2005 La Sirena Napa Valley Syrah Winemaker Notes/Fact Sheet

I have been a fan of Syrah and Rhone wines for many years and we have been making Syrah at La Sirena since 2000. I make Syrah from both Napa Valley and Santa Ynez grapes as well as our estate Barrett Vineyards. I find the fruit to be quite distinct by region so I decided to bottle them separately to show off their individual characteristics. The variety can make wonderful wine in a range of growing regions, soil types, and climates. It is a pleasure to work with, fun to make, and even better... it simply makes delicious wine!

Just the Facts:

Harvest Date – October 7, 2005 Some Chemistry- 15.3% alc. T.A. 0.60, pH 3.78 100% French oak barrels, 35% new, 22 months in barrel, variety of coopers Bottling date: July 6, 2007 Release date: November 15, 2007 Production of 471 cases (750 ml. bottles), 10 cs.1.5 Liter Magnums

Tasting Notes: 2005 Napa Valley Syrah (tasted 10/16/08 by HPB)

Dark black ruby in color with enticing aromas of ripe plum, black cherry, and a slight roasted Amaronelike aroma. Big and lush with explosive fruit flavors in the mouth. This is a big mouthful of wine, yet balanced and rich. Lots going on here. The ripe fruit flavors dominate, mostly black cherry, but layers of earth and toast integrate. Great weight and mid-palate stuffing. Amazing texture and length. The balance is very good with good length and persistent flavors. Love this.

Why "La Sirena"? The name "La Sirena" means "the Mermaid " in Spanish and Italian. I chose it because I was looking for something fun and magical (like wine) and because I love to scuba dive as well as make wine. Our first vintage of La Sirena was 1994 and the first Cabernet was the 1996 vintage. There are currently five wines made; **Cabernet Sauvignon**, **Syrah** from Barrett Vineyards, Napa Valley and Santa Ynez and our dry Muscat Canelli named **Moscato Azul**. Plus, fall of 2009 we will introduce a proprietary red blend called **Pirate** from the 07 vintage. Production is always small, focusing on fine wines of purity and excellence, the best that can be made. Wishing you all the best!

Hil P. Banto

Heidi Peterson Barrett Winemaker/Owner, La Sirena