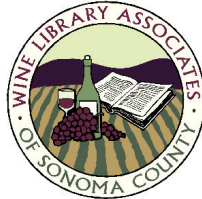


Subject: Photographer/Author at Sonoma County Wine Library
From: JAG Public Relations <info@jagpublicrelations.com>
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**WINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATES OF SONOMA COUNTY
present Photographer/Author Don Wallace**

Healdsburg, California (July 27, 2005) -- The Wine Library Associates of Sonoma County present an evening with photographer/author Don Wallace as he narrates his own odyssey in making the photographic book, *The Wine Grape's Journey: The Farmer's Year*, on Friday, August 12 from 7-9 PM at the Healdsburg Regional Library (139 Piper Street at Center Street). The event features hors d'oeuvres prepared by the author (a chef in a previous career) and wines whose vineyard sources are chronicled in the book (Grgich Hills Cabernet Sauvignon, Robert Young Scion, J. Rickards Zinfandel, Bella Zinfandel and more). Admission is \$10 per person. Call 707.431.2898 for reservations.



During his slide lecture, Wallace will trace his path from chef to studio food and prop stylist, to the wine country, and finally, to the quest that resulted in the book.

Wallace captures a year in the vineyard with over 250 images. He spent two years researching, photographing, writing, laying out and publishing this lush, arresting book. In *The California Grapevine* (June-July, 2005, p 56), Bob Foster calls the book "a wonderful photographic journey. ... Along the way there are photographs of an amazing array of details -- things I have read about but have never seen up close. ... There are side tours into topics such as grafting, vineyard workers, the neighborhood grange, animals in the vineyards, and biodynamic production methods. ... The author captures images never before seen by wine buffs. *Highly recommended.*"

Wallace gained access to several North Coast vineyards under the auspices of vineyard manager John Clendenen and wine growers at the Robert Young Estate and Grgich Hills Cellar. His keen photographer's eye turned this unique right-of-way into a lucid testimony of vineyard beauty and the hard, exacting work contributed by men and machine to produce ultra-premium wine grapes. Wallace has captured some amazing microphotographs of budbreak, the unfurling of leaf and cluster, flowering, fruit set, veraison and shoot thinning. The lyrical writing, the production values of the book, the striking layout and colors all combine to make the book a coherent vision of a year in the vineyard.

"Working several years as a studio photographer, food and prop stylist, and graphic artist in Los Angeles," said Wallace, "I found I needed relief from the stress and unfriendly confines of the advertising world. The digital SLR camera had just reached a competent level so it was off to the wine country. I arrived not knowing a soul, but that changed quickly after meeting Wes Sheehy. He directed me to Sonoma County and the Robert Young family. From there, everything just fell into place. I had met other farmers, John Clendenen and Jim Rickards, and now had access to over a thousand acres of vines. With the freedom to come and go at any time of day, I found the true life of the grape, its moods, and reactions to the weather, sun, soil and human contact.

"The human interaction with the grape is what surprised me the most. Walking and talking with the vines not only kept the farmer at peace, but definitely inspired positive growth in the vine. I started to write after documenting a year of growth, and two years later *The Wine Grape's Journey* was born."

The Wine Library Associates of Sonoma County (www.sonomaodyssey.org) is a non-profit organization that supports the Sonoma County Wine Library by raising funds, sponsoring events and providing volunteers. (The wine industry and the Sonoma County Library contribute other funding.)

The Sonoma County Wine Library is a special collection and service of the Sonoma County Library that is located in the Healdsburg Regional Library (139 Piper Street). Funded in part by the local wine industry, the library provides business, technical, historical and consumer information on wine. Its collections comprise more than 5,000 books and subscriptions to some 80 periodicals as well as maps, photographs, labels, clippings and extensive current and historic wine information files. Visit www.sonoma.lib.ca.us/wine.html for more information on the Wine Library or www.winefiles.org to access its one-of-a-kind online database.

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