

BRION



STORIES FROM THE VINEYARDS

## RATTLESNAKE

"As legend has it, the reason this house is standing after the earthquake that we had a couple years ago is because Mrs. Reese, when she was 93 years old, was in her kitchen cooking and heard a rattlesnake out the back door. So being the good country gal that she was, she picked up her shotgun and went outside to dispatch the rattlesnake and when she came back in, the kitchen was on fire.

"So she grabbed the phone, called the fire department, grabbed the water hose at the same time, proceeded to put the fire out in the kitchen. By the time the fire department arrived, the fire was out but there was extensive smoke damage. There was an insurance payment for the smoke damage that had occurred and they took the majority of that payment and put a foundation on this house, a very, very good foundation, to earthquake standards and that sort of thing. And then they rebuilt the kitchen on a very shoestring basis. Because that foundation was put in place, the house was still standing when the earthquake came along. It was a rock foundation prior to that."

—Larry Bettinelli

*Viticulturalist*

SLEEPING LADY VINEYARD

