

DEAR CLUB MEMBERS,

Happy New Year! On behalf of the whole team at Schramsberg and Davies Vineyards, we are excited to kick off 2017 with you, and we are most appreciative of your enthusiasm for our sparkling and red wines. As club members these past twenty years, you have truly given us the opportunity to broaden our range of sparkling and red wines. The fact is that a club shipment program requires a diverse, delicious set of bottles in order for it to be successful. With that concept in mind, as winemakers, we've been afforded the chance to spread our wings, to broaden our base of vineyards, and to more fully explore Blancs, Noirs and Rosé brut styles. Long term relationships with outstanding individual sites and growers have been created, and the process continues to evolve. Over the past eight years, we've been able to push the envelope with Pinot Noir and Cabernet Sauvignon red table wines as well, venturing away from our own Diamond Mountain property to capture the flavor of these two varietals from an array of choice vineyard sites in Napa Valley and throughout the North Coast.

Without a fan base, we absolutely wouldn't be able to do what we do. And we're thrilled to report that some of the leading wine critics have taken notice too. The venerable Connoisseur's Guide to California Wine just honored Schramsberg/Davies as their "Winery of the Year". What an accolade for us! It is making our head spin. Again, we extend big thanks to you for giving us the chance to make it all possible.

This February's Schramsberg Cellar Club shipment, features two 2012 vineyard-designate Napa Carneros Blanc de Blancs. A number of you have had the chance to meet the legendary Jack Tognetti at his Bayview Avenue Vineyard while joining us at Camp Schramsberg. This is the second bottling that we have produced exclusively from his Chardonnay vines in the dark, loamy soils just to the west of Carneros Creek. Contrasting the rounder, slightly riper essence of the Tognetti is the crisp, palate-cleansing presence of the

Schwarze. David Schwarze's family vineyard is just to the east of the same creek, and yet it yields its own unique, vibrant Chardonnay expression. We love this twosome, and we love this grape.

On the Davies red wine front, we've packaged up two 2014 vineyard-designate Pinot Noirs and our first-to-be-released 2014 Cabernet Sauvignon. Following another mild winter, the 2014 growing season was earlier than 2012 and 2013, producing lower yields with great depth of flavor. The Hyde Carneros Pinot Noir vineyard is just off of Highway 12 at the base of the Mayacamas foothills, about two miles north of Bayview Avenue. Where the Hyde readily delivers its vibrant, juicy profile, the Georgian Pinot Noir, hailing from the far northwest corner of Mendocino's Anderson Valley, conveys a tart, relatively firm berry core reflective of its coastal provenance. As complex of a Cabernet Sauvignon blend as

we've produced, the 2014 Davies Napa Valley Cabernet is assembled with touches of Malbec, Merlot and Petit Verdot, and represents five sites, ranging from Diamond and Howell Mountains to Calistoga, Rutherford and Yountville on the valley floor.

As we count our blessings in the middle of a cold, wet winter, we also apologize for any delays in shipping that may result. Weather has pushed back the construction schedule on our new Davies Vineyards Visitor Center in St. Helena as well, yet we are hopeful to open for guests there in March! We look forward to seeing you again soon in the Napa Valley.

With sincere gratitude and best wishes for the year ahead,



Hugh, Monique and the Schramsberg / Davies Team



The Schramsberg team with 25 years or more of service. From left to right: Dionisio, Felipe, Ernesto, Missy, Monique & Hugh, Beth, Miguel, Isidro, Efren and Matias. (Reprint due to mis-identifying one of our team in last newsletter)

CELLAR CLUB (1 bottle each for \$115*)

2012 SCHWARZE VINEYARD BRUT NAPA VALLEY CARNEROS

TASTING NOTES - "The 2012 Schwarze Vineyard has generous aromas of kiwi and Granny Smith apple. The fruitful nose is complemented by notes of vanilla creme and elder flower. On the palate, there are bright flavors of meyer lemon and tangerine. The bright finish lingers on the palate with fruitful intensity and rich texture."



