

**Press Release: August 15, 2011**

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**Re: First Puget Sound AVA Legacy Award**

On Monday, August 8, during the 7<sup>th</sup> annual Viticulture Conference, Puget Sound Wine Growers Association (PSWG) awarded the first-ever Puget Sound AVA Legacy Award to Gerard Bentryn.

Gerard was recognized for his pioneering vision, perseverance, education and promotion of viticulture and enology in the Puget Sound region. He was also recognized for his work at creating the Puget Sound AVA (American Viticulture Area).

Gerard Bentryn and Jo Ann Bentryn are owners of the Bainbridge Island Vineyards and Winery and are proud to point out that they have produced estate-grown grapes in over 38 years of grape growing on Bainbridge Island. They are noted for their early locavore argument, matching local foods to local wines, for their development of viticultural practices specific to Puget Sound, and for helping to introduce grape varieties such as Madeleine Angevine, Siegerrebe, Muller-Thurgau, Pinot Gris, and Pinot Noir.

Jo Ann Bentryn, Gerard's wife, was also acknowledged for her contributions.

Presenting the framed certificate was PSWG Vice-President Ron Irvine, Vashon Winery, and President Brent Charnley of Lopez Island Vineyards.

Visit the PSWG website: [pugetsoundwine.org](http://pugetsoundwine.org)