

# L'ECOLE

## News

SCHOOL NEWS FROM L'ECOLE N° 41

• SPRING 2012

*Perigee is the wine we view as L'Ecole's ultimate expression of our Estate Seven Hills Vineyard.*

#### 2008 Estate Perigee

55% Cabernet Sauvignon,  
26% Merlot, 11% Cabernet Franc,  
4% Malbec, 4% Petit Verdot



#### Noteworthy Perigee Events

Building Perigee: Component Tasting  
May 5 – see page 2

Perigee Full Moon Virtual Tasting  
May 6 – see page 2

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## Perigee honored

The New Year started with a bang when we learned Stephen Brook of *Decanter* (arguably the most esteemed wine publication in the world) bestowed the publication's highest score of **5 stars** on our **2008 Estate Perigee** and named it one of the **Top 10 Bordeaux Blends in Washington!** It is truly an honor to receive this recognition because Perigee is the wine we view as L'Ecole's ultimate expression of our **Estate Seven Hills Vineyard**.

Sourced from the best and oldest blocks, **Perigee** represents our finest viticultural and winemaking efforts from **Seven Hills Vineyard** each year. Built for long-term aging, Cabernet Sauvignon is the dominant varietal, providing structure and backbone. Merlot accentuates the pretty components of dark cherry, cedar, and black fruits and Cabernet Franc provides an aromatic lift with hints of rose petal and cocoa. Additional complexity is achieved with small amounts of Malbec layering the mid-palate with mint and mocha and Petit Verdot's inky blackberry notes. The final blend results in what Brook describes as "plump, svelte and very concentrated, yet lifted and fresh with excellent balance and complexity, fine tannins and exceptional length."

Partners L'Ecole, Leonetti Cellar, and Pepper Bridge Winery have owned **Seven Hills Vineyard** since 1997. First planted in the early 1980s and expanded in 1997, it is one of Walla Walla's oldest and most prestigious vineyards. *Wine & Spirits* named it one of the "10 Great Vineyards in the World" and this site has consistently produced an unparalleled number of wines scoring 90+ each vintage. Situated on the southwest edge of the Walla Walla Valley, it is planted on a slope ranging from 900 – 1,100 feet in elevation. The soil is mostly wind deposited loess – a mineral-rich silt loam originating from the ice-age glacial floods. Wind action has shaved the soil into fine-grained particles that are exceptionally free-draining and keep the roots from becoming complacent by sending them deeper in search of water. It is also a warm, windy site and one of the earliest Walla Walla vineyards to begin harvest. These factors result in a certain identifiable "stamp" found in wines made from Seven Hills Vineyard fruit which exude rich elegance, seductive aromas, and earthy structure.



Marty Clubb, Owner & Managing Winemaker



## Upcoming Events at the Schoolhouse

Experiencing our wines where they are made can only happen in one place  
and we look forward to welcoming you to the Schoolhouse soon!

**Open Daily 10am – 5pm**

### RESERVE TASTING

**Fridays 3pm • April – November**

Experience a one-of-a-kind private tour and tasting of special wines, including new releases, library selections or limited production wines in the cellar of the historic 1915 Frenchtown Schoolhouse.

\$30 per person • \$15 Vins de L'Ecole Members

Limited to 15 people, reservations required • RSVP [reservetasting@lecole.com](mailto:reservetasting@lecole.com)

### Spring Release Weekend

**May 4-6 • 10am – 5pm**

It's finally time to officially celebrate spring! Join us at the winery as we showcase our new wine releases beautifully paired with cheese and a special salmon spread, prepared by Graze of Walla Walla.

### Building Perigee – A Component Tasting

**Saturday, May 5 • 4pm – 5:45pm**

Have you ever wanted to experience the individual varietal components before they are blended to become this singular, spectacular wine? If so, this is your opportunity! Marty Clubb, Owner and Managing Winemaker, will lead you through barrel samples of the five Bordeaux varietals that will comprise our 2011 Estate Perigee: Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Malbec, and Petit Verdot. You will also have the opportunity to taste finished 2008, 2009, and 2010 Estate Perigee and the bottled 2009 Estate Cabernet Sauvignon, 2009 Estate Cabernet Franc, 2009 Estate Merlot, and 2009 Estate Petit Verdot. Light refreshments will be served.

\$50 per person • \$30 Vins de L'Ecole Members

Limited to 40 people, reservations required • RSVP [jaime@lecole.com](mailto:jaime@lecole.com)

### Perigee Full Moon Virtual Tasting

**May 6 • 4pm – 6pm**

It happens just once each year that the moon is both full and at its Perigee orbit position. This year the moon will be full and at Perigee on Sunday of the Walla Walla Valley's Annual Spring Release Weekend. Can you blame us for wanting to mark the occasion? We will be pouring library vintages of Perigee throughout Spring Release and are holding a Perigee virtual tasting via Twitter Sunday May 6 from 4pm – 6pm pm. We hope you will join us at the winery or enjoy a bottle of Perigee at home and chime in on Twitter (use #Perigee41 hashtag).





