



# THE PREMIUM GROWER



"Fine Wine Begins in the Vineyard." • Fall 2007 Volume 3 Issue 5

## FIRST ANNUAL "CURRENT TOPICS FOR NAPA VINEYARD OWNERS" SEMINAR

On Friday, August 24, 2007, eighty Napa Valley vineyard owners gathered at beautiful Meadowood Resort for an NVG seminar focused on critical industry issues. Industry leaders discussed current trends in the vineyard business and how to successfully navigate the changes. Topics included property valuation, trademarking vineyards, successful estate planning, and how to choose the right vineyard manager. Highlighted presentations included Andy Beckstoffer on the past, present and future of the Napa Valley Ag Preserve, Bill Harlan on the Future of Napa Valley, and local experts who demystified what it means to be Organic, Sustainable, and Napa Green farmers. This first annual event was such a hit that the NVG Member Services committee is already working on the 2008 schedule and content. Keep your eyes on our new website for more information.



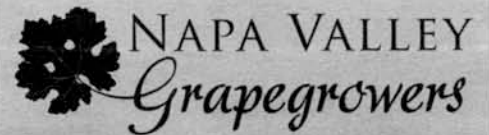
Bill Harlan, Alix Phillips Becker



Steve Moulds, Richard Berridge, Stan Boyd

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Napa County Housing Comm. . . . 2
- President's Report . . . . . 3
- Pests, Pests, & More Pests . . . . . 4
- Vine Mealy Bug Dog Report . . . . . 5
- Sustainable Agriculture Grants . . . 5
- No Match Regulations . . . . . 7
- Wine & Grape Expo . . . . . 8
- Wine & Grape Expo Seminars . . . 9
- NVG Membership Benefits . . . . 10
- Legal Aid . . . . . 11
- Associate Members . . . . . 12
- NVG Membership Updates . . . . 14
- Calendar of Events . . . . . 16



Thank you to our "Current Topics for Napa Vineyard Owners" sponsors

**Silverado Farming Company**  
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# HELPING YOUR EMPLOYEES HELP THEMSELVES

## *Legal Aid of Napa Valley Helping Build a More Secure Workforce*

by Diana Dorame, Executive Director of Legal Aid

Tardiness, absences and distracted employees can often be a drain on the productivity of your business as well as on the morale of co-workers. Frequently employees lose time at work because they are woefully uninformed; trying to maneuver in situations or settings which they are unfamiliar. Individuals who are well informed and understand their rights and obligations in the community become more secure and reliable employees.

Since Legal Aid of Napa Valley was re-established in 2004, we have been helping individuals from all walks of life become more stable, secure, productive members of the community through our three legal service programs:

- Baseline Legal Service Program serving very low income individuals.
- Senior Legal Service Program serving individuals 60 and older.
- Immigrant Legal Service Program serving the immigrant population.

Legal Aid is the only agency providing free legal services to individuals in Napa County.

Our Immigrant Legal Service (ILS) program may impact growers and their employees more than our other two service programs. The ILS program educates immigrants and the community about immigration law, obtaining visas, permanent residency and the pitfalls of some immigration application procedures. Legal Aid also provides legal advice to immigrants on housing, domestic violence, family law, illegal evictions, discrimination and retaliation. Immigrants receive our services primarily through law clinics at family centers, churches, farm-worker housing facilities and other locations throughout Napa County. Recently, Legal Aid held a three hour clinic at Silverado Farming Company for the company's employees.

### ***Silverado Farming Company Clinic***

On July 20th our legal advocate, Sarahid Rivera, represented Legal Aid at Silverado Farming Company's educational event. Sarahid made one-hour presentations to three separate groups of approximately 75 Silverado Farming Company employees per group.

Sarahid counseled the employees on immigration, domestic violence and discrimination. During her discussion about immigration services Sarahid answered questions about the impending immigration fee increases and different ways to immigrate including special types of visas that can be granted to crime victims. Sarahid also educated the employees about what constituted domestic violence. Most of the attendees acknowledged that they were unfamiliar with the domestic violence laws and recognized that information and knowledge about them would help them comply with the laws and remain law abiding members of the community. Sarahid explained the function of restraining orders and the process of how restraining orders can be obtained, enforced and the potential consequences for violating a restraining order. This led to a discussion on how to navigate the court system which the attendees found extremely helpful. The attendees expressed great interest in the topics discussed and posed very thoughtful and practical questions.

The theory of our the Immigrant Legal Services Program is very straightforward: individuals who are more secure in their legal rights as employees, citizens, renters, home-owners, spouses, or children will be better community members and live more stable, productive lives.

### ***A few words from Pete Richmond about the event:***



Silverado Farming invited Legal Aid of Napa Valley to our second quarter employee education workshop. We had become concerned about our employees understanding their legal rights and responsibilities as immigrants in California. In our post meeting interviews, employees commented they had no idea that services like Legal Aid were available. They appreciated the workshop being done in Spanish without the aid of a translator. We were so impressed by their presentation that Silverado Farming made a contribution to Legal Aid through our One Percent for The Community Foundation.

– Pete Richmond