

GARY FARRELL

VINEYARDS & WINERY

MAY 2009

Dear Friends,

Greetings from Gary Farrell! Spring has arrived in all its glory. Everything is budding and flowering, and it's a magnificent time to visit wine country.

We are extremely proud of the May 2009 Grand Crew club shipment. This five bottle shipment is exclusively from the highly regarded 2007 vintage. The fruit quality was spectacular – across all AVAs and varietals. Bud-break was early, and even though harvest began in mid-August, the long growing season allowed the fruit to ripen evenly and smoothly. Lower than usual rainfall produced a smaller crop, also affecting the timing of harvest. The small berry size in conjunction with these elements cultivated highly concentrated fruit flavors. Some of the jewels in the Gary Farrell crown are our single vineyard-designates. These highly allocated wines are produced from grapes sourced from small vineyards, venerated for high quality fruit. The small berry size in conjunction with these elements cultivated highly concentrated fruit flavors.

The Cresta Ridge vineyard is located in Green Valley, a sub-appellation of the Russian River Valley. Green Valley, the coolest Russian River Valley sub-appellation, allows for longer maturation time, providing a wonderful complexity to the fruit. The 2007 Chardonnay Cresta Ridge shows intense aromas and flavors of candied lemon, ginger and melon. This beautiful Chardonnay is ready to enjoy now, or can be cellared over the next two to four years.

The 2007 Chardonnay Westside Farms is a classic expression of the Russian River appellation. Cool evenings prolong the ripening process, yielding elegant, intense fruit. The 2007 Chardonnay Westside Farms shows aromas of Golden Delicious apple, pineapple and lime, with faint notes of lavender and star anise. A supple texture, medium body and firm acidity complement this rich, balanced wine.

We also showcase two very different Pinot Noirs in this shipment – the 2007 Pinot Noir Carneros and the 2007 Pinot Noir Russian River Selection.

The Carneros appellation provides the cool climate and longer growing season ideal for Pinot Noir. The 2007 Pinot Noir Carneros exhibits powerful aromas of black cherry, cola, rose petal, and spice. On the palate, it shows juicy dark fruit and candied cherry, with spicy tobacco and cinnamon notes.

The 2007 Pinot Noir Russian River Selection is a perfect example of this region's remarkable consistency. This Pinot Noir shows tremendous fruit concentration. Intense aromas of cherries and plums are matched with a seductive texture, which leads to a balanced finish on the palate.

Our last offering is the 2007 Zinfandel Bradford Mountain. Concentrated dark fruit aromas of black cherry and plum, with spicy notes of white pepper and anise, contribute to this layered and complex wine from a stellar vineyard.

We hope you enjoy these wines from the outstanding 2007 vintage. We send them to you with our best wishes and an invitation to visit us at our beautiful, ridge-top tasting room.

Cheers!

From Your Friends at Gary Farrell

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UPCOMING EVENTS

SUMMER PRE-RELEASE PARTY

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1ST

4PM TO 7PM

JOIN US AT THE WINERY TO TASTE NEW
2007 VINTAGE PRE-RELEASES PAIRED WITH
DELECTABLE APPETIZERS

\$25 PER MEMBER AND MEMBER'S GUESTS

SPACE IS LIMITED. PLEASE RSVP BY JULY
24TH BY CALLING 866-277-9463

OR EMAIL US YOUR REPLY TO CREW@
GARYFARRELLWINES.COM

SAVE THE DATE

HARVEST CELEBRATION
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17TH

DETAILS TO FOLLOW IN THE COMING MONTHS!



NEW RELEASES



2007 CHARDONNAY
Cresta Ridge

VINEYARDS

Cresta Ridge Vineyard was developed by Gary and Debbie Farrell in 1999. This property is located in Sebastopol within the Green Valley AVA of the Russian River Valley. Sixteen acres are planted to Pinot Noir, Dijon clones 115 and 777 and four acres are planted to Chardonnay, Dijon clones 95 and 76. These clones were selected for their favorable flavor profiles, moderate yields and small berry and cluster size.

WINEMAKING NOTES

2007 was another example of our region's remarkable consistency. The short rainy season coupled with the warm spring temperatures led to an early bud break. Subtle spring heat spikes and wind conditions contributed to varying degrees of "shatter" in the vineyard. ("Shatter" is when flowers bloom on the vine but don't get pollinated, thus preventing their development into berries.) This shatter, together with the previous year's large yield, led to a relatively light crop. The

resulting smaller berries showed very intense flavor and great color. By late spring, our weather steadied, making for near-perfect ripening conditions lasting all through harvest. The Russian River Valley 2007 vintage, by all appearances, has turned out to be one of significant depth and concentration.

TASTING NOTES

The 2007 Cresta Ridge Chardonnay shows intense aromas and flavors of candied lemon peel, Gravenstein apple, fresh ginger and melon. Other aromas and flavors include a fresh white floral perfume and a pronounced chalk dust or gravel-like minerality, a signature of this vineyard. Toasty oak notes of popcorn and angel food cake also make an appearance. Consume this sophisticated beauty over the next two to four years.

Technical Notes AVA: Russian River Valley *Barrel Aging*: approx. 8 months in French oak, 75% new and 25% one year old *Varietal*: 100% Chardonnay *Harvested*: September 6, 2007 *Bottled*: June 7, 2008 *Alcohol*: 14.3% *Acidity*: 3.27 pH, .66g/100ml titratable acidity.



