# GRAND TASTEVIN ORDER

March 2008



# A NOTE FROM RICK

IT HAS BEEN A COLD AND WET WINTER so far, both of which are good things for grapevines. The accumulation of salts in the root zone have now been flushed away into the deep subsoil, so we should see healthier vines in the spring. Weather permitting, we will be finished with our pruning at Fe Ciega in a couple of weeks.

We are pleased to send you the first of three GTO shipments this year. For the first time, all GTO shipments in 2008 will include one bottle of a library wine specially chosen from our cellar. The library wine in this first shipment is the 2000 Merlot from Santa Barbara County. This was a monster wine when it was released in 2002, but six additional years have finally turned it into a rich, seductive wine. Also included in this shipment is one bottle of another stellar vintage of our Cuvée Diana Chardonnay. It is essentially the same blend as in the past two vintages, so fans of those wines will not be disappointed. In addition, we are sending two bottles of our 2005

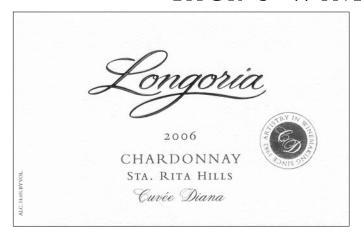
Alisos Vineyard Syrah. I presented this wine at a recent Rhone themed seminar in Taos, New Mexico, along with winemakers from three North Coast wineries. It compared very favorably against one wine in particular from a "cult" producer of Rhone style wines from Sonoma. I was proud to carry the flag for Santa Barbara County "Rhone Rangers."

Please be on the lookout for email messages from us throughout the year which will offer very limited amounts of some of our other library wines, available only to our Wine Club Members.

- Rick Longoria

Wit Conques

# RICK'S WINEMAKER NOTES



#### 2006 CHARDONNAY

Santa Rita Hills - Cuvée Diana

FOR TWO REASONS it is always a pleasure to release our finest blend of Chardonnay from Santa Rita Hills. First, this cuvée demonstrates why we have focused on Chardonnay grapes exclusively from this viticultural appellation for almost twenty years. Secondly, it gives me the opportunity to honor my wife, Diana, who continues to work tirelessly to make our business run as smoothly as possible.

This vintage of Cuvée Diana reflects the exceptionally long growing season we experienced. The grapes from Sanford & Benedict Vineyard were harvested just one day shy of November, while those from Sweeney Canyon Vineyard were harvested on October 22nd. Both lots were whole-cluster pressed and transferred to French oak barrels for fermentation and aging. I reduced the new oak component to around 28% to further emphasize the great character of the grape and the vineyard sites on which they were grown. The wine was barrel aged three months longer than in past years before being blended and bottled in December 2007.

The wine has subtle aromas of poached pears and brown spices with a hint of butterscotch. On the palate the wine exhibits butterscotch flavors with a burst of oily texture. It has a long finish that leaves a very satisfying taste and feel in the mouth. This is a wine with finesse, elegance, complex flavors and texture.

Enjoy this wine with white fish encrusted with pine nuts served with a beurre blanc sauce.

**COMPOSITION:** 100% Chardonnay

**VINEYARD SOURCE:** 

Sanford & Benedict Vineyard (62%) Sweeney Canyon Vineyard (38%)

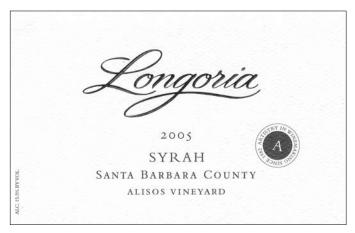
**PRODUCTION:** 170 cases **ALCOHOL BY VOLUME:** 14.6%

**pH:** 3.27

TITRATABLE ACIDITY: 0.85 g/100 ml.

**CELLARING POTENTIAL:** Three to four years

**BOTTLE PRICE:** \$40.00



#### **2005 SYRAH**

Santa Barbara County - Alisos Vineyard

OUR SYRAH FROM ALISOS VINEYARD might be described as "steady as a rock" each year. Loren Colahan, vineyard manager at Alisos Vineyard, produces consistently superior grapes each year and with our consistent handling of them the wine turns out, well, consistently great!

The grapes were harvested on October 14th at a ripe 26.3 Brix sugar level. The grapes were 100% destemmed, crushed into several small open top fermenters and pressed off two weeks later. Aging took place in all French oak barrels of which just 20% were new. The wine was bottled in April 2007.

