

APRIL WINES, 2008

All wines we taste and review are current releases and can be found and purchased locally, at the winery or on the web

ZINFANDEL – ZEVEN ZINFUL ZINS!

“ZINFANDEL” IF THE NAME SOUNDS UNIQUELY CALIFORNIA – WELL, IT IS!

And even if we could pronounce its tongue-twisting maiden name, *“Crljenak Kastelanski”*, it would still be exciting!

GOT FOOD?

I pause at food affinity here because there are just so very many different styles of Zinfandel.

They range from a light-touch more elegant style to an in-your-face big, peppery, spicy, fruity, jammy style.

Zin's frequently high alcohol levels can also complicate ideal food pairings, but here are some of my favorites:

- ♥ *Pizza, and almost anything Italian with big, rich sauces*
- ♥ *Anything with a not too hot-spicy barbecue sauce*
- ♥ *Roasted anything*
- ♥ *Chutney's, tapenades, and...*
- ♥ *Bittersweet chocolate...mmmm.....*

THE WINES!

LISTED IN THE ORDER TASTED – TASTING REVIEWS FOLLOW

Wine A	■	2005	FETZER VINEYARDS	California	\$9
Wine B	■	2005	ADOBE ROAD	Sonoma Coast	\$34
Wine C	■	2004	CAROL SHELTON “Maple Vineyard”	Dry Creek Valley	\$33
Wine D	■	2004	HENDRY VINEYARD “Block 28”	Napa Valley	\$35
Wine E	■	2006	BONTERRA	Mendocino	\$15
Wine F	■	2005	BELLA VINEYARDS “Big River Vineyard”	Dry Creek Valley	\$36
Wine G	■	2004	MARIAH VINEYARDS	Mendocino Ridge	\$25

➤ *The prices listed are winery suggested retail prices.* ←

Each Tasting Panelist has selected their **Favorite (F)** and their **Value pick (V)** of this tasting. You'll find this noted at the end of their individual summary comments.

“Breaking the code” ❖ Terms used in the reviews that follow

- Balance** ➤ Refers to Fruit, Acid and Tannin. When they are all perceivable in equal amounts and one doesn't appear to be excessive or lacking, the wine is in “balance”.
- Hot** ➤ refers to percentage of alcohol. If the alcohol is noticeable, it's not in “balance” and makes the wine unpleasant or “hot”. This can be perceived in both aroma (think Vodka), and taste. – a bitter, peppery and very fruity – often a 'sweet', sensation, even in a 'dry' wine. It can also be more viscous – or 'full' bodied.

According to each individual taster's perception, every wine will have the following self-explanatory terms to describe the **FRUIT**, **ACID** and **TANNIN**.

Ideal (or “just right”)

'Slightly' excessive or **'Slightly' lacking**,

Excessive or **Lacking** (more than 'slightly')

'Very' excessive or **'Very' lacking** (definitely too much or too little)

Over The Top (“OTT”) (self-explanatory)

ENJOY THE REVIEWS – ENJOY THE JOURNEY!

WINE "A"



2006 FETZER VINEYARDS
California

\$9
13.5% alcohol

Fetzer is the largest grower of certified organically grown grapes in CA. Their belief is that healthier vines produce more flavorful wines so naturally we had to test their philosophy, and the results surprised even us. The grapes are sourced mostly from Mendocino, with some fruit from Amador, North and Central Coast, Paso Robles and Lake County vineyards. This Zinfandel is a "field blend" of mostly Zinfandel, with small amounts of Petite Sirah, Syrah and Carignane. It's been aged for 16 months in French and American oak..

