

PAUL HOBBS

WINERY & VINEYARD

FALL NEWSLETTER
2009

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Chardonnay	2
Pinot Noir	2
Syrah	2
Cabernet Sauvignon	3
Summer/Fall Events	3
Spring 2010 Preview	4



AROUND THE GLOBE

Mediterranean Cruise

As you receive this newsletter, Paul and thirty adventurous mail list members are preparing to board the Regent Navigator for the first-ever Paul Hobbs Winemaker Cruise. Their journey will take them from Istanbul, Turkey to Venice, Italy via Croatia and Greece. We look forward to hearing their stories and posting photos as we receive them from the ship... *Bon Voyage!*

Decanter Magazine, June 2009
Paul Hobbs Pinot Noir is named one of the world's fifty best pinot noirs.

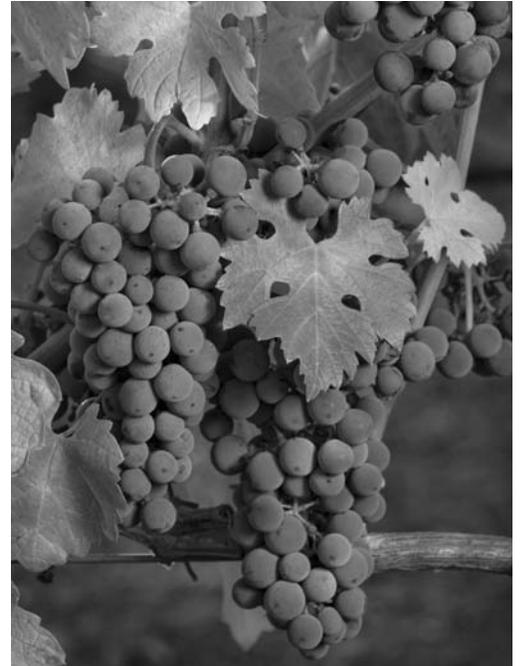
Cellier Magazine, May 2009
Paul is dubbed the *Guru of Sebastopol* in the cover story on Sonoma County winemakers.

DEAR FRIENDS,

We are excited to bring you our fall releases from the 2006 and 2007 vintages. This fall's selection of wines serves as a potent reminder that the vineyard reigns supreme in all we do. With this release, we say a temporary "goodbye" to one of our most celebrated properties after replanting; at the same time, we celebrate the triumphant return of Cuvee Agustina Pinot Noir, hailing now from Lindsay Estate Vineyard.

Change is a constant in life, and nowhere more so than in farming, especially when the focus is sustainability and highest-quality fruit. Despite the fact that we live a high-tech life, Mother Nature keeps us grounded, teaching us patience and reminding us that we are part of a much bigger picture. We chat, post and email in real time with friends and business associates around the world and we use state-of-the-art equipment to accomplish our goals of traditional winemaking in a gentler and more precise way at the winery. Yet it is our work with the soil, the vines and the fruit that sustains us and enriches our connection to one another.

I remember the advent of two-way radios several years ago, a tool that allowed me to easily contact my daughter Agustina in Argentina from a vineyard in Napa or elsewhere, to ask about her day at school or make plans for her next trip to the U.S. It transformed our communication in a powerful way. Now this kind of instant access is the norm and the winery is on Facebook, connected with our winery friends at all times.



Beckstoffer To Kalon Vineyard cabernet sauvignon clusters

*NATURE DOES NOT HURRY, YET
EVERYTHING IS ACCOMPLISHED. - LAO TZU*

We embrace with enthusiasm the innovations that enhance our lives, but we do so with our feet firmly on the ground, literally, where only the skill and care of human hands can produce outstanding wines; slowly, carefully and I might add, with great joy.

Cheers,

HARVEST CELEBRATION!



Guests enjoying Arabian dance and Middle-Eastern cuisine at the Fall 2008 Harvest Celebration.

It is time once again to celebrate the harvest with an afternoon of wine, food and music at the winery. This is our chance to show our appreciation to our loyal mail list members. We hope you can join us on September 12th between 11am and 4pm.

Paul and the team, along with many friends of the winery will be on hand to welcome you for the afternoon's festivities. We kindly request that you RSVP by Monday, August 31 to Audrey Proteau at aproteau@paulhobbs.com or 707-824-9879, ext. 16.

NOTE: To avoid shipping costs, we offer you the option to pick up your fall order at the event. If you would like to do so, please indicate this preference when you order. Once your attendance is confirmed, we will remove your shipping charges.

