



### **Old Mission Statement**

The Russian River Valley Winegrowers (RRVW) is a community of winemakers and farmers dedicated to producing exceptional wines that showcase the diversity of the Russian River Valley neighborhoods. Our members are committed to preserving natural resources and the authentic farming heritage of this premier wine region known for award-winning Pinot Noir.

We are a community dedicated to promoting the Russian River Valley as the premier region for growing cool climate grapes while producing wines that showcase the diversity of our many neighborhoods. Our farmers and winemakers work in a manner that is environmentally sound, socially equitable and economically feasible in order to continue our legacy as good stewards of the land and producers of distinctive wines of exceptional quality, authenticity and integrity.

### New Mission Statement

Adopted by approval of Board of Directors in November 2022

The Russian River Valley Winegrowers (RRVW) is a community of farmers and winemakers promoting the exceptional grapes and world-renowned wines reflective of the diversity within the Russian River Valley AVA.

We are multi-generational stewards of our land and natural resources, continuously innovating sustainable practices for the future in our premier region known for its distinctive Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, and other grape varieties.



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#### **President**

#### Clark Lystra, Betty Ann Vineyard

4721 Hall Road Santa Rosa, CA 95401 Grower, 2nd Term: 2021-2023 crlystra@aol.com

#### 1st Vice President

#### **Donald Patz, Maritana Vineyards**

1200 American Way Windsor, CA 95492 Winery, 1st Term: 2020-2022 donald@donaldpatzwinegroup.com

#### 2nd Vice President

#### Ryan Kunde, DRNK Wines

3637 Frei Road Sebastopol, CA 95472 Winery, 1st Term: 2021-2023 ryan@drnkwines.com

#### Treasurer

#### Michelle Muth Ausburn, BPM LLP

110 Stony Point Road, #210 Santa Rosa, CA 95401 At-Large, 2nd Term: 2021-2023 mausburn@bpmcpa.com

#### **Directors**

#### Gio Balistreri, Russian River Vineyards

(Past President)
PO Box 920
Forestville, CA 95436
Grower, 3rd Term: 2020-2022
gio@russianrivervineyards.com

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#### **Nick Frey, Balletto Vineyards**

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#### Jake Martini, Taft Street Winery

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### Cristina Torres, Marimar Estate Vineyards & Winery

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# Executive Director

#### Jesslyn Jackson

(O) 707.360.2907 (C) 205.862.3007 Jesslyn@rrvw.org

### Russian River Valley Winegrowers

P.O. Box 16 Fulton, CA 95439-0016 Phone: 707.360.2907 info@rrvw.org russianrivervalley.org

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### Former Presidents of Russian River Valley Winegrowers

#### Mike Sullivan, Benovia Winery

3339 Hartman Road Santa Rosa, CA 95401 mike@benoviawinery.com

#### **Chris Crispo, Bush Crispo Vineyards**

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#### Gio Balistreri, Russian River Vineyards

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#### Clay Gantz, Gantz Family Vineyards

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#### Rod Berglund, Joseph Swan Vineyards

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#### Chris Donatiello, C. Donatiello Winery

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### Randy Luginbill, Silverado Sonoma Vineyards, LLC

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#### John Holdredge, Holdredge Wines

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### Steve Dutton, Dutton Brothers Farming & Dutton Ranch

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### Valerie Wathen, Dutton-Goldfield Winery

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#### **Bob Cabral, Bob Cabral Wines**

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#### **Merry Edwards, Merry Edwards Wines**

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#### Ellen Mack, Russian Hill Estate Winery

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#### Kirk Lokka, Emeritus Vineyards

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### Hector Bedolla, Crop Production Services

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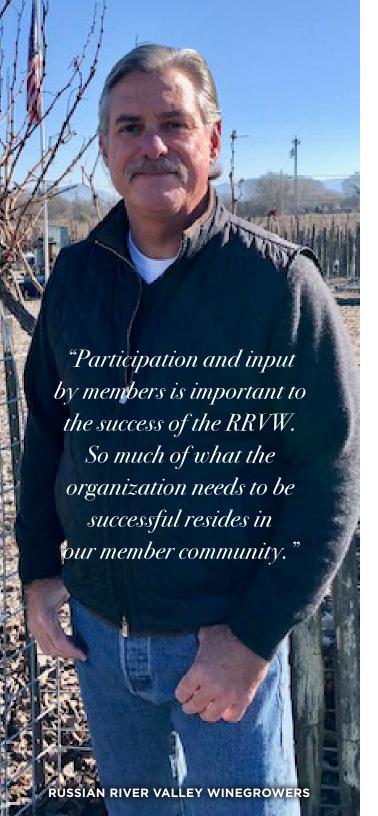
Lee Martinelli, Jr. Martinelli Farms, Inc.

