



Saturday, March 3, 2012
Live Auction Lots

Live Lot 1

Six Glorious Signed 2008 Vintage Magnums [1.5L] from Ramey Wine Cellars. One Each: Hyde Vineyard Chardonnay, Napa-Carneros; Ritchie Vineyard Chardonnay, Russian River Valley; Hudson Vineyard Chardonnay, Napa-Carneros; Cabernet Sauvignon, Annum, Napa Valley; Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley; and, Cabernet Sauvignon, Pedregal Vineyard, Oakville

The KMA owes a huge debt of gratitude to David Ramey and Ramey Wine Cellars for their past and continuing support of L'Amour du Vin! Ramey was the guest vintner in 2006. This year, David Ramey has again provided 6 magnums of his wines – 3 white and 3 red – all from the 2008 vintage. How good are these wines, you ask? Robert Parker: 93, 92, 93, 92 – 94, 90 – 92, 93 – 95, respectively. The last three ratings are from barrel samples. Stephen Tanzer ratings: 95, 94, 94, 92, 91, 94, respectively. Coming from two completely different sources, these wines achieved very consistent ratings. Parker states that the Cabernets will last into the next decade and the Chardonnays well into the second half of this decade. Those of you who were with us in 2006 know how personable David Ramey is and – more importantly – how great his wines are. Six fabulous wines from a fabulous vintage in Napa, in magnums, are yours for the bidding. You know you want them; we know you want them; so, just go out and get them!

Donor: Ramey Wine Cellars

Live Lot 2

Hunt Slonem, *Ascension*, 2011, Oil on Wood

This original oil on wood, 24 by 20 inches, was painted by our Featured Artist, Hunt Slonem. New York and Louisiana-based artist Hunt Slonem, is best known for his intensively colored and textured paintings of birds, butterflies, orchids and portraits that pivot between the spiritual and the natural world. Born in 1951 in Kittery, Maine, Slonem spent much of his childhood moving around the States as a result of his father's military career but it was his time in Hawaii that he developed an early affinity for nature and various species of tropical birds. After graduating from Tulane University, he attended the prestigious Skowhegan School in Maine where he was exposed to eminent artists from the New York area. Encouraged to move to New York City, the artist established himself in the cultural community and continues to paint his expressive, richly patterned works in his Manhattan studio surrounded by his menagerie of birds. Since 1977, Slonem has been honored with over 150 solo exhibitions and his works can be found in over seventy institutions and private collections, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, and the Whitney Museum of American Art. His Tennessee public collections include the Memphis Brooks Museum of Art, Hunter Museum of American Art, Chattanooga, Tennessee State Museum, Nashville and our own Knoxville Museum of Art.

Donor: Hunt Slonem

Live Lot 3

Two Magnums [1.5L] of Great 2007 Martinelli Wine. One Each: 2007 Lolita Ranch Syrah and 2007 Martinelli Road Chardonnay. Plus, a Two-Night Stay at the Winery for Two Couples

Four guests will enjoy a two-night stay at the Martinelli Winery. The two-bedroom property is on the Martinelli rural Ranch in Windsor, California. The lucky guests will enjoy a private tour of the Martinelli Hop Barn Winery and Vineyards, and a personal tasting of their highly acclaimed Russian River and Sonoma Coast Single Vineyard Designate wines. Robert Parker rated the 2007 Martinelli Road Chardonnay with 94 points. "Gravel/mineral, pear, honeysuckle, and white currant notes emerge from the full-bodied, rich, complex, Corton-Charlemagne-like 2007. A beautiful wine with super-purity, elegance, and depth." The Syrah was not rated. Finally, each couple will receive a valuable and coveted spot on the Martinelli mailing list. Let's show our appreciation and love of Martinelli wine and all they have done for the L'Amour du Vin! Expiration: March 1, 2013.

Donor: Martinelli Winery

Live Lot 4

Three Magnums [1.5L] and Three Bottles [750ml] of Superb Red Wine. One Magnum Each: Caymus 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon Special Selection; Qupé 2003 Syrah Bien Nacido Vineyard Hillside Estate; and DuMOL 2006 Syrah Jack Robert's Run. One Bottle [750ml] Each: Vineyard 29 2006 Cabernet Sauvignon Aida Estate Vineyard; Plumpjack 2006 Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve; and Long Shadows 2006 Merlot Pedestal

WOW! This is Big Boy red wine for sure. How do we know? Well, Robert Parker says: 93, 92, 93, 93+, 94, and 94 points respectively. That's an average of 93+ points. We can write a book about any of these wines. We all know about the Caymus Special Selection – it has been the gold standard for years. “The 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon Special Selection exhibits an inky/blue/purple color in addition to sweet aromas of cassis, graphite, licorice, tobacco leaf and toasty oak. Bold, flamboyant and opulent, it should drink well for 15+ years.” Bob Lindquist and the glories of Qupé are detailed elsewhere in these notes. The DuMOL may be less well known: “The 2006 Syrah Jack Robert's Run is a 300-case cuvée that exhibits northern Rhone-like notes of roasted meats, fried bacon fat, and blue and blackberries, with hints of asphalt and pepper. It is full-bodied, opaque/purple-colored, dense, and should certainly age well for at least a decade or more.” Vineyard 29 and Aida Estate are also detailed elsewhere. Plumpjack Cabernets are always glorious monolithic wines. “The 2006 Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve Estate (only 530 cases produced) is a brilliant, but backward cuvee. Deep, full-bodied, and stacked and packed; it reveals graphite, blueberry, blackberry, and cassis notes in its rich, full, tannic, pure personality.” Finally, the Long Shadows which boasts France's famous consulting winemaker Michel Roland. “This wine is 86% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Sauvignon, 4% Petit Verdot and 2% Malbec. Purple-colored, it offers an alluring bouquet of sandalwood, pencil lead, spice box, incense, black currants, and black cherry. Seamless on the palate, this plush wine has layers of ripe, savory flavors, well-concealed tannin, excellent aging potential, and a 60-second finish.” Some people think that Cabernet Sauvignon is the king of red wines. If so, we have three incredible bottles here, paired with two great Syrahs and a Merlot that are equal to matching the Cabernet's quality.

