



# PARSONAGE VILLAGE VINEYARD

## Annual Newsletter 2006

Dear Friends,

Bill apologizes most abjectly for the tardiness of the annual newsletter.

We are calling our 2003 vintage the "YEAR OF THE HEDONIST!" The 2003s are indeed **drop-dead gorgeous** wines with delicious complexity. We have reprinted herein the 2003 Parsonage tasting notes provided to us by Kerry Winslow of Grapelive.com – Independent Wine Media for your review.

The Parsons Family wishes all of you and your families a very healthy, happy and prosperous New Year!

## SHRINKING SUPPLY!

◆ **Vintage 2002** – We still have several cases of the Estate Cabernet Sauvignon and Estate Syrah. Both wines are elegantly balanced with striking depth and complexity. They are maturing nicely, but are probably still two to five years from arrival at their apex. They are highly likely to age gracefully for the next eight to twelve years.

◆ **Vintage 2003** – Although our 2003 vintage has not been released to restaurants and bottle shops, we have sold nearly half of our 1,235 case production. Most of the reserves are down to the last few cases though Carmelstone Reserve Syrah is still in plentiful supply.

If you have not ordered your 2003s yet, we urge you to do so soon, sooner, soonest! We expect the 2003 vintage to disappear rapidly when we start pouring it in the tasting room following the grand opening.

You can order our wines online by visiting [parsonagewine.com](http://parsonagewine.com).

## TASTING ROOM OPENS

The Parsonage and Boëté joint tasting room is now open. So drop by and send your friends. We opened very softly and quietly during the first week of December. We are planning a grand opening for February and we will keep you posted.



The tasting room is located at 7156 Carmel Valley Rd in the Valley Hills Shopping Center next door to the famous Wagon Wheel Restaurant. The telephone number is 831.625.5040. Our venue is the first wine tasting opportunity after turning on to Carmel Valley Rd, 3.3 miles from Highway 1. Initially, we will be open 11am to 5pm, Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

Private tastings, including barrel tastings, are still available by appointment at the winery/vineyard.

Check [carmelvalleywinetasting.com](http://carmelvalleywinetasting.com) for updates on the grand opening and other tasting room information.



*The Parsons clan (from left to right):  
Mary, Marshall, Bill, Rocco, Frank, Ali, Brooke, Rachael and Dixie.*

## CUVEE ROCCO

We mentioned in our last newsletter that a bottling honoring the birth of our first grandchild, Rocco, Ali and Frank's first born, was a likelihood for 2004 (his birth year). We couldn't wait so we bottled 75 cases of 2003 Cuvee Rocco Family Reserve Syrah to celebrate Rocco's arrival. The fruit for this amazingly powerful Syrah came from the steepest part of the vineyard from soil which is almost all chalk rock (soft limestone). We also have a deliciously massive 2004 Cuvee Rocco in barrel for 2004.



## CUVEE BIXBY

Our youngest daughter, Brooke, and her husband, Marshall, are expecting their first child, a boy, in March. He already has a name: Bixby. Marshall spent a large part of his youth on his uncle's ranch in Big Sur. So, he has a strong reason for naming his son after one of the world's most photographed bridges. Now that the tradition has been established Parsonage will have a 2005 bottling of Cuvee Bixby. The Bordeaux blend is yet to be formulated. Suffice it to say, it will be spectacular!



## FUTURE VINTAGES

**Vintage 2004** - By May 2006, we will bottle the 2004 vintage. Production was just over 1,250 cases. The hallmark of the 2004s is serious concentration and depth with a tick less hedonism than the 2003s. It is possible that the 2004s will have the greatest longevity of any vintage of Parsonage bottled to date. They will be sought after by serious collectors.

**Vintage 2005** - All we can say is "WOW!" We got our largest harvest ever from our seven-acre vineyard: **25 tons!** The wine is extraordinarily dark and concentrated. We had the earliest bud-break ever: first week of March. We had the latest harvest as well: November 15<sup>th</sup>. It was generally one of our coolest years but mild late September, October and November temperatures provided us with our longest **hang-time** ever! Our vineyard canopy was the healthiest its ever been. It seems to have been a near-perfect year for us. And, oh yeah, it's already delicious!



*The Winemaker by Mary Ellen Parsons*

## "BUTCH" PINOT NOIR 2004

We made 100 cases of a *Parsons Family Private Label 2004 Pinot Noir* last year that was not offered for sale in the pre-release offer. Our two nicknames for this wine are **Pinot Butch** and **Pinot on Steroids**.

