



1977 – 2017, FORTY YEARS OF ROOTS IN THE GROUND

Forty years ago Ted Casteel and Terry Casteel and their partners, Pat Dudley and Marilyn Webb, abandoned academia and, together with Pat's sister Barbara Dudley, purchased seventy-five beautiful acres in the Eola Hills northwest of Salem, where we planted a vineyard and started a new life.

When we arrived here we found a flourishing ecosystem in place: healthy living soils, a stream running through a shady ravine fed by a pure clean spring, and a rich diversity of wildlife with which we try to live in peace. Above all else we have sought to grow our grapes and make our wine without diminishing the life of this unique place.

FAMILY

For the first thirty years Ted managed the vineyard, Terry made the wine, Pat and Marilyn grew the business. Now the five cousins who grew up among the vines at Bethel Heights have taken their places as co-owners, co-workers, and stewards of this place for the next generation. In 2006 Ben Casteel took over from his father as Winemaker.

Over the years the family has expanded to include an amazing team of multi-talented people. Some have been with us since some of us were children, others have come lately from near and far to land in our place. Nothing we do at Bethel Heights is possible without the whole team.

PLACE

Bethel Heights Vineyard sits on a volcanic mosaic of benches and slopes formed over many millennia from innumerable distinct lava flows. Below Bethel Heights at Justice Vineyard, the dramatically different marine sedimentary soils

were formed by the violent uplifting of the underlying primeval sea-floor. Both vineyards lie directly in the path of the cooling Æolian winds from the sea that give the Eola Hills their name.

VINES AND WINES

The first thirty-two acres of vines planted at Bethel Heights between 1977 and 1979 are among the last own-rooted Pinot noir and Chardonnay vines surviving in the Willamette Valley. Gnarly old vines, geologically complex hillside soils, direct impact from Æolian winds – all conspire to create highly energized wines with firm backbones, depth of character, and distinctive personalities.

Fourteen different bottlings of estate grown Pinot noir and Chardonnay each year barely begin to tell the tale...

Estate | Æolian | Casteel | Justice | Flat Block | Southeast Block | West Block | The High Wire | The Shallows | The Currents | The Cauldron