Donor: A Friend of the Museum

Live Lot 5

A Studio Visit with Richard Jolley for 20 people followed by a Wonderful Wine Dinner in the Beautiful Hazelwood Home

Tour the west Knoxville studio of internationally acclaimed sculptor of glass, Richard Jolley. Refreshments, wine, etc. will be served at the studio. You will receive a preview and look behind the scenes of the projects Richard is currently working on, among other projects, the as-yet unnamed glass and metal installation which will grace the walls and ceiling of the Great Hall of the Knoxville Museum of Art. This installation, made possible by the generosity of Ann and Steve Bailey, will be unveiled in 2014. After an afternoon at the Jolley Studio, retire to the lovely Cherokee Boulevard home of Mark and Joanne Hazelwood to enjoy a delicious dinner, wine, and convivial company. To be scheduled for a mutually agreeable date and time.

Donor: Richard Jolley and Tommie Rush, Mark and Joanne Hazelwood

Live Lot 6

A Two-Night Stay at Jordan Vineyard for Four Including a Tour and Tasting at the Winery PLUS One Magnum [1.5L] of Jordan 2005 Cabernet Sauvignon

Since 1976, the Jordan family has been heralded for its elegant wines, culinary excellence and gracious hospitality. The certificate entitles four guests to join Jordan for a two-night stay at the winery's Estate Suites and for a complimentary tour of the winery and grounds along with tastings of their current release Chardonnay, Cabernet Sauvignon and Estate Grown Extra Virgin Olive Oil, among others. The Jordan 2005 Cabernet Sauvignon is comprised of 76% Cabernet Sauvignon, 19% Merlot, and 5% Petit Verdot. Stephen Tanzer awarded 90 points: “Deep red. Red- and blackcurrant, cherry and menthol on the nose, with subtle vanilla, cola and tobacco notes adding complexity. Understated and brisk, with good finishing clarity and mineral cut.” The winemaker states: “Current trends in winemaking focus less on varietal intensity and more on texture due to higher degrees of tannin, alcohol and oak. As much as we may be tempted to increase the sheer power and muscularity of our Cabernet, we believe more strongly in the timeless qualities of balance, elegance and finesse with refined tannins that provide a long, lingering finish.” Expiration: March 1, 2013. The single donated magnum is to be shared between the two couples while planning or remembering the great trip. We have been drinking Jordan Cabernet for years and affirm that the philosophy of winemaking shows through to the wine. This is a very fine lot.

Donor: Jordan Vineyard & Winery

Live Lot 7

Six Bottles [750ml] of Vineyard 29 Aida Red Wine. Three Each: 2002 Aida Proprietary Red Wine and 2008 Aida Estate Cabernet Sauvignon. PLUS, a Gift Certificate for an Exclusive Tour and Library Tasting at Vineyard 29 for Six Persons

Chuck and Anne McMinn acquired the stewardship of Vineyard 29 in 2000 and began its evolution from a single vineyard to a full scale winery. Along with the Vineyard 29 property, Chuck and Anne acquired the historic Aida Vineyard in 2000 as a perfect complement to the Vineyard 29 site for expansion of the winery's portfolio. With a new, state-of-the-art winemaking facility, and the unquestionable skill of winemaker Philippe Melka, all the pieces were in place for Chuck and Anne to lead Vineyard 29 to a new and exciting level of winemaking. And what excitement it has been! Robert Parker rated these two vintages 95 and 93+ points respectively. The 2002 is a blend of 61% Cabernet Sauvignon and 39% Merlot; the 2008 is 85% Cabernet Sauvignon, 9% Petit Verdot, and 6% Merlot. Of the 2008 Cabernet, Parker stated: "Exhibits plenty of earthy, chocolaty notes intertwined with hints of burning embers, camphor and spice. Thick, juicy and very Graves-like for a Napa Cabernet Sauvignon, it possesses big body as well as a masculine, bold style. Some tannins kick in in the finish, and this wine will benefit from 3-4 years of bottle age. It should keep for two decades or more. I love this terroir for its distinctive Graves-like character." Both of these wines are absolutely stellar, but we will tell you that the best part of this lot may be the Tour and exclusive Library Tasting. Having been to a Library Tasting at V-29, we can only explain that the facilities are new and awesome. The view is world class. The wines are out of this world. If you don't want this lot, we certainly do! We'll see you on the bidding floor!

