



Garage Enologists of North County

www.gencowinemakers.com

Next Meeting: February 25, 2014
Place: Good Shepherd, Healdsburg
Time: 7:00 PM
Glasses: 2



JANUARY MEET SUMMARY - TESTING, EVALUATING AND ADJUSTING WINE BOB BENNETT AND GROUP

After a relatively brief discussion about the importance of vineyard management and the evaluation of grape ripeness we spent most of the discussion dealing with brix and acid goals, evaluation and management. We also discussed yeasts, malolactic, cold stabilization, aeration, and monitoring for off characteristics. We also touched on sulfite and oak management. The focus was directed mostly to those who are relatively new to winemaking but there were thoughts for experienced winemakers as well. The discussion was followed by the group judging of several Bordeaux varietals. Congrats to Kevin McCann who got the lone consensus Gold medal for a Merlot.

FEBRUARY MEETING - VINEYARD MANAGEMENT FOR QUALITY GRAPES! MARK HOUSER, VINEYARD MANAGER (Big Time)

Mark is Vineyard Manager for Alexander Valley Vineyards and Hoot Owl Creek Vineyards with over 30 years of vineyard management experience. He will share with us a variety of management expertise including vineyard design, climate implications, varietal choices, pruning, and a host of other areas of interest. We are fortunate to have this skilled vineyard expert share his knowledge with us. The discussion will be followed by a tasting and comments regarding several member wines. As a result of our GENCO trip to Paso Robles last year, the Paso home winemakers are visiting Sonoma County and will be joining us for this meeting. They will be bringing a couple bottles of wine for sharing and discussion, and our guest Mark will also share a bottle of wine from his grapes. This should be a heck of a meeting with something for everybody. Don't miss it!!

VINEYARD SEMINAR - SHONE FARM

Beautiful day, a whole lot of learning to be had. and it was sold out. Even if you don't have a vineyard (yet) you should have been there. It was an outstanding experience combining fun, learning, and hands on experience. Thanks to Mike Miller and all who put this one together.

GENCO TRAVEL - Activities Chair Carol Hazlett intends to offer another wine country trip this year, maybe closer to home this time. A couple thoughts are Mendocino County, or the surprisingly interesting Lodi wine area. Both are putting out very nice wines. We need a volunteer to put this one together. It is a bit of a challenge but anyone who has been with us awhile knows how many members are willing to pitch in to make things happen. We have had several couples put together past trips to Paso, the Foothills, Santa Cruz, and Oregon. How about one of you stepping to the plate on this one? Call Carol at 799-1382 if you want to consider it. Several of us have ideas to help you on your way.

DUES - Annual dues are \$20 per family and should be paid at the Jan or Feb meeting. Alternatively mail a check made out to our new Treasurer Rita Maloney, 6169 San Bruno Ct, Rohnert Park 94928. New members who paid in Nov or Dec are covered for this year. If you haven't yet paid, bring it to the February meeting.

Bob Bennett • 433-4574