

# JOE'S PLACE WINE TASTING

December 6th, 2007

Sponsored by Glazer's of Oklahoma

## Hob Nob Wines

**Tasting Special Price: \$10.99**

**Tasting Notes:** Listen to what someone had to say... Finally a new wine in the market to try and to review. We stopped at a little store near our house on the way home from my little girl's victorious soccer game and picked this one up. The Hob Nob Chardonnay appears like most California chardonnay bottles and that's exactly what the French want us to think. This California-sounding and looking wine is actually a product of France. No problem as far as I'm concerned because if it had been packaged as a fancy french white I probably would have had to pay more. After chilling this for awhile I poured a glass and noted a light-to-medium golden color in the glass. A few swirls later and my nose was treated to lemon, citrus, hazelnut and an overwhelming smell of "freshness" for lack of a better term. On the tongue I noted apple, just the right amount of oak and just a hint of honey. A smooth, velvety finish made for a nice glass of white. On another note, I've come across a great wine accessories site that I'm going to post about this weekend after I finish testing one of their really unique products. Just in time for all your holiday giving. Sit Long, Talk Much, Laugh Often, Drink Wine!

**Flavors...Chard..Pinot Noir...Merlot....Shiraz**

## Little FYI ON Yellow Tail

Almost a third of the grapes used for [yellow tail] are grown right in the Casella family's own vineyards—almost 540 acres of vines in the Riverina region of Australia. Following the great Australian wine-making tradition, Casella also sources fruit from other superb growing areas throughout South Eastern Australia. This allows Casella to create wines with incredible freshness and character year after year.

## Yellow Tail Reserve Chardonnay

**Tasting Special Price: \$9.23**

**Tasting Notes:** The Yellow Tail cuvees I tasted are surprisingly good for wines made in such enormous quantities. Reserve is better than the standard cuvee. Made in a similar style, it is a soft, fleshy, fruity (tropical), medium-bodied effort revealing a hint of residual sugar. It is no surprise to me that consumers.

**Appellation:** Australia

## Yellow Tail Reserve Merlot

**Tasting Special Price: \$9.23**

**Tasting Notes:** Silky smooth and easy on the palate. This wine is a great “slurper” with juicy, ripe fruit flavors, complemented by aromas of dark plums and a touch of mint and soft vanillin oak.

**Appellation:** Australia

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## **Beringer White Zinfandel Sparkling**

**Tasting Special Price: \$10.58**

**Tasting Notes:** The nose has lovely floral notes that are reminiscent of the wonderfully refreshing Spumante's of Italy, with citrus and strawberry fruit nuances. The palate begins with a nice, classic "mousse" mouthfeel, and strawberry, brown spice and citrus flavors interplay with a refreshing acidity that carries everything into a long, delicious finish.

***Appellation:*** California

## **Yellow Tail Sparkling**

**Tasting Special Price: \$10.99**

**Tasting Notes:** [yellow tail]®, America's number one imported wine\*, introduces their latest addition to its family of renowned wines in the U.S. - [yellow tail] Sparkling White Wine. Recognized world-wide, [yellow tail] wines are celebrated for their approachable style, consistent high-quality, and bold packaging. In keeping with the fun and simple rock wallaby design on the label, [yellow tail] Sparkling Wine is unfussy and non-intimidating. "It's time for a fresh, new take on sparkling wine," said Lily Volpe, Marketing Director [yellow tail] wines, USA. "Many wine drinkers are intimidated by sparkling wine and reserve it for special occasions. [yellow tail] is the quintessential everyday wine, thanks to its great taste and affordable price. As with all [yellow tail] wines, the fresh, fruit-driven style of [yellow tail] Sparkling Wine makes it perfect for everyday enjoyment." Sourced from some of Australia's premiere sparkling wine growing regions, [yellow tail] Sparkling Wine is a blend of 72% Semillon blended with Traminer, Viognier and Trebbiano. Pale straw in color with Muscat-like aromas, the taste is fresh with flavors of tropical fruits that combine for a medium sweetness and end with a crisp, refreshing finish. "No moment is too ordinary to enjoy [yellow tail] Sparkling Wine," says winemaker, John Casella. "Its affordable price and crisp, light & refreshing taste partner well with many foods – from salad and pasta to spicy stir-fry and much more – it's an ideal choice for everyday occasions."

***Appellation:*** Australia