Suzanne Groth

president/CEO | Groth Vineyards & Winery

Groth Vineyards & Winery named Suzanne Groth to the role of president and CEO. Groth now directs all aspects of the family-owned Oakville winery founded in 1981 by her parents, Dennis and Judy Groth. In her new role as president, the key functions of winegrowing, including the winemaking team and the vineyard management team led by director of winegrowing Cameron Parry, sales and marketing and finance, will report directly to her.

After spending four years with the Henry Wine Group, a California wine distributor, Groth joined the family business in 1998 working in wine sales and public relations. In 2006, she became a stakeholder in Groth Vineyards & Winery. In 2009, she was promoted to vice president of sales and marketing. During these years at Groth, she traveled the country, handling wine distribution, customer relations, direct-to-consumer sales, and marketing and public relations. In recent years, she became involved in all aspects of production, including growing grapes and making wine.

Cleo Pahlmeyer

president | Family Wine Company

Thirty years after founding his namesake winery, Jayson Pahlmeyer appointed his daughter Cleo Pahlmeyer as president of Pahlmeyer Winery. Cleo heads the family’s collection of wines, including Pahlmeyer, Jayson and Wayfarer, plus their estate vineyards in Napa Valley and the Sonoma Coast.

She joined the family business in 2008 in sales and customer service. She moved on to manage direct-to-consumer sales and marketing, and later directed the company’s communications and public relations. Pahlmeyer was instrumental in the development and 2014 launch of Wayfarer Pinot Noir and Chardonnay from their estate vineyard in the Fort Ross-Seaview appellation, planted in 2000.

Nicolas Mahler-Besse

general manager | Oeneo Group’s Winemaking Division

Nicolas Mähler-Besse, general manager of Seguin Moreau, has been named general manager of the Oeneo Group’s winemaking division. He continues to manage the development of Seguin Moreau and assumes the operational management of Vivelys and Boisé France, supported by Vivelys’ deputy general director.

This internal change in the group’s management follows a proposal from managing director Nicolas Hériard Dubreuil, with the aim of strengthening the winemaking division and allowing for continued pursuit of dynamic growth while optimizing financial performance. Mähler-Besse is the fourth generation of a long line of Bordeaux wine traders. He joined the cooperage division of the Oeneo Group in 1998 and worked as a sales representative, first in Burgundy and then in Bordeaux, before becoming sales manager. After two years in one of the group’s subsidiaries in California, Mähler-Besse became general manager of Seguin Moreau in 2011. Since then, he has implemented a horizontal management structure and developed the brand in the international cooperage market.