

# SEVEN HILLS WINERY

ESTABLISHED 1988

Spring 2002



No. 6

## The Winter Season

We've had a busy winter in the winery as we tended to vintage 2001 in barrel, and bottled the delicious vintage 2000 red wines and 2001 whites. I see the red wines of 2000 showing great balance, with flavorful, ripe fruit character and an accessible tannin profile. We are looking forward to their imminent release.

We bid farewell to Tim Sampson, our Cellarmaster who started with us during the move from Oregon in 2000. Tim will devote himself full time to his own brand, Yellow Hawk Cellar. To succeed him, we've hired Haydn Mouat, a native New Zealander with experience in many regions of the wine world.

### Australia

I had the pleasure in late winter (that's late summer in the southern hemisphere) of heading to Australia to see how they make wine Down Under. The reputation of the Australian industry is one of progressive technology and an emphasis on Shiraz (Syrah)-based wines. Other than the curious habit of left-side drive, a starscape that features the Southern Cross and an incredible, almost three dimensional view of the Milky Way, the country resembles Northern California. Substitute various gum trees for the oaks you see in Sonoma or Napa, and you've got a very similar visual and climatic feel.

One of the most enjoyable experiences was visiting 100 year-old, own-rooted Shiraz vineyards. What I observed in wine country confirmed some of the practices we employ here at Seven Hills, and also gave me a few new ideas to try in our winemaking. You'll see the effects of these subtle changes in the coming vintages, particularly in our Syrah bottlings.

### Blends vs Varietals

An ongoing debate in the wine trade addresses the preference for varietally labeled wines over those that are a blend of two or more varietals labeled with a proprietary name, or simply as red table wine. It is true that wine preference is subjective and there are things to be said for each style of wine. The popularity of one approach over another is, in a large part, determined by the wine-drinking market as well as the state of the wine industry.

In our country we tend to gravitate toward varietally labeled wine. Varietally labeled wines are crafted with at least 75% of the fruit being the varietal specified on the label. This allows for blending, but the predominant character of the wine will be that of the labeled varietal.

This straight-forward approach is consistent with our society's comfort with fact and definition. However, I believe American oenophiles are on the verge of greater acceptance of blended, non-varietal wines. Proprietary-name, blended wines have no legally required percentages, thus allowing the winemaker to craft wines freely. The optimum structure, balance and flavor profile can be sought without concern for a fixed percentage of any one grape. At Seven Hills, we've come to the opinion that a blended or proprietary red wine is one that merits more exposure and enjoyment by the consumer. Look for our first release of these new wines from the 2001 vintage in coming years. We'll keep you informed of how these wines are evolving in our cellar.

  
Winemaker

# New Wines at Spring Release Weekends

Join us in welcoming Spring to the Walla Walla Valley.

## 2000 Syrah, Walla Walla Valley\* (\$35)

Our fourth vintage of this wine. The core of this blend is Cailloux and Seven Hills Vineyard fruit. Shows ripe, tight structured style. Earthy, smoky notes are surrounded with black cherry and vanilla spice.

## 1999 Merlot, Reserve, Columbia Valley\* (\$40)

An exciting, beautifully balanced blend of DuBrul and Old Block Seven Hills Vineyards. A very dynamic interplay between the raspberry brightness of DuBrul and sweet black fruits of Seven Hills. Our first Reserve designated wine blending fruit from two appellations. Limited.

## 2001 Pinot Gris, Oregon (\$14)

A charming, forward Gris, from a unique blend of Walla Walla Valley and Umpqua Valley fruit. Crisp citrus, round ripe pear, and accents of hazelnut and vanilla. Bone dry. Delicious. Here comes summer!

## 2001 Riesling, Columbia Valley (\$10)

These old Riesling vines offer up fruit of exceptional perfume and bearing. Riesling gains in popularity year after year, and this off-dry style shows how versatile and enjoyable the variety can be. Easy-drinking complexity is *not* an oxymoron!

## Leslie Williams Cain, Palouse landscapes in chalk pastels

Leslie Williams Cain's chalk pastels capture the openness and quietude of the region east of the mountains in Washington State.

A Walla Walla native who continues to live and work here, Cain renders the character of the land and the nuances of the light throughout the seasons with profound understanding and care. She works primarily in loose energetic strokes—trees and fields are composed of seemingly dancing lines, conveying the freedom and isolation of the landscape. We are pleased to display her work in our tasting room.

## 2000 Syrah, Columbia Valley (\$22)

A blockbuster Syrah, very ripe style showing intense black cherry fruit and grilled notes layered on top of a soft structure.

## 1999 Cabernet Sauvignon, Klipsun Vineyard, Columbia Valley (\$30)

A powerful, intense Cabernet offering aromas of ripe black fruits and spices. A classic vintage of harmonious acidity, fruit and structure. This wine has received tremendous response and reviews since its release in December, collecting 93 points from *Wine and Spirits* and 90 points from the *Wine Enthusiast*.

