



# Testarossa Vineyards

LOS GATOS • CALIFORNIA

*“Passion in Every Glass!”*

testarossa.com

Harvest Edition 2005



*2005 Testarossa Wine Cruise*

## Harvest is in the Air!

When we were kids growing up in California, we often had mixed feelings about those first cool, crisp mornings of fall, because they were the harbinger of the end of summer vacation. Now, as vintners, these cool early mornings indicate that harvest – the most exciting and magical time of the year at the winery – is about to arrive. Harvest is the once-a-year opportunity to focus our collective experience, expertise, planning and preparation into making the most amazing wines possible.

As part of making each vintage better and better, we are always seeking new superlative quality vineyard partners. Some of our new vineyards are quite old, like the Santa Rita Hills appellation's Sanford & Benedict Vineyard planted in 1971. In October, at our Club Testarossa Pinot Noir Barrel Sampling event, 50 lucky Club members will get the opportunity to barrel taste Testarossa's 2004 Pinot Noirs, including four brand new Pinots that we will be releasing for the first time in 2006.

This fall also marks the second anniversary of the opening of our Tasting Room. We opened our doors to the public for the first time the

day after Thanksgiving in 2003, and we have been open 11am to 5pm daily ever since. In this short two-year period, Testarossa's Tasting Room has become so popular that we were just named 2005 Reader's Choice "Best Winery" by *The Wave Magazine*. Additionally, because of the popularity of Testarossa's Tasting Room, we were named Los Gatos Chamber of Commerce's "2005 Business of the Year." This success is due to Dana Sheldon and her dedicated and talented staff who are always coming up with fun new ideas for Club Testarossa, the Tasting Room and the Events Center.

If you want a truly unique place to hold a special event, meeting, wedding, or holiday party, then take a step back in time and consider Testarossa Vineyards at the historic 19<sup>th</sup> century Novitiate Winery as your unequalled location for charm, history and fine wines. Inside you will read about our new Wine & Cheese Pairing Package – a creative option for your special event!

A special thanks goes out to the 30 people who joined us for a fabulous Testarossa Vineyards winemaker cruise in July aboard Silversea Cruises. We took our kids, Nick and Claire, and before the cruise we visited the family that hosted Rob as a student in Assisi, located in the Italian Province of Umbria. Nick and Claire loved the old hill town, especially the old castle above the town that is the namesake of Testarossa's Castello Chardonnay.

As always, please accept our most sincere thanks for all your support and for telling your friends, colleagues, local restaurants and fine wine shops about Testarossa!

—Rob & Diana Jensen  
Proprietors

## Harvest 2005 Release Party

Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup>  
11am to 5pm

Join us on Sunday, September 25, 2005 for our Harvest Release Party! Enjoy our New & Future releases as well as food samples from local restaurants such as Le Papillon, Los Gatos Brewing Co./A.P. Stump's, Crimson and more.

Tickets are \$40 each and are available on our website. At least two free tickets are available for all Club Testarossa members. Platinum, Gold, and Silver customers are also eligible for complimentary and discounted tickets. Your customer level is printed on your order form.

All Release Party details and pricing are available at [testarossa.com/calendar](http://testarossa.com/calendar). (Note: Tasting stops promptly at 4:30pm.)

**September 19<sup>th</sup> is the last day to order tickets or to request your free tickets. Tickets will not be available at the door the day of the event. We always sell out, so get your tickets early!**

**Contact us at (408) 354-6150 x33 or [rsvp@testarossa.com](mailto:rsvp@testarossa.com)**





## Spring 2006 Futures

Last chance to buy futures

The 2004 vintage is already showing great promise, and these wines are guaranteed to not disappoint. Most of these wines are made in very small quantities, and this is the last chance you will have to buy Testarossa wines on futures, so please don't miss this opportunity!

