

10-Year Retrospective

# Virginia Wine Tour

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A look back at our  
Virginia Wine Tours -  
2003 - 2011

# 2003 - Ashland - Heart of Virginia Wine Trail

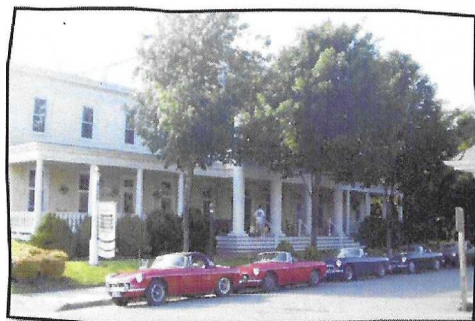
## 2003 Tour Stops

Grayhaven Winery

Cooper Vineyards

Lake Anna Winery

James River Cellars  
Winery



MGs at the Henry Clay Inn



Learning about wines at James River Cellars.

July, 2003



### **Grayhaven Winery**

Grayhaven Winery began producing their boutique wines in 1995 using Vinifera and French hybrid grapes. Among the estate-grown wines currently produced are Pinotage, Marechal Foch, Sauvignon Blanc, Chambourcin, Cabernet Franc, Traminette and Cayuga. Grayhaven is owned and operated by 3 generations of the Peples family.



### **Cooper Vineyards**

Our visit to Cooper let us see a winery in its earliest stages. Those that returned in 2011 saw a significantly upgraded facility. Cooper now produces about 1750 cases of wine per year, including their highly rated Norton wines.



### **Lake Anna Winery**

Founded in 1983, the original winery was housed in a 1940's era dairy barn on the family farm. A 2000 expansion, which brought the current tasting room, warehouse, tank room and crush pad, more than doubled their production capacity.



Wine is constant proof that God loves us and loves to see us happy.

Benjamin Franklin



# 2004 - Central Virginia

## 2004 Tour Stops

Horton Vineyards

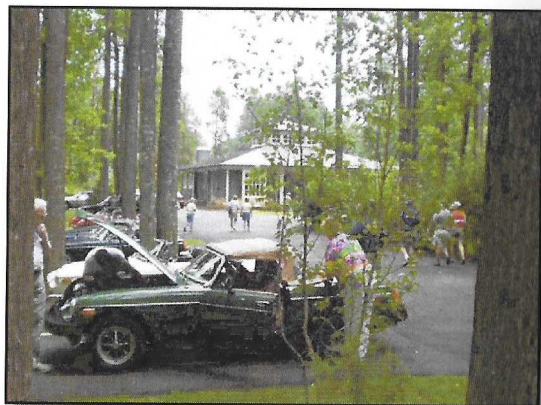
Barboursville Winery

Burnley Vineyard

Blenheim Vineyards

Kluge Winery

First Colony Winery



Looking for places to store more wine.

