

GRIFFIN SMITH
W. R. NIXON, P.A.
GRIFFIN SMITH, JR.

SMITH & NIXON
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
1955 UNION NATIONAL PLAZA
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201

P. O. BOX 1438
501-376-6291

June 28, 1983.

Wine & Beer Branch
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, & Firearms
P.O. Box 385
Washington, DC 20044

Re: Altus Viticultural Area

Gentlemen:


I write in support of the petition to create an Altus Viticultural Area in Arkansas.

I favor this proposal for the following reasons:

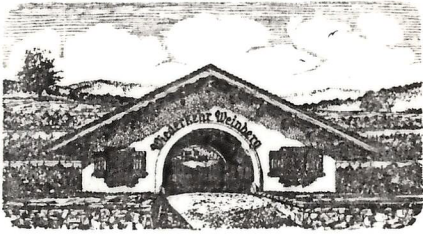
1. Proper designation of the viticultural area will serve as an aid to consumers by ensuring that the content of the product is as expected.

2. Existence of a designated viticultural area will help promote an awareness of Arkansas wines as a generic product and not, as now, as a miscellaneous collection of brand names.

Sincerely yours,


Griffin Smith, jr.

GS:dsh



Wiederkehr Wine Cellars, Inc.

Mr. Steve Simon
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 6237
Washington, D.C. 20226

Dear Mr. Simon,

Pursuant to our telephone conversations, this letter is to confirm the fact that we are very definitely interested in pursuing both petitions proposing the establishment of an "Arkansas Mountain" viticultural area and an "Ozark Mountain" viticultural area.

We have discussed this with other winegrowers at various Wine And Grower meetings and the general concensus is that there is much greater interest in the "Arkansas Mountain" viticultural area.


We were told by personnel on your staff to submit our application anyway even though we didn't have the precise data on the distinguishing geographic features perfected. They suggested we get our application in and amend it when we have the detailed information needed. Viticulturists and Enologists at the University of Arkansas are assisting us with the acquisition of data to supplement and/or amend petitions.

My personal hospitalization for surgery on a ruptured disc and the loss of Mr. Scott Phillips (who had to go back to help his family in Florida) who was pursuing this, has caused a delay that could not be foreseen. I'm recovering very painfully but positively for the better, and will forward the appropriate material very shortly.

In reference to Notice 466 about the proposed "Altus" viticultural area, we hereby voice our opposition to the deletion of some of our local vineyards from the proposed area and would like to be heard on the matter.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,


Al Wiederkehr, Chairman/Board
and CEO

June 17, 1983

*Vintners of Premium Award Winning Wines
Wiederkehr Village, Arkansas, 72821*

ACW/lw

SINCE 1880

[original in "Ark. Mtn. file"]