## Ground Shipping Included on April Case Purchases

The spring temperatures across most of the U.S. make April a great time to have wine delivered right to your doorstep!

### Maximize your case discount

and stock up on all your L'Ecole favorites! Ground shipping is included on all full and mixed cases shipped within the continental U.S. through April 30, 2012. Shipping charges to Alaska & Hawaii will be discounted to \$68/case.



*10% case discount applies to full and mixed 12 bottle cases. Vins de L'Ecole Wine Club Members receive 15% off Walla Walla Valley Wines and 20% off Columbia Valley Wines. If you have any questions, please contact [jaima@lecole.com](mailto:jaima@lecole.com) or call 509.525.0940.*

## Connect with us!

Be sure to visit

[lecole.com/connect](http://lecole.com/connect)

to check out our videos, blog entries, calendar of events, and FB/Twitter feeds.

Also, if you haven't already, please 'Like Us' on Facebook and follow us on Twitter @lecole41 for up-to-the-minute news from the winery.



## Spring 2012 New Releases

We have more information about our exciting new spring releases than there is room to print here! Please visit [lecole.com/newreleases](http://lecole.com/newreleases) for full tasting notes and ordering information on these great wines.

**Winery Exclusives:** 2011 Grenache Rosé • Alder Ridge Vineyard  
2010 Semillon/Sauvignon Blanc • Klipsun Vineyard  
2009 Estate Cabernet Franc • Seven Hills Vineyard  
2009 Estate Petit Verdot • Seven Hills Vineyard

**Walla Walla Valley:** 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon

**Columbia Valley:** 2011 Chenin Blanc, 2010 Semillon, 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon



# Members News

## Spring Wine Club Parties

Spring is here and we are excited to visit many Vins de L'Ecole Members in the coming months. An email invitation has been sent to all members in the Spokane, Portland, and Seattle areas, but if you happen to be in the vicinity of one of our events, we would love to see you!

*Each event is complimentary for 2 people per membership and by RSVP only. Space is limited at each venue. Please RSVP to [jaime@lecole.com](mailto:jaime@lecole.com).*

**April 19** • The Davenport • Spokane, WA

**April 24** • El Gaucho • Portland, OR

**May 16** • Palisades • Seattle, WA

**May 17** • Daniel's Broiler • Bellevue, WA



## Save the Date!

We are proud to say we will embark on our 30th harvest this fall and we certainly would not want to miss the opportunity to commemorate such a special occasion! Please mark your calendar for Friday, September 7, 2012 and look for further details regarding the upcoming celebration, tasting and vineyard tours.

## April 2012 Vins de L'Ecole Selections

Vins de L'Ecole Selection will ship on April 16 and includes the following wines:

Vin Select	Vin Rouge	Vin Blanc
2009 Cabernet Sauvignon Walla Walla Valley	2009 Cabernet Sauvignon Walla Walla Valley	2010 Semillon Columbia Valley
2009 Estate Syrah Seven Hills Vineyard Walla Walla Valley	2009 Estate Syrah Seven Hills Vineyard Walla Walla Valley	2010 Semillon/Sauvignon Blanc Klipsun Vineyard Red Mountain
2010 Semillon Columbia Valley		

## Wine Club Programs

Want to make the most of your wine club discounts and spread out the shipping costs? Consider changing your membership level to Gold or Platinum. Call or email [jaime@lecole.com](mailto:jaime@lecole.com) to learn more.

### 3 shipments/year (Apr, Sept, & Nov)

#### Vin Select:

2 red & 1 white wine selections per shipment

**Silver** 3 bottles per shipment  
\$75-110/shipment + tax & shipping

**Gold** One case per shipment split equally  
among selections (12 bottles)  
\$300-400/shipment + tax & shipping

**Platinum** One case of each selection per shipment  
(36 bottles)  
\$775-1125/shipment + tax & shipping

#### Vin Rouge:

2 red wine selections per shipment

**Silver** 2 bottles per shipment  
\$54-90/shipment + tax & shipping

**Gold** One case per shipment split equally  
among selections (12 bottles)  
\$300-500/shipment + tax & shipping

**Platinum** One case of each selection per shipment  
(24 bottles)  
\$600-950/shipment + tax & shipping

#### Vin Blanc:

3 white wine selections per shipment

**Silver** 3 bottles per shipment  
\$40-55/shipment + tax & shipping

**Gold** One case per shipment (12 bottles)  
\$140-200/shipment + tax & shipping

**Platinum** 2 cases per shipment (24 bottles)  
\$340-400/shipment + tax & shipping

