Forgotten Treasures

The fall is always a double edged sword in the wine industry. The change of the season is beautiful and, of course, it also means the grapes are ready and the winery is on call. This is it: time to make sure that all the growers' hard work invested in the vineyards these last many months is reflected in the new wine. The hard part of this intense focus is that there isn't really a chance to take the time to slow down and enjoy the change of seasons with friends and family. As the kids and I see harvest beginning to slow (Daddy actually came home for dinner this week!), I begin to think that perhaps we might still have an opportunity to celebrate the season. So, while Fred is still busy tending to all those fermenters and making wine, I'm organizing a special library open house in the fall. What? A third event this year at Scherrer Winery? Yes, it's true! So, **mark your calendars for November 22 and 23. We will have an open house of library wines from 10 am – 5 pm each day.**

To provide the background, Fred has a habit of saving small odd lots of wines for various reasons… perhaps a new market to avoid overselling, or better yet, to keep a bit on hand to see how things develop and hopefully offer at a later time. This was easy in the beginning when we only had one wine, but as the years and the number of different bottlings have increased, it isn't quite so simple anymore! We face a similar situation with our wholesale market; multiple brokers and multiple warehouses, tracking of inventory has become quite complex. Needless to say, several things have gotten lost in the shuffle and have been tucked away. Add to that one of our warehouses has kicked out our "low activity" library wines. One of my new jobs has been to get a handle on all of this! The good news is that we have found a nice assortment of odds and ends, tucked away, reserved for some long forgotten reason….

The problem with a large wine library of course is apparent for any of you that have had a chance to see the winery lately; we've run out of room. We have little space for storage and, as much as Fred would like, we don't have extra floor space to store a large library of older wines! As we've been tasting through some of these forgotten treasures ourselves, we've been very excited to see how nicely the wines are aging. So, if we can't keep it ourselves, why not share with our friends?

At the November library open house, we will be pouring selections from the last of the Scherrer Vineyard mini-vertical we offered in the July newsletter. This consisted of a bottle each of 1997-2001 Scherrer Vineyard Chardonnay, 1997-2001 OMV Zinfandel, plus a bottle each of the 1997 and 1999 'Special Cuvée' Zinfandels. There may be a few other interesting bottles open as well. We will also have some of our current releases on hand as we've already heard from a number of people that they couldn't resist themselves, and don't have anything left of their past purchases to cellar (or at least refill their stash).

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Ordering: Not a big deal, just an opportunity to find something special or to replenish your stash of more recent wines. On the library wines, while some are plentiful, others might only be a bottle or two, but worth asking for (the ultimate wish list)! As orders will be taken on a first come, first serve basis, please use credit cards for pre-orders as we can't guarantee any quantities.

A note on 2003: Good news, Fred is ecstatic about the low yielding, yet concentrated expression and balance of the new wines ("It's twue, it's twue!" he shouts from the distance). We didn't know what to expect from the goofy, unusual growing season…but so far, so good!

Thanks for the continued support, you allow Fred to do what he loves to do!

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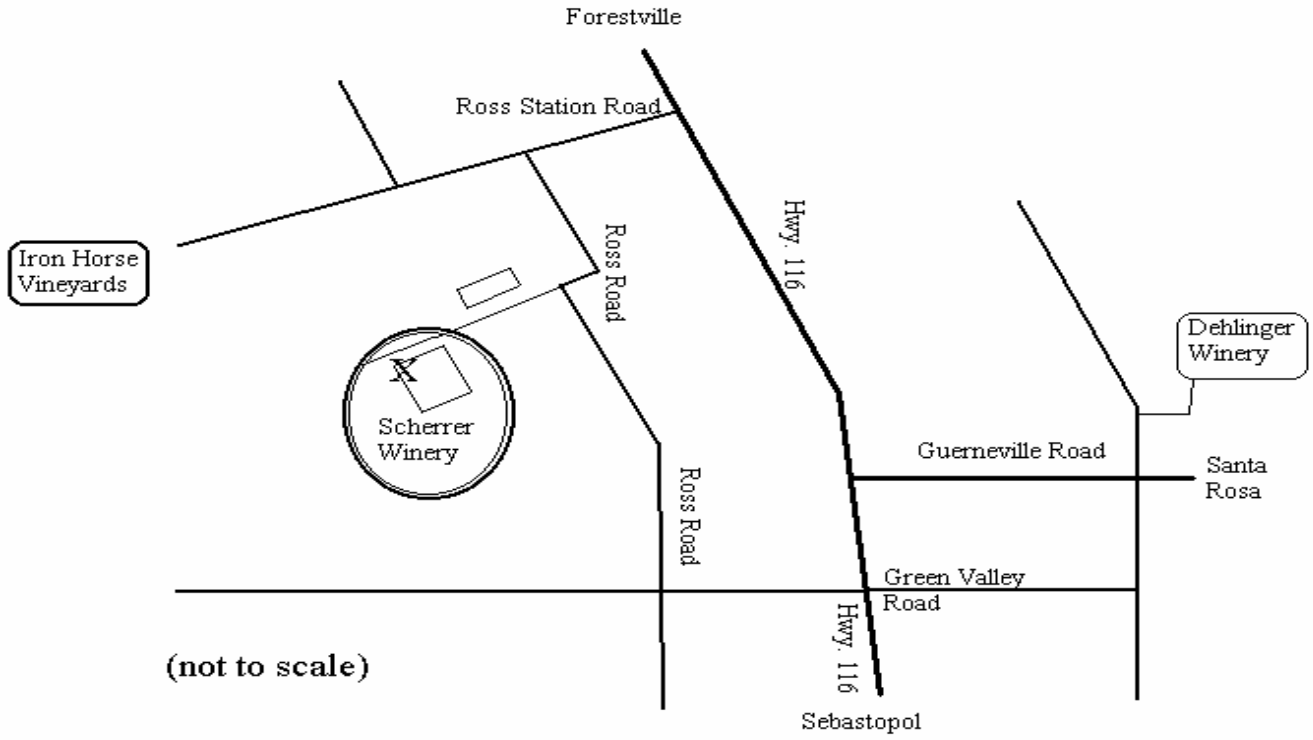
Below is a map of the area local to the winery. It assumes you have navigated as far as Sebastopol or Santa Rosa. This map is not to scale. The winery address is 4940 Ross Road, Sebastopol. If you get lost, the telephone number at the building itself is (707) 824-1933. Please drive slowly down the driveway. Our children (and yours, perhaps) may be playing in the area.