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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

February 3, 2005

15th Annual Barrel Tasting Weekend: March 19 & 20

A Celebration of Wine, Culture & Culinary Arts from Around the World!

Tickets Now On Sale!

SONOMA, Calif.—February 3, 2005— Heart of Sonoma Valley Association (HOSVA) announces its' 15th Annual Barrel Tasting Weekend, scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, March 19 & 20 from 11 AM – 4:30 PM both days! Join Twenty wineries in Sonoma Valley in a celebration of wine, culture & culinary arts from around the world!

Participating wineries are celebrating the tastes and sounds of countries from around the world including Spain, France, Italy, Chile, the South Pacific, Mexico, Australia and many more. Taste 2004 wines straight from the barrel paired with culinary creations. Listen to live music, mingle in the caves, tour wineries and vineyards, meet winemakers, and enjoy the art of local artists. This event offers guests the chance to take a behind-the-scenes-look at twenty wineries in Sonoma Valley.

“This year marks our 15th Annual Barrel Tasting Weekend! We are excited to be celebrating culture, art & of course the 2004 vintage wines and we invite our friends back up to Sonoma Valley for another fantastic weekend celebration!” Said Executive Director Josie Gay. “Twenty wineries are participating this year and they are throwing open their cellar doors for a truly authentic wine country experience.”

Tickets are now on sale! Admission is \$50 per person for both days, which includes a souvenir wine glass and access to event tastings at all participating wineries. Advance ticket purchase is recommended. Tickets and detailed information may be obtained online at www.heartofsonomavalley.com or on the phone at (866) 794-9463.

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Participating Wineries: Benziger Family Winery, Blackstone Winery, B.R. Cohn Winery, Chateau St. Jean, Eric Ross Winery, Family Wineries of Sonoma Valley, Imagery Estate Winery, Kenwood Vineyards, Kunde Estate Winery & Vineyards, Landmark Vineyards, Ledson Winery, Loxton Cellars, Mayo Family Winery, Moon Mountain Vineyards, Navillus Birney Winery & Vineyards, St. Francis Winery & Vineyards, The Wine Room, VJB Vineyards & Cellars, Valley of the Moon Winery and Wellington Vineyards.

A portion of the proceeds will benefit local charities.

About Heart of Sonoma Valley Association

Heart of Sonoma Valley Association (HOSVA) is an alliance of 23 wineries and tasting rooms in the environs of Glen Ellen and Kenwood in Sonoma Valley. HOSVA's precinct is the verdant stretch of lush vineyards along scenic Highway 12 mid-way between Santa Rosa and the town of Sonoma, where for a century and a half many of the vintages that have made California wines world leaders in viticulture have been harvested.

EVENT DETAILS AT A GLANCE:

What: 15th Annual Barrel Tasting Weekend

When: Saturday, March 19 & Sunday, March 20, 2005

Where: Twenty Wineries throughout Sonoma Valley

Time: 11 AM - 4:30 PM both days

Cost: \$50 per person for the weekend/\$20 for designated drivers. Includes a logo wine glass & access to event tastings at all participating wineries.

Info: For tickets and info please visit www.heartofsonomavalley.com or call (866) 794-9463. Advance ticket purchase is recommended.

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