Donor: Vineyard 29

Live Lot 8

Five-Course Dinner with Wine Pairings for 16 Guests at the Knoxville Beverage Company's State of the Art Facility

Experience the Best of Napa Valley without Leaving Knoxville! All the beauty and panache of a Napa Valley dining experience right on your doorstep! Pass through the wooden archway to a beautiful veranda warmed by the outdoor stone fire pit. Enjoy wine and hors d'oeuvres and a tour of the new tasting room and wine cellar with your host Mike Milner. Then, it is on to the private dining room, sparkling with china and silver and decked with flowers. The wines for the evening will be selected from premier importers to include Martine's Wines, Eric Solomon Selections, Domaine Select, and The Rare Wine Company – presented by Andy Chabot, sommelier of Blackberry Farm. The dinner, designed and prepared by Chef Jeff Carter of Dancing Bear Lodge and Restaurant, will be as fine a meal as you could enjoy on either coast or anywhere in between.

Donor: Mike Milner, Knoxville Beverage Company, Blackberry Hotel Company

Live Lot 9

One-Week Vacation in a Luxurious Condominium for up to 10 Guests in Keystone, Colorado

This five-bedroom, five-bathroom, ski-in, ski-out, condominium is located at the foot of Keystone Mountain, and offers every comfort and luxury along with easy convenience to the slopes. Or if your liking is more for summer hiking and mountain biking, Keystone is a year round resort with legendary summer activities. Keystone resort offers an array of outdoor activities, upscale shopping, four-star restaurants as well as family friendly activities, and the only resort in the area to offer night skiing. A mutually agreeable date, for any season, may be determined between the homeowner and winning bidder. Expiration Date: March 1, 2013.

Donor: Joe and Ruth Fielden

Live Lot 10

Two Magnum [1.5L] Bottles of Colgin 2005 “IX” Estate Napa Valley Red Wines. One Each: Colgin “IX” Estate Napa Valley Red Wine #441 and Colgin “IX” Estate Napa Valley Syrah #44

Ann Barry Colgin, owner of Colgin Cellars in Napa Valley, California has helped forge a world-renowned reputation for California's small production, hand-crafted red wines. The Colgin Cellars' intensely endowed wines are produced from exceptional hillside vineyards in the St. Helena area of Napa Valley. These unique sites, coupled with the highest quality vineyard management and neo-classical winemaking techniques, produce wines with distinctive personalities. Colgin Cellars currently produces four wines: Tychson Hill Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon, Cariad Napa Valley Red Wine, IX Estate Napa Valley Red Wine and IX Estate Syrah. These highly sought-after wines are available only through mailing list and select restaurant lists. And, the list is long! Really long! Colgin wines always win superior ratings – heck the always have superior taste! On these two wines, Parker – 97 and 95 points; WS – 96 and 94 points; Tanzer – 95 and 93 points! That’s pretty consistent results across three very diverse viewpoints on wine. Parker sums it up: “Colgin is one of the reference points for just what heights mountain-grown Cabernet Sauvignon, Bordeaux varietals, and more recently, Syrah, can achieve in Napa Valley. This beautiful estate and winery overlooking Lake Hennessey is owned by Joe Wender and his wife, Ann Colgin (equally renowned for her auctioneering skills), who are assisted by David Abreu, the well-known Bordeaux wine consultant, Dr. Alain Raynaud, and Allison Tauziet, who has skillfully replaced the brilliant Mark Aubert. As the scores and tasting notes suggest, this was an exceptional tasting.” Here are two large format Colgins available to you at L’Amour du Vin. If we want more supporting lots like this from Ann Colgin and her friends, we want to bid it up! As Ann, herself has often said as one of the auctioneers at the High Museum Wine Auction in Atlanta, “It’s only money!”

Donor: Colgin Cellars

Live Lot 11

Escape to the Dancing Bear Lodge & Restaurant in the Great Smoky Mountains! Two Nights for Two in a Deluxe Lodge Room, including a Dinner for Two and Complimentary Continental Breakfasts.

You and your special someone will have a great get-away. Dancing Bear Lodge offers a number of impressively-constructed, luxurious cabin rentals in the Smoky Mountains that are adjacent to Little River in Townsend, Tennessee. Reawaken your spirit by indulging in the rustic luxury of Dancing Bear Lodge and the awe-inspiring panoramas. Catch your breath with air as fresh and crisp as nearby crystalline streams. The Dancing Bear Restaurant serves the regionally inspired cuisine of our featured Chef Jeff Carter. On one of the nights during the stay, Chef Carter will prepare a special multiple course tasting menu just for the two of you. Enjoy your breakfasts as the beauty of a Smoky Mountain morning unveils itself just outside the window. Add an inviting network of scenic hiking and bicycling trails, and easy access to prime golfing and shopping—and you’ve discovered East Tennessee’s ultimate vacation base camp. Includes all service fees and taxes. Reservations are based on availability. Not valid on holidays, holiday weekends or the month of October. Expires March 3, 2013.

