

Orangewood Wines

Small Wineries, Great Wines

Volume 7 Issue 7 --- February 27, 2022

Introduction

Little did I know what February would bring. Leslie and I both have had bouts with covid-19. Fortunately our respective families remained uninfected. I also had a chance to find out how rusty my skiing skills had become after two years. I had a world class wipe-out on Telluride's Bushwacker slope! Meanwhile, Orangewood continued its momentum as we move into a post covid-19 world.

Post Covid

For the last two years we have been hunkered down, not allowing winery visitors and being cautious about customer visits in general. Now I am seeing a glimpse of normality arriving. We will not see covid-19 disappear, we will continue to see variants popping up, but hopefully not existential threats to humanity. We can expect to see vaccines updated. The annual covid-19 shot may be every 6 months. It will be our choice whether to be vaccinated or take our chances on the latest variants. Mask wearing? We all used to try to avoid sneezing at our friends and colleagues when we had a cold, and we stayed home when we were sick. Perhaps we will be a little more sensitive about this in the future.

That said, I expect more people to be going to restaurants and bars. As a distributor, we will once again be helping our customers with tasting events and winemaker dinners. Our suppliers are already pushing for the chance to visit to train us and to support events.

No one expects the road ahead to be smooth. It never is!

The Rambler

I am part of a group of skiers who mostly worked for, or with, Honeywell. They meet once a year at a ski resort to ski some runs, drink some wine, cook some food, shoot some fat, hangout in a hot tub, etc. We skipped 2021, but felt that with proper precautions we could do 2022. Everyone agreed to be vaccinated and boosted, as well as doing a final test immediately prior to the trip. In addition, we would do all our own catering rather than having to visit public eateries. The destination was Telluride, Colorado, where Laurie taught me to ski over 35 years ago. We used to visit there every year for a week, meeting our friends, John and Deb, and staying at the Johnstone Inn in the old town. Needless to say, this is my favourite place to ski. No new snow had been reported for a while, which meant that many of the slopes were either ice or groomed ice. It was on such a surface that I lost both skis and bounced and slid for a long time. Flashing through my brain was the dread of having walk back to get my skis. For après ski, I did convince some people that Albariño and Vinho Verde are fun wine choices. Good times. All was well until two days after the trip someone reported testing positive for Covid-19. Uh oh! The next day I did too.

The rambler rambles on...

Cheers,

Richard and Laurie

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