

# THE DONUM ESTATE

spring 2009

vol. 2

It is already March and I feel a need to share with you some of the things happening at The Donum Estate. At least you won't hear me complaining about the lack of water as I would have a month ago. Pruning is finished and we are putting the last ties on each vine, so the season is off to a good start.

Kenneth, John and I have started the blending process, which is always very rewarding. The beautiful surprise is that the 2008 vintage is shaping up to be very promising. Even wines from blocks damaged by frost in the spring of 2008 are shining. That vintage brought many challenges, but it is always nice when there is a happy ending.

Our Vin Gris is in the bottle and ready for release. We are introducing two new wines under the Donum label which are real gems. Our big plan for the summer of 2009 is to open a small tasting room at our vineyard site. So often I hear from you that you would love to come and visit, taste the wines and see the vineyard. Now you can. We look forward to being able to show you first hand what we do and what is happening out here in Carneros. We will keep you posted about our grand opening party.



Our intention is to update you on what is happening at the estate via our newsletter three to four times a year. You will be the first to know about any special bottlings or new releases, to hear about our take on the vintage or wines or other interesting issues concerning our little wine world. I hope we also hear about you. The beauty of our business is that we are so small which translates into being able to adjust and cooperate. I thought of introducing each of us in these newsletters. You will find out that we are a diverse group passionate about wine and the growing of wines. Every one of the 12 of us (including my vineyard team) is very integral and important to the expression of our wines.

## EVENTS CALENDAR

### Family Winemakers

#### Tasting

March 15, 2009

Del Mar Fairgrounds, Southern California

1:00pm to 3:00pm, trade only; 3:00 - 6:00pm, trade and public. This is the largest tasting of California wines in the world and showcases for the state's small, family-owned wineries.



### Carneros Heritage Fest

May 30, 2009

The Donum Estate, Sonoma, California

12:00pm to 4:00pm

Hosted by the Carneros Wine Alliance, the Fest is one of the nation's only family-friendly wine and food festivals. Proceeds of the Fest benefit the Carneros Land Stewardship Foundation dedicated to the conservation and preservation of habitat and wetlands in the San Pablo Bay adjacent to the Carneros region. Tickets Available April 1st, 2009. All inclusive tickets are \$75.00 per person. Children under 12 (accompanied by parent) are free.

### Pinot Days

June 25-28, 2009

Fort Mason, San Francisco, California

12:00pm to 4:00pm

Sunday's Grand Tasting will showcase 200 producers of pinot noir. This is California's largest single gathering of pinot producers, as well as its most varied. Consumers will be able to sample up to 400 pinots from every important region in California, Oregon, New Zealand, and Burgundy, and to meet the winemakers who create them. Taste the 2007 vintage, touted as the best in decades. We will also offer a number of pinots for auction, donating various charities.

Join the Robert Stemmler Wine Club

receive **15% off** all wines



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From The Donum Estate Winegrower, Winemaker and Vineyard Manager

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