Donor: Dancing Bear Lodge & Restaurant

Live Lot 12

The Terroirs of Rudd

You would never know Leslie Rudd was not a Napa Valley Native. He has immersed himself in all aspects “Napa Valley”- Wine, Food and local philanthropy. This Wichita, Kansas native has brought his heartland roots to Wine Country. This experience for four translates into a three-day epicurean celebration. To begin the trip, guests will join Leslie Rudd for a tour, tasting and three-course lunch at Rudd Oakville Estate Winery. One methuselah [6L] bottle of 2006 Rudd Oakville Estate Red will be given to each couple attending. After lunch you will tour the beautiful Mt. Veeder property with Samantha Rudd. That evening, you will enjoy a memorable dinner at PRESS Restaurant in St. Helena with Rudd winemaker Patrick Sullivan. The PRESS Restaurant sommelier will exclusively pair Napa Valley wines with your meal. Your chosen wines will be the perfect complement to this Michelin-recommended modern steakhouse. The experience continues with a tour and lunch the following day with Wendi Webster at the historic Edge Hill, established in 1867 in St. Helena. Lunch will be provided by Oakville Grocery. Accommodations will be in a luxury lodge at the award winning Calistoga Ranch, rated among the top intimate resorts in the world. To summarize, your lot includes: tour and tasting and three-course lunch with Leslie Rudd; one 2006 6L for each couple; tour of the Mt. Veeder property with Samantha Rudd; dinner for four at PRESS Restaurant with Patrick Sullivan, Rudd Estate’s winemaker; lunch at Edge Hill Winery prepared by Oakville Grocery; and two rooms for three nights at Calistoga Ranch. Airfare and ground transportation are not included. Based on mutually agreed upon dates. Expires March 3, 2013. EVERYONE RAISE YOUR BIDDING NUMBERS ON THIS FABULOUS EXCITING NAPA TRIP IN SUPPORT OF OUR GENEROUS FEATURED VINTNER SPONSOR RUDD WINERY!

Donor: Leslie Rudd, PRESS Restaurant, Edge Hill Winery, Oakville Grocery, Calistoga Ranch

Live Lot 13

Life is a Cabernet! Twenty-four Bottles [750ml] of Stupendous Cabernet Sauvignon. Six 2005 Shafer " Hillside Select," in a Wood Box. Three Each: 2006 Scarecrow Napa Valley; 2004 Lewis Cellars "Cuvée L" Napa Valley; 2006 Colgin Cariad Napa Valley Red; 2008 Continuum; 2008 Hundred Acre "Kayli Morgan Vineyard" Napa Valley; and 2006 Derenoncourt

Buckle your seat belts! Ratings in order: 97, 96, 93, 98, 96, 96, and 94. The Scarecrow, Lewis Cuvée L, and Derenoncourt [2nd, 3rd, and last] are from *Wine Spectator* and the others are Robert Parker. For the four Parker rated wines, the average score was 97+! The three Spectator scores averaged just below 95. Every last one of these wines is truly awesome! If you don't know about Ann Colgin and her wine, we will tell you – unbelievable! Parker: "Meriting the same rating I gave it at its release, the 2006 Cariad is composed of 57% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Merlot, 11% Cabernet Franc and 7% Petit Verdot. One of the stars of the vintage, this thrilling, opaque purple-colored wine offers up sweet espresso, jus de viande, blackberry, blueberry, flower and chocolate aromas. A fabulous texture, tremendous purity, sensational brightness and authoritative flavor intensity allied to striking complexity and elegance are the signature of this creative blend from the David Abreu vineyards of Thorevilos and Madrona Ranch." James Laube [WS] on the Scarecrow: "A gorgeous young wine, fresh, pure, rich and vibrant. Complex, layered, deep and persistent, offering tiers of ripe, juicy cherry, currant, plum and berry, with touches of cedar, sage and black olive. Turns silky smooth and elegant on the finish, where the flavors are delicate and detailed." Space constraints don't allow full reviews of everything, but these two a representative. Folks, these are all long-lived Cabernet Sauvignon-base wines that will remain at peak for years, if not decades, to come. These are all small case lot wines and they are priced to match their quality ratings. Some of these wines cannot even be found on the internet for sale today. But, TONIGHT ONLY, you have the opportunity to purchase 24 of the absolute best California Cabernet that can be found. It's only available at L'Amour du Vin tonight. Thanks, Patricia and David for donating this magnificent lot of Cabernets. People, if you don't buy this lot, you will be kicking yourself all the way to next year's auction! Buy it!

Donor: Patricia and David Lee

Live Lot 14

Dinner for Five Couples in the Home of Mary Celeste and Sam Beall at Blackberry Farm

A one-of-a-kind experience awaits ten lucky people. Mary Celeste and Sam will host your group for a private dinner party in their home. The dinner will be prepared by Sam and the Blackberry Farm chefs. Guests will enjoy champagne and canapés on the Bealls' veranda, overlooking Blackberry Farm pastures, and then sit down to a multiple course dinner featuring ingredients inspired by the season and the farm; showcasing products grown and created at Blackberry Farm. The Bealls will pull some very special rare vintages from their personal cellar to pair with the menu. Sam's passion for wine is well-known by most in this audience, but what is less commonly known is the way the Bealls like to generously "open" their cellar when having guests in their home. This is guaranteed to provide for a unique epicurean experience. You know how great this evening is going to be; and, you know you don't want to miss out on it. You may never have this unique chance to experience the distinctive personal hospitality of Sam and Mary Celeste at their home again. Let's show the Bealls how much we appreciate all that they and all of the Blackberry Farm family have done to support L'Amour du Vin!

Donor: Sam and Mary Celeste Beall, Blackberry Farm

Live Lot 15

IT'S NOT JUST AN INVITATION. IT'S A DARE. Experience the All New 2013 Lexus GS 350 for One Year.

