

ALL CREATURES
GREAT & SMALL

by Jodie Morlet



MORLET
Family Vineyards

Spring Newsletter 2026

ISSUE XXIV



FORMATIVE YEARS

As a child, I enjoyed reading the James Herriot novels “All Creatures Great and Small,” “All Things Bright and Beautiful,” and “All Things Wise and Wonderful.” I loved riding horses and dreamed of having a horse of my own, although the closest that I came were dogs and a guinea pig.

During this time, Luc was on the other side of the Atlantic having fun riding his family’s Shetland pony, Gildas. This small, hardy breed is known for its strength and was often used for farm work. Thus, when Luc became a teenager and was too large to ride Gildas, he assisted his father, Eric, in plowing the vineyards (outside of school hours). Eric guided Gildas while Luc followed behind directing the plow.

Eric took Luc and his two youngest sons to the vineyards at night to remove the *noctuelles* (moth larvae) from the vines. These nocturnal (hence the name of the insect in French) arthropods eat the grape buds, just before bud break, and can drastically reduce the size of the future crop. The senior Morlet and his three

sons carried flashlights and buckets, collecting the insects from each vine by hand. Although it “bugged” Luc to be responsible for eradicating these pests in the middle of the night, it was during these formative years that he developed an understanding of the role that various *great* and *small* creatures play in viticulture.



Chocolate Morlet runs through ‘Cœur de Vallée’ after crop thinning

FRIEND OR FOE

As Luc learned as a boy, insects abound in nature, but some can be detrimental to a vineyard. Perhaps the most infamous bad bug is phylloxera. These almost microscopic, pale yellow, sap-sucking insects feed on the roots and leaves of grapevines. This results in a fungal infection that gradually cuts off the flow of nutrients and water, stunting

growth, and eventually killing the vine.

Our pre-Prohibition estate in St. Helena succumbed to the phylloxera epidemic. From 1892 through 1898, William H. Castner, who had purchased the land from Charles Krug, was forced to sell his vineyard parcels. The vines were pulled out, and the stone winery, built in 1880,



Luc plows with his father and pony, Aj-Champagne, 1983

was eventually converted to a residence at the onset of Prohibition in 1920. It wasn’t until Luc and I purchased the property in 2010 that the historic building was restored to its original purpose. Of course, Luc has planted each of

our estate vineyards with phylloxera-resistant American rootstock, with French scions grafted on top.

We named our ‘Force de la Nature’ Cabernet Franc in honor of Luc’s great grandfather, Gaston Morlet, who was known as a force of nature in his native Avenay-Val-d’Or. Gaston demonstrated extraordinary



strength, as he could carry a 220-pound sack of flour on his back, yet he also possessed amazing dexterity. Although he worked long days, he took a job at night grafting grapevines to help combat the phylloxera epidemic. This additional income allowed him to purchase land and develop *Grand Cru* and *Premier Cru* Pinot Noir vineyards, which Luc's family still owns to this day. Since the inaugural 2010 vintage, 'Force de la Nature' has received 100 points on more than 10 occasions, so this wine is the perfect tribute for such a remarkable man.

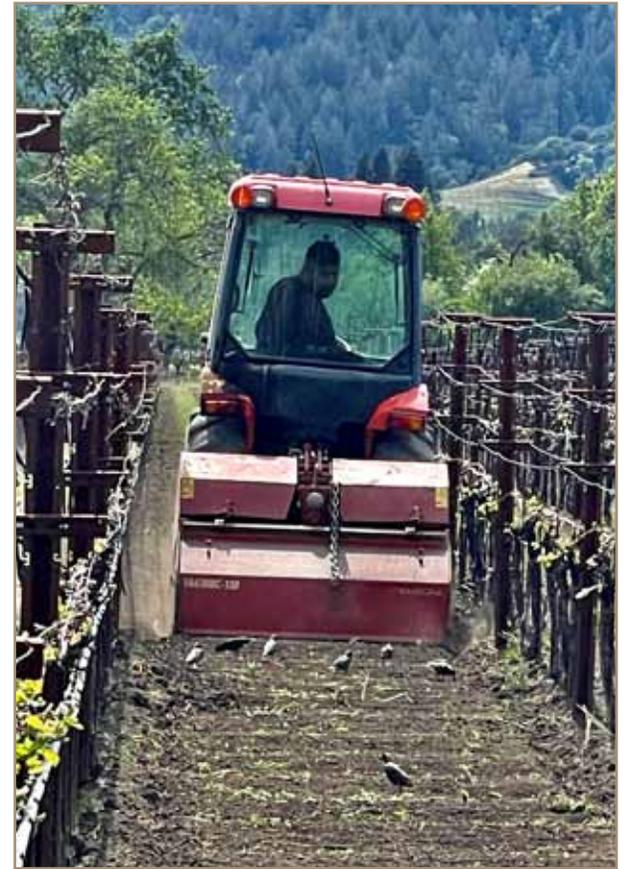
Another foe is the sap-feeding glassy-winged sharpshooter. Approximately a half inch in length, this bad bug is dark brown with yellow eyes and yellow speckles on its head and back. Sharpshooters lay a large volume of eggs on the underside of leaves. When the eggs hatch, the nymphs feed within the vascular system of the plant, infecting the vine with the bacterium *Xylella fastidiosa*.



