



**Vinifera Wine  
Cellars, Ltd.**

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## Synopsis on Dr. Konstantin Frank & Chateau Frank

### Dr. Frank's Vinifera Wine Cellars & Chateau Frank, New York State's "Wine Family"

When Dr. Konstantin Frank and his family arrived in New York City in 1951, the Eastern United States wine industry was best described as being in a state of contented mediocrity. The industry's belief was that fine wines produced from the European *Vitis Vinifera* could never be produced here. It was thought that the vines could not survive the harsh winters. It took the determined Dr. Frank only a decade to reverse three hundred years of failure. His original plantings of Riesling, Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Gewürztraminer, Cabernet Sauvignon and the exotic Rkatsiteli not only thrived, but also formed the basis for New York's world-class still and sparkling wines.

### Fifty Years Later, Dr. Frank's Legacy Continues

More than half of the wineries east of the Rocky Mountains now have the confidence to grow Vinifera varieties, and Dr. Frank's Vinifera Wine Cellars is recognized as the pillar of New York's developing wine industry. Based on Dr. Frank's teachings the industry is continually expanding and growing.

Konstantin Frank passed away in 1985, at the age of 86. The winery was in the hands of his son, Willy, until he passed away in March of 2006. Currently Willy's son, Frederick, manages the winery with Dr. Frank's grandson Eric Volz as vineyard manager. A team of five winemakers contributes experience, expertise and education. Mark Veraguth, a UC Davis, California alumnus is a veteran over twenty years with Dr. Frank's. Australian born Jonathon Luestner has earned his Bachelors of Agricultural Science, Majoring in Enology, from the University of Adelaide. Cellar expert, Eric Bauman is a champagne and sparkling wine specialist, formerly eight years with "J" Champagne House in California. Peter Weis from Bad Kreuznach, Germany and assistant winemaker Guillaume Gaches from Toulouse, France round off the team with their Enology Degrees. Dr. Frank's talented winemaking team is proud to continue the tradition of quality and excellence.

### Awards & Recognition

Dr. Frank made America's first Riesling Trockenbeerenauslese (TBA) in the United States in 1962. Since then **The New York Times**, **Los Angeles Times** and **Time Magazine** have identified his Rieslings as the best in the USA. Dr. Frank's continues to be New York's most award-winning winery, winning the title of "Winery of the Year" in 2006 by the **New York Wine Classic** and winning an impressive 67 gold medals in 2009. His Rieslings have received great tributes and were prestigious enough to be served at The White House, The Culinary Institute of America, Waldorf Astoria, Windows on the World and Le Cirque in New York City. The Dry Riesling even sparked the interest of Robert Parker, one of the most influential wine critics. He gave Dr. Frank's Dry Riesling a 90-point rating in his **Wine Advocate** publication in June of 2006.

For the fifth year in a row, **Wine Report** named Dr. Frank's Winery the "Greatest Wine Producer in the Atlantic Northeast." Dr. Frank's earned this title in 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006 and 2005! **The International Eastern Wine Competition** proclaimed Dr. Frank's to be the "Best of the East" in 2006. The Winery was acknowledged with a Five Year Achievement Award that recognizes Dr. Frank's for the Most Vinifera Awards among wineries in the Eastern U.S. The winery was also listed in Paul Lukac's book, "Great Wines of America – The Top Forty Vineyards and Vintages."

### Continuing Success

Never content to rest on his laurels, Willy amazed the industry in the late 1980's by releasing an exquisite sparkling wine made at his very own Chateau Frank. Willy adhered faithfully to the "methode champenoise" using the three classic French Champagne grape varieties successfully creating another first for the Finger Lakes Region of New York! The premiere vintage of Chateau Frank Brut shared medals with the 1985 Bollinger Grande Annee at the **Intervin International Wine Competition** in Toronto. The 1989 Brut has graced festive dinner affairs at the White House, The Waldorf Astoria and the National Press Club. In 2009 the Chateau Frank 2002 Blanc de Noirs was awarded a Double Gold Medal at both the **Best of Appellation Wine Competition** and the **New York State Fair**. Not to be outdone, the 2002 Blanc de Blancs claimed the award of "Best of Category for Best Sparkling Wine" at the **New York State Fair**.

*For his achievements in revolutionizing the New York wine industry, Dr. Frank was inducted into the **Steuben County Hall of Fame**. **Wine Spectator** also inducted Dr. Frank into their Hall of Fame in 2001. Dr. Konstantin Frank Vinifera Wine Cellars and Chateau Frank have revolutionized the wine industry and are truly considered to be a jewel of the Finger Lakes.*

*Original growers of the Noble Vinifera Grape in New York*