**Warren Dutton, Dutton Ranch** 

Saralee McClelland Kunde, Richard's Grove & Saralee's Vineyard







### RRVW Outgoing President's Message

As the outgoing Russian River Valley Winegrowers Board President, I wish to thank our members, sponsors, and Board of Directors for their support during my two-year tenure. I believe that, while we saw some membership changes over the past year, our member and sponsor community remain strong, as does the Russian River Valley brand.

I would like to recognize and personally thank our Executive Director, Jesslyn Jackson, for her leadership and tireless work in support of our organization. Her professionalism and commitment to excellence made a real difference. I would also like to thank Christine Margetts for her administrative and financial records support. Her experience with the RRVW over the years is invaluable to the Board and to the smooth operation of the organization.

As pandemic restrictions eased, events were rescheduled, and normalcy began to return to our community despite some ups and downs. RRVW supported the Sonoma County Pruning Competition and was a presenting partner for Pinot Forum, a popular trade event. But issues such as inflation, supply chain disturbances and competition for venues, equipment and personnel confronted us. While challenging and often frustrating, each of these presented an opportunity for change in our organization. They included membership dues and sponsorship restructuring, committee changes, conversion of our physical office space to a remote office solution, calendar and event changes, streamlining of the budget, and bylaw amendments on board structure and meetings. The Board of Directors unanimously supported all of these changes.

We also pressed forward with our annual Paulée Dinner at the La Crema Estate at Richard's Grove. Thanks so much to Jackson Family Wines and the La Crema team for their support, as well as to the amazing chefs, participating wineries, and sponsors that helped make this a world-class event. I'd like to also thank American Ag Credit for their sponsorship of our RRVW Vineyard Sign replacement initiative.

I look forward to continuing to participate on the Board of Directors in 2023 and seeing everyone at RRVW events!

#### Clark Lystra

Outgoing Board President Russian River Valley Winegrowers

### Executive Director's Note

After 18 months in the role as Executive Director, I have listened to feedback from our members regarding their vision for the organization and the steps necessary to get there. This includes the type of support that is needed for both segments of our membership: growers & wineries. We are a diverse community comprised of large and small producers, hobby growers and large agricultural operations, members who exclusively grow and produce Chardonnay and Pinot Noir, and those that hang their hats on one of the 30+ other varietals we grow across our AVA.

I, with the support of the Board of Directors, worked in the second half of 2022 to find ways to take this organization into the next era. First, I proposed and sought approval for a more inclusive mission statement that pertains to all segments of our members. Second, I restructured our membership dues into a flat-rate tiered system that will allow us to better predict our revenue and plan for our marketing and event efforts in the future. Third, I suggested to shift the organization's focus towards investment in larger-scale marketing & public relations campaigns throughout 2023. To do this, we made the decision to postpone any Russian River Valley Signature events for 2023. This will afford us the time to evaluate how to execute a new event without a significant financial loss, to develop a new format that encompasses many of our traditions, and to engage a new consumer audience. In leu of hosting a Russian River Valley-branded event, we will seek sponsorship of existing consumer and trade events that we can participate in throughout 2023 to provide our members an opportunity to tell their stories and share their wines.

We greatly appreciate the support of our members and sponsors, especially to our early adopters and contributors who have made us what we are today. Please feel free to reach out to me if you ever have questions about your membership or want to learn how to get more involved. I am proud to represent this association and share the stories of our members.

Cheers and more to come in 2023!

Jesslyn Jackson

Executive Director, Russian River Valley Winegrowers





### Additional RRVW Support

# Amy Tesconi, Project Manager and Marketing Consultant, Tesconi Marketing

Russian River Valley Winegrowers has enjoyed working with Amy Tesconi, an independent marketer, since the start of her freelancing venture, Tesconi Marketing, in 2021. Amy has assisted in redesigning many of the Russian River Valley collateral assets, particularly for the Neighborhoods initiative. She also will be the project manager lead for most of the Marketing + PR efforts for 2023 during the Executive Director's leave. Amy has an extensive wine industry background:

