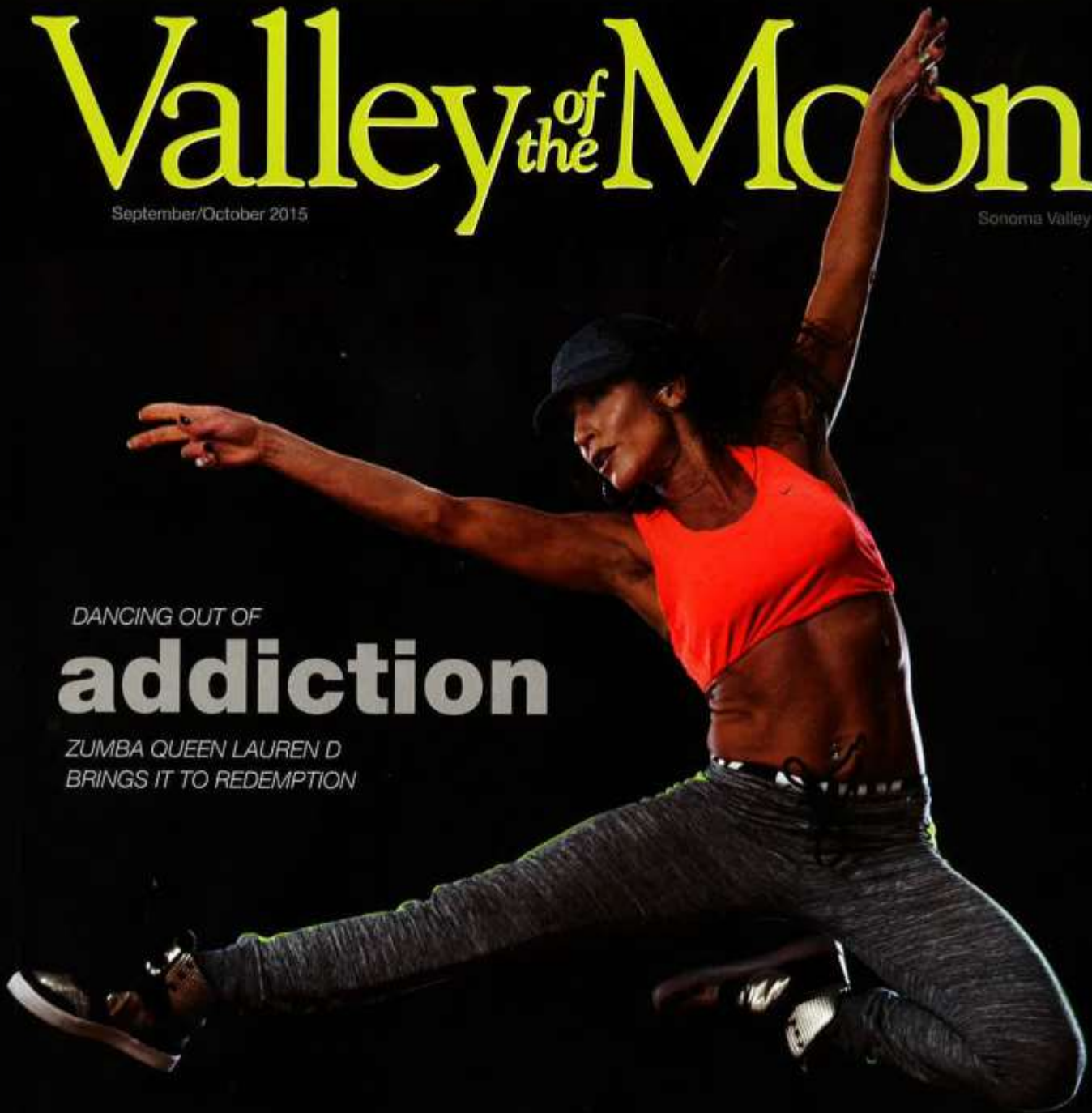


Valley of the Moon

September/October 2015

Sonoma Valley



DANCING OUT OF
addiction

ZUMBA QUEEN LAUREN D
BRINGS IT TO REDEMPTION

METH:
THE WHITE
DRAGON

REMAKING
KEN BROWN

EVERLASTING
LEAF BLOWER
DEBATE

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Harvest Wine Auction

Wine auction tops \$4.5 million

Records were shattered at the 2015 Sonoma Harvest Wine Auction at Chateau St. Jean, September 6, when a total of \$4.5 million was raised. More than 650 guests bid high and often to support a multitude of Sonoma County charities, including the Fund the Future children's literacy initiative. Culinary Co-Chairs Mark and Terri Stark, of Stark Realty Restaurants, led a team of Sonoma County chefs who created a gourmet lunch, and vintner leaders from across the county helped inspire high bids. Notables included Joe Anderson and Mary Dewane of Benovia Winery, Jean-Charles Boisset of Buena Vista, DeLoach Vineyards and Raymond Winery, the Gallo Family, the Zanin Family of Bennett Valley Cellars, Bill and Eva Price of Three Sticks Wines, Rick Tigner of Jackson Family Wines, the Hamel Family and the Klein Family of Rodney Strong Vineyards. Out of state bidders played a key role in the auction's success, coming from Florida, Arizona, Oklahoma, Texas and New York.

Fund the Future, which supported children's literacy, raised more than \$1.9 million, with bidding spurred on by honorary co-chairs Joe Anderson and Mary Dewane of Benovia Winery, and Jean-Charles-Boisset. Fund the Future bidding went on for more than 20 minutes, involved some 180 guests, and six-figure donations set the pace, led by the Benovia contingent, Bill and Eva Price of Three Sticks Wines, Jackson Family Wines, the Gallo Family, and Francis Ford Coppola Winery. At the \$1,000 donation mark, Tom Klein of Rodney Strong Vineyards matched every \$1,000 donation, up to \$100,000, which was easily reached.

The largest grossing auction lot came from Hamel Family Wines, a multi-bid lot for a private dinner with famed Chef Patrick O'Connell and a performance by Bruce Hornsby, which raised \$420,000. Next highest was "The Ultimate Super Bowl 50 VIP Experience—Sonoma style," a combined lot from Benovia Winery, Kosta Browne Winery and the Super Bowl 50 Host Committee, which raised \$320,000. Buena Vista and DeLoach Vineyards contributed a "French Escape" with Jean-Charles Boisset, which sold for a total of \$300,000 to two bidders.

Preliminary gross proceeds from the entire weekend were expected to exceed \$5.5 million, a new earnings record.

- 1 Auctioneer: Scott Robertson
- 2 Stacks Elkhoury, Jean-Charles Boisset, Whitney Sangiacomo, Mia Pucci, Maureen Cottingham
- 3 Magnum Force
- 4 Keith Bruce



SEEN IN THE VALLEY



Big Bottle Barn Party at Atwood Ranch

Invited guests joined the party to kick off Sonoma Wine Country Weekend at Atwood Ranch. They sipped on sparkling and still wines from great Sonoma Valley vintners poured from large format bottles and accompanied by delicious food from the Carreros Bistro at The Lodge at Sonoma Renaissance Resort & Spa.

- 1 Rick Miron, Jean-Charles Boisset, Manuel Meril
- 2 Terri Stark, Lori Miron
- 3 Paul Pomares and Fabiola Sotomayor
- 4 Marchelle Carleton, Eva Bertran, Alis Arrowood
- 5 Darryl and Coe Coe Ponicsan
- 6 Gail Ross, Julie Atwood, Elhel Daly