

RANTS!



RAVES!

F I D D L E H E A D
C E L L A R S

"We are currently enjoying the Happy Canyon 2009 Sauvignon blanc! It is amazing! Thank you!"

Becky, December 2011

Michael, June 2011

"Your Pinot Noirs do rock, BUT the most pleasant surprise was discovering your Sauvignon blanc! The touch of Gooseberry - Kiwi makes for a uniquely enjoyable tasting experience!!! :)"

Barbara, August 2011

"Thanks so much -- had an absolutely wonderful time [at the Tour of Fiddlestix]. What an experience -- tasting and blending the clones! Just fabulous. Kudos to Kathy, Rob, Stephen and everyone for making it so spectacular."

Clark, September 2011

"The tasting session was fantastic and I was delighted you were open when we came through. I was specifically aiming to taste your wines, so persistence was rewarded. The wines were, as we say, raising the bar with each sip. And the great guy with the GREAT beard, what a delight. We had a great time, and for that MANY THANKS!"

Doug, August 2011

"Diana and I both enjoyed our visit to your tasting room. Steve was excellent and spent a lot of time with us during the tasting and a tour of your facilities. We felt like we were one of the family. The experience we had was the best of the trip. We are looking forward to sharing your wine with our family and friends."

"I finally drank my Lollapalooza last year after saving it for some time. It was incredible!"

Seth, March 2011

Larry, March 2011

"I have to tell you that Fiddlehead's Happy Canyon Sauvignon blanc is my favorite Sauvignon blanc on planet earth!!! I like to cook - I made Halibut en Papillote last night along with lemon-basil orzotto and it was unbelievable good with the Happy Canyon!! Makes you glad you're alive..."

"I had [Oldsville Reserve] at Big Islands Four Seasons – couldn't believe it. Delicious."

Ben, November 2011

Ed, February 2011

"I want to inform you of the hit your Pinot was at a dinner party held at our home Saturday. You have been generous supporters of the Carpinteria Education Foundation and this dinner was an auction item at CEF's Carp A Cabana fundraiser. We served 2006 and 2007 728's and everyone raved about them. We had ten guests and not only pitched you and the tremendous wines that you make, but your support of CEF. The food & wine was so good the party did not end until midnight."

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Matthew, January 2011

"I just placed an order for a bottle of your estate Pinot noir, largely because I am in the process of preparing a sailboat by the name of Fiddlehead for a voyage (potentially) around the world. I am nearing completion, and I thought your wine would be perfect for a celebration when I do set off as well as some motivation to finish the last few finishing touches."

"Fiddlehead was the most gracious and I am so happy to have visited you at the Ghetto!"

Meredith, October 2010

Bobby, October 2010

"It has been a couple years since I have seen you in person, however I feel like I am surrounded by you everyday. Whether I am looking through my cellar, enjoying a little Midnight Moon, or waxing poetic with friends over a glass of your righteous juice; Fiddlehead is a common topic in my household. When you offered your first Doyle, the '03, I purchased two. Oh man am I so happy I did. I finished my last one during a night out with the parents in Napa before I left to come up north. It was an experience...truly. I have had thousands of Pinots from all over the world and I have never had a more sensual, complex, balanced wine. Its texture and aroma had us floored with pleasure. It made me wonder....is this what people experience when they drink.. say...a 1999 Romanee Conti? Maybe one day I will find out, but until then I will assume yours to be even better."

Michael, October 2010

"We just returned from our visit to the Santa Barbara area and wanted to let you know how awesome Steve is. He really knows his stuff. We had such a good time! We even met Kathy at the Celebration of the Harvest. Fiddlehead has gone to the top of our list of wine destinations. Hope to get back to the wine ghetto again next year."

Julle, November 2010

"I have one precious bottle left [of 728] that I plan to drink with my Thanksgiving meal. It's the best wine ever.....!"

