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Vallejo, Haraszthy wedding re-enacted at Buena Vista

May 9, 2013 - 03:10 PM

Buena Vista Winery and the Sonoma-Tokaj Sister City Committee are preparing for the living history re-enactment of the 1863 double wedding of Attila and Arpad Haraszthy to Natalia and Jovita Vallejo. This momentous event in Sonoma's history took place on June 1; 150 years and a day later the Haraszthys and Vallejos will return to life at Buena Vista Winery, along with their respective fathers: Count Agoston Haraszthy and Gen. Mariano Vallejo, and a host of supporting players.

"I am immensely grateful to Jean-Charles Boisset and Buena Vista Winery for sponsoring this exciting event," said Sonoma-Tokaj Sister City Committee Co-Chair Sylvia Toth. "As a Hungarian-American I am thrilled to have the support of this major winery to enable us to undertake meaningful citizen diplomacy between these two famous wine-making regions. A portion of the wine sales will be donated to our committee, and Buena Vista Winery is also donating a two-night stay at the DeLoach Winery guest house, and magnums of wine to be used for the raffle."

The Haraszthy/Vallejo 150th double wedding anniversary will feature an afternoon of wine and living history. Guests will experience all elements of the actual wedding: a ceremony, reception line, buffet lunch, dancing, live music and heartfelt speeches by famous Sonomans. Of course, Buena Vista wine will be served throughout the extensive property, recently renovated by owner Jean-Charles Boisset.

"We at Buena Vista are excited to assist in this fundraising event," said Tom Blackwood, retail director of Buena Vista Winery. "The count and his amazing story are a big part of the visitor experience at Buena Vista, and this living history event will accurately depict what really happened that day."

This nonprofit fundraising event will raise money for a Wine-Student Exchange Program between Sonoma and Tokaj.

Tickets are \$100 a person, and \$90 for Buena Vista Wine Club members.

The Sonoma-Tokaj Sister City Committee was created in the spring of 2012, and is comprised of Hungarian-Americans in Sonoma and the Bay Area. The cities of Sonoma and Tokaj, Hungary have become sister cities, and a delegation from Tokaj, led by the Mayor of Tokaj: János Májer, visited Sonoma in August of 2012 to sign the official documents making Sonoma and Tokaj sister cities.

The Sonoma-Tokaj Sister City Committee is sponsored by Buena Vista Winery, which was purchased by the international wine entrepreneur Boisset in 2011. For the calendar year of 2012, he donated \$1 for every bottle of The Count: Founder's Red Wine sold in the tasting room to the Sonoma-Tokaj Sister City Committee, for a total donation of \$5,796.

The Sonoma-Tokaj Sister City Committee operates under the auspices of the Sonoma Sister Cities Association (SSCA), a registered nonprofit organization.

To purchase tickets for this June 2 event, call the Buena Vista Wine Club at 800-325-2764, or email wineclub@buenavistawinery.com

For more information on the Sonoma-Tokaj Sister City Committee, visit its website at sonomasistercitiesassoc.org, or email Sylvia Toth at szilvit@msn.com or Cecily Wallis at ckwallis@sbcglobal.net.

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