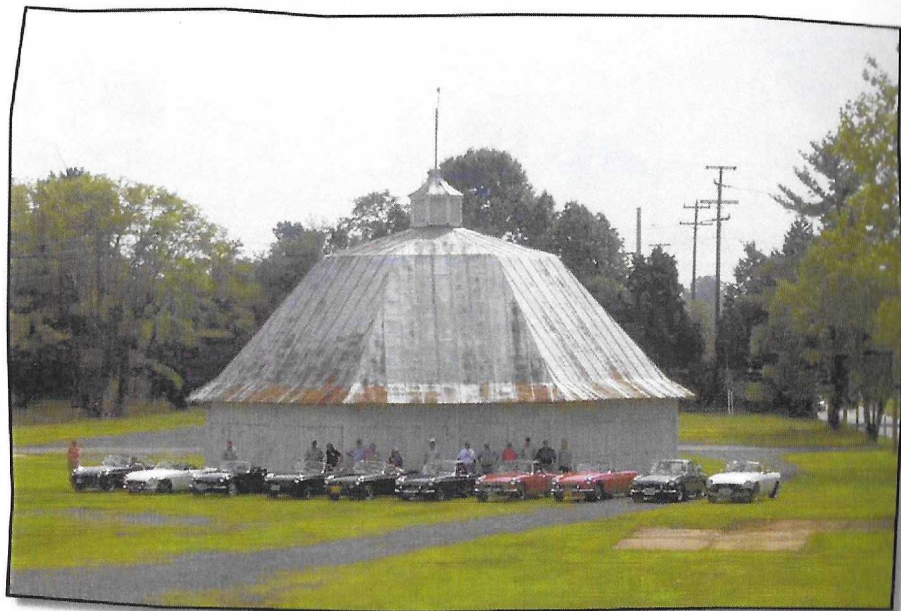
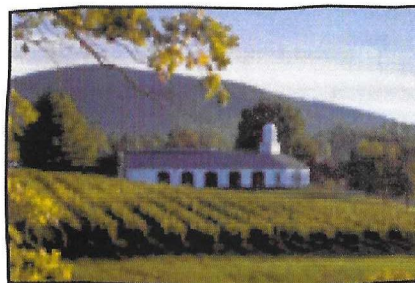
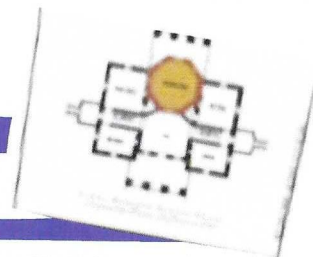


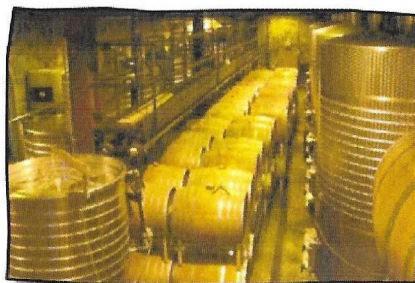
Photo Op - we found an octagonal building!

July, 2004



### **Barboursville Vineyards**

No MG-loving oenophile's search would be complete without a visit to Barboursville and an examination of their Octagon wines. The name is derived from the shape of the Great Room in the original estate, designed by Thomas Jefferson for Governor James Barbour.



### **Horton Vineyards**

After years of research into which grapes would produce the best wines in this area, Dennis Horton established his vineyard in 1988 on 55 acres in Orange county. Horton now grows Viognier, Marsanne, Mourvedre, and Cabernet Franc grapes, along with native Norton grapes



### **Burnley Vineyards**

Established in 1977, one of the oldest Vineyards in the Monticello Viticultural Area. TMGC members were treated to a unique tasting experience. We were served the same wine in five different glasses. We were surprised at the difference in taste depending on the shape of the glass.

Wine is bottled Poetry

Robert Louis Stevenson



# 2005 - Central Virginia

May, 2005

## 2005 Tour Stops

Jefferson Vineyards

Wintergreen Winery

Veritas Winery

Afton Mountain Vineyards

Oakencroft Vineyard



Cynthia & Andy ready for the next stop



## Wintergreen Winery

When Jeff and Tamara Store purchased Wintergreen Winery in 1999, it allowed them to take advantage of their background in marketing and restaurant management, and gave them a chance to collaborate on a shared passion - excellent wines! When visitors discover more about this winery, they are amazed at the work that is done by a few dedicated people.

## Jefferson Vineyards

Initially sold by Thomas Jefferson to an Italian viticulturist, attempts at establishing a wine region in Virginia were interrupted by a little thing called the American Revolution. They didn't harbor any ill-will toward our LBCs. We enjoyed a delicious boxed lunch in the shade while tasting some fine wines.



## Veritas Winery

Andrew and Patricia Hodson, British expatriots, were pleased to have our LBC's on display for their "Starry Nights" event, parking us on their newly sodded lawn. However, when the heavens opened with a sudden downpour, it was a muddy mess, as Jim's tyres show.



