



April Newsletter

Spring has come to Brandon Hills Vineyard. The plants are greening up and the back deck has come into season for everyone to enjoy. We have not been idle over the winter. Lots of new landscaping has been installed, a walkway to the lower patio has been built and we now have grass.

We are excited to announce the release on April 17th of our first new wines since we opened. The 2009 Viognier, a crisp white wine full of fruit flavors and our ever popular 2009 White Merlot, a semi sweet rose' that is perfect for the warm days ahead. To celebrate the occasion we will have live music playing from 1 to 5 pm. Bring a picnic and lawn chairs or enjoy the deck while you listen to classic rock by the Danny Lawson Band.



Tickets will go on sale this week end for the Shallow Ford Wine Trail's first event. Friday night May 7th will be the Wine & Dine. Relax and enjoy a slow moving evening as you visit each winery on the trail. A \$25 fee will give you a nice taste of wine with a dish prepared to pair with that wine; and of course you will keep your wineglass. www.shallowfordwinetrail.com



Allison Oaks- Merlot and Tapas
Brandon Hills- Viognier and Grilled Chicken Salad
Hanover Park- Chardonnay and Shrimp with Cannellini Beans
Misty Creek- Chambourcin with Chocolate Dessert
Uptown Wine and Gallery- Cabernet Sauvignon and Roast Encrusted with Bleu Cheese and Chardonal with Pasta

The work never stops as we continue to refine the landscape. Another exciting project is our wrought iron gazebo. Part of our walkway to the lower patio, when finished it will be covered with flowering vines. The perfect setting for Brides looking for a vineyard wedding. Look for it to finished early this Summer.

Pam's bog garden should be finishing about the same time as the gazebo. A solution for waste water produced by the RO unit that provides filtered water to our 240 gallon saltwater reef tank, the bog will be filled with pitcher plants, venus fly traps, sun dews and bog flowers. The carnivorous plants are a natural control for insects while we utilize the water that would have been wasted from the RO unit and the air-conditioner condensation.

2009 Pinot Gris will be bottling soon. It is going through the final stabilizations now and should be ready for sale in late May.

Start Getting in shape now! Brandon Hills Vineyard will host the First Annual Raptor Ride on July 10th. Twenty, forty and sixty mile bicycle routes to ride with the proceeds going to the Carolina Raptor Center. Registration is \$25 before July 1st and \$30 afterwards. Each rider will get a custom tee shirt and a free wine tasting for those of proper age. The Carolina Raptor Center will release a bird that has been rehabilitated to start the ride. We are also looking for corporate sponsors. For a donation of \$100 or more we will feature your logo on the information packet and registration brochure as well as on the event tee shirt. A great tax deductible way for your company to show its community involvement. For more information or to become a sponsor email raptorride@brandonhillsvineyard.com



Carolina Raptor Center is dedicated to environmental stewardship and the conservation of birds of prey through education, research, and the rehabilitation of injured and orphaned raptors.