

For Immediate Release

Contact: Stephanie Lucas Houck
Lucas Vineyards
607 532-4825

Cayuga Lake's Oldest Winery Thrives on the Vine

For 30 years, the Lucas family has put their hearts into winemaking, grape growing and hosting visitors to their farm winery. Colorful bottles, spectacular labels, and the Lucas' Nautie and Nautical themed Tug Boat wines have intrigued wine writers, connoisseurs, and travelers since the winery was founded in 1980. The Lucas family will mark this milestone anniversary through celebration, introducing new wines and by remembering the path the winery has taken from a small farm to an award winning winery producing more than 25,000 cases of wine per year.

Lucas Vineyards recently released a 30th Anniversary Méthode Champenoise Sparking wine and their first ever Dry Rosé. A Reserve Riesling, crafted from 30-year-old Riesling vines will be released in July. A 30th Anniversary Celebration is planned for June 13, 2010. This event will be open to the public and will include live music by the band, Atlas (formerly known as The Atlas Linen Co).

The story of the Lucas family is one of hard work, creativity and good business sense. In 1974 the Lucas family, originally from the Bronx, moved to a 68 acre dairy farm in Interlaken, NY which would one day transform into a rolling vineyard and the home of Cayuga Lake's oldest winery. Ruth Lucas learned everything she could about grape growing and wine making through a persistent pursuit of knowledge. In 1981 the Lucas family bottled 400 cases of the fruits of their labor from the 1980 harvest. Those first wines won Gold and Silver medals. More than 500 International and National awards have been presented to Lucas wines to date. Lucas is truly a family owned and operated business. The business is currently run by Lucas daughters, Ruthie Crawford and Stephanie Lucas Houck. The winemaking is also kept in the family by Ruth's son-in-law, Jeff Houck. "The past 30 years have been quite a journey and it makes me happy to see the second Lucas generation following my dreams," said Ruth Lucas.

Lucas Vineyards has an air-conditioned gift shop and a spacious tasting room open year around. They are located at 3862 County Road 150, Interlaken, NY 14847, with a magnificent view of Cayuga Lake and picnic facilities. Visit the Lucas Vineyards website at www.lucasvineyards.com for more information.

29 April 2010

Sampling of honors received for current Lucas Vineyards vintages.

Wine Spectator Magazine

2007 Cabernet Franc Reserve 87 point rating
2008 Chardonnay 86 point rating
2008 Semi Dry Riesling 85 point rating
2008 Dry Riesling 86 point rating

Wine Enthusiast Magazine

2007 Cabernet Franc Reserve 87 point rating
2007 Syrah 87 point rating

2009 NY Wine & Food Classic

2008 Captain's Belle: Double Gold Medal
2007 Cabernet Franc Reserve: Gold Medal

2010 Florida State Fair Wine Competition

2007 Cabernet Franc Reserve: Double Gold Medal

2008 Blues: Gold Medal

2009 Indy Indianapolis International Wine Competition

2008 Cayuga White: Double Gold & Best of Class Winner

2008 Captain's Belle: Gold Medal

San Francisco International Wine Competition

2008 Cayuga White: Gold Medal

2009 World Value Wine Challenge

2008 Cayuga White Top 10 under \$10 & 87 point rating

2008 Semi Dry Riesling 87 point rating

2008 Dry Riesling 86 point rating