VARIETAL COMPOSITION: 100% Chardonnay
BARREL FERMENTATION: 43%
ALCOHOL: 11.9%
SUGGESTED RETAIL: \$80

2012 TOGNETTI VINEYARD BRUT NAPA VALLEY CARNEROS

TASTING NOTES - "The 2012 Tognetti expresses generous aromas of roast apples, orange, brioche, and honey, which gradually layers with fragrances of pastry creme and kumquat. Lush flavors coat the palate with graham cracker, pear, baked pineapple and a hint of meyer lemon. This sparkling wine delivers a clean, lingering finish with crisp mouthwatering."



VARIETAL COMPOSITION: 100% Chardonnay
BARREL FERMENTATION: 23%
ALCOHOL: 12.6%
SUGGESTED RETAIL: \$80

RIDDLER'S CIRCLE (6 bottles for \$410*)

The Riddler's Circle receives double the Cellar Club shipment plus two more (or equivalent) special library selections.

1994 RESERVE

TASTING NOTES - "The 1994 vintage was marked by a long, cool growing season. The temperate summer allowed the grapes extended hang-time, giving this wine wonderful complexity and dimension. The powerful aromas are highlighted by yeast and toast while notes of butterscotch help to balance the wonderful Pinot Noir fruit characters. The palate is full bodied and rich, yet it retains a crisp and refreshing acidity. This wine will continue to benefit from extended aging in the cellar. Enjoy!"



VARIETAL COMPOSITION: 80% Pinot Noir, 20% Chardonnay
ALCOHOL: 12.2%
SUGGESTED RETAIL: \$185

2007 BRUT ROSÉ

TASTING NOTES - "Juicy strawberry jumps out of the glass, followed by raspberry and cherries. The berry bouquet is complimented by mandarin orange and papaya. The palate has exotic flavors of mango and cantaloupe, followed by mouthwatering citrus. A juicy viscosity leads to a long, lingering finish."



VARIETAL COMPOSITION: 60% Pinot Noir, 40% Chardonnay
BARREL FERMENTATION: 30%
ALCOHOL: 12.6%
SUGGESTED RETAIL: \$74

WINEMAKERS: Hugh Davies, Sean Thompson and Jessica Koga

THE DAVIES CLUB & JACK & JAMIE'S CIRCLE

2014 DAVIES VINEYARDS CABERNET SAUVIGNON NAPA VALLEY



TASTING NOTES - "The 2014 Napa Valley Cabernet opens with vibrant aromas of mixed berry and is accentuated by clove and Mexican chocolate. The bright entry of raspberry and cherry crisp flavors on the palate emphasizes the aromas and are supported by a youthful finish."

VARIETAL COMPOSITION: 88% Cabernet Sauvignon, 8% Petit Verdot, 2% Malbec, 2% Merlot
BARREL AGING (FRENCH OAK): 24 months (74% new)
ALCOHOL: 14.7%
SUGGESTED RETAIL: \$55

- THE DAVIES CLUB WILL RECEIVE 1 BOTTLE OF EACH FOR \$135*
- JACK & JAMIE'S CIRCLE WILL RECEIVE 3 BOTTLES OF EACH FOR \$395*

2014 DAVIES VINEYARDS PINOT NOIR HYDE VINEYARDS NAPA VALLEY CARNEROS

TASTING NOTES - "The 2014 Hyde Pinot Noir emits beautiful aromas of Santa Rosa plum and ripe strawberry, combined with a touch of dark chocolate. The palate is rich with flavors of black raspberry and earthy forest floor. Hints of espresso is tasted throughout the long sustained finish."



VARIETAL COMPOSITION: 100% Pinot Noir
BARREL AGING (FRENCH OAK): 15 months (30% new)
ALCOHOL: 14.5%
SUGGESTED RETAIL: \$60

2014 DAVIES VINEYARDS PINOT NOIR GOORGIAN VINEYARDS ANDERSON VALLEY

TASTING NOTES - "Aromas of black plum and black cherry intermingle and gently arise from the glass, with lighter hints of anise and violet following. The vibrant palate interplays the balance of mulberry, mocha, blackberry and black pepper and is sustained by a firm finish."



