

YES!



A monthly publication for members of the Yakima Enological Society

Directions to Tumbleweed Ranch

Go **west on Highway 12**, 2 miles past stop light at Old Naches Hwy and Powerhouse Rd. Turn **left on McLaughlin Rd**. Take an **immediate right** and **continue on gravel road**. Go **through gates to the white barn** with a red roof. Follow signs for parking.

Plan Ahead YES Calendar of Upcoming Events in 2008

October 12

Bus trip to Prosser wineries with lunch at Desert Winds

November 12

Portuguese wines at the Yakima Valley Museum

December 9

YES Christmas Party at the Yakima Country Club

January 14, 2009

The Blind Leading the Blind

~ Julie Johnson

Calling all Cowboys and Cowgals

Come celebrate the end of the summer season and greet the arrival of fall at a round up of good friends, great food and of course wonderful wines. We invite all you cowboys and cowgals to join us at the Tumbleweed Ranch in Glee on Sept. 10th. The 26-acre ranch is nestled in the foothills of the Washington Cascades. The beautifully landscaped grounds surround two ponds and are a welcome invitation to toss your blanket down or open up a lawn chair for a beautiful evening.

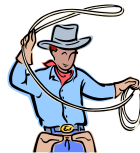
The chuckwagon will be manned by Chef Jessica Smith. She will be dishing up her famous pulled pork sandwich, ranch beans, coleslaw, cornbread and fruit cobbler. The wines will reflect the evening's theme: Dancing Cowboy, 14 Hands and The Show to just name three.

Janie Plath, Executive Director of the Pegasus Program, will also be on hand to talk about the program and give YES members a tour of the facility.

Special guest, Trent Ball, Chair of the Agriculture Department at YVCC, will be on hand to accept the check for the Platinum VI scholarship funds. He will talk about the students and the Vineyard & Winery Technology program at YVCC and answer any questions you may have about the enology program.

As an added treat Gilbert Cellars will be allowing us to taste several of their newer releases. These may be ordered at the event and purchased later at the downtown tasting room.

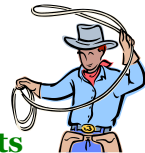
Shine up your boots, put a crease in your jeans and throw on your Stetson because the best dressed cowboy and cowgal will be taking home a prize. We will be dining by the ponds on grass so please bring your picnic blanket and/or lawn chairs.



Date: Wed., Sept. 10

Time: 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Cost: \$30 members, \$35 guests



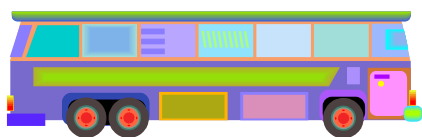
Bring: 2 wine glasses, picnic blanket and/or lawn chairs

Limited to 60 people, please register early.

Registrations postmarked by Sept 4th and telephone calls to Jimi Weaver at 575-7511 only by September 7th.

Cowboy Up and see you at the ranch!

~ Donna Lambert



Go on the road with YES in October

We have made a commitment to do the bus trip on Sunday, October 12th even if we do not sell out the bus. It will be a great way to spend a Sunday with your friends and guests, and guess what... no one has to be a designated driver! With over 20 wineries to choose from this will definitely not be “the same old wine thing.”

We will meet at the Yakima Valley Museum parking lot at 9 – 9:15 a.m. The bus will leave promptly at 9:30 am. Our first stop will be the **Prosser Wine & Food Park**. During the two hours we will spend there you can choose from any or all of the following since all are within one to two blocks of each other: **Alexandria Nicole Cellars, Cowan Vineyards, CR Sandidge, Hogue Cellars, Kestrel Vintners, Mercer Estates, Prosser Wine Company, Heavens Cave Cellars** and **Whitstran Brewing**.

At 12:30 p.m. we will board the bus and go to **Desert Wind Vineyards** for lunch. The lunch will be buffet style and will feature some of the fine food from their gourmet restaurant and also include two bottles of Desert Winds wine (one red and one white) on each table. You will have approximately one and a half hours to have lunch, taste additional wines, shop at their wonderful gift shop and tour the beautiful grounds.

At 2:00 p.m. sharp we will re-board the bus and proceed to the **Vintners Village**. During the scheduled two hours that we are there you can select from any of the following wineries: **Airfield Estates, Milbrandt Vineyards, Olsen Estates, Thurston Wolfe, Willow Crest** and the Winemaker’s Loft which is a wine studio shared by several small boutique wineries: **Apex Cellars, Masquerade Wine Co., Michael Florentino, RiverAerie Cellars, Tasawik Cellars** and **Maison Bleue Winery**. Again all are within a two- to three-block area. However, to avoid “winery fatigue” our suggestion is to pick and choose the wineries you wish to visit. Also, in this area is “The Yellow Rose Nursery” for those wanting a break from all the wine.