- BA Communications, 2005 San Diego State University / MBA 2009 Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
- Started wine career in 2009 in Paso Robles and has held marketing positions at well-known wineries to include Justin, Benziger Family Winery, Mumm Napa, and Kenwood Vineyards
- Former Director of Marketing and PR for Sonoma County Winegrowers 2017-2021
- Wine marketing consultant, strategist and project manager
- Adjunct instructor for SRJC DTC Wine Marketing Course

#### **Amy Tesconi**

Amy@rrvw.org

### About our Bookkeeper

#### Christine Margetts, Sonoma Ag Art

Christine's passion for wine, and the Russian River Valley originated while employed by two of the most recognized and influential scions of Sonoma County; Saralee McClelland Kunde and Richard Kunde. Saralee was a founding member of the inaugural board of the Russian River Valley Winegrowers and served as the Treasurer for many years. Christine has provided accounting expertise to Saralee and the Winegrower board since 1997. After Saralee's passing in 2014, Christine continued to support the board by providing bookkeeping guidance to the organization.

After Richard's passing, Christine continued in her role as General Manager of Sonoma Ag Art, which owns Catie's Corner and Coffey Lane Vineyards. Additionally, she provides accounting support to Sonoma County non-profit agricultural-related companies, as well as serving on the board of the Russian River Valley Winegrowers Foundation and Sonoma County Fair Foundation.

#### **Christine Margetts**

1998 Jones Road Windsor, CA 95492 707.837.9200 Christine@SonomaAgArt.com







### Marketing + PR Briefing

## Chair of Marketing + PR Committee: Jake Martini, Taft Street Winery

With continued membership engagement, the marketing & PR committee built on efforts from the previous year with PR activations including:

- Press Releases surrounding our two core events, Russian River Valley Paulée and Pinot Forum
- Larger participation and engagement in Pinot Forum
- Media FAM Hosting in conjuncture with our signature events
- Collateral and branding enhancements

Our goal is to continue to focus on marketing initiatives that encompasses the history of the Russian River Valley and its people; to capture and share the stories of our members to consumers, trade, and media. Planned for 2023 are a celebration of the AVA's 40 years; PR outreach highlighting Pinot & Beyond; as well as involvement and support of Pride Month. We're also focusing efforts to develop a more effective social media strategy with the assistance of Amy Tesconi as well as a more functional website to direct trade, media and consumers alike to our members.

# Welcome to Our Neighborhoods Media Toolkit Development

New Media Toolkit for the RRVW Neighborhoods initiative launched at RRVW member workshop in April 2022 at Rodney Strong Vineyards 'Cellar Door'

- New Neighborhoods Map
- New Informative PowerPoint Deck on Russian River Valley + Neighborhoods
- New Informative Brochure on Russian River Valley + Neighborhoods
- Assets are currently available via a Dropbox link on the RRVW website; they will be accessible via our website in early Q1 of 2023







Russian River Valley Winegrowers PowerPoint Presentation

# Welcome to Our Neighborhoods 'Boot Camp' at Rodney Strong Vineyards

April 13, 2022















### Paulée Dinner

Russian River Valley Winegrowers marked the start of harvest 2022 with our signature Russian River Valley Paulée dinner held a month earlier than previous years on Saturday, August 6 at La Crema Estate at Saralee's Vineyard in Richard's Grove.

#### 2022 Russian River Valley Paulée Overview

The Annual Paulée featured 26 of our member wineries pouring world-class Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, Syrah, Zinfandel and Sauvignon Blanc. Our culinary partners for 2022 were Chef Crista Luedtke of boon eat + drink, Chef Tracy Shepos Cenami of La Crema Estate, and Chef Mark Stark of Stark Reality Restaurants All three joined together to craft an amazing family-style meal. We were excited to include several local vendors as well such as Journeyman Meat Co., Wolf Coffee, Volo Chocolate and Grossman's Noshery & Bar.

Guests in attendance included over 10 Bay Area media, one of which was Laurie Jo Miller Farr from Haute Living, who RRVW and member wineries hosted in the area for a couple of days prior to the Paulée. This allowed for additional tasting opportunities for participating wineries. Over 175 seats were sold to consumers with an average ticket price of \$235. There were over 258 people in attendance. The event boosted a whopping \$51k in overall revenue (ticket sales, sponsorship, and winery participation), but due to the high cost of rentals and food costs, the expenses came in around \$62, netting a loss of \$11k overall for the event.









