

GRAPEHARVEST 2009

The 2008 millésime did give us a lot of work to do, but finally all this labour hasn't been in vain. The 2008 millésime ended up being generous and luscious. The wines we bottle this spring are all quite different. And that is precisely what we appreciate in natural wines. Each vintage year offers the vintner a possibility and material to another expression of his art.

2009 not only was a much easier vintage year to handle than 2008, it simply is an excellent millésime. Our range of wines this year offer you the possibility to make an oenological discovery trip through the last three vintage years: the 2007 red wines are deep and typical. The 2008 wines are not as coloured but they are very spicy. You can also yet appreciate the freshness of the 2009 white and rosé wines.

Enjoy !



CONVERSION TO "ORGANIC"

Our official conversion to Organic Agriculture started on July 31, 2009. This means that millésime 2012 will be our first vintage year vinified from grapes officially stemming from organic agriculture.

In 1998 we made the choice of working in a way that would as much as possible respect the environment. Little by little, our work became more in harmony with nature, from the vineyards to the bottling. Our conversion is the achievement of 11 years of efforts.

Ask us for our flyer "The philosophy behind our work", updated in 2010.



DÉPÔT IN THE PARIS AREA

Since 1983, our cousin's old farmhouse in the Chevreuse Valley is the place where we receive our clients 4 times a year. Sometimes clients are almost in "duel" to find out who is the oldest client... in décembre 2009, a faithful client from the opening of our depot thought he was our oldest client... but I had to declare him K.O. for his "opponent" did already buy at a sale in 1983 before the opening of our depot. These "duels" are very pleasant !

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VACATION IN VALVIGNÈRES

The two hotel-restaurants in our village have been beautifully renovated. You will find several vacation rentals, guest rooms, and restaurants in our area, ranging from simple to more luxurious.

If you need some advice, you can ask us. We also keep some flyers at your disposal with lots of interesting addresses for an unforgettable stay!

Life in *mas d'intras* Vallis Vinaria



February 2010

Newsletter nr 5



misuse of alcohol can put
your health at risk: consume
in moderation

PAPY ALPHONSE'S 80ST BIRTHDAY



On March 28, 2009 we celebrated Papy Alphonse's 80st birthday in a nice little restaurant near Intrás.



He was happy to have not only his brothers, sisters and sisters in law with him that day, but also his 4 grandchildren (9, 11, 11 and 13 years old).

Alphonse and Françoise are in good health. They are always available for our "emergency errands" and they do like to help a hand during the sales at the Parisian depot.

Alphonse was born in 1929 in the family home of Intrás, the Mas on our label. On this picture of 1939 he is standing in front of it.



THE WINE OF INTRAS IS NOTHING NEW

About 2000 years ago, the Romans of Alba planted vines in the "Vallis Vinaria", the

Valley of the Vines that is now Valvignères.

In 1941 Alphonse did take this picture of our grandfather Félix ROBERT pressing his grapes in the family courtyard of Intrás.



Ever since the creation of the Cooperative Cellar in 1952, Alphonse did become member and brought his grapes there until 1981.

In 1976 Alphonse and Françoise start to nurture the idea of creating their own wine cellar. They are both nostalgic of the time grapes fermented at Intrás and they would like to install their 2 sons. Between 1980 and 1982, and with the help of numerous friends and his sons Denis and Emmanuel (13 and 11 years old) Alphonse builds the cellar.



MAS D'INTRAS - SINCE 28 YEARS

After delivering his grapes to the Cooperative Cellar during 30 years Alphonse empties his first trailer of Mas d'Intrás grapes on September 15, 1982. He is accompanied that day of his nephew Sébastien, who was 7 at that time. It is Françoise who is receiving the grapes in the cellar.



Françoise holds the very first clusters of 'Mas d'Intrás' grapes in her hands.



Denis enters the family estate in 1986 and Emmanuel in 1993. Sébastien is joining them in 2005. Since January 1st 2010, Sébastien and Denis manage the Mas d'Intrás together.

A NEW CHALLENGE FOR TWO

Back problems forced Emmanuel to quit the Winery from January 1st 2010. He is now turning towards a future without tractors and we hope he will soon find a new balance.



Our employees Magalie (Emmanuel's wife) and Ida, stay on our sides. Together we take up the challenge: life goes on...

But it is not easy to turn the page of 24 years of collaboration.