The resulting Pierce's Disease blocks the plant's water conducting tissues, leading to leaf scorch, stunted growth, shriveled fruit, and the eventual death of the vine. Once an adult sharpshooter eats from an infected plant, it transmits the disease to additional plants while feeding, thus wiping out an entire vineyard within five years.

The European grapevine moth is also a vineyard pest. After bloom, the larvae feed on the flowers, hindering the development of the fruit. For the grapes that do grow, the larvae can bore into the berries, damaging what crop remains. Likewise, mealybugs can cause diseases such as grapevine leafroll and grapevine red blotch viruses.

Thankfully, we do not have any of these bad bugs in our vineyards; however, one popular intervention is mating disruption. This environmentally friendly technique reduces the population by using synthetic pheromones to confuse males, thus preventing them from finding females.



*Left, bees help to pollinate the winter cover crop
Center, a bald-faced hornet nest on the creek bank
Right, ingenious birds rush to a feast after soil cultivation*

Fortunately, not all insects are harmful to vineyards. Ladybug larvae and adults devour large numbers of aphids, which damage vines and spread disease.

Honeybees are also extremely beneficial, so we have beehive boxes at our estate vineyards. After harvest, we spread organic compost and seeds for a cover crop comprised of pea, vesce, and triclover legumes. A tractor using discs then buries the seeds. Once the flowers begin to bloom, the bees help to pollinate these cover crops. In early spring, after pruning and tying of the vines are completed, this "green manure" is mowed down and buried with a spader (six mechanized shovels) cultivating eight to ten inches deep into the ground. This process brings ben-

eficial nutrients and organic matter to the soil, as well as eliminating shallow roots. Thus, the bees help our soils to be more water-retentive, leading to healthier and richer growing conditions for the vines, which is an essential part of regenerative farming practices.

Primarily carnivorous, bald-faced hornets (technically, a type of yellowjacket) frequently attack honeybees, using the protein to feed their young. However, they will also pierce grape skins as the fruit ripens in late summer and early fall. They are highly aggressive, territorial, can sting multiple times, and can even squirt venom into someone's eyes! Therefore, when we find one of their large paper-like nests in close proximity to our vines, out of precaution for both our beehives and members of our viticultural team, we have the nest professionally relocated. Luc recently saw one on the bank of the seasonal creek between 'Cœur de Vallée' and the newest Opus One vineyard.

Perhaps the birds' favorite period during the viticultural cycle is when soil cultivation occurs. They can always be found hopping directly behind the tractor, as some of the earthworms are brought to the surface. These invertebrates play a vital role in soil health. Tunneling aerates the soil and improves drainage, while their castings are rich in nutrients, acting as a natural fertilizer.

BEARS AND COYOTES AND BOARS, OH, MY!

While Luc was the winemaker for Peter Michael Winery, many members of the vineyard team commented about seeing American black bears from time to time. When our son Paul was five years old, Luc left him in the car alone, as he sampled grapes in the 'Les Pavots' vineyard in preparation for harvest. Luc returned to the vehicle, and Paul animatedly explained that he had seen a bear through the car window!

We haven't had any bear sightings on our own estate vineyards, but we have seen many coyotes. One morning, when I was hiking up to the ridge section of our 'Morlet Estate' vineyard in St. Helena, I came face to face with a large coyote. Nearby, just over the ridge, the pack was howling. I abruptly started moving backwards down the hillside, called Luc, and stayed on the phone with him until I had made it safely to the winery below. A few years later, as I was walking through our 'Cœur de Vallée' vineyard, a coyote in Block C ("C" stands for "creek" and not "coyote") turned and looked at me before running



off toward the Napa River. Coyotes are typically shy and will not attack humans, yet both the adults and pups will chew on irrigation lines, either from thirst, teething, or mere curiosity. This can cause significant damage to drip hoses. Having a year-round, full-time viticulture team ensures that any compromised emitters in our vineyards are replaced right away.

Wild boars and feral pigs are opportunistic feeders that can cause significant damage. Two years ago, a leaking drip hose (possibly caused by a coyote!) softened the soil and attracted a herd to our Knights Valley vineyard. Perhaps they were in search of an ideal mud bath! Noise from Luc driving our ATV scared the pigs away before they could feast on the vines after they had finished their spa treatments.

Speaking of animals who enjoy relaxing, two adorable foxes have recently been seen sunbathing on the flat roof behind our winery that houses our furnace unit. At night, they curl up underneath the warm vents, while during the day, they lounge under the sunrays.