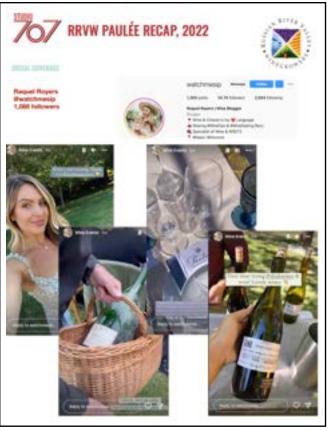
"There's no better to place to celebrate the rich legacy of Russian River Valley than at La Crema Estate at Saralee's Vineyard. Saralee Kunde had an enormous influence on winegrowing in the area, and she was one of the predominant founders of Russian River Valley Winegrowers, so it is especially meaningful to gather on this picturesque historic property."

-Jesslyn Jackson, Executive Director, Russian River Valley Winegrowers

#### Participating Wineries

- Balletto Vineyards,
- · Benovia Winery
- Bob Cabral Wines
- Bricoleur Vineyards
- · Carlisle Winery
- Domaine Della
- DRNK Wines
- Gary Farrell Winery
- Hartford Family Winery
- Inman Family Wines
- Jeff Cohn Cellars
- Joseph Swan Vineyards
- Korbel Champagne Cellars
- · La Crema
- Landmark Vineyards
- LANDO Wines
- MacRostie Winery & Vineyards
- MARITANA VINEYARDS
- Merriam Vineyards
- Notre Vue Winery & Vineyards
- Ron Rubin Winery
- Russian River Vineyards
- Siduri Wines
- Sonoma-Cutrer
- Three Sticks Wines
- Tongue Dancer Wines.





#### Media Attendees

- Tina Caputo, freelance
- · Ziggy Eschliman, Ziggy the Wine Gal
- J'nai Gaither, Wine Enthusiast
- Theresa Gonzalez, Brit + Co
- Holly Le, freelance/Bay Area Premium Wine Guide/Modern Luxury 6. Danny Mangin, Fodor's Napa & Sonoma
- Alexandra Russell, Wine Industry Advisor
- · Carey Sweet, freelance
- Dana Rebmann, freelance
- Raquel Royers, Watch Me Sip













### Pinot Forum 2022

Russian River Valley Winegrowers was proud to further our exisiting partnership with Pinot Forum in 2022 to become a presenting sponsor of the overall event. Pinot Forum is an annual trade-focused event hosted in the Russian River Valley where distinguished Pinot Noir producing wineries collectively host over 50 top



wine buyers and sommeliers from across the country, to share an insider's view of the region and explore key trends of the variety through education, networking, and tastings.

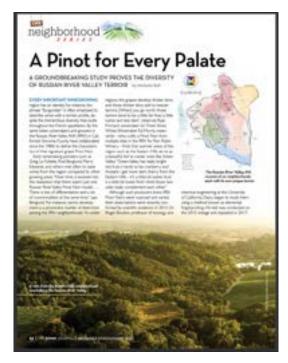
#### July 10-12, 2022

- 58 Sommeliers and Wine Buyers from across the U.S
- 2 Media Representatives: Christina Barrueta on behalf of The Somm Journal and freelancer Shakera Jones (@blackgirlsdinetoo)
- 35 Participating RRVW Member Wineries
- 2 immersive days of programming including two master classes, a marketplace tasting, a Grand Dinner at Gary Farrell Winery + The Bacchanalia at Rodney Strong Wine Estates

# Exclusive Media Partnership for Pinot Forum 2023 with the SOMM JOURNAL

Pinot Forum, Presented by Russian River Valley Winegrowers, secured a media exclusive partnership for the 2023 program (July 9-11) with The Somm Journal and sister publication, The Tasting Panel. This partnership includes:

- Key advertisements to promote the program to interested trade
- Critic/Wine Scoring Reviews for participants of Pinot Forum
- Coverage of the 2022 program in the December 2022 issue;
   Coverage of the 2023 program in the December 2023 issue
- A six-part series featuring The Neighborhoods of Russian River Valley in all issues from December 2022-December 2023



Part 1 of the six-part Neighborhood Series in November/December 2022 Issue of The Somm Journal

Advertisement in November/December 2022 Issue of The Somm Journal



PINOT FORUM
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY





### Financial Highlights of 2022

#### Prepared by RRVW Treasurer, Michelle Muth Ausburn

#### Revenues

Total revenues were \$211,322, short of budget of \$232,500 by \$21,178. The variance is primarily related to unfavorable variances in Grower and Winery Membership dues offset by favorable variances in Community Partnership/Sponsorship dues and Paulée income.

