

HAWK WATCH WINE CLUB



I don't know about the rest of you, but I'm utterly exhausted... What a long, strange harvest it has been!! Typically the last grapes are picked from the vineyards in mid to late October, but this year we actually had grapes come in on November 8th! That's without a doubt the latest harvest on record, and although yields were down this year, the grape quality was wonderful. After throwing some late frost our way in May, Mother Nature gave us a long cool growing season for the first time ever which meant our grapes had time to mature slowly and evenly resulting in excellent quality fruit. So, now it's time to barrel up our 32 barrels of 2010 reds and get our new 2010 whites in bottle. And speaking of whites, we have several new wines this year that we're truly excited about. First we are introducing our first Viognier this year scheduled for release in December, and our first true sweet dessert wine we call "Papyrus" made from a very rare grape called Muscat Giallo. On the red side, we have our first Signature Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon waiting for release in early 2011 and a new wine we call "Exotica". That's all we're going to tell you about that one for now... All in all we will be releasing 12 new wines in the next 3-4 months, so keep your eye on your email

Lisa and I also want to take a few minutes to thank everyone who has offered to help us with pruning, picking, and bottling this year. Although some of you have not had the opportunity yet to work with us, we so very much appreciate the offers. Sometimes we just have more folks wanting to help than we have jobs for. What a wonderful position to be in!! And for those of you who have given up your Saturdays or Sundays to slave away with us in the vineyards or on the bottling line we can't tell you how much we appreciate it. No exaggeration; we could not do this without you.



Your Wines This Quarter

This quarter our mixed (red/white) wine club trio includes a bottle of our 2007 Sequoia "The Sequel" - Dry Syrah Rose. If you don't have a bottle of this wine for the holidays, now's the time to get one. We're down to our last 5 cases and it's the perfect wine to pair with Thanksgiving turkey, ham and cranberry sauce. Yum!! All of our wine club members will be receiving a bottle of our 2007 Synthesis. Also a very limited wine with only 16 cases remaining, our 2007 Synthesis is really to start to show it's true colors after being in bottle 7 months. The Syrah and Cabernet Sauvignon are really beginning to gel as the wine takes on a spicy, vanilla character with just a hint of clove and nutmeg. We are also offering all our wine club members our yet-to-be-released 2008 Cabernet Sauvignon. Here in lies one of the best aspects of wine club membership; getting wines before anyone else does! Having only been bottled for a month however the wine is still rather tight and closed in and will need to be decanted. If you can wait another month before opening it all the better, but I know how that goes... Finally we have a special treat for our Reds Only club this quarter. A bottle of our newly released 2006 Signature Reserve Syrah. I can't even begin to describe this wine. It must be tasted. It's a prime example of patience being a virtue since Lisa and I had planned on releasing this wine last Christmas, but we thought better of it and instead let it age in bottle for nearly a year. The results are remarkable.

Zena & Zoro's Mouser Blog



OK, so we're both absolutely wiped out from harvest, but we still have a few things to mention. First, did you know we actually crushed 20 tons of grapes this year?!! Rumor has it that we might even be planning to release our first Cabernet Franc in the Spring.

Also we thought we smelled cheese in the tasting room a couple weeks ago, and we think it might be the new Winchester Gouda we saw in our new tasting room refrigerator. Word on the street is that there may even be some smoked sausage coming soon too! Yum, we love cheese and sausage! Of course we're both on diets right now, so we'll have to stick to our lean cuisine for now...

Christmas Party!

Below are a few details on our Christmas Party. More information will be coming in your email in the next couple of weeks.

Date: Friday, December 17th, 2010

Time: All day! We'll be offering cookies and holiday treats all day starting at 12:00 noon and will be having light appetizers and live holiday music (solo saxophone) from 5:00pm-8:00pm.

Who's Invited: Everyone! Wine club members, non-wine club members, friends and family.

Cost: FREE!!

November 2010 Wine Selections



2007 Sequoia "The Sequel" (Mixed Club)

80% Syrah / 20% Cabernet Sauvignon

Our Dry Syrah Rose is the perfect holiday wine, especially with Thanksgiving dinner! Soft notes of rose petals and lavender on the nose give way to luscious layers of cranberry and red cherries coupled with a round, creamy texture and a spicy dry finish. Be sure to serve the wine slightly chilled (45-50 degrees), but not cold. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of Sequoia are donated to "Living Free Animal Sanctuary" in Idyllwild, CA.



2008 Cabernet Sauvignon - Los Robles Vineyard

85% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Merlot

Pre-Release! Sourced from one of the highest altitude vineyards in California at over 4,000 feet in elevation, the single-acre Los Robles vineyard produces bright, peppery fruit, ripe with full varietal expression. The wine displays notes of dark cherry, bell pepper and licorice on the palate with a spicy overtone reflective of our regional terroir. Since this is a new bottling, this wine will improve dramatically with a few additional months of cellaring and will continue to improve for 4-6 years.



2007 Synthesis

88% Cabernet Sauvignon / 12% Syrah

Soft and supple, our 2007 Synthesis displays round notes of vanilla, white chocolate and spice in the nose with layers of ripe red fruit, black cherry and plum on the palate. Both the Syrah and Cabernet Sauvignon components were barrel aged separately for 1 year then blended and returned to barrel for an additional year to allow the wine to mellow and the 2 elements to become fully integrated.



2006 Signature Reserve Syrah - Radar Ridge Vineyard (Reds Only Club)

100% Syrah

New Release! Originally intended for release in December 2009 (even the back label says it was released last December!), our 2006 Signature Reserve Syrah was held in bottle an additional 11 months before it's actual release this month. The wine has matured over that time period to become soft and silky with subtle hints of cedar, clove and tobacco on the nose with rich dark fruit, black cherry and boysenberry on the palate. Cellaring the wine for an additional year before release has really made a difference in the wine's maturity and elegance. It should age well for another 3-5 years.



*Have a wonderful, safe, and
delicious holiday season, and don't
forget to include some
Hawk Watch wine!*

- Lisa & Mike -

