

For Immediate Release
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**Wine Lovers Celebrate a Decade of Great Escapes at the
10th Annual Great Wine Escape Weekend**

Over 2700 wine enthusiasts toast Monterey County wines

Monterey, CA - November 15, 2006 – As the harvest concluded for 2006, the Monterey County Vintners and Growers Association hosted the 10th Annual Great Wine Escape Weekend from November 9-12, 2006. Over 2700 attendees joined in the festivities that included more than 50 wineries, 36 restaurants, and 8 hotels.

Jack Storms, glass sculptor extraordinaire, unveiled his newest masterpiece at the Opening Reception, held in Penthouse Suite at the Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa. Storms was approached by MCVGA to create a special piece. Storms developed a new series of solid crystal glass sculptures in the shape of wine bottles. “We witnessed the convergence of the passion of the Grower, the Vintner, and the Artist,” commented Bill Anderson, winemaker of Chateau Julien.

Additional components of the event included seminars, winemaker dinners, tasting room tours, a “hidden gems” boutique wine tasting, and the Grand Finale at the Inn at Spanish Bay. The weekend also featured an exquisite dinner at Bernardus Lodge that included four of the Wine Enthusiast’s Top 100 wines and wines from the host property, Bernardus. Chef Cal Stamenov of Bernardus and Chef David Kinch of Manresas prepared a seven-course meal that was outstanding with the wines from Morgan, Marilyn Remark, Paraiso Vineyards, Pessagno Winery, and Bernardus.

“Nearly all of the events sold out this year,” commented Tamara Gunnerson, Events Director of MCVGA. “We added several new elements to the program, including featuring celebrity chefs from across the country throughout the weekend for an interactive luncheon at the Sensory Sensations seminars on Friday and the Grand Finale on Sunday. The Great Wine Escape Weekend is really gaining in popularity as a must-attend wine event and we look forward to continuing the momentum in 2007.”

The Great Wine Escape is an annual event held the second weekend in November. It is scheduled for November 9-11, 2007. Ticket packages will become available in March 2007 and advance purchase is encouraged. MCVGA also sponsors the Passport Weekend and Monterey Wine Auction and Gala in February and a Winemakers’

Celebration in August. Details on all of the events can be obtained at www.montereywines.org or by calling 831-375-9400. Pictures for the event are available by contacting MCVGA.

About MCVGA

The Monterey County Vintners & Growers Association (MCVGA) brings together the talents and resources of members, partners and our community in order to promote and support our leadership in the art, the science and the business of wine. Founded in 1974, MCVGA is a non-profit organization representing over 85 vintners and growers in Monterey County.

About Jack Storms

For more information on Jack Storms please visit www.jackstorms.com or call 831.625.6151.