Left, American black bears sighted at Peter Michael Winery, 2003

Below left to right, seeing a coyote in Block C

A wild boar (or feral pig) in Knights Valley

A sun-kissed fox on the winery's furnace



CREATURES THAT GIVE ME THE CREEPS

Two of the things that I most detest are spiders and snakes. I know that they each serve an essential purpose, yet I would happily avoid them at all costs. Twenty years ago, I volunteered in our daughter Claire's kindergarten classroom. Her teacher had a pet tarantula. I helped with absolutely everything... except for that spider, of course! I also volunteered in one of Paul's classrooms. That teacher had a pet snake, so I always made sure that I wasn't around to assist with mealtimes. Prior to taking over as the Executive Director of our winery, I was an elementary school teacher for almost two decades, so it comes as no surprise that there was never a pet snake or spider in one of my classrooms.

We do come upon these two creatures in the vineyards. Garter snakes consume slugs and worms, while California king snakes will eat the dreaded rattlesnakes.

While we must remove the poisonous black widows, other arachnids are beneficial and should remain (even though I personally want to avoid them all). We have "spotted" the Western spotted orb weaver on the vines. These spiders naturally reduce the populations of insects that can damage a vineyard, such as moths, grasshoppers, wasps, aphids, fruit flies, and some types of beetles.

EXCELLENT ECOSYSTEMS

An important component of regenerative farming is preserving natural ecosystems. For us, this includes the Western chaparral and wildlife along the Bidwell Creek and in the woodlands bordering our 'Mon Chevalier' vineyard in Knights Valley, as well as a variety of oaks, madrones, and manzanitas between the vineyard blocks of our 'Morlet Estate' vineyard in St. Helena. When developing our 'Cœur de Vallée' vineyard in Oakville, we chose not to plant vines on one acre, so that fifteen valley oak trees, fifteen palm trees, and one tall pine tree would remain. We call this bird sanctuary The Grove. A seasonal creek meanders through the property, and the eastern portion of the land reaches the bank of the Napa River. We also promote biodiversity at each of our estate vineyards by planting new trees (cherry, walnut & olive) to foster more resilient ecosystems.

Ducks swim in the creeks, squirrels climb the trees, and jackrabbits go hopping along their way. When the vines are young, rabbits are not ideal, but once the vines are mature, the grapes are typically high enough that these

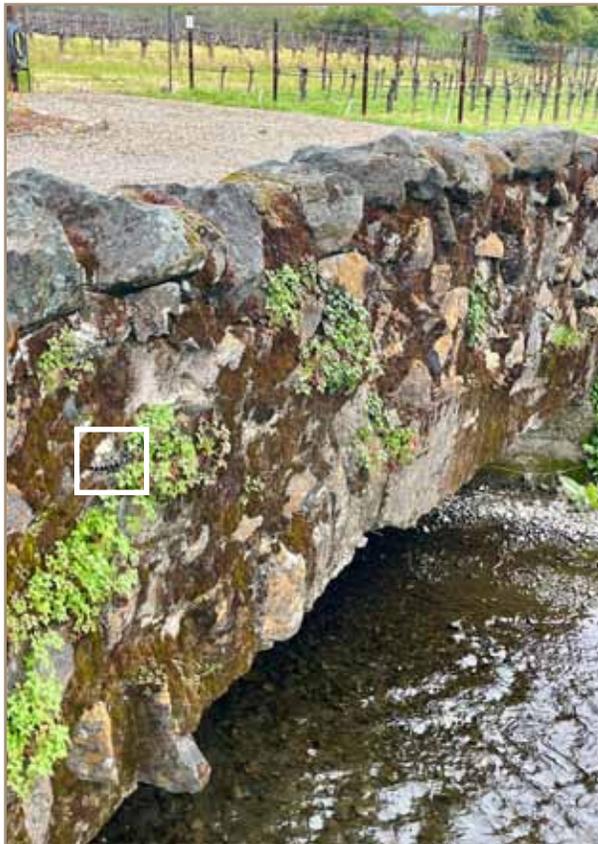


Clockwise from top left, a red-striped garter snake sunbathes between vineyard blocks

A Mallard duck takes a swim at 'Cœur de Vallée'

A western spotted orb weaver is "spotted"

A baby California King Snake on our historic bridge





Clockwise from top left, a camouflaged black-tailed jackrabbit hides under the vines

A squirrel enjoys lunch in The Grove

Deer at 'Mon Chevalier'

An atmospheric river event brings a surprise visitor

The crayfish pleads, "Back Off"

cute animals don't gnaw on them. We always love seeing beautiful deer, but they, too, will eat the fruit. Therefore, we, along with most vintners, install deer fences around our vineyards whenever possible. Although these six-foot tall fences are effective, they do not keep the wild turkeys out. These flying birds will eat grapes found on both the ground and on the vine.

Much to our amazement, an atmospheric river event brought an unexpected visitor to our Oakville vineyard. One morning in November 2024, as Luc and I were walking between blocks E and F at 'Cœur de Vallée,' I had to jump out of the way to avoid stepping on a... crustacean! A crayfish (also called crawdad and crawfish) was walking alongside the vines. The seasonal creek and Napa River were flowing fast and furious, and this little critter had left the water in favor of dry land. He made sure to posture himself in a way that told me to "back off," and I willingly obliged.



