

*“The finest wines and spirits of 2009.”*



## **It Pays To Look Back...**

by Ed Schwartz

... and so shall we. Instead of letting all those tasty concoctions, cocktails, and spirits of the past fade away, I leafed through my wine-stained tasting notebook to come up with **my list of the finest wines and spirits of 2009**. To add drama, I have hired the San Francisco Symphony for background music. The Fourth Movement of Tchaikovsky’s Fourth Symphony will do. **Lots of crashing cymbals! These superior products deserve no less.**

**Sonoma Valley Port Works Duet**—So named because some of the grapes come from the Cucamonga Valley in Southern California and some from the McLaren Vale in South Australia. This is a unique after-dinner wine with a touch of natural hazelnut.

**Ed Schwartz** has been involved in many aspects of fine wine for thirty years and has worked with top wineries in California, Italy, and France. His writings on wine, food, and travel have appeared in the *SF Chronicle*, *LA Times*, and *Image* magazine.