

PATRICIA GREEN CELLARS



# 2017

## *Spring Newsletter*



[WWW.PATRICIAGREENCELLARS.COM](http://WWW.PATRICIAGREENCELLARS.COM)



## A WORD FROM THE WINEMAKER

The focus of this newsletter is Ribbon Ridge AVA and our Estate Vineyard. Twelve years ago, in 2005, the Ribbon Ridge AVA was given approval as a sub-appellation of the Willamette Valley. As the 6th AVA, it was no longer just a small part of the Chehalem Mountains AVA. This geographically small place is home to some amazing wineries and vineyards. Over the seventeen years that we have occupied our Estate Vineyard, it has truly made a transformation from an ugly duckling to a true swan. We have a large swath of vines that range between 28-34 years in age, with a wide selection of clones planted on a uniquely shaped vineyard. The vineyard wraps around the entire face of our hillside offering a 360 degree aspect for the different blocks to show truly different facets of Pinot Noir. We thought it would be interesting to go back and pick out a bottle from each vintage since the creation of the Ribbon Ridge moniker that represented something distinctive about the AVA and our Estate.

**2005 MARINE SEDIMENTARY PINOT NOIR:** This was the first year we started making the "soil series" wines. Back then the fruit was all sourced from our vineyard and Whistling Ridge Vineyard (directly behind us). This was just a 25 case production to show the nature of the soil here on Ribbon Ridge. While we have expanded both the production and the scope (it is now a Chehalem Mountains AVA wine) the heart of it lies in this first attempt to show the special relationship the vines have with the soil in the Ribbon Ridge AVA.

**2006 PANAMA WHITE SAUVIGNON BLANC:** If there ever was a cult wine that we produced, it would be this crazy bottle of Sauvignon Blanc sourced from our Estate in 2006. It was barrel aged with full malolactic fermentation and came in at a whopping 16.3% alcohol. It somehow all worked out to create a wine people still ask for!

**2007 ESTATE VINEYARD, ETZEL BLOCK PINOT NOIR:** This bottling showed how unusual and versatile this block can be. The Etzel Block is made up of 1/3 Dijon Clone 114 planted in 2001 and 2/3 Pommard Clone planted in 1996. Despite its northwest slope and the coolness of the vintage, this bottling not only performed admirably back in the day, it has developed over the years into a magnificent Pinot Noir.

**2008 NEFARIOUS (10TH ANNIVERSARY) PINOT NOIR:** This is cheating a little bit as there are non-Ribbon Ridge barrels that went into this blend. However, the base of the wine (about 60% of its overall make up) came from one fermenter of the Grapes of Wrath block, the original Pommard section of our Estate, done with 85% whole clusters.

### **2009 ESTATE VINEYARD, ETZEL BLOCK**

**PINOT NOIR:** This exceptionally warm year, especially at harvest, was not a match for the older block. A recently tasted bottle showed not only beautifully but youthfully. Still nuanced and structured which is atypical of this vintage. It saw the exact opposing weather conditions to the 2007 stated above with a similar outcome.

### **2010 ESTATE VINEYARD, OLD VINE PINOT NOIR:**

In the "Year of the Birds," we went to great lengths to protect the fruit. Ribbon Ridge has the good fortune of being far less populated by contiguous vineyards than the Dundee Hills, so we did not experience the significant losses here as we did in other sites. The relatively normal crop load combined with the mild harvest temperatures made for a gorgeous and discreet wine that is only now starting to open up.

### **2011 ESTATE VINEYARD, BONSHAW BLOCK**

**PINOT NOIR:** Great farming and incredible patience allowed this steep south facing block of Pommard (that we do not make every vintage) to belie what people perceive as the character of this vintage. Still dark fruited and structured with many years in front of it.

**2012 ESTATE VINEYARD PINOT NOIR:** In a vintage where nearly everything worked out to a tee, it seems worth mentioning that sometimes the wines that we consider the most humble (younger vine) can actually be really terrific and potentially quite age-worthy.

### **2013 ESTATE VINEYARD, OLD VINE PINOT NOIR:**

Old vines that could stand the torrential middle of harvest rainstorm made some terrific wines. With vines of 24-30 years of age we sailed to the other side of the storm and produced a gorgeous, savory, intense and ultimately classic bottling of Ribbon Ridge Pinot.