PANEL EVALUATIONS AND COMMENTS

- Donna** **Fruit, Acid and Tannin:** Ideal / Medium body, Medium finish (V)
Sensuous first impression of dark fruit – plums, then raspberry, cherry and raisins with a soft mouthfeel and spice that lingers on the finish.
- Cory** **Fruit:** Excessive; **Acid and Tannin:** Ideal / Medium body, Medium finish (V)
This is a fruit forward wine – some strawberry and a hint of plum with some smoky overtones. Good with pasta, gnocchi, light meat dishes.
- Ingrid** **Fruit:** Lacking, **Acid:** Slightly excessive; **Tannin:** Ideal / Med-light body, Med-short finish.
A nice sipping wine – light and drinkable. Great to share with friends – a girls night out wine.
- Rob** **Fruit:** Ideal; **Acid and Tannin:** Slightly excessive / Medium body, Med-long finish (V)
Not a big, full-bodied wine but it's approachable, drinkable and since it doesn't knock our sox off, it would be a nice first wine of the evening.
- Debra** **Fruit:** Slightly excessive; **Acid and Tannin:** Ideal / Medium body, Long finish (F, V)
Rich brooding ripe cherry aromas and flavors, with a hint of cocoa and leather. Rich satin texture and a lingering finish.
- Jim A** **Fruit, Acid and Tannin:** All ideal and in balance / Medium body, Med-long finish
Very nice classic Zinfandel. Good fruit, a bit peppery with a nice consistent finish. Delightful.
- Mary** **Fruit and Tannin:** Slightly lacking; **Acid:** Slightly excessive; / Med-light body, Medium finish
Would like more fruit – a little flat and hot but it would be good with a risotto dish, or light pasta.
- James H** **Fruit and Acid:** Ideal; **Tannin:** Slightly lacking / Medium body, Med-short finish (V)
Mouthful of cherries. Slight residual sugar? Unusually well balanced for a Zin. Not a lay down wine – drink young.
- Linda** **Fruit and Acid:** Ideal; **Tannin:** Slightly lacking / Medium body, Medium finish
Has a sweet, inviting nose. A lovely drinking wine, nice to sip, though a little tart. I'd buy it.
- Bill** **Fruit:** Ideal; **Acid:** Slightly excessive; **Tannin:** Slightly lacking / Med-light body, Med-long finish
Aromas and flavors of spice and fruit, though the wine was a little tart for my taste.
- Von** **Fruit, Acid and Tannin:** All ideal and in balance / Medium body, Med-long finish (V)
Nice food wine – especially with pizza. A pleasant, lighter style, and a good every day Zin.



WINE "B"

2005 ADOBE ROAD

Sonoma Coast

CA

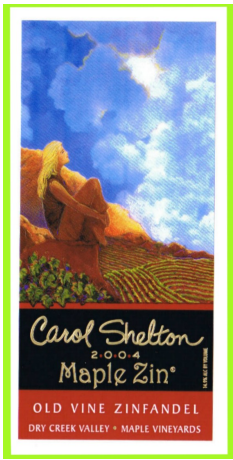
\$34

15.2 % alcohol

While a visit to this Petaluma Gap winery is by appointment only, if you love looking at gorgeous cars while you taste wines, you owe it to yourself to discover Adobe Road. A small, family-owned winery, its founder and proprietor owns a professional sportscar racing business. The grapes for this 100% Zinfandel, which was aged for 20 months in both French and American oak, come from the Sonoma Coast AVA and are a blend of Russian River and Dry Creek Valley fruit.

