

Between Friends



Spring-Summer 2006

GREETINGS FROM THE FRIENDS LAKE INN,



June

**Americade Week June 4th-10th
Special room rates available for those participating in the Americade. Please call and inquire.*

**Friday June 23rd, 2006 ~
Michael-David Vineyards The Michael-David family vineyard features wines that are interesting and complex, with whimsical labels such as 7 Deadly Zins and 6th Sense Syrah. Casual commentary by winemaker Michael Phillips. \$85.00 per person. Dinner starts at 8pm.*

****Comprehensive Wine Tastings**
Every Sunday afternoon from 4:00 ~ 4:30pm, the Inn offers a comprehensive tasting for a maximum of 13 persons led by the sommelier. Themes include; "Club Med", "Wine 101", "ABC, anything but Chardonnay", "Wine Values from Down Under". The price of \$15.00 is fully redeemable for \$15.00 in the wine shop.*

Dear Friends,

Our second winter in the beautiful Adirondacks. We started the winter on October 23rd with a huge snow-storm. The leaves were still on the trees and with the snow, the weight pulled many trees and power-lines to the ground. But the promise of a wonderful winter abounded. The snow from that storm melted and the cold came but we never got more than 12 inches on the ground. It seems with our arrival the snow moved east to Cape Cod. Spring is upon us with the flowers poking out of the ground. The summers we have shared with the Adirondacks, have been spectacular. Only a few rain days and beautiful warm days with cool nights.

We have a new arrival, Minimus Theodore. It was one of those "things" I had to have, and John couldn't say no after I shed a few tears of love. Fortunately Maximus has a very high level of tolerance, and actually enjoys playing with his brother..

Upcoming changes this spring are mostly taking place 'behind closed doors'; in the kitchen. The third floor is also getting renovations on several of the bathrooms. Landscaping and lakefront facilities will be improved.

Spring has come a little early with the flowers poking out of the ground, hopefully it is a sign of another incredible summer. As always we love to see you and hope you can join us soon. John, Trudy and all of your friends at Friends Lake Inn would like to thank all of you for vacationing, with us. We recognize you have many travel choices and we appreciate and recognize your loyalty to Friends Lake Inn.

Come visit us soon!

John, Trudy, Maximus & Minimus



Inn the News

The Pontoon Boat is being overhauled and we look forward to planning several events. These will include wine cruises, and weather dependent having our inn guests join us for social hour on the lake.

On Sunday April 30th we hosted our first ever wine tasting to benefit the Chestertown Library. We met some great neighbors (over 100 people attended), helped raise much needed funds and drank some wonderful wine.

Experience The Romance Of The Adirondacks

Top Ten Things to do in the Beautiful Adirondacks

- ◆ Go on a hike—over 25km on our property
- ◆ Visit the Adirondack Museum
- ◆ Go antiquing
- ◆ Spend the afternoon canoeing or kayaking on Friends Lake
- ◆ Go horseback riding
- ◆ Mountain biking, miles of roads and trails nearby
- ◆ Browse through our wine list and enjoy a toast to your getaway
- ◆ Go golfing or hit a few at the nearby driving ranges
- ◆ Go fishing on Friends Lake or the Hudson River
- ◆ Enjoy the sauna overlooking the frog pond.

Important Dates in the Adirondacks

5/6 -5/7 Hudson River White Water Derby

5/29 Memorial Day commemoration at Fort Ticonderoga

6/5 - 6/10 Americade Motorcycle Touring Rally

7/24 Saratoga Race Track opens

7/4 Independence Day Celebration

Friends Lake Inn Getaway Escape Packages:

Whitewater Rafting Package: Spend one night in luxurious accommodations, have a hearty rafters breakfast for two. Spend the day on the Mighty Hudson River with a picnic lunch on the river. Return to the Inn for a delicious three-course candle-lit dinner in the award winning dining room. Signature turndown service and complimentary room upgrade on arrival if available. One night package for two starts at \$390.

Massage Package for Two: Come to Friends Lake Inn to relax and get away from it all. Package includes one night stay in a luxurious guest room with a Jacuzzi, have a bath basket waiting in your room. Two one hour massages of your choice. Romantic three-course candle-lit dinner for two. Our signature turndown service and a complimentary room upgrade on arrival if available. Package starts at \$595 for two.

Romance in the Adirondacks: Getaway from it all for two evenings. Arrive to your luxury room with a Jacuzzi, with rose petals are strewn on your bed. Enjoy a romantic candle-lit dinner for two each evening in our award winning dining room. Have a full country breakfast in the mornings. Turn-down the first evening includes chocolate truffles and sparkling wine. The second day includes a picnic lunch for two, to take on your outing. Turndown the second evening includes two Friends Lake Inn luxurious bathrobes to take home, and remember your special stay. Complimentary room upgrade on arrival if available. Package starts at \$595 per couple.

Happy Birthday or Happy Anniversary: One night stay in a romantic guest room. On arrival a fresh bouquet of flowers in your room with a card. Romantic three course candle ~lit dinner for two. Turndown includes Sparkling wine and Gran Marnier Belgium Chocolate Truffles. A full country breakfast for two in the morning. Complimentary room upgrade on arrival when available. One night package per couple starts at \$409.

