

Patricia Green Cellars – Jim Anderson Owner/Winemaker  
Industry Newsletter; January 2024

We are, even by Oregon standards, an unusual winery. In 2021 we produced 36 different bottlings of Pinot Noir. Right? Who does that? Yes, it's cool and interesting and all the wines stand up to the test of whether they deserve to be unique bottlings. As much as we try to streamline things to have a certain set of wines for our national and international distributors you probably have all or some of the Willamette Valley Reserve, Volcanic, Marine Sedimentary, Freedom Hill Vineyard, Estate Vineyard, Estate Vineyard, Old Vine, Chehalem Mountain Vineyard and Lia's Vineyard. That's 8 Pinot Noirs and maybe there are some of the smaller bottlings like Hyland Vineyard, Weber Vineyard and Durant Vineyard, Madrone Block in the book as well. That's a lot to know from one little operation.

We're here to help. The goal of this letter is 2-3 times/year to let you know what resources are available to further learn about the wines (we have tech sheets galore and a whole section of our website dedicated to the trade), feature a vineyard and wine each time around, highlight any recent reviews of Patricia Green Cellars wines, mention wines that are being released or are in the pipeline and provide some overall perspective on what is happening at any given time. We want you to get to know us and the wines and vineyards, so you can feel confident about what you are talking about and selling.

## **Travel**

The primary thing to talk about (other than wine) is the fact that after years of little to no travel from anyone in the company there is going to be a concerted effort to represent the winery and support the wines and distribution network in 2024. Melissa Groshong, National Sales Director, will continue to be on the road and Margaret Barry, General Manager, will also be making several trips during the year. And I, who has not been on a marketing trip for Patricia Green Cellars since the spring of 2019, will be in (at least) New York, Chicago, Boston (and areas around), Metro Washington DC, Ohio/Kentucky and probably other places as well.

We have had two excellent but large-scale vintages back-to-back with the 2021s and 2022s. We are making more wine than we ever have, but at the same time the wines are better than they ever have been. We have any number of excellent Pinot Noirs to show and represent from these two vintages. The only problem with having a lot of great wine is you simply must get it in front of people. TAKE THE WINES OUT, SHOW THEM!

That's what we are here and prepared to do. If we're on the list of places that one (or more) of us are coming to please formulate ideas and feel free to communicate possibilities. Anything we can do to support all of you that work with our wines is something we will, at the very least, take under advisement.

Personally speaking, this is something which I am looking forward too. I have not traveled for the company since 2019. At the time I believed my travel was going to be curtailed due to an aging corgi that had gone blind, was definitely going deaf and having some anxiety-related issues because of his failing senses. Of course, little did I realize there would be a larger reason (pandemic) followed by an

insidious reason (2020 wildfires destroyed most of the vintage) that would completely eliminate even the possibility of travel for the winery. I do like talking about the wines and seeing people discover and enjoy them. I know what we do is absolutely high-level viticulture and winemaking and, especially with our national wines, we offer great wines at great prices. I hardly ever get the chance to talk about the wines that most of you consider our bread and butter!

So, we are out there. We are all looking forward to working with you all and meeting as many people out in the world as possible. We want to bring the idea of Patricia Green Cellars to the world again!

### **Reviews of Current Wines (all reviews from Audrey Frick of JEBDUNNUCK.COM)**

2021 Reserve Pinot Noir: 91

2021 Chehalem Mountain Vineyard Pinot Noir: 92

2021 Durant Vineyard Madrone Block Pinot Noir: 94

2021 Estate Vineyard, Old Vine Pinot Noir: 94

2021 Freedom Hill Vineyard Pinot Noir: 93

2021 Freedom Hill Vineyard, Dijon 115 Clone Pinot Noir: 94

2021 Hyland Vineyard Pinot Noir: 95

2021 Lia's Vineyard Pinot Noir: 94

2021 Marine Sedimentary Pinot Noir: 93

2021 Weber Vineyard Pinot Noir: 95

### **Upcoming Wines: 2022 Vintage**

A hard and long frost in mid-April appeared to have dealt a critical and long-lasting blow to nearly every vineyard in the Willamette Valley. Depression and some mild panicking were widespread in the valley. Then, long story short, it all worked out with the help of the driest and warmest October on record. In some places record tonnages were somehow achieved. The wines are deep with fruit but also quite red in nature with a little more roundness to their natures than the more intense, concentrated and structured 2021s. While it would be hard to go wrong with any of the wines the biggest successes were found in the Dundee Hills (Volcanic, Durant Vineyard-Madrone Block, Mysterious-Arcus Vineyard and Weber Vineyard) and the entirety of Freedom Hill Vineyard. Our Estate Vineyard suffered setbacks that we did not recover as well from but the good news is that rather than peel off portions for individual block bottlings everything that could be was bottled under the Estate Old Vine label. Hate to call that "declassified" since it is our flagship wine but there are lots of things in there that don't normally go into that wine, in the best of ways.

The best way to sum up the 2022 vintage Pinot Noirs is that they are going to be highly user-friendly wines at an early age. Not to say there isn't significant age worthy qualities in the wines, but their predominant characteristic is really lovely red fruits, gorgeous aromatics and lots of mouthfeel/texture. They aren't as structured and intense as the 2021 wines, in general, but the wines known for being cellar worthy endeavors will still do that in spades.

### **Upcoming White Wine and Rosé: 2023 Vintage**

In March we will bottle the 2023 Willamette Valley Sauvignon Blanc and the 2023 Helen Dusschee Freedom Hill Vineyard Rosé of Tempranillo. 2023 is a beautiful and bountiful vintage. There has also

been a little surge of Sauvignon Blanc production in the state so there has been some fruit available. The combination of those two factors has allowed us to increase our production to what looks to be around 2,000 cases! This will be right around the 2017 vintage level which is easily the all-time high. I know Melissa is going to be working with everyone to put this in as many places and in as many glasses as possible over the summer of 2024.

I know that there is so much rosé being cranked out into the world right now. I know most of it is hot garbage. I always said we wouldn't make rosé because I liked it too much to make some Pinot Noir version of it that just wasn't that good. When we were offered this fruit from Freedom Hill Vineyard, I was optimistic because Russ Rainey (RIP) of Evesham Wood had made some excellent rosé from Tempranillo back in the day. I want rosé to be made from some red grape that has guts to it so that you get enough acidity and structure to it so that it's not just a fruity, simple wine. I think we have accomplished that and have gotten more polished versions each year. The 2023 should be both awesome and refreshing.

### **Whiskey Project: Patty Green Whiskey Distillers: PLEASE INQUIRE**

You may have heard that we started making whiskey as our response and pivot from the 2020 smoke-tainted Pinot Noir. We have just bottled the first couple of whiskeys and are currently only selling them through the winery. These are world class whiskeys that have enormous depth and complexity to them. Just another thing we are doing to separate us from all the normals out there! If you're interested you can check it out online at [patriciagreencellars.com/Patty-Green-Distillers](https://patriciagreencellars.com/Patty-Green-Distillers).

Thank you for your support in our wines! We couldn't do this without you, and we appreciate all of your hard work!

-Jim Anderson