

June 2011 Newsletter



Nick telling the Rosa d'Oro story at #barbera2 in Italy May 2011.

This is a busy time of year in the vineyards, at the winery, and in the tasting room.

Out in the vineyard Nick and Pietro are suckering, removing unwanted shoots that suck energy from the vines. They are also training young vines, such as the Refosco they planted 3 years ago, which we are hoping to get our first harvest from this fall, and also spraying to prevent mildew with a paraffin-based natural mineral oil which Nick described as being similar to baby oil.

At the winery, the boys have finished bottling the whites. We have Chardonnay, Arneis, and Greco on the way. They have been racking the red wines, which is moving the wine from its barrel into a clean barrel, leaving behind the sediment.

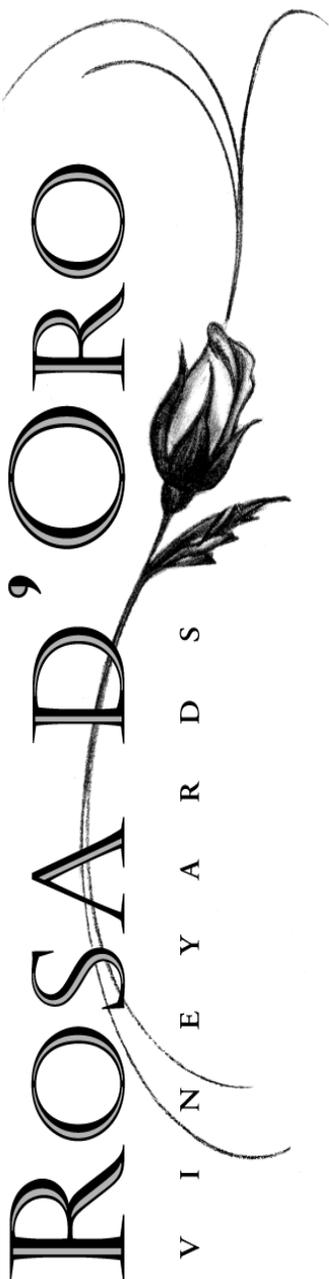
In the tasting room Chris and I are working on the June Wine Club and getting the kitchen ready for a "minimal food prep" permit which will allow us to serve food.

In the midst of all this activity, I have also been reflecting on the history of Rosa d'Oro.

July marks our tenth anniversary and I have been thinking about our humble beginnings. I am so proud to be a part of my father's dream come true. Farming was passed down to Nick from his father, Pietro. The winemaking was something Nick learned by doing in the garage of our home in Kelseyville in the 1990s. When Nick told his father that he was planning to plant his own vineyard in Kelseyville, Grandpa said, "You're crazy. Plant Barbera."

Nick built this business from the ground up. He planted the vineyards and built the winery with the help of his children and their friends, mostly. The winery became licensed in July 2001. That same year, grandpa Pietro passed away at the age of 95. I have a photo of Grandpa handing my mother a glass of Dad's 1998 Chardonnay at my first wedding in June of 2001. That summer, Nick was planting olive trees and Aglianico vines. My brothers, Pietro and Paul, were driving around practically begging restaurants and wine shops to taste our wines. We didn't have a tasting room and Lake County had yet to really be recognized as a wine region.

We have come so far since then. We opened the tasting room in September of 2005, with Nick and Paul balancing their time between the tasting room and the winery. I came to work the following June and within a year had taken over the tasting room and started our wine club. Back then we had to convince most people to taste our unusual Italian-varietal wines. Now we hear people say things like, "Ooh, you have Barbera!?" and "I love wine-tasting in Lake County!" Nick just took our Barbera to Italy for #barbera2 and pretty soon we will be serving antipasti plates with our wines in the tasting room. Thank you all for your support over the years. We couldn't have done it without you.



