

Wine festivals

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MICHIGAN WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL

JUNE 27-29, *Meadow Brook*
The beautiful rolling hills of the Meadow Brook Music Festival is home to the third annual Michigan Wine and Food Festival June 27-29. Nearly 20 wineries will serve samples of more than 100 wines—some from the excellent 2002 vintage. Winemakers will be on hand to answer guests' questions.

Delicious food and lively music will complement the wines at the festival. Area restaurants will serve a variety of wine-friendly foods. Locally produced specialty foods available for sampling and purchase include flavored dipping oils, smoked fish, cheeses, honey, jams and more. The music of Brazil and Beyond, and the Johnny Trudell Orchestra will add to the experience.

In addition to many award-winning wines, guests can sample new varieties and newly released wines that would normally be available only by visiting the wineries. The festival's on-site retail store makes it convenient to purchase favorite wines to take home. This is a great opportunity to try wines from all over the state—all within walking distance.

Festival organizers are delighted to add a special feature to this year's program. The 2003 Michigan Wine Country magazine features cover art by Owosso artist R. B. Smith, who will be on hand to sign a limited number of posters featuring the magazine's cover. The Wine and Food Seminar Stage is sponsored by Trevarrow Inc., distributors of Sub-Zero wine coolers and Wolf appliances. Some of the area's well-known chefs will demonstrate how they prepare their favorite seasonal dishes. Wine professionals will share information on wine-tasting, wine-making, and pairing wines with foods.

Adult admission is \$19 and includes eight wine samples, a souvenir tasting glass, wine and food seminars, and non-stop live entertainment. Advance tickets are available for \$17 by calling (800) 600-0307. Tickets may also be purchased at the gate, and designated driver and children's tickets are available at reduced rates. Tickets are valid for one-day admission to the festival grounds Friday 4 to 10 p.m., Saturday noon to 10 p.m., and Sunday noon to 5 p.m. For additional information, call (800) 600-0307 or visit www.michiganwines.com.



Photo/David L. Fox

THE NATIONAL CHERRY FESTIVAL WINE TASTING

JULY 6, *Open Space*
A great setting to enjoy northern Michigan wines along West Grand Traverse Bay during the National Cherry Festival. The wine tasting will feature wines from the Old Mission Peninsula and will highlight the official Festival wine produced by Chateau Grand Traverse.

The wine tasting event takes place at the Open Space in a special tent near the stage from 4 pm till 11 pm. The evening will feature a performance by Three Men and a Tenor.

Tickets and additional information are available by contacting The National Cherry Festival office (231) 947-4230.

ART BY THE POND ART, WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL

JULY 12, *Homestead, Glen Arbor*
Fine art and fine wine (a great combination) will come together Saturday, July 12, 2003 in The Village at The Homestead for an outdoor celebration of summer: Art by the Ponds Art and Wine Festival. Art by the Ponds was created in 2002 with the idea of gathering art of the quality that is typically displayed in a gallery setting and showing it in a beautiful outdoor environment.

In 2003, the winemakers of the Leelanau Peninsula's vineyards and wineries will join the artists of Art by the Ponds. The result? A delightful summer festival amongst the rolling hills, shimmering ponds, whispering woods and sandy beaches of The Homestead, featuring the best artists and wines of the region.

Fine art from northern Michigan's premier artists will be on display and available for purchase in individual, uniquely designed displays. Stroll along the boardwalk and admire watercolor and oil paintings, color & black-and-white photography and other creations that were created

right in our neighborhood.

Also in The Village, visitors and guests will be invited to taste the wines of the member wineries of the Leelanau Peninsula Vintner's Association. Gathered conveniently in a wine tasting tent, guests will be able to taste the wines side by side, a unique opportunity. Whether it's a chilled Pinto Gris, or an Oak-aged Pinot Noir, you'll find it amidst the pines and ponds of The Village.

Tickets for Art by the Ponds will be \$10 in advance (available at The Homestead and all 10 LPVA wineries), \$12 day of event and will include a custom Art by the Ponds wine glass and two (2) wine tasting tickets that can be exchanged for samples or glasses of wine. The event begins at 11 am and goes till 5 pm.

The Homestead's award winning executive chef, Patrick Karpowski, CEC, and his staff will be serving delightful appetizers from the kitchen at Nonna's.

Wine from each of the wineries will also be available for purchase at Cavanaugh's, near the wine and food tent.

