



Mansfield-Dunne

Winter 2018 Newsletter

Happy New Year From Mansfield-Dunne

It's hard to believe it has been 10 months since our last newsletter, but they have been busy. We completed phase 4 plantings in the new upper vineyard and have now officially named the new vineyard Cortada Alta, which is Spanish for high notch. The name connotes the vineyard's location just below the notch at the top of the SLH vineyard map, as well as the region's Hispanic heritage (more to come on that later). We have also completed a guest house at the vineyard. And finally time to release our 2015 pinot noirs and first ever chardonnay!

The Phase 4 planting added 6.2 acres of pinot noir and 3.2 acres of chardonnay vines and brings the total planted acreage up to roughly 38 acres. We look forward to these blocks producing pinot and chardonnay fruit in 2019.

In the vineyard the 2017 canopy got off to a fast start as the vines were seemingly refreshed by the first strong winter rainfall in several years. While a bit warmer than normal, the vineyard enjoyed the classic SLH summer weather pattern of foggy nights and mornings, with mild, sunny and windy afternoons. Approaching harvest both lower and upper vineyards were carrying a normal size crop of beautiful clusters. Then the brutal Labor Day heat wave threw a wrench into things with two days of 111 degree temperatures that shot up the brix levels and dehydrated many of the clusters. Thankfully, we resisted the temptation to harvest before the heat struck and were rewarded

We will be participating in several tasting events this year:

March 2-3, 2018

World of Pinot Noir Santa Barbara

May 19, 2018

Santa Lucia Highlands Gala

November 1-4, 2018

Big Sur Food & Wine Festival



Young vines in phase 4 block



Guesthouse



Trellis installation for phase 4 block



Cortada Alta pinot cluster



Syrah block from above



Cortada Alta chardonnay cluster

with 10 days or so of cooler weather that allowed the clusters to rehydrate and enjoy another few weeks of precious hang time as they slowly approached full ripeness.

The 2016 wines will be bottled shortly and will be released later this year. The 2016 Peterson Vineyard pinot noirs are similar to the ripe and concentrated 2015s. The Cortada Alta pinots are much darker in color, higher in tannin, and more shy with their aromas than the Peterson pinots. They will need plenty of time in the bottle before they reach their peak. The 2016 lineup will also feature small quantities of both Peterson and Cortada Alta chardonnay and a very small amount of Cortada Alta syrah.



Syrah back from the side

Recent news on the scoring front!

92 points for 2015 Peterson Vineyard Pinot Noir

- *Vinous* (Antonio Galloni), November, 2017

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- *Wine Enthusiast*, October, 2017

91 points for 2015 Santa Lucia Highlands Pinot Noir

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90 points for 2015 Peterson Vineyard Chardonnay

- *Vinous* (Antonio Galloni), November, 2017



Phase 1 blocks in foreground, phase 3 and 4 blocks in far background

Release of the 2015 Pinot Noirs and Chardonnay

We are very pleased to finally release our 2015 pinot noirs and first ever chardonnay. Once again we have produced both a Peterson Vineyard designate pinot and a lower price point Santa Lucia Highlands (SLH) appellation wine. And we have added a Peterson Vineyard designate chardonnay to the lineup.

The **2015 Peterson Vineyard Pinot Noir** once again contains a mix of all 5 clones in the vineyard (828, Pommard 05, 667, 777, and 115). This is the most deeply colored Mansfield-Dunne yet, probably due to the small 2015 crop. The nose is closed with cola, anise and French oak. On the palate, there is bright, racy acidity with ripe cherry and spicy SLH Pinot fruit. The medium-long finish will certainly lengthen with time in the bottle. Drink this from 2018 through 2024.

The **2015 Santa Lucia Highlands Pinot Noir** once again contains all of the clones in the vineyard except the 828. Deep garnet color, ripe nose of cranberries and baking spices. The palate is soft at first and lush, with moderate acidity and a dense core of chewy pomegranate and blackberry. The finish is long with a good balance of berry fruit and acidity. Tannin comes in at the very end of the finish. Drink this from 2018 through 2022.

The **2015 Peterson Vineyard Chardonnay** exhibits light straw color, a youthful subtle nose of pears, toast, and a hint of pineapple. There's plenty of up front acidity on the palate with a medium to full body. The oak is well-integrated with the tropical fruit flavors, a signature of the SLH. The finish is very long with acidity carrying all the flavors through. Drink this from 2018 through 2020.

Hope you get the opportunity to enjoy these wines,
John and Lynn Peterson

2015 Mansfield-Dunne Peterson Vineyard Pinot Noir

AGING:

11 months in French oak barrels,
70% new

BOTTLING DATE:

8/8/16

RELEASE DATE:

1/15/18

PRODUCTION:

212 cases 750ml
20 cases 1.5L

2015 Mansfield-Dunne Santa Lucia Highlands Pinot Noir

AGING:

11 months in French oak barrels,
25% new

BOTTLING DATE:

8/8/16

RELEASE DATE:

1/15/18

PRODUCTION:

280 cases 750ml

2015 Mansfield-Dunne Peterson Vineyard Chardonnay

AGING:

15 months in French oak barrels,
50% new

BOTTLING DATE:

12/13/16

RELEASE DATE:

1/15/18

PRODUCTION:

25 cases 750ml

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Mansfield-Dunne Wines

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