

Dear adventurers and the like,

*First:* If you need wine, please go to the bottom of this email for the info on how to get it. And thanks for drinking Herman Story Wines.

*Second:* To the outside observer, I have a hell of a life. Young winemaker with non-stop 100-point wines, awe-struck customers who fall at my feet and offer me money "just because," a gleaming truck with a faultless transmission, a well-behaved show dog who pulls his weight winning dog competitions, and the attention of gorgeous women all day long. But I have a secret passion that gets tucked away for most of the year. It involves ME, YOU, GOOD WINE, CHEAP BEER and an INNER TUBE floating down the Salinas River.

"Wait, Wait... Russell, didn't you do this last year?!" Yes sir. That's why I can now officially call it the "**2nd Annual**" **Herman Story River Float.**" Please don't laugh. It's my favorite pastime, and I want to share it with the whole wide world. Allow me to paint a picture of what that glorious day will be like for those of you indulgent enough to join me:

You'll wake up early in a reputable Central Coast hotel. You and your fellow floaters will be picked up at the hotel by yours truly - as in, ME - and driven to the banks of the Salinas River north of Paso Robles. You'll receive a fully-inflated, float-ready inner tube complete with drink holder and perfectly-chilled can of Coors Light. That's right, we're gonna tap the Rockies. Sure, it's too early to drink, but whatever - it's the "2nd Annual" Herman Story River Float!

You'll strip down to your skivvies (i.e. bathing suit), wedge your tushie into the tube, walk into the river, and float. And float. And float. If you can't picture this scenario, imagine the Lazy River Rapids at your favorite water park. Only this time it's real. The water is warm, the company is great and the sun feels like it was meant for only you.

When we're hungry for lunch and can't relax in the water any longer, we'll hop up the river bank for a tasty hand-made lunch (made by MY hands, actually) and copious amounts of **Herman Story Wine.**

In the afternoon, you'll be driven back to the hotel in Paso where you can nap, change, or check into the seedy hotel down the street for the French Tingler. Once suitably rested, you'll drive over to the Barrel 27 tasting room with that bottle of wine, beer, or sake that you've been saving for a special occasion (totally optional - you won't be excluded if you don't bring a bottle). Eating perfectly-cooked carne asada tacos, swapping delicious drinks with your fellow floaters, and sharing epic tales a la my granddad Herman Story, you'll marvel at how something so simple as a river and a few innertubes can warm the heart.

RE-CAP. The River Float includes:

- transportation to and from San Luis Obispo and Paso Robles

- lots of Herman Story wine and cheap beer
- kick-ass lunch made by my own two hands
- your own tube to keep forever
- a carne asada BBQ and bring-your-own-bottle wine-sharing party afterward at the Barrel 27 tasting room (I'll have plenty of Herman Story open, but I'd love to taste what you all are drinking, too)

What: Herman Story Wines "2nd Annual" River Float

When: Saturday, July 11

RSVP: By July 1st using this handy Float Reservation

Form: <http://www.hermanstorywines.com/pdf/riverfloatform.pdf>

Time: Vans are leaving from both San Luis Obispo (9:00 am) and Paso Robles (10:00 am). You can select which location is best for you.

Location: The Salinas River, 20 minutes outside Paso Robles, CA

What to bring: towel, sunscreen, water shoes/flip flops, sunglasses, hat, bathing suit, change of clothes, great wines to share at dinner (optional, of course)

Cost: \$100 per person (you get to keep the inner tube!)

Questions?: call me anytime at 805-714-9966 or email me back

## QUICK - GET MY WINE

*News flash:* If you want to order any Herman Story wine, you'd better get to it fast because a) I only have a tiny amount left from the last two releases, and b) the weather's heating up and pretty soon it will be too hot to let sit in delivery trucks parked in God-knows-where. So please use the forms below and send it to me right quick. (If you want 2nd day air, write it on the shipping line and add \$20 - I'm probably losing money on that but whatever it takes to get the wine to you safely...)

### **Mailing List- Order Form:**

[http://www.hermanstorywines.com/pdf/hermanstory\\_spring09\\_orderform.pdf](http://www.hermanstorywines.com/pdf/hermanstory_spring09_orderform.pdf)

### **Wine Club- Order Form (please ignore "x2" under "Wine Club"):**

[http://www.hermanstorywines.com/pdf/hs\\_order\\_form\\_wineclub.pdf](http://www.hermanstorywines.com/pdf/hs_order_form_wineclub.pdf)

Earnestly yours,

Russell P. From, Winemaker  
Herman Story Wines