Available as Futures through September 30, 2005:

Chardonnay:

- 2004 Castello Chardonnay, 1634 cases
- 2004 Rosella's Vineyard, 174 cases
- 2004 Sanford & Benedict Vineyard, 352 cases

Pinot Noir:

- 2004 Palazzio Pinot Noir, 2296 cases
- 2004 Rosella's Vineyard, 350 cases est.
- 2004 Sanford & Benedict Vineyard, 450 cases est.

## Fall 2005 New Releases

Our best and rarest wines

Fall is always a fun time of year, not only because it is harvest time, but because it is when we release our reserve wines – Diana's Reserve Chardonnay and Cuvee NiClaire Pinot Noir. We hand-select seven to ten of the very best barrels in the cellars for each of these two special wines, named respectively after Testarossa co-founder Diana Jensen and the Jensen's children, Nick and Claire. After exhaustive blending trials and analysis, the final cuvees are bottled. To make these wines even more special, a new bottle and label are being introduced with this vintage.

New releases:

Chardonnay:

- 2003 Diana's Reserve, 204 cases
- 90pts Wine Spectator*

Pinot Noir:

- 2003 Pisoni Vineyard (*Sold Out*)
- 2003 Cuvee NiClaire, 187 cases

Syrah:

- 2003 Garys' Vineyard, 258 cases

Note: Club Testarossa shipments will include all Testarossa wines except Cuvee NiClaire, Castello, and Palazzio. **Club Members must order these wines separately.** The Club schedule is available at [testarossa.com/clubtestarossa](http://testarossa.com/clubtestarossa).

## Last Call for Futures

Testarossa simplifies buying options by discontinuing Futures in 2006

About the only complaint we get from our customers is that there are simply too many confusing options for buying Testarossa wines. Two years ago, at the request of many long-time customers, we started our wine club, Club Testarossa. Club Testarossa quickly became our customers' favorite way to ensure that they don't miss out on any of our most rare bottlings. Club Members also receive a 20% discount on all wine purchases.

Since Club Testarossa and our Futures program significantly overlap – both options ensure first availability of our rarest wines at discounted prices – we have decided to simplify things by dropping our Futures program. Consequently, this Spring 2006 Futures offering will be our last. Next year, our newsletters will include just one order form that will offer new releases available at that time. Of course, you can always purchase your favorite Testarossa wines in our tasting room, online at [testarossa.com](http://testarossa.com), by phone at 408-354-6150, or in your favorite fine wine shop.

We sincerely thank those of you who have taken advantage of our Futures program in the past. If you are not yet a member of Club Testarossa, please consider joining, and you will receive the many benefits that over 1,000 Club Testarossa members are currently enjoying: members-only events, special tasting room pours and a higher discount than was previously offered through Futures.

Learn more about the benefits of Club Testarossa at [testarossa.com/clubtestarossa](http://testarossa.com/clubtestarossa). You can join online or give us a call at 408-354-6150 x22.

Already a  
Club Testarossa  
Member?

Refer a friend to  
Club Testarossa and  
receive a free gift!



## Rack 'n' Roll

by Bill Brosseau, Winemaker

### "Choosing a Vineyard"

As harvest draws near, I am often asked, "How do you select such high-quality vineyards?" My answer is clear – find passionate growers in proven regions or let those passionate growers in proven regions find us.

For instance, last year we purchased Pinot Noir and Chardonnay from Sanford & Benedict Vineyard in the Santa Rita Hills. This vineyard has been a source of high quality fruit for many high-end wineries for over 30 years. The vineyard owner had pursued us for over three years, trying to sell us fruit. His passion to produce the highest quality wine led us to forge a relationship that will last for many years to come. It also didn't hurt that the vineyard has a solid history of quality wines that all of us have enjoyed.

On the other hand, when we find ourselves hunting high-quality fruit, we leave no stone unturned. Part of this requires hitting the vineyard trail, but most importantly, we talk to our growers, their friends, other wineries, and our distributors. We also taste wine samples from the vineyard of interest. If the site is not in production yet, then we try to find a vineyard close by and hunt down barrel samples.