FALL 2009 RELEASES

2007 HARVEST: CHARDONNAY AND PINOT NOIR

The 2007 growing season was preceded by a mild, dry winter. Bud break came early and set a crop of tight clusters of small berries. Summer brought ideal weather with warm, even temperatures through veraison. Several heat spikes in August suggested that crush might begin early but temperatures cooled in early

September, allowing ample time for phenolics as well as sugars to reach optimum levels. The result was a slow, steady harvest of exceptional quality, with wines showing great intensity and structure. *Harvest began on September 6 and ended on October 20.*

2007 CHARDONNAY,

WALKER STATION VINEYARD, RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

After the 2007 harvest, we pulled the vines in Walker Station Vineyard and began the process of replanting the small six acre parcel. You might wonder why we would take this step, given that the vineyard consistently produces fruit of such outstanding quality.

We have been working with the property, located between Forestville and Occidental, since 1996. It produces a complex, fruit and mineral-driven chardonnay of great elegance.

Our long-standing mail list members may know that the production from the vineyard has become more and more limited over the vintages. The quality of the wine has continued to be breathtaking, inspiring much appreciated raves from its devoted fans with each release. As the vines age however, we have seen certain blocks produce less and less fruit. This is a natural occurrence, with the life span of the vine varying depending on the variety and combined environmental factors.

We continued to produce Walker Station Chardonnay through the 2007 vintage, at which time, with a harvest that produced just over one hundred cases, the vineyard signaled to us that it was time to rejuvenate the site.

This superb 2007 Chardonnay will mark the final release from this vineyard until the replanted vines have matured several years from now.

Lustrous pale straw in color and generously scented with orange zest, white flowers and ginger, this wine opens to a firmly structured, silky palate of Anjou pear, zesty apple and yeasty brioche with hints of fresh almond. Echoes of ripe fruit linger over a finish enlivened by hints of vanillin and citrus oil. Aged 16 months in French oak barrels; 71% new

2007 CHARDONNAY, CUVEE AGUSTINA,

RICHARD DINNER VINEYARD, SONOMA MOUNTAIN.

This 2007 vintage barrel selection from the Richard Dinner Vineyard is pale gold in color and perfumed with exquisite aromas of pear nectar, quince and fine holiday spice. The palate offers a broad, complex, articulate expression of the terroir, enveloping the senses with succulent, precisely defined flavors of golden delicious apple, kumquat and fresh, ripe fig. The mid-palate adds a rich component of *dulce de leche* before giving way to flinty minerality that carries through on the velvety finish. Aged 16 months in French oak barrels, 100% new



Walker Station Vineyard before the 2007 harvest

2007 CHARDONNAY,

ULISES VALDEZ VINEYARD, RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

Our fourth vintage from Ulises Valdez vineyard is masculine in structure and bursting with aromas of Fuji apple and *crème brûlée*. This chardonnay is forthright, vibrant and full-bodied, opening with well-articulated flavors of ripe pear and stone fruit and accented by hints of guava and yeasty bread. Fruit and custard notes are enhanced over a long finish by lively acidity and subtle, well-integrated oak. Aged 16 months in French oak barrels; 64% new

2007 PINOT NOIR,

LINDSAY ESTATE VINEYARD, RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

Deep, opaque ruby color carries bold aromas of red cherry, clove and clean earth that carry through to a seamless, silky palate. The balance of pure, perfectly ripened berries and undertones of forest floor accented by refreshing acidity weave together for a velvety pinot noir of great finesse. Fine-grained tannins complemented by top notes of bergamot and white pepper grace a long finish. Aged 16 months in French oak barrels; 71% new

2007 PINOT NOIR, CUVEE AGUSTINA, LINDSAY ESTATE VINEYARD, RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

We are thrilled to announce the return of the special barrel selection named in honor of my daughter, Agustina! We have not released a pinot noir with the Cuvee Agustina distinction since the 2002 vintage, at which time the wine had been sourced from Hyde Vineyard in Carneros. The quality of the fruit now coming from the maturing Lindsay Estate Vineyard is so impressive it has inspired us to designate a Cuvee Agustina Pinot Noir from choice blocks within its fourteen acres.

