



## Hello

As we were on a plane headed back to California from our Midwestern spring release parties, we were talking about everything that's happened in the last 10 days, and decided that our report should be the basis of this month's newsletter. Back in Healdsburg, spring is emerging, the vineyard is getting busy and the garden is blooming; soon, we'll plant the veggie starts.

And for your reading pleasure, a piece that was written about Cartograph in the [Sonoma Examiner](#).

## APRIL 2019

FROM THE WINEMAKER: BUDBREAK

SPRING RELEASE

UPCOMING EVENTS

## FROM THE WINEMAKER: BUDBREAK

As we landed in Minneapolis, we were greeted by earth tones that spanned just a few shades of brown, and the ice was still in on many of the 10,000 lakes — remnants of the long, hard winter that the middle of the country faced. At least we were bringing joy with us in the form of an armload of wine to share with our Cartograph Circle members. We can't change the past, but we hope it helped them forget the memories of endless snow-shoveling sessions.

These folks will not have pity upon those of who endured a long, wet winter in Northern California. Poor us, we got 23 inches of rain in February. And, in fact, we're not looking for pity, because for the first time in a really long time all of California is officially NOT in a drought.

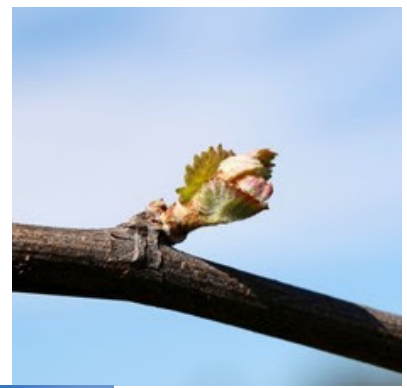
This cold, wet pattern has had an effect on the vines. We're coming into May with budbreak in the 20% to 90% range in the Cartograph estate vineyard. Last season, we were at 100% in the estate vineyard in the third week of March, and that was not an early year.

While this potentially pushes harvest later in the fall, which risks rain interfering with our harvest schedule, I'm celebrating it as a win. Late budbreak is usually quite even in the vineyard, and bloom typically happens in more favorable weather, which means that we set a solid crop. I won't start counting chickens before they hatch, but we feel pretty good about timing right now.

We are, of course, itching to get into the soggy vineyards ... but we can deal with a little extra water on the ground if the tradeoff is setting a good crop. And, as always, we're strolling the vineyards with our camera, capturing shots of the shoots as they emerge. It's a great time to be in the vines as things come to life. We'll continue to share those shots on our website and on Facebook — and, as always, we'd love to hear your thoughts.

Cheers,

Alan



## 2019 SPRING RELEASE

We had a great time visiting with Cartograph Circle members in Minnesota and Illinois last week! Many thanks to everyone who came to the release parties. And we got to see our people in Chicago twice, because we did a winemaker dinner at Chez Moi the night before the party — it was an exquisite meal, and was really fun to taste vintages that aren't part of the spring release.

For the release parties we brought the [2017 Cartograph Estate 115 Clone Pinot Noir](#) with us — this grape's first appearance since its debut in our first-ever estate wine, the 2016 Cartograph Estate Rosé Clone 115. For the fun of comparing and contrasting (because you know we're geeky like that), we also brought along the [Pommard](#). We may switch it up for the California party and bring out the [667](#) and [777](#) clones instead to see how they compare.

We're excited to be releasing eight new wines this spring!

The [2018 Rosé of Pinot Noir](#) will make its debut on April 13 at the tasting room. We'll tap the new Rosé keg, and it will be available for sale by the bottle or glass. Our four 2017 clonal Pinot Noirs (115, Pommard, 667, 777) will remain a Cartograph Circle exclusive — they're not on the menu at the tasting room and are available only to members. The [2018 Starscape Vineyard Gewürztraminer](#), the [2017 Russian River Valley Pinot Noir](#) and the [2015 Transverse Pinot Noir](#) will all be available at the tasting room starting May 4.

Cartograph circle members: We have begun shipping wine, and expect to complete all shipping by April 15. If you're picking up your wines at the tasting room, they'll be available beginning May 4 (unless you've pre-arranged an earlier pickup date with Serena).



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Our wonderful partnership with [the Green Music Center at Sonoma State University](#) continues; see below for upcoming Cartograph–sponsored events. Cartograph Circle members receive special pricing on all 2018–2019 events at the center, as well as access to the donor lounge for wine and nibbles before the concert and at intermission. If you're planning to join us in the lounge, please [RSVP](#) to Serena.

April 13: 2018 North Coast Rosé release, Cartograph tasting room

April 26: Gil Shaham, violin & Akira Eguchi, piano at the Green Music Center

May 4: Santa Rosa, CA spring release party ([RSVP required](#))

May 9: Kronos Quartet with Masha Vahdat at the Green Music Center

May 18: Library tasting, Cartograph tasting room

June 15: Library tasting, Cartograph tasting room

July 20: Library tasting, Cartograph tasting room

July 26 - 28: International Pinot Noir Celebration at Linfield College, McMinnville Oregon

Get the most up-to-date info on our [events page](#).



## BACK TO WORK WE GO

We're packing up as many shipments as possible and getting the new spring release out the door before the weather warms up in late May. It was a delight to see so many familiar faces on our trip, and we hope many more of you will come visit us at the tasting room or contact us for a vineyard tour!

Cheers,

Alan and Serena