In wine, there is truth

Pliny the Elder



MGs at Afton Mountain Vineyards



# 2006 - Northern Neck

April, 2006

## 2006 Tour Stops

Belle Mount Vineyards

Ingleside Vineyards

Oak Crest Vineyard

Hummel Vineyards



Music and Lunch at Hummel Vineyards

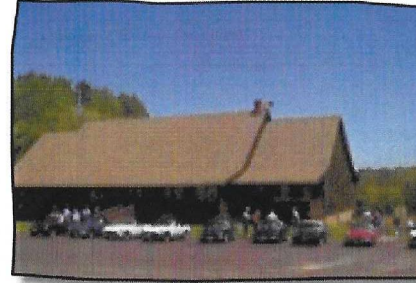


Becky & Chuck relax in the Oak Crest tasting room.



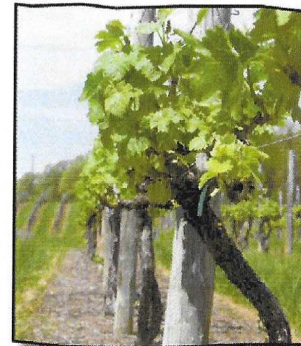
## **Belle Mount Vineyards**

The original Belle Mount Plantation was established in 1707 by a grant from King George. Three centuries later, we enjoy wines from grapes grown on the property. A toast - to King George!



## **Oak Crest Vineyards**

Founder Conrad Brandts' adventures in wine making date back to the '50's, although it wasn't until 1986 when he first planted vines on this property. The Oak Crest name has special meaning. Oak trees border the crest surrounding the vineyard, oak is used for the barrels in which the wine is aged, and the oak tree is part of the Brandts' German crest.



## **Ingleside Vineyards**

Opened in 1980, Ingleside is one of Virginia's largest and oldest wineries. Nearby, you can explore the birthplace of George Washington, Robert E. Lee and James Monroe.

Ingleside Plantation built in 1834, was originally a boy's school. The 3000-acre plantation has also served as a dairy farm.

Whenever a man is tired, wine is a great restorer of strength.