Grower and Winery Membership dues totaled \$130,252, short of budget of \$175,000 by \$44,748. Community Partnership/Sponsorship dues were \$30,000 and exceeded budget of \$22,500 by \$7,500.

#### Expenses

Actual expenses were \$255,534, exceeding budgeted expenses of \$249,960 by \$5,574. The variance is primarily related to overages in Paulée event expenses offset by favorable variances in rent, website maintenance and employee expenses.

Paulée income was \$51,069, compared to budgeted income of \$35,000. Related expenses were \$62,079, compared to budget of \$30,000. Net loss from the event was \$11,010 compared to budgeted net income of \$5,000.

#### **Net Loss**

Actual net loss totaled \$43,859, an unfavorable variance of \$26,399 compared to budgeted net loss of \$17,460.

#### Cash

Bank balances totaled \$245,595 as of December 31, 2022.

### 5-Year Trends

#### Net Income (Loss)

Year	Net Income
2017	(\$26,607)
2018	\$23,167
2019	\$18,350
2020	\$52,477
2021	(\$60,492)
2022	(\$43,859)

#### **Cash Balance**

Year	Net Income
2017	\$258,233
2018	\$284,921
2019	\$327,918
2020	\$360,947
2021	\$267,258
2022	\$245,595

### Income

	2022 Actual	2022 Budget
Membership Dues		
Grower	\$50,530	\$75,000
Winery	\$79,722	\$100,000
Community Partnership	\$30,000	\$22,500
Sponsorship		
Total Membership Dues	\$160,252	\$197,500
Events		
Paulee Income	\$51,069	\$35,000
Total Event Income	\$51,069	\$35,000
Total Income	\$211,322	\$232,500

# Expenses

	2022 Actual	2022 Budget
Advertising	\$145	\$ -
Website	\$4,948	\$7,800
Marketing and PR	\$14,955	\$13,000
Bank Service Charges	\$2,454	\$1,500
Contract Labor	\$ -	\$1,000
Donations	\$50	\$ -
Dues and Subscriptions	\$486	\$300
E-Mail Service Provider	\$882	\$1,000
Rent	\$7,348	\$12,000
Utilities	\$1,513	\$4,000
Pinot Forum	\$4,111	\$5,000
Freight and Shipping	\$ -	\$500
Insurance	\$13,286	\$13,000
Licenses and Permits	\$105	\$100
Office Supplies	\$651	\$1,200
Office Furniture	\$ -	\$2,000
Office Equipment	\$874	\$ -
Paulee Expenses	\$62,079	\$30,000
Postage	\$57	\$1,000
Post Office Box Rental	\$318	\$150
Phone	\$4,281	\$3,600
Printing	\$ -	\$2,500
Passion for Pinot	\$(10)	\$ -
Professional Fees	\$9,712	\$9,500
Executive Director	\$105,000	\$117,600
Payroll Taxes	\$8,404	\$9,000

	2022 Actual	2022 Budget
Development	\$869	\$2,000
Board of Directors	\$365	\$500
Member BBQ	\$1,454	\$1,500
Annual Report	\$500	\$1,500
Annual Meeting	\$5,223	\$3,650
Member Mixers	\$4,300	\$4,000
Miscellaneous Expense	\$880	\$1,000
Franchise Tax Board	\$ -	\$60
Sales Tax Expense	\$295	\$ -
RRVW Girls Scholarship	2,000	-
Sales Tax Expense	43	-
Signs	2,036	500
Utilities	2,029	4,000
Website	7,113	7,800
Total Expense	\$255,534	\$249,960
Other Income (Expense)		
Signs, net	\$375	\$(500)
Pruning Contest	\$(633)	\$ -
Donations, net		
RRV Girls, net	\$474	\$ -
Interest Income	\$499	\$500
Other, net	\$(362)	\$ -
Total Other Income, net	\$353	\$ -
Net Loss	\$(43,859)	\$(17,460)





### Member Events in 2022

- Annual Meeting for 2022 @ Vintner's Inn Resort in March
- Vineyard Walk @ Bacigalupi Vineyards in May
- Vineyard Walk @ Limerick Lane Cellars in August
- Member BBQ + Redwood Empire Food Drive
  @ Balletto Vineyards in October
- Annual Meeting for 2023 @ Paradise Ridge in December

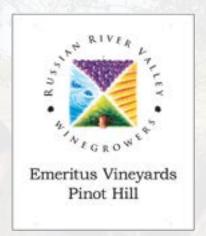


# American AgCredit RRVW Vineyard Sign Replacement Program

For the month of June, American AgCredit sponsored the RRVW Vineyard Sign Replacement Program, which allowed members to purchase NEW vineyards signs for their property at 50% of the actual cost of production.

