



# Garage Enologists of North County

www.gencowinemakers.com

**Next Meeting:** February 24 - Wednesday  
**Place:** Healdsburg Library  
**Time:** 7:00 PM



## **JANUARY MEETING SUMMARY – *ACHIEVING BALANCE IN WINE***

A surprising turnout with the third largest attendance ever. Led by myself we covered all the factors that affect balance in wine: climate and micro-climate, picking grapes at the right stage, brix adjustment, malolactic, cold stabilizing, etc. We followed the discussion with tasting and further discussion of several interesting barrel samples. Thank you all who participated, and especially those who shared their wines and experiences.

## **FEBRUARY MEETING – *STYLE & WEATHER AFFECT ON WINE CHARACTER***

*Lise Ciolino, Winemaker/Co-owner, Montemaggiore Winery*

Montemaggiore Winery in Dry Creek Valley specializes in premier Syrah wine and also produces a Syrah blend. Lise's winemaking style has evolved over several years and is tailored to the grapes based on their characteristics as they relate to the weather and other variable factors. We will taste several vintages of Montemaggiore Syrah and Lise will discuss their individual sensory characteristics. As with your children, they may be different from each other but you love them all (I hope). We'll hear about her winemaking style and we may even hear a bit about biodynamic winegrowing. We have never before had a meeting that dealt with the vagaries of the growing season and different winemaking styles, and its affect on the wine. Don't miss out!

## **BEER MAKING FOLLOWUP –**

Saturday February 27 at 9:00 am we will tour the Bear Republic Brewery in Cloverdale with Brewer Roger Herpst. We'll learn first hand how it is done and the different materials and styles that go into the diversity of beers. Join us in Cloverdale for this informative tour. Call me to reserve your spot as we are limited to 25 participants. Man does not live by wine alone (although I'd be willing to try).

**COMPETITIONS** – Not much doing. Geyserville Chamber is closed and we are awaiting results. Winemaker Magazine competition deadline is in March, then Fermenters International with a deadline in mid-April. Most of the big ones are coming up in May so get your wines ready.

## **WINE COUNTRY TRIP –**

Last year's trip was a winner and we are looking for a repeat this year. Anyone want to take responsibility to arrange a 2010 visit? It could be the Central Coast, or Oregon. If you want to take it on, give me a call.

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