VARIETAL COMPOSITION: 100% Pinot Noir
BARREL AGING (FRENCH OAK): 15 months (40% new)
ALCOHOL: 14.3%
SUGGESTED RETAIL: \$60

**plus tax and handling where applicable*

IN THE NEWS

WINERY OF THE YEAR: SCHRAMSBERG/J. DAVIES/DAVIES



Founded by Jack and Jamie Davies back in 1965, Schramsberg has earned a much-deserved reputation as California's pre-eminent home-grown producer of fine Méthode Champenoise sparklers. Over the years, Schramsberg has garnered more starred recommendations in the pages of Connoisseurs' Guide than any other sparkling wine maker, and its impressive showing in 2016 would be enough to justify "Winery of the Year" honors, but the winery's considerable success does not stop there. In the mid-1990s, Schramsberg began planting Cabernet Sauvignon for what would be their estate-grown J. Davies label, and, in 2009, Pinot Noirs from selected vineyards labeled simply as Davies were added to the family portfolio with new, non-estate Davies Cabernets following a few harvests later. Over the past year, the winery's many Cabernets and Pinots have performed at an exceptionally high level, and, with more than two dozen starred and multi-starred offerings in 2016, the distinguished Schramsberg/J. Davies/Davies collection has earned the winery our most enthusiastic vote as the outstanding producer of 2016.

97 POINTS - 2008 J. SCHRAM ROSÉ

82% Chardonnay; 18% Pinot Noir. Once again a wine of remarkable range and depth, the J. Schram Rosé takes its place among the finest sparkling wines to be had regardless of global provenance. It is amazingly expressive with autolyzed complexities to spare, and, for all of its show-stopping richness, it is extraordinarily well-balanced and as graceful as graceful can be. It is a complete and utterly mesmerizing effort that stands on equal footing with its most-heralded, high-ticket cousins from Champagne, and, while it is admittedly not priced for everyday drinking, there is no special occasion that will not be made more memorable by popping its cork.

92 POINTS - 2013 BLANC DE BLANCS

100% Chardonnay. Very much true to the Blanc de Blancs model with a defined minerally streak to its lean, lightly lemony, nicely autolyzed aromas, Schramsberg's is a crisp, explosively effervescent working that brings a bit more yeasty richness into play in the mouth. It is charged with plenty of brisk, palate-cleansing acidity but does not err to ungainly tartness, and while never too austere to be sipped on its own, it will make first-rate drinking with a platter of briny, fresh oysters.

91 POINTS - 2013 BRUT ROSÉ

60% Pinot Noir; 40% Chardonnay. Its youth deals this wine a lively hand, but underneath those first whiffs of strawberry-like fruit, there is complexity in the form of slightly toasty, slightly vanillin yeastiness with a distinct roasted cream edge. Strong and insistent in its mousse with smaller bubbles than its age would suggest, the wine is firm, a bit tight and yet polished all at the same time. Its deep, very likeable, infused fruit character and its yeasty richness hold on at the end and make a convincing case that bottle age has a place here.

91 POINTS - 2011 BRUT NAPA VALLEY CARNEROS

88% Chardonnay; 12% Pinot Noir. Nicely autolyzed on the nose with a well-married mix of freshly baked bread, roasted lemons and green apples that is carried forward in its very dry, deceptively deep flavors, Schramsberg's Brut reveals a little more layering and range with each sip. It shows a certain lively Blanc de Blancs sensibility albeit with an added measure of yeasty richness, and its mousse is as constant as it is fine and creamy. It is a wine that will shine as an aperitif or a first-course companion, especially if seared scallops are on the night's menu.

91 POINTS - 2014 NOBLES PINOT NOIR

Both nicely concentrated and comparatively open with loads of ripe cherry fruit in play, this deeply drafted Pinot gets everything right from focus and balance to layered richness and length. It is the kind of wine that is so approachable and showy that it is easy to overlook its careful architecture and structure, and its many immediate charms should not be mistaken as those of one that must necessarily be enjoyed in haste. ...

