



GENCO GAZETTE

April 2021

APRIL MEETING: WEDNESDAY 28TH VIA ZOOM

Finding value when buying wine

MAY MEETING: WEDNESDAY 26TH VIA ZOOM

**Considerations for Developing your Home Winery
& Wine /Viticulture Library**

MARCH 24th meeting:

Ben Papapietro – Papapietro-Perry

Many thanks to Ben Papapietro for a great meeting! We had 50 attendees, zoom in for Ben's talk.

The presentation was very successful on many levels. His talk was very well received; as members enjoyed Ben's warmth, personable, & unassuming style of delivery. We especially appreciated hearing the stories about beginning as a homewinemaker in San Francisco to starting a commercial venture and all the great anecdotes offered, as well as insights into making truly extraordinary pinots. Ben helped renew our interest in making wine this season.

His passion for excellence and love of wines and winemaking was quite evident. It was one of the best winemaker talks we've had. He spoke at a level everyone could relate to.

Many members enjoyed the Papapietro-Perry Pinot Noir from Peters Vineyard and the Rosé of Pinot Noir – all in all a fun and educational meeting.

APRIL 28, 2021 – 6:45PM

Buying wine – Finding value

Let's talk about saving money when buying wine. Most people like a bargain, particularly when they don't have to compromise on quality. Depending on what you like and are willing to spend, there are many great values to be had.

I'll be discussing strategies for getting really good wine for less money. Depending on your level of experience, taste preferences, and expectations, you're more likely to get a really good bottle of wine for closer to \$15. It's really about what you enjoy and how much you're willing to spend. The perception that quality and price are related is often not true.

The best values come from the lesser-known wine regions of the world and are made from grape varieties you may not know. In most cases, the whites are delightful: dry, crisp, fruity, lower in alcohol, refreshing, versatile, and they pair well with food. The reds range from light and fruity, to full bodied, flavorful, smooth, and complex. They often punch well above their weight class!

If you would like to participate in the tasting portion, I suggest you buy a few wines - your choice, at Costco, Trader Joes, Bottle Barn, Grocery Outlet, or wherever, and then sample the wines before or during the meeting, and offer your thoughts and experience during the discussion part of the meeting.

Some suggested whites: Albarino, Chenin Blanc, Grüner Veltliner, Verdejo, Pinot Grigio, Vermentino, Verdicchio, Verdjo, Pinot Blanc, etc.

Some suggested reds: Côtes du Rhone, a Spanish red (Tempranillo, Rioja, Garnacha), a Portuguese red, an Argentinian Malbec, Barbera, Bonardo, Carmenère, a French Cru Beaujolais, a Pinotage (South Africa), a Nero d' Avola (Sicily) or whatever. One red I highly recommend is the 2017 Gerard Bertrand Tautavel Grand Terroir, a blend of Grenache, Syrah, and Carignan from Roussillon, South of France for \$9.99 (Costco)



GENCO BOARD MEETING MINUTES April 8, 2021, 1 pm, Hagen's Home

ATTENDANCE: President Mary Lou Marek, George Marek, Gary Alvey, Tom Hodges, Bruce Hagen, Linda Hagen, Cathleen Lukrich, Dave Schaffer, Sheila DeLong, Joan Griffin

TREASURER'S REPORT: Quarterly financial report submitted by Cathleen. Three new members. Treasury described as "not rich, but okay." Google One storage increase needed, per Gary. Will increase fee to \$5.35/month.

MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS: Gary noted that certain members maintain membership but do not attend meetings or participate in any activities. Board discussed the question and decided to accept that some home winemakers may join simply to gain access to the valuable resources of the GENCO website, or just to support the home winemaking community.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

APRIL 28: "How to Save Money Buying Wine." Zoom meeting by Bruce Hagen.

MAY 27: Gary Alvey: Home winemaking equipment needs & Megan Jones from the Healdsburg Wine Library, via Zoom.

JUNE 26: Summer Picnic at Marek's bayside home in San Rafael. Limit 60 people. Carpooling encouraged; attendees must be vaccinated.

JULY 28: Resume meetings at the Good Shepherd church since state rules will be eased by then. Vaccination may still be an issue so perhaps a combo meeting: in person and Zoom. Dave Shaffer can help with technical logistics. Tom Jereb has asked to present a program on Barbera at the first "live" meeting.

JULY BOARD MEETING: July 8 at Cathleen Lukrich's.

SUMMER GENCO TRIP: George reports that the Walla Walla event was cancelled for 2021; to be rescheduled for 2022. Discussion was held on the difficulty of planning trips for large groups. Perhaps more viable to offer suggestions to members who could then make their own arrangements; or plan excursions for a limited number of members, with sign-ups.

AUGUST 5: GENCO Wine Competition. Will likely have more entries since no competition was held in 2020. Scribes to be added: Cathleen and Joan.

RAFFLE: Linda suggested selling raffle tickets for wine-related items at meetings/parties. Mary Lou pointed out that legally we cannot "fund raise" for GENCO since we are a non-profit with a healthy treasury. Instead should donate proceeds to a worthy organization, e.g., Sonoma Winegrowers fund for vineyard workers. Linda & Sheila will organize the first raffle for the summer party.

INSURANCE UPDATE: Cathleen reported that we have received a bid from Redwood Credit Union for \$431 (currently we pay \$1100). This includes the \$1,000,000 liability required by the Good Shepherd Church. Mary Lou advised Cathleen re filling out the forms to reflect our correct non-profit category (GENCO is not an IRS non-profit category). If this is not accepted by RCU, IRS filings would then be required; ML is familiar with this filing procedure and says it's "no big deal." Cathleen will submit the forms.

BOARD POSITIONS: Gary brought up the fact that certain Board practices do not comply with the By-Laws (i.e. titles of officers; married couples both serving as voting members; officer terms not complying with set limits). Discussion was held on changes needed; Gary will review the By-Laws and revise them to reflect current and desired Board practices; these will then be presented to the general Membership for approval.

Discussion was held on how to attract new members to serve on the Board. Suggestion was made to invite enthusiastic new members to attend Board meetings; can also add "at large" members to the Board.

Recorded by, Joan Griffin: Secretary



Hello, GENCO Members,

Good news! As of now, we anticipate that state & local guidelines will allow us to safely hold our summer picnic at the end of June. Clambake on the Bay, postponed from 2020, is planned for Saturday, June 26 at George & Mary Lou Marek's home in San Rafael. Our first live gathering since Feb. 2020.

In consideration of all our members, only fully vaccinated guests may attend, so if you are not yet vaccinated, plan to get yours soon to allow for 2nd dose plus 2 weeks by June 26.

Stay tuned for more details. In the meantime, our upcoming meetings will continue to be held on Zoom. We have some great topics planned!

Cheers, Mary Lou Marek: President
Garage Enologists of Sonoma County
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GENCO PICNIC BY THE BAY

WHEN ?

Saturday: June 27, 2020

3:00 pm: Wine & appetizers

5:00 pm: Shrimp & Clam Boil
by the Bay

WHERE ?

George & Mary Lou Mareks
11 Marine Drive, San Rafael

WHAT ?

Shrimp & Clam Boil



MORE DETAILS IN MAY

