



## Cartograph Circle News: February 2025

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### Hello

The end of 2024 was hectic for us - but we made it through, as did you, so let's celebrate 2025 for all the good things that will happen this year! We'll keep this short and sweet as there's still so much to do.

### FEBRUARY 2025

A LOOK AT THE FUTURE HOME OF  
CARTOGRAPH

FROM THE WINEMAKER: WHY CAB FRANC?

FUN THINGS COMING UP

## A LOOK AT THE FUTURE HOME OF CARTOGRAPH

In January, we submitted the building permit for our remodel of the new Cartograph property. Once we've answered all of the County of Sonoma's questions, we can actually start the process of turning our vision for this special place into reality. Our contractor is amazing; this is the third project we've worked on together.

The image is the to-scale gingerbread version of the new property which our friend and Circle member Russ Rettig created. [More info.](#)



Another one of our dear friends and Circle members came to tour the site this winter and took some stunning photos. Helge said we can share these with you, so [here's a glimpse](#) of what you can see on a tour. Come visit before demolition begins!

If you'd like a tour, please [email Serena](#) with potential dates. Morning tours around 10 or 10:30 seem to work out best. After the tour wraps up, you can head to the Cartograph tasting room for a tasting and then grab lunch downtown.



## FROM THE WINEMAKER: WHY CAB FRANC?

For the first time in a long while, we're adding a new grape variety to our portfolio. We pride ourselves on making wines that complement a meal and sparkle across the palate — hence our passion for Pinot and Riesling.

As we plan on moving our hospitality home base to Dry Creek Valley, we figured we should embrace more varieties that are grown in warmer growing regions.

My first thought was Cabernet franc. Like Pinot and Riesling, this is a grape that tells you a lot about its growing conditions. If you know these wines, you know what I mean, but if not: Find yourself a nice Cab franc from Bordeaux and a Chinon from the Loire Valley, and taste them side by side. It's the exact same grape, but you'll see immediately that they're very different wines.

Bordeaux typically presents as bold and up-front, while Chinons lean more to the elegant and subtle side. The latter wines are the inspiration for our 2023 Cabernet franc. This wine will be part of our spring release, and I can't wait to hear what you think.

Cheers,

Alan



## FUN THINGS COMING UP

- **Tours at 280!** This exclusive tour for Cartograph Circle members will let you peek at construction progress before the public gets to see this amazing space.
- We'll be grafting the **Gewürztraminer** this spring at the Cartograph Estate vineyard — the last block of the replant. We should get our first fruit for harvest in 2027!
- We're launching a new tasting in April: **Passion for Pinot**. We'll send more details as soon as Sonoma County Tourism lets us go public with it. :-)
- We're now focusing on pouring at **smaller wine events** so we can connect with people more meaningfully than we can at large events. Join us on March 13 from 5:30 - 7:30pm at Bricoleur Vineyard for Sonoma County Vintners' Pinot Noir Pour and Explore - [tickets](#) should be released soon.
- **New wines:**
  - Cheers to Cab franc! We'll release our 2023 Cab franc this spring in our first nod to our new home (which is still in Healdsburg, but in the Dry Creek AVA).
  - Other new wines coming out this year are the 2023 Sonoma County Riesling and the 2018 Estate Blanc des Noirs (sparkling) — and possibly also the 2024 Cartograph Estate Riesling.
  - In 2026 we'll release additional wines that reflect our move to the new space. We'll still have all your favorites in our Pinot portfolio, and we're adding a "bold reds" menu featuring Grenache, Syrah and the Cab franc. (Keep in mind that these are made by a Pinot winemaker, so they're going to be much more delicate than you might expect.) Circle members, you'll be able to choose what you want in the spring and fall releases.
- **Green Music Center: Third Coast Percussion**
  - Join us at the [Green Music Center](#) on March 1 for Third Coast Percussion.
  - Hot tip: You can use your Cartograph Circle code for discounted tickets to all shows at the GMC, not solely the ones sponsored by Cartograph.
  - If you're coming to a show we sponsor, let us know. We'll add your name to the donor lounge list so you can enjoy small bites and Cartograph wines both before the show and at intermission.
- We'll keep you posted on details of the **spring release**, which will happen in late April/early May.
- **Hello, Minnesota!**
  - May 7: Minnesota Winemaker Tasting - invitations for Circle members coming soon
  - May 9: [WineFest](#) Grand Tasting, Minneapolis - we will be participating on the Luxe Lunch and the Grand Tasting



## AND THE FINALE

Phew ... tired yet? It's going to be an exhilarating year, with more going on than ever as we're farming more vineyards and starting construction at the new property. We can't wait to welcome you to our new home in 2026 — but we hope you'll also join us there in 2025 as it undergoes its transformation.

Cheers,

Alan and Serena

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