



Rocky Creek Newsletter

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Issue 11

What's New?

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Our Wines:

We are now selling the new Robin's Rose 2010 in the tasting room and the stores. This year's vintage is very similar to the 2008 vintage which flew off the shelves! More of the French Rose color and the beautiful black pepper finish to liven it up, similar to 2008!

We're also great reviews from some restaurants that our Pinot Noir 2009 is the best one they have tasted in a while after running comparisons across the region. We also have a prestigious VQA Store in Vancouver doing blind pinot noir tastings of all BC Pinots and so far ½ way through the line up, they say ours is the best and also seems to have the best expression of terroir, so a bit more character! Mark is thrilled.

Our Pinot Gris got to go with Mark to a prestigious event in Vancouver in July. The premiers of Canada came to Vancouver and 10 BC wines were selected to pair with their dinner. Mark and his Pinot Gris went! Only 10 wines and their owners were selected and we were one!

Our Katherine Sparkle has been a challenge but the traditional methode cannot be rushed. The good news is when you get the Katherine's Sparkle our Jubilee might also be ready. We have the process going for the Pinot Noir Rose Sparkling called Jubilee and hope to have it ready for the Cowichan Wine Festival at least to taste. This bottle will have our logo screenprinted upon a clear sparkling bottle and also the latest Zork Sparkling technology!

We are also bottling the new Wild Blackberry 2010. This is also on the beautiful screenprinted bottle and the best flavour so far. In 2008, there was a smokiness to it first and then fruit, which had great comments as unique and restaurants loved it to pair foods with. This year is the best of both worlds. Fruit aroma first, as in previous vintages, but also with a bit of the complexity of the 2008. This bottle is 33% bigger for the same price! Great look for gifts! We hope to start selling this in the next few weeks. Come by and see the bottle in our tasting room and get the last of the 2008.

Our Events:

Upcoming Event – Tempranillo Release – Jose's Tempranillo—the most expensive bottle by volume on the island. 500 mL for \$50/bottle. \$10 of every bottle for the life of the wine will be donated to the Canadian Cancer Society. See our latest Press Release.

This release event is by private invite only because of the limited amount of wine we have to taste. We've been so busy setting things up in the past and would like to have a chance to connect with the press; so, this event is for the case club members only and the press. Our story has been different from the beginning and would love to taste for everyone; but again limited in the size of our place and product. We want to thank you for being part of our story and for those not able to attend, be given a chance to order this outstanding wine. You can email me and reserve a bottle while quantities last. Only 144 bottles available. If there is any left, then you will be able to buy a glass to try at the Cowichan Wine and Culinary Festival.

We just finished doing the MS Bike Tour with all the cyclists riding around. Would have loved to join them but at least had the fun of meeting them all for many of them it was their first time tasting Rocky Creek and not the last! It was a good chance to connect.



The next big event here and the finale for the season of festivals is the Cowichan Wine and Culinary Festival. As we usually do, we are planning a bunch of fun events and also will have some specials at this festival for you all. We hope to do the sparkling bar again this year because it was such a great hit. Here's a bit of a teaser what else we have planned so far. Vendors in the Vineyard again. Hopefully even more vendors. Book signing by Troy Townsin on the Sunday September 18 for WineFeast 2nd edition. Mark will be doing some cooking demos during the weekend to give you a taste with our wines. We will have Stonefield Farms on site and plan to work with them to create some fun. Also, will have a great food truck on Saturday so you can enjoy our café with some good food and music. So it's September 14 to 18 but mainly for us on September 17 and 18. So spread the word. Info on our website or www.cowichan.wines.net.

We are also going to have our winery and vineyard available for weddings. The wedding planner or bride will be renting our facility and all arrangements will be done through themselves. I am renting it on a ½ day which could include a wine tasting with us or a full day with a reception. We had many people wishing us to do something because of the location so we made it very simple.

Tasting Room:

We are now open every day but Tuesdays from 11 to 4 pm. We have found someone very lovely and brings her own enthusiasm to the tasting room. Her name is Karina and you might have already met her. So we are able to be open on most people's schedule.

Our Wine Café is going well, just need to spread the word. The place looks great and the weather has perked up so you can enjoy a glass with you picnic or we've been doing cheese, olives, apples and carrots with crackers to snack on. At the Wine Festival, we are trying the food truck to see if that's something to think about more for next year. Wines are by the glass or a flight of 4 wines your choice. When the sun's out, people are enjoying it. Come on sun!!! Why don't you come and give it a try?

If you have a group of people and want some sandwiches, then I can also arrange that; however, I need to book that at least 2 days in advance. Satellite Bar and Grill at Arbutus Ridge is also available to do packages if you are interested.

Media:

Don't forget to have a chance to look at the new book about the Island Wineries. Apparently, Costco is also now selling it. The contributor of EAT Magazine created the book entitled "Island Wineries of British Columbia". It's a book dedicated to our region! About time. It explains the history and has 15 wineries featured each with a 4 page spread and great pictures. We are one of the featured wineries!

Also upcoming for the 2012 calendar season, our dog Tawny is on the cover of the 2012 Winery Dogs of BC, donations will go to the SPCA. We will have that ready to sell for the Wine Festival, if not before.

Hope to see you this summer! Cheers and to a wonderful sunny summer...!!! Follow us on Facebook or Twitter. If you are on Facebook, please "LIKE" our page.

