



JMD BEVERAGES

"Hawaii's Foremost Purveyor of Fine Wines
Locally Owned and Operated"

Presents the fine wines of Ken Wright Cellars



Located in rural Carlton, Oregon, Ken Wright Cellars is devoted to showcasing the inherent quality of selected vineyard sites. With a clarity and breadth that is unequalled by other varieties, Ken believes that Pinot noir best expresses the character of these sites and is a vehicle for conveying the aroma, flavor and texture of the location in which it is grown.



Ken Wright, Winemaker/Owner

Ken Wright's 2008 Pinots Have Arrived!

OREGON 2008 OVERVIEW

Every November, we celebrate the arrival of the Ken Wright's pinot noirs! Because his wines are sold as "futures" during the Memorial Day weekend (and shipped in November), they are always the first Oregon pinots (from each new vintage) to arrive in our warehouse.

The 2008 vintage is being hailed as a classic, making it much more anticipated, especially following one of Oregon's most challenging vintages in recent history (2007). The Wine Spectator rated the vintage "excellent", giving it an "A" grade... I'm going to go beyond that, by saying: 2008 is going to be a fantastic vintage. Experts are calling it "a combination of 1999 and 2000." The pinots have great purity of fruit and structure. But beyond that, these are going to be big and muscular! Yields were down significantly (apx. 20%). Berry size was smaller than normal, the result was more flavor concentration than usual. And talking about hang time --- unlike 2007, when rain challenged the vintage late, the sun came out when the calendar turned to October. The clouds disappeared -- and stayed away. With no rain or summer heat to worry about --- vintners could pick grapes whenever they wanted, and nothing got too ripe. The top wineries were still picking at Halloween, which has never happened before!

Ken Wright Cellars
"Savoya Vineyard" Pinot Noir,
Yamhill-Carlton 2008
(#4805) 6/750 \$238.50 / \$39.75

Ken Wright Cellars
"Savoya Vineyard" Pinot Noir,
Yamhill-Carlton 2008
(#4817) 12/375ml \$240.00 / \$20.00

Any visitors to Ken's home have seen the Savoya Vineyard --- it's his backyard. Located on top of a hill in the Yamhill-Carlton AVA at an elevation of 450', this was the first vineyard directly owned and developed by Ken Wright Cellars. Planting began in 1999 with 4.5 acres of Dijon

clones 777 and 115, and now comprises 17 acres (total). The sandy soils are marine sediments known as Wellsdale & Willakenzie, both drain quickly, hastening the ripening process. Ken's first commercial crop was the 2002. In it's short history, Savoya has produced muscular wines that have aromas of dense black fruit, seared meat, cedar and anise. Like most of Yamhill-Carlton, acidity levels are generally lower than other regions, prompting these wines to be lush and agreeable in their youth. 240 cases made.

Ken Wright Cellars
"Abbott Claim Vyd" Pinot
Noir, Yamhill-Carlton
2008 (#4811) 6/750 \$238.50/\$39.75

Ken's newest arrival to the stable. This S-SE facing, 17 acre site is a portion of the original John F. Abbott Donation Land Claim, lying in the middle of a sedimentary ridge at 400' to 475' elevations, east of Carlton. Soils are mostly Wellsdale with some areas of Willakenzie and Peavine. Vines are roughly an equal mix of Pommard, 777 and 115 clones. As would be expected from a vineyard in the Yamhill-Carlton District, the wine is very darkly colored, dense and lush. Fruits tend to be darker such as plum, cassis and black cherry. Like most of wines grown in the Yamhill-Carlton AVA, acidity levels are generally lower than other regions, prompting these wines to be lush and agreeable in their youth.

