

Beta Beta alumna finds her "milagro" in New Mexico

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Tucked away in the beautiful town of Corrales, NM, is a quaint little winery with a humbling history. Milagro Vineyards and Winery is owned and operated by Rick and Mitzi Dawe Hobson. An alumna from Beta Beta Chapter at the University of Northern Colorado, Mitzi was excited to share her family's passion with sisters from all over the country at this year's national convention and leadership conference.

Mitzi and her husband, both natives of New Mexico (although Mitzi grew up in New Jersey), undertook a "great challenge to learn to grow quality grapes and make great wine in the high desert environment." Hoping for a miracle, Mitzi and Rick chose to name their new winery Milagro, which means miracle in Spanish.

The Hobson's began planting in 1985 and became a commercial winery in 1999. Mitzi's desire to start the winery came from their "appreciation of good food and wine." Rick grew up in a farming family in New Mexico and later became a chemical engineer.

"With his background, having vineyards and a winery seemed natural," Mitzi said. Their investment was a success and they currently produce about 1,200 cases of wine each year. Their wine list includes chardonnay, cabernet, merlot and zinfandel. Their wine varieties are handcrafted and aged in French oak to produce wines that showcase New Mexico. Milagro Vineyards is proud of their ability to "make the best wine possible from traditional vinifera wine grapes grown in New Mexico."

Mitzi presented a wine workshop at this year's national convention and leadership conference. Her workshop was an overview of the steps that are involved in operating a boutique winery from start to finish. Milagro Vineyards proudly claims their product is handcrafted from vine to wine. She also shared some information about the aging of wine and the proper combinations of wine and food. She welcomed 25 Alpha Sigma Alpha sisters to her winery for a tour and an evening of wine tasting.

In addition to making great wine, Milagro Vineyards is dedicated to causes, which support animals and children. Some of their philanthropic commitments include the Alliance for Albuquerque Animals (www.abanimalalliance.org) and the New Mexico Boston rescue, which is a dog rescue mission for Boston Terriers. Milagro is proud of their animal friendly identification. They are known for their commitment to animals as well as great wine.

Their wine label was designed in honor of their late pig, Wilbur. Wilbur lived with the Hobsons from 1986-99. He was there from the beginning, and Mitzi remembers Wilbur as having "such an endearing character." The Hobsons received an oil painting of Wilbur in a tuxedo wearing a monocle, with a glass of wine. In honor of their beloved Wilbur and their commitment to animals, this oil painting became their label.

If you would like more information about Milagro Vineyards or their commitment to animal rescue, please visit their web site at www.milagrovineyardsandwinery.com.



MILAGRO
WINERY

By Appointment Only
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