

August 2018 Victor's Newsletter

At last, maybe some good rains. I know we've had flooding in some places like Belen and Santa Fe, and some wild and loud storms resulting in a little rain at our place in the South Valley. Predictions on the weather app have consistently been "chance of precipitation 10%", and forecasts of rain always two days in the future, which keep rolling over into the next two days. Maybe the State Fair will spawn more rain! I hope where you are you've gotten some good gentle rains.

NEW PRODUCTS, SUPPLIES, AND OTHER OFFERINGS.

Wine Kits: We had a roof leak recently and the water damaged a number of wine kits sitting on the lower shelf. No damage to the contents but the cardboard didn't do well with the water. I am offering them at a 30% discount. The kits include Cabernet Franc Ice Wine, Shiraz, Gewurztraminer, Cabernet Sauvignon, and Super Tuscan.

Fresh Grapes: We continue to take orders for grapes from New Mexico Vineyards in Deming. While a wide variety of grapes are available, we need to order each in 1,000 pound increments, so we're realistically limited by how much of each variety we collectively desire. So far I have firm orders for 1,000 lb. each of Cabernet Sauvignon, Zinfandel, and Gewurztraminer. We also have a second order of Cabernet Sauvignon of about 700 lbs., so there's room to jump in on that order if you like. You can order as little as needed for 5 gallons (about 80 lbs.). At present I am expecting them to be delivered by the middle of September, maybe earlier.

We will have the crusher-destemmer set up on the days grapes are delivered so you can take them home ready to ferment. We also have the crusher-destemmer available for rent at \$45/day, \$30/ ½ day, and the bladder press available for rent: \$40/day or \$10/hr.

In addition, we again provide contact information for local vineyards that have grapes available for sale. So far I've received this information:

Marty Padilla, Bernalillo: "Grapes for sale. Call 505-274-9003, and put your name on the waiting list and I will call when the grapes are ready to be picked. Cabernet Franc, Riesling, Malbec and Baco Noir. Destemming and crushing available. Call for him prices." Marty's vineyard in Bernalillo:



Rick Torres, Luz de Cielo Vineyard, Los Chavez: Varieties available include: Chambourcin, Marechal Foch, Leon Millot, Golden Muscat, Cayuga White, Vidal Blanc.

Call Rick at 505-865-1500 for prices and availability.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Wine Making Class. Saturday, August 18, 3:00 – 5:30 PM. Besides going through the basics of making wine from kits, we'll also cover the steps in making wine from fresh orchard fruits and grapes, the basic measurements and chemistry. \$10 per person. Please call in or come by to pay in advance to reserve a spot.

Brewing Class. Saturday, September 15, 3:00 – 5:30 PM. We will demonstrate and go over partial extract brewing and cover some of the basic concepts and equipment of all-grain brewing. \$10 per person. Please call in or come by to pay in advance to reserve a spot.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE. We will be closed Sunday and Monday, September 2nd and 3rd to observe Labor Day. Regular hours will resume on the 4th.

It's always a pleasure to hear from you and have you visit the shop. Thanks for coming in.
Happy Fermenting, Jens