June Wine Club Reorder Special!
2009 Refosco for only \$18 per bottle
2008 Aglianico for only \$12 per bottle

Tasting Room Business Hours

Wednesday - Saturday

10:30 - 6:30

Sunday - Tuesday 11 - 5

3915 Main St. Kelseyville, CA 95451 ~ 707-279-0483 ~ www.rosadorowine.com

Wine Club June Releases

2008 Aglianico: a bold red brought by the Greeks to southern Italy over 2000 years ago. Aglianico is deep ruby in color with flavors of dark fruit, earth, and subtle anise undertones, firm tannins and a long finish. These vines are perfect for our vineyard, thriving in warm climates and volcanic soil. Pair this wine with bold and hearty flavors like garlic, lamb, stew, and aged cheeses. Estate grown, harvested at 28brix on October 29, 2008 and aged in neutral French and American oak for 14 months. 13.9% alcohol by volume. Retail price \$18. Wine Club price \$14.40. June Wine Club re-order price for the month of June \$12. Only 95 cases produced.

2009 Refosco: a full bodied and flavorful red wine with purple hues, plummy fruit, a mushroom-like earthiness, medium tannins and a surprisingly mild finish. Try it with grilled vegetables, mushrooms, spicy dishes and roasted game fowl. Harvested from Novavine's mother block in Dunnigan, Yolo County, on September 17, 2009 and aged in 2 year American oak for 11 months. 13.5% alcohol by volume. Retail price \$24. Wine Club price \$19.20. Wine Club re-order price for the month of June \$18. Very limited release. 25 cases produced.

Upcoming Events

June 10, 2011 - Roman Toga Party: at the Rosa d'Oro Vineyards Tasting Room from 6-9pm. Join us in celebrating the newest releases of our Italian-varietal wines. Wear your toga and indulge in an evening of wine and appetizers. Toga contest and prizes. Admission is \$5, free to Wine Club members. RSVP to 707-279-0483 or info@rosadorowine.com.

June 11, 2011 - The 2011 Barbera Festival: An outdoor food and wine festival focusing on Barbera wines, among the rolling hills and vineyards of Cooper Ranch in Plymouth, Ca. Visit www.barberafestival.com. Sorry, this event is sold out.

June 23, 2011 - Kickin' in the Country Street Dance: A country-style street dance on Main street in Kelseyville from 7 to 10pm. Rosa d'Oro will be open late serving wine by the glass. www.visitkelseyville.com

June 25, 2011 - Home Winemakers Festival: Enjoy food, beer, wine, live music, art and street vendors from 1 to 5pm in Library Park, Lakeport. \$15 advance tickets or \$20 at the event. www.homewinemakersfestival.com
Buy your advance tickets at the Rosa d'Oro Tasting Room!

June 26, 2011 - Couples Golf and Wine Tasting Dinner: Nine holes of golf, cart, wine tasting and dinner for \$70 per couple at Buckingham Golf and Country Club featuring Rosa d'Oro wines. \$60 without golf cart, Buckingham members only \$45 per couple. Wine tasting and dinner only for \$20 per person. Sign up at 3pm, tee off at 3:30. Call 707-279-4863.

July 21, 2011 - Kickin' in the Country Street Dance: A country-style street dance on Main street in Kelseyville from 7 to 10pm. Rosa d'Oro will be open late serving wine by the glass. www.visitkelseyville.com

July 30-31, 2011 - Lake County Wine Adventure: The last Saturday and Sunday in July 10am-5pm. A two-day discovery tour of local wineries. Buy advance tickets at www.lakecountywineries.org or buy tickets at the event at any participating winery.

August 18, 2011 - Kickin' in the Country Street Dance: A country-style street dance on Main street in Kelseyville from 7 to 10pm. Rosa d'Oro will be open late serving wine by the glass. www.visitkelseyville.com

August 19, 2011 - Taste of Lakeport: From 5-10pm on Main Street in Lakeport. Food, wine tasting, music & dancing presented by the Lakeport Main Street Association and a benefit for the revitalization of downtown Lakeport. www.lakeportmainstreet.com

September 17, 2011 - Lake County Wine Auction: Annual benefit gala with food, wine, live music, dancing, and a live and silent auction to be held at Ceago Vinegarden. Presented by the Lake County Wine Alliance. www.winealliance.org

September 24, 2011 - Kelseyville Pear Festival: The last Saturday in September from 9-4pm on Main Street. Parade at 9:30am. Kelseyville's signature celebration of its heritage with live music, and lots of arts, crafts and food. www.kelseyvillepearfestival.com