90 POINTS - 2012 QUERENCIA BRUT ROSÉ

74% Chardonnay; 26% Pinot Noir. Schramsberg has crafted Querencia as its way to honor founder Jack Davies' efforts in preserving agricultural land in Napa. Using only Carneros fruit, this bottling is a crisp, wiry, lively effort whose tight mousse and creamy texture work hand in hand with red-berry notes that balance both the tendency to firmness and the slightly tart edge in the latter palate and finish. It would work famously with fresh shucked Kumamoto oysters garnished with a dollop of tart watermelon granita.

Continues...

IN THE NEWS (CONTINUED)

90 POINTS - 2012 BLANC DE NOIRS

88% Pinot Noir; 12% Chardonnay. Mildly creamy yeast is met by energetic fruit in both the nicely autolyzed aromas and flavors of this lively, fairly youthful and complete Blanc de Noirs, and, if the wine comes across as being slightly juicy, it does not cheat to sweetness and is buoyed by plenty of cleansing acidity. It is an altogether tasty sparkler at the moment, but it is balanced to last and has the potential to improve in the bottle for another two or three years.

90 POINTS - 2012 CRÉMANT DEMI-SEC

74% Flora; 16% Pinot Noir; 10% Chardonnay. Schramsberg's Crémant has been a perennial favorite in these pages and owing to its high percentage of Flora is a sparkler unlike any other. It is highly aromatic with a fascinating mix of flowers, minerals, lightly candied fruit, hints of marzipan and a touch of creamy yeast at work in both its nose and its sweet, very well-balanced flavors, and it exhibits the crafting and polish of a practiced winemaking hand. It will make splendid drinking with lighter desserts and is sure to change the minds of those who believe that serious, sweet sparkling wine is a contradiction in terms.

90 POINTS - MIRABELLE BRUT ROSÉ

53% Chardonnay; 47% Pinot Noir. Where once the Mirabelle bottlings were priced with the big winery entry level efforts, now it has grown up and sits just above that tier. And, here, in the pink version, it succeeds as a distinctly fruity and friendly offering with all the juicy exuberance that California grapes can bring to the party. Its aromas are pleasantly outgoing and its open, well-balanced flavors make it a wine to remember when choosing a bottle of bubbles for all sorts of happy occasions from tailgating to birthday celebrations.



90 POINTS VERY GOOD + 2013 BRUT ROSÉ

This pale salmon colored sparkler with tiny bubbles opens with a mild strawberry bouquet with notes of tangerine and white peach. On the palate, this wine is medium bodied, slightly acidic and a little lively. The flavor profile is a mineral infused strawberry with notes of red cherry and ginger snap. The finish is dry and a bit brief. The panel suggested pairing this rose sparkler with tuna sashimi. Enjoy.

90 POINTS - MIRABELLE BRUT

Very Good. This rose gold colored Sparkling Wine from Schramsberg displays very tiny bubbles. It opens with a very mild pear and floral bouquet including hints roses, lilies and a touch of vanilla. On the palate, this wine is light bodied, lively and bright. The flavor profile is a tasty lemon-lime and golden delicious apple with notes of minerality. We also detected a hint of ginger. The finish is dry and subtle. The Panel suggested that this food friendly sparkler would pair well with roasted garlic chicken. Enjoy.

November 2016

Wine Spectator

93 POINTS - 2013 DAVIES VINEYARDS

HOWELL MOUNTAIN RED CAP VINEYARD

Openly rich and fruity, with showy red and black fruits supported by dusty, cedary oak and licorice details. Tightens on the finish, but the fine-grained tannins let the flavors flow. —J.L.

93 POINTS - 2013 J. DAVIES CABERNET SAUVIGNON DIAMOND MOUNTAIN DISTRICT

Combines a dense, intense core of loamy earth, black licorice, anise and savory blackberry with a measure of finesse and charm. Never loses focus or stops being chewy, ending with a long, full finish. —J.L.

