



Thursday, September 4, 2008

## Wineries' Solarbration nets \$5,000 for Land Trust

On June 21, ZD Wines, Honig Vineyard & Winery and Peju Province Winery hosted a summer solstice celebration, where each winery offered wine-tasting, live entertainment and sustainable gourmet cuisine. Guests paid \$50 per person, which included entry to all three wineries, a celebration and behind-the-scenes tour of the solar energy systems that power the wineries.

Representatives of the three wineries presented a \$5,000 check on Aug. 25 to Napa County Land Trust representatives, including its executive director, John Hoffnagle.

ZD is the latest Rutherford winery to adopt solar power, with the installation of a 125 kW system earlier this year. The 712-module design supplies 100 percent of the energy used in ZD's production.

Honig's solar power system — or their "electricity farm" as they like to call it — is one of the largest in Napa County. The 146 kW system consists of 819 modules, generating 100 percent of their power.

At Peju, 720 panels were installed above the winery's crush pad, barrel room, tank area and offices. The 126 kW system provides 36 percent of Peju's energy needs.

Collectively, the adoption of solar power by the wineries will spare the emission of nearly 11,000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> over the next 30 years — equivalent to the carbon captured by 100 acres of forest — while saving over \$132,000 in electricity costs in the coming year alone.

Sunlight Electric of San Francisco designed and managed the installation of the projects at ZD and Honig. Akeena Solar of Los Gatos completed the system at Peju.

The Land Trust of Napa County works to protect the natural diversity, scenic open space and agricultural vitality of Napa County by preserving lands with significant conservation values for present and future generations, and by fostering an appreciation and understanding of the natural environment.



In front of the solar panel array at Honig Vineyard & Winery are, from left, Regina Weinstein of Honig Vineyard & Winery, John Hoffnagle of The Land Trust of Napa County, Barbie Jamieson of ZD Wines, Bob Pallas of The Land Trust of Napa County, Ariana Peju of Peju Province Winery, Joan Zoloth of The Land Trust of Napa County and Brett deLeuze of ZD Wines.