Over 40 members took advantage of this special offering.

RRVW also introduced new 'Neighborhood' signs that can be attached to existing vineyard signs.





#### **Grower Members**

Allen Family Vineyards Ancient Oak Cellars ASERN Vineyards Aster Vineyards BCD Farms

Bacigalupi Vineyards Baekgaard Family Farm Balletto Vineyards Bell Summe Vineyard Benovia Winery

Betty Ann Vineyard Bialla Vineyards

Bisou Vines

Boschetti Family Vineyards

Bricoleur Vineyards Bush Crispo Vineyards Calegari Vineyard

California Wineries & Vineyards

Carinalli Vineyards

Cartograph

Cole Creek Vineyard

Cornerstone Certified Vineyard

Dalya Estate Dellinger Vineyard DNA Vineyards Domaine de la Riviere

Double Creek Vineyards

Dow Vineyard Emeritus Vineyards Ewald Vineyard Flora Vina

Forchini Vineyards Four Palms Farm

Gantz Family Vineyard Great Oak Vineyards Gunsalus Vineyard

Hoeschler Vineyards HoppeKelly Vineyards

Iron Horse Ranch & Vineyards Jackson Ranch & Vineyard Joseph Swan Vineyards

Julia's Vineyards Kasim Family Vineyard

Kobler Family Vineyards

La Crema

Landmark Vineyards Lennox Vineyards Leras Vineyards

Martin Ray Vineyards & Winery

Medlock Ames Vinters Merriam Vineyards Mononi Ranches Moore Vineyard

Notre Vue Winery & Vineyard

Nunes Vineyard
O'Connor Vineyards
Ponzo Vineyards
Ramey Wine Cellars
Rancho Coyote Vineyard
Redwood Lane Vineyards

Ricioli Bros Rochioli Winery

Rodney Strong Wine Estates

Ron Rubin Winery Ruxton Vineyard Sanchietti Ranch Sonoma Ag Art

Sonoma Cutrer Vineyards Soracco Family Vineyards Starr Lake VIneyards Syar Family Vineyards Trenton View Vineyard Trione Vineyards

Vino Farms

#### Winery Members

Ancient Oak Cellars Arista Winery Bacigalupi Vineyards Balletto Vineyards Benovia Winery Bob Cabral Wines Bricoleur Vineyards Carinalli Vineyards Carlisle Winery Cartograph Wines

Char Vale Vineyards DeLoach Vineyards

Domaine de la Riviere

Domaine Della Dot Wines DRNK DuMOL

Dutton Estate Winery Dutton-Goldfield Winery

Emeritus Vineyards Furthermore Wines

Gary Farrell Vineyards & Winery

George Wine Company Hartford Family Winery Hook & Ladder Winery Inman Family Wines

Iron Horse Ranch & Vineyards

J. Cage Cellars Jeff Cohn Cellars Joseph Jewell

Joseph Swan Vineyards Kanzler Vineyards

Korbel Champagne Cellars

La Crema Winery Landmark Vineyards LANDO Wines Limerick Lane Cellars

Lynmar Estate

MacRostie Winery & Vineyards Marimar Estate Vineyards & Winery

MARITANA Vineyards

Martin Ray Vineyards & Winery

Martinelli Winery Medlock Ames Vinters Merriam Vineyards Merry Edwards Winery Modus Operandi Cellars

Moshin Vineyard

Notre Vue Winery & Vineyard

Nunes Vineyard
Paradise Ridge Winery
Paul Hobbs Winery
Pellegrini-Olivet Lane
Ramey Wine Cellars
Rancho Coyote Vineyard
Rochioli Winery

Rodney Strong Wine Estates

Ron Rubin Winery Russian River Vineyards

Scherrer Winery Senses Wines Siduri Wines

Sonoma Cutrer Vineyards St. Michelle Wine Estate

Taft Street Winery Three Sticks Wines Tongue Dancer Wines Trione Vineyards Twomey Cellars

