



Garage Enologists of North County

Next Meeting: June 29 - Monday
Place: Healdsburg Library
Time: 7:00 PM



MAY MEETING SUMMARY – SMALL VINEYARD MANAGEMENT

What an excellent meeting. Vineyard Manager Carmine Indindoli touched on all aspects of vineyard care. He talked about watering, fertilizing, weed management and disease control. He hit on how to achieve vine balance, sampling and testing, light exposure and air circulation, trellis systems, maintenance costs and much more. Well done, Carmine. We closed out the meeting with tasting and discussion of several member wines, made from their own grapes. Good meeting with a big turnout of 47 members and guests!!

JUNE MEETING – BOTTLING, CORKS, FOILS, AND LABELS – Group Discussion

We're getting close to bottling time and it is appropriate to share our thoughts on the final steps before bottling. Do we rack, blend wines, do a final evaluation and adjustment, reuse bottles, sanitize them, prepare corks, what closures do we prefer, do we use foils and how do we affix them, do we use a label program, what kind of paper, etc? Also, where do we get our supplies? Many questions and probably many good ideas to be shared. In keeping with the subject, we will do a judging of any red wine barrel samples our members choose to bring, any vintage, but they must be out of the barrel (or alternative bulk storage.)

AMADOR GENCO TRIP

Amador County winemaking has grown up and there are some big time wineries there. Some of them even make good wine (no match for Sonoma County). We had a special visit to several wineries, did some tasting and touring, dining and dancing, and the feature was attending a potluck dinner and wine sharing at the Amador Amateur Winemakers Assn annual picnic. Well done Mike Miller, as 15 of us had a fine trip.

COMPETITIONS – Too late. Wait for the Harvest Fair.

SPECIAL KUDOS – Gary Alvey for Best of Show White at the Stanislaus County (Lodi) Fair for his 2008 Sauvignon blanc. Also, to Paul Cowley for Sweepstakes Red at the Sonoma-Marin Fair for Cabernet Sauvignon 2004 and to our friend Bob Peak for Sweeps White at the same competition for his Chenin Blanc 2008. Lastly to Bob Bennett, John Andrews and Dave Noorthoek for Grand Champion at the International Amateur (HWBTA) Competition for their 2006 Port.

GENCO PICNIC/POTLUCK – Sunday, July 12 See notice on reverse.

CORK ORDER – If you ordered, get in touch with me. I would like to get them out to you and get reimbursed.

Bob Bennett
433-4574