PANEL EVALUATIONS AND COMMENTS

- Donna** **Fruit:** Ideal; **Acid and Tannin:** Slightly excessive / Medium body, Med-long finish
Mild cedar and cherry aromas. The wine is a little too hot and spicy for my taste.
- Cory** **Fruit, Acid and Tannin:** All ideal and in balance / Med-full body, Long finish **(F)**
Great aroma of dark fruits. A wonderfully balanced wine that has a great consistency from the first sip to the long finish. Pair with lighter foods so they won't overwhelm this lovely wine.
- Ingrid** **Fruit and Acid:** Slightly excessive; **Tannin:** Ideal / Full bodied, Long finish
A hearty wine for a gathering of friends. A burger wine, or good with Chicken Cacciatore.
- Rob** **Fruit:** Slightly lacking; **Acid:** Slightly excessive **Tannin:** Ideal / Med-full body, Med-long finish **(F)**
Fruit, pepper and spice in the nose. It's a little hot, and oak comes through in the finish. It would be good with bigger pasta dishes.
- Debra** **Fruit:** Slightly lacking; **Acid and Tannin:** Excessive / Med-full body, Med-long finish
Pomegranate, cranberry and red and black fruit aromas. Slight sweetness around the edges but the finish is very dry.
- Jim A.** **Fruit and Acid:** Slightly lacking; **Tannin:** Slightly excessive / Med-full body, Medium finish
Seemed a little flat at first, but the second sip coats the tongue and the complexity comes out. A good food wine, not as good for sipping.
- Mary** **Fruit, Acid and Tannin:** All ideal and in balance / Medium body, Medium finish
A peppery Zin with a nice fruity finish. I would recommend it. It has nice earthy, fruity hints that I think would be nice with Osso Bucco and mushrooms.
- James H** **Fruit:** Excessive; **Acid:** Lacking; **Tannin:** Ideal / Medium body, Medium finish
The nose was dusty – beautiful, like a Rutherford Cabernet, but the wine disappointed me. If you like fruit-bombs – jammy, fruity and hot – you'll love this wine.
- Linda** **Fruit, Acid and Tannin:** All ideal and in balance / Med-full body, Med-long finish **(F)**
Yum! Spicy and full, and even the finish has wonderful, lingering spice – the way I love Zin! I'd definitely buy this wine!
- Bill** **Fruit, Acid and Tannin:** All ideal and in balance / Med-full body, Long finish **(V)**
Fruity, spicy aromas. An intense, fully balanced wine, excellent mouthfeel and and finish. I would buy this wine.
- Von** **Fruit and Acid:** Slightly excessive; **Tannin:** Ideal / Med-full body, Med-long finish
Lovely nose – ripe fruit and white pepper! This is a big-fruit style Zin – nice acidity but a little hot.



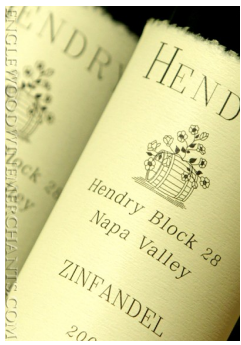
WINE “C”

2004 CAROL SHELTON WINES “Maple Vineyard” \$33
Dry Creek Valley CA 14.5 % alcohol

For 12 of the past 15 years, Carol has been named the “Most Awarded Winemaker in America”. After 19 years as winemaker for Windsor Vineyards, Carol left to follow her passion; making wines from the grape she loved most – Zinfandel. Maple Vineyard Zinfandel is a blend of 85% Zinfandel, 10% Petite Sirah, 4% Carignane and the balance, a mixed field blend. The grapes come from very old dry-farmed and head trained vines and the wine was aged for 13 months in American, French and Hungarian oak..

