

'Character' is the word for new champagne

By Ethel Simmons
staff writer

Seventy-six-year-old Hanns Kornell, champagne producer from California's Napa Valley, believes, "You cannot stay put." He has introduced a new champagne for yuppies.

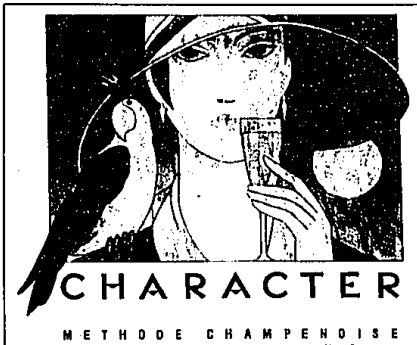
Kornell, who looks kind of like Kris Kringie, with his full head of white hair, florid face and bright blue eyes, recently visited the Embassy Suites Hotel in Southfield, along with his wife, Marilouise, a former opera singer.

They have toured five cities, talking about Character, which is being introduced in this area. It sells in local wine shops for \$8.99-\$9.99 per bottle. The Embassy Suites Hotel has an exclusive for one year in metropolitan Detroit to offer the champagne in its restaurant and its cocktail lounge. Diners at the Wellington may order Character at \$3.95 per glass or \$14 per bottle.

Kornell slipped the champagne, which is a blend with chenin blanc, and said, "It is very palatable. It is beautiful. Medium-dry. Produced for our younger generation. Not too light or dark. The taste is for the age group 20s to 30s."

MRS. KORNELL added, "The marriage is between the very traditional, with a touch of the new, in meeting that yuppie taste."

Enhancing the champagne is an elegant, art-deco label, showing a fashionable woman in a hat, drinking from a champagne flute, and a colorful macaw. Artist is Stephen Haines Hall of Sausalito. At the Em-



Wine label and the new Hanns Kornell champagne called Character is designed to appeal to the yuppie crowd. The name "Character" was chosen in part because people coming to the winery were told, "See Hanns. He's a character."

bassy, the custom neck label reads "Embassy Suites Hotel." The sales manager accompanying the tour said the attractive label helps sell Character. "That's halfway between the shelf and the shopping basket."

Hanns Kornell Champagne Cellars is a third-generation, family-owned business, operated by Mr. and Mrs. Kornell and their daughter and son. The winery is the third largest champagne producer of the Methode

Champenoise in the United States. The winery offers this recipe for:

HAM IN CHAMPAGNE

Marinate a boned ham in 3 or 4 cups of brut champagne for at least 8 hours, turning it frequently.

Bake the ham in a slow oven (300) for about 2 hours, basting it often with the marinade. Remove most of the skin. Score the exposed fat with a

sharp knife and brush the ham with white corn syrup. Bake the ham for 1 hour longer and let it cool.

Slice it very thin from the butt end, leaving 1/4 of the ham uncut. Reshape the ham on a platter and decorate.

Champagne Master Hanns Kornell's wife Marilouise is involved in the delicate art of tasting champagne and creatively uses those talents for entertaining in their farmhouse in the heart of California's Napa Valley.

Here are a few of her champagne recipes:

STRAWBERRIES AND CHAMPAGNE

Place fresh strawberries in champagne glass and pour champagne over strawberries.

FROSTED CHAMPAGNE

Place one large, fresh strawberry in glass. Then place in freezer until glass is frosted and strawberry slightly frozen. To serve pour champagne over strawberry.

PEACH DESSERT

Cut a fresh peach in half, pour 1/4 teaspoon of creme de cassis on peach half. Top with champagne.

CHAMPAGNE PUNCH

Place one frozen block of strawberries in bottom of punch

bowl. Pour two bottles of reising over and allow wine to partially thaw out strawberries. When punch is ready to be served, pour two bottles of champagne in the presence of guests.

CHAMPAGNE PEACH DELIGHT

Place fresh peaches in a champagne glass. Pour champagne over the peaches. The sweetness complements each other.



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