

A CELLAR IDEA

Story by Lisa Puster

Today's consumers are investing in state-of-the-art kitchens, home theaters, and other amenities to enhance one's enjoyment of life. One such amenity that's currently near the top of the list for many discriminating homeowners is the wine cellar.

The Richmond 2006 Symphony Designer House, located in the Founders Bridge community on the Chesterfield/Powhatan border and custom-built by Napier Signature Homes, boasts an impressive example of such a storage solution for wine lovers.

This magnificent room, a 18'6"x6'6" ground-floor wine cellar with a 2,000 bottle capacity, was built by Wine Trend, a company that specializes in creating custom-designed residential and commercial wine cellaring solutions. The cellar, located on the ground floor of the four-story home, opens up to the golf course via a walkout basement entertaining area.

Says Jack Graham, marketing director with Wine Trend, "The cellar at the Symphony House was designed for adornment and visual appeal as much as

for wine storage, per the builder's request." The racking system within the cellar consists of racks to hold 1,000 individual bottles, as well as diamond-box bins, which can hold a variety of bottle sizes and enough wood case bins to store up to 450 bottles of wine for collecting and investing.

Wine Trend, which relocated its headquarters from southern France to Richmond in April 2004, now maintains regional offices in several east coast U.S. cities as well as London and France. As an international wine services company in the business of enhancing the enjoyment of wine, Wine Trend offers many customized wine-centered services. Says Paul Koder, Wine Consultant, CEO and Founder of Wine Trend, "There are not many wine consulting firms like us out there." Koder describes his company as a "one-stop shop for all wine cellaring needs," and adds, "We simply ask our clients to designate an area of their home or business as the



wine room and we'll take it from there."

In addition to creating spectacular wine cellars for luxury homes, Wine Trend also designs wine rooms for high-rise condos, restaurants, golf and country clubs, and yachts. The firm can also create specialized areas within a wine room for chocolate, cheeses, olive oils and even cigars! As Paul Koder puts, it, "You like wine. We know wine. Cheers!" ■

A virtual tour of the Richmond Symphony Designer House, including the wine cellar, is accessible online at:

www.napiersignaturehomes.com