PANEL EVALUATIONS AND COMMENTS

- Donna** **Fruit, Acid and Tannin:** All ideal and in balance / Med-full body, Med-long finish
Aromas of dark cherry and plum. Flavor-wise, the fruit tastes over-ripe, and raisin-y and it overpowers pretty much everything else except for spice which comes out in the long finish.
- Cory** **Fruit:** Excessive; **Acid and Tannin:** Ideal / Med-full body, Med-long finish
This wine is trying too hard. Trying to be really big on fruit, and big on oak. It's also it's almost Cabernet-like and is also a tiny bit hot.
- Ingrid** **Fruit:** Slightly lacking; **Acid and Tannin:** Slightly excessive / Medium body, Long finish.
A very dry style of Zinfandel and a little hot. Needs food – big Italian dishes, or perhaps Moroccan lamb with spices to stand up to it.
- Rob** **Fruit, Acid and Tannin:** All slightly excessive / Med-full body, Med-long finish.
Ripe, jammy fruit aromas don't prepare you for a dryness that I can't quite describe. It's also a bit hot. I think this wine needs food – smoked meats, game meats.
- Debra** **Fruit:** Ideal; **Acid and Tannin:** Slightly excessive / Med-full body, Med-long finish
Aromas and flavors of plums, berries, spice and black pepper and dusty cocoa with a spike of juicy acidity and dry tannins. Pair with sausage and Pasta Puttanesca.
- Jim A.** **Fruit:** Ideal; **Acid:** Excessive; **Tannin:** Slightly excessive / Med-full body, Med-long finish
A very dry Zin – more like a Cabernet. A bit acidic, too. Definitely a food wine – spicy red meat.
- Mary** **Fruit and Acid:** Ideal; **Tannin:** Slightly lacking / Med-light body, Med-short finish
I thought this wine was a lighter style, easy to drink .
- James H** **Fruit and Acid:** Ideal; **Tannin:** Slightly lacking / Med-full body, Med-long finish
An overall pleasant wine with berry / cherry notes, but somewhat hot.
- Linda** **Fruit:** Lacking; **Acid and Tannin:** Slightly excessive / Medium body, Medium finish
I would have like more fruit. There was some bitterness in the finish – and dry tannins.
- Bill** **Fruit:** Slightly lacking; **Acid and Tannin:** Ideal / Medium body, Med- finish
Good fruit on the nose and medium intense, balanced flavor. Tannins were rough.
- Von** **Fruit, Acid and Tannin:** All ideal and in balance / Med-full body, Med-long finish.
Fresh raspberry / blackberry and white pepper in the nose. A very interesting and enjoyable lighter style of Zin – soft fruit, good acidity, dry tannins. A good food wine, which is what I like.



WINE “D”

2004 HENDRY VINEYARD “Block 28”
Napa Valley CA

\$35
15.1 % alcohol

A small, highly respected, family-owned vineyard and wine producer in the southern Napa Valley, Hendry produces their Block 28 Zinfandel from 4 acres of vines, planted in 1995 and grafted from 60 year-old vines from their Mt. Veeder vineyard. This 100% Zinfandel was aged for 14 months in French oak barrels, and 1350 cases were produced.

PANEL EVALUATIONS AND COMMENTS

- Donna** **Fruit:** Excessive; **Acid:** Ideal; **Tannin:** Slightly excessive / Med-full body, Med-long finish
A big hit of cherry is the first impression, but the wine is too hot. Maybe served with a rich food would tame the intense alcohol down.
- Cory** **Fruit:** Excessive **Acid:** Ideal; **Tannin:** Excessive
Some good fruit but this Zin is too hot from my taste. The heat of the alcohol overwhelms the wine.
- Ingrid** **Fruit:** Slightly lacking; **Acid:** Slightly excessive / Full body, Long finish.
Very peppery character – full bodied. Great with a jambalaya or grilled summer dishes, even vegetable kebabs.
- Rob** **Fruit:** Slightly excessive; **Acid and Tannin:** Ideal / Med-full body, Long finish.
This is a pretty big wine – a huge nose of ripe red and black fruit – and alcohol . If paired with food, it would need something hearty to stand up to the heat – it's hot, hot, hot.
- Debra** **Fruit:** Excessive; **Acid and Tannin:** Very excessive / Med-full body, Long finish
Jammy, fruity wine with some eucalyptus and mint. It's tart, with drying tannins and high alcohol.
- Jim A.** **Fruit Acid and Tannin:** All ideal and in balance / Long finish
Peppery and fruity – a good Zin with a nice long finish. Good for food or sipping. Improves with each sip.
- Mary** **Fruit Acid and Tannin:** All ideal and in balance
Big wine. Dark fruits, a touch of earthiness, eucalyptus and blackberry jam. This wine would be a lovely accompaniment to a hearty, flavorful dish to offset the hotness in the wine.
- James H** **Fruit:** Slightly excessive; **Acid:** Ideal; **Tannin:** Slightly excessive / Medium body, Med-long finish.
Sadly, the alcohol pretty much drove all the flavors out led to slight bitterness in the finish.
- Linda** **Fruit:** Slightly excessive; **Acid:** Excessive; **Tannin:** Ideal / Med- long finish
A bold wine. Seems like very ripe grapes were used. It had a rich, fruity, even raisiny character.
- Bill** **Fruit Acid and Tannin:** All ideal and in balance / Medium body, Long finish
Medium intense flavor and nose. Tannins added to the appeal of this wine and, along with the fruit, persisted in the long finish.
- Von** **Fruit:** Excessive; **Acid and Tannin:** Slightly excessive / Med-full body, Long finish.
Aromas of ripe dark berries and spice. A fruity, jammy style but the hotness gives the wine a disjointed character that distracts from what would otherwise be a very nice wine.