### **2014 ESTATE VINEYARD, ETZEL BLOCK**

**PINOT NOIR:** Again, the warmer vintage tones are ameliorated by the northwestern slope. The other element is the inclusion of the Dijon 114 in the wine's final blend which we have found actually ups the ante on this wine.

### **2015 ESTATE VINEYARD, WADENSIVL BLOCK**

**PINOT NOIR:** This wine makes us so happy. We believe that Wadensvil clone and marine soils have a special relationship. This block was just in its 4th leaf when we bought the property and was nearly dead due to stress. Fifteen vintages of specific work in this block paid off with an amazing, stand alone bottling of Pinot.



**2016 ESTATE VINEYARD WINES...** There are a couple of offerings described here, but it remains to be seen what ultimately shakes itself out as the wine from the vintage that really defines the vineyard and the AVA. As you can see the diversity of this vineyard is pretty substantial. This is one of the great things about our site and the way in which we have chosen to go about operating this winery. We break things down to the smallest component leaving us with a wide variety of interesting wines, but an exceptional range of wines that shine every vintage.

## 2016 VINTAGE; *Early and Amazing notable to 2012*

The 2016 vintage followed the two hottest vintages in Oregon being the earliest vintage of all time. Simply put for those of you that do not reside in Oregon, we basically did not have a winter in 2015-2016 and thus experienced bud break in the middle of March and had significant shoot growth by mid-April. At that point, there is almost no way to avoid an incredibly early harvest. Thankfully the summer was not much like the previous two and much more akin to "normal" Oregon summertime. The days were dry and warm, but not necessarily very hot. While we were harvesting between September 1st-22nd, the fruit was not showing the same ripening pattern of the previous two years.

It has taken us a bit of time to figure out how to characterize these wines. As they have aged in barrel and largely gone through their secondary fermentations, they appear to have the qualities of fruit intensity and structural balance that the 2012 vintage wines showed at this juncture. That is high praise as we consider the 2012 vintage to be one of great breadth and depth. We have a cellar with no weak spots at all in 2016 and that is always a nice thing to come by. We think you will find these wines to have a great level of precision, with focus and purity. There is a defined balance of considerable fruit intensity with excellent acid and tannin structures that are surprisingly drinkable for wines that possess the type of largesse of raw materials.

This year we are offering 10 futures for the 2016 vintage. Please note that some of the offerings are "Wine Club Only". This means they are only available to club members. Our wine club is set up to protect the outflow of our most highly sought after wines for our most supportive customers. If you are interested in joining our club please contact Margaret. She can be reached via email at [Margaret@patriciagreencellars.com](mailto:Margaret@patriciagreencellars.com) or by calling

the winery at (503) 554-0821.

You should notice that fortune has shown upon us again and for only the 3rd time ever we received a few tons of Pinot Noir from... well, from a vineyard we cannot tell you the name of, but we have used the moniker Mysterious in 2009 and 2014. This is one of the great vineyards in America for Pinot Noir, so if you have been a fan in the past (or are new to this whole endeavor) please take note that we are offering it again this year (and it is stupefying).

## 2016 SAUVIGNON BLANCS

### 2016 ESTATE VINEYARD SAUVIGNON BLANC:

The oldest block of the Sauvignon Blanc in our Estate Vineyard is over 25 years old. The fruit that comes from there has definitely developed over the years and has special characteristics that make for a wine that will stand alone and stand out. To further accentuate the differences between our Willamette Valley bottling and the Estate Vineyard bottling, around 30% of the volume of the old vine Estate Vineyard fruit was fermented and aged in a combination of both new and 1-year French Acacia wood puncheon (double barrel). The Acacia wood provides greater and rounder texture and highlights natural floral aromatics playing off "lemony" flavors by concentrating them to a lemon curd sort of flavor profile.

The Estate Vineyard Sauvignon Blanc is a denser, richer version of Sauvignon Blanc, while still maintaining incredible acidity levels to keep it focused and bright. Along with the denser textural aspects of the wine the fruit is buffered by the same soil characteristics that make our Estate Vineyard Old Vine Pinot Noir unique. That specific characteristic is the natural proclivity of the older vines to pick up on the inherent minerality in the soil and water on the property.

