



Greetings from Corvus Cellars!

Fall is upon us and for those that live in the great Pacific NW, it may seem like it never really left. While there has been much talk about our cooler and wetter than normal growing season, we can tell you that all is not lost! While cooler temps and increased rainfall had us all worried most of the 2011 growing season, Mother Nature kicked it into overdrive towards the end and gave some us some hot and dry days in these later months. We would have liked a few more, but we've not figured out who will listen to our request☺. As this email goes out, we are preparing to pick fruit from our own Corvus Estate Vineyard as well as the other grape sources that we use for our wines. Steve and Randall have been tasting fruit over the past 3-4 weeks and there is most definitely reason to be optimistic. The lower sugars will naturally translate into lower alcohol and potentially better balanced wines. The acids have been dropping and the flavors have really started to mature. We are hopeful that some fantastic wines will emerge from the 2011 harvest.



Fun times in Walla Walla! We have officially been in our new facility for one year now. It has been great to meet so many fantastic people and pour wines directly to the public. If you have not been to Walla Walla or maybe it's been awhile since your last visit, it truly is a magical place with warm, friendly people, great food and events, charming downtown, beautiful scenery....and world class wines. We're happy to give some recommendations on places to stay and eat, so do let us know when you're coming to Walla Walla.

Blackbird Wine Club is open for registration. What's the catch? No catch at all. We wanted to create a wine club that is easy, straightforward, and offers something to our members. We offer 3 or 6 pack shipments, twice a year. There is no cost to join and the benefits include:

- o 15% discount off of retail prices
- o 20% off of full retail on purchases of 1–3 cases (12-bottle cases).
- o 25% off of purchases of four (4) or more cases (12-bottle cases).
- o Wine Club member only events.
- o First access to limited or exclusive production wines.
- o Free wine tasting for you and your guests at the winery

We'd love to have you as a Blackbird Club member and have included a link to the [**membership info sheet**](#) as well as a [**sign up form**](#) to make it easy. Please take a look for more details. Our next shipment goes out very soon, so please send in your form if you would like to be included in the fall 11' shipment.

Our current releases are selling briskly through our winery and our distributor. We hope you have an opportunity to order wines for the holidays before they are gone. Some pairing suggestions below that we have found very enjoyable:

- o Prime Rib with our **2007 Cabernet Sauvignon**. This wine is outstanding with beef. A Gold Medal winner in the Seattle Wine Awards and rated 19/20 by Rand Sealy (he rarely gives out 19's).
- o Leg or Rack of Lamb with our **2008 Syrah-Petite Sirah** (SPS) is a pairing made in heaven. The gamey/earthy mid-palate of this wine loves any meat with distinct flavors.
- o The **2008 Cuvee** is an all-around crowd pleaser and very food friendly. This wine does its best when paired with food with some acidity but is very versatile.....Osso Bucco or a rich Bolognese are our faves
- o What to serve with Thanksgiving? Our **2010 Viognier** has introduced people to this Rhone region grape and gained a growing fan base. Nice acidity, bright citrus aroma and a mineral finish make this great seafood wine too.

Wine makes a great holiday gift for friends, family, co-workers and customers!

We also wanted to let everyone know some upcoming special events that we will be participating in:

- **October 26th** – The Cabernet Classic Event in Seattle www.firstharvest.org
- **November 4th - 6th** – Fall Release Weekend in Walla Walla (We will be barrel sampling a some 2009 wild fermentation Cab Sauv and a 2009 Petit Verdot)
- **November 10th** – Corvus pouring at Greenlake Wines in Seattle www.greenlakewines.com
- **November 12th** – Taste of Tulalip – www.tulalipresort.com/dining/taste-of-tulalip.aspx
- **November 22nd** – Corvus pouring at Wine World in Seattle - <http://wineworldwarehouse.com/>
- **November 23rd** – Corvus pouring at Bottlehouse in Seattle - www.bottlehouseseattle.com
- **December 2nd -4th** – Holiday Barrel Tasting in Walla Walla (more barrel sampling)

The winery is open every Saturday and Sunday from 11am-5pm. We will close for the winter after Dec 5th, but as always we will be available for private tasting appointments.

We hope to hear from you soon and hope your fall season is spectacular.

Cheers!

Randall & Jennifer Hopkins

Steve & Erika Lessard



Corvus Cellars & Corvus Vineyard

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www.corvuscellars.com

Winery - Walla Walla, WA | Vineyard - Red Mountain, Benton City, WA

Focusing on Balance ... from the Earth to the Vine to the Wine

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