From this car forward, there's no going back. Lexus of Knoxville is excited to introduce the All New 2013 Lexus GS 350. The all-new GS was engineered from the ground up to provide performance and handling that invigorates, next-generation technology that empowers you to do more and unforgettable styling inside and out. From this car forward, Lexus will never be the same. As a proud supporter of the Knoxville Museum of Art, Lexus of Knoxville is providing one winning bidder a one (1) year single pay lease on an All New 2013 GS 350, sedan. All proceeds of this lot will directly benefit the Knoxville Museum of Art's Summer Art Academy. Winner is responsible maintaining vehicle insurance for the duration of the lease. Winner must accept and execute the approved lease document no later than April 30, 2012. Winning is responsible for lease's mileage limitations or restrictions, general maintenance obligations, and excess wear and tear.

Donor: Lexus of Knoxville

Live Lot 16

Six Bottles [750ml] of 1990 Château Lafite-Rothschild Pauillac 1st Cru Classé

Once 'merely' a superb estate responsible for the production of a very desirable wine, one that was ranked at the very top of the 1855 classification and for many the very epitome of Pauillac and indeed of all Bordeaux, the Lafite-Rothschild of the 21st century is no longer 'just' a wine. Lafite is now many different things, to different people. The first of the firsts is now the darling of the Chinese, where demand has pushed the price of Lafite - not just in China or Hong Kong, but globally - to unprecedented levels, for vintages both old and young. Some regard it not so much as a beverage, more as a luxury product akin to any highly-priced designer brand, one where perhaps style takes precedence over substance. Others might think of it purely as an investment vehicle, there to be traded, bought and sold, hopefully turning a profit in the process. Lafite is perhaps all these things but we should also try not to forget that - above all else - Lafite-Rothschild is still a wine, made by people who love wine, and still made with the aim of providing the most exquisite epicurean experience that is feasible. In June 2009, Robert Parker rated the 1990 with 96 points: "The 1990 Lafite boasts gorgeous aromas of cedar, tobacco leaf, cassis, and lead pencil shavings. The explosive aromas are followed by a fleshy, full-bodied wine that should hit its peak in 5-8 years, and last for 25-30 more." Today, this wine when you find it sells for the same amount by the bottle that you could have purchased a case for in 1993. A huge doff of the beret to Brenda and Bob Madigan for this superb lot!

Donor: Brenda and Bob Madigan

Live Lot 17

Château Living At Its Finest, One Week for Four at the Beautiful Relais du Château d'Arche

Located in the heart of the Bordeaux region, the Relais du Château d'Arche is a charming 16th century charterhouse nestled within the vineyard, overlooking the village of Sauternes. Two luxuriously decorated guest rooms equipped with private baths and sitting areas are yours for a seven-day retreat to the Bordeaux wine region within the French countryside - ideal for two couples. Château d'Arche will be your ideal base for an exploration of the famous region, its vineyards and estates, and its restaurants and sporting opportunities, such as horseback riding and golf (activities not included in this donation, but staff will help with arrangements and suggestions). While taking a break from exploring the surrounding area, enjoy sampling the Château's best vintages and discovering the secrets of winemaking from its resident winemaker. Santé! Must be scheduled in advance for a mutually agreeable week - expires March 3, 2013 (excludes June 19-23, 2012).

Donor: Château d'Arche - Milton and Mimi Turner

Live Lot 18

Bistro by the Tracks Wine Dinner for Sixteen Featuring Wines From Ken Wright Cellars, Including Twenty 750ml Bottles of Ken Wright Cellars 2010 Pinot Noir. Two Each: Abbot Claim Vineyard; Canary Vineyard; Carter Vineyard; Freedom Hill Vineyard; Guadalupe Vineyard; McCrone Vineyard; Meredith Mitchell Vineyard; Nysa Vineyard; Savoya Vineyard; and Shea Vineyard

L'Amour du Vin cannot thank Randy Burleson enough for all of the fabulous things he does for the auction. Take this lot, for instance. Do you want to start with the food? Do we have to tell you about Chef Chester Miller's food? We didn't think so. It is always superb. Well, then there is the horizontal of 2010 Ken Wright Cellars Pinot Noir. 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 Wright Cellars believes Pinot Noir best expresses the character of these sites. That's what makes this such a great wine dinner - you get a chance to taste through all of the different vineyards and microclimates that Ken Wright has. The 2010 vintage has not been reviewed, but we checked on 2009 as a guide. *Wine Spectator* rated each and every one of these Pinot Noirs between 90 and 93 points. Harvey Steiman, the reviewer for WS, is a stickler regarding Pinot Noir. If he gave these wines ratings in the 90's, they deserved them. So that only leaves a couple of questions. Are you ready for some great Pinot Noir? Are you willing to celebrate it with 3 other couples and with Chester's food? We thought so. Bidding numbers up!

Donor: Bistro by the Tracks

Live Lot 19

One-Week Vacation at Kiawah Island, South Carolina

Near the beach, this home is a short walk to Kiawah Island's private Atlantic Ocean shoreline. Use of 4 bedrooms (1 king, 2 queens, 1 with two twins), 4 1/2 bathrooms in a residence that boasts ample room for friends and family to relax in style. Enjoy the private heated pool and Jacuzzi or relax while grilling on the large screened in porch. The beautiful décor will ensure the most pleasant of vacations. Kiawah Island offers five award-winning championship golf courses, outstanding dining options, luxurious spa services, as well as a variety of shopping experiences. A mutually agreeable date, for any season, may be determined between the homeowner and winning bidder. Expiration: March 1, 2013. An outstanding vacation at exclusive Kiawah Island.

