

*Temecula Valley*



Vine

Times

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**Linkogle Named Wine  
Institute Director**

Les Linkogle, winemaker and co-owner of **Briar Rose Winery** in Temecula, recently was elected director of the Wine Institute's Southern District. District directors and their alternates were elected on a one-member-one-vote basis in each district, following nominations by regional winery associations. Wine Institute's Board of Directors meets quarterly to set organizational priorities and establish policy on major industry issues. The Board has 40 members representing wineries of all sizes and each of the state's wine regions. "We are looking forward to having Les on Wine Institute's Board of Directors," said Robert P. (Bobby) Koch, Wine Institute president and chief executive. "With the tremendous growth in the Temecula Valley and San Diego County winegrowing regions, it is more important than ever for Southern California to have a strong advocate on the Wine Institute Board to help guide policy on critical regulatory and legislative issues in Sacramento, Washington, DC and in the states."

**Falkner Celebrates 9th  
Anniversary**

Celebrate the 9th anniversary of **Falkner Winery** with owners Ray and Loretta Falkner on July 3 –5. The weekend includes free jazz performed by saxophone players Jason Weber and Gil Alcantar, winery tours and other fun events. Selected wines will be offered at up to 50 percent off case prices and selected gifts will also be on sale. Lucky winners of an hourly raffle will be able to buy a

bottle of wine for only \$1. To mark the occasion, Pinnacle Restaurant will offer a special lunch for two that includes a shared salad or appetizer, separate entrées (such as BBQ Chicken or BBQ Baby Back Ribs), shared dessert, and separate glasses of wine for only \$55 plus tax. For more go to: [www.falknerwinery.com](http://www.falknerwinery.com).

### **Callaway Winemaking Seminar Continues**

**Callaway Vineyard & Winery** will offer the second in a series of four nuts-to-soup winemaking seminars on July 25 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. A Taste of Summer Winemaking seminar will be all about fermentation and the winemaking process. The day begins with a guided tour of Callaway's production facility with winemaker Craig Larson. Along the way, he will discuss some of the decisions that go into making wine and demonstrate some of the procedures and chemical analyses that are done in the lab and their effects on the final product. Following your tour you will learn all about how rosés are made, get their color and how they taste. The seminar will be followed by a casual lunch and a glass of your favorite rosé. This class includes an educational DVD, a collection of recipes that pair well with Callaway rosés and a certificate of completion. Cost: \$75 per seminar.

### **Wine Country Experience Doesn't Have to Be Expensive**

In these tough economic times, the folks in Temecula's Wine Country are making it easy to get more bang for your dwindling bucks. Whether its half-priced appetizers, discounted wines, complimentary winery tours or three-course meals at award-winning restaurants for less than \$30 a person, the Temecula Valley can be fun and tasty without being pricey. **Callaway Vineyard & Winery and Cougar Vineyard & Winery** offer complimentary winery tours daily starting at 11 am. Every Tuesday and Wednesday in the Vineyard Rose Lounge at **South Coast Winery Resort & Spa** munch on half-price appetizers and draft beer plus \$3 off glasses of select South Coast Wines from 5:30- 9 p.m. A number of wineries offer free music. At **Keyways Vineyard & Winery** enjoy complimentary acoustic guitar music every Sunday

from 2-6 p.m. It's a great opportunity to sample the winery's very popular sangria and taste award winning wines. Every Tuesday this summer South Coast Winery makes dining out easy on the wallet. It's Dine 29 program features an extraordinary three-course menu selection complete with choice of salad, entrée and specialty dessert for just \$29 per person.

### **Services Set for Respected Wine Country Chemist**

**John Valentine**, a well respected Wine Country chemist for the past two decades, died last week of a heart attack. A Temecula resident, he was 87. A funeral mass will be held at St. Catherine of Alexandria Catholic Church in Temecula on June 25 at 10 a.m. Described as a quiet, meticulous man, Valentine spent 32 years as an industrial chemist with Inland Steel Corp. in Chicago before he and his wife Lori moved to Temecula in 1986. He worked as a tour guide at Culbertson Winery before finding a place in the lab at Thornton Winery and later at South Coast Winery. "He helped set up the lab at South Coast," recalls Jon McPherson, winemaker. He called Valentine "a bit of a fixture" in the Temecula Valley winemaking world who worked behind the scenes and was vital to the winemaking process. "For us chemistry is central to making good wine," McPherson said. "He kept our numbers going." During World War II, Valentine worked on the Manhattan Project, which led to the world's first atomic bomb.

