

## Moondance Cellars – Orchard Station Newsletter - June 2023

Nothing is certain about farming whether it is growing grapes or popcorn.

We're ready for our dry summer sunny warm days. But June Gloom is holding strong in Northern California. That's okay. After a super rainy winter season, green is still the color of the day. We'll hold that 5<sup>th</sup> season (fire) off as long as it takes.

Also, thanks to that June Gloom, the grapevines are developing right on schedule. They are not fighting too much heat nor suffering cold nights. Its all looking good! There is moisture however, encouraging some growers to start the sulfur spraying a bit early. That too is a good thing unless you live right next to a vineyard. They spray at night to reduce "drift" when there is little to no wind. The sound of a tractor moving up and down the rows can interrupt even the soundest of sleepers. In the end, its all worth it.

The new 2021 Napa Valley Cab is rested and ready! We hope you love it. We do! In one word "elegant" Enjoy it now or lay it down. Either way, make sure you give it some air and then a big sniff. Ahhhhh. Now that is Cabernet Sauvignon!

In other news: **The Orchard Station 2019 Russian River Chardonnay won big time at the North Coast Wine Challenge! Not only was it awarded a Gold Medal and Best of Class, it also scored 97 points!** The competition included 1200 entries from Napa, Sonoma, Mendocino, Lake, Marin, and Solano counties. We enter these comps for bragging rights and there you have them! We will be pouring the Chardonnay and its **Gold Medal winning partner, the 2021 Moondance Cellars Russian River Valley Pinot Noir** at the tasting event June 17<sup>th</sup> at the Luther Burbank Center in Santa Rosa.

We can't say often enough how much we have valued and continue to value your member and friendships. If at any time you have special requests or concerns, we hope you will share them with us. David is hosting tastings daily by appointment and hopes to see as many of you as possible soon.

There is a new Cab in the house. With just a few cases of the 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon left, the 2021 is bottled, rested and ready to go just in time. The grapes are from the best of the best Napa Valley floor fruit of St Helena. As we bottled the 2 barrels with our friends and helpers, Kasey, Eric, Scott, and Tim, the aroma in the winery made us want to drink the air. We refrained instead pouring ourselves a glass or 2. In a one-word description of the wine "elegant" says it all.

In the meantime, please keep safe, healthy, and most importantly happy!

Priscilla and David

