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The Ponzi Vineyards Cookbook

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ponzi Vineyards founder, Nancy Ponzi is multi-talented, ambitious and innovative, with a steady record of being a trendsetter and leader of successful ventures. In the early seventies, she co-founded The Consumers' Food Council, promoting environmental concerns about food, agriculture, recycling, ingredient-labeling and assisting to establish a legal definition of "organic."

In the early days of Oregon wine, she assisted in establishing the first Oregon Wine Board and other wine promotional groups garnering exposure to regional wines. She co-founded the state's most vital wine events, including the International Pinot Noir Celebration, Oregon Pinot Camp and !Salud! Pinot Noir Auction. In 1984, she and her family established Oregon's first craft brewery and brewpub in Portland. In 1998, they opened one of the state's most prized wine bars, the Ponzi Wine Bar and in 1999, a regional restaurant, The Dundee Bistro, both in Oregon wine country. With sweeping views of the Willamette Valley, Nancy treasures cooking and enjoying meals with her eight grandchildren in her dream kitchen.

ABOUT THE PHOTOGRAPHER

Michael Shay is a Portland based photographer and a partner of Polara Studio, one of the Pacific Northwest's premier photographer-owned and operated studios. After years of shooting fashion and advertising in San Francisco, Michael started specializing in food photography after he moved to Portland. Oregon's strong agricultural traditions, growing wine and micro-brew industries and slow food movement provided inspiration and opportunity for his business. Michael loves shooting food because of the challenges this "live" subject represents in both lighting and composition. He believes photography is a collaborative process and often says it takes a village to make a compelling photograph that has "mouth appeal." Michael's work can found on grocery store shelves and advertising for Sunkist, Pacific Foods, Papa Murphy's, Tillamook Cheese, Tazo Tea, Bob's Red Mill and Reser's Fine Foods, among others. He is active in the local creative community and as a vice-president of the Oregon Chapter of the American Society of Media Photographers (ASMP). When not shooting, Michael practices traditional Japanese karate, writes poetry and brews his own beer, not necessarily in that order but all with the support of his wife and two children.

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