### 2016 WILLAMETTE VALLEY SAUVIGNON BLANC:

This bottling is made up of grapes planted in 2001 and 2002 from our Estate Vineyard in Ribbon Ridge, fruit from Oster Vineyard which is an older vineyard planted in the mid-1980s on the eastern side of the Willamette Valley past the town of Mt. Angel and from newer plantings in Oak Grove Vineyard in the Eola-Amity Hills AVA. All fruit was fermented and aged in stainless steel tanks. This has the perfect edge of acidity and brightness that makes it delicious with seafood or sipping on a warm day. This is the epitome of summer white wine: fresh, lively, zesty and flavorful without being heavy. Get it from us or enjoy it at oyster bars across the country!





## 2016 PINOT NOIR FUTURES

### DUNDEE HILLS AVA

**2016 BALCOMBE VINEYARD, BLOCK 1B:** By specific measure, this is the 20th bottling of Block 1B bottling from Balcombe Vineyard. That does pre-date the inception of PGC, but that only goes to show that this vineyard has stayed with us over the course of two wineries and continues to prove its remarkable consistency every year. Block 1B is a small block that produces only around 8 barrels per year and is the most popular wine we make each vintage. This wine, as always, is dense and burly with surprising power and grip to it for a Dundee Hills wine. Its youthful power serves this bottling well. A recently tasted bottle of the 1998 vintage was incredible! Extremely powerful and distinctly structured, this is a wine for the long term. Due to its long history and limited production, this wine is offered on futures only to Club Members.

**2016 DURANT VINEYARD, BISHOP BLOCK:** This is old school Dundee Hills Pinot Noir. The elegance is based on the vine age of 40+ years. Very few wineries in Oregon have a wide range of plantings dating back into the 1980s let alone back into the 1970s. Another Oregon winemaker, after tasting through barrels in the cellar, once remarked, "Fuck you and all your old vineyards." The Durants were truly pioneers when they planted this section of the vineyard in 1973. Their farming, presence and healthy energy is as much a part of this vineyard's terroir as is the soil and air. The wine that comes from this block reflects that individuality perhaps more so than any wine in the cellar. It knows what it wants to be from the get go the day the fruit comes through the door. This bottling will be chosen from 20% and 100% whole cluster fermentations. Red fruited with spices associated with the Dundee Hills, but a distinct minerality only found with older vines. Expect to find an introspective and soulful wine that is both concentrated and delectable at the same time.

**2016 MYSTERIOUS:** This is the third vintage where we have managed to land fruit from this amazing Dundee Hills vineyard. The last vintage we bottled, 2014, recently received a 94 from Josh Reynolds of Vinous.com making it one of the highest scoring wines of the vintage. Unfortunately, we did not have access to the fruit in 2015, but we were able to get back into this gorgeous, older vineyard in 2016. We are contractually not allowed to tell you the name of this vineyard as we sign a non-disclosure agreement with the fruit purchase

agreement. We suffer this inconvenience since this is one of the great Pinot Noir vineyards in the United States. This year the wine will be composed entirely from a 1990 planting of Pommard in the upper part of the vineyard. This has a core of red and black fruit wrapped in a tight web of tannin and spice. This is deeply infused with concentrated fruits and coated with gorgeous tannins coming from 20% and 100% whole cluster fermentations. This wine is loaded with everything that makes Dundee Hills' Pinot Noirs incredibly exciting when they are at their best.

**2016 WEBER VINEYARD:** Within the halls of the winery, there is not much doubt amongst the folks here that the best wine of the 2015 vintage was the Weber Vineyard bottling. There is also little if any doubt that the 2016 version is even better. This is our 12th year getting fruit from this site and our block of Pommard is now 39 years old. We feel what gave the 2015 its extra special quality was the inclusion of 4 barrels (out of 13 total) from a 100% whole cluster fermentation. We doubled down, literally, on that in 2016 as well as using 20% whole cluster inclusions on the other fermentations. There are a wealth of possible combinations of barrels to create the final blend for the bottling and we will be choosing from the most aromatic, poignant and truly "typical Oregon" Pinots in the cellar. Incredible intensity with an interplay of red and dark fruit with a bounty of spices and an incredibly long finish. Wines like this don't happen all that often, at least not yet.

