UN-CORKED
with Dave

THURSDAY
27 MARCH
2025

Issue No. 5

There are some winemakers that just have the ability to work in varied environments with different people and philosophies and consistently produce amazing, delicious wines. Andy Erickson is one. You may or may not have heard of Andy, but he is one of the most respected wine makers in California. He has made wine with several of the most elite labels in California and has the accolades to show for it. I tried to research exactly how many 100 point wines he has made and no one can account for an exact number. His impressive resume includes winemaker or consulting winemaker positions at such elite wineries as Harlan Estate, Dancing Hares, Staglin Family, OVID, To Kalon Vineyard Company, Mayacamas and others. He was the second winemaker at the original cult winery Screaming Eagle.

WINEMAKER ANDY ERICKSON AND HIS WIFE, ANNIE FAVIA

We are honored to offer our 1818 Chophouse Wine Locker Members two opportunities for you to experience Andy's work. What makes these two wines special is that they are both personal projects for him. The other wineries mentioned above were owned by someone that employed him to make their wines.

Favia Wines

Andy is married to viticulturist (grape grower) Annie Favia. Together, they produce Favia wines in Napa Valley. It is a very small production that until 2023 operated from the 1500 square foot basement of their house. They have defined their winemaking philosophy as:

In collaboration with nature,
with reverence for the craft,
in honor of place.

1818 CHOPHOUSE

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cont.

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2021 Favia LA MAGDALENA Red Wine Napa Valley
I am so grateful to have been able to taste this wine. It is a blend of 52% Cabernet Franc and 48% Cabernet Sauvignon, all grown in the Oakville Ranch Vineyard. This is an outstanding vineyard that is farmed by Phil Cotturri, a pioneer in organic viticulture in northern California.

This has a deep and brooding quality with dark blue and black fruits that is balanced by a freshness that you typically only get in organically farmed grapes that are allowed to shine through the winemaking process. This is one of the top wines that I have experienced in the past year. I will attach a sheet to this email that tells more about the wine for more details about the growing season, harvest and winemaking. It also features several stellar critical reviews that start at 95+ points and go up from there.

There are 27 bottles of this wine currently available in the entire state of Illinois. If you would like to acquire this wine, please respond to this email. We can take orders for up to 3 bottles per wine locker and will fill the orders in the order they arrive in my inbox. I will keep everyone posted if we get close to running out of available bottles.

Price: $210/bottle

Leviathan
Andy's primary focus has always been Napa Valley. He also has an appreciation for the variety of terroir that exists in other regions of the state of California. In order to showcase these, he makes a wine called Leviathan. Here is a short video of Andy telling the story of Leviathan.

2022 Leviathan Red Wine
The 2022 blend is 78% Cabernet Sauvignon, with Petite Sirah, Merlot, Syrah, Cabernet Franc, and Petite Verdot blended in. These grapes are grown in mountainside vineyards from Sonoma County, Lake County, Napa County and others. The elevation of these vineyards provide a balance in the structure, offering black cherry and cedar on the palate with a finish that features baking spices and floral notes.

Price: $28/Bottle
$288/Case (12 bottles)

We are excited to offer these wines from a great winemaker to you. Please respond to this email with any questions you may have or to place an order.

Cheers!