

Subject: *Orangewood Wines News No.9, September 15th, 2004*

Sent: *Wednesday, September 15, 2004, 5.41 AM*

To Our Wine Aficionados,

Introduction

August was a record month for us - just when we expected to have a summer drought. September, on the other hand...

The newsletter, which I try to get out soon after the beginning of the month has dragged on waiting to see if this or that or the other sale would close. Finally two of them did, so it's quick get it out before too much happens.

Note also that Scott Lloyd, representing both Frank Family Vineyards and Napa Cellars Oakville will be in town during the first week in October - no surprise that our events that week feature those products. This newsletter got so long that I have skipped the usual rambling. We'll rack our brains to figure out how to keep this shorter in future.

Box Score

New restaurants:	3
New retail outlets:	4
New sales people:	0
New wineries:	0

Contents

Upcoming Events

September 17/18	Red Kangaroo, Chandler - THIS WEEKEND
September 28th	Cheuvront Wine Bar
September 29th	Nello's Scottsdale - Last Zinday of the Month
October 1st	Wine Basket at Hillside, Sedona - Frank's and Young's
October 5th	Marriott, Desert Ridge - Napa Cellars Wines & Dinner
October 7th	Bacchus, Kierland - Napa Cellars Wines
October 8th	AJ's, Arrowhead - Napa Cellars Wines

New Restaurants and Retail outlets

- Bacchus - Kierland, Scottsdale
- Jug 'n' Barrel - Glendale
- La Grande Orange - Phoenix
- Mezcal - Kierland, Scottsdale
- Ninetta's - Phoenix
- Rum Runners - Tucson
- The Farm - Phoenix

Event Feedback

- AJ's, Arrowhead at Arrowhead Country Club
- Nello's, Scottsdale - Last Wednesday of the Month
- Red Kangaroo, Phoenix
- Radda, Scottsdale
- Nello's, Tempe - First Wednesday of the Month

Upcoming Events

September 17/18: 4:00-7:00 - Red Kangaroo, Chandler - Free

Vino Noceto and Young's with Roger or Injy. Dick is MC-ing Friday, Alison Saturday.

September 28th: 6:00 - Chevront Wine Bar - \$12

To be determined, but we think a Ventana emphasis will work. The entry fee includes an artisanal cheese plate.

September 29th: 5:30 - Nello's Scottsdale - Last Zinday of the Month - \$10

The second of these end-of-the-month tastings will be our Zinfandel horizontal tasting. I always enjoy these. We start with the least expensive wine in our portfolio and work up. All of them taste just fine, but the next one is better yet.

October 1st: 5:30 - Wine Basket at Hillside, Sedona - \$30

This is the second time Jim and I will be in Sedona. Frank Family and Young's Vineyards are the featured wines to go with the multi-course meal provided.

October 5th: 7:00 - Marriott, Desert Ridge - \$79

With Scott Lloyd, from Napa Cellars, in town, Marriott decided to have a winemaker dinner. Five courses will be paired with the Napa Cellars wines. Call 480-419-2115 for details and reservations.

October 7th: 5:00 or so - Bacchus, Kierland - Napa Cellars Wines

Scott Lloyd will be talking about Napa Cellars and Frank Family wines at this informal tasting.

October 8th: 5:00 - AJ's, Arrowhead - Napa Cellars Wines - \$25

In store wine pairing with AJ's food and wines from Napa Cellars Vineyard with Scott Lloyd narrating. This event is limited to 24 people and you must prepay for this event in the store. Also, from 7 to 8 PM will be an after dinner tasting at the tasting area with Scott, no charge.

New Restaurants and Retail Outlets

Bacchus - Kierland Commons, Scottsdale

This wine store is located in Kierland Commons in North Scottsdale. Kierland is a relatively new outdoor mall with lots of clothing stores and a few restaurants. Bacchus is a retreat from the fray, where a glass of wine can reduce male shopping anxiety. I had resisted my attempts to place wine there. The store had resisted my attempts to place wine there but Rob has shown more persistence and has placed some Napa Cellars Zinfandel there. The store is a little different than many such stores in that it has a limited selection of carefully selected wines. The staff are knowledgeable and can guide you to any of them.

Mezcal - Kierland Commons, Scottsdale

Meanwhile next door, there is a fine restaurant who has succumbed to the temptations of Young's Syrah. There is a chalk board there with Jake's selections - look for it and the Young's.

Jug 'n' Barrel - 18555 N 59th Ave, Glendale

This isn't strictly a new store for us, but they are now aware of us and placed a special order for some of our wine. If more of you do that, perhaps we can make it on the shelves.

La Grande Orange - 4410 N 40th Street, Phoenix

This grocery store also sells delightful takeout pizza and a good selection of wines. Based on a tip from Stephen Young, Dick and I were really trying to get into Postino. It turns out that they have a common owner and that their wine dude is an old drinking companion of Dick's. Our first score at this place, with hope for Postino and the restaurant formerly known Nona's nearby.

Ninetta's Bistro - 825 E Union Hills Drive, Phoenix

Located on the NE corner of Union Hills Drive and 7th Street, this Italian restaurant has just been taken over by Mark and Jackie. In a former life they helped run Tomaso's. This spot is about a mile from where Iggy and Audrey (Laurie's parents) live, an area with a dearth of good restaurants. The first afternoon I was there, the smell of fresh gnocchi drove me to pick up Laurie and her parents and take them back for dinner. Unfortunately the restaurant wasn't yet open. On our next visit, on a Sunday, we found that gnocchi is Wednesday's special. However, we did enjoy the other entrees and our companions from Wales endorsed the bread pudding. Ninetta's is putting together their wine list slowly, starting with the Ventana Due Amici.

Rum Runners - 3200 E Speedway, Tucson

Yet another fine wine store in Tucson fell under Dick's spell and now stocks Napa Cellars Chardonnay and Ventana Due Amici.

Quiessence at The Farm - 6106 S 32nd St, Phoenix

Quiessence is one of several eateries on The Farm. It's definitely worth a visit for its fine fair and wine selection - now enhanced with Vino Noceto and Napa Cellars wines.

Event Feedback**AJ's, Arrowhead tasting at Arrowhead Country Club**

This was quite an event, with 8 distributors and far more wine than anyone could absorb. The food, catered by Arrowhead Country Club, meant that people could eat and drink pretty well for the modest fee.

Nello's Scottsdale, Last Wednesday of the Month

This first tasting went well. In addition to experimenting with wines, Nello's experimented with foods. A variety of pizzas and other goodies added to the excitement.

Red Kangaroo, Phoenix

I think the area must be starved for this kind of thing. All the tables were taken, all the food was eaten, and guess what happened to the wine!

Every Friday something's happening. Rick, the owner, together with his wife, son and daughter make this a family affair.

Radda, Scottsdale

I hadn't been to Radda before, but by the end of the tasting I felt I'd known Lori and her brother for ever. They were very welcoming and supplied excellent appetizers to go with the wines. Alison didn't let anyone else try the appetizer with olives and stuff wrapped in prosciutto, so I'm not sure how that one was. After the tasting we stayed for dinner and enjoyed food and Frank Sinatra.

Cheers!

Richard and Laurie

Richard (newsletter writer) and Laurie Corles (editor)
Orangewood Consulting LLC