2007 CHARDONNAY
Westside Farms

VINTAGE

Growers Ron and Pam Kaiser produce premium quality Pinot Noir and Chardonnay on their 40 acre vineyard on Westside Road along the banks of the Russian River. The deep, river-deposited sandy loam soils, where the cool evenings prolong the ripening process, yield elegant, intense fruit.

WINEMAKING NOTES

2007 was an excellent example of the remarkable consistency of the region. The short rainy season coupled with the warm spring temperatures led to an early bud break. Shatter contributed to a smaller yield and smaller berries but very intense flavor and color.

TASTING NOTES

The 2007 Westside Farms Chardonnay shows aromas and flavors of juicy Golden Delicious apple, pineapple, lime and honey-baked apple. Faint lavender and star anise aromas along with marzipan and chalk dust add layers of depth. A supple texture and medium body and acidity complement this rich, balanced wine.

Technical Notes AVA: Russian River Valley *Barrel Aging*: approx. 8 months in French oak, 44% New Oak, 56% One year old *Varietal*: 100% Chardonnay *Harvested*: September 9, 2007 *Bottled*: June 7, 2008 *Alcohol*: 14.3% *Acidity*: 3.38 pH, .65 gm/100ml acidity.



2007 PINOT NOIR
Carneros Selection

WINEMAKING NOTES

2007 in Carneros was a vintage marked by a dry winter, and a fairly mild and cool growing season. With unsettled weather during bloom, there was mild shatter, leading to a lighter than normal crop, particularly in the Pinot Gris, Chardonnay and Pinot Noir vineyards. Berry size was small, but with great flavor concentration. The late August heat, got harvest rolling, but mild weather through September meant ideal ripening conditions for all our varieties.

TASTING NOTES

The 2007 Carneros Selection Pinot Noir has forward aromas of black cherry cola, plums, rose petal, licorice, baking spices and vanilla. The palate shows juicy dark fruits, candied cherry, spicy tobacco notes and cinnamon with a silky texture and medium body and acidity.

Technical Notes *Winemaker*: Susan Reed *AVA*: Carneros *Variety*: 100% Pinot Noir *Bottled*: July 24, 2008 *Alcohol*: 14.4% *Acidity*: 3.46 pH, .62 gm/100ml titratable acidity.



2007 PINOT NOIR
Russian River Selection

WINEMAKING NOTES

2007 was a great example of the Russian River Valley's remarkable consistency. A short rainy season coupled with warm spring temperatures led to an early bud break. A heat spike in spring and challenging wind conditions contributed to varying degrees of "shatter" in the vineyard. This shatter led to a relatively light crop and small berry size but the fruit quality is of remarkable complexity and intensity.

TASTING NOTES

The 2007 Russian River Selection shows tremendous concentration and power from this blockbuster vintage. Intense aromas of dark fruits, particularly cherries and plums, are matched with warm spices and a leathery earthiness. The palate shows great depth, weight and acidity with a seductive texture which leads to a balanced finish that confirms the nose.

Technical Notes *Winemaker*: Susan Reed *AVA*: Russian River Valley *Variety*: 100% Pinot Noir *Bottled*: July 20-23, 2008 *Alcohol*: 14.2% *Acidity*: 3.49 pH, .63 gm/100ml titratable acidity.



2007 ZINFANDEL
Bradford Mountain

VINEYARD

Bradford Mountain Vineyards, originally settled by an Italian family in the late 1800's, is owned by the Hambrecht family. This Dry Creek Valley property is located on the northwestern slope of Bradford Mountain at about 1000 feet elevation. The volcanic, red soils, Boomer loam and Stonyford loam, are reminiscent of Tuscany's terra rosa. Fifty-one acres are planted to Zinfandel; our fruit is sourced from thirty of those acres planted in 1974. Though there is some debate, the Zinfandel vines are thought to be from the "mother" blocks planted in 1900, the Hambrecht/Mead /Atlas Peak clones.

WINEMAKING NOTES

The 2007 growing season produced fruit of excellent quality. Though rainfall was lighter than normal and fruit yield and berry size was small, we were extremely pleased with the resulting harvest. Our style continues to focus on producing fully flavored and colored wines, which are true to the varietal and favor elegance, finesse and balance.

This exceptional fruit and our ability to carefully hand sort and ferment in open-top fermenters allows for a well-balanced, food-friendly zinfandel. Wines produced from Bradford Mountain tend to be complex, aromatic and intensely flavored.

TASTING NOTES

The 2007 Bradford Mountain Zinfandel has concentrated dark fruit aromas of ripe black cherry and plum, along with spicy notes of white pepper, and anise. Lavender, licorice and vanilla play a supporting role. Reflective of the strong vintage, the palate shows rich notes of ripe strawberry, plum and cherry. Rose petal, roasted grains, and dried tobacco add layers of complexity.

Technical Notes *Winemaker*: Susan Reed *AVA*: Dry Creek Valley *Varietal*: 100% Zinfandel *Harvested*: August 29 and September 1, 2007 *Barrel Age*: 13 months in 100% French Oak (50% new, 46% one year old, 4% two year old) *Bottled*: December 11, 2008 *Alcohol*: 14.7% *Acidity*: 3.47 pH, 675 gm/100ml titratable acidity.

Next Shipment - September 2009 Releases

- 2007 Chardonnay - Starr Ridge Vineyard
- 2007 Chardonnay - Rochioli Vineyard
- 2007 Pinot Noir - Starr Ridge Vineyard, Dijon Clones
- 2007 Pinot Noir - Hallberg Vineyard

Subject to change

