



Thursday, June 19, 2008

Wine of the week: 2007 Wolf Family Sauvignon Blanc

'Los Tres Hermanos' Napa Valley - I love wine descriptors that evoke a vivid image of something ... an image that lets you get your head around a flavor sensation.

This week's wine evokes one of my favorites: "tongue on stone." You can just imagine being a kid and pulling a rock from an icy cold stream and rolling it around in your mouth, no? The feeling of the icy rock, the mineral taste, the coolness ... it's so much more satisfying a word than, say, "flinty," which leaves many people with that "huh?" feeling. Nope, give me tongue on stone any day.

Like jumping into the Truckee river, the Wolf Family Sauv Blanc is a bracing, super crisp, goosebump-inducing steely white that was, not coincidentally, one of the top performers in the Star's panel tasting back in April. Laser sharp and gushing out lemon, minerals (there's those rocks again), white grapefruit, citrus zest and tart green apples, with a touch of pear and even a little mint or sage.

Wonderful stuff for the warm weather, worth searching out around town.

— Stefan Blicher, St. Helena