Donor: Mark and Joanne Hazelwood

Live Lot 20

Two-Night Stay at Villa Valentine for Four People Including a Tour and Tasting. PLUS, Two Magnums [1.5L] of Terra Valentine Red Wine. One Each: 2007 Marriage and 2008 Amoré

Agnes and Margaret Wurtle, owners of Terra Valentine Winery, are honored to offer two nights at the Private Vineyard Estate, Villa Valentine for up to four guests. You will have the entire 75-acre estate at your leisure to explore the vineyards, harvest fruit in the orchard, or just take a peaceful stroll through the forest. Upon arrival, you will be treated to a tour of the winery grounds with a tasting of the best estate Cabernets Terra Valentine has to offer paired with artisanal cheeses. You will then be escorted down to your private villa overlooking the entire Napa Valley. Here you will experience an exclusive side of Napa Valley far above the hustle and bustle of the valley floor. Villa Valentine is available from March through November only and is subject to availability. Three months advanced booking is recommended, especially for weekend visits. Expires March 2013. Terra Valentine is located on Spring Mountain directly below Pride Mountain Vineyards and across from Vineyard 7 & 8 – all mighty fine company to be in.

Oh yes, and there are two magnums of great wine to go with it! James Laube, *Wine Spectator*, rated the 2007 Marriage 90 points: “Complex and detailed, with ripe currant, blackberry, tar, cedar and graphite, full-bodied without being heavy. Well-focused and structured, ending with a cedary dried berry and cigar box finish. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot.” The 2008 Amoré has not been rated; however, winery notes tell us that it is a Super-Tuscan style wine comprised of 90% Sangiovese, 7% Cabernet Sauvignon, and 3% Merlot. Sam Baxter, Terra Valentine’s general manager and winemaker tells us: “Amoré fans will immediately recognize the lush, ripe fruit expressions of red cherries (think cherry cobbler), but we were taken aback by the pronounced espresso, allspice and marzipan notes. A soft, even, fruit-forward palate finishes with textured tannins of sweet cocoa powder and lingering flavors of raspberries.”

Donor: Terra Valentine Winery

Live Lot 21

One Double Magnum [3L] of Antinori 2006 Tenuta Tignanello Solaia Red Blend Toscana IGT PLUS One Jeroboam [5L] Of 2006 Col Solare Proprietary Red – Limited Edition & Hand-Painted

The Antinori family has been making wine for over six hundred years, since Giovanni di Piero Antinori became part of the Arte Fiorentina del Vinattieri in 1385. Throughout its long history, spanning 26 generations, the family has always personally managed the business making innovative, sometimes courageous choices, always with unwavering respect for tradition and the land. Parker – 92; *Wine Spectator* – 93; Stephen Tanzer – 95; The 2006 Tignanello Solaia is a great wine! Parker: “The 2006 Tignanello is especially opulent in this vintage. Masses of dark red fruit, scorched earth and sweet oak emerge as this richly-textured Tignanello flows from the glass. The wine possesses superb density; all it needs is another few years to come together.”

Col Solare is the partnership between two influential wine producers who are recognized leaders in their respective regions: Tuscany's Marchesi Antinori and Washington State's Château Ste. Michelle. Col Solare, Italian for 'shining hill,' debuted in 1995 but curiously uses only traditional Bordeaux grapes to produce an ultra-luxury Cabernet Sauvignon. *Wine Spectator* – 92. Robert Parker – 93 points: “The 2006 Col Solare is a blend of 72% Cabernet Sauvignon, 19% Merlot, and the balance Cabernet Franc, Petit Verdot, and Syrah. Deep crimson-colored, it displays a captivating perfume of sandalwood, lavender, incense, spice box, black cherry, black currant, and a hint of chocolate. Medium-bodied, elegant, and already complex, it has layers of succulent fruit, impeccable balance, and a lengthy, pure finish.”

Two incredible wines in rare large format bottles – both with Antinori’s fingerprints. We rate this lot absolutely top-notch! If you are afraid you can’t come up with enough close friends to come drink this incredible wine, just put some lamb shanks and veal shanks on to roast and give us a call! We’ll even bring the porcini chanterelle risotto and a foie gras appetizer.

Donor: Antinori

Live Lot 22

A Unique Tasting of Great Wines of Sonoma County, CA and Australia, Paired with a Feast Prepared by Bistro by the Tracks

Six privileged couples are in for a special treat featuring wines from the private cellar of Dr. Harvey Kaufman. Since moving half-time to Healdsburg, CA, Dr. Kaufman has been conducting exhaustive, in depth personal research into the wines of Sonoma County – we are so sorry, Harvey! Further, Harvey and Judy will be traveling to Australia in March to conduct some more personal research – this time into the wines of Australia. The good Dr. Kaufman is eager to share the results of his research in a wonderful tasting dinner here in Knoxville. Randy Burleson will orchestrate a gourmet tasting menu, prepared by Chef Chester Miller, in the Wine Cellar at Bistro by the Tracks, to perfectly pair with these wines. The event will take place in the Fall 2012 on a date mutually agreed upon between the winning bidder and Dr. Kaufman. Come find out what Dr. Kaufman has learned after the arduous hours of research. How can you ask from more of a personal sacrifice from such a loyal supporters of L’Amour du Vin as Harvey and Judy have been over the years? They have given their palates for your enjoyment.

