

# IN THE MIDST OF EVOLUTION

The last six months have kept us as busy as any six-month period I can remember. We began putting things in motion last August and on October 26th, we opened The Grapes of Rat Wine Bar & Bottle Shop upstairs in what used to be the "The Barge" dining room. Two days later, we opened up our doors at 8 AM to serve our first breakfast under the moniker of Daybreak Café. Our days have been longer since that weekend, and there've been plenty of growing pains in breaking-in our newest ventures. However, the challenges have been well worth it, and we hope that you have enjoyed these initiatives or will enjoy them someday in the near future.

The Wine Bar & Bottle Shop was designed to enhance our already robust, 7-time Wine Spectator Award-winning wine program by offering an additional eight wines by-the-glass and 100+ additional wines by-the-bottle, which may be drunk here or purchased at a very reasonable retail price to take home. With a one-of-a-kind, relaxed atmosphere and a separate (albeit small) supplemental menu in addition to our full dinner menu, The Wine Bar facilitates a more sophisticated and, usually, mature social and/or dining experience (you may order a full dinner in The Wine Bar if you'd like). We have a small but growing list of signature, handmade cocktails with freshly squeezed juice. And on the wine front, we now have a total of over 300 different wines, and each may be purchased to enjoy here or take home. Just ask your server for retail prices for any wine on our wine list.

Our breakfast came about after a visit to Santa Barbara, California. After getting hooked on a fresh, healthy, and incredibly delicious dish called an Açaí Bowl and developing an addiction to the amazing coffees of Intelligentsia Coffee Company brewed in the traditional French Press method, we decided we had to bring them back with us. Our goal became to create a breakfast experience that matched the quality, creativity, and health-conscious nature of California dining, balanced with a selection of entrees and sides that are the staples of a rich, Southern-style breakfast. So we offer something for everyone, but we definitely encourage you to try something new. Want to try something absolutely delicious and totally healthy? You've got to try an Açaí Bowl. Feel like splurging? Try the Red Velvet Pancakes. And if you really love coffee, order a cup of French-pressed heaven with the our in-season blend or single origin Intelligentsia coffee. The aromatics alone will change the way you look at coffee.

Cheers,



Captain Ratty  
May 11th, 2012

P.S. After two and a half years of holding the line on our pricing, we have recently had to make increases on a few of the items on our menu. As you have probably noticed at the grocery store, the prices of many goods have increased significantly over the past couple of years. Rather than purchase cheaper goods and lessen the quality of our meals, we have made slight increases where necessary, so we may continue to provide the highest-quality dining experience while keeping the ship afloat, so to speak. Thank you for understanding, and we appreciate you support, as always.