PAPA MUST BE CRAZY

When Luc was developing each of our estate vineyards, he seemed to go a bit overboard with purchasing bird houses. He installed over 350 across our vineyards in Knights Valley, St. Helena, and Oakville. The majority of these are for bluebirds, which effectively reduce unwanted insects, including the glassy-winged sharpshooter.

Some birds are more destructive than they are helpful.

The white-crowned sparrow resides in vineyards that are located near brushy areas. This bird pecks at the grapes, which damages the skin and then in turn attracts fruit flies. We always hope that the bluebirds take up residence before the sparrows have the opportunity to move in.

While some of these dwellings are standard bluebird houses, others are quite ornate. Within The Grove, Luc created a “town” with a school, church, chapel, hotel, res-

taurant, cooperage, cork supplier, winery, several regular homes, and even... a jail! Our children thought that their Papa was literally going crazy! Fortunately, the birds don't seem to mind which structure they are living in, even those that are incarcerated – Haha!

In addition to hundreds of bird houses, Luc installed over two dozen boxes across our three estates for the American barn owl. Distinguished by a pale heart-shaped



*Feeding time at
'Cœur de Vallée'
Right, a winter
wonderland at
'Mon Chevalier'*



face, this bird is the perfect fit for our ‘Cœur de Vallée’ vineyard named in honor of the “heart” of the Napa Valley. Weight for weight, these owls consume more rodents than most other creatures, making them one of the most valuable wildlife animals for agriculture. They naturally remove gophers, which damage the root systems of the vines.

We also have a great horned owl that lives among the

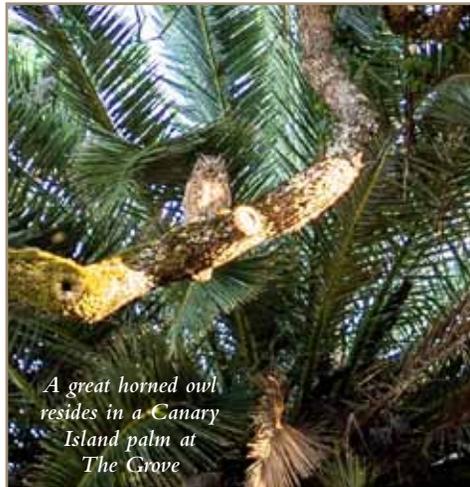
Canary Island palm trees at The Grove. Luc and I often see him flying from tree to tree early in the morning, but we are not around at night when he is hunting his prey.

Clearly, 350+ bird houses are not enough, because Luc frequently stumbles upon nests on our properties. He has even discovered many that are nestled within the vines themselves! Another house that Luc was not responsible for was the eagle’s nest perched atop the pine

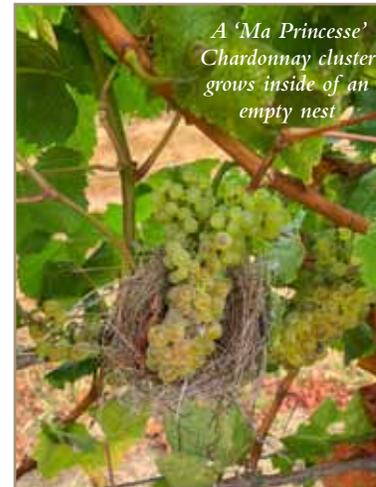
tree that towers over ‘Cœur de Vallée.’ We named block E the “Eagle’s Nest Block” as these vines border The Grove. A reviewer once affirmed that our ‘Force Tranquille’ Cabernet Franc, which partially hails from this block, has “soaring complexity,” and we believe that this is a very fitting description of the wine, as the eagle may “scream” nearby in Oakville, but it soars and then nests at ‘Cœur de Vallée.’