Homer



# 2007 - Warrenton / Culpepper

May, 2007



## 2007 Tour Stops

Belmont Farm Distillery

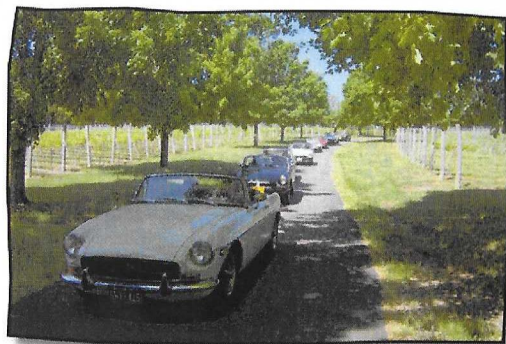
Prince Michel Vineyard

Unicorn Winery

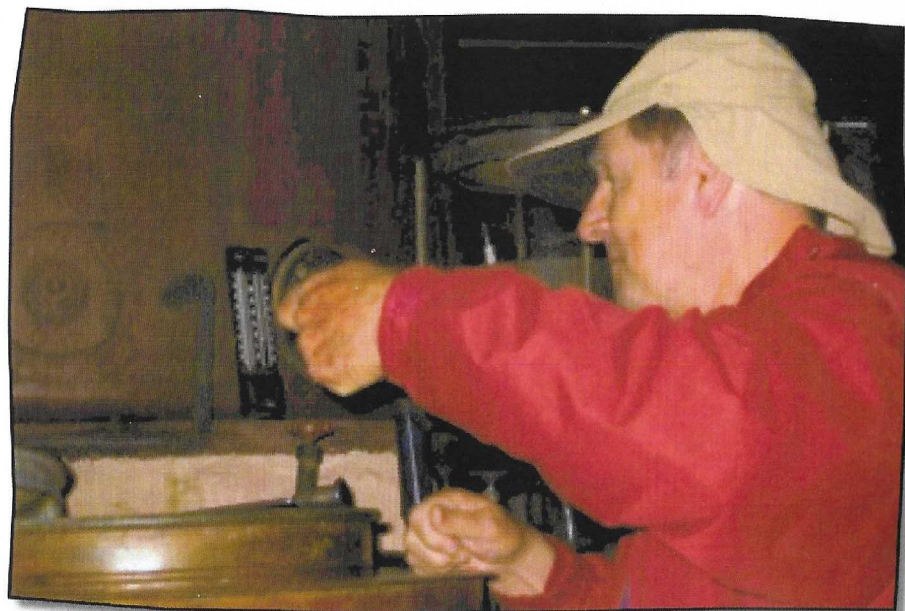
Gray Ghost Vineyards

Naked Mountain Winery

Old House Vineyards



Arriving at Unicorn Winery



Vince tests the product at Belmont Farm Distillery



## **Gray Ghost Vineyards**

The winery's name pays homage to John S. Mosby. It is located at the southern end of what was known as Mosby's Confederacy in the Civil War. Mosby's small cavalry unit caused so much chaos for Union troops without being detected, he was referred to as the "Gray Ghost". The lettering used on the label and in the winery logo is a composite of known samples of Mosby's writing.



## **Old House Winery**

It was Mother's Day '88 when the owners first found this 75 acre property and the abandoned farm house. With the help of family and friends, they transformed the property into Old House Vineyards. The farm house (circa 1800) has been restored to an inviting gathering place for the enjoyment of good food and wine.

Welcome!



## **Naked Mountain Winery**

The first vines were planted in 1976, and what started as four rows grew to 6 acres, producing 6000 cases of wine annually. Naked Mountain Chardonnay has been served at the White House - once under George H.W. Bush and once under Bill Clinton

Wine had such ill effects on Noah's health that it was all he could do to live 950 years.

Show me a total abstainer that ever lived that long."

Will Rogers



# 2008 - Bedford / Peaks of Otter Bedford Wine Trail

## 2008 Tour Stops

Blandford Church Tour

LeoGrande Vineyard

Peaks of Otter Winery

White Rock Vineyards

Emerson Creek Pottery

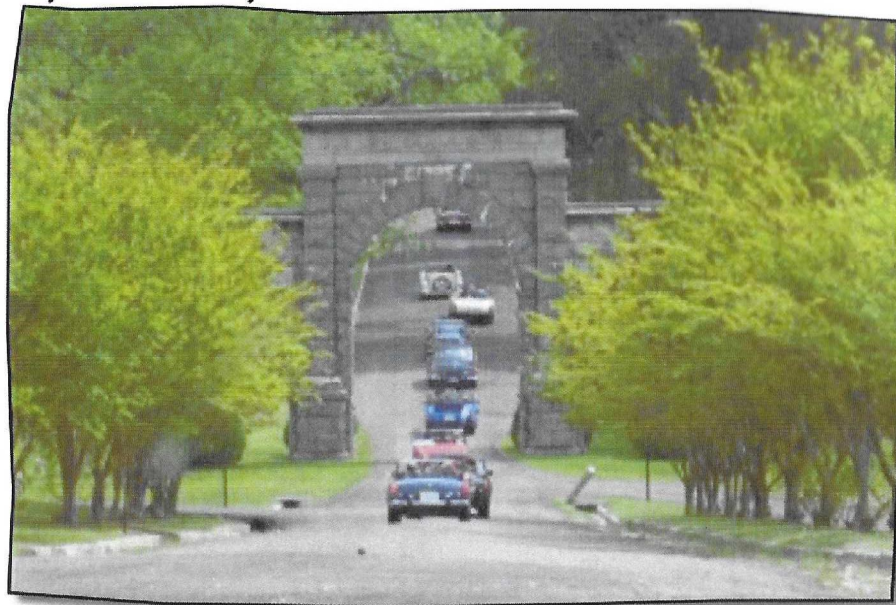
D-Day Memorial

Hickory Hill Vineyards

Savoy-Lee Winery



MGs at D-Day Memorial in Bedford



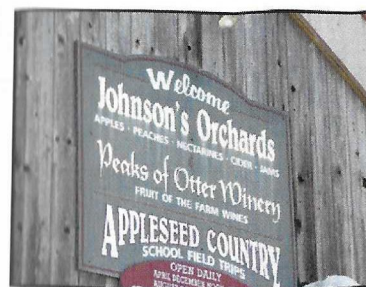
Touring the Confederate Cemetery in Petersburg

