



Spring 2007

Dear Friends:

The French like to think of wine as coming from a specific place rather than identifying a wine by its grape varietal. They say that "*terroir*", the character imparted in the grapes based on soil, slope, and climate, imbues a distinct personality in the wine. At COHO, we believe that the three wines we are showcasing in this Spring Release are delicious examples of this idea.

Our **2005 COHO Stanly Ranch Pinot Noir**, the fourth COHO vintage we've harvested from this historic vineyard, is immediately reminiscent of our previous wines. The 2005 exudes remarkably rich and spicy aromatics and deep cherry flavors on the palate. The wine is comprised of grapes grown on the oldest existing section of the vineyard plus fruit from a newer block planted with distinctive *Dijon* clones. Originally planted in the 1880s, the Stanly Ranch is growing the kind of flavorful Pinot Noir wines that helped establish Los Carneros as a premier Pinot Noir appellation. One glass of our **2005 COHO Stanly Ranch Pinot Noir** will prove why.

In 2004, COHO ventured to the northern end of Napa Valley to make a Cabernet Sauvignon from a new vineyard planted near the summit of Diamond Mountain. The unique red porous soils and extended exposure to the sun create an ideal environment to produce Cabernet Sauvignon wines rich in dark chocolate and black fruits flavors. The **COHO 2004 SummitVine Ranch Cabernet Sauvignon** has received rave reviews, including a "Double Gold Medal" at the prestigious 2007 San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition. We are very excited to be making wine from SummitVine Ranch and we encourage you to add some to your cellar.

The **2004 COHO Michael Black Vineyard Merlot**, grown on the volcanic soils of the Coombsville area of Napa, has garnered its share of accolades as well. The 2007 San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition bestowed the Michael Black Merlot with a "Double Gold Medal", and also awarded it with a "Best in Class" distinction.

Recently Jim Laube of the Wine Spectator contributed the following review, rating the **2004 COHO Michael Black Vineyard Merlot** at 92 Points: "*Aromas of sweet candied apple and cherry fruit also show on the palate, with a gentle intensity and suppleness to the texture. There's excellent balance between the fruit and tannins, and this finishes with a burst of dark red fruits on the finish. Drink now through 2012.*" If you haven't yet tried our Michael Black Merlot, we encourage you to open a bottle soon and taste what you have been missing from other Merlots.

As always we want to thank you for your interest and support of COHO.

Brooks and Beth Painter Gary Lipp and Sheila Barry