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## Topel Celebrates Dogtoberfest with Release of “Wine Tails” Calendar

*To Benefit the Healdsburg Animal Shelter*

**Healdsburg, CA, Friday, October 16, 2009** — Humans and canines alike will have a howling good time at the second annual Topel Tasting Room Dogtoberfest to celebrate the release of the 2010 Topel Wine Tails Calendar, a benefit for the Healdsburg Animal Shelter.

This year’s calendar includes photos of 40 dogs from all over California and as far away as Chicago and East Peoria, IL. The photos were entered in Topel’s “Shoot Your Dog!” contest, which ended in August.

“Just like last year, it was very, very hard to pick the winners,” said Donnis Topel, who owns Topel Winery and its Healdsburg Tasting Room along with her husband, Mark. “There were so many adorable photos from which to choose and the heartwarming stories that accompanied the entries made it particularly difficult to decide.”

Calendar cover girl for 2010 is Salgal, a Vizsla owned by Jane Baron of Santa Rosa.

Salgal was one of the oldest dogs entered in the contest — she will be 17 in February. Baron hand painted a black-and-white photograph she took of Salgal propped on an old truck that is permanently parked in the vineyards of an old Sonoma County ranch. “We knew it was perfect for the cover the minute we saw it,” Topel said. “It has a very special Wine Country feel to it and Salgal had a wonderful expression on her face — a happy Sonoma County pup, for sure.”



The calendar will retail for \$20 and all proceeds from sales will be donated to the Healdsburg Animal Shelter. Calendars can be purchased in the Topel Tasting Room and at the Healdsburg Animal Shelter at 570 Westside Road, or online at [www.topelwines.com](http://www.topelwines.com).

Dogtoberfest will run from noon to 5 p.m. on Saturday, October 31, at the Topel Tasting Room, located at 125 Matheson Street in Healdsburg, just steps off the Plaza and across the street from Oakville Grocery. Humans will get complimentary wine tastings (\$5 value) and special food treats, while their canine companions will feast on dog biscuits. Portrait artist Robert Harris will be on hand to draw caricatures (for a small fee), and wine discounts will be offered.

For more information, go online to [www.topelwines.com](http://www.topelwines.com) or call 707-433-4116.

Topel Winery is located on Duncan Peak, just south of Hopland, in Mendocino County. Its popular Healdsburg Tasting Room opened in September, 2008. For more information, go online to [www.topelwines.com](http://www.topelwines.com) or on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/topelwinery](http://www.facebook.com/topelwinery).