



Highlights

- ◆ The Vintage Illinois wine festival was a huge success again this year. Over 6 thousand people attended!
- ◆ The Wine garden has just been landscaped, we have new umbrella tables surrounding a new 10' fountain, great music, chocolate covered strawberries, cheeses, crackers and cold wine. Coming next spring will be an outdoor tasting bar. A great place to relax after a day at the park.
- ◆ Log into our website to learn more about our "Artist in Residence" program.
- ◆ Take a ROAD TRIP! Stop in and we'll provide you with a map and directions to other area Wineries! Or local waterfalls, or canyons! Or even a great place to eat.

Spilling the Grapes

Ok, we've been holding out on some fun news. Most of you know about the new Winery we built last year. Well, it is finally open for tours. The new Winery includes an outdoor crush pad, cold settling area, fermentation area, ageing area, glass staging, bottling line, case wine bond, a laboratory, rest room facilities and a Jacuzzi (says something about us doesn't it!). So just think: A tasting room, a wine garden, winery tours - the whole California experience. And all together, right in Utica.

- ◆ The Winery is open for tours on Saturday afternoons at 1,2,3 & 4 pm
- ◆ The Tasting room is open EVERY DAY!

In the Vineyard

We will be planting another 7,000 vines this spring including: Chardonnay, Cabernet Franc, Valvin Muscat, Corot Noir, Riesling, Pinot Grigio, and Dornfelder. Some of these vines will be planted at our Starved Rock Vineyards, the rest at our newest vineyard that we'll unveil in our next newsletter Stay tuned!

In the Cellar'

We have acquired a few more winery toys: ←

- ◆ a new tractor
- ◆ a cross-flow filter
- ◆ more 2500 gallon tanks
- ◆ a hot tub

Did you know that you can tell the difference between men and boys by the price of their toys?

We are working on a few more wines for fall release: Frontenac Port, Christmas Cranberry, and Chardonel.

Insider's Tip

Do you find yourself breaking off the cork? The trick is to keep the corkscrew dead-center in the cork, then pull it straight up. Yes, it really is that simple!



Have you stumbled upon a great wine? Bring it in or at least tell us about it. We may be able to make it for you. Many of our upcoming releases are a result of customers like you bringing in a great find.



In the Tasting Room



Etc...

Upcoming Releases:

September	Hallowine	A pumpkin-labeled Apple wine, spiced with cinnamon and nutmeg, in an orange bottle with a green stem, oops, I meant a green capsule. Available only Sept. through Dec.
October	Chardonel	An International award winning wine, even before we released it. Better place your orders!
November	Christmas Cranberry	Our newest wine, an off-dry Cranberry in a Ceramic-painted bottle, just for the Holiday season.
December	Frontenac Port	This wonderful, full bodied Port, made from the Frontenac grape, features flavors of plum, cherry and chocolate.

Places to

Find our

Wines:

Utica

- ◆ **The Cajun Connection** on Rt. 6, one mile east of Rt. 178

Bloomington

- ◆ **A. Renée's**, 306 N. Center 309-827-3524
- ◆ Friar Tucks

Princeton

- ◆ Sherwood Antique Mall

Ottawa

- ◆ Hermann's Liquor store.

Onarga

- ◆ Butterfield Trail Antiques

We took the PLUNGE:

Remember that cute little website we had? Well, it is no more. We have hired a top website development company to roll out a new site for us that rivals the sites of the best wineries in the country. And it truly does. You can now get the latest news, shop on-line, buy tickets to our next events, read the latest newsletter, join the wine club and much, much more.

So don't pass go, don't collect \$200, go straight to our new website at illinoisriverwinery.com

The short story on our "Artist in Residence" program is that bona-fide artists can stay at the Winery apartment at no cost. In exchange the artist will leave on piece of the art they created while in residence, with the Village or Winery. Artists are encouraged to apply on-line.



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