Ken Wright Cellars
"McCrone Vineyard" Pinot
Noir, Yamhill-Carlton 2008
(#4808) 6/750 \$238.50 / \$39.75

Friends of Ken's recognize McCrone as that densely planted vineyard they pass just before arriving at his house (Savoya). It's a gentle sloping site with a perfect south-southwest inclination at an elevation of 400'... Located in the heart of the Yamhill-Carlton

District, the soil is entirely Wellsdale (sedimentary), and is extremely well drained promoting early ripening. Half of the vineyard was planted in 1992 to the Dijon 115 clone, the second half was originally planted to Dijon Chardonnay clones (but was grafted in 2000 to the Dijon 777 clone of Pinot noir). The wine from this site is powerful, dense and deeply colored focusing mainly on black fruits. Like most of Yamhill-Carlton, acidity levels are generally lower than other regions, prompting these wines to be lush and agreeable in their youth. 700 cases made.

**KWC "Shea Vineyard" Pinot
Noir, Yamhill-Carlton 2008
(#4809) 6/750 \$238.50 / \$39.75**

A who's-who of pinot producers have made a Shea Vineyard over the years --- but it was Ken that first put Shea on the radar screen. Because of this, "Ken's Block" is the "filet mignon"--- the prime spots in the very diverse Shea Vineyard. Located in the Yamhill-Carlton District just west of the Chehalem Valley, soils are primarily of the Goodin and Melbourne type (sedimentary in origin), Ken's fruit is sourced from three small blocks, ranging in elevation from 450 to 600 feet and were planted in 1989... One block is planted to the Pommard clone, another to the Dijon 114 clone and the last to Dijon 777. The wine from this vineyard has a complex array of aromas and flavors including black and red fruits, particularly blueberry, spice and earth. Like most of Yamhill-Carlton, acidity levels are generally lower than other regions, prompting these wines to be lush and agreeable in their youth. 725 cases made.

**KWC "Canary Hill Vineyard"
Pinot Noir, Eola Hills 2008
(#4807) 6/750 \$238.50 / \$39.75**

One of the higher vineyards in the Eola Hills (at 450' to 550'), Canary is located at the southern end of the AVA with an ideal southeast facing. Relatively old (for Oregon), Canary Hill was planted in 1982 & 1983, entirely to the Pommard

clone. The soil has a reddish-brown tint, being a mix of Jory and Nekia, but is very shallow compared to other Jory sites (in the nearby Dundee Hills). This allows it to dry out sooner than the others, making it one of Ken's earliest ripening sites. Wine from this vineyard is typically very forward, with aromas of black cherry and cola. 625 cases made.

**KWC "Carter Vineyard" Pinot
Noir, Eola Hills 2008
(#4803) 6/750 \$238.50 / \$39.75**
**KWC "Carter Vineyard" Pinot
Noir, Eola Hills 2008
(#4800) 12/375ml \$240.00/\$20.00**

Located just 1 mile from Canary Hill in the Eola Hills, Carter is lower on the hillside (325' elevation, planted in 1983), yet has leaner, less fertile (mainly Nekia) soil. This bottling is comprised of the older Wadenswil & Pommard clones, along with the more modern Dijon 777, Dijon 667, Dijon 115. Eola Hills sites typically have naturally elevated acidity levels than in other growing areas, contributing to a sense of structure in the mouth. Firmer than Canary Hill in its youth, Carter evolves beautifully after a few years in bottle to show classic Eola Hills black fruits along with fresh, healthy earth scents. Approximately 650 cases are produced.

**KWC "Meredith Mitchell Vyd."
Pinot Noir 2008
(#4821) 6/750 \$238.50 / \$39.75**

Planted in 1988 to own-rooted Pommard clone, it's located southwest of McMinnville at 300' elevation in the coastal foothills near Freedom Hill. Stylistically, both Freedom Hill & Meredith Mitchell are very similar wines: both tending to be late-ripening due to the cooling influence of maritime air flowing into the valley from the Van Duzer Corridor. Consistently producing small clusters and berries, this vineyard renders a wine which is intense and structured, with higher levels of tannin requiring a bit more aging than most of Ken's other sites. 300 cases made.

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