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Shoot Your Dog!

Topel Winery Celebrates the "Dog Days of Summer" with Photo Contest

Healdsburg, CA, Monday, August 3, 2009— As part of its "Dog Days of Summer" celebration, Topel Winery is once again urging all dog owners to shoot their dogs — with a camera, of course!

The Hopland-based winery, with a tasting room in downtown Healdsburg, is seeking creative and clever photos of photogenic pups for its second annual Topel Wine Tails Calendar, the sales of which will benefit the Healdsburg Animal Shelter.

Mark and Donnis Topel, winemakers and co-proprietors, are animal advocates who currently have three Basset Hounds and a Rottweiler patrolling their vineyards on Duncan Peak, just south of Hopland. "Last year's calendar was a big hit and we've already had several people submit photos for the 2010 version," said Donnis Topel. "This year we are moving the photo submission deadline up a bit so we can have the calendars printed and ready to sell during our tasting room's annual Dogtoberfest, which will be in late October. They make perfect holiday gifts and all the proceeds go to the Healdsburg Animal Shelter."

Photographs should be in high resolution digital format (minimum 300 dpi). Preference will be given to pictures that have a wine theme, incorporating vineyards, barrels, glassware, bottles, etc. If using bottles, labels should be removed (with the exception of bottles bearing the Topel label). All photographs need to be submitted via email to donnis@topelwines.com no later than August 31. Doggie guardians whose photos are selected will receive two free calendars and a bottle of Topel Cabernet Sauvignon as compensation. Full submission details are on the winery's website at <http://www.topelwines.com>.

For more information, contact Topel Tasting Room, located at 125 Matheson Street in Healdsburg (across the street from Oakville Grocery) at 707-433-4116. The Tasting Room is open daily from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

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