Donor: Dr. Harvey and Mrs. Judy Kaufman, Randy Burleson - Bistro by the Tracks

Live Lot 23

A Delicious Two Days (and Nights!) in Napa. Two Night's Accommodations for Four Guests at the St. Helena Winery Guest House and a Whole Lot More. Tours, Tastings and a Meal at Saint Helena Winery, Cimarossa Winery, Chase Cellars, and Behrens Family Winery; Additional Tours and Tastings plus Magnums [1.5L] from Fairchild Estate and Forman Vineyards; A Tasting Plus Charcuterie Pairing at 750 Wines and Concierge Services for the Trip; and One Full Day of Transportation from Jarrar Tours.

Here is an instant two night trip to Napa Valley for two couples, just add air fare. The challenge will be to get everything done within the two days. However, we are sure that arrangements for other accommodations could be made to extend your stay. The St. Helena Winery guest house is two bedrooms, thus easily accommodating two couples. The meals include lunches at Cimarossa and St. Helena Wineries and dinners at Chase Cellars [rustic cookout] and wood-fired oven pizzas at Behrens Family Winery. All of these wineries make high quality Cabernet Sauvignon. Chase and Behrens also make other red varietals – all excellent. Forman produces good Chardonnay, along with the Cabernet. All of the wines of these wineries are rated 88 and above, almost all are rated in the 90's by Robert Parker. It is unfair to single out any of these great wineries, but we are going to focus on Fairchild Estate. A couple of years ago, Larry Fairchild donated a great lot of his stellar Cabernet Sauvignon to L'Amour du Vin. You can ask the Hydes, the Elys or the Irwins about this wine and about Larry. They are super small quantity wines (250 cases or less) and all very good. Forman has also been a donor to the auction in the past. But put simply, it's hard to go wrong on any of these excellent wineries and their products. Now a word about 750 Wines. We were introduced to Monica and David Stephens, Proprietors, by the aforementioned Larry Fairchild. Their store contains bottles of almost impossible to procure wines – including some of the cult wines. If it isn't there, David and Monica can probably get it for you. They are providing a tasting with charcuterie pairing at the 750 Shop. Furthermore, Monica has graciously offered her talents to provide concierge services for your trip (trust us, this is worth its weight in gold). Last, but far from least, you receive one full day (up to 8 hours) of transportation from Jarrar Tours – and looking at this line up, you are absolutely going to need it! Expiration: March 1, 2013. We owe a debt of gratitude to Wendy Day, from the St. Helena area who put this lot together for L'Amour du Vin. This will be a super fun trip!

Donor: St. Helena Winery, Cimarossa Winery, Chase Cellars, Behrens Family Winery, Fairchild Estate, Forman Vineyards, 750 Wines and Jarrar Tours

Live Lot 24

Dinner and Burgundy Wine for Eight in the Wine Cellar at the New Home of Kati and Jim Blalock with Guest Sommelier Steve Pignatiello

The Blalock's Cellar combines the ambiance of historic European wine cellars with the comfort and amenities of modern living. The rich colors and textures of weathered wood, brick and stone are highlighted by dramatic lighting. Every aspect of the cellar's design has been custom handcrafted to delight the senses. Steve's personal relationship with Burgundy's top winemakers gives him access to some of the region's very best - and most exclusive - wines. These are not widely available Burgundies found throughout the U.S. - these are the special wines made by just 15 small, single-family winemakers... and many of them are not otherwise available outside of France. Available after mid-June 2012.

Donor: James and Kati Blalock

Live Lot 25

Six Bottle [750ml] Vertical of Opus One Proprietary Red Wine. One Each: 2000 – 2005

Here is a chance to taste the Mondavi-Rothschild partnership results for a six-year span. The ratings are: 89, 91, 89, 87, 93, and 95+. Those are a combination of Parker, *Wine Spectator*, and Stephen Tanzer, because none of them rated all six years. That averages almost 91 points. Of the 95+ point 2005, Parker stated: "Deep garnet-purple color. The nose begins a little mute with a suggestion of freshly crushed blackberries and blackcurrants, forest floor, cinnamon and a touch of loam. The palate is wonderfully concentrated with layers of macerated blackberry, cloves, vanilla and dark chocolate. A medium+ level of acidity and medium to firm fine and ripe tannins give excellent structure to the richness of flavours. Very long finish." Every description mentions the power and long finish. It is safe to say that we have never tasted a substandard bottle of this wine. This is classic Opus One; it is what was envisioned when the partnership was formed; and, it is here now for your enjoyment.

Donor: Bistro by the Tracks

Live Lot 26

Four Tickets to the 2012 Atlanta High Museum Wine Auction Vintners' Reception and Live Auction, March 31, 2012

The day-long food and wine event begins with a tasting from more than 85 of the finest wineries and 35 of Atlanta's leading chefs. Then it's on to the Auction – with the world's leading wineries donating their finest in collectible wines, large format bottles and wines unavailable at retail. Prominent area wine collectors open their cellars to contribute rare vintages. Exclusive trips, dinners and wine-related art are also up for bid. That's what Cate Chandler Singerman, the Auction Manager told us to say. But, here's the rest of the story. The Wine Auction is the largest charity wine auction in the U.S. benefitting the arts, in addition to ranking 6th largest overall. It is the largest fundraising event for the High. Proceeds from the auction are a vital part of the Museum's exhibition and education plans. This year is the 20th Auction. This always is a huge party, and this year will be extra special! If you have never been, you certainly don't want to miss it. Ask Rosemary Gilliam, she attended last year and can testify firsthand!