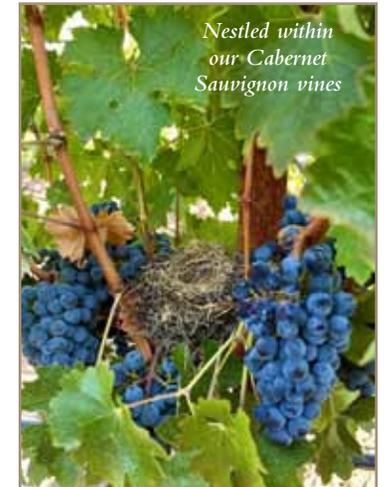
An American barn owl lives in box #7



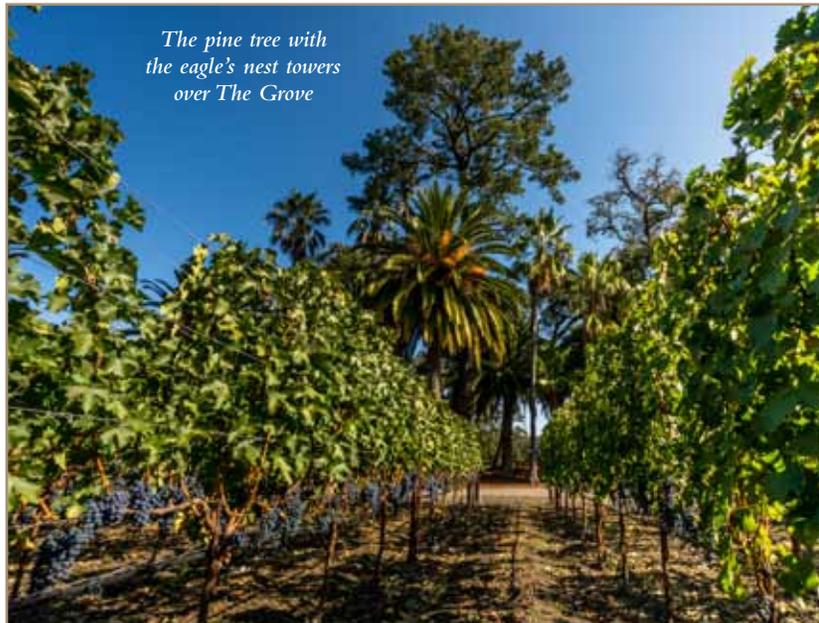
A great horned owl resides in a Canary Island palm at The Grove



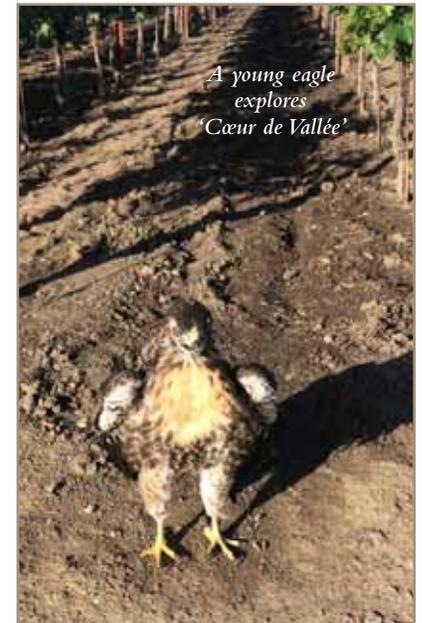
A ‘Ma Princesse’ Chardonnay cluster grows inside of an empty nest



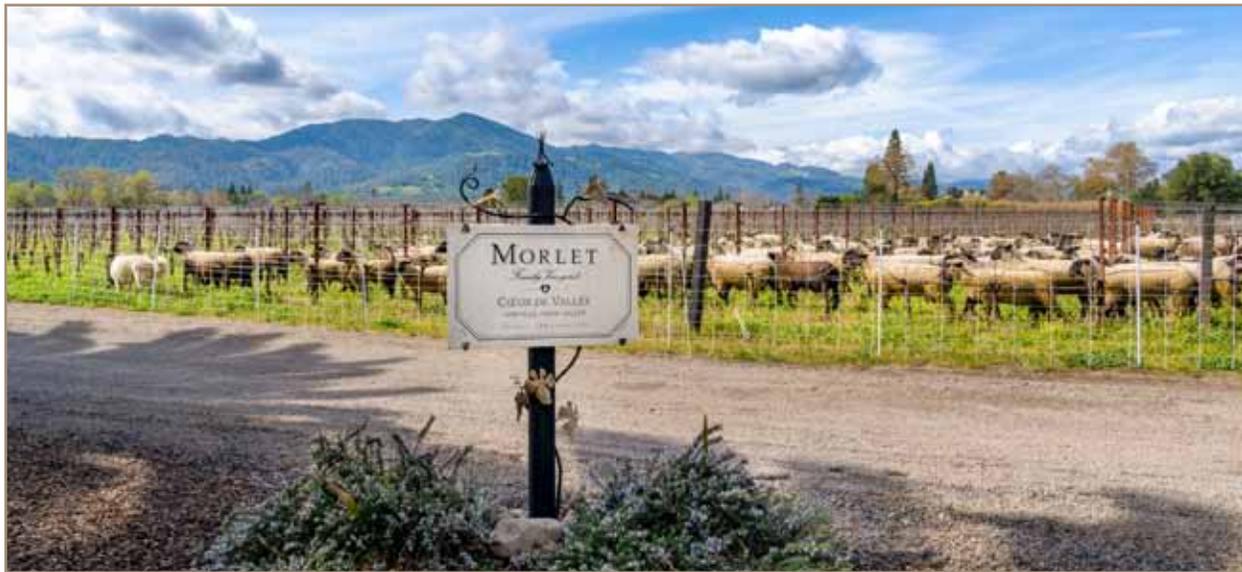
Nestled within our Cabernet Sauvignon vines



The pine tree with the eagle’s nest towers over The Grove



A young eagle explores ‘Cœur de Vallée’



GREAT GRAZING

Every few years, we bring Suffolk and Hampshire sheep to graze the winter cover crops in our estate vineyards. These beneficial animals contribute to our ongoing efforts for excellence in viticulture through organic and regenerative farming practices. The sheep improve soil health and fertility. Their manure and urine enrich the soil with nutrients, while their hooves help to incorporate organic matter and improve aeration.