Williams Selyem VML Winery































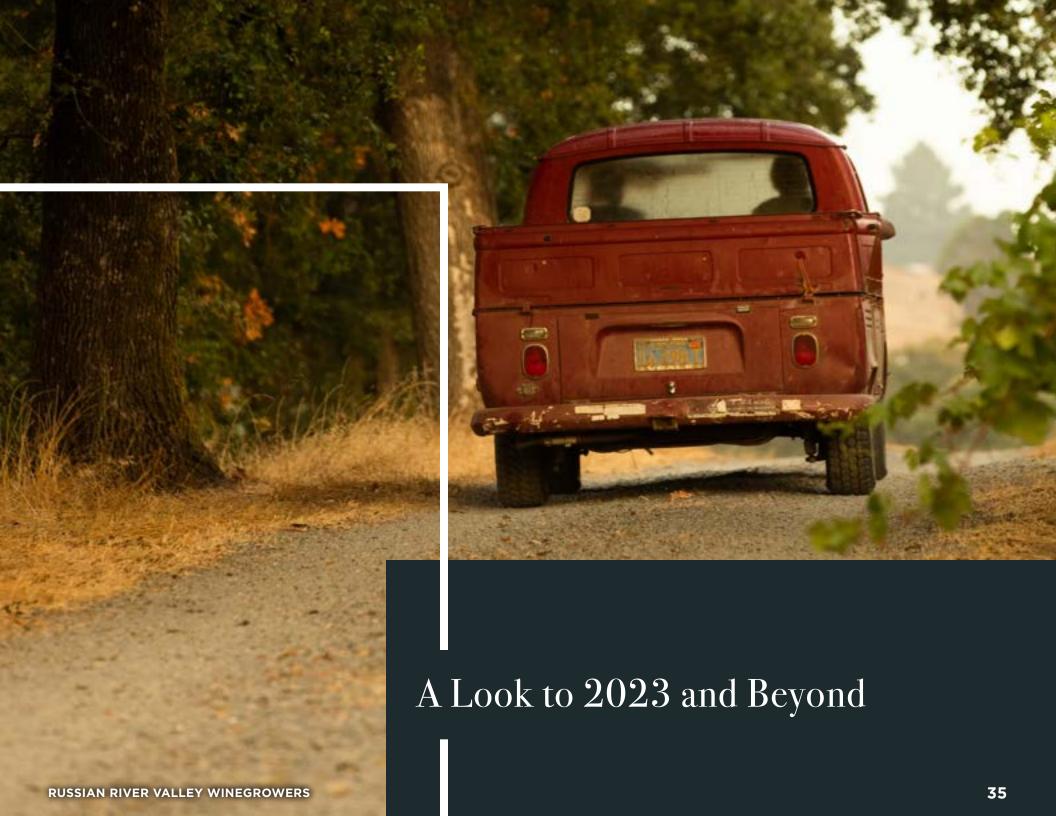








Wonderful nurseries...





"I'm incredibly excited to support the Russian River Valley as President during its 40th anniversary in 2023. This year is a wonderful opportunity to honor the rich history of our AVA and celebrate not only the established names and farming legacies, but also new up-and-comers and multi-generational businesses building upon what already has been established. It is the people in the Russian River Valley that make this place special, and I feel fortunate to be a part of this wonderful community."

-Jake Martini, Taft Street Winery Incoming RRVW President, 2023



# Marketing + PR Initiative 1: Celebrating 40 Years of Innovation, Craft & Community

Goal: Honor the rich history of the RRVW by marking the 40th anniversary of the AVA's founding in 1983. Leverage milestone as opportunity to highlight the diverse winery + grower members, farming legacy and, of course, world-class wines.

#### Activation points

Development of Talking Points + Messaging Guide + Commemorative Assets, Winter 2023

- National Press Release + Media Pitches, Winter 2023
- National anniversary announcement featuring a selection of wineries who will participate in the "Decades of RRVW" consumer tour.
- Release will highlight major milestones and legacy of innovation among growers + vintners.
- Individual media targets with specific story ideas for wine, lifestyle
   + influencer coverage.
- Studio 707 will create overarching Anniversary messaging as a guide. Can be shared with hospitality teams, marketing, etc.
- Decades of RRVW Webpage, Spring 2023, that has a draw for consumers (self-guided tasting through the decades)
- Developing a new landing page on website outlining history and showcasing member wineries/ growers established in each decade.

Exclusive Media Tasting, TBD Fall 2023

 A highly targeted tasting with A-list Bay Area writers, showcasing pairs of wineries/growers and exploring the rich history of the region.

