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Subject: CA Cabernet Wine Tasting at Santiam Wine and Bistro

Date: January 17, 2014 at 5:53 PM

To: tasting santiam tasting@santiamwine.com

Here we go, Friday night a great wine tasting! Join us, this is a fun place to come and meet up with friends and family. Keep us in mind. K?

And, we do it all! Wine and Dine right here.

What: California Cabernet Sauvignon Wine Tasting

Where: Santiam Wine & Bistro Date: Friday, January 17, 2014

Time: 4-8 P.M.

Pricing: First Five Full Pour: \$30 Half Pour: \$17 (1 oz of each) (These wines are costly. I decided to limit the tasting to Five Wines)

THE WINES:

2010 Rodney Strong Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon Sonoma County \$41

The saturated ruby/purple-hued 2010 Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve's attractive bouquet of creme de cassis, chocolate, licorice and background oak is followed by a rich, full-bodied wine with good acidity, ripe tannin and a layered mouthfeel. It is another impressive example of an Alexander Valley Cabernet that is soft enough to be drunk now, but promises to be even better in 3-4 years, and keep for 12-15+. **90 Points Robert Parker**

2008 Neal Family Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley \$50

"Our 2008 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon features 84% of the grapes coming from the Howell Mountain, Second Chance and One Lane Bridge vineyards. This is the highest percentage of mountain fruit in our Napa Cabernet that we have bottled to date. The wine is one of the darkest in color we've made, presaging flavors and aromas to be revealed in a glass. It is a big muscular Napa Cabernet with firm tannins featuring dark fruit and chocolate aromas mingled with the blackberry/cherry fruit. Another layer of flavors brings a mix of tobacco and cured olives with hints of spice, sage and tea. The mouth-feel is very rich with generous mountain tannins that have evolved into a velvety texture creating a long, delicious finish. Our 2008 will benefit from some bottle aging if you can resist popping the cork. True to form with previous Neal cabernets, patience is rewarded!

2011 Darioush Caravan Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley \$52.50

Caravan shares the pedigree of Darioush's Signature wines, but displays more ripe, saturated fruit with an elegantly textured finish. Caravan Cabernet Sauvignon is comprised of a unique blend with Merlot, Cabernet Franc or Malbec from our estate vineyards—lending more depth and complexity of flavor to the finished wine.

A saturated purple hue hints at the exuberant aromas of ripe, brambly fruit that leap from the glass of our 2010 Caravan Cabernet Sauvignon. The high proportion of hillside fruit comes through in this vintage with juicy fresh-picked blueberry and dark cherry notes joined by brushy sage, mocha, cedar and vanilla. A stylish wine, with a firm, structured palate and polished tannins that give length and breadth to the warm and spicy finish.

2010 Cliff Lede Stags Leap Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley \$72

The elegance, finesse and purity of these wines are well evidenced by the 2010 Cabernet Sauvignon Stag's Lean A blend of 80% Cabernet Sauvignon 11% Merlot 5% Cabernet France

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and 4% Petit Verdot, this beauty boasts a deep blue/purple color as well as a stunning nose of acacia flowers, blueberries and raspberries. Medium to full-bodied with an ethereal elegance and lightness as well as beautiful texture, finesse and harmony, it reveals the Margaux-like side of southern Napa. Drink it over the next 15-20 years. **94 Points Robert Parker**

2010 Hewitt Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley \$96 Glass pour \$26- 6 oz Pour Deliciously pure, rich and deep, featuring tiers of spicy red berry, blackberry and red and black licorice flavors, with pretty wilted rose scents and a long, seamless finish that slowly reveals an underlying tannic grip. Drink now through 2026.

95 Points Wine Spectator Top 100 for 2013 Rank Number 4

We're all looking forward to this tasting! I hope you can join us!

Saturday we are tasting Red Zinfandel 12-4 FREE

Cheers!

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