

# WILDLIFE ENCOUNTERS

By Tom Carlisle

## NEW RELEASE

2006 WILDLIFE  
PINOT GRIS  
ROGUE VALLEY

### Varietal

100% Pinot Gris

### Vineyards

32% Gerber  
60% Three Creeks  
8% Villa Novia

### Harvest Data

Picked Sept. 27 – 29  
23.9° Brix average  
5.6 g/L TA average  
3.39 pH average

### Bottling Data

13.9% Alcohol  
Bottled May 18, 2007  
6.1 g/L TA  
3.35 pH

0.67 Residual Sugar

### Production

304 Cases Produced

Sometimes it's not that easy to figure out why things happen the way they do. Take the Wildlife Art labels that Foris initiated back in 2006 in conjunction with Evergreen Federal Savings & Loan. Jeff Gougue's painting of a red fox adorned a 2005 Pinot Noir. It proved so popular that a bear painting by Eureka artist Shawn Gould was chosen for a 2005 Bordeaux blend label to benefit restoration of the vintage 1930's Oregon Caves Chateau up at the end of Cave's Highway.

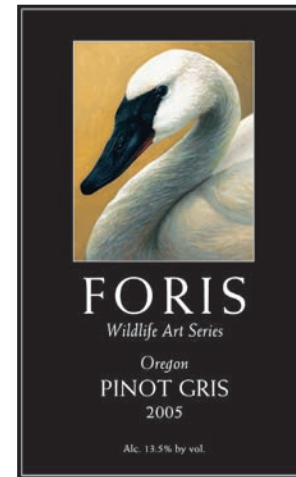
Almost before you knew it, two more labels were in the works. Shawn came up with a beauty of a Trumpeter Swan while roughly at the same time Jeff painted a sleek cougar with muscles like the governor of California once flaunted. Swan and cougar labels will adorn bottles of 2006 Pinot Gris and 2005 Pinot Noir, respectively. Proceeds from the sale of these two wines will benefit the Southern Oregon Wildlife Images. Now people are starting to ask about what's next.

While I'm always interested in what's going to happen next at the vineyard, I'm even more interested in what has

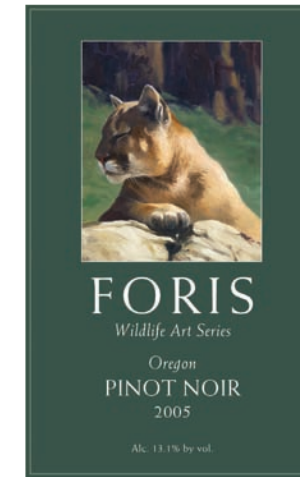
already happened. After all, it's what has already happened that makes things happen – or so one of my history professors once said. In any event, I think this whole wildlife series has more to do with something that happened to Ted a long time ago more than anything else.

It seems that in his early days at the ranch, Ted was out pruning in the vineyard with Leaky and Fiat, two Airedale/hound crosses. It was late November, during rutting season, and a three point buck appeared. The dogs went after it. Ted didn't want the dogs to harm the buck. So Ted went after the dogs. After lots of barking and a long chase, Ted vaulted a seven foot fence and found himself in a muddy meadow standing face to face with the buck.

His first thought was, "I've got him cornered." His second thought was, "No, he's got me cornered." His third thought, as the terrified buck stared at him, was, "Oh, oh. I've put myself in a bad situation. I'm a goner." The next thing he knew, the buck suddenly laid down. It stuck its nose in a mud puddle and quietly expired.



Ted recalled wondering what to do. At the time, he had a young family to support and no regular form of income. So he decided to save the meat. He went home and returned with his battered pickup. It got stuck in the mud. He returned again, this time with a tractor. It mired down in the mud next to the pickup. He returned with another tractor and finally got the buck home. Assisted by a pal with a bottle of brandy, he separated the meat from the buck. Due to rutting season and fear-induced adrenalin, the meat proved inedible. Leaky and Fiat got the meat. Ted got half a bottle of brandy. Ted's family got cornflakes.



Here's what I think happened. Because Ted found himself face to face with that buck and experienced what he experienced, he felt as if he owed something to the wildlife. The wildlife art labels are just paying back a debt. ■

## NEW RELEASE

2005 WILDLIFE  
PINOT NOIR  
ROGUE VALLEY

### Varietal

100% Pinot Noir  
Vineyards

36% Maple Ranch  
12% Gerber  
22% Three Creeks  
14% Villa Novia  
8% Deer Creek  
8% Laflamme  
100% Rogue Valley

### Harvest Data

Picked Oct. 10 – 26  
23.2° Brix average  
5.9 g/L TA average  
3.53 pH average

### Barrel Aging

100% French Oak  
5% New Oak  
Aged 11 Months

### Bottling Data

13.1% Alcohol  
Bottled Sept. 22, 2006  
3.61 pH

### Production

315 Cases Produced