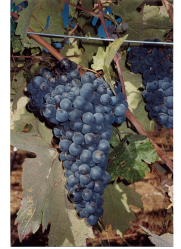




Garage Enologists of North County

www.gencowinemakers.com

Next Meeting: Wednesday - October 26, 2011
Place: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Healdsburg
Time: 6:30 PM



SEPTEMBER SUMMARY - HARVEST 2011

We had quite a bit of discussion about cold soaking, crushing, fermentation, defect avoidance, and M/L activities. Many of us offered input and diverging opinions. There is no one way to go about the winemaking process and that came out in the discussion. We followed-up with a tasting of Blush and Rose wines, several of which were very nice indeed. Thanks to those who shared.

OCTOBER MEETING - HARVEST & WINEMAKING 2011 - Group Discussion

We will have an open discussion about what we did this harvest/winemaking season. It should be fun to hear from each other about our activities for this harvest. It has been a problematic year for many and we will talk about what the timing was, what the grapes were like, what our current status is, what problems we are experiencing, what questions have arisen, and what new winemaking activity/technique we are working on. There were a lot of fine Silver Medal awards for GENCO wines submitted to the Harvest Fair but for this meeting I will ask a few of our winemakers to bring Harvest Fair Gold medal winners only and discuss their winemaking process for that wine. **BRING TWO GLASSES.** See prior email for directions.

CHRISTMAS PARTY - We need a member to open their home or facility to our annual Holiday Party. We will help with setup, take down, supplies, and can limit attendance to your space availability. Many of our members have hosted a holiday party. Volunteer and pick your date. Call Steve at 836-8533.

GENCO COMPETITION - The deadline is near for our first GENCO wine competition. We have a highly qualified panel of judges lined up. The judging may be a little tough but it will be fair and feedback insightful. We'll have some nice GENCO logo ribbons to award with Best in Show and the whole shmeer. Get your first ever GENCO award. Bring your wines to the meeting or deliver it as previously advised.

GROUP BARREL PROJECT - It is a full barrel of Cab and the group of eight winemakers is complete. It has been picked, crushed, pressed, and will be racked this weekend. Very promising!

CLUB WINEMAKING PROJECT - We have fourteen participating in the Merlot project. It will be interesting to see how the wines differ when they are ready for tasting. The potluck that will accompany the tasting should be great fun. My regrets to those who are unable to participate. You are missing out on an interesting activity.

OAK PURCHASE - It is time to think about your oaking needs. We regularly buy barrel alternatives at this time of year from Stavin. We will start a sign-up list at the October meeting. If you don't know what you want or need, look it up by Googling Stavin. We usually order oak beans and oak staves, but anything on their website is OK to order. Think also about their Infusion Tube. It may be a good investment for you.

Bob Bennett - Editor

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