Under the right conditions we might be willing to share some of this incredible Pinot with our favorite customers. If you like "really big Pinots" give us a call at the winery. It will not be available at the tasting room or to the general public.

## BILL'S PERFECT CASE

Bill takes all the hard work out of buying the perfect case of Parsonage wine...

- ◆ 3 bottles of Estate Syrah
- ◆ 3 bottles of Estate Snosrap
- ◆ 1 bottle of Estate Cabernet Sauvignon
- ◆ 1 bottle of Estate Merlot
- ◆ 1 bottle of Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon
- ◆ 1 bottle of Carmelstone Reserve Syrah
- ◆ 1 bottle of Reserve "Cuvee Rocco" Syrah
- ◆ 1 bottle of Reserve Petit Applique

To order Bill's Perfect Case, use the enclosed order form or visit [parsonagewine.com](http://parsonagewine.com) to order online.

**\*It's the only way to still get Petit Applique\***

## PARSONAGE FACTS AND FIGURES

- ◆ Winery and Vineyard are 12.6 miles east of Highway 1 on Carmel Valley Rd - ½ mile east of Carmel Valley Village.
- ◆ South facing 7-acre hillside vineyard planted in 1998. 3 ½ acres Syrah, 2 acres Cabernet Sauvignon, 1 acre Merlot, ½ acre Petit Verdot.
- ◆ Production: 2000, 200 cases; 2001, 900 cases; 2002, 1,000 cases; 2003, 1,235 cases; 2004, 1,250 cases; 2005, 1500 cases.
- ◆ Family members participating in production: Bill, Mary, Rachael, Ali, Frank, Rocco, Brooke, Marshall and Bixby (sort of).

## THE 2003 LINEUP WITH TASTING NOTES BY KERRY WINSLOW

**Estate Syrah** ~ Dark rich and bursting with bright fruits and warm sweet oak, this Syrah is a lush and lively wine that begs to be drunk young. Pretty black fruits mingle with peppery spice and vanilla cream with a long mocha and liqueur finish. Nice touches of earth and mineral add to the depth of this fine red. 91 Points

**Estate Merlot** ~ This is a Merlot even Miles, the now fabled lead character in the movie “Sideways” would adore and relish! Powerful fruit and firm structure keep this Merlot interesting and makes you think of Cabernet before revealing round cherry and cedar notes to go with the red berry and plums. Lavish oak holds the big fruit in check and makes for a wonderful wine. 90 Points

**Estate Cabernet Sauvignon**, ~ Bang, right on target—this Cab is big, bold and holds nothing back, but remains easy to love and drink! Ripe dark and complex, this is a wine that makes you think of everything you love about Cabernet Sauvignon with blackberry, currants, briar, smoke, cedar and cassis flavors all rushing at you. Sweet toasted oak makes for a warm finish! 92 Points

**Estate Carmelstone Reserve Syrah** ~ Beautiful, beautiful and more beautiful, from nose to finish this Syrah is wonderful. Lovely scents of wildflowers, violets and boysenberries start things off, with rich blueberries, red berry and plum fruits. Already full-bodied and amazingly rich and lush, which is a very nice surprise in such a young wine. Deft use of new wood gives roundness without over doing it and lets a nice pepper spice shine through and adds a hint of coffee bean and vanilla too. 95 Points



**Estate Reserve “Cuvee Rocco” Syrah** ~ A three barrel selection held back from the reserve Syrah, the “Cuvee Rocco” is just a touch bolder and creamier than the reserve bottling and maybe a little more oak driven at this stage, but it will just get better and better with a little time. Super limited and this is the first vintage it has been offered! This cuvee has sweeter fruit and is more shiraz-like with a hint of cassis and coffee with liqueur notes that are lingering. Rocco is a big wine that needs some time to settle down in your cellar. 94-96 Points

**Estate Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon** ~ This wine is a heroic effort and offers a great reward to all those who give it a try! This is one of the best Cabs I’ve had in years and ranks right up there with my memories of Chateau Latour and Caymus Special Select from fine vintages, and that says a lot as those are some of my very favorites of all time! Pure and powerful with classic Cab intensity and depth with bold fruit and solid but perfect tannins. This wine has black fruits, cassis, currants, cedar, mountain briar, and lots of smoky oak notes rush at you in beautiful layers and lush textures. There is no doubt this is a true classic wine, and maybe the finest wine ever to come from Carmel Valley to date. 96-98 Points