For additional information or to

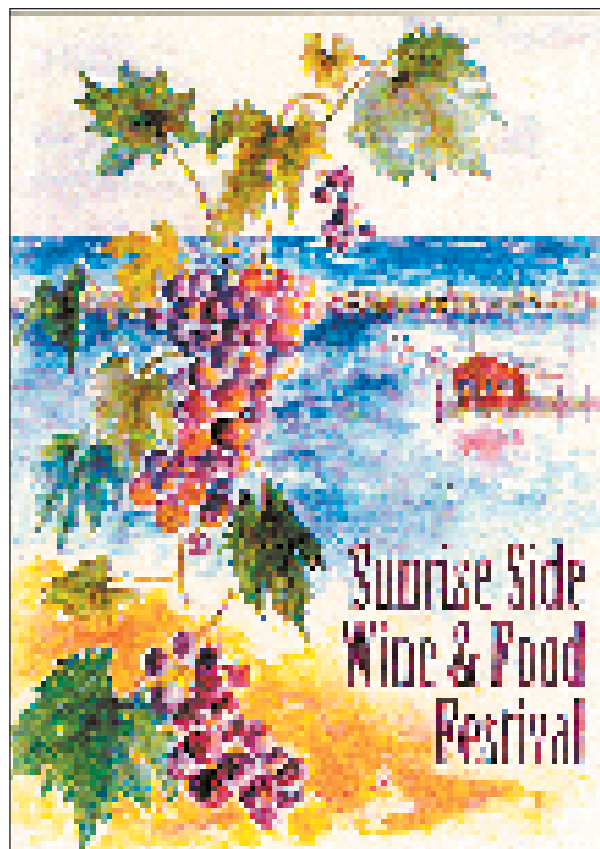
purchase tickets call The Homestead (231) 334-5000.

SUNRISE SIDE FOOD & WINE FESTIVAL

JULY 19, *Harrisville Harbor*
Located at the harbor in Harrisville (60 miles east of Grayling) The Sunrise Side Food & Wine Festival enters its tenth year Saturday, July 19. Wine lovers will be in their glory as they sample Michigan wines and try delectable treats from area chefs.

With sparkling Lake Huron as a backdrop and live jazz music as part of the relaxed atmosphere, wine enthusiasts can spend a few hours, or all afternoon at this annual event in Harrisville. The gate opens at noon and closes at 6 p.m. Area restaurants will have a variety of foods available to compliment the lovely wines produced in Great Lakes State, including several from Leelanau. Fine art will be on display and live music will make the afternoon one to remember. Visitors have a chance to talk to vintners about their products and sample. Admission for adults is \$8.00.

For more information call (800) 432-2823.



LEELANAU PENINSULA WINE FESTIVAL

AUG. 9, *Northport*
This festival takes place at beautiful Haserot Beach next to the harbor in Northport. Formally the known as the Northport Wine Festival it was taken over by the Leelanau Chamber

of Commerce a few years ago and changed to the Leelanau Peninsula Wine Festival.

The festival begins at noon and continues till 5 pm and will feature continuous music throughout the afternoon along with wines from the Leelanau Peninsula and Old Mission Peninsula wineries.

It is also harvest time on the peninsula so a farmers market has been added to the mix of local restaurants serving food.

Tickets are \$8.00 and include a wine glass and two sample tickets. Additional tasting tickets are available for purchase.

For additional information call the Chamber at (231) 271-9895 or (800) 980-9895.

HOPPS OF FUN FESTIVAL OF BEER AND WINE

SEPT. 5 & 6, *Mackinaw City*
Conkling Heritage Park on South Huron Avenue in Mackinaw City is the home of Hopps of Fun Festival of Beer and Wine. The Festival is slated to celebrate its seventh year on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 5 & 6.

The festival started as a way to celebrate the arrival of autumn and at the same time promote Michigan Beer & Wine producers. The festival was started by the Mackinaw Area Visitors Bureau with support and sponsorship of The Michigan Grape & Wine Council and local beverage distributors Fabiano Brothers, Huron Distributors, Bayside Beverage, and Griffin Beverage.

Approximately 4,000 to 6,000 people annually visit the festival to sample the over 100 Microbrews and 30 Michigan Wines.

"Our location enables us to expand the product line and accommodate the increasing number of people who enjoy the festival," said Brad Jones, executive director of the Mackinaw Area Visitors Bureau.

As in the past, a wide variety of Beer & Wine will be highlighted at the festival this year. The popular Michigan wine area will include twelve Michigan wineries and over 30 distinctive Michigan wines. Knowledgeable brew masters and wine experts will be on hand to educate and inform festival attendees.

Hopps of Fun Festival of Beer & Wine boasts free admission and live entertainment. Purchase of tasting tickets is required for sampling wine and beer.

For more information on Hopps of Fun Festival of Beer & Wine visit www.mackinawcity.com or call 800-750-0160.

Dick Allen writes from his home in Grand Traverse County.