

## **BACKGROUND**

COORDINATES: 2322 Barnett Road, Saint Helena, CA 94574, 707/921-8470

**CONTACT INFO**: www.gratusvineyards.com, info@gratusvineyards.com

FACEBOOK: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/GratusVineyards/">https://www.facebook.com/GratusVineyards/</a>

**FOUNDED:** In 2005 by Thomas and Victoria Wargovich

MANAGEMENT: Family owned and operated

Thomas Wargovich, owner and vineyard manager

Victoria Wargovich, sales and marketing

Robbie Meyer, winemaker

Lauren Grant, website and social media

**ESTATE:** 27 acre parcel adjacent to Pope Creek

Elevation 875-1000 feet

10 planted acres

Block A: 0.9 acres Malbec (ENTAV clone 595): rootstock 1103P

Block B: 2.4 acres Cabernet Sauvignon (ENTAV clones 169,338): rootstocks

3309C, 110R

Blocks C & D: 1.1 acres Petite Sirah (clone 03): rootstock 110R

Block E: 1.7 acres Cabernet Sauvignon (ENTAV clone 15): rootstock 101-14

Block F: 2.5 acres Cabernet Sauvignon (ENTAV clone 338): rootstock 3309

Block G: 0.3 acres Cabernet Franc (ENTAV clone 395): rootstock 3309C

Block H: 1.1 acres mixed Rhone varietals (Grenache blanc, Marsanne Blanc,

Roussanne, Viognier): rootstock 1103P

Soil types: Excessively to well drained, gently sloping to very steep soils on

uplands including Bressa-Dibble complex and Pleasanton loam

Slopes: 3-15%

Irrigation: 100% of blocks

Frost protection: 100% of blocks with overhead sprinkler system

Spacing: 7' x 4' (1551 vines/A)

Trellising: 30in. drip line with 6'foot canopy and 3 catch wires

**CLIMATE:** 

Pope Valley is blessed with optimal conditions for wine grape growing. On average, Pope Valley enjoys 264 sunny days per year. The average July temperature is 90 degrees, average January low is 38. Gratus Vineyards is nestled in the lee of Howell Mountain, protecting it from marine layer fogs, resulting in extra sunshine and low humidity, resulting in a healthy environment for grapes. The average rainfall for Pope Valley is 40 inches/year.

AVA:

Pope Valley is a sub-AVA of the Napa Valley appellation

WINES:

Sourcing: All wines are made from grapes grown on the estate

## **Current Releases:**

2015 Gratus Red Blend, Napa Valley, 190 cases produced, \$75 2014 Gratus Red Blend, Napa Valley, 125 cases produced, \$65 2015 Gratus Malbec, Napa Valley, 50 cases produced, \$55 2014 Gratus Malbec, Napa Valley, 25 cases produced, \$45 2013 Gratus Malbec, Napa Valley, 25 cases produced, \$45 2015 Gratus Petite Sirah, Napa Valley, 25 cases produced, \$45 2014 Gratus Petite Sirah, Napa Valley, 25 cases produced, \$45 2013 Gratus Petite Sirah, Napa Valley, 25 cases produced, \$45 2017 Gratus White Blend, Napa Valley, 200 cases produced, \$29 \$24 2016 L'ovey Rose, Napa Valley, 25 cases produced,

**MORE ESTATE INFO:** In addition to the vineyards, the estate harbors an established arboretum/pinetum with over 1,000 trees planted and cultivated. Thomas specializes in conifers, with an extensive collection of over 300 species, with a number of them on the International Union For Conservation of Nature (IUCN) critically endangered species list. This collection is one of the most extensive plantings on the West Coast. The collection also boasts over 50 species of oaks, and an array of birches, beeches and horse chestnuts.

## MORE ON THE FOUNDERS:

Raised in Pennsylvania, Thomas is trained in cardiology and taught at the University of Florida School Of Medicine. Victoria has a background in mortgage banking and hails from Virginia where they met on a blind date. Thomas' family includes both physicians and scientists, who happen to love horticulture as well. Sometimes they attempt to communicate in Latin, as much of medicine and botany is based on Latin.

**LABEL:** Pronounced **grah**-tuhs, the word is Latin for thankfulness or gratitude. The back labels of the wines are in Latin and consist of verbiage acknowledging the family's immigrant forefathers. The back label translates to: "This is the fruit of the vines of the Wargovich Family vineyard, situated on the sunny slopes of the lee of Howell Mountain in St. Helena. The proprietors wish to thank their ancestors whose hard work made this dream possible."