The wine exhibits the typical dark color of Alisos Syrah. It has beautiful forward aromas of black cherries with a hint of molasses in the background. On the palate the wine is medium to full bodied with round flavors of berries and spices. There is a hint of black pepper in the finish which is the vineyard characteristic I have come to prize in this wine. This 2005 version of Alisos Syrah has some youthful dusty tannins in the mid palate which will soften with at least a year or two of bottle aging.

The power of this wine, coupled with its flavor profile, makes it a perfect accompaniment to lamb and flavorful beef dishes.

COMPOSITION: 100% Syrah

**VINEYARD SOURCE:** Alisos Vineyard

**PRODUCTION:** 198 cases

**ALCOHOL BY VOLUME: 15.5%** 

**pH:** 3.53

TITRATABLE ACIDITY: 0.68 g/100 ml.

**CELLARING POTENTIAL:** Five to seven years

**BOTTLE PRICE: \$38.00** 

### Reminder

GTO Members will have 30 days after receiving their shipment to order any of these wines. Any remaining wine will then become available to the main Club. Only 3 cases of the 2000 Merlot will be available for purchase.

Grand Tastevin Order March 2008

# LIBRARY RELEASE



#### **2000 MERLOT**

Santa Barbara County

THIS IS THE FIRST OF THREE library selections that will be sent out to our GTO members this year. As many of you know, one of the trademarks of our wines is that they have the rare ability to improve with extended bottle aging. Though this is a claim often touted by many wineries, we are truly excited to offer these wines to substantiate our claim. To quote from my original notes written in 2003, "The wine has beautiful aromas of black cherries and sweet tobacco with a hint of toasted oak in the background. On the palate the wine is immediately soft with full flavors of berries and cream, followed by moderate acidity. This wine will benefit from another six to eight years of bottle aging to smooth it out even more. Serve with grilled lamb, ribs and other seasoned meats."

This description of the wine still applies today. The fresh fruit characters have evolved into complex aromas and flavors of leather and sweet cherry tobacco. The wine has developed the character that red wine achieves from extended bottle aging. My estimate of holding it until 2009 through 2011 also has held true.

This was the last Merlot bottled by our winery, with the exception of a 2000 Merlot, Lot II, which was composed of lesser lots and was released this past year.

We feel that the price we have set for this wine is very reasonable given the quality you will experience and the length of time we have aged it in our cellar.

**COMPOSITION: 100% Merlot** 

**VINEYARD SOURCE:** 

Westerly Vineyard (62%) Alisos Vineyard (38%)

PRODUCTION: 375 cases (original release, 3 cases remain)

ALCOHOL BY VOLUME: 14.5%

**pH:** 3.61

TITRATABLE ACIDITY: 0.63 g/100 ml.

**CELLARING POTENTIAL:** Three to six more years

**BOTTLE PRICE:** \$46.00

# UPCOMING EVENTS

# Santa Barbara County Vintners' Festival River Park, Lompoc - Saturday, April 19

The 2008 Vintners' Festival will be held from 1 to 4pm on April 19th, 2008 and will once again be celebrated at River Park in Lompoc. The festival will feature the wines of the 100+ members of the Association, live music, a silent auction and wine country cuisine by the area's finest chefs. For more information go to: www.sbcountywines.com or call: 805-688-0881.

# Longoria Production Facility Open House 1700 Industrial Way, Unit A, Lompoc -Saturday & Sunday, April 19th & 20th

Our winery, which is normally closed to the public, will be open this weekend only from 11 to 4:30pm. Light hors d'eouvres and our newest releases will be available for tasting. Tasting fee: \$10 per person, including logo wine glass. Free for Wine Club Members.

## Longoria Winemaker Dinner at The Ballard Inn Restaurant 2436 Baseline Ave, Ballard, CA - Saturday, April 19th

7pm. Very limited, only 40 seats available. Please call The Ballard Inn Restaurant for reservations and more information: 805-688-7770.

## Grand Tastevin Order Members Only BBQ and Barrel Tasting 1700 Industrial Way, Unit A, Lompoc - Saturday, May 17th

Taste samples straight from the barrel with Rick and Diana at our Production Facility in the "Wine Ghetto" in Lompoc. Our complimentary BBQ and tasting is from 1 to 4pm. Grand Tastevin Members only, please no guests. RSVP by May 12th to *info@longoriawine.com* or by calling us at 866-759-4637.