### CHEHALEM MOUNTAINS AVA

**2016 MEDICI VINEYARD:** This is one of the most historically heralded vineyards in Oregon. Originally planted in 1976 on a steep hillside above Bell Road, this vineyard was daring for its pitch, elevation and for the fact that it was well outside of the Dundee Hills where the vast majority of quality vineyards were being planted at the time. The 2016 bottling is a humbling tribute to just how good Medici Vineyard actually is. A spring storm cut yields severely and the clusters were compressed. From a visual perspective this fruit looked quite underwhelming when it arrived at the winery. There was so little fruit that we combined the 1976 planting of Pommard and the 1980 planting of Dijon 777 in equal parts into a 2.5 ton fermenter. Despite our best efforts at having a normal fermentation the fruit had other plans and started fermenting after less than 48 hours and finished fermentation in about a week. Regardless of this much quicker than normal activity the



## 2016 PINOT NOIR FUTURES CONT.

wine is incredibly intense, focused and beautifully complex. While having the red fruits associated with volcanic soils and higher elevations this wine subtly incorporates some blue fruit tones into the mix especially as the tannins build in the back of the wine. As much as our wines are pure products of their place this wine manages to capture the characteristics and personality of the site. Only 7 barrels made.

### **2016 OLENIK VINEYARD, WADENSVIL BLOCK:**

We landed in this terrific vineyard just down the road from us in the Chehalem Mountains AVA in 2009. Since we began bottling this wine seven years ago this has been a perennial personal favorite. We love the interaction of the Wadensvil clone with the sandy/rocky marine soils. This is a great combination of sweet, floral red fruit and distinct minerality, which leads to silky texture and dimension. A terrific bottling from this site and a great "crossover" Pinot for those who prefer either the sweet red fruit of the Dundee Hills or the more minerally/earthy wines from Ribbon Ridge. Violet tones, wet rock and spice lay on the outer shell of the currant fruit qualities. The 2016 will balance the de-stemmed and whole cluster aspects at a one to one ratio making for a unique wine that is incredibly elegant, aromatic and suave. This is a high concept, sophisticated Pinot Noir.

## RIBBON RIDGE AVA

**2016 ESTATE VINEYARD, ETZEL BLOCK:** Planted on a north/northwest slope in 1986 this is the second oldest block in the vineyard. It is called the Etzel block since it faces our neighbor's (Mike Etzel) property and we wanted to honor him and his distinct contributions to this particular part of the wine growing region. We have been using elements from both the 1986 Pommard planting and the 2001 Dijon 114 planting since 2014 and it has resulted in strong wines with deep personalities. The younger vines are coming into a fun age where the wines, when done well, have a special, energetic quality. The older Pommard brings that nuanced, earthy, quartz-laced fruit to the table and the two combine in a way that is completely unique. Structured black fruit sets the tone in this wine with a tendency toward the earth driven shades finishing with an aromatic twist that is impossible to resist.

**2016 ESTATE VINEYARD, WADENSVIL BLOCK:** This 3.1 acre block in the very back of the vineyard was planted in 1997. We have long believed that Wadensvil planted in marine

soils produced some of the best wines in the cellar, the only problem is finding it outside of our vineyard. Wadensvil is a little later ripening, a little lighter, more elegant and just plain pretty. When combined with the minerality in marine soils, it blossoms into a stunningly beautiful wine given the right conditions. This wine is incredibly pure and fruit driven with penetrating aromatics. The fruit is sweet in nature, but savory in character with a tremendous balance of acidity and tannins. The inherently structured character of the wine is a true reflection of our estate vineyard. This will be a gorgeous wine for years to come.