Todd, September 2010

"My wife and I would like to very sincerely, from the bottom of our hearts, thank you for inviting us to such an exciting event. We had so much fun and felt so much warmth and camaraderie. The day was particularly special, because I had studied years ago the Intermediate and Advanced WSET and take wine seriously and have it as part of my daily life. Meeting so many winery owners and winemakers and everyone simply associated there within was a very special moment for me. I also felt a certain special something because I consider myself a bonvivant and recognize other bonvivants very quickly...and both of you are wonderful bonvivants (I spent a year in Provence at the age of 20...many stories there). It was in France that I understood this Dolce Vita, Bonvivant, live each moment and love it concept. My wife and I felt this in the air, very strongly. Steve...I think it is obvious to everyone and I need not say it....but WOW! on the Paella! WOW! I might appear to be over-sentimentalizing this but please know that is not the case....it was a remarkable and special day and I really want both of you to know that it very much affected me and my wife in a very sincere and warm way. And for this, we both thank you so deeply from our hearts. Someone once told us that friends are the family you get to chose...and you've made us both feel so much like part of your wine family. Thank you so very much and we look forward to not only seeing you both again soon but also in drinking more of your fine wines (which we dearly love...in fact, I love the different styles of each of your Sauvignon blancs and your Pinots blew us away!)."

"We have fallen in love with Fiddlehead wines, so look forward to our next shipment!"

Mike, August 2010

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Brandy, September 2010

"Wow...you know over the past two years, Fiddlehead Cellars has been wonderful to me. There is something about the way Kathy makes her wines that makes it possible for me to enjoy them in a way that no other makers have managed to do. I have had an increasing sensitivity to wines and alcoholic beverages over the past year: the exception is Fiddlehead, and a few other winemakers/vintners that produce carefully crafted, high quality wines."

"We loved the Pinot you produce, so the more the better for us. The Fiddlestix and the Honeysuckle have been our favorite wines."

Robert, August 2010

Deb & Terry, September 2010

"You will never know how wonderful our visit was on Tuesday. Steve represented not only Fiddlehead with the most professionalism and poise, but in our mind represented all small lot wineries working day and night to make our special and personal occasions that much more special by opening a great bottle of wine. When we open a bottle of wine with family and friends, we not only open just what our fancy is for the night, but what the winery members do is we want being part of our evening. Fiddlehead is already booked to be our guest at Thanksgiving. Your entire team made the beginning of our anniversary trip very much a memorable one. We could have stopped tasting the rest of the week and been very content. Meeting Mr. Doyle, taking time to say hi to your assistants, making sure my wife did not miss a task that was being performed. I can go on, but as Deb reminds me, 'Terry, they get the message'."

David, May 2010

A couple years back I opened a 2003 Lollapalooza and began to enjoy it like the others I've enjoyed over the years. I will note, not in bragging, but only to add perspective to the story, that I have been fortunate to drink some great Pinots in my time – from La Tache to DRC Chambertin's, and other world class offerings. At some point during the hour or so I took to drinking that bottle of Lollapalooza, as it began to emerge, and change, and grow in subtleness – and it was probably about the one hour mark, and about ¾ of the way through the bottle – that I enjoyed the single greatest mouthful of wine I have ever tasted. It was as if the years of aging, and the careful winemaking exercise, and the loving selection of grapes from each vine, all came together for that perfect moment. Never before or since has that perfect single swallow happened to me. I hope it will again someday, and Kathy's wine has a better chance than most others to make that dream come true for me."

Heather, May 2010

"Thank you for hosting a wonderful wine dinner at the Tasting Room in Atlanta. I thoroughly enjoyed meeting you and learning more about the great wines of Fiddlehead."

"I can't wait! Your wines are way too yummy!! Please go ahead and ship [my] order asap!"

Samantha, April 2010

Charlotte, May 2010

"I cannot wait to receive our first [Wine Club] shipment! I first tried your wine at Craft in LA – and instantly fell in LOVE!!!"

Jim, April 2010

"I used to be able to buy the wine out here in Boston, but alas no more, so here I am ordering online. The first of many. My favorite Sauv blanc of all time!!!!!"