WINE "E"

2006 BONTERRA

Mendocino CA

\$15

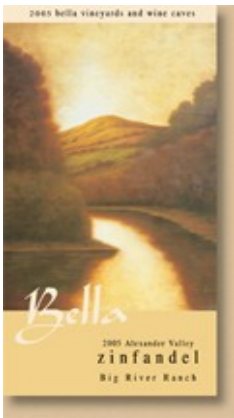
14.5 % alcohol

"Bonterra" means "the good earth", an appropriate name to describe the philosophy of a winery which, like Fetzer – this month's 'Wine A' – produces wines from certified organically grown grapes.

For a long time Zinfandel defined Mendocino and most of the grapes for this wine come from eight vineyards in Mendocino County, one of which is Certified Biodynamic. The wine is a blend of 84% Zinfandel and 16% Petite Sirah and was aged for 11 months in French and American oak of varying ages – from new to neutral.

PANEL EVALUATIONS AND COMMENTS

- Donna** **Fruit:** Slightly lacking; **Acid and Tannin:** Ideal / Medium body, Medium finish
A pleasant, simple, wine – except for the noticeable alcohol. Lighter on fruit than most zins, but easy to drink.
- Cory** **Fruit Acid and Tannin:** All ideal and in balance / Medium body, Medium finish
A decent Zin. A little hot but the fruit is tasty and would work well with Asian Fusion type food like 5-Spice ribs. I'd buy it.
- Ingrid** **Fruit and Tannin:** Slightly excessive; **Acid:** Slightly lacking / Full body, Long finish.
A very fruity wine with full body. Nice with quiche or blue cheeses.
- Rob** **Fruit:** Slightly lacking; **Acid and Tannin:** Slightly excessive / Med-full body, Med-long finish.
I get fruit but it has a more sour-fruit quality. It tends to be tart, and a little hot. Not my style of Zin.
- Debra** **Fruit, Acid and Tannin:** All slightly excessive, but in balance
Cherry cola nose with hints of chocolate and smoke. Dark, ripe cherry and cocoa. Fruit drops off in the finish but food will fix that – Beef Bourignone with egg noodles and red chili pepper.
- Jim A.** **Fruit, Acid and Tannin:** All slightly lacking;
The fruit, acid and tannin all seem to drop off quickly. It's also a bit hot.
- Mary** **Fruit and Tannin:** Ideal; **Acid:** Slightly excessive / Med-light body, Med-long finish **(F,V)**
Very easy to drink on its own, but a lighter style than most Zins. I'd like some cheese and olives, or perhaps some Saltimbocca.
- James H** **Fruit Acid and Tannin:** All ideal and in balance / Med-long finish.
Aromas of raspberry and cherry. Because it's not a fruit bomb, this is a style I like. It's a little hot, but is nicely balanced with good fruit flavors.
- Linda** **Fruit and Tannin:** Slightly lacking; **Acid:** Slightly excessive / Light body, Short finish.
This Zin had hints of pepper but not a lot of fruit. The wine faded in the finish.
- Bill** **Fruit, Acid and Tannin:** All ideal and in balance / Medium body, Medium finish
Appetizing, fruity nose. A well-made wine with balanced fruit and acidity.
- Von** **Fruit, Acid and Tannin:** All ideal and in balance / Medium body, Med-long finish.
Aromas of ripe fresh red and black berries, cinnamon and white pepper. Not a big fruity style, it's a nice all-around food wine – pasta with Marinara sauce, or pizza.