April, 2008



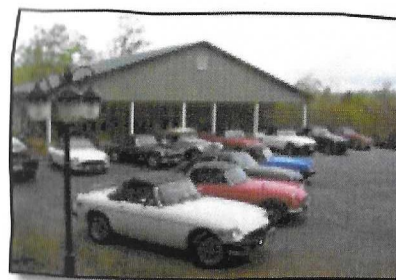
### **Hickory Hill Vineyards**

First planted as a hobby in 1984, Hickory Hill has grown over 28 years into a successful 3-generation family wine business, producing their first wines in 2001. The tasting room is situated in a 1923-era farm house. They feature Chardonnay, Vidal Blanc, Merlot and the everyone's favorite Cabernets, Franc and Sauvignon.



### **Peaks of Otter Winery**

The wines of Peaks of Otter Winery are made from an assortment of fruits, all grown at Johnson's Orchards Farm. In addition to grapes, you will find flavors of apples, blackberries, peaches, cherries, elderberries and chili peppers. You'll experience wines like nowhere else, including "Kiss the Devil" Pepper wine and "Salty Frog" Margarita wine.



### **Savoy-Lee Winery**

After a 20-year career in the Marines, owner Dave Wood decided to turn his passion for wine-making into his retirement plan. Starting with 100 acres, the first crush was in 2004 and the first release of Savoy-Lee wines was in 2005.

Where there is plenty of wine, sorrow and worry take wing.

Ovid



# 2009 - Nelson County / Mark Addy Inn

## 2009 Tour Stops

Lovingshstone Winery  
Blue Mountain Brewery  
Cardinal Pointe Winery  
DelFosse Vineyards  
Edible Landscapes  
Blenheim Vineyards



Cheers to Alan & Beckey!



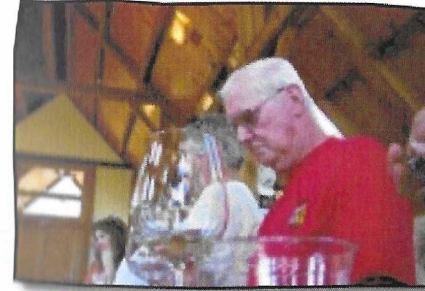
2009 Tour group at the Mark Addy Inn

April, 2009



### Blenheim Vineyards

The original Blenheim house was built in the late 18th century by Edward Carter and was named for the Bavarian village where the decisive 1704 battle in the War of Spanish Succession was fought. The original vineyard was established in 2000 by Dave Matthews, with a second vineyard planted in 2007.



### Blue Mountain Brewery

Producing 2500 barrels (about 80,000 gallons) annually, Blue Mountains's ales and lagers are all brewed on site. As a member of the Virginia Green program, including environmental efforts in many of the day-to-day activities. Blue Mountain opened in 2007 and recently expanded their restaurant to accommodate their regulars and other visitors.



### DelFosse Vineyards

The newest vineyard in Virginia, DelFosse produces a variety of wines ranging from Merlot to Petit Mensang. The DelFosse family invites you to come out for a picnic, a hike or a bike ride on their trails - then reward yourself with some really good wine!



Wine is sunlight held together by water .

Galileo Galilei



# 2010 - Loudoun County

## 2010 Tour Stops

Swedenberg Vineyards

Bluemont Vineyard

Village Winery

Lost Creek Vineyards

Hidden Brook Winery

Quattro Goomba's Winery

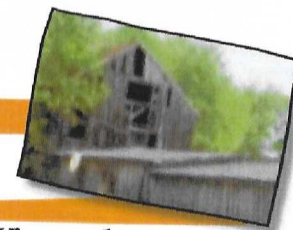


Thirsty travelers taste-test tannins.