OUR PERFECT PET

We adopted our cockapoo Chocolate shortly before we purchased the winery in 2010, and he is now over 15 years old! Chocolate was our official winery dog for several years, and he spent countless hours chasing birds in the vineyards and greeting guests at the winery. Although he is now deaf, in his youth, he understood both French and English perfectly. Yet, he tended to obey Luc's commands in French more than my directives in English. Now retired, Chocolate still travels to the vineyards with Luc, but he mostly stays inside of the car. He remains somewhat active and is still the sweetest dog. We couldn't have asked for a better pet for our family.

*Left, grazing the winter cover crops
Below, Luc, Jodie & Chocolate Morlet*





NAPA VALLEY WINE DOG

Claire's adorable cockapoo Moose is the winery's official mascot. Moose spent his first twelve months living in San Diego while Claire completed a Master of Science in Business Analytics. He and his mom then moved to the Napa Valley when Claire joined the Morlet Family Vineyards team as the Director of Member Relations & Operations. Moose immediately felt right at home and loves coming to the winery every day. In 2025, he was featured in California Wine Dogs, volume 6. When he is not busy greeting winery guests, he enjoys playing with his toys, going for walks around the historic property, and running through each of the Morlet family's estate vineyards.

*Moose was featured in California Wine Dogs, volume 6
Left, Claire & Moose tour the 'Morlet Estate' vineyard*



ALL FIRST GROWTHS: GREAT & SMALL

Morlet Family Vineyards is recognized internationally as a First Great Growth of the Napa Valley, because Luc is the winemaker with the most 100 points across varietals. He has achieved the perfect score multiple times on our 'Ma Princesse' and 'Coup de Cœur' Chardonnays, 'Joli Cœur' Pinot Noir, 'La Proportion Dorée' Sémillon-Sauvignon Blanc, 'Cœur de Vallée,' 'Morlet Estate' and 'Passionnement' Cabernet Sauvignons, 'Force Tranquille' and 'Force de la Nature' Cabernet Francs, and even our Late Harvest 'Billet Doux' white wine! In addition, he has

received countless 98 and 99-point reviews both domestically and abroad. To say that Luc is a talented winemaker is quite an understatement.

Featured in this year's Spring Release is the 100-point 2023 'Force Tranquille' estate-grown Cabernet Franc. Jeb Dunnuck described this wine as having a "Cheval Blanc-like complexity, elegance and purity, with a multi-dimensional, seamless, incredibly seductive style." He further exclaimed, "Cabernet Franc doesn't get any better!"

Also included in this current offer are the 99-point 2023 'Cœur de Vallée' and 99-point 'Passionnement' es-

tate-grown Cabernet Sauvignons. Jeb declared that our heart of the valley is "utterly pure, focused, and layered with beautiful density and ultra-fine tannins." He continued, "a seamless and gorgeous wine. Wow!" He affirmed that the 'Passionnement' is "full-bodied and seamless, delivering the elegance of the vintage with ample depth, opulence, and rock solid underlying tannins."

We are excited to showcase our 2024 'Ma Douce' and 'Ma Princesse' Chardonnays. Mr. Dunnuck has proclaimed that the 'Ma Douce' is a "blockbuster effort" and is a "riveting and world-class Chardonnay." He has stated



*Chocolate spends time in the
'Cœur de Vallée' vineyard*

that the ‘Ma Princesse’ is “phenomenal, incredible, and heavenly.”

For the red Burgundy lovers, we are highlighting our 2024 ‘Côteaux Nobles’ and ‘En Famille’ Pinot Noirs. Lisa Perrotti-Brown has said that the ‘Côteaux Nobles’ boasts a “gorgeous, velvety texture” while Audrey Frick has called the wine “lovely and refined,” and Jeb Dun-nuck likened it to a Côte de Nuits. Antonio Galloni has remarked that the ‘En Famille’ is “dense, powerful, and explosive, with gravitas.” Jeb has also shared that the wine is “powerful, yet stays balanced, pure, and elegant,” and is “just sensational and gorgeous on all accounts.”

Lastly, we are thrilled to present the 2024 ‘La Proportion Dorée’ white Bordeaux-style blend. Luc is one of the rare winemakers worldwide to have received 100 points on a Sémillon-Sauvignon Blanc, and he achieved that remarkable feat more than once! Robert Parker was the first to grant his stamp of approval, announcing that “the wine is absolutely out of this world and seems to come across like a Sonoma County version of a dry Haut-Brion blanc. This is singular wine - profound, compelling, whatever!” Jeb emphasized that our wine “tastes like a top vintage of La Mission Haut-Brion on steroids.” He

added, “Hats off to winemaker Luc Morlet for fashioning one of the greatest Bordeaux blends in California!” He later posted on social media, “I’m not sure there’s anyone else in the world doing Sémillon and Sauvignon Blanc better!”

Although *all* of our wines are *great* in quality, they are *small* in quantity. Luc’s unwavering commitment to the greatest quality leads to smaller yields, attentive sorting, and the utmost standard when blending. Thus, a very limited amount of each of our luxury, handcrafted wines is ever produced. These highly sought-after wines are first offered to members of the winery’s Mailing List and then are strictly allocated to the finest restaurants and select specialty wine shops in the United States and throughout the globe.