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Rich and Troy, March 2010

"We just finished construction on a wine room extension on the house. It has been a challenging experience but it is done and we are saving one wall for our 'special' wines, so you can be assured that Fiddlehead wines will all be there!"

Gregg, January 2010

"Hi Kathy, just had a 1992 Santa Maria Valley Pinot noir that I got from [a friend] and you signed for me. We had it over here at Mosby Winery last night and it was outstanding. We had it with another older Pinot and some recent releases and yours out-shined every one of them. Just wanted to let you know that this was a wine that we all enjoyed very much. Great flavor and a brick color. Wonderful wine."

"I pay my sister-in-law for babysitting with bottles of your Happy Canyon. She prefers this to actual cash!!!"

Marjorie, July 2009

Michele, July 2009

"A BIG thank you for the wonderful tasting and vineyard experience for the Peace Corps group. They were totally amazed at the whole experience. I heard 'I never knew there was so much involved' from most of the group. At the goodbyes on Sunday, I heard over and over that it was one of the best experiences of the whole weekend. Their chance to see what wonderful things our lovely bit of earth can produce here was a great motivation to stay resolved and committed to our Potato Project in Ethiopia."

Brent, May 2010

"Can we have 6 bottles of Pink Fiddle instead of 3 and make our next order a case!
Thanks so much, we LOVE your wine!!!"

Suzanne, July 2009

"My [wine club] shipment is currently set up for all REDS. I would like to change that to be mixed. I am really enjoying white wine and heard that your white wines are tremendous."

Matt, June 2009

"I just wanted to let you know that we just closed on a house yesterday here in Salt Lake City and, to celebrate, we walked down to a great little bistro in town called the Wild Grape. We decided to take our own prized bottle of wine to go with our meal and a beautiful, warm evening. The vino of choice was Fiddlehead 2006 Pinot noir from Willamette Valley. We drank the whole bottle—no problem! It was such a great pick...and a perfect match with our respective meals (lamb loin and grilled pork chop). Thankfully, we still have a number of other bottles from Fiddlehead (Sauv blanc, Pinots from Sta. Rita Hills, and even a Sweetie for a real special night) that we brought home from our visit to the Wine Ghetto 2 weeks ago...so the good times will endure! Kathy, keep up all the great you're doing in this world for people who enjoy beautiful wines."

"I really love Kathy's wines so much. They are very special and I consider her a pioneer in what she produces."

Seth, June 2009

Michael, June 2009

"I am relocating out of the country and was forced to drink through my cellar. To my surprise, I found buried in a mixed case a 1999 Sauvignon blanc from Fiddlehead. I know your Pinots have a history of aging gracefully, but I was skeptical of this 'old' Sauvignon blanc. To my delight, I was blown away by how delicious this wine tasted and just had to call you!"

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Laura, June 2009

"Send the Lollapalooza, please! I bought a bottle at the tasting room and haven't opened it because I know it is a 'rare find'. With another one waiting in the wings, I just may feel a bit better about diving in and opening what promises to be a spectacular wine! Now I have 'an heir – and a spare!'"

Carsten, May 2009

"We enjoyed a bottle of the 2001 [Honeysuckle] on our balcony overlooking Hollywood the other night, and the wine was outstanding (once again)!"

"Wow – THAT was a fantastic party – one of the more memorable ones of my life and I have been around a little...thank you so much for having us!"

James, May 2009

Brenda, May 2009

"My husband, son-in-law, and sister-in-law and her husband were lucky enough to visit your winery and have a great visit with Kathy. She even recommended a wonderful restaurant for lunch. My husband is a fanatic about your Pinot noirs—he had a Lollapalooza last night and just sat with his head back and his eyes closed enjoying the nuances!"

Tim, March 2009

[In response to 'What is your favorite wine and food pairing ever?'] "2002 Fiddlehead Pinot noir Cuvée 728 with both great neo-classic paella and then a roulade of veal with root vegetable gratin at Espuma in Rehoboth Beach, DE. It showed the versatility and elegance of the wine by being a perfect compliment to both diverse dishes."