At 4:15 p.m. sharp we will leave Prosser to return to Yakima. We should be back by approximately 5:15 p.m. Naturally if anyone wishes to purchase wine, there will be plenty of room in the baggage area on the bus. Just make sure your wine is well identified with your name.

The cost of this bus trip is \$45 per person. The maximum that we can take on the bus is 47. We need your commitment and money as soon as possible to pay a 50% deposit by September 12th. So get a group of friends, go to your calendars, mark the date, fill out this registration form and send in your payment as soon as possible!

~ Chuck Johnson

What makes great wine great?

Those of us who drink wine on a daily basis (it's part of my job...I'm doing research!) don't think too much about the five elements of a "great wine" but rather just want to enjoy a glass or two of wine while making dinner and to enjoy with the meal. But every now and then, maybe when we've read about a special wine and we find it at the wine shop, or when dining at a restaurant that offers a distinctive selection of wine, we might want to take a moment to analyze that wine we purchase. Here is my guide for what makes great wine great:

Distinct varietal character: Each variety of grapes presents itself in a unique way. When a young wine that has been made from a single variety of grape presents its inherent grape aromas and flavors in a straightforward, clear, and focused way, it is said to have varietal character.

Integration: All components of a wine (acid, tannin, alcohol, fruit, sugar) are so impeccably interwoven that no one characteristic or component stands out.

Expressiveness: The quality a wine possesses when its aromas and flavors are well-defined and clearly projected.

Complexity: Not a thing but a phenomenon. A force that pulls you into a wine and impels you to repeatedly return for another smell and sip because each time you do, you find something new.

Connectedness: The most elusive of these concepts and the most difficult to ascertain. It is the sense

Continued on page 4...

What: Round-Up at Tumbleweed Ranch
When: Wed. Sep. 10, 2008 — 6:30 p.m.
Where: Tumbleweed Ranch, Glead

REGISTRATION DEADLINE:
Postmarked or online
by Thu., Sep. 4, 2008
Pay online at www.yakimawine.org

Yes, we'll be there...

Name(s) _____

Members ----- @ \$30 = \$ _____

Name(s) _____

Guests ----- @ \$35 = \$ _____

Name(s) _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Name(s) _____

Please include your email address if you would like to receive future newsletters by email
Email: _____

Phone: _____

Important: Please include your phone number.

If you would like to help with this tasting, please select one of the following:
___ Set Up ___ Food Prep ___ Registration ___ Greeter ___ Pourer ___ Clean Up

Please clip and mail this form with your check to: Yakima Enological Society, PO Box 2395, Yakima WA 98907
All reservations must be paid for in advance and are NON REFUNDABLE

What: Bus Trip to Prosser Wineries
When: Sunday, October 12 from 9 a.m.—5:15 p.m.
Where: Boards at the Yakima Valley Museum

PRE-REGISTRATION
Send in your registration
by September 12
for the required bus deposit

Yes, we'll be there...

Name(s) _____

Members ----- @ \$45 = \$ _____

Name(s) _____

Guests ----- @ \$45 = \$ _____

Name(s) _____

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**Yakima
Enological Society**

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**We're on the Web...
www.yakimawine.org**

*This newsletter published by Jonelle Foutz,
Write Mind, PO Box 1194, Yakima WA 98907*

Case of the Blues and all that Jazz was HOT

Due to the blistering temperature on Saturday, August 16th, attendance was down this year at one of Yakima's premier music events. However, for the hardy souls who did attend (many arriving after sundown) the venue was as rollicking as ever. The music was varied from Wayman Chapman to Latin fusion and the choice of food vendors only seems to grow. The YES members that attended saw many familiar faces among the wine vendors, and the margarita bar always had a waiting line. All things considered, except for the heat, the event was as much fun as always. The money raised goes to support both the Greenway and the Junior League of Yakima, both worthy organizations.

~ Julie Johnson

Great Wine ...continued from page 2

you get from the wine's aromas and flavor that it could not have come from just anywhere but rather is the embodiment of a single piece of earth. Connectedness is the bond between a wine and the plot of land it was born in.

I don't think spending \$75 for a bottle of wine is a guarantee of a great wine. I've had some great wines for under \$20. Continue to read about wine, to visit your local wineries/wine shops and to enjoy wine!

Salute!
~ Durella DeGrasse

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