



GENCO GAZETTE

February 2022

GENCO MEETS THE 4TH WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH
FEBRUARY MEETING: WEDNESDAY 23TH VIA ZOOM —6:45 PM
 John Rodrigues — Founder Home Wine Lab
MARCH MEETING: WEDNESDAY 23TH VIA ZOOM —6:45 PM
 Gio Balistreri — Winemaker Russian River Vineyards

January Meeting via Zoom

There was a large turnout for last meeting featuring Don Van Staavaren, one of Sonoma's Counties most respected winemakers. In total, 57 computer monitors were logged into the Zoom link. Don talked about his winemaking experiences, beginning in the mid-70s through this year. He provided a wealth of information, thoughts, and perspectives regarding winemaking, and then detailed his approach. Don stressed that making quality wines starts in the vineyard, and picking when grapes actually taste right. He prefers to pick at 24 to 24.5° B. He also picked only the best fruit, and does careful sorting. He racks his juice into barrels without settling, and does sur-lie contact for the entire time, racking only once just before bottling. He also does lengthy extended maceration. He talked about how winemaking and vineyard practices have changed over 50 years. GENCO welcomed guests from the Sacramento and Sonoma Home-Winemakers groups to zoom in. Don has offered to come back when we can do in-person meetings, to talk in greater detail about the winemaking process and options for small-scale winemakers.



GENCO makes the front page news! We have become 'influencers'.
First to embrace the omicron variant ... hope members are recovered.



February 23th — ZOOM: 6:45 pm HOME WINE LAB

John Rodrigues, founder of the Home Wine Lab, will be discussing why testing is beneficial to winemaking, the methods he uses, and the important stages in the winemaking process for analysis.



Home Wine Lab is a laboratory that specializes in routine analysis with the home winemaker in mind. Rodrigues currently consults for the commercial wine program at the Santa Rosa Junior College and previously worked for Kenwood Vineyards for seven years, where he ultimately became the Enologist and managed the on-site laboratory at the winery.

www.homewinelab.com

It's time for GENCO dues!
Please send \$40 cash or a check made out to "GENCO" and mail it to:
Cathleen Lukrich
GENCO Treasurer
4595 Mt. Taylor Drive
Santa Rosa CA 95404

When GENCO finally meets in person we will require vaccinations and booster shots.