Luc and I very rarely find time to wind down from the demands of the vineyards and winery. Yet, from time to time, we do enjoy watching... what else? The TV series “All Creatures Great & Small” on PBS. We invite you to raise a glass to all of the marvelous creatures and wonderful pets that surround us all every day, and we trust that you will enjoy each of our First Great Growths presented this spring. *A Votre Santé!*



Morlet Family Vineyards Cabernets age alongside fellow Great Growths



COLORFUL COLIBRIS

Hummingbirds have always been my favorite type of bird. During challenging circumstances, I have often seen one of these little birds hovering in front of me. They bring a smile to my face no matter what I am going through. These *colibris* (French for hummingbirds) can frequently be found fluttering around in The Grove at our ‘Cœur de Vallée’ vineyard in Oakville. I am so glad that this colorful bird, which warms my heart, feels right at home in our “heart” of the Napa Valley.

Bob and Polina Schlott have been longstanding Mailing List members. We hosted a special luncheon prior to their nuptials, and Luc presented our wines during a Morel Fest (and a Morlet Fest!) dinner at their stunning property. Polina is a talented nature photographer, and to express her gratitude to Luc as one of her favorite winemakers, she created this poetic image with a ruby-throated hummingbird and a hibiscus flower inside an empty bottle of our inaugural 2019 ‘Force Tranquille’ estate-grown Cabernet Franc. When she designed this beautiful tribute, she had no idea how much I love hummingbirds!

Thank you, Bob and Polina, for your thoughtfulness and tremendous support of our wines over the years. Luc and I *greatly* appreciate you both!

Spring 2026 Release



2023

'FORCE

TRANQUILLE'

OAKVILLE, NAPA VALLEY
CABERNET FRANC

Our vineyard is located in the world-renowned Oakville appellation, in the heart of the Napa Valley. The combination of gravelly and clay-loamy Bale soil and gravelly and silt-loamy Cole soil consistently reveals the complexity and subtlety of the Cabernet Franc varietal. This special wine pays homage to Luc's mother, Marie-Thérèse Morlet, who has always displayed an unwavering commitment to details, amazing courage, and a genuine spirit of humility. Her dedicated work ethic remains one of the forces behind our family's passion for crafting the best wines possible. Handcrafted using classical winemaking techniques, it is 'Quiet Strength' or 'Force Tranquille.'

Jeb Dunnuck 100 points: *The 2023 'Force Tranquille' shows darker currants, leafy tobacco, chocolate, violets, and floral notes with a Cheval Blanc-like complexity, elegance, and purity. It's medium to full-bodied on the palate, with no hard edges, ultra-fine tannins, and a multi-dimensional, seamless, incredibly seductive style. Cabernet Franc doesn't get any better!* – *JebDunnuck.com, Dec. 2025*



2023

'PASSIONNÉMENT'

OAKVILLE, NAPA VALLEY
CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Crafted with the passionate, uncompromised and ongoing pursuit of quality, this judicious blend comes from the finest barrels of our manicured vineyards on the Oakville Bench and on the foothills of Knights Valley and St. Helena. As the French say, "Je t'aime, un peu, beaucoup, passionnément!" (I love you, a little, a lot, passionately!) This special wine is dedicated to my wife, Jodie Morlet. It is 'Passionately' or 'Passionément.'

Jeb Dunnuck 99 points: *The 2023 'Passionnement' is more upfront, perfumed, and expressive, and it reveals red and black currants, spicy wood, flowery incense, and graphite. Full-bodied and seamless, it delivers the elegance of the vintage with ample depth, opulence, and rock solid underlying tannins.* – *JebDunnuck.com, Dec. 2025*



2023

'CŒUR DE VALLÉE'

OAKVILLE, NAPA VALLEY
CABERNET SAUVIGNON

The 'Cœur de Vallée' vineyard is located in the world-renowned Oakville appellation, in the heart of the Napa Valley. The Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc vines benefit from the gravelly and loamy Bale soil derived from an alluvial fan in this warm yet temperate climate. Handcrafted using classical winemaking techniques, this wine is dedicated to Dr. Richard Johnson and Dr. Nancy Hampel, who have always demonstrated their kindness of heart. It is 'Heart of the Valley' or 'Cœur de Vallée.'

Jeb Dunnuck 99 points: *The 2023 'Cœur de Vallée' offers cassis, crushed stone, black olive, iron, and spicy wood. It's full-bodied yet utterly pure, focused, and layered with beautiful density, ultra-fine tannins, and not a hard edge to find. This "wow," seamless, gorgeous wine will drink for 20 years or more.* – *JebDunnuck.com, Dec. 2025*



2024

'LA PROPORTION
DORÉE'

SONOMA COUNTY
PROPRIETARY
WHITE BORDEAUX-
STYLE BLEND

A harmonious blend of the three classic white Bordeaux varietals, this unique cuvée was inspired from the finest producers of Pessac-Léognan. The Sémillon, Sauvignon Blanc and Muscadelle come from dry-farmed vineyards in the Golden State's Sonoma County. Classical winemaking techniques such as *élevage sur lies* (aging on the lees) and *bâtonnage* (stirring) contribute to this true *vin de garde*. As in architectural arts, it is 'The Golden Ratio' or 'La Proportion Dorée.'

