

Week of 04-10-07

White Bag Clues:

Serve in a White Stem

Clues:

Grape Clues –

- Considered to be one of the world's great white wine grapes.
- Cultivated in its native land for at least 500 years and at most 2000.
- Grown throughout the world for some time.
- Characterized by spicy fruit flavors, flower scented bouquet and a long finish.
- Produces wines of high acidity and elegance in very cool growing conditions. Does best in cool climates and is very resistant to frost.
- Quality of new world wines from this grape have come a long way over earlier bottlings.
- This varietal has many different names most of which are not a true version or even in the same grape family.
- Some of the finest sweet wines in the world can be made from this grape that has been affected by Botrytis Cinerea. This mold attacks the skin of the grape and concentrates the sugars in the grape by allowing the water to evaporate.

Where is it from?

- Vineyards established in late 1700's, but table wine production didn't really start until the 1950's.
- By the 80's world attention was beginning to focus here.
- In 1996 WFOA developed "Strategy 2025".
- It's mission: Make this country the most influential and profitable supplier of branded wines.

Answer – McWilliam's Riesling 2005 South Eastern Australia, "Hanwood Estate"

McWilliam's Wines is one of Australia's largest and most highly regarded family-owned wine companies.

Since 1877, when Samuel McWilliam planted his first vines at Corowa in New South Wales, successive generations of the McWilliam family have been pioneering the art of fine winemaking in Australia.

Always innovative, McWilliam's has ensured its position at the forefront of Australian winemaking by introducing new production techniques and some of the world's most advanced technology in the company's wineries and vineyards.

The underlying strength and success of McWilliam's Wines for more than six generations has been its belief that wine is made in the country - cultivated and crafted by people with skill and tradition who live and love the vine - not through acquisitions and mergers in corporate boardrooms.

Wines are made by people. Great wines are made by the McWilliam family.



McWilliam's Wines has been named 2006 Winery of the Year by leading wine writer and critic, Stuart Gregor. In awarding McWilliam's 2006 Winery of the Year in the fifth edition of his award-winning book 'Don't Buy Wine Without Me' Stuart Gregor said:

"This award goes to the single winery whose range of wines excels at every price level. It is one of the most difficult decisions to make and I feel particularly for Seppelt, which is runner-up for the second successive year. But McWilliam's richly deserves this award for its consistency, its dedication to making great-value wines at every imaginable price point and its failure to have a single dud in its entire range.

"There was some discussion a few years back that proud family-owned wineries like McWilliam's might go by the wayside in these globally corporatised times. Let us hope this does not happen – more power to McWilliam's and long may they reign."

Silver Medal, 2005 McWilliams Hanwood Estate Riesling
2006 San Francisco International Wine Competition