Mike, February 2009

"Kathy, I just want to say that being in the wine business (retail sales) for some 32 years I have tasted a number of wines. I consistently find your wines to be among my favorites. You always seem to have perfect balance in your wines. Your Sauvignon blancs are always one of my favorites in any given vintage and I also love your Pinot noir for the great complexity and depth. Keep up the good work."

"Kathy has, without a doubt, the best wines, the best staff and the best personality of all the winemakers I have ever met."

Bruce, October 2008

Jim, January 2009

"I have turned friends on to your 728 and you have become quite popular here in the frozen tundra of Chicago. I will most likely be ordering another case of 2005 728 next week...I have no idea what we are going to do when that runs out."

Julie, December 2008

"I love your wine, I love your parties and I dream of Pinkie's Party. FiddleFest is one of my favorite events but Pinkie's Party is one of the few wine events that is truly geared toward women wine drinkers. You inspire us all! Everywhere I go I am on the lookout for pink clothing items. I can't believe that the one of the winners last year actually purchased the coolest stockings ever in London knowing that she would wear them to the party. You have started something epic and I hope you will keep it going. Your wine inspires us and your parties are the envy of the wine industry."

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Dennis, October 2008

"We have enjoyed your wines since our first glass earlier this year when we visited your winery. Robin (my girlfriend) enjoyed it so much, she joined your Wine Club and Fiddlehead is still her one and only winery membership...What I would like to request of you is to hide an engagement ring for me in one of your wine glasses at the time of our visit. I am planning on asking her hand in marriage at this time and I know this would be a great surprise."

Jeff, November 2008

"My father, wife and I would just like to express our gratefulness on a superb set of Sauv Blancs, Pinots and the Sweetie that we tasted this past Sunday. We had a great trip and drank many great wines, and yours were definitely on that list. Thanks for making my wife's first trip up to Santa Barbara wine country so memorable, your tasting room was the first one that she has been in, and it was an enjoyable experience for all!"

Sam, October 2008

"Kathy, early this spring you spent a few minutes with me and my lunch guest at the Capital Grill in Charlotte, N.C. introducing us to your new Pinot noir. At the time it was not yet available. For my taste Fiddlestix Seven Twenty Eight is exceptional. I have enjoyed Fiddlehead for several years. This note is just a simple thank you ma'am for your excellent wine. I have today ordered bottle numbers 61 through 72. All who taste it seem to recognize that it is an exceptional bottle of wine."



"We just popped the cork on a 2002 Lollapalooza and all I can say is the universe rewards patience because this stuff is rockin' right now!!! You are truly a stud winemaker!!!"

John & Angela, September 2008

"I always wanted to tell you this story regarding my wife being diagnosed with cancer back in 2007. My wife of 20 years and I are enjoying 2002 Happy Canyon Sauv. blanc half bottle. It was the very first bottle of wine I ever bought from your winery. This was the bottle that we shared 2 days prior to my wife's hysterectomy surgery. It was her bottle of choice and we enjoyed it very much. I am glad to inform you that she has been cancer free for a year and 7 months now. We will continue to enjoy your wines for many more years to come. Cheers!"

Tracy & Holly, August 2008

Michael, September 2008

"I visited your tasting room on Sunday with my fiancée and my sister. Your hospitality was incredible and we absolutely loved tasting your wines. I look forward to not only drinking the bottles we took home with us but also to ordering more wines in the future. You would be hard-pressed to find happier people than those in these photos! Again, thank you for being so kind to us and for allowing us the opportunity to taste and buy your fabulous wines."



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C E L L A R S

August 2008

"My wife and I had a bottle of the 728 Fiddlestix Pinot about 9 months ago and absolutely fell in love with it. We liked it so much that I recommended it to a good friend who is a hard-core Pinot guy (Sinsky, Cambria, etc.) and HE fell in love with it too...and joined your club. We're excited to try more of your wines."