Winemaker Notes: *The 2024 'La Proportion Dorée' boasts a very intense and vibrant bouquet of candied lemon, pêche de vigne, citrus oils, and honeysuckle, with hints of juniper berry, beeswax, and wet stone. Full-bodied, with amazing concentration and elegance, this beautiful wine showcases a gorgeous texture, integrated acidity, finishing impressively long with a harmonious lift, and reminiscent of a great Pessac-Léognan.* – *Luc Morlet, Jan. 2026*



2024

'MA PRINCESSE'

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY
CHARDONNAY

Located on the river bench of Sonoma County's Russian River, this vineyard benefits from Goldridge soil containing metamorphic rock. The cuttings come from the Old Wente field selection, renowned for excellent quality and minerality. Its concentration originates from the typically petite size of the berries. Handcrafted using classical Burgundian winemaking techniques, this wine is dedicated to our daughter, Claire Morlet. It is 'My Princess' or 'Ma Princesse.'

Winemaker Notes: *The 2024 'Ma Princesse' leaps out of the glass with a complex bouquet of candied William pear, candied citrus fruits, delicately toasted hazelnuts, and notes of wet stone. Rich and concentrated, this full-bodied and classic Chardonnay features a powerful, yet seamless character, with natural acidity and strong minerality, leading to a gracefully long finish, and reminiscent of a top Meursault Premier Cru.* – *Luc Morlet, Jan. 2026*



2024

'MA DOUCE'

FORT ROSS - SEAVIEW
CHARDONNAY

Located on the Sonoma Coast, on the second ridge from the Pacific Ocean, this hillside vineyard is comprised of Goldridge soil and benefits from both the cool maritime breeze (*douce brise*) and the mild and sunny mountain climate. Handcrafted using classical Burgundian winemaking techniques, this wine is dedicated to my wife, Jodie Morlet. It is 'My Sweet' or 'Ma Douce.'

Winemaker Notes: *Featuring a stunning and intense bouquet of candied lemon, Golden Delicious peel, fresh quince, and meringue, with touches of wet stone, the full-bodied 2024 'Ma Douce' boasts incredible minerality, with hints of fresh hazelnuts and savory herbs. This complex and concentrated Chardonnay finishes long and elegant and is reminiscent of a Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet Grand Cru.* – *Luc Morlet, Jan. 2026*



2024

'EN FAMILLE'

FORT ROSS - SEAVIEW
PINOT NOIR

For generations, our family has grown the Pinot Noir grape in France. When our children were young, we celebrated this commitment each harvest as they stomped a small vat of Pinot Noir from California's Sonoma Coast. Handcrafted using classical Burgundian winemaking techniques, this special wine is dedicated to our grandparents, parents, and relatives from both countries. As with any family celebration or casual gathering, this wine is to be appreciated 'En Famille.'

Winemaker Notes: *The 2024 'En Famille' bursts with intense notes of fresh cassis, Griottes cherries, wild huckleberry, violets, and hints of savory spices and fresh leather. This multi-layered Pinot Noir displays a gorgeous texture with silky, fine-grained tannins and well-integrated acidity, boasting a beautifully long and complex earthy finish and reminiscent of a Morey-Saint-Denis Grand Cru.* – *Luc Morlet, Jan. 2026*



2024

'CÔTEAUX NOBLES'

FORT ROSS - SEAVIEW
PINOT NOIR

Located on the Sonoma Coast, on the eastern slope (Côte) of the second ridge from the Pacific Ocean, this hillside vineyard (Côteau) benefits from the cool maritime breeze and the mild and sunny mountain climate. The noble site's natural conditions are ideal for growing excellent Pinot Noir in the Goldridge soil. Handcrafted using classical Burgundian winemaking techniques, it is the 'Noble Hillside' or 'Côteaux Nobles.'

Winemaker Notes: *The vibrant 2024 'Côteaux Nobles' features a complex bouquet of raspberry coulis, wild Griottes cherries, and sun-kissed blackberries alongside elegant notes of sandalwood and floral spices. Showcasing an amazing texture, this full-bodied Pinot Noir displays fine-grained tannins and a lively natural acidity, finishing amazingly long and reminiscent of elegant Grands Crus from Chambolle-Musigny.* – *Luc Morlet, Jan. 2026*

MORLET

Family Vineyards



MANICURED VINEYARDS,
CLASSICAL WINEMAKING
& CREATIVE ARTISANSHIP

2825 ST. HELENA HWY NORTH
NAPA VALLEY
ST. HELENA, CALIFORNIA 94574
TEL: (707) 967-8690

INSTAGRAM: @MORLETFAMILYVINEYARDS
MORLETWINES.COM