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Guide to the Ponzi Vineyards Collection

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Linfield College

Dick and Nancy Ponzi
Guide to the Ponzi Vineyards Collection
1970-2009

Creator: Dick and Nancy Ponzi

Title: Ponzi Vineyards Collection

Dates: 1970-2009

Quantity: 2.5 linear feet

Collection Number: OWHA04

Summary: This collection details the history of Ponzi Vineyards, founded by Dick and Nancy Ponzi. It includes information regarding events at the vineyard as well as the winery business. Included are articles showcasing the accolades given to the wine made at Ponzi Vineyards and the history of the work that the Ponzis have done to create their winery, as well as the contributions of other individuals.

Digital items selected to highlight the collection are available here:

http://digitalcommons.linfield.edu/owha_ponzi/. Collection items available in the digital repository can include documents, photographs and/or oral history interviews.

Repository

Jereld R. Nicholson Library

Linfield College

900 SE Baker Street

McMinnville, OR 97128

Reference Number: 503-883-2734

Reference Email: archives@linfield.edu

Language: English

Historical Note

Originally having nothing to do with viticulture or enology, the Ponzis were originally located in Southern California. After meeting Nancy, getting married, and having children, Dick Ponzi decided he wanted to revive his family tradition of home winemaking. The family focused on learning winemaking, working in California vineyards and studying at home, all the while raising their three young children. Then, after a number of years of learning, traveling, and researching, the Ponzis discovered Pinot Noir, and in 1969 set out along the West Coast to find a suitable location to begin growing.

Eventually, they found the Willamette Valley: perfect for Pinot Noir and cheap enough to start up a new business. The original Estate Vineyard was established in 1970. By 1974, the Ponzis produced their first vintage.

The Ponzis were also active in many other industries of the Willamette Valley. They opened one of Oregon's first microbreweries in 1984, the Bridgeport Brewing Company. They later sold the brewery in 1995. In addition, the Ponzis also began their Dundee project in 1998 to commercialize and educate people on the wealth of agriculture and culinary prospects that the Willamette Valley ultimately had to offer. The Ponzis have a strong belief in the support of local foods and goods which led to the opening of The Dundee Bistro and Ponzi Wine Bar.

Content Description

This collection contains newspaper and magazine articles highlighting the Ponzi Vineyards, photographs of the vineyards, invitations sent to and from the Ponzi's, information about the Ponzi Vineyards published by the Ponzi Estate and outside publications, documents of correspondence, and miscellaneous materials that include mentioning of the Ponzi Vineyards and their wine.

Restrictions on Access

Access is by appointment only. Please contact the archivist to make an appointment.

Preferred Citation

Ponzi Vineyards Collection. Jereld R. Nicholson Library. Linfield College, McMinnville, Oregon. Gift of Dick and Nancy Ponzi, March, 2012.

Provenance

Dick and Nancy Ponzi donated the Ponzi Winery Collection papers to the Linfield College Archives on November 2011.

Location of Originals

Jereld R. Nicholson Library, Linfield College

Related Material

International Pinot Noir Celebration Collection

¡Salud! Collection

Processing Information

Processed by archives technician Terran Sobel-Smith, with the assistance of archivist Rachael Cristine Woody.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into two series:

Series 1: Photographs

Series 2: Documents

Series 1: Photographs

Photographs detailing aspects of business from the Ponzi Vineyards.

Box 1

Folder 1: Ponzi Vineyards, circa 1993

Folder 2: Papa in cellar, 1997

Folder 3: Ponzi Photographs, 1970-2009

Series 2: Documents

Documents relating to business, events, and history of the Ponzi Vineyards.

Box 2

Folder 1: Wine Lists and Menus

Folder 2: Ponzi Photographs [pamphlets and invitations]

Box 3

Folder 1: Other Winery Events

Folder 2: Ponzi Vineyards (Newspapers)

Folder 3: Women in the Wine Industry

Folder 4: Ponzi Documents

Folder 5: Oregon Winery Documents

Folder 6: Oregon Winery Documents (continued)

Folder 7: Magazine and Newspaper Articles

Object 1: Oregon Horticulture Society, 1975

Object 2: Picture board—Dick Ponzi

Object 3: Gambero Rosso, 1995

Object 4: Vinum, 1990

Object 5: Pinot Noir Glass-tasting; New York, 1991

Box 4

Folder 1: Winegrower's Council of Oregon Newsletters

Folder 2: WCO Legislation

Folder 3: Ecological Society of the Pacific Northwest

Folder 4: WCO Business Records

Folder 5: Oregon Wine Grape Information for the Oregon Legislation

Box 5:

Folder 1: Mulhausen Equipment 1979-1980 (Folder 1 of 3)

Folder 2: Mulhausen Equipment 1979-1980 (Folder 2 of 3)

Folder 3: Mulhausen Equipment 1979-1980 (Folder 3 of 3)

Folder 4: Mulhausen Receipts

Box 6:

Folder 1: Articles and Newsletters

Folder 2: Miscellaneous Documents