90 POINTS - 2012 BLANC DE NOIRS

Rich and elegant, with floral strawberry and pear aromas and crisp yet plush flavors of yeast roll, fresh ginger and spice. —Tim Fish

90 POINTS - 2012 QUERENCIA BRUT ROSÉ

Floral raspberry and watermelon aromas lead to creamy and delicately ripe flavors that show graham cracker, citrus and spicy ginger notes. Drink now. —T.F. Web-Only

LAST-MINUTE GIFTS THAT WILL MAKE THE WINE LOVER SWOON

The 2013 Schramsberg Blanc de Blancs, from California and full of citrus, anise and green apple, is the same wine (different vintage) that Richard Nixon and the Chinese premier toasted with in 1972. All subsequent presidents have served Schramsberg, too, and on Inauguration Day, depending on your ideology, you can use it to celebrate or numb your pain.

Chicago Tribune

Decanter

Highly Recommended

91 POINTS - 2013 J. DAVIES, DIAMOND MOUNTAIN DISTRICT, NAPA VALLEY

Super-ripe blackcurrant nose – intense and stylish with well-judged oak. The palate follows but is slender by comparison, with very fine-grained tannins, and the promise of more to come. Chocolatey, spicy and long.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

PERFECT WITH PIE

2012 Crémant Demi-Sec - Jack and Jamie Davies were the first products in California to make a Crémant. This soft, lightly sparkling wine enlivens the richness of pumpkin pie.



RECOMMENDED 2013 BLANC DE BLANCS AND 2012 BLANC DE NOIRS.

JAMESSUCKLING.COM

Top 100 Reds of Napa Valley

94 POINTS - 2012 DAVIES VINEYARDS NAPA VALLEY JAMIE

A GIRLFRIENDLY GUIDE TO NAPA VALLEY - 5 MUST SIP & SELFIE SPOTS

Recommended our cave tour and tasting.



96 POINTS - 2007 RESERVE

Made from 76% Pinot Noir and 24% Chardonnay, spicing fruit aromas and toasted baguette complexity make a grand entrance on the nose. It then gushes bold and complex flavors, like toasted walnuts and almonds, poached pears and a touch of ginger. Although big and broad in flavor for a sparkling wine, it's very well structured and a good bet to age through 2022 or longer. —J.G.

92 POINTS EDITORS' CHOICE - 2013 BLANC DE BLANCS

Delicious lemon-meringue aromas make a great start for this medium-bodied Chardonnay-based wine. Flavors are lively, lemony, with baking-spice accents. A buttery, creamy element carries into the lingering, tangy finish. Editors' Choice. —J.G.

92 POINTS EDITORS' CHOICE - 2012 BLANC DE NOIRS

A very light-colored wine made from dark grapes, this is a detailed and multilayered beauty. Fresh ginger, cinnamon and brioche aromas lead to an elegant texture and vivid fruit flavors like white cherry and raspberry that energize the palate and linger long on the finish. —J.G.

92 POINTS EDITORS' CHOICE - 2012 QUERENCIA BRUT ROSÉ (NAPA VALLEY)

From fruit grown in Carneros, 74% of it Chardonnay and 26% Pinot Noir, this includes grapes from both Hudson and Hyde vineyards. Gorgeously full bodies and elegant, it's dry on the palate with vibrant acidity to balance the tangy flavors of cherry, pomegranate and cranberry. —V.B.

92 POINTS - 2013 J. DAVIES CABERNET SAUVIGNON (DIAMOND MOUNTAIN DISTRICT)

Gentle tannins and a streak of black pepper stand out in this well-crafted, powerful wine. It offers up pillowy texture and just enough grip to remain seamless and compelling on the palate. Moderate acidity adds structure and brightness to the concentrated black fruit. —V.B.

92 POINTS EDITORS' CHOICE 2014 ANDERSON VALLEY PINOT NOIR

Posh fruit aromas, gentle and ripe flavors and a very polished texture make this wine more fun to drink now than its big sister, the Ferrington single-vineyard Pinot. Delicious red cherry, cinnamon and cedar threads weave a complex and layered flavor, with a good underpinning of fine-grained tannins. Editors' Choice. —J.G.



