

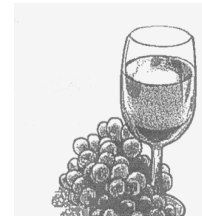


GENCO



Garage Enologists of North County

Next Meeting: **March 25 - Wednesday**
Place: **Healdsburg Library**
Time: **7:00 PM**



FEBRUARY MEETING SUMMARY – OAK USAGE & BARREL ALTERNATIVES

Martin McCarthy of Tonnellerie Radoux discussed the use of oak in all phases of the winemaking process including using oak in fermentation. Radoux provides oak in many forms and each has its unique place in the winemaking process. Martin discussed how oak in fermentation reduces vegetal character of wine, reduces oxidation and enhances color. We closed out the meeting tasting barrel samples of wines made using different oak types – powder, granulate, and chips. Thank you, Martin.

MARCH MEETING – THE FINE ART OF FINING - Bob Peak, The Beverage People

Bob will present this discussion at the Winemaker Magazine May conference in Napa. I believe most of us don't do much fining as we don't fully understand it. Bob will take some of the mystery out this activity. Different fining agents can improve quality by altering defects in wines as well as improving clarity. There are quite a few fining materials and each has its own beneficial aspect. Let's hear about it. To close out the meeting I would like five volunteers to bring their wine and discuss it. This time I would like it to be a wine that you feel good about, and if there is a unique aspect to it, all the better. We'll try defective wines another time. It will probably take two bottles each. If you would like to present a wine, give me a call.

COMPETITIONS – Thanks to those who entered wine into the Geyserville Chamber competition. Next is the Home Wine & Beer Trade Assn (Beverage People are your sponsor) in April. The Beverage People will ship them for you at a modest fee. It takes one bottle and \$12 per entry (sorry the days of \$5 entries in any competition are behind us.) The deadline for entries is April 11 so get them to Beverage People before the end of March. Then, following in May will be many competitions here in California.

AMADOR TRIP – Mike Miller has put together a GENCO trip the weekend of May 30. We'll have some winery visits and whatever people want to do, and will join the Amador Winemakers for their annual BBQ at Bray winery. Bring wines and hors d'oeuvres to share. Contact Mike grpman1865@yahoo.com or 894-4141, or come to the March meeting for further details. **MARK YOUR CALENDAR.**

PICK OF THE VINE – Don't miss it. It is a fine event April 4, from 6:00 to 8:30, at the Fairgrounds with 30 wineries, much food, jazz band, and many good auction items (if you need a new floor corker, here is your chance for a bargain.) The event is a bargain at \$45 each. It is also for a great cause, the Long Term Care Ombudsman program that looks after the welfare and care of seniors living in the 130 Sonoma County care facilities. It is sponsored by the Wine Road, Kaiser-Permanente, Exchange Bank, and more – businesses that recognize the importance of our service to the community. **See me for your tickets.**

Bob Bennett
433-4574

