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Wine of the week: 2005 Gamble Family Home Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley

Friday, August 14, 2009

St. Helena is probably one of the greatest towns I've lived in for garage sales. It's really quite extraordinary what can be found. A couple years ago we picked a wooden board game called CARROM for \$5. It's one of those "57-games-in-one!" things from the '50s. It's pretty much like a mini-pool table, and we make up our rules. Mostly it is an excuse to sit in the backyard, make noise, grill burgers and drink wine. Such was the case the other night when a friend brought this fine cabernet along.



Tom Gamble of Gamble Family (you may have seen his wines under the Source and Origin labels, as well) has made a classic Napa cab that is perfect with a minimalist burger. It is loaded with juicy, spicy blackberry and cassis fruit, and has a pleasant, complementary, earthy, dusty, olive edge that blends nicely with the rich black fruits. It's round and glycerin-y in the mouth, and has a firm, strong, long finish. Very tasty, and a good candidate for the cellar as well, priced right around \$55.

— Stefan Blicher, of www.bpwine.com in St. Helena

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