# Wine Club Members Only Open House, Los Olivos - Saturday, June 7th

Celebrate Fe Ciega Vineyard's ten year anniversary and taste all six vintages. We will also have hors d'eouvres, entertainment and some specially priced wines available, all at the Longoria Tasting Room and Garden in Los Olivos. Stop by anytime between 12 and 4pm. Wine Club Members may bring 2 guests. No charge. Additional discounts available for Club Members only. Please RSVP by June 1st to <code>info@longoriawine.com</code> or by calling us at 866-759-4637.

# Grand Tastevin Order March 2008 Order Form

Order online today at www.longoriawine.com, email info@longoriawine.com, fax 805-688-2676, or phone 866-RLWINES to purchase Longoria wines.

This shipment contains two bottles of the 2005 Syrah, Alisos Vineyard, one bottle of the 2006 Chardonnay, Cuvee Diana and one bottle of the 2000 Merlot, Santa Barbara County. The total cost for this shipment is \$163.46, inclusive of 15% discount, packaging, shipping and sales tax, when applicable.

15% DISCOUNT

\$34.00

20% DISCOUNT

\$32.00

\$30.40

20% DISCOUNT

\$36.80

20% DISCOUNT

\$20.80 \$22.40 \$33.60 \$36.00 \$25.60 \$30.40 \$25.60 \$22.40 \$33.60 \$32.00 \$17.60 QTY

QTY

QTY

**AMOUNT** 

**AMOUNT** 

**AMOUNT** 

**AMOUNT** 

**BOTTLE PRICE** 

\$40.00

2005 Syrah, Alisos Vineyard	\$38.00	\$32.30
LIBRARY RELEASE	BOTTLE PRICE	15% DISCOUNT
2000 Merlot, Santa Barbara County	\$46.00	\$39.10
CURRENT RELEASES	BOTTLE PRICE	15% DISCOUNT
2006 Albariño, Clover Creek Vineyard	\$26.00	\$22.10
2006 Chardonnay, Santa Rita Hills	\$28.00	\$23.80
2005 Pinot Noir, Sanford & Benedict Vineyard	\$42.00	\$35.70
2005 Pinot Noir, Rancho Santa Rosa Vineyard	\$45.00	\$38.25
2006 Pinot Noir, Santa Barbara County	\$32.00	\$27.20
2004 Syrah, Alisos Vineyard	\$38.00	\$32.30
2005 Syrah, Clover Creek Vineyard	\$32.00	\$27.20
2005 Blues Cuvée, Santa Barbara County	\$28.00	\$23.80
2005 Evidence, Santa Barbara County	\$42.00	\$35.70
2005 Tempranillo, Clover Creek Vineyard	\$40.00	\$34.00
2005 Syrah, Vino Dulce Port-Style Wine (375 ml)	\$22.00	\$18.70
Blues Cuvée Litho (unsigned) \$15.00 / \$12.75 WINE Kuder (93/94)Burridge (95/96)Walsh(93)  Blues Cuvée Litho (signed) \$35.00 / \$29.75 WINE Cl Kuder (93/94)Burridge (95/96)Walsh(93)	7/98)Jaress (99/0 L <b>UB</b>	
WINE CLUB MEMBE 15% ON 1-11 BOTTLES; 20% ON CREDIT CARD: UVISA	12 BOTTLES OR	
CARD NUMBER:	EXP. DATE:	
NAME ON CARD:	SIGNATURE:	
(Must be 21 years of age)  BILL TO: NAME: MAILING ADDRESS:		
CITY:EMAIL ADDRESS:		
EMAIL ADDRESS:		
SHIP TO: (If different than above)		
NAME:C	OMPANY:	
SHIPPING ADDRESS:		
CITY: STATE:		
DAYTIME PHONE: ( )		
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**NEW RELEASES** 

2006 Chardonnay, Cuvée Diana

/02)Seco (03/04)Jones (05/06)
SUBTOTAL
DISCOUNT
CA SHIPPING & PKG
7.75% CA SALES TAX
TOTAL

#### **CALIFORNIA SHIPPING RATES**

\_Seco (03/04) \_\_\_\_Jones (05/06)

2 btls \$10.00; 4 btls \$14.00 6 btls \$16.00; 12 btls \$22.00 Lithograph/Poster \$5.00

Please call for out-of-state and expedited rates

#### **REMIT TO: LONGORIA WINES**

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