92 POINTS - 2014 FERRINGTON VINEYARDS PINOT NOIR

This seductive wine has a deep ruby color, jazzy cherry and plum aromas and an elegantly balanced mouthfeel. It offers plenty of fruit flavors that are fresh and just a touch tart like they should be, firm tannins and full body. Best after 2018. —J.G.

92 POINTS CELLAR SELECTION - 2014 GEORGIAN VINEYARD PINOT NOIR

This nicely restrained wine tastes fresh and focused like the grapes rather than oak, with a lively, balanced feel in the mouth. Full of raspberry and black cherry, it keeps inspiring another sip. Time in the cellar will bring out more complexity, so drink after 2019. —J.G.

91 POINTS - 2013 BRUT ROSÉ

This lively and flavorful wine has a light copper color, lean and fresh cherry and plum flavors, a rich mousse of bubbles and clean, tangy finish. It's a great example of a rosé that doesn't overdo it. —J.G.

91 POINTS - 2014 NOBLES PINOT NOIR (FORT ROSS-SEAVIEW)

This is an elegant, subtle and spicy varietal wine that reflects its origins, impacted by coastal coolness and ferocity. Dried thyme, stemmy earth, black tea and a viscous grip of oak show its youth and quiet, brooding power. —V.B.

ALL IN THE FAMILY.....



Just wanted to follow up and tell you thank you again, my husband had a great time at the camp and we very much enjoyed the dinner at La Toque!

Here's what we did tonight in Hawaii.

Kirsten & Joseph, Las Vegas, NV - Riddler's Circle since 2010



We were so excited to receive your email! We would be delighted for you to share our story. A little back fill...the first time we enjoyed your sparkling wine (Brut) was a camping trip in 1987 to the north Georgia mountains. We chilled it in a stream and fell in love with it. Schramsberg has been our favorite ever since. Flash forward to Hurricane Matthew. We returned home after the storm to find two large trees down – one partially on our house – and a third leaning dangerously over our house with its root system lurching out of the ground. That tree is the reason we were not able to stay in our home. It took a good while to have the tree removed and to be able to return home. It was a sweet day! When we looked up the meaning of Querencia that night, it was like all the pieces were back in place.

Sincerely yours,

Sallie & Scott, Savannah, GA - Cellar Club since 2015



Every Sunday my friend Jenny and I walk Riverbend Park here in Jupiter Florida. We always take with us a Schramsberg sparkling wine. We love it thank you!! And then, of course, what would New Year's Eve be without a nice bottle of Schramsberg!!! We are both wine club members so we always have a nice stash. Happy New Year's to you all!

Amy, Jupiter, FL - Cellar Club since 2010

Jenny, Jupiter, FL - Cellar Club since 2012



Is it a choir of angels or our cellar club shipment? Wonderful selection! Happy holidays.

Holly & Gregg, Denver, Colorado
Cellar Club since 2009



You met Kristin (our daughter) at the Club event in October. Attached is the pre-toast lineup for the toast in honor of her recent engagement just before Christmas. Of course it could only be with Schramsberg.

Happy New Year (which also called for Schramsberg)!

Kevin & Joanne, Hingham, MA - Cellar Club since 2004,
Riddler's Circle since 2007



Morgan decorated his older Jag for the holidays and consumed "tons" of our bubbly for New Year's Eve!

Morgan & Yvonne, Los Altos, CA
Cellar Club since 2004 then
Riddler's Circle since 2010



Starting off 2017 with our 2007 Schramsberg Reserve by the fire on this chilly Jan 1 morning in Raleigh, NC. Looking forward to another great year! Thanks for always joining us in whatever we're celebrating. Cheers!

Brittney & Robby, Raleigh, NC
Cellar Club since 2016



A magnum of my favorite bubbles dressed up for the holidays!

Even Bumble and Rudolph love Schramsberg!

Cheers!

