

# Mayo Family Winery

## Fall 2011 Cellar Club and Reserve Cellar Club Notes

### **2009 Sauvignon Blanc, Emma's Vineyard, Napa Valley, 'Unwooded'**

Emma's Vineyard in Napa Valley is the source of Sauvignon Blanc grapes that always possess a citrus character we love so much and you will too. This wine has always been one of our most popular bottlings for its expressive and refreshing qualities. The 2009 vintage is made from the oldest Sauvignon Blanc vines on the property and delivers stone fruit notes, a fresh palate presence and hints of grapefruit and lemon. Perfect for the last warm days of the year.

### **2008 Viognier, Saralee's Vineyard, Russian River Valley, "Henry's Cuvee"**

We make the wine the way Henry Mayo likes to drink it: big, rich, opulent and with its tropical characteristics showing through. The 2008 vintage is ripe and full of melon flavors and aromas. The palate is full and rich, making this a perfect wine to pair with fruit salad, cream sauces and even Teriyaki Barbecue. The grapes for this wine came from the famed Saralee's Vineyard in the Russian River Valley that has been the source of many outstanding wines for years.

### **2008 Grenache, Judge Family Vineyard, Sonoma Valley, "Jeffrey's Cuvee"**

The Judge Family Vineyard is located in the cool Bennett Valley sub-appellation, located inside the larger Sonoma Valley appellation. Its fruit is coveted by some of the finest and most celebrated wineries in Sonoma County. You'll love the spice box and blackberry character of this wine. It's shows notes of pepper, ripe plum and licorice and has a smooth mid palate that makes it perfect for sauce-laden dishes, barbecue and roasted meats. **Gold Medal Winner at the 2010 Sonoma County Harvest Fair.**

### **2007 Merlot, Laurent Vineyard, Sonoma Valley, "Nellie's Block"**

The Laurent Vineyard is an amazing planting. It produces tiny, succulent berries that always turn into rich, abundant Merlot. The various blocks in the vineyards are distinctive also. "Nellie's Block" produces grapes that result in rich wine with aromas that focus toward cocoa, blueberry pie and spices. In the mouth you'll notice this is uncommon Merlot. The wine is rich, distinctive, layered in its flavors and dense. This wine, with a structure far bigger than Merlot you may be used to, but slightly softer than Cabernet, can easily act as a beautiful substitute for Cabernet when you are enjoying steak, lamb or prime rib.

### **2007 Meritage, Los Chamizal Vineyard, Sonoma Valley "Diane's Reserve**

Meritage wines must be a blend of at least two of the traditional Bordeaux varieties: Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Petite Verdot and Malbec. This Meritage, produce from the Los Chamizal Vineyard behind the Sonoma Plaza is a blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Cabernet Franc. It's very rich and luscious and sports dark boysenberry flavors and aromas, hints of vanilla and caramel, slate and has the structure to stand up to big steaks and roasts. **Best of Class and Gold Medal Winner at the 2010 Sonoma County Harvest Fair.**

### **2007 Syrah, Page/Nord Vineyard, Napa Valley, "Lilyann's Block**

The Page-Nord Vineyard is located in the lower Napa Valley in northern Yountville near the border of the Stag's Leap appellation and planted exclusively to the Hermitage clone. Here the climate is a bit cooler than up-valley. The vineyard is meticulously maintained by the Nord family who has farmed grapes in the Napa Valley for more than 20 years. This Gold Medal and Best-of-Class winner is a swirling mixture of aromas including pomegranate, leather, fresh berries, pepper and vanilla. The structure and backbone of the wine is gripping on the palate, and once it gets a hold of you...watch out! Red currant, black fig, ripe plum, and hints of tea make this a fascinating, even cerebral wine. We believe the wine's structure and intensity will allow it to age gracefully for five to ten years. **Gold Medal & Best of Class Winner at the CA State Fair Wine Competition.**

**2007 Zinfandel, Ricci Vineyard, Russian River Valley, "Old Vines"** This Old Vine Zinfandel is truly a tribute to the Ricci Vineyard, located in the Russian River Valley appellation and is one of our flagship red wines. The 2007 vintage is showing bright acidity and firm tannins, which give this wine medium to long-term aging potential. Classic aromas and flavors of raspberry combine with spice notes. a tangy mouthfeel and a jammy finish. Perfect for marrying with rack of lamb or BBQ beef ribs. **Gold Medal at Sonoma County Harvest Fair Wine Competition**

### **2007 Barbera, Kunde Ranch Vineyard, Sonoma Valley, "Brian's Cuvee"**

This is classic Italian-styled Barbera with its firm acidity, cherry aromas and flavors, a hint of sweet summer herbs and notes of fresh strawberry. It comes from hillside vineyards in the northern part of the Sonoma Valley that have striking reddish soils. A great wine to pair with heirloom tomatoes or spaghetti and meatballs.

### **2006 Sparkling Brut, Laurel Hill Vineyard, Sonoma Valley**

Produced with grapes grown on our estate vineyard, this sexy sparkler is perfect for any day that ends in "Y". Its pink hues lead into aromas of bright strawberry and peach. This Sparkling wine is on the drier side of brut with only the tiniest hint of sweetness. It's a mouthful of lip-smacking, pure fruit highlighted by strawberry, peach and apricot flavors. Made from 70% Chardonnay and 30% Pinot Noir all grown on our Laurel Hill estate vineyard. **Gold Medal Winner at the 2010 Sonoma County Harvest Fair.**

### **2007 Cabernet Sauvignon, Delaney Family Vineyard, Sonoma County**

Dan and Elspeth Delaney are long time friends of the Mayo Family. They also happen to farm a beautiful Cabernet Sauvignon vineyard south east of Healdsburg. This is perfect Cab country. It's warmer here than just a few miles west, allowing the Delaney grapes to fully ripen and deliver the rich, abundant, ripe berry flavors that define this bottling. It's a Cabernet that has girth and substance, but this is all delivered in a balanced package of blackberry, cassis, and plum flavors backed by hints of mint and cocoa. Made in very small amounts, we are convinced this wine will develop beautifully in the bottle for many years, taking on complex, nuanced characteristics. If you can't wait five or six years to try this one, pick up a couple more bottles and taste in as it ages. **2010 Gold Medal at the Sonoma County Harvest Fair Wine Competition.**