

RUTHERFORD DUST SOCIETY



"It takes Rutherford Dust to grow Great Cabernet."
—André Tchelistcheff

E - NEWSLETTER — MARCH 2011

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RDS ANNUAL MEETING SHOWCASES 2011 PLANS

It was one of those evenings where you could see for miles when the members of the Rutherford Dust Society held their annual meeting and dinner at the elegant Auberge du Soleil resort in Rutherford. The society members gathered together to discuss the past year's events and programs and hear about plans for 2011.

The river restoration project, the yearly Day in the Dust trade tasting, and the upcoming Passport Weekend were a few of the projects discussed at the meeting. During dinner, member-donated



wines were auctioned off, raising over \$11,000 for Rutherford charities.

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NAPA RIVER RUTHERFORD REACH RESTORATION PROJECT TAKES SHAPE



If you happened to miss the Rutherford Dust Society Annual Dinner this year, you can catch a replay of Gretchen Hayes' photo tour of the Rutherford Reach Restoration Project on the web: ([See video here.](#))

We learned that the channel features we constructed last summer are holding up well and performing as designed. The instream benches and alcove are providing slow water areas where young steelhead and salmon can take refuge from the swiftly moving water in the main channel. Gravel is sorting and pools are forming beneath wood structures, transforming previously simplified channel sections into a diverse palette of aquatic habitats. The newly widened riparian corridor is greening as the native vegetation plantings take hold on the verge of spring.

With construction of Reaches 1-3 of the Napa River Rutherford Reach Restoration Project complete, the Rutherford Dust Restoration Team is turning its attention to construction of Reach 4 and Sequoia Grove over the next two years. Notice of receipt of three outstanding grants is due this month, which will support this construction effort. The County has rehired our design engineers at ESA PWA to bring Reach 8 to final design this coming year. RDRT is currently submitting grant applications to support creating final designs for the remainder of the project, with the goal of completing construction of the entire 4.5 mile Project by 2017.

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A DAY IN THE DUST SET FOR JULY 13

The Rutherford Dust Society will hold its annual Day in the Dust trade tasting on July 13, in the barrel room at Rubicon Estate. This yearly tasting draws approximately 300 members of the trade and media to taste the most current release of Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet blends. This year 30 to 40 Rutherford Dust Society wineries will pour their 2008 Cab and Cab blends for the guests, along with their 2010 Sauvignon Blanc. Invitations will be sent out in the spring. If you are a member of the trade, or know one who is interested in attending, please let us know so that we can invite them!



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SPRING PASSPORT WEEKEND IS MAY 7 & 8

The Rutherford Appellation Wineries announce the next Spring Passport, May 7 and 8, 2011 from 11 am to 4 pm. The event has been hailed as one of the most exclusive entrances into the Rutherford Appellation Wineries. Many participating wineries are by appointment only, or are unavailable for tastings throughout the year. Make this passport weekend your official

Rutherford Wine experience. The Appellation is best known for its amazing Cabernet Sauvignons and Sauvignon Blancs.

This spring more than 20 participating wineries will offer food pairing of miscellaneous brunch fare in celebration of Mother's Day weekend. Come and experience the Rutherford Appellation, meet local winemakers, discover unreleased wines, tour tank rooms and vineyards alike. Pricing for this event is only \$75 for the weekend. Mothers who attend the Spring Passport Weekend will receive a special gift. Visit www.rutherford-appellation-wineries.com for tickets and information.

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RUTHERFORD APPELLATION TASTING HOSTED BY PEJU WINERY



On Friday, February 25, for the third straight year, Peju Winery played host to 21 Rutherford Appellation Member Wineries for the 2011 Premiere Napa Valley Rutherford Appellation Barrel Tasting. Over 300 members of the wine trade attended this invitation-only event, where they were able to meet the winemakers and taste barrel samples for each of the auction lots as well as other wines. For information on Peju visit www.peju.com.

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RUTHERFORD DUST TO HOST ROMANTIC CRUISE TO ALASKA

The Rutherford Dust Society, in cooperation with wine educator Ray Johnson, is providing wines and speakers for a remarkable tour of Alaska on board the luxurious Golden Princess. The Expedia Wine Club Cruise will set sail from Seattle, Washington on June 11, 2011 for a 7-day cruise.

Premier Rutherford wineries participating in this cruise will be Frank Family Vineyards, Peju Province Winery, and Honig Vineyard and Winery. [Watch the video](#) for details.

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STAGLIN MUSIC FESTIVAL

The 17th Annual Music Festival for Mental Health will take place on September 10, 2011 at Staglin Family Vineyard in Rutherford, California. The Staglin Music Festival for Mental Health is America's top mental health fundraising event. Proceeds fund research aimed to find better treatments and, someday, cures for the "Big 3" brain disorders: schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and depression. Please join the Staglins for 2011's Music Festival on September 10, 2011 and kick up your heels while raising funds and hope for the 57 million Americans who live with mental illness. The event will include a free scientific symposium, a reception, a concert and a dinner. For more information visit www.music-festival.org.



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DECANTER MAGAZINE

California Cabernet 2007, 3-STAR WINES Recommended:

Piña Firehouse Vineyard Rutherford Cabernet Sauvignon
Frog's Leap "Rutherford"
Frog's Leap Rutherford Cabernet Sauvignon
Rubicon Estate CASK Rutherford Cabernet Sauvignon
Rubicon Estate "Rubicon" Rutherford

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