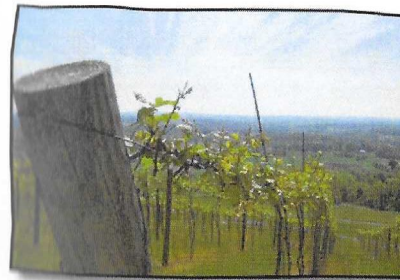
Aging gracefully at Bluemont Vineyards

April-May, 2010



### **Bluemont Vineyards**

Nestled on the eastern slope of the Blue Ridge Mountain's, Bluemont Vineyards' tasting room offers spectacular views of the Virginia countryside all the way into Reston, Tysons Corner and Dulles. Enjoy the view as you enjoy your wines!



### **Swedenburg Estate Vineyard**

When the Swedenburgs acquired Valley View Farm in the mid-80's, it was with the idea of working the land and making their home financially self-sufficient. The planted grapes as an alternative to soybean, and raised Black Angus cattle. 1987 brought the first grape crushing. The winery produces 1000 - 1500 cases annually - in Mr. Swedenburg's words, "enough for the family with a little left over to sell."



### **Quattro Goomba's Winery**

Quattro Goomba's is a unique micro-winery, producing Mediterranean-style wines. Italian for "4 close friends", the name represents the owners' passion for friendship, family, celebration and tradition. The winery began commercial operations in 2006.

Good company, good wine, good welcome, can make good people .

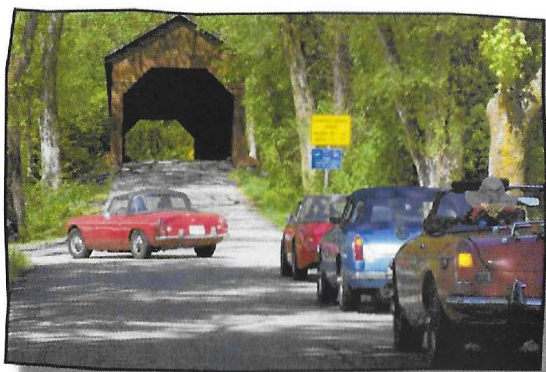
William Shakespeare - *Henry VII*



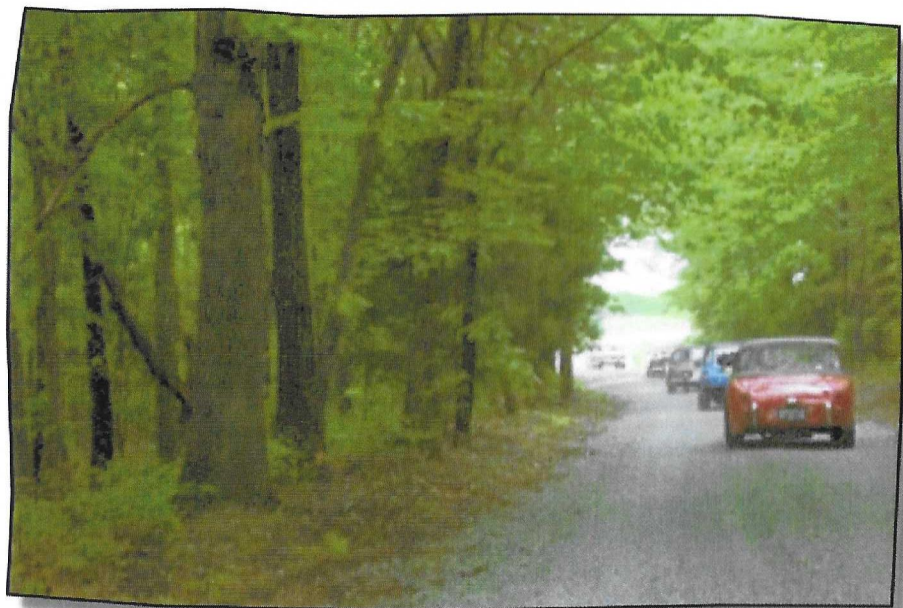
# 2011 - Shenandoah Valley / Wintergreen Resort