Golfers Retreat Package: One night stay in romantic guest room. Full day of golf for 2 at the Donald Ross designed Sagamore Golf Course. Romantic three course candle ~lit dinner for two. Our signature turndown service. A full country breakfast for two in the morning. Complimentary room upgrade on arrival when available. One night package for two start at \$545

The Perfect Gift - A Friends Lake Inn Gift Certificate

Memories that last a lifetime. The perfect gift, a memory, lasts forever. Gift certificates from the Friends Lake Inn are available in any denomination and are valid for one year from issuance. Gift certificates can be used for dining, lodging or in the retail wine shop. They are the perfect way to say Happy Birthday, Happy Anniversary, Thank you, or I love you.

For your convenience, we can send your gift directly to the recipient

Friends Lake Inn Dining

*Executive Chef -
Benedictus Niese III*

*Russell Weis from
Silverado Wines*

*Sous Chef -
Matthew J. Bolton*



Main Dining Room Hours

*Starting June 1st
Monday-Thursday 5:30—9:00
Friday & Saturday 5:30-9:30
Sunday 5:00-9:00*

Bistro Dining

*Monday-Thursday 5:30—9:00
Friday & Saturday 2:00-10:00
Sunday 5:00—9:00*

Profile of an Executive Chef

Our Executive Chef Benedictus E. Niese III hails from Roseland, N.J. Since he was a child Ben has spent vacation time at the family camp in Indian Lake. His grandfather built the camp in 1933. He attended Paul Smith's College and received a degree in Culinary Arts. He found his way "home" in May, 2004. Ben had been in North Carolina for 7 years working as a chef in a private club and as a consultant to a retail gourmet store.

After John and Trudy purchased Friends Lake Inn in July of 2004, they quickly realized what a talented young man they had.. They promoted him from Sous Chef to Executive Chef in September of 2004. Ben does not fit the stereo-type of the 'typical chef'. He is calm, courteous and energetic. He is a great leader and teacher.

When asked, Ben states the three things he enjoys most about his job are: 1) Working with a group with a great sense of camaraderie. 2) It's more than just going to a job, everyday presents exciting challenges, 3) I get to meet people from all walks of life. Ben states he chose this career because he has a passion for food and good conversation. "I get a real sense of satisfaction for people enjoying themselves around the table. I grew up as one of five siblings and so much happened around the dinner table." Ben resides at the family camp in Indian Lake with his partner of 10 years Paul Martin and his dachshund named Maemae.

The Private Wine Cellar Dining Room

The Wine cellar dining room accommodates up to 14 people. It is a great place to share with friends and family. Your exclusive dining room for the night at no additional charge. Great for celebrating or just catching up with family.

Our exclusive "Dinner by Design" for groups.

For parties of 6-12 people, (offered through June) A personally designed four ~course dinner menu you prepare with Executive Chef Benedictus Niese. A candle ~lit dinner in the Private Wine Cellar Dining Room. Select wines from the menu provided by Sommelier after discussing your menu with the Executive Chef. Tour of the wine cellar, recipient of the Wine Spectator's Grand Award. A full country breakfast in the Lakeview Dining Room. Our Signature turndown service. One night package per couple start at \$ 355

Friends Lake Inn Wine



The Wine Bar at Friends Lake Inn offers lighter dining in a relaxed atmosphere. Stop in and enjoy an evening with a glass of wine or a mug of cold beer. Enjoy great food, and good friends in front of the big screen television or play a game of pool in the billiard room. The wine bar currently offers 22 different wines by the glass.

Friends Lake Inn Wine Shop

The wine shop at Friends Lake Inn is open daily from 9am until closing. The wine shop has hundreds of interesting, hand selected wines from around the world. The wines are moderately priced from \$8.00.

In addition all of the wines served by the glass in the Wine Bar are available for purchase in the wine shop.

New wines arrive weekly, but if you have a favorite or would like a recommendation please don't hesitate to give us a call or stop in.

Our Wine Recommendations for Spring and Summer Grilling

*White Fish pairs great with **Joseph Drouhin, Macon Villages, Chardonnay 2003**, is a great white burgundy. The bouquet is floral and fruity with a dominance of ripe fruit and almonds. A strong taste of citrus and green apple.*

***Beef pairs wonderfully with Christian Moueix 2003.** This merlot has earthiness, as well as some mineral and black fruit hints. Both wines are in the retail shop at \$11.00*



How I became a Wine Guy..

Marian Mocanu joined Friends Lake Inn in July of 2003. He traveled from his home in Brasou, Romania to work for the summer on a students J-1 Visa. At home in Romania his interest in wine was sparked by Cellar Master Bernhard Khun, whom he met through working with the Red Cross. During his first summer here he worked under Thomas Burke, who was the sommelier at the time. He took an increased interest in wine, and has continued to invest a lot of time and study to cultivate his knowledge. He has decided to stay in the United States to continue his education. In the Spring of 2005, he entered school at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute as a junior and is studying Computer Systems Engineering. Currently in addition to working every weekend and helping to maintain the wine web site and wine shop he is maintaining a 4.0 GPA. We are very proud of Marian. He is a frequent speaker at our wine dinners.

The Murphy House-

After renovations through the winter and spring of 2005, the Murphy House was opened for guests in July of 2005. The Murphy House offers warm and comfortable decor, stone fireplaces, deep-soaking tubs, steam showers and endless outdoor recreation. It has 3 floors, 4 bedrooms, large gourmet kitchen, laundry room, covered porch with barbeque off the dining room. It is very private with beautiful views of Friends Lake and sleeps 9 people. It has become the perfect getaway for family retreats and groups of couples. We have been fortunate to find some spectacular babysitters in the area to watch the children when the adults come over for dinner. Weekly and weekend rentals available .