**Estate Reserve “Petit Appliqué”** ~ This amazing blend of Petit Verdot, Cabernet and Merlot makes your mouth water with its tastiness and elegance. This wine is still really wound up and tight, but still gives hints of greatness and is so pretty you will not want to wait too long to share it and show it off. Lovely fresh berry and floral notes give way to lush plums, black cherries and currant fruit in this rare Petit Verdot based wine. When drinking this wine you might get lost in thoughts of the great Bordeaux and maybe even Cheval Blanc, but of nearer wines as well as it is in the league with Opus and Insignia. 94 Points

**Estate Snosrap Cyrano Red Table Wine** ~ This wine is pretty, graceful and very feminine with a sweet nose of fresh crushed red berries and a hint of spring flowers. This wine has a lovely, smooth body with a touch of firmness and pure flavors that include raspberry and strawberry jam, currant, cedar and lots of black cherry. Nice focus and superb balance from a very young and recently bottled wine. This tasty red is a blend of mostly Merlot and Cabernet with a touch of Petit Verdot and Malbec. As this wine gathers air it beefs up and has a long lush creaminess that should make anyone go wild. Snosrap is a guilty pleasure, but at only 275 cases made it is one that will go fast; don’t miss out. 90 points



Tasting notes provided by Grapelive.com—Independent Wine Media—Grapelive.com, started in 2001 as a free wine reviews and news website, focuses on small estates and lesser known regions. Visit [grapelive.com](http://grapelive.com) to sign up for their free monthly e-newsletter.

PARSONAGE VILLAGE VINEYARD  
PO Box 25  
Carmel Valley, CA 93924

## VINTAGE 2003: PROFOUND HEDONISM!

Varietal	Production	Price/Bottle
Estate Syrah	375 cases	\$36
Estate Cabernet Sauvignon	125 cases	\$45
Estate Merlot	115 cases	\$42
Estate Snosrap	275 cases	\$24
Estate Carmelstone Reserve Syrah	150 cases	\$60
Estate Reserve "Cuvee Rocco" Syrah	75 cases	\$75
Estate Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon	75 cases	\$75
Estate Reserve Petit Applique	50 cases	\$75

To order our wines, use the enclosed order form or  
visit [parsonagewine.com](http://parsonagewine.com) to order online.

## IN THIS ISSUE

In this newsletter,  
you will find ...

- 2003 Vintage Tasting Notes
- Our New Tasting Room
  - Cuvee Rocco
  - Cuvee Bixby
- Future Vintages

And more...

# PARSONAGE VILLAGE VINEYARD

## Vintage 2003 Wine Order Form

To order our wine, please fill out this form and mail or fax it to us.  
You can also order online at [www.parsonagewine.com](http://www.parsonagewine.com).

Wine	Cases Produced	Cost per Bottle	Quantity	Total
<b>2003 Estate Wines (750ml)</b> Available to newsletter subscribers for shipment today.				
Estate Syrah	375	\$36		\$
Estate Cabernet Sauvignon	125	\$45		\$
Estate Merlot	115	\$42		\$
Estate Snosrap	275	\$24		\$
<b>2003 Estate Reserve Wines (750ml)</b> Reserve Wines are allocated and are available as part of a mixed case of mostly Estate wines. Call Winery for details. Available to newsletter subscribers for shipment today.				
Estate Carmelstone Reserve Syrah	150	\$60		\$
Estate Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon *	75	\$75		\$
Estate Reserve Petit Applique *	50	\$75		\$
Estate Reserve "Cuvee Rocco" *	75	\$75		\$
"Bill's Perfect Case"		\$552		\$
* Available only as single bottles in Bill's Perfect Case" or any mixed case order.				
<b>Vintage 2002 (750ml)</b>				
Estate Syrah	325	\$36		\$
Estate Cabernet Sauvignon	200	\$45		\$

### Shipping Table:

In CA

1 – 6 Bottles: \$10 / 7 – 12 Bottles: \$25

Out of CA

Actual price via UPS or Fedex. Call us for a quote.

Subtotal	\$
7.25% Tax (CA Only)	\$
Shipping	\$
Order Total	\$

*Legal: Current law allows us to only ship winery direct to the following states: CA, CO, GA, IA, ID, IL, MN, MO, NM, OR, TX, WA, WI, WV. If you live outside of these states, please contact us to inquire how to obtain our wine. We will bill your credit card the day before we ship the wine.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping Address (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Visa or MasterCard Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Signature verifies that the recipient and purchaser are at least 21 years of age.*

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_