



Locals Choice Wine Club

December 2017 Tasting Notes

www.localstastingroom.com
707.857.4900

MAIL

p.o. box 124
geyserville, california 95441

PHONE

707.857.4900

FAX

707.857.1885

WEB

www.localstastingroom.com

EMAIL

yummy@tastelocalwines.com

Hello to all my Locals Choice Club Members,

Is it really possible that the holidays are right around the corner? Here in sunny Geyserville today it is hard to imagine some of you shoveling snow and scraping the ice off your windshields. After living for 20 plus years in NYC I have to admit I don't really miss all that, although the idea of snow for the holidays is an appealing one.

The colder weather makes me think of slightly heavier wines that pair with the comfort foods we all enjoy during this season. Both Dick Handal and Bill and Susan Arbios make some of my favorites for this time of year. The 2014 Praxis Merlot in this club selection is a double gold medal winning wine from this years Sonoma County Harvest Fair. The wine is smooth and ripe with soft tannins and bright acidity so it pairs with a really wide range of dishes. Enjoy it with roast chicken with herbs (thyme, rosemary and oregano inside or out of the bird). It would also be a nice red for a holiday turkey or a steak with red wine sauce. Sides such as caramelized roast veggies especially those with a touch of sweetness (roast squash, carrots, mushrooms and beets) are a nice foil to the wine. Susan Arbios says she often pairs her Merlot with the dessert course at wine dinners; the vanilla and mocha notes in the wine pair beautifully with sweets - especially if they have berries or chocolate.

You can learn a bit more about [Bill and Susan Arbios on our site](#).

As some of you that have visited the tasting room recently can attest Dick Handal owner of Denier Handal Wines is quite a character and character is exactly what he brings to his solid lineup of excellent wines. I chose the 2014 Denier Handal Family Selection, a blend of Syrah and Petite Syrah because it is both a personal and a Locals favorite. [Learn more about Dick Handal](#).

The vineyards that produce this wine have been in the Venturi family for several generations and are organic and dry farmed. The wine has a rich ripe fruit nose and is concentrated, ripe and jammy on the palate. I think of roasted root vegetables and or a big pot roast when I contemplate a pairing for this wine.



Dick is fairly new to winemaking but approaches it as he does grapegrowing, with education and passion. He only makes the red wines he likes under the label that bears his wife's name, Denier, and his own. The aforementioned Family Selection from Venturi Family Vineyard is 2/3 Syrah and 1/3 Petite Sirah and is a lovely, jammy fruit-forward wine nuanced with aromas of plums and blackberry, flavors of currant and smoke with a beautiful finish of leather that lingers long after tasting. Here is a link to the [Beef Bourguignon recipe](#) he has chosen as a great pairing to this wine.

For those of you in our Pink and White Club we have chosen the yummy 2012 Bedarra Reserve and the wonderful 2016 Praxis Viognier for you to celebrate the season with. Viognier pairs beautifully with seafood as well as chicken and lots of other things. I recently enjoyed a bottle with a wonderful turkey dinner my husband made me pictures of which have been all over my [Locals Facebook feed](#). I will be posting more pictures of our favorite pairings on [Instagram @localstastingroom](#) if you want to follow along.

As always be sure to mark your calendars to take advantage of both your one dollar shipping window which runs from January 8th, 2018 through January 15th and your 45 day follow up discount which is good until January 25th, 2018. The minimum order for dollar shipping is one case of wine and the maximum is 3 cases. This offer is for new orders only and excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

I hope you all have a healthy and happy holiday season and please consider a visit to come see us in the new year.

Cheers,
Carolyn

Locals Choice Reds Only Club Selections

**2014 Denier Handal Family Selection,
Syrah/Petite Sirah, Redwood Valley, Mendocino Co**
Retail \$32.00, Club Price \$27.20
Follow-up Price \$25.60

**2014 Praxis Merlot
Alexander Valley**
Retail \$24.00, Club Price \$20.40
Follow-up Price \$19.20

Locals Choice Red and White Club

**2014 Denier Handal Family Selection,
Syrah/Petite Sirah, Redwood Valley, Mendocino Co**
Retail \$32.00, Club Price \$27.20
Follow-up Price \$25.60

**2016 Praxis Viognier
Sonoma Co**
Retail \$21.00, Club Price \$17.85
Follow-up Price \$16.80

Locals Choice Pinks and Whites Club

**2016 Praxis Viognier
Sonoma Co**
Retail \$21.00, Club Price \$17.85
Follow-up Price \$16.80

**2012 Bedarra Reserve Chardonnay
Dry Creek Valley**
Retail \$19.00, Club Price \$16.15
Follow-up Price \$15.20

Locals is open Everyday from 11am to 6pm.

We always enjoy hearing from you. 707-857-4900

Drop us a line at: Box 124, Geyserville, CA 95441.

Or email us at: yummy@tastelocalwines.com.