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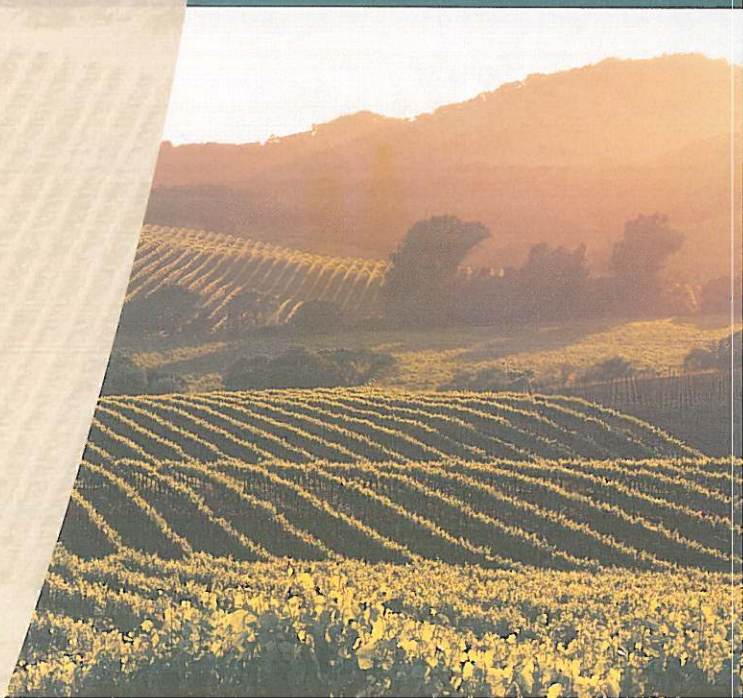
A W A R D S O F

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CALIFORNIA
ASSOCIATION
of WINEGRAPE
GROWERS



38TH ANNUAL MEETING &
AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE PROGRAM AND RECEPTION

SHERATON GRAND HOTEL, SACRAMENTO
JANUARY 24, 2012

4:30 – 5:00 PM	ANNUAL MEETING CHECK-IN
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5:00 – 5:45 PM	BUSINESS MEETING WELCOME John Aguirre, <i>President</i> CALL TO ORDER Bill Pauli, <i>Chair</i> RECOGNIZE THE OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS Bill Pauli, <i>Chair</i> MINUTES, JANUARY 25, 2011 ANNUAL MEETING Bill Pauli, <i>Chair</i> FINANCIAL REPORT Ryan Metzler, <i>Treasurer</i> PRESIDENT'S REPORT John Aguirre, <i>President</i> CHAIR'S REPORT AND INTRODUCTION OF SPONSORS Bill Pauli, <i>Chair</i> QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS
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6:00 – 7:00 PM	AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE PROGRAM & RECEPTION WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF SPONSORS AND SPECIAL GUESTS, John Aguirre, <i>President</i> CAWG Grower of the Year Award – <i>The Kautz Family</i> CAWG Leader of the Year Award – <i>Nat DiBudo, Allied Grape Growers</i> ADJOURNMENT
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7:00 PM	RECEPTION CONTINUES
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A W A R D E E S

JOHN KAUTZ KAUTZ FARMS

G R O W E R
O F T H E Y E A R

**THE CALIFORNIA
ASSOCIATION OF WINEGRAPE
GROWERS IS HONORED TO
RECOGNIZE JOHN KAUTZ
AND KAUTZ FARMS AS 2012
GROWER OF THE YEAR.**

The Kautz family's agricultural roots began in Russia, from where John Kautz's German grandparents emigrated. They settled and farmed in Nebraska where they milked cows and raised all their own food, except flour and sugar. In the 1920s, they moved west to the Lodi area.

Following the death of his father in 1952, John Kautz took over the family's 38 acre farm and became a second-generation California farmer. There would be no time for a formal, college education in agriculture, but John persevered, learning hands-on about all aspects of farming from his family and friends. During the next 20 years, John and his family farmed a wide variety of crops including tomatoes, bell peppers, apples, beans, corn, cucumbers, sugar beets, and hay. Their success as farmers would be recognized in 1965 when John, and his wife Gail, received the nation's Outstanding Young Farmer award.

In the 1970s, the Kautz farm shifted its focus from row crops to orchards and vineyards. Zinfandel and Cabernet Sauvignon grapes would take root in the family farm's earth.

Today, John oversees 7,500 acres of winegrapes and stone fruits. He serves as Chairman of Kautz Family Vineyards, which includes the Ironstone Winery and Entertainment Complex and John Kautz Farms.

Family devotion and participation is evident in every aspect of the Kautz Farms' operation. John and Gail's four children are involved in the family business, with son Stephen serving as President of Ironstone Winery and marketing the family's wines throughout the U.S., son Kurt as Kautz Farms' Chief Financial Officer and manager of Bear Creek Winery and California HotWood, son Jack serving as Director of Ironstone Winery, and daughter Joan starting and serving as Vice President of International Operations for the family's wine portfolio.

The family dynamic of their operation even extends to their employees, many of whom have been employed by Kautz Farms for as long as 50 years.

Growers close to John regard his willingness to take risks as key to keeping the family business on the successful leading edge of the winegrape growing business. For example, in 1973 he was the first to plant Chardonnay wine grapes in Lodi and, today, his growing area leads the state in Chardonnay production.

Kautz Farms also implemented Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in the early 1970s, and sustainable practices in their vineyards including the use of cover crops and compost, owl boxes and raptor perches, and riparian habitat restoration. Additionally, Kautz Farms received a California waterfowl award for hatching more than 1,000 wood ducks in a year.

Recognizing the need to protect and advocate for the agriculture industry and, especially winegrape growers, John wrote the first check to start the California Association of Winegrape Growers in 1974.

Through entrepreneurship, agricultural prowess, risk-taking and, most importantly, family devotion, Kautz Farms has become one of the top ten California growers of wine grapes, an astounding achievement from an operation that was a 38 acre farm of the 1950s.

John Kautz and his family share a tireless dedication to growers and wineries, a commitment to new technologies and a steadfast concern for community well-being. It is this reason why the California Association of Winegrape Growers is honored to recognize John Kautz and Kautz Farms as 2012 Grower of the Year.



“JOHN, GAIL AND THEIR CHILDREN ARE TRUE ADVOCATES FOR AGRICULTURE. THEIR WILLINGNESS TO TAKE RISKS HAS SHAPED THE LODI AREA INTO A MAJOR WINE REGION.”

- LODI DISTRICT GRAPE GROWERS ASSOCIATION

DIAMOND

Pan American Insurance Agency, Inc.

PLATINUM

American AgCredit

CoBank

Farm Credit West

ProAg

GOLD

Capital Agricultural Property Services

G3 Enterprises

Prudential Ag Investment

SILVER

Allied Grape Growers

BUBCO, Inc.

Ciatti Company

Mary Roach Insurance Agency, Inc.

Vintage Nurseries

Wilbur-Ellis

BRONZE

The Ranch Winery



CALIFORNIA
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THANK
YOU TO OUR
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