WINE "F"

2005 BELLA VINEYARDS "Big River Ranch"
Alexander Valley CA

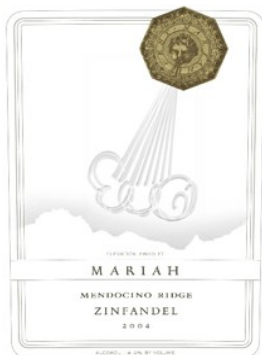
\$36
14.9 % alcohol

One of the loveliest wineries to visit in Dry Creek Valley, complete with a cave to taste in, Bella has gained a reputation for big, juicy, flavorful Zinfandels. The fruit for this wine comes from a 110 year old vineyard beside the Russian River in Alexander Valley. The days get hot, but the heat is balanced by coastal coolness and morning fog from the river. Aged for 15 months in both French and American oak, this wine is a blend of 80% Zinfandel and 20% Petite Sirah.

PANEL EVALUATIONS AND COMMENTS

- Donna** **Fruit:** Slightly excessive; **Acid and Tannin:** Ideal / Medium body, Medium finish **(F)**
I like this wine. It is a typical big, fruity and jammy Zin with some spice and good complexity. Even though it is a bit hot, the big fruit balances it. Would be good with ribs, or for a barbecue.
- Cory** **Fruit and Tannin:** Slightly excessive; **Acid:** Ideal / Medium body, Medium finish
This is a big Zin and definitely a "food wine". It's a tiny bit hot but since the other elements of the wine are so good, in this case it's not a negative.
- Ingrid** **Fruit and Acid:** Ideal; **Tannin:** Slightly excessive / Medium body, Medium finish.
Jammy, cherry aromas. I like it very much! A very good, fruity Zin that will complement some fine Italian and French cuisine.
- Rob** **Fruit and Tannin:** Slightly excessive; **Acid:** Slightly lacking / Med-full body, Long finish.
Earthy, ripe, dark fruit aroma. Strangely, this wine has a raspberry / grape Kool-Aid quality to it. The balance is quite good and it has a lingering, tart finish.
- Debra** **Fruit, Acid and Tannin:** All slightly excessive but in balance / Med-full body, Long finish **(F)**
Aromas of mixed ripe fruit with hints of cocoa and spice. Dusy tannins and a long lingering finish. Good with babecue and grilled rib eye.
- Jim A.** **Fruit:** Excessive; **Acid and Tannin:** Ideal / Med-ful body, Med-long finish
A very fruity wine that borders on sweet. It think this wine would even be good as dessert.
- Mary** **Fruit:** Excessive; **Acid:** Slightly lacking; **Tannin:** Slightly excessive / Med-full body, Med-long finish
A big wine! If you love fruit bombs, you'll love this. I found it high in alcohol, too. It needs to be served with hearty foods – spicy ribs perhaps.
- James H** **Fruit and Tannin:** Ideal; **Acid:** Slightly lacking / Medium body, Med-long finish. **(F)**
Very substantial, good body, and a very pleasant wine. Aromas of wood and blackberries that carry through to the finish, and it's not heavy on alcohol! A great Pizza wine!
- Linda** **Fruit, Acid and Tannin:** All ideal and in balance / Med-full body, Med-long finish.
I like this Zinfandel. Mouth watering aromas – bold, with fruit and spice. I'd buy this wine.
- Bill** **Fruit, Acid and Tannin:** All ideal and in balance / Full body, Long finish
Intense and appetizing fruit and spice in the nose and taste. Perfectly balanced, in all respects, start to finish. I'd buy it.
- Von** **Fruit, Acid and Tannin:** All ideal and in balance / Med-full body, Med-long finish. **(F)**
Great aromas of lush ripe fruit, cinnamon, clove. Satin mouthfeel. Lots of fruit, but balanced enough to go well with food – Italian of course, plus barbecued and grilled meats and veggies.

