



Testarossa Vineyards

LOS GATOS • CALIFORNIA

“Passion in Every Glass!”

testarossa.com

Summer Edition 2005



Welcome Summer Sunshine!

We have had record amounts of rainfall here in California this winter and are sooo happy to welcome summer! Many people have asked us if all this rain is good, bad or indifferent for the vines. The answer is “yes” to all three.

The rain is good because cover crops in the vineyard grow strong, providing an extra boost of green compost to the soil when they are mowed later in the spring. The rain is also good in that it fills reservoirs and underground aquifers that are tapped for irrigation later during our dry summers.

Record rainfall can be very bad when it dumps all at once causing erosion in the vineyards. Fortunately, our vineyards had very little erosion this winter. Rain late in the spring season can also be bad if a substantial amount falls after bud-break or if it disrupts flowering. If the soil is muddy, tractors have a very difficult time getting through the vineyards to apply sprays necessary to prevent powdery mildew. Every year, we take what Mother Nature gives us, and we focus on creating distinct wines that reflect the uniqueness of each and every vintage.

Summer is also the time to get outdoors, ride your bike (or watch a bike race), take your mother to brunch, enjoy a picnic, listen to some live music, try new wines, and dig out some old favorites from the cellar to see how they are improving.

It has now been over a year and a half since our Tasting Room and Events Center opened in November 2003, and the winery has become a constant hotbed of activity. Lots of new events are slated for the winery and surrounding town of Los Gatos. The big event of the season will be our May 22nd Release Party. These always sell out, so get your tickets early!

As always, everyone in the Testarossa Vineyards family sincerely thanks you for bringing to your dinner table the passion and dedication we put into each and every bottle.

—Rob & Diana Jensen
Proprietors

Fall 2005 Release Party May 22nd 11am to 5pm

Come taste our new 2005 Summer Releases and Fall Futures at our 19th century historic winery just outside of downtown Los Gatos!

You will find details, directions and tickets at testarossa.com.

It's time for our Fall 2005 Futures

See inside!

Wine + Music = Romance

Summer Music Series Starts May 1st

We've added something new for you this summer! Starting May 1st, you can spend the first Sunday of each month at Testarossa enjoying music on the patio from 1-4pm.

Bring a picnic lunch, round up some friends, and come enjoy the ambiance of the winery, live music on the deck, and a bottle of Testarossa wine.

The series runs through September 4th. Club Testarossa Members may call 408-354-6150 x22 to reserve a picnic table.



Villa del Sol performs May 1st at Testarossa

For a complete list of dates and musicians, visit testarossa.com/calendar. Non-Testarossa alcoholic beverages are not permitted.



Fall 2005 Futures

Order early because
these won't last!

When we were a small unknown winery, it was a big challenge to sell 900 cases a year. Now our biggest problem is apologizing to all the people who call expressing disappointment that their favorite Testarossa bottling is sold out.

Our Fall Release is loaded with our most popular bottlings, which are also made in the smallest quantities. We expect most, if not all, of these Fall Futures to sell out *before* they are officially released on September 1st.

Available as Futures through May 31, 2005:

Chardonnay:

2003 Diana's Reserve, 204 cases

Pinot Noirs:

2003 Pisoni Vineyard, 228 cases

2003 Cuvee NiClaire, 187 cases

Syrah:

2003 Garys' Vineyard, 260 cases est.

Note: Club Testarossa shipments for 2005 will include most of the wines listed above. For a shipment schedule, please visit testarossa.com/clubtestarossa.

Summer 2005 New Releases

Why not try them all?

Trying to pick a favorite among our Single-Vineyard Summer Releases is like trying to pick your favorite flavor of Ben & Jerry's ice cream – they are all so good it's impossible to choose.

Add to the mix that our 2003 Castello Chardonnay and our 2003 Palazzio Pinot Noir just received their best reviews ever from *Connoisseurs' Guide to California Wine*, and making a choice just got even harder!

New releases now available:

Chardonnays:

2003 Brosseau Vineyard, 445 cases

2003 Sleepy Hollow Vineyard, 465 cases

Pinot Noirs:

2003 Brosseau Vineyard, 187 cases

2003 Garys' Vineyard, 608 cases

2003 Sleepy Hollow Vineyard, 633 cases

Vintage Testarossa

“Sleepy Hollow Dreams” – Notes from the Cellar of David Markus

The '99 vintage of this Pinot stole my heart at release and has beautifully evolved into a treasure as it sadly disappears from my cellar. The '99 is a huge wine with dense forward fruit and a luscious berry smokiness that truly lingers. Shortly after the '99 was sold out, I sweet-talked a Testarossa staff member into divulging a list of retailers and commenced on a journey which netted me two more cases — at full retail! Oh how I miss that dotcom bubble.