Jerry, August 2008

"I was delighted to find Fiddlehead Pinot noir (Seven Twenty Eight) on the wine list at Sutro's (Cliffhouse) of San Francisco this last weekend. I usually gravitate toward the Carneros Pinot noirs, but on two occasions I've stumbled across Fiddlehead on a wine list and both times found it just perfect. Kathy, I don't know what it is that you do...but please keep on doing it."

"I can hardly wait to receive [the 2005 728]. I had the 04 a couple months ago and I'm hooked! I've been a fan of XXX Winery, XXX Cellars, etc...but this wine has stepped in and taken over."

February, 2007

"I just tried the Pink Fiddle this weekend for Super Bowl Sunday and LOVED it!"

March 2007

"Sorry for the delay, but my wife and I wanted to drop you a short note to let you know how much we enjoyed visiting Fiddlehead again this year. Once again Susan was cordial and helpful... she's a real sweet heart and I think brings a lot of warmth to the tasting room. Thanks for sharing the new bottling of the 728."

Penni, September 2008

March 2007

"I'll send this [wine club information] to my husband and we'll sign up. He had your Pinot and has been raving about it ever since."

June 2007

"Even though we were not [at FiddleFest] I opened up two bottles of Pink Fiddle to be there in spirit!! (Fantastic wine!)"

July 2007

"Enjoyed very much our recent visit to your tasting room. Lompoc is extremely fortunate to have enterprises like yours among its attractions."

August 2007

"Since you were not pouring your Lollapalooza last Thursday when we visited, we tried a bottle at the Ballard Inn that evening. We liked it so much that we came back to Tucson and bought a case."

January 2008

"Thank you and please go ahead and send the wine. I can wait for the t-shirt but I have been out of your wine for too long."

"I recently had the pleasure of sharing in a bottle of Fiddlehead Cellars 2004 Lollapalooza Pinot noir, Sta. Rita Hills. To say the least it was one of the best wines I have ever tasted."

July 2008

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C E L L A R S

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"Not 30 seconds ago I was in full blown panic. I thought I did not have any Fiddlehead left...I just found a case that I had put back, so I am happy [but] I need more."

April 2008

April 2008

"I visited you on Friday and fell in love with your Oldsville Reserve and wish I'd bought a lot more than six baby bottles. And that 728 was mighty tasty too."

April 2008

"I didn't realize how spectacular this wine would be when I bought three bottles and am now down to the last one. It's become number one on the Pinot noir list of my girlfriend and I."

May 2008

"The 05 728 is like velvet!!!"

May 2008

"Kathy, it was so great seeing you again and having some time to talk over dinner. Everyone was very appreciative of your time and of the quality of your wines. Yesterday the Executive Vice Chancellor pulled me aside and talked for about 5 minutes about how he could not decide if he liked your Sauvignon blancs or your Pinots better: he kept arguing with himself about which he enjoyed more."

"Just a note, we even packed up our wine when we evacuated (from the Southern California fires) and drank a bottle of Fiddlehead Sauvignon blanc at the evacuation center we were located at for 3 days. It did make that evening much more pleasant!"

October 2007

"We had a bottle of the 2004 Elton Pinot noir with dinner this evening – phenomenal! This is clearly one of the all-time best Pinots we have had, from any producer, any vintage, and any geography."

November 2007

May 2008

"It was our pleasure meeting you and tasting your gorgeous wines (we are still talking about your Pinot noir and our Assoc. Exec. Director said 'It makes me weepy it's so good!')."

July 2008

"Just a quick note to say how much we enjoyed your 2004 Pinot noir, Seven Twenty Eight. It went very well with a grilled herb-encrusted sockeye salmon. The wine was full of flavor with a smooth, round finish. Outstanding combination!"

March 2008

"I also want to say that I enjoyed the 2005 Happy Canyon Sauvignon blanc very much. While speaking to a friend who raved about French wine, I promised to find a California Sauvignon blanc that is as good as, if not better than, French ones (my Californian pride definitely got in the way). Fiddlehead was recommended to me by my neighborhood wine store, even though the store did not carry it. I found Happy Canyon and it is definitely on the top of the 10 bottles I've tried thus far. I look forward to tasting Hunnysuckle."