay

Champagne Gaston Chiquet, Tradition, premier cru, Dizy

Champagne Dehours, Brut, Grande Réserve, Cerseuil

Champagne M. Janison, Brut, Verzenay

1998 Late Disgorged Blanc de Blanc Sparkling Wine, Thomas Fogarty, Santa Cruz Mountains

1999 J. Schram, Schramsberg Vineyards, Napa/Sonoma

2002 Mumm DVX Rosé, Napa Valley

1992 Late Disgorged Sparkling Wine, 10 years en tirage, Point Reyes Vineyards

Additional French Surprises & Premium California Sparklers are being assembled

A savory buffet will accompany this walk-about affair in celebration of the holiday season, the Vintners Club and its wonderful members. Executive Chef Nathan Carter (formerly of *Perbacco Restaurant*, San Francisco) promises specially crafted items to make the wines shine:

Cauliflower Soup Shots
Foie Gras Pinwheels
Prosciutto and Melon
Beet Salad on Spoon
Vitello Tonnato
Penne Pasta with Pork Sugo
Grilled Lamb Chops with Salsa Verde
Platters of Italian Charcuterie
Soft Polenta with Short Rib Ragù
Platters of Artisanal French, Spanish & Italian Cheeses

We will conclude the evening with delicious **chocolates** to accompany magnificent old **First Growth Sauternes**.

Those who have attended this gala in the past have been mightily impressed by the outstanding quality of the selected Champagnes and California sparkling wines. The **price** of admission has been held to the same amount as last year, and represents a terrific value considering the phenomenal vintage, world-class producers, astronomical costs of the aged French Champagnes (\$200+/bottle), elegant venue, and generous buffet. **\$175/member and \$235/non-member for payment submitted by November 1 (includes all gratuities, taxes and corkage charges)**. Thereafter, \$185/member and \$245/non-member. **Non-members who wish to join the Vintners Club may find it advantageous to do so at this time---** if a seat is available, you will be entitled to attend this gala at the member-price and the annual dues you pay now will count towards dues for all of 2011 (special 40th Anniversary celebrations of the Vintners Club!).

Applications for Membership in the Vintners Club available at http://www.vintnersclub.com/membership_application.pdf

Due to the limited number of bottles of the 1990 Champagnes that we have been able to assemble, seats are limited. **To reserve**, E-mail the Vintners Club, info@vintnersclub.com, to confirm seat availability. Then, **fax** your Visa/Mastercard information and telephone number to the Vintners Club at **(415) 381-4460**.

Valet parking is available--- **\$10** for the entire evening.

Feel free to dress in **elegant holiday attire** if you prefer it to **black tie**, since the atmosphere is meant to be fun-loving and joyous.

Deadline to cancel a reservation and be entitled to a refund: 10 a.m. on Tuesday, November 23.

Villa Taverna, 27 Hotaling Place, is located across the street from the Transamerica Building, adjacent to the intersection of Montgomery and Washington Streets, San Francisco.