WOODWARD CANYON WINERY



SPRING 2002 NEWSLETTER

Whoa baby! Spring is on us like I can't believe. I can honestly say that I have never been busier. I always expect this time of year to be busy but I was simply not prepared. Having said that, I can't think anywhere else I would rather be.

We are working full blast in the vineyard right now with weeding and pruning going on simultaneously. I try to get to the vineyard early nearly every morning to see how the guys are doing and then head back to the winery. We will be planting about five more acres of grapes a little later this year. However, the biggest news of the spring has to be our new well, which will allow us to finish the last fourteen acres of our vineyard. More Walla Walla Valley wine is the direction we are taking as we decrease our production of Columbia Valley wine.

Speaking of Walla Walla Valley wine, the 2000 Walla Walla merlot is our first ever and I am simply delighted with the wine. We have been making Walla Walla merlot for nearly a decade and are now satisfied enough to release a designated Walla Walla Valley merlot. This wine is offered at \$45.00 per bottle. We are also releasing our 2000 Columbia Valley merlot for \$37.50 per bottle. The 1999 "old vines" cabernet is now \$62.50 per bottle and the Klipsun cabernet is \$47.50 per bottle. You have got to try these wines

Spring in the Walla Walla Valley means great wine tasting. We invite you to join us on May 4th and 5th for the Valley's Spring Release and May 11th & 12th during the annual Walla Walla Hot Air Balloon Stampede.

Spring Release - The first releases of a new vintage are the highlights of this weekend. Woodward Canyon will be open Saturday and Sunday 10 am - 5 pm for Spring Release Weekend and will be releasing the 1999 "Old Vines" cabernet sauvignon, 1999 Klipsun Vineyard cabernet sauvignon, 2000 Walla Walla Valley merlot and 2000 Columbia Valley merlot.

Balloon Stampede - This weekend the skies are filled with colorful hot air balloons. Winery open houses offer visitors a wonderful selection of wines to enjoy when the Valley is perhaps more beautiful than any other time of year. Woodward Canyon will be open Saturday 10 am to 5 pm and Sunday 12 pm - 5 pm for Balloon Stampede Weekend. New releases will be available, plus we will still have Nelms cabernet sauvignon and merlot, Red Table Wine, and 1999 "Artist Series" cabernet sauvignon.

Also please join us for a new event, Vintage ArtWalla that will take place June 21 from 4pm-7pm at the beautiful new Reid Campus Center at Whitman College. As part of ArtWalla 2002, all of our Valley wineries celebrate the arts with a tasting featuring the Valley's newest releases and a rare selection of older vintages. This is an extraordinary opportunity to taste the wines of the present and visit some gems from the past that are no longer available. Woodward Canyon will be bringing the 1990 "Dedication Series" cabernet sauvignon out of the library for this tasting!

Other events during ArtWalla include: the Gala Dinner and Bronze Pour, Artrain USA, featuring art from the NASA Art Program; the Walla Walla Symphony's special Journey into Space; Downtown's Taste of Walla Walla, and ArtWalla Promenade featuring studio tours, galleries, and special art exhibits. For more information about the tasting (tickets \$60 per person) call the Walla Walla Valley Wine Alliance at (509) 526-3117. General information and tickets (509) 301-0185.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the readers of *Northwest Palate* that voted Woodward Canyon the Washington Winery of the Year. You the consumer are the real judges, so this mean a lot to us.

Hope to see you soon.

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	Walla Walla					\$45.		
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