## 2011 Tour Stops

DuCard Vineyards  
Sweeley Estate Winery  
Wolf Gap Vineyard  
Shenandoah Vineyards  
Bluestone Vineyard  
Weston Farm Vineyard  
Cooper Vineyards

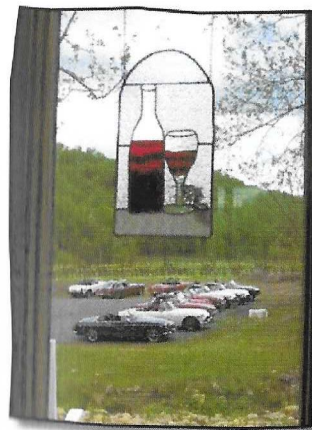


Virginia's Covered Bridges



Approaching Cooper Vineyards - All roads lead to wine...

April-May, 2011



### **DuCard Vineyard**

As owner Scott Elliff has said, "It's a hobby gone wild." After a decade of growing grapes for other wineries, DuCard began making their own wines about 3 years ago. DuCard Vineyards has been recognized as one of the two greenest wineries in Virginia for their stewardship of the land. Check out their website for a list of their environmental practices.



### **Sweeley Estate Winery**

Situated in the foothills of the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains, the vineyard began in 2004. The Sweeley family started with a vision for the property. Planting imported French vines, they set out to make world-class wines and to share their passion for great food, wines and art.

The theme on the winery logo is a tribute to the Sweeley's other interest - Acorn Hill Equestrian Center.



### **Bluestone Vineyard**

We were greeted at the winery by owners Curt and Jackie Hartman and their MG.

In a temporary winery in 2009, Bluestone Vineyards produced 500 cases of wine. With 1000 new vines and a modern winery, they processed 31 tons of grapes and made 2000 cases of wine.

Wine improves with age. The older I get, the better I like it.

Anonymous



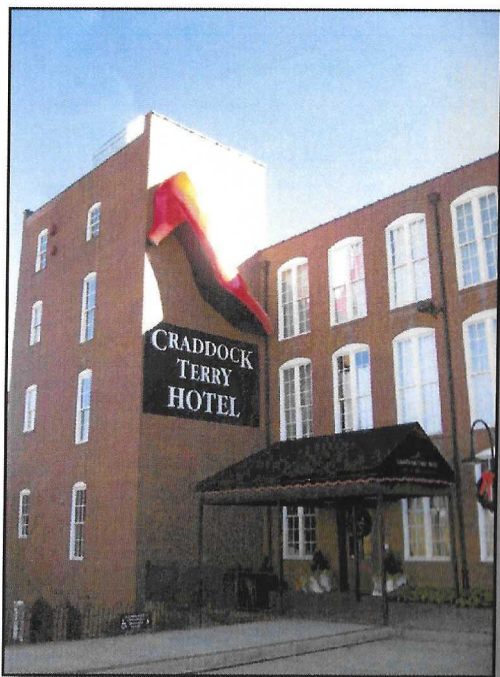
## 2012 - Lynchburg

April 27th - April 29th

2012 marks the tenth year that we've lead a group of club members on a wine trail through our beautiful Commonwealth! The traditional gift for a 10<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary is tin or aluminum, noting "the pliability of tin and aluminum is a symbol of how a successful marriage needs to be flexible and durable and how it can be bent without being broken." This couldn't be more appropriate for us to celebrate our tenth year together! Our successful travel on wine tours had to be "flexible and durable," as we dealt with the occasional heavy rain, mis-marked directions, or restaurant reservation snafu's. And we have been "bent without being broken" when we changed the occasional tire or fuel pump on the side of the road along the way. We thank you for coming along for the ride for a decade, and we raise our glass and toot our horn as a toast to many more wine tours to come!