The quintessential portrait of assertiveness and refinement in harmony, this inaugural vintage is all about depth and intensity. On the nose, black cherry, plum and floral notes are layered with undertones of damp earth and minerality. The palate is richly textured, offering intriguing layers of the black fruits, anise and earth that will continue to reveal themselves as the wine ages. Tannins are firm and ripe, with balanced acidity adding to the rich mouthfeel and long finish. Paul's tasting notes for this wine before bottling culminated in two words: "a beauty." Aged 16 months in French oak barrels, 80% new

2007 SYRAH, KICK RANCH VINEYARD, SONOMA COUNTY

This syrah commands attention with a dense, black garnet hue accompanied by generous aromatics; blueberry, black currant, white pepper and savory notes of pancetta introduce a wine that is big-boned and bold, yet complex and nuanced.

Unfolding in layers of blackberry, plum and dried herbs, the palate is still brooding but declares itself with authority, finishing long with firm tannins and notes of cedar and spice. Aged 18 months in French oak barrels; 67% new

2006 HARVEST: CABERNET SAUVIGNON

2006 was slightly cooler overall than 2005 and began with delayed bud break due to an unusually long, wet spring. Warmer, drier weather prevailed in May and June. The crop set was smaller than that of 2005. A mid-July heat spike accelerated ripening through summer, helping compensate for the slow start to the growing

2006 CABERNET SAUVIGNON, BECKSTOFFER TO KALON VINEYARD, OAKVILLE, NAPA VALLEY

A powerhouse vintage for To Kalon, this offering exemplifies the vineyard's potential to bring forth a cabernet of tremendous concentration, power and complexity.

Intriguing hints of black currant and espresso smolder beneath the intense, earthy aromatics that introduce this broad-shouldered, saturated, inky-black cabernet. On the palate, red and black fruits are emboldened and lifted as they wrap around a firmly structured core of graphite and bittersweet cocoa that sets the stage for an endless finish framed by immense, firm tannins, dried tobacco, cedar and clove. Aged 20 months in French oak barrels; 97% new



Agustina and Paul on a recent trip to Cahors France, the birthplace of malbec.

WINERY EVENTS

We hope you can join us at one or more of these summer and fall events:

Sept 4-6: Sebastopol, CA
Wine Country Weekend Winery Dinner, Harvest Wine Auction

Sept 12: Sebastopol, CA
Fall Harvest Celebration at the winery

Oct 22, 23: New York Wine Experience, New York, NY
(Featuring 2006 Cabernet Sauvignon, Beckstoffer To Kalon)

Visit us on Facebook!

season. Cooler October weather offered extended hang time and allowed for a well-paced harvest of outstanding quality, with fruit boasting excellent density, aromatics and acidity. *Harvest of cabernet sauvignon began later than usual, running from October 11 through November 2.*

2006 CABERNET SAUVIGNON, STAGECOACH VINEYARD, NAPA VALLEY

Sourced from high atop the Eastern slopes of Napa Valley, this is a muscular cabernet sauvignon with a dense, black garnet hue and big aromas of dark cherry, tobacco and mocha. Intensity and depth of flavor characterize a palate that seamlessly weaves assertive, concentrated flavors of cassis and black plum with clean earth that carries through the mid-palate and is joined by balanced acidity on the finish. Tannins are bold, ripe, chewy and well integrated. Aged 20 months in French oak barrels; 95% new

PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS
US POSTAGE
PAID
AD-VANTAGE

PAUL HOBBS
WINERY & VINEYARD
3355 GRAVENSTEIN HIGHWAY NORTH
SEBASTOPOL, CALIFORNIA 95472
WWW.PAULHOBBS.COM



The Paul Hobbs team in Walker Station Vineyard, after replanting

SPRING 2010 PREVIEW

The following wines are slated for release in our next newsletter:

- 2008 Chardonnay, Russian River Valley
- 2008 Chardonnay, Richard Dinner Vineyard, Sonoma Mountain
- 2008 Chardonnay, Ritchie Vineyard, Russian River Valley
- 2008 Pinot Noir, Russian River Valley
- 2008 Pinot Noir, Ulises Valdez Vineyard, Russian River Valley
- 2008 Pinot Noir, Hyde Vineyard, Carneros, Napa Valley
- 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley
- 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon, Hyde Vineyard, Carneros, Napa Valley
- 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon, Dr. Crane Vineyard, St. Helena, Napa Valley

PAUL HOBBS WINERY TOURS BY APPOINTMENT

We invite you to come to the winery for a tour and tasting. To schedule a visit, you may reach us by phone at 707-824-9879, ext. 21 or via email at info@paulhobbs.com.