\* No case discount

## Spring Release Weekends

May 3, 4, 5, May 10 & 11  
Friday and Saturday, 11-5 • Sunday 11-4

## *The Barrique Society*

Packages of our most limited release red wines were shipped to Barrique Society members in March. It was our pleasure to send the 1999 Merlot, Columbia Valley, Reserve and a pre-release of the 2000 Syrah, Walla Walla Valley. These wines will be released to the public May 1st. Thank you for your ongoing support and good company over the winter.

We invite all our customers to join the Barrique Society. Members enjoy exclusive discounts on purchases and advance buying privileges on limited releases, as are asked to join us at invitational events in the barrel room. Please call us at the winery or check the website for membership details.

## Reviews on Current Releases

### 1999 Cabernet Sauvignon, Klipsun Vineyard

*Wine & Spirits*, 93 • *Wine Enthusiast*, 90

### 1999 Cabernet Sauvignon, Seven Hills Vineyard

*Wine & Spirits*, 90 • *Wine Enthusiast*, 91 Editor's Choice

### 1999 Merlot, Klipsun Vineyard

*Wine & Spirits*, 93 • *Wine Enthusiast*, 91 Cellar Selection

### 1999 Merlot, Reserve, Columbia Valley

*Wine & Spirits*, 90 • *Wine Enthusiast*, 89

# SEVEN HILLS WINERY



Order Form

You may order by:  
 toll free: 877-777-7870  
 fax: 1-509-529-7733  
 internet: www.sevenhillswinery.com

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (Day/Evening) \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (Day/Evening) \_\_\_\_\_

Qty.	Description	Bottle Price	Barrique Society Bottle Price	Total
	1999 Cabernet Sauvignon, Seven Hills Vineyard, WWV	\$30	\$28.50	
	1999 Cabernet Sauvignon, Klipsun Vineyard, Columbia Valley	\$30	\$28.50	
	1999 Merlot, Columbia Valley, Reserve*	\$40	\$38.00	
	1999 Merlot, Columbia Valley	\$22	\$20.90	
	2000 Syrah, Walla Walla Valley*	\$35	\$33.25	
	2000 Syrah, Columbia Valley	\$22	\$20.90	
	2001 Pinot Gris, Oregon	\$14	\$13.30	
	2001 Riesling, Columbia Valley	\$10	\$9.50	
	Apparel/Accessories: discounted 15% for Barrique Society: Hat \$16, Polo \$34, T-shirt \$12 (short sleeve), \$15 (long sleeve), Polar fleece vest \$45, Apron \$16			

**Method of Payment**

- Visa  
 Mastercard  
 Check or money order enclosed

Credit Card Number

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Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**DISCOUNT STRUCTURE**

**Barrique Society Members**

\* Reserve and Limited Releases are discounted 5% regardless of quantity for **Barrique Society Members only**.

**Discounts on full and mixed cases:**

- 15% on full/mixed cases (except reserve and limited releases which are discounted 5%)

**Discounts on less than a case**

- 5% on all orders

**Non Members**

- Reserve and limited releases are not discounted.

**Discounts on full and mixed cases:**

- No discounts on less than full cases
- 10% on full/mixed cases.

**Shipping:\***

<b>In State:</b>	1-3 bottles	\$15
	4-6 bottles	\$20
	7-12 bottles	\$25
<b>Out of State:</b>	1-3 bottles	\$20
	4-6 bottles	\$25
	7-12 bottles	\$35

Additional shipping charges may apply due to weather conditions. HI, AK please call for airfreight charges.

Merchandise Subtotal

- Case Discount

= Order Total

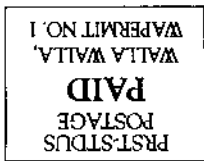
+ Shipping & Handling

+ WA State Tax 8%

= Total Amount Enclosed

**Please make checks to:  
 Seven Hills Winery**

SEVEN HILLS WINERY  
 212 North Third Avenue,  
 Walla Walla, WA 99362  
 info@sevenhillswinery.com



Walla Walla, WA 99362  
212 North Third Avenue  
SEVEN HILLS WINERY

# Kirkman House Museum "Spring Release Diversion"

*Fundraising luncheon*

**May 4th, 11 am - 4pm**

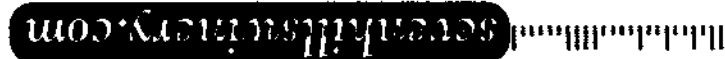
Take a break from the wine and enjoy lunch at the Kirkman House Museum, Walla Walla's only house museum. Built in 1880, this beautiful Victorian Italianate mansion is one of the oldest brick buildings in town, and only one block from Seven Hills Winery.

The menu will feature chicken gumbo or rice and beans, cornbread, apple crisp, and old fashioned soda, catered by the Silver Moon Café. Tickets are \$18 in advance, \$20 at the door. Call the Kirkman House for more information at 509-529-4373.



**A gift of wine** is a thoughtful way to commemorate an event or show appreciation. We are glad to assist you in choosing wines. We'll gift box your selection and include a card and tasting notes. Shipment can be made direct from the winery as provided by state laws.

**Gift memberships in our Barrique Society** are available for the wine lover in your life. We send wines three times each year, in advance of their public release. Both giver and recipient are invited to member events at the winery. One year gift memberships are billed at the time of shipment. The average cost per shipment is \$80, the value of your consideration and generosity; priceless.



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