## EOLA-AMITY HILLS AVA (ALMOST)

### **2016 FREEDOM HILL VINEYARD, DIJON CLONE**

**115 50% WHOLE CLUSTER PINOT NOIR:** Simply perfect material from the East Liberty Block of the vineyard planted in 2004. From 2012-2014 this was a selection of barrels from 50% whole cluster fermentations. In 2015 we included a small amount of barrels from 100% whole cluster fermentations (which we are doing much more commonly now) and in 2016 there will likely be a relatively equal distribution of 50% and 100% whole cluster fermentation barrels. We are finding that the natural tendency of this block is towards structured and dark-hearted wines. With the increased use of 100% whole cluster fermentations it shows higher-toned tendencies. The flavor profile walks the line between red and black fruits with distinct earth and mineral tones. It is firmly structured, but with incredibly fine, ripe tannins. One of the most suave and interesting wines we produce each year with high praises from the wine writers.

### **2016 FREEDOM HILL VINEYARD, POMMARD CLONE PINOT NOIR:**

This is where our bread is buttered. We work with Pommard clone more than any other clone. There is something to Pommard that makes it not only stand out, but has the capacity to stand on its own as a complete wine. Of the three clonal designated wines we bottle from the site, this one seems to capture what may be the historical view of Freedom Hill Vineyard. This section of the vineyard was re-planted in 2001 and this is the only block of Freedom Hill Vineyard where we do not use any whole clusters in the fermentation. This wine shows savory tones mixed with wild, brambly fruits on the nose and drinks at a high-pitched level with bright, crunchy red fruits, earth-born characteristics and a distinct spicy note on the finish.

# Order Form 2016 Pinot Noir Futures

FUTURES PRICING AVAILABLE THROUGH JUNE 30TH, 2017

	Retail Price	Futures Price		Amount		Total
<b>Dundee Hills AVA</b>						
2016 Balcombe Vineyard, Block 1B - CLUB ONLY	\$60	\$48	x	_____	=	_____
2016 Durant Vineyard, Bishop Block	\$48	\$38	x	_____	=	_____
2016 Weber Vineyard	\$48	\$38	x	_____	=	_____
2016 Mysterious Vineyard	\$100	\$80	x	_____	=	_____
<b>Chehalem Mountains AVA</b>						
2016 Olenik Vineyard, Wadensvil Block	\$48	\$38	x	_____	=	_____
2016 Medici Vineyard	\$48	\$38	x	_____	=	_____
<b>Ribbon Ridge AVA</b>						
2016 Estate Vineyard, Etzel Block	\$60	\$48	x	_____	=	_____
2016 Estate Vineyard, Wadensvil Block	\$48	\$38	x	_____	=	_____
<b>Almost in the Eola-Amity Hills AVA (but not quite)</b>						
2016 Freedom Hill Vineyard, Pommard Clone Block	\$48	\$38	x	_____	=	_____
2016 Freedom Hill Vineyard, Dijon 115 Clone Block	\$48	\$38	x	_____	=	_____
Sub-Total (Minimum 1 case to ship or 6 bottles to pick up)						_____
Case Discount on 12 or more bottles of Pinot Noir ordered by June 30th, 2017					-10%	_____
Total of all Pinot Noir Futures						_____
<b>White</b>						
2016 Sauvignon Blanc, Willamette Valley	\$24		x	_____	=	_____
2016 Sauvignon Blanc, Estate Vineyard	\$29		x	_____	=	_____
2016 Dry Muscat Ottonel, Oak Grove Vineyard	\$18		x	_____	=	_____
Case Discount on 12 or more bottles					-15%	_____
Total of All Wines						_____
Shipping						_____
<b>Total</b>						_____

Ship to: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Type:  VISA  MASTERCARD  DISCOVER  AMEX

Card No. \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ CCV: \_\_\_\_\_

Customer Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ \*\*(required)

Phone: (503) 554-0821 | E-Mail: winery@patriciagreencellars.com

See Reverse Side For WINE CLUB Signup and Large Format Bottle Order Form

**Note on Futures Duration:**

In the past we have run the Futures Program and discount on the barrel wines from the time we released the newsletter until the end of August. Due to the expansion of our mailing list we will only be able to offer the 2016 Futures Pinot Noir at the discounted rate (and it is a serious discount off the retail price) until June 30th. For the vast majority of you this will have no impact at all as you usually order before the end of May. For those of you that are late to the game at times please note this change in our schedule.

