

Orangewood Wines

Small Wineries, Great Wines

Volume 5, Issue 23

April 2, 2017

Introduction

2017, despite the roaring Dow Jones Industrial Index, is not a stellar year for us so far. It is hard to decide whether our competition is more aggressive, consumers are less confident or the economy is continuing to be anemic. Whatever! Our growth is non-existent this year, though last year's was more than enough for us to manage.

New Winery: Schweiger Vineyards

On top of Spring Mountain, on the west side of Napa Valley, Fred Schweiger bought property in the late '50s and began preparations to grow grapes. The first vines were planted in 1981 and the crops were sold to other wineries. Fred's son, Andy, had an affinity for vineyards and winemaking. When he was in high school he worked for several different wineries and then studied at UC Davis. In 1994 he joined his dad to start making wine from the grapes they were growing.

In 2004 Orangewood was invited by Schweiger Vineyards to try their wines. As part of the evaluation, I drove up Spring Mountain on my "what beer does the wine maker have in his or her refrigerator?" tour. Andy Schweiger was the wine maker and the answer was Anchor Steam. We tried their wines (and beer) and liked them, but we were not sure how we would sell two different Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignons.

Fast forward to 2017: our friends, Mark and Lisa, were visiting the winery and mentioned Orangewood to them. We still like mountain fruit and feel that we can get some Arizona restaurants and wine stores to agree with us. I will also be along soon to check out what beer is in the refrigerator.

Rambling

The Gold Crest is the smallest bird in Great Britain.

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New Customers

[Capital Grille](#)

16489 North Scottsdale Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85254
(480) 348-1700

[El Panzon Y Frida](#)

7323 East Shoeman Lane
Scottsdale, AZ 85251
(480) 659-1544

[Elvira's Restaurant](#)

2221 East Frontage Road
Building A
Tubac, AZ 85646
(520) 398-9421

[La Laconda Ristorante Italiano](#)

6830 East 5th Avenue
Suite 108
Scottsdale, AZ 85251
(480) 284-6511

[Shift Kitchen and Bar](#)

107 North San Francisco
Street
Suite 2
Flagstaff, AZ 86001
(928) 440-5135

[Tarbell's Restaurant](#)

3213 East Camelback Road
Phoenix, AZ 85018
(602) 955-8100

[Three Canyon Beer and Wine Garden](#)

4999 North Sabino Canyon

It weighs in at 1/4 oz. It nests in the branches on conifer trees, generally eating insects and grubs. During a cold winter it may be seen, fleetingly, on a bird feeding table looking for additional sustenance. My sister, Margaret, was telling me that she planted conifers when she first bought her house near the centre of Birmingham in 1980, with the hope of attracting Gold Crests to her bird feeder. Finally, this year, with the trees 60 foot tall, she saw her first Gold Crest. I was visiting her because she had found she was terminally ill just before Christmas. We spent a week talking about our parents, our lives, her success at teaching children... One of her former students wrote to me, "She taught us many things but above all to aspire to the highest standards and to be our very best in whatever that might be." Margaret, herself, aspired to many things, not all successful, but the Gold Crest was one of many successes that brought her happiness. Margaret died last week. She is truly missed.

The Rambler rambles on...

Cheers,

Richard (newsletter writer) and Laurie (editor)
Orangewood Wines

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