Nancy & Evan, Los Altos, CA
Cellar Club since 2015



CAMP SCHRAMSBERG

THE MUST DO NAPA VALLEY EXPERIENCE

Camp Schramsberg is our most in depth way to experience the Schramsberg story, see the winery in action, and learn about our wines. Twice a year, in both the spring and fall, we welcome 30 wine lovers to the historic property within the Napa Valley. While here, our guests will enjoy behind the scenes experiences of the winery and vineyards, winemaker lead tasting sessions, and some of the best local food and wines Napa has to offer. This popular experience is one of a kind and a must do for any sparkling wine lover.

The spring 2017 camp session occurs March 12 - 14, and focuses on the blending process, vineyard pruning, food and wine educational sessions and the art of sabering bottles open. The fall 2017 camp session occurs September 10 - 12, and has campers harvesting grapes, tasting through fermenting wines, creating individually dosaged bottle, attending food and wine seminars and learning the always favorite technique of sabering.

Each camp session cost \$1,350 per person (15% club discount applies)

For additional information go to <http://www.schramsberg.com/visit/camp-schramsberg/>, or contact our Camp Director Matthew at 707-942-2408 or at camp@schramsberg.com. (Both sessions are currently sold out. Please contact Matthew directly to be added to a wait list.)



Camper taking notes during a food and wine seminar at Meadowood Napa Valley

WINEMAKERS CORNER

JESSICA'S CORNER

Greetings from Davies Vineyards! The past few months have been a bit quieter than the busy harvest season, but we've been keeping ourselves occupied with blending the 2015 Cabernets and bottling the 2015 Pinot Noirs. Given the time of year, it seemed appropriate to give you a little bit of insight to our blending process on the red wine side of things. Our focus on small lot fermentations provides us with many components to work with at the blending table. When we start the process of putting together the vineyard designate wines, we sit down with every lot from that site. Those lots may be as large as 10 barrels or as small as a single barrel. We find the best of those lots and combine them to make up a core blend that becomes the base upon which we add "spice elements". While it may be perfect as is, it's our job as the winemakers to try and make it even better. Maybe it's got great power but needs a little more length. Perhaps it's beautiful on the nose but the palate needs a little bit more of a juicy quality. Does it need a brighter entry or a little more structure? This is where all of those little lots come into play. We find the ones that make that core blend sing and then the real fun starts! The blends get presented to the entire winemaking team in a blind tasting. Sometimes the decision is simple and straight forward. Other times, we may have to go back to the drawing board and start over. Regardless of the route taken, each and every time that you receive a wine from us, we have managed to get six opinionated winemakers with different palates and experiences to agree that we've made the best possible blend for you.



ANTON'S CORNER

Hello all! We have always known 2016 to be a sparkling harvest of abundance relative to 2015. Cue huge sigh of relief. Now that we've had time to reflect on the happy news, we feel the season has also coaxed richer fruit density from our grapes whilst maintaining the freshness and acidic drive so vital to the profile of our wines. Since November we've been putting the base wines through their paces. Fining trials for 70+ stainless steel tank lots came first—a delicate balancing act between slight adjustment and the retention of intrinsic character and quality. Then reviewing all wines in tank and barrel over the course of one week – 301 at last count. Any rock star dentists out there?! But really this is what

creates a lot of the magic, the variety we are able to draw upon to provide character, complexity and quality. And deliciousness! These reviews will serve as the departure point for blend building from the Tetes de Cuvee down to Mirabelle Rose. A process already underway as tirage season looms large. For the uninitiated this is when we re-inoculate the final blends with yeast and a tiny amount of sugar before bottling under crown cap for the all-important second, bubble forming fermentation. Fingers crossed it will be as uneventful as last year – healthy yeast cultures, seamless bottling and rapid fermentation to dryness, followed by extensive lees ageing in our cool mountain caves until the perfect moment arrives to disgorge each individual cuvee. Cheers!

Hugh Davies
Vintner

Sean Thompson
Senior Winemaker

Jessica Koga
Associate Winemaker (Davies)

Anton deVillieres
Assistant Winemaker (Schramsberg)

MEMBER INFORMATION

Please keep this sheet handy for future reference and feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Call us to place your order toll-free at: **1-800-877-3623** or **707-942-6668** or purchase online at: www.schramsberg.com.