Safety fast,

*Beckey & Alan*



## 2012 - Lynchburg

### 2012 Tour Stops

Byrd Cellars

Hatton Ferry

Tomahawk Mill Winery

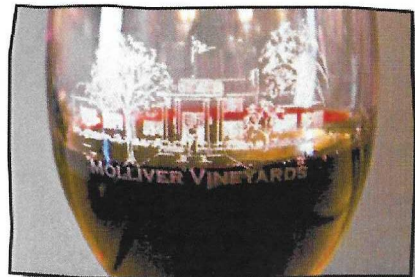
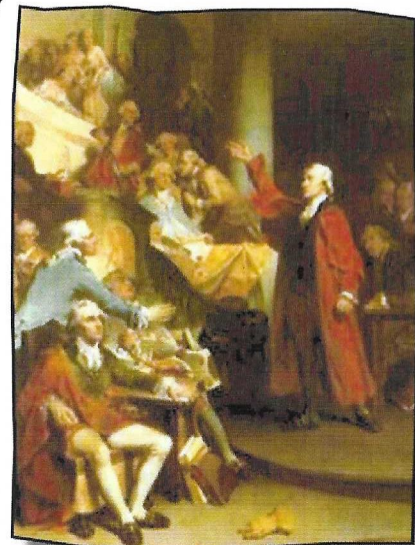
Molliver Vineyards & Winery

Sans Soucy Vineyards

Red Hill - Patrick Henry

National Memorial

Annefield Vineyards





## Wine Scoring Sheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Wine Varietal: \_\_\_\_\_



	5	4	3	2	1	Wine 1	Wine 2	Wine 3	Wine 4	Wine 5	Score
<b>Appearance</b>	Clear, appropriate color, brilliance, no off colors				Cloudy, off colors						
<b>Aroma</b>	Complex, many detectable aromas, intense				Little or no aroma, off aromas						
<b>Body</b>	Perfect texture & weight feel in the mouth				Too little or too much texture or weight feel in the mouth						
<b>Taste</b>	Good balance, structure, several flavors detectable				Little balance & structure, few flavors						
<b>Finish</b>	Flavors linger after swallowing, smooth & rich aftertaste				Taste and flavors end abruptly, no aftertaste						
<b>Totals</b>											

### Individual Rankings

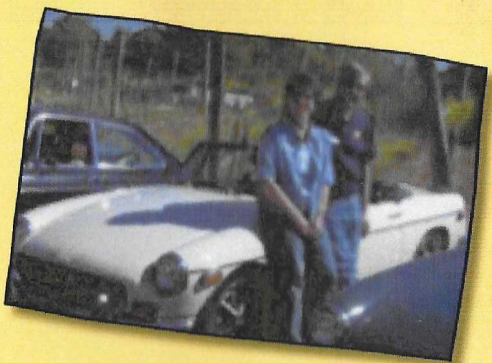
1	_____
2	_____
3	_____
4	_____
5	_____
6	_____

### Overall Group Rankings

1	_____
2	_____
3	_____
4	_____
5	_____
6	_____

We'd like to thank all of you for joining us on our exploration of Virginia Wine Country.

*Beckey & Alan*



### Wine Tour Participants -

Susan & Terry Bond

Karen & Tad Carter

Peggy & George Craig

Kathy & Mark Davidoski

Marie & Tom Early

Cynthia Faschini & Andy Wallach

Pam & Vince Groover

Denise & Mike Haag

Becky & Chuck Hassler

Bernie Imdahl

Rose & Donald Ladd

Missy & Bob McKenna

Linda & Bob Pellerin

Robert Perrone

Michelle Peters

Russ Ripp

Barb Taychert & Mike Kneppler

Carmen & Paul Theigardt

Robyn & Gary Tyer

Betty & Jim Villers

Beckey & Alan Watson

Olive & Robin Watson

Wine makes daily living easier, less hurried, with fewer tensions and more tolerance.

Benjamin Franklin