This is a new feature of our newsletter. Submit your own tasting notes (50 words or less) on one of your favorite older Testarossa wines by emailing us at wine@testarossa.com.

Summer 2005 Release Party

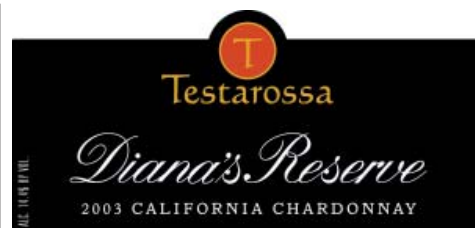
Sunday, May 22nd, 11am to 5pm

Join us on Sunday, May 22, 2005 for our next Release Party in our 19th-century tasting room. Enjoy our New & Future releases as well as food samples from several local restaurants.

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.

May 18th 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 x32 or rsvp@testarossa.com.



New Labels and a New Name

Diana's Reserve
Chardonnay Debuts

By now you all know the story of how Rob got the nickname “Testarossa” (Italian for red-head) and why we call our reserve Pinot Noir Cuvee NiClaire (named after Rob and Diana's children Nick and Claire). What has been missing for too long is a wine named after Testarossa cofounder, Diana Jensen.

Rob has been after Diana for years to let him name our Reserve Chardonnay after her, but she always resisted the spotlight. With our new label design for the 2003 wines, she finally gave in. Thus, the Diana's Reserve Chardonnay was born (formerly known as Signature Reserve). Our new reserve labels have been best described as an elegant woman wearing a simple black dress and a string of white pearls. This elegance is reflected in both the 2003 Diana's Reserve Chardonnay, and its namesake, our Diana.

Keeping in Touch

Paper or Electronic?

With so much going on here at the winery these days, we are always excited to share updates and events with you. Unfortunately, some of you have moved or changed your email addresses without letting us know.

You are very important to us, and we don't want to lose touch with you. Please drop us an email at wine@testarossa.com and let us know where to find you.

Also, in an effort to respect our natural resources, we are pleased to offer you an email-only option. **If you would prefer to receive your newsletters and order forms via email, please let us know!**



Rack 'n' Roll

by Bill Brosseau, Winemaker

“To Blend or Not to Blend”

While our wine rests quietly in barrel, we are in the planning stages for blending. Blending is the art of combining different barrels and different fruit sources to create optimal wine quality. With a total of 450 barrels in the cellar, we enjoy nearly infinite blending possibilities. No two barrels taste exactly the same, no matter how we craft them.

At most wineries, blending is done early in the winemaking process to make cellar procedures easier. At Testarossa, we blend our wines just before bottling for maximum flexibility and highest wine quality.

As we taste through barrels in the cellar, we rank them. Barrels that display completeness, roundness, and full intensity within a vineyard source are marked for single-vineyard blends. Within these barrels, the top selections which show enhanced ageability are set aside for Diana's Reserve or Cuvee Niclair blends.

On the other hand, barrels that exhibit positive traits but are not complete wines on their own are selected for Castello or Palazzio bottlings. For instance, if a particular barrel exhibited a strong oak influence, it might overwhelm the single-vineyard wine. Also, as we taste barrels marked for Castello or Palazzio, we may find them lacking a strong oak influence while offering a good flavor or aroma.

Lastly, if any barrels fail to excite us as a single-vineyard or as a blending component, it is likely that this wine will be sold off in bulk. This is a costly and painful task but essential to making our quality wines.

Club Testarossa Corner Summer Barbecue Saturday, June 11, 1-4pm

It has been such a pleasure meeting everyone at our Club Testarossa events. Both barrel samplings were really a lot of fun.

We're planning something less formal for you this summer. Club Testarossa Members are invited to a members-only barbecue with the Testarossa family. Join us on the patio for a casual barbecue, music, and wine. Club Members are also encouraged to bring family and friends.

Member pricing:

Platinum:	\$20.00/person + tax
Gold:	\$21.25/person + tax
Silver:	\$22.50/person + tax
Copper:	\$25.00/person + tax

Space is limited, so make your reservations early. You can reach me at 408-354-6150 x22 or clubt@testarossa.com.

I hope to see you there!

Dana Sheldon
Club Testarossa Manager

Stay tuned for more information on a Fall Club Testarossa Food & Wine Pairing Event!



Featuring Testarossa On the Bay Area's NBC11 May 8th at 6:30pm

In Wine Country, the Bay Area's most popular show featuring wine country living will air a feature on Testarossa Vineyards and the old Novitiate winery on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8th at 6:30pm. Host Mary Babbitt interviews Rob and Diana and strolls through the now fallow "ghost" vines on the hill right above downtown Los Gatos. If you don't get NBC11, don't worry, we will post a link to it on our website later in May.