### **Temecula Wines Get Top Honors at Critics Challenge**

Several Temecula wines won gold or better at the Critics Challenge International Wine Competition held May 23-24 at the Westgate Hotel in San Diego. Judged as Best of Show White from the 1,400 entries from wineries around the world was the 2008 **La Cereza** Viognier (\$25). Awarded critics gold were **Callaway Vineyard and Winery** 2008 Quartet, Winemaker's Reserve (\$28) and **Wilson Creek Winery's** 2006 Estate Syrah (\$32.95).

**Odds and ends... Baily Vineyard & Winery** invites everyone to welcome summer with its

specialty priced 2007 Rose of Cabernet Sauvignon. For a limited time the winery is offering the gold-medal winning wine for \$12 a bottle, or \$120 a case. This drier style rose wine has only a touch of sweetness and is ideal for sipping or with spicy Mexican or Chinese food and chicken salads... On Aug. 16, **Ponte Winery** employees and Wine Club members will participate in the 32nd America's Finest City Half Marathon and 5K to raise funds for Rancho Damacitas, a residential treatment home for children that helps and heals children who have been abused and neglected... Every Friday night **Keyways Vineyard & Winery** hosts a TGIF Piano Bar. \$15 cover charge includes one glass of wine. A casual dinner is available for \$25 and includes food, one glass of wine and cover charge.

**Coming up...** On July 18 at 6 p.m. **South Coast Winery Resort & Spa** is hosting a Winemakers Dinner. Enjoy a five-course meal paired with wine. Every couple receives a bottle of wine signed by our winemakers. Cost: \$125 per person... Join Gerry and Rosie Wilson for a Summer Legacy Dinner at **Wilson Creek Winery** on July 18 from 6-10 p.m. It's a great way to enjoy food prepared by Executive Chef Clay Blake and wine created by Winemaker Etienne Cowper in the winery's intimate barrel room. Cost: \$145 per person.... **South Coast Winery Resort & Spa** on June 27 hosts the Shriners Hospitals for Children's 3rd Annual Rhythm on the Vine concert starring R&B great Jeffrey Osborne and saxophonists Kirk Whalum and Gerald Albright.... Missing Persons concert on July 18 at **Wiens Family Cellars** will benefit the **Temecula Valley Winegrowers Association**. Tickets start at \$59. For more information go to: [www.goldencrownproductions.com](http://www.goldencrownproductions.com)... **La Cereza Winery and Gallery** will host the musician and guitarist Benise, in a special live performance on July 18 at 8 p.m. The concert supports the California Family Life Center (CFLC), a private, non-profit agency that provides homes, education and care to abused children in the local area. General admission tickets are \$55. Dinner service is

available. For reservations and information call (951) 699-6952 or visit [www.lacerezawinery.com](http://www.lacerezawinery.com)... **South Coast Winery** will donate 20 percent of proceeds from those who dine at the Vineyard Rose restaurant on July 9 to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Southwest County. When you call for reservations mention Boys & Girls Club.

**New releases... Cougar Vineyard and Winery** over the next couple of months plans to release a 2007 Pinotage (\$24.95), 2007 Sangiovese (\$24.95), 2007 Nero D'Avola (\$29.95), and 2008 Pinot Grigio (\$16.95). The Pinot Grigio has aromas of granny smith apple and a hint of pear. **Callaway Vineyard & Winery's** 2008 Special Selection Muscat Canelli (\$18) has an intense bouquet of gooseberry, tangerine and jasmine. Callaway's 2008 Winemaker's Reserve Calliope White (\$28) is a classic Southern Rhone Valley blend of Marsanne and Roussane.

**Clarification....** To celebrate the anniversary of the first modern winery in the Temecula Valley, **Callaway Vineyard & Winery** will host a 40th birthday party on July 19 from 1 to 4 p.m. The day will include hors d'oeuvres, live band and gifts, 40% percent off selected wines and an opportunity to talk with winery owners and John Moramarco, a pioneering viticulturist who planted the first vines at Callaway more than 40 years ago.

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*For more information about items in this newsletter, to request media passes to Wine Country events or to schedule a private media tour of Temecula's Wine Country, contact the Temecula Valley Winegrowers Association at 1-800-801-9463 or [winecountrydir@aol.com](mailto:winecountrydir@aol.com)*

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