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**Russian River Valley Winegrowers Celebrates
Russian River Valley Pinot Noir with the Pinot Classic
Memorial Day Weekend 2014**

Santa Rosa, CA (April 22, 2014) - Chris Donatiello, Board President for the Russian River Valley Winegrowers (RRVW), has announced plans for the [Pinot Classic](#), a multi-day celebration of Russian River Valley's internationally acclaimed Pinot Noir, taking place over Memorial Day weekend from May 24 – May 26. The highly anticipated weekend of events explores the rugged beauty of this largely undiscovered destination and its hidden gems – including world-class wines, local food and unmatched hospitality. The Pinot Classic comprises multiple events including the annual Passport to Pinot barrel tasting, and the second annual Pinot Classic Paulée Dinner. In addition, a seminar on the AVA's neighborhoods initiative will take place on Saturday, May 24 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Fountaingrove Inn.

[Passport to Pinot](#) offers Barrel Tasting from more than 30 Russian River wineries and producers while showcasing the vineyards and people that comprise the exceptional beauty of the Russian River Valley. Guests will enjoy preferred access to pre-release wines, barrel, library and limited edition winery-only wines, artist demonstrations, entertainment, delicious food and so much more. Tickets are \$65 for both days and are available on [PinotClassic.com](#). Participating wineries include: [Ancient Oak Cellars](#), [Bacigalupi Vineyards](#), [Balletto Vineyards & Winery](#), [Bucher Vineyard](#), [C. Donatiello Winery](#), [Carrozzi Vineyard](#), [Cartograph Wines](#), [Christopher Creek Winery](#), [DRNK Wines](#), [Dutton Estate Winery](#), [Dutton-Goldfield Winery](#), [Emeritus Vineyards](#), [Forchini Winery & Vineyards](#), [Gary Farrell Vineyards & Winery](#), [Gordian Knot Winery](#), [HANNA Winery & Vineyards](#), [Hartford Family Winery](#), [Harvest Moon Estate & Winery](#), [HKG Estate Wines](#), [Hop Kiln Vineyards](#), [Joseph Swan Vineyards](#), [JW Vineyards](#), [La Crema](#), [La Follette](#), [Lauterbach Cellars](#), [Lost Canyon Winery](#), [Matrix Winery](#), [Merriam Vineyards](#), [Moshin Vineyards](#), [Mueller Winery](#), [Russian Hill Estate Winery](#), [Russian River Vineyards](#), [Siduri Wines](#), [Sonoma-Cutrer Vineyards](#), [Thomas George Estates](#), [Valdez Family Winery](#), [Viszlay Vineyards & Family Winery](#), and [VML Winery](#).

An exclusive evening celebrating the wine, winemakers and growers of the famed Russian River Valley will inspire guests of the annual [Paulée Dinner](#), this year hosted by Jean Charles Boisset at DeLoach Vineyards on Saturday May 24, beginning at 6 p.m. The tradition of the original Paulées in Burgundy celebrated the conclusion of harvest where vintners would gather for a communal meal, bringing special bottles of wine to share. In the spirit of this tradition, vintners from the Russian River Valley will dig deep into their personal and private wine cellars to present their favorite Pinots and Chardonnays from the Russian River and beyond. Guests are also encouraged to bring a special bottle to share.

The [Annual Paulée dinner](#) begins with a winemaker reception, followed by a delicious three-course, Pinot-inspired menu prepared by Michou Cornu, Director of Cuisine and Hospitality at Boisset Family Estates. Attendees will experience a truly unique Russian River Valley evening under the stars. Host wineries include [Arista Winery](#), [Bacigalupi Vineyards](#), [Benovia Winery](#), [Bucher Vineyard](#), [C. Donatiello Winery](#), [David Family Wines](#), [DeLoach Vineyards](#), [Hartford Family Winery](#), [Iron Horse Vineyards](#), [La Crema](#), [La Follette](#), [J. Vineyards & Winery](#), [Joseph Swan Vineyards](#), [Kosta Browne](#), [Merry Edwards Winery](#), [Russian Hill Estate Winery](#), [Siduri Wines](#), [Trione Vineyards and Winery](#), [Williams Selyem](#). Tickets are \$250/person and available at [PinotClassic.com](#).

The Russian River Valley American Viticultural Area (AVA) is located in the heart of Sonoma County, California, just 55 miles north of San Francisco. The seasonal fog and tempering effects of the Pacific Ocean to the west provide this area with an uncommonly long growing season, and ideal conditions for cool climate loving grape varieties, particularly Pinot Noir and Chardonnay. The growing conditions result in wines of uncommon depth and richness that still maintain bright, natural acidity.

About RRVW

The Russian River Valley Winegrowers (RRVW) is a non-profit marketing and educational organization dedicated to maintaining the agricultural diversity of the Russian River Valley while preserving its natural resources and protecting its authentic farming heritage. As a trade association that supports grape farmers and wineries, our nearly 300 members participate in educational seminars, sponsored and consumer events, and community networking. The RRVW provides regular marketing, publicity and community relations support and is committed to promoting the Russian River Valley as the world's premiere winegrowing region. For more information on the Russian River Valley or becoming a member, please email info@rrvw.org or visit www.rrvw.org.