

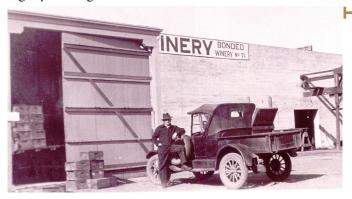
MAXENTI

"If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants." —Sir Isaac Newton, 1676

1906 Joseph Ponti, Steve Tonella's great-uncle, emigrated from northern Italy to California to work in construction after the San Francisco earthquake.



1920-1933 BV becomes the first nationwide wine distributor to the Catholic Church, solidifying its legacy during a difficult era.





2000s Steve begins crafting his own small-lot wines, laying the groundwork for his winemaking journey.

2021 S.R. Tonella wines are featured in over 26 Michelin-starred restaurants, including five with the prestigious 3-star rating.

1907 Ponti meets George de Latour, founder of Beaulieu Vineyard (BV), where he launches his 42-year career in winemaking.



1920s The Roots of Tradition - Ponti purchases 40 acres of prime benchland in Rutherford that will later be passed down to Steve's grandfather, Louis Tonella. Maria Maxenti, Steve's great-grandmother, emigrates from Italy and settles in Rutherford, bringing with her a deep commitment to family, hard work, and community.

1939 Ponti's 1936 vintage Cabernet Sauvignon is featured at the San Francisco World's Fair, becoming the first Napa wine to receive international acclaim. This moment cements Cabernet Sauvignon's rise to prominence in Napa Valley.



1981 As a young boy, Steve begins working in his family vineyard pruning, doing canopy work, tying vines and hoeing weeds between the vines.

2010 Steve releases the first vintage under S.R. Tonella Cellars: a 247-case Rutherford Cabernet Sauvignon, aged five years. Aimed at collectors, it sold out in six weeks.

2025 The middle-tier Maxenti wines are launched to honor the family legacy and reach a wider audience of wine lovers.