You can also contact us by email: kashley@schramsberg.com or bethwagner@schramsberg.com.

Please note: If you make changes to your on-line account, please remember that this also affects your club shipment so be sure to contact us directly if you have special instructions.

☞ Special club pricing on all purchases at the winery and on-line (which often include shipping).

☞ Special "Club Only" tasting at specified time most days; please call to schedule an appointment. *For reservations email visitorcenter@schramsberg.com or call 707-942-4558.*

☞ Invitations to club and winery events around the country at an additional cost.

☞ Shipments go out four times a year in February, April, October and December, via UPS ground, unless otherwise requested. *An adult signature is required. If you are going to be traveling, please let us know and we will postpone your shipment. If you have changed your address or place of business since the last shipment, please let us know two weeks prior to the next one or go on-line and modify your address. Redirects, returns and reshipments will incur additional costs.*

☞ You may select to use FedEx or UPS 2 day for your shipments at an additional charge. Please let us know your preference.

☞ Hold for pickup by third party shipper members: please keep in mind your shipments can be delayed 2-3 weeks by your shipper. Please call them direct to check on your shipment and to update address and credit card once you've updated with us.

☞ Your credit card is charged 7-10 days prior to the shipment to allow us time for processing. *Please notify us of changes prior to processing.*

☞ **Riddler's Circle and Jack & Jamie's Circle** members receive a complimentary tour and tasting for four with every scheduled visit to the winery.

\$410/\$820 per **Riddler's Circle** shipment. Receive double the Cellar Club plus two more (or equivalent) special or library selections (*three shipments of 6 bottles at \$410, one shipment of 12 bottles at \$820 in December*)*

\$395/\$790 per **Jack & Jamie's Circle** shipment (*varies from 6-18 bottles per shipment four times a year. Three shipments at \$395 and one at \$790 in December*)*

☞ **Cellar Club and Davies Club** members receive a complimentary tour and tasting for two with every scheduled visit to the winery.

\$115/\$230 per **Cellar Club** shipment (*three shipments of 2 bottles at \$115 and 1 shipment of 4 bottles at \$230 in December*)*

\$135/\$270 per **Davies Club** shipment (*varies from 2 – 6 bottles per shipment four times a year. Three shipments at \$135 and one at \$270 in December*)*

*plus sales tax where applicable and handling for Alaska and Hawaii shipments.

☞ You must be at least 21 years of age to be a member of our wine club(s).

Dates and wines are subject to change, based on weather conditions and wine availability.

Upcoming Shipments & Events

2017

FEBRUARY

6 Club Shipments Sent

MARCH

1 **Winemaker Dinner**
Tuck Shop, Phoenix, AZ
tuckinphx.com or 602.354.2980

2 **Winemaker Dinner**
Rancho Pinot, Scottsdale, AZ
ranchopinot.com or 480.367.8030

5 **Winemaker Dinner**
La Bocca Wine Bar & Urban Kitchen
North Phoenix, AZ
aboccapizzeria.com/la-bocca-north
602.425.4469

12 **Winemaker Dinner**
Carpe Diem, Napa, CA
carpediemwinebar.com or 707.224-0800

12-14 **Camp Schramsberg Spring Blending**
Schramsberg Vineyards (wait list)
camp@schramsberg.com or 707-942-2408
schramsberg.com

22-26 **Flavor! Napa Valley**
flavornapavalley.com

APRIL

10 Club Shipments Sent

MAY

Wine Spectator Grand Tour
6 Las Vegas, NV
9 Chicago, IL
12 Miami, FL
grandtour.winespectator.com

20 Spring Club Event

26-28 **BottleRock 2017**
Napa Expo, Napa, CA

JUNE

1-4 **Auction Napa Valley**
Meadowood Resort, Napa Valley, CA
Auctionnapavalley.org

SEPTEMBER

10-12 **Camp Schramsberg Fall Harvest Session**
Schramsberg Vineyards (wait list)
camp@schramsberg.com or 707-942-2408
www.schramsberg.com

