

Dan Berger on Wine by Dan Berger Dec. 29th, 2007



A Wine-Lover's Arsenal

Excerpt from Dan's Dec. 29th article:

Another new wine accoutrement I love is the insulated three-bottle wine bottle-carrying bag by Oregon-based Corx (www.corxwinebags.com), which features removable gel-ice pack dividers for cooling. At \$40, it's an investment in quality, especially for those who often take wines "on the road." Not only is the bag lightweight, but it is strong and features a doubled top, a Velcro closure plus a clip to keep bottles from slipping out.

Dan's Credentials

Dan Berger has been a wine columnist since 1976 and has resided in Sonoma County since 1986. Today, in addition to his privately published weekly wine commentary, Dan Berger's Vintage Experiences, Dan writes a nationally syndicated wine column for Creators Syndicate as well as articles for Decanter, Robb Report, Cheers, Beverage Dynamics, and numerous other publications.

Mr. Berger was the full-time wine columnist and reporter for the Los Angeles Times from 1988 to 1996. His Los Angeles Times column was carried nationally by the Los Angeles Times-Washington Post News Service. During that time, he commuted from Sonoma County to Los Angeles, so he could maintain his residence and affiliations in wine country.

He is a judge at many wine competitions, including numerous shows in Australia, as well as competitions in Slovenia, Belgium and across the United States, judging in at least a dozen competitions each year. He also coordinates two wine competitions in California.

He is a speaker at wine symposiums and universities on topics such as wine marketing, trends in the industry, regional character of wines, and the healthful benefits of moderate consumption. He also speaks to assorted large groups interested in learning about wine, many of them unrelated to the wine business.

Mr. Berger began writing about wine for The Associated Press in 1976, while he was a general assignment and sports reporter, and wrote a wine column for the Los Angeles Herald-Examiner before joining the staff of the San Diego Union in 1979. There, his wine column was syndicated nationally by Copley News Service and appeared in the Union twice a week. He also was the Restaurant Reviewer for San Diego Home/Garden Magazine for six years. He also wrote restaurant reviews for the Marin Independent Journal for four years.

Immediately prior to joining the Times, he was wine columnist as well as Business Editor for the Santa Rosa Press Democrat. From 1986 to 1988, the New York Times Syndicate carried his wine column nationally.

Among the honors presented to Mr. Berger are the Wines and Vines Magazine award of excellence as Wine Writer of the Year, the Father Junipero Serra award for contributions to the wine industry, presented by the California Wine Patrons of Los Angeles, the Wine Literary Award by the Wine Appreciation Guild. Additional organizations that have honored him include the UC Davis. Department of Viticulture and Enology and the Academy of Wine Communications.

His books include "Beyond the Grapes: An Inside Look at Napa Valley" and "Beyond the Grapes: An Inside Look at Sonoma County," and he has contributed to other wine books including the University of California/Sotheby Book of California Wine and the Oxford Companion to the Wines of North America. Dan Berger resides in Sonoma County, Calif. Berger publishes a weekly newsletter on wine and can be reached at danberger@VintageExperiences.com. To find out more about Dan Berger and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.