WINE "G"



2004 MARIAH
Mendocino County CA

\$25
14.5 % alcohol

The logo depicts the wind "Mariah" and most of the grapes come from the Mariah vineyard located just above the fog line at 2600 foot elevation in the Mendocino Ridge AVA. While Zinfandel makes up 79% of this blend, there's also 15% Petite Sirah and a touch of Syrah and Carignane. The wine was aged for 18 months in 80% American, and 20% French oak.

PANEL EVALUATIONS AND COMMENTS

- Donna** **Fruit:** Lacking; **Acid and Tannin:** Slightly excessive / Medium body, Med-long finish
A fairly "big" spicy wine, but it's too hot. It's pleasant despite the heat, but I'd like more balance, more fruit with the big alcohol.
- Cory** **Fruit:** Excessive; **Acid and Tannin:** Ideal / Medium body
A big wine that needs food. Spices and fruit play well together and 2 – 3 years of aging should reward you greatly. I'd buy this wine.
- Ingrid** **Fruit:** Slightly lacking; **Acid and Tannin:** Excessive / Medium body
Not a favorite of mine – not a lot of body. Perhaps food will save it – a cassoulet?
- Rob** **Fruit, Acid and Tannin:** All ideal and in balance / Medium body, Med-long finish.
I like this wine and would recommend it as just a sipping Zin, or even with a variety of foods. I like the amount of fruit – it's not overpowering or jammy.
- Debra** **Fruit, Acid and Tannin:** All slightly excessive, but balanced / Med-full body, Long finish.
Aromas of bay and eucalyptus, cherry cola and spice. Good mouthfeel. Would be good with chicken with a porcini mushroom sauce.
- Jim A.** **Fruit:** Slightly excessive; **Acid and Tannin:** Slightly lacking / Medium finish
A light, sipping Zinfandel with nice fruit but low on acid and tannin. Not a favorite.
- Mary** **Fruit and Tannin:** Ideal; **Acid:** Excessive / Medium body, Medium finish
Nice aromas but the alcohol seemed high and there was some bitterness in the finish. Definitely needs food though it got better as it opened up in the glass.
- James H** **Fruit:** Slightly excessive; **Acid:** Ideal; **Tannin:** Slightly lacking / Med-light body, Medium finish.
Alcohol suppresses the flavors. It becomes jammy in the finish, with slight bitterness.
- Linda** **Fruit:** Slightly lacking; **Acid:** Slightly excessive; **Tannin:** Ideal / Med-light body, Short finish.
A lighter yet somewhat savory character. Interesting flavor but I think it would be more enjoyable with food.
- Bill** **Fruit and Acid:** Slightly excessive; **Tannin:** slightly lacking / Med-full body, Med-long finish
Moderately appealing, fruity nose. A well balanced taste with agreeable tannins. I'd buy it.
- Von** **Fruit and Tannin:** Slightly lacking; **Acid:** Ideal / Med-light body, Medium finish.
Pepper, spice and fresh fruit aromas. A good basic Zinfandel that's a pleasant, uncomplicated quaff and would go with the usual food suspects for Zin, like Pizza. Slight bitterness in the finish.

AND FINALLY...

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO...

THE ONGOING SUPPORTERS WHO HAVE GIVEN THE PANEL THE NECESSARY BOOST TO KEEP IT FLYING!

Linda and Donna, owners of **PELICAN GALLERY** in Petaluma who continue to so graciously offer their beautiful gallery for our tastings. It turns out that Linda has an impressive palate for evaluating wines!

**SEE YOU NEXT MONTH FOR MORE
WINES TO EXPLORE,
MORE WINES TO ENJOY!**