Upcoming Events



5/1, 1-4pm: Music on the Patio, Testarossa Vineyards, Music by: Villa Del Sol

5/1, 1-5pm: Rivers of Chocolate, Mountain Winery, Saratoga, CA. riversofchocolate.org

5/7, 10am-5pm: Testarossa Vineyards Cat's Hill Classic Bicycle Race, Los Gatos, catshill.org

5/8, 10am or 12:30pm: Mother's Day Brunch at Testarossa Vineyards, Los Gatos, CA, \$31.95-\$69.95. 408-354-6150 x12, testarossa.com

5/8, 6:30pm: Television Feature: In Wine Country on Bay Area NBC11

5/22, 11am-5pm: Testarossa Summer Release Party, Los Gatos, CA. 408-354-6150 x32, testarossa.com

6/4-6/5, 11am-5pm: Santa Cruz Mountains Winegrowers' Association Vintner's Festival, Testarossa Vineyards, Los Gatos, \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door, 831-479-9463

6/5, 1-4pm: Music on the Patio: Jack Raymond & Rock Hendricks, Testarossa Vineyards

6/24-6/26: Pinot Days, Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA. pinotdays.com

7/3, 1-4pm: Music on the Patio, Testarossa Vineyards, Music by: Jim Stevenson & Friends

7/8-7/15: Wine & Food Mediterranean Cruise with Rob & Diana Jensen, Rome to Monte Carlo. 800-304-6838, mmtravel.net

7/10, 2:30pm: Vintage Affaire, Wine Tasting and Auction benefiting The Peninsula Center for the Blind, Atherton, CA. vintageaffaire.org

7/16, 11am-5pm: Santa Cruz Mountains Winegrowers' Association Passport Weekend, Purchase passports at Testarossa Vineyards, 408-354-6150 x21, testarossa.com

8/7, 1-4pm: Music on the Patio, Testarossa Vineyards, Music by: Kevin Di Noto Steel Drum Trio

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

9/25, 11am-5pm: Testarossa Summer Release Party, Los Gatos, CA. Save the date!

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



Testarossa's New Neighbors

Olympic skater Peggy Fleming Jenkins and her husband, Los Gatos M.D. Greg Jenkins, became enchanted by the magic of wine many years ago. So it was a great day in 1999 when they planted their own private vineyard at an elevation of 1,400 feet in the foothills of the Santa Cruz Mountains above Los Gatos. A vineyard that is, coincidentally, within sight of Testarossa and the historic Novitiate Winery.

The Jenkins are big fans of Testarossa wines. Last year, Greg and Peggy got together with Rob, Diana and our winemaker, Bill Brosseau, to discuss making wine at the Novitiate winery. The personal connection was instant! Everything was soon put into place for the 2004 harvest.

The inaugural release of Chardonnay, Syrah and Syrah Rosé is very limited (just 200 cases) and is sure to sell out quickly. For more information, visit flamingjenkinswinery.com.



Rob with Peggy Fleming Jenkins and Greg Jenkins of the Fleming Jenkins Vineyards and Winery

Testarossa Vineyards' Cat's Hill Classic

Title Sponsor of May 7th Bicycle Races in Los Gatos

Bicycle racing in the United States has been a popular sport for over 100 years but has never been more popular than it is today. Cancer survivor Lance Armstrong achieved international superstar status after winning a record sixth Tours de France last year. If you can't make it to France this July, you can still experience the color, speed, determination and excitement of world-class bicycle racing right here in downtown Los Gatos.

On Saturday, May 7th, please come to Los Gatos and experience first hand the thrill of bicycle racing. Testarossa is the title sponsor of the 31st annual Cat's Hill Classic, the most popular pro/am criterium in Northern California. The route is a clockwise one mile loop that includes the incredibly steep 23% grade Cat's Hill climb, plus six brutal 90-degree turns along the race course. Race lengths range from three to forty laps, depending on age and ability classifications.

Park at the winery, and enjoy a one-mile shuttle ride to and from the downtown Los Gatos course. Race times and more details are available at catshill.org.



The Perfect Place for Your Special Event

Planning a Meeting?

In addition to being a great place for weddings and social events, Testarossa offers the perfect setting for your corporate meeting or dinner. Contact our Events Manager to find out about our new Corporate Event Packages which offer all the amenities you are looking for. We make the planning easy!

For more information, please call our Events Manager at (408) 354-6150 x12 or email events@testarossa.com

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

Testarossa Vineyards

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Rob & Diana Jensen, Proprietors & Founders
Bill Brosseau, Winemaker