# Marketing + PR Initiative 2: Pinot and Beyond

Goal: To showcase the diversity of RRVwines by focusing on the more obscure varieties. Highlight winery + growers who have non-Pinot or Chardonnay offerings and emphasize why the Russian River Valley is well-suited to growing and creating the highest-quality wines for any palette.

#### Activation points

- Targeted Media Mailer, Spring 2023- Share a streamlined selection of wines with targeted list of A-list journalists and influencers.
- Pitch key publications for a feature story on the lesser-known grapes of the Russian River Valley.
- Bring in an exisiting partner (Coravin, etc.) to sponsor mailer





# Marketing + PR Initiative 3: Pride in Russian River Valley

**Goal:** Help make the RRV THE place for wine tasting in the month of June. Spread the word about special DTC offerings and events, while also featuring the local LBGT community.

#### Activation points

- Gay Wine Weekend Presented by Out in the Vineyard, July 14-16
  - Confirmed partner for opening reception at central location in downtown Healdsburg
  - 16 Members Confirmed to Participate
- RRVW Pride Storytelling
- Social media calendar highlighting RRVW members that are leading players in the LBGTQ+ community
- Calendar lists, local radio interviews, etc

### 2023 EVENT PARTNERSHIPS

- Passion 4 Pinot, Palm Desert January 27-28
- Master Class at World of Pinot Noir March 3
- Grand Tasting AVA Association
   Participant at World of Pinot Noir
   March 3 & March 4
- Sonoma County Barrel Auction
   Collaborative Lot, May 5
- Other community event sponsorships TBA



### 2023 Calendar

January 27-28	Passion 4 Pinot in Palm Desert; 40th Anniversary Celebration Dinner at Mission Hills Country Club hosted by Russian River Valley Winegrowers
March 1	County-Wide Pruning Contest at Foley Family Wines property at 3700 Pine Flat Road, Healdsburg.
March 3-5	World of Pinot Noir in Santa Barbara featuring Past, Present + Future Master Class Presented by Russian River Valley Winegrowers
March 7	<b>RRVW Members:</b> Quarterly Educational Series-Grower Workshop at American AgCredit
May 24	<b>RRVW Members:</b> Vineyard Walk at Ross Ridge Vineyard Hosted by Sonoma County Properties
June 14	<b>RRVW Members:</b> Quarterly Educational Series-Winery Workshop at Martin Ray Winery
June 24	Taste of Sonoma Hosted by Sonoma County Vintners
July 9-11	Pinot Forum Presented by Russian River Valley Winegrowers with Exclusive Media Partner, The Somm Journal
July 14-16	Gay Wine Weekend hosted by Out in the Vineyard; Opening Night Reception Sponsored by Russian River Valley Winegrowers
October 19	RRVW Members: Annual Member BBQ at Landmark Vineyards
November	RRVW Members: Quarterly Educational Series
December 12	RRVW Members: Annual Meeting + Holiday Party at Balletto Vineyards

All dates are subject to change depending on availability of venue hosts or conflicts with other meetings and events in our area. More member networking opportunities and events will be added throughout the year once confirmed.

#### **Committee Meeting Schedule**

Russian River Valley Winegrower Meetings will be held via Zoom unless otherwise indicated. To be considered for a committee seat please email the Jesslyn Jackson at Jesslyn@rrvw.org.

- Direct to Consumer (DTC) Networking Group Chair: Cristina Torres, Marimar Estate
  - Thursday, February 9, 9:00am via Zoom
  - Wednesday, April 12, 3:30pm-5:00pm @ Hartford Family Winery
  - Wednesday, May 17, 9:00am via Zoom
  - Tuesday, June 27, 3:30pm-5:00pm @ Lynmar Estate
- Marketing + PR Committee
   Chair: Mari Jones, Emeritus Vineyards
  - First meeting of the year to be held on Tuesday, January 10, 10:00am
  - Committee will typically meet every other month unless additional meetings are deemed necessary by a consensus of the committee. Each future meeting date will be determined in the committee meetings.
- Events Committee
   Chair: Erica Odden, Rodney Strong Vineyards
  - RRVW is actively recruiting for this committee to assist in the reevaluation of our branded events (the Russian River Paulée and Grape to Glass) to hopefully slate at least one for 2024. Committee to meet every other month starting in May 2023 unless additional meetings are deemed necessary by a consensus of the committee. Each future meeting date will be determined in the committee meetings.

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