Donor: High Museum of Atlanta Wine Auction

Live Lot 27

A Week for Two in an Apartment in Italy Overlooking Lake Lugano

Two guests will spend a week's vacation in the Lake Lugano Luxury Apartment, located in the small, quaint and very old Italian village of San Mamete, near the Swiss border. The apartment is situated directly on Lake Lugano, in a fairytale-like setting, with magnificent lake views. The property is located near the fashionable city of Lugano, Switzerland, 30 minutes from Lake Como, and one hour from Milano. Many restaurants are located nearby. There is an abundance of activities in the surrounding area to include snow skiing, horseback riding, golf, tennis, water sports, shopping the outdoor markets, and taking land excursions to local towns and villages. The one-bedroom apartment features a king-size bed, marble bathroom, and a fully equipped kitchen. It has marble floors, balcony and an upgraded bath. Other amenities include the security of an intercom and electric front door, a private boat dock, satellite TV, music system and elevators. The winning bidder may arrange a mutually agreeable date in April, May, September or October 2012. Package does not include airfare or rental car. For a virtual tour go to www.sanmamete.com

Donor: Tommy and Cindy Hindman

Live Lot 28

Diamond Creek Thirtieth Anniversary Special Label Collectors Pack in Wooden Box: Three Magnum (1.5L) 2002 Bottles of Cabernet Sauvignon. One Each: Volcanic Hill, Gravelly Meadow and Red Rock Terrace

The story of Diamond Creek is set forth in the silent auction lots from Boots Bournstein and Diamond Creek Vineyards. It was one of the early cult Cabernet Sauvignon wines from California. Robert Parker rated these three wines of Diamond Creek 92, 90, and 91+ points respectively. "The 2002 Volcanic Hill reveals a saturated purple color as well as an explosive bouquet that is almost medieval in its black currant notes intermixed with distinctive spicy, earthy, smoky characteristics. Medium to full-bodied and rich, with low acidity, ripe fruit, and a dense, layered, impressive personality, it is elegant, powerful and concentrated. The 2002 Gravelly Meadow exhibits a deep ruby/purple color in addition to a smoky, Graves-like nose of earth, hot rocks, and sweet currant and cherry fruit. Medium to full-bodied, with undeniable elegance and sweet, pure fruit, this beauty benefits immensely from 60 minutes of aeration. Spicy, impressively concentrated, and long. The 2002 Red Rock Terrace boasts a pure nose of smoky creme de cassis and burning embers. Tightly knit in the mouth, with sweet fruit, a hint of vanilla, and the oak kept well in the background, it possesses medium to full body, a beautiful texture, and a long, pure finish. It is impressive as well as outstanding with a long finish." Thank you Mr. and Mrs. David Henry for this excellent lot. People, if Parker's description doesn't speak to you, why are you drinking California Cabernet Sauvignon? We have had these wines – they are fantastic!

Donor: David and Cindy Henry

Live Lot 29

Seven Night Stay for Two Guests at the Luxury Lodge Mosaic Farm in South Africa

Mosaic Farm is two hours Southeast of Cape Town set on a beautiful lagoon with magnificent mountain views. It is a short distance from the dramatic coast where there is the world's best land-based whale watching (June-December) and great white shark cage-diving. In the World Atlas of Wine Hugh Johnson says, "The most dramatically beautiful wine country in the world is surely South Africa's." Mosaic Farm is in this wine country and has a below ground cellar featuring some of the region's greatest. Enjoy elegant dinners in the newly restored historic manor house, luxury accommodations, walks at the lagoon edge or beach, bird watching, four-wheeling, and trips to lovely sights in the Western Cape. Seven nights stay for two including dinner and breakfast, bird watching, kayaking and beach and sundown activities. Based on availability which must be confirmed in advance. Expires March 5, 2013.

Donor: Breese and Kathryn Johnson, www.mosaicfarm.net

Live Lot 30

Four Magnum [1.5L] of Pride Mountain Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon Napa–Sonoma Counties. One Bottle Each: 2008 Cabernet Sauvignon; 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon; 2008 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon; and 2009 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon

It would be hard to estimate how valuable L'Amour du Vin's relationship with Stephen Pride and Pride Mountain Vineyards has been. His past visit as a guest vintner of the event was an incredible evening we all remember. This year, Pride has donated a total of four magnum bottles from the 2008 and 2009 vintages of Cabernet Sauvignon, one each of the Napa-Sonoma Counties and of the Reserve Napa-Sonoma for each vintage. Robert Parker rated the 2008 Napa-Sonoma 91 points and the Reserve Napa-Sonoma 92 points: "The 2008 Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve is a big, powerful wine loaded with fruit. The tannins are equally imposing. Today the wine comes across as painfully young, but the Reserve has a track record of aging beautifully in bottle, so it will be interesting to see where the 2008 goes over the coming years. Sweet mint, new leather and licorice are some of the nuances that add complexity on the focused, articulate finish." We never have anything left but an empty bottle and a lot of smiles when we open a bottle of Pride Cabernet. You know it's good, you know you want it. The 2009 vintage is just now being released. Be the first to have it – in large format bottles, too.

Donor: Pride Mountain Vineyards