



**SONOMA VALLEY VINTNERS & GROWERS ALLIANCE ELECTS  
NEW BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS FOR 2008**

**Local Vintners, Growers and Chef Among New Inductees**

**Sonoma, CA (January 20, 2008)** Sonoma Valley Vintners & Growers Alliance (SVVGA) announced the addition of four newly elected board members at their January Alliance Meeting. The newly installed board members include:

Michael Muscardini, Muscardini Cellars: A SVVGA member for nine years, Sonoma Valley resident Michael Muscardini together with wife Robyn launched Muscardini Cellars in 1999. The small, family- run winery, which just opened a new tasting room in Kenwood, specializes in limited production Sangiovese and Syrah from the couple's "Monte Terra" Vineyard.

J. Bruce England, EnglandCrest Vineyards: Bruce and Judy England moved to Glen Ellen in 1998 to become grape growers and winemakers. They planted a small Zinfandel and Syrah vineyard and broke ground on their winery facility on Dunbar Road. The winery began operation in 2003 and is currently home to Loxton Cellars.

Tom Menzies, Pasatiempo Vineyard: Tom Menzies has been a Sonoma County resident since 1974 and a SVVGA member since planting his Pasatiempo Vineyard in 1999. He is an active member of Sonoma County Grape Growers Association, the Sonoma County Vineyard Technical Group, and sub groups of the SCGGA including the Organic Producers group and the Small Growers group.

Carlo Cavallo, Sonoma-Merit ge Restaurant: Italian and Swiss trained Carlo Cavallo has worked at several of Europe and America's most prestigious restaurants and has as an impressive list of celebrity clients. The owner and chef of the critically acclaimed Sonoma-Merit ge Restaurant in Sonoma, Cavallo is one of the founders of the Sonoma Valley Olive Festival, Culinary Director of the Cinema Epicuria, Sonoma Valley Film festival and culinary instructor at Ramekins cooking school.

"These are tremendous additions to our board" said new Board President Norm Goldstein of Carriger Creek Vineyards, "Between them, they add substantially to the tapestry of experience, perspective and commitment that fuels the SVVGA's work representing the interests of our members and supporting the needs of our local Sonoma Valley community."

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Muscardini fills the Vice President seat vacated by Norm Goldstein (Carriger Creek Vineyards) who takes over as Board President from outgoing President Charlie Tsegeletos (Cline Cellars). Susan Reber (Mission Hills Mortgage) takes on the responsibilities of Treasurer, and Marjorie McLeod (Indian Springs Vineyard) was relected to serve as Board Secretary. Muscardini, England and Menzies are eligible to serve three, two-year terms. As an SVVGA member at large – one who is neither a grower nor vintner – Cavallo can serve a renewable one year term. With the addition of the new members, the 2008 SVVGA board includes: Norman Goldstein, President (Carriger Creek Vineyards); Michael Muscardini, Vice President (Muscardini Cellars); Susan Reber, Treasurer, Member-at-Large (Mission Hills Mortgage); Marjorie MacLeod , Secretary (Indian Springs Ranch); Carlo Cavallo, Member-at-Large (Sonoma Meritage); Don Chase (Kunde Estate Winery & Vineyards); Mike Colhoun (Landmark Vineyards); Stephanie Dunn, Member-at-Large (Three House MulitMedia, Inc.); J. Bruce England (EnglandCrest Vineyards); Tom Menzies (Pasatiempo Vineyard); Vickie Mulas (Mulas Family/Alta Vista Vineyards); Jennifer Scott (Chateau St. Jean) and Dan Schaefer (Audelssa Estate Winery).

### **About the SVVGA**

The Sonoma Valley Vintners & Growers Alliance (SVVGA) is a non-profit trade organization serving over 500 vintners, growers and associates who share a mission to promote awareness of Sonoma Valley's grapes, wine, terroir and history as the birthplace of the California wine industry. The Sonoma Valley Vintners and Growers Foundation (SVVGF) is a non-profit organization that has raised over \$7,000,000 for local Sonoma Valley charities through the Sonoma Valley Harvest Wine Auction. For more information on the SVVGA and SVVGF, please call 707-935-0803 or visit [www.sonomavalleywine.com](http://www.sonomavalleywine.com).

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