Lastly, if the background check is sound, we will visit the vineyard. It doesn't take long to establish whether a vineyard site will meet our demanding expectations. I evaluate the slope, aspect, trellis design, management techniques, soil, and microclimate.

*See "Rack 'n' Roll," back page*



## Club Testarossa Corner

An Afternoon of Pinot Noir  
Barrel Sampling  
Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2-5pm

I hope everyone has had a great summer. I know I enjoyed meeting our Club members at our first annual Summer Barbecue. Despite the heat, we all had a fun afternoon.

This fall, we have decided to repeat a favorite Club event – our Pinot Noir Barrel Sampling. Please join us in October as we taste all of our 2004 Pinot Noirs. Be the first to try our four new single-vineyard Pinot Noirs that will be released to the Club next year.

Rob and Diana will personally lead you through two different flights highlighting Testarossa Pinot Noirs from Monterey County, Santa Barbara County, Santa Cruz County and Sonoma County. This event is limited to 50 Club Testarossa Members and their guests. Our reservation deadline is October 24, 2005. I hope to see you there!

Member pricing and allocation of tickets:

Platinum: \$40.00/person, 12 tickets  
Gold: \$45.00/person, 6 tickets  
Silver: \$47.50/person, 4 tickets  
Copper: \$50.00/person, 2 tickets

For reservations or more information, you can reach me at 408-354-6150 x22 or [clubt@testarossa.com](mailto:clubt@testarossa.com).

Dana Sheldon  
Hospitality Manager



*Club Testarossa Summer Barbecue  
June 2005*



## Step Back in Time

**Testarossa Vineyards is the ideal venue for your Holiday Party!**

Experience the history. Savor award-winning wine. Celebrate the holiday season in style! Only half a mile from downtown Los Gatos, Testarossa Vineyards offers all the elegance, charm and amenities that you desire for your holiday party.

We can accommodate groups from 15 to 250. For pricing and photos, please visit [testarossa.com/events](http://testarossa.com/events)

## New Event Package: Wine & Cheese Pairing

We are excited to introduce our new Wine & Cheese Pairing Package, specially designed for groups of 15 to 75. Professionally presented and paired, a variety of gourmet cheeses and trimmings are matched with five of our award-winning wines. Prices range from \$30 to \$50 per person.

For more information, please call our Events Department at (408) 354-6150 x12 or email [events@testarossa.com](mailto:events@testarossa.com)

## Upcoming Events



9/4, 1-4pm: Music on the Patio, Testarossa Vineyards, Music by: Jack Raymond & Rock Hendricks

9/21-9/25: Santa Fe Wine & Chile Fiesta, Santa Fe, NM. [santafewineandchile.org](http://santafewineandchile.org)

9/25, 11am-5pm: Testarossa Harvest 2005 Release Party, Los Gatos, CA. 408-354-6150 x33, [testarossa.com](http://testarossa.com)

10/21, 6:30pm: Testarossa Food and Wine Pairing with Diana Jensen & Mia Chambers (Draeger's Cooking School Executive Chef), Draeger's, Menlo Park, CA. \$50 per person. [draegers.com](http://draegers.com)

10/28-10/30: Pinot on the River, Sonoma Artisans Wine Center, Forestville, CA. [pinotfestival.com](http://pinotfestival.com)

10/30, 2-5pm: Club Testarossa Pinot Noir Barrel Sampling, Testarossa Vineyards. 408-354-6150 x22, [clubt@testarossa.com](mailto:clubt@testarossa.com), [testarossa.com](http://testarossa.com)

11/13, 5-8pm: Vintners in Paradise, Renaissance Ilikai Waikiki Hotel, Honolulu, HI. A fundraiser for PBS Hawaii.

