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Contact: Julie Ann Kodmur, 707/963-9632, [corking@julieannkodmur.com](mailto:corking@julieannkodmur.com),  
[www.zinfandel.org](http://www.zinfandel.org)

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**ZAP ANNOUNCES NEW BOARD AND OFFICERS**  
**ZAP announced as one of 10 largest donors for wine research**  
**Preparations underway for a busy 2008-2009**

Rough & Ready CA, August 2008----Zinfandel Advocates & Producers has announced its new Board of Directors for 2008-2009. The new President is Bruce Walker of Starry Night Winery (Bay Area); the Vice President is Duane Dappen of D-Cubed Cellars (Napa); Secretary is Barbara Spelletich of Spelletich Cellars (Napa) and the Treasurer is John Hanhauser of WW Shipping Solutions, an Advocate member.

In other news, ZAP's funding for wine research for 2008-2009 is in the top ten for funding research in the wine industry, according to statistics released by American Vineyard Foundation. At \$39,800, ZAP is the largest funder as a wine-varietal group: more info at <http://www.avf.org/contributors.html> (or 707/252-6911 or [scott@avf.org](mailto:scott@avf.org)). "We're proud to be one of the top funders supporting important research to preserve the heritage of Zinfandel for future generations," explains Bruce Walker.

The Board of Directors consists of ZAP members who represent the diverse Zinfandel growing regions: from July 2008 through June 2009, the Board consists of Josh Beckett--Central Coast (Peachy Canyon Winery), Robert Biale--Napa Valley (Robert Biale Vineyards), Tim Holdener-Central Valley (Macchia), Erin Cline (At Large), John Hanhauser (At Large, Advocate), Kent Knight (Advocate, At Large), Miro Tcholakov-N. Sonoma (Trentadue), Joel Peterson--Sonoma (Ravenswood), Chris Leamy (Montevina), Kent Rosenblum--Bay Area (Rosenblum Cellars), Pete Seghesio--N. Sonoma (Seghesio Family Vineyards) and Barbara Spelletich-Napa Valley (Spelletich Cellars).

Bruce Walker adds, "My goals as President are to solidify the Zinfandel community through all of ZAP's great outreach. I'm pleased to be associated with a great Board and great members, and am very enthusiastic about a fabulous year to come," he added. "In addition, I'd like to commend outgoing Board President Donn Reisen of Ridge Vineyards for his efforts, which included spearheading our most successful Festival ever. I look forward to building on all of ZAP's terrific activities and programs which include Zinworld.org---an unprecedented development in the wine industry, allowing our members to really communicate with each other, meet up and share their favorite Zin retailers, restaurants, events and more---basically, making sure to further the passion we all have for Zinfandel!" he continued.

The Board is directing an array of programs for 2008-2009, including the 18th Annual Zinfandel Advocates & Producers Festival on January 28-31, 2009 in San Francisco: details about the Festival are updated regularly at [www.zinfandel.org](http://www.zinfandel.org). Tickets will go on sale through the website in October, 2008; the Festival consists of Flights: A Showcase of California Zinfandels on January 28; Good Eats & Zinfandel Pairing on January 29; Evening with the Winemakers on January 30 and The 18th Annual Grand Zinfandel Tasting on January 31. Last year an estimated 10,000 people attended these four events at The 17th Annual Zinfandel Advocates & Producers Festival. At the Tasting, more than 270 Zinfandel wineries poured at least one wine each, with a total field of wines available to taste approaching 550. This is the biggest single varietal (wine) event in the world and the largest single-day wine event worldwide.

ZAP's other initiatives include the wine industry's first varietally-based social networking platform---[www.Zinworld.org](http://www.Zinworld.org), where members can build their own mini-websites, assemble itineraries for visiting Zinfandel member wineries and communicate extensively amongst each other. ZAP will be visiting three cities in the U.S.

ZAP also conducts an annual Zinfandel Grand Tasting Tour to various cities across the country; in 2008 the Tour visited New York, Chicago, Washington D.C., and Cleveland. ZAP also organizes an annual cruise; this year the cruise will travel from Athens to Venice May 3-15 (2009).

Past Board Presidents are Justin Boeger (Boeger Winery), Julie Johnson (Tres Sabores), Dr. J. Bernard Seps (Storybook Mountain Vineyards), Kent Rosenblum (Rosenblum Cellars), Joel Peterson (Ravenswood), Doug Beckett (Peachy Canyon Winery), Katie Quinn (Amador Foothill Winery), Robert Biale (Robert Biale Vineyards), Grady Wann, Donn Reisen (Ridge Vineyards).

Visit [www.zinfandel.org](http://www.zinfandel.org) to join ZAP, research Zinfandel and more! The Association of Zinfandel Advocates & Producers (ZAP) is a non-profit, educational 501(c)(3) organization. ZAP is dedicated to advancing public knowledge of and appreciation for American Zinfandel and its unique place in our culture and history. Winegrowers, winemakers and wine enthusiasts combine to form the membership. The common focus is the preservation and recognition of Zinfandel as America's heritage wine. ZAP's membership includes approximately 300 winery-members, more than 5,000 advocate-members and 80 associate members.

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