

SONG HILL WINERY

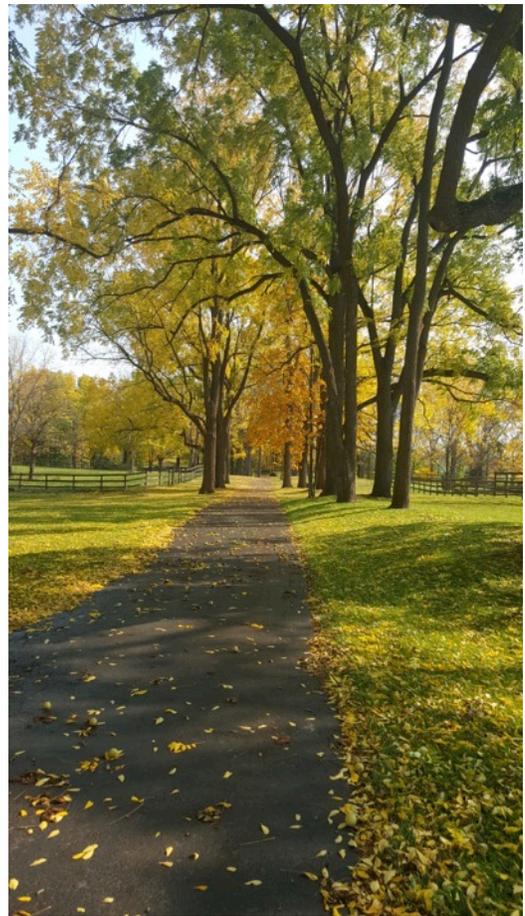


Fall, 2016
Wine Club Newsletter

Song Hill Winery
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Song Hill Farm is bathed in gold this fall and with it, we have the perfect match for this year's colors: our Fall Wine Club release is a very special, limited release of two single vineyard Chardonnays.

You may recall from our Spring Wine Club release that our Chardonnay is a blend that is typically sourced from two different vineyards: Nutt Road Vineyard and Eastside Vineyards. In most years, we only have enough grapes to produce a blend from both vineyards. The 2015 vintage was a light crop for red varietals; however, we brought in enough Chardonnay that year to produce a small batch from each vineyard. While the blend melds the qualities of the two batches of grapes, the single vineyard batches showcase the individual qualities of each vineyard, or the distinctive *terrior* of each plot of land. Below is a description of the two vineyards and some of the unique characteristics of their Chardonnays.



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Nutt Road Vineyard, a block of Martini Vineyards on the western shores of Seneca Lake, is owned and operated by the Martini family, who are also owners of Anthony Road Wine Company. Started by John and Ann Martini, vineyard management has passed on to their son Peter Martini who manages the vineyard with meticulous care.

In 2002, Peter oversaw the planting of the first section of the Nutt Road Vineyard block, a joint project with the Robert Young family of California. Years before, Robert Young isolated cuttings from Chardonnay vines he planted in the 1960s. The original vines had been infested with phylloxera and Young used the cuttings to graft new vines and replant the vineyard. The cuttings became known as Chardonnay Clone 17 or the Robert Young clone. In 2003 this clone was planted in Nutt Road Vineyard, and now it regularly makes its way to our winery.

When ripe, the skins are soft and fleshy and the juice shows good depth, with flavors of melon and a hint of vanillin that make their way into the wine.

After working with the renowned Dr. Konstantin Frank, Vincent and Diana D'Ingianni established Eastside Vineyards on the eastern shores of Keuka Lake in 1963. They hand grafted and planted thousands of vines, including Chardonnay in that year. Over 50 years later, Vince and his wife continue to hand tend these same vines and their efforts lead to the highest quality fruit. They are truly "old vine" Chardonnay, and quite likely the oldest Chardonnay vines in New York state.



The grapes show very unique flavors, retaining good acidity and showing tangerine flavors that are unique to this vineyard.

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The opportunity to make these single vineyard Chardonnays does not come along often. It is difficult and expensive to produce these wines; however, we wanted to take advantage of a rare opportunity to individually showcase the incredible dedication of our growers whose hard work allows us to make such high quality wine. Since we were only able produce these in extremely small production lots, they will only be available to wine club members. After this release we will have approximately 10 cases of Nutt Road Vineyard Chardonnay left in stock and 5 cases of Eastside Vineyard Chardonnay in stock.

We also have an announcement: though many of you have requested it, we have been sold out of the 2013 Diamond since August of 2015. However, our next wine club release will be the 2014 Diamond and we should get it out just in time for the New Year. You can look forward to receiving some bubbly again in December!

Our late fall/early winter event schedule is as follows:

Saturday, November 12: Ryan's Wines and Spirits, 2 p.m. – 5 p.m., 73 Easter Blvd, Canandaigua, NY

Friday, November 18: Perinton Liquor, 4 p.m. – 7 p.m., 14 Courtney Dr., Fairport, NY 14450

Friday, December 2: Bombace Wine and Spirits, 4 p.m. – 7 p.m., 6081 NY-96, Farmington, NY

Friday, December 9: Ryan's Wines and Spirits, 4 p.m. – 7 p.m., 73 Easter Blvd, Canandaigua, NY

Each of these events is free and a great opportunity to sample some of our wines, so bring your friends! We look forward to seeing you there!

One last announcement: this year we are producing our first Riesling vintage. We hope to release it sometime next year! Below is a picture of the excellent fruit which came to us from White Pine Vineyard. We hope that you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving. As always, we are incredibly grateful and humbled by your support and enthusiasm for our wines. We are also dedicated to giving back and this wine club shipment's charitable donation is \$100 to Foodlink.