11/19, 11am-5pm: Santa Cruz Mountains Winegrowers' Association Passport Weekend, Purchase passports at Testarossa Vineyards, 408-354-6150 x21, [testarossa.com](http://testarossa.com)

11/19, 3-6pm: Pinotfest 2005, Farallon Restaurant, San Francisco, CA. [farallonrestaurant.com/pinotfest.html](http://farallonrestaurant.com/pinotfest.html)

12/4: Holiday Celebration at Testarossa Vineyards. Save the date! Details to be announced at [testarossa.com/calendar](http://testarossa.com/calendar)

1/21/2006, 11am-5pm: Santa Cruz Mountains Winegrowers' Association Passport Weekend, Purchase passports at Testarossa Vineyards, 408-354-6150 x21, [testarossa.com](http://testarossa.com)

For more information, visit our full event calendar at: [testarossa.com/calendar](http://testarossa.com/calendar)



## Exciting New Vineyard Additions

We wanted to leave you with a teaser about some of the new vineyards we have on the horizon. Some of these new wines have already been bottled, while others will be brand new for Testarossa in 2005.

The benefit of our Los Gatos location is that we are equally close to the very best Pinot Noir, Chardonnay and Syrah growing areas in California. So, look for future bottlings of Pinot Noir from the Graham, La Cruz, Sanford & Benedict, and Schultze Family Vineyards. We have new Syrah coming from Sapphire Hill and the Thompson Vineyards and new Chardonnay from the Sanford & Benedict and Sapphire Hill Vineyards!



*Our Production Manager Patrick Lorian and Winemaker Bill Brosseau visiting Sapphire Hills Vineyard in April 2005*

### *Rack 'n' Roll – continued from page 2*

When we find a vineyard that meets our very high expectations, we purchase the grapes on a one-year contract, and we vinify them at the winery to evaluate their performance in the cellar. If the wine meets our quality parameters of intensity, distinctiveness and concentration, then we will consider it for a single-vineyard bottling. If not, we have a saying: "When in doubt, bulk it out!"

## Keeping in Touch

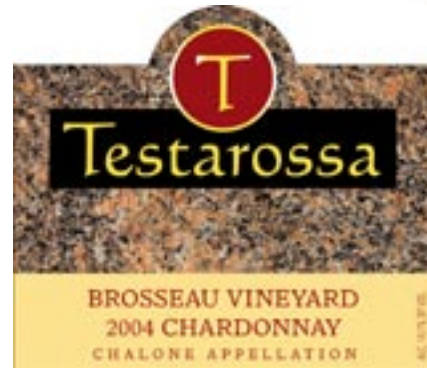
If we haven't heard from you in the last two years...

Starting with this offering, we are adding a note to the order forms of customers that we haven't heard from in the last two years. If the note on your form says, "**Please contact us or place an order if you want to receive future offers,**" then this will be your last newsletter and offering from us unless we hear from you.

If you want to stay on our mailing list, placing an order will automatically reset your account. You can also contact us and let us know if you would prefer to receive our newsletter and offerings via email.

You're always welcome to visit us online, where you can order wine, read our newsletters, or check the calendar to see what we're up to.

Feel free to contact us at 408-354-6150 x10 or [wine@testarossa.com](mailto:wine@testarossa.com).



## 2004 Chardonnays Sport New Label

Earlier this year we started shipping our single-vineyard Pinot Noirs with a fresh new label design incorporating a "rossa" red background at the bottom of the label, replacing the old white band we had used for over ten years.

To complement the new red wine labels, we are introducing a new Chardonnay label which has a Chardonnay-straw colored band at the bottom of the label. We have also changed the capsule color to match this new straw band, making it easier for you to pick the right Testarossa wine (red or white) out of your wine cellar racks. See the first Chardonnays sporting the new labels at our upcoming Release Party.

Testarossa's Tasting Room is open 11am-5pm daily. We also have picnic tables available!

### Testarossa's Quality Guarantee

If you don't love it, we'll make it right! For details, visit [testarossa.com](http://testarossa.com)

## Testarossa Vineyards

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