# Patricia Green Cellars Wine Club

*(see website for benefits)*

*I Would Like to Receive:*

6 bottles  12 bottles 2x a year

Bill to Address (if different than on front side):

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

## FUTURES PRICING ON LARGE FORMAT BOTTLES

We are happy to be able to offer many of our wines in larger format bottles. Large format bottles are great for cellaring, super for parties and can improve the ageability of a wine dramatically. After June 30th, all remaining large format bottles will be available at retail price. Retail prices are not listed below.

1.5 litre = 2 bottles; 3 litre = 4 bottles; 5 litre = 6.67 bottles

	1.5 litre Price/Amount	3.0 litre Price/Amount	5.0 litre Price /Amount	Total
2016 Balcombe Vineyard, Block 1B	\$99 x _____	\$201 x _____	\$335 x _____	= _____
2016 Mysterious Vineyard	\$163 x _____	\$329 x _____	\$550 x _____	= _____
2016 Durant Vyd, Bishop Block	\$79 x _____	\$161 x _____	\$270 x _____	= _____
2016 Weber Vineyard	\$79 x _____	\$161 x _____	\$270 x _____	= _____
2016 Olenik Vyd, Wadensvil Block	\$79 x _____	\$161 x _____	\$270 x _____	= _____
2016 Medici Vineyard	\$79 x _____	\$161 x _____	\$270 x _____	= _____
2016 Estate Vineyard, Etzel Block	\$99 x _____	\$201 x _____	\$335 x _____	= _____
2016 Estate Vineyard, Wadensvil Block	\$79 x _____	\$161 x _____	\$270 x _____	= _____
2016 Freedom Hill Vyd, Pommard	\$79 x _____	\$161 x _____	\$270 x _____	= _____
2016 Freedom Hill Vyd, Dijon 115	\$79 x _____	\$161 x _____	\$270 x _____	= _____
Sub-Total				_____
Case Discount on 12+ bottles (by volume and combined with 750ML bottles)			-10%	_____
Total Large Format Pinot Noir Futures				_____

*All future pricing is valid through June 30th, 2017.*



## AT THE WINERY

*We are now open 7 days a week by appointment for tastings.*

### PRE-MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

**Friday, May 19th:** 2nd Annual Winemaker Dinner paired with the 2016 Pinot Noir Barrel Futures. A multi-course meal paired with the 2016 barrel samples. Dinner will be prepared by our friends at Art of Catering. This was such a wonderful evening last year, we decided to bring it back. This dinner will be a seated dinner in the cellar with the Winemaker describing in detail the 2016 Pinot Noir Future offerings. \$130/person; Club Members Special Price \$115/person.

### SATURDAY, MAY 20TH; 10:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M. WINE CLUB MEMBERS & MAILING LIST

Once a year, we open our winery doors to let you taste the 2016 Pinot Noir Futures out of barrel. There is no appointment required for this event and this is the best opportunity for club members to bring guests! All club members receive 4 complimentary entries to the event.

### SUNDAY, MAY 21ST: CLUB MEMBERS ONLY

Join us for a special VIP barrel tasting seminar with the winemaker to taste the incredible 2016 vintage. These seminars are to thank you for your support over the years and give you a chance to spend one on one time with the winemakers. There

will be two seminars at 11:00a.m. and 2:00p.m. Due to the popularity of this event, it is limited to members only. Sorry, no club guests. The tastings will be seated, so RSVP is required and seating is limited. Please email Margaret at Margaret@patriciagreencellars.com or call the winery at (503) 554-0821 with your reservation.

### MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

**Saturday-Sunday, May 27th and 28th only!** We will be closed on Monday, May 29th. There will be a tasting fee of \$25 for non-club members. The hours are our standard, opening at 10:00a.m. and closing at 3:00p.m.

### INTERNATIONAL PINOT NOIR CELEBRATION WEEKEND

**Sunday, July 30th:** We are open from 11:00a.m. until 3:00p.m.

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 26TH- WINE CLUB ONLY! SAVE THE DATE

Formal invites will be sent out by the end of May. This is a complimentary pre-harvest celebration.