



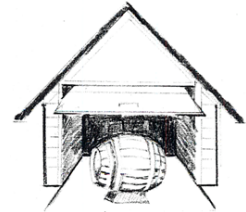
GENCO



Garage Enologists of North County

www.gencowinemakers.com

Next Meeting: June 24, 2014 - Tuesday
Place: Good Shepherd, Healdsburg
Time: 7:00 PM
Glasses: 2



MAY MEETING - EVALUATING GRAPES AND WINE IN PROCESS - EQUIPMENT

Bob Bennett led a presentation of the equipment used in the laboratory end of winemaking. It ranged from the basics of beakers, hygrometers, thieves, containers etc. to the more expensive pH meters, scales, refractometers, et al. The meeting was largely designed to inform relative newcomers. The discussion was accompanied by a handy hand-out that listed the stuff needed to make wine, the nice to have, and the pricing. Gary Alvey showed and discussed the new vinmetrica units that are available to do analyses for our members at a very favorable price. It was followed by a video that demonstrated the units in action. There were barrel sample whites to taste but most members had left.

JUNE MEETING - EVALUATING GRAPES AND WINE IN PROCESS - THE LAB WINE MEASUREMENT, MODIFICATION AND IMPROVEMENT

Bruce Hagen and Gary Alvey will team up to discuss the importance of lab analysis and what to do with your wine based on evaluation of the numbers. The focus will be on acidity and SO2 management; these factors affect color, taste, ageability, susceptibility to microbial spoilage, oxidation, and more. They will also discuss malolactic, and who knows what else. Bruce and Gary have a host of awards that represent their skills. Come learn about these management tools and how to use them to make your own award winning wines. At the end of the meeting we will taste and discuss some member wines that don't meet the winemakers' satisfaction. Bring your deficient wine in process (or in the bottle) and maybe we collectively can suggest how it could be improved.

GENCO PICNIC - Another outstanding picnic, generously hosted by the deLong's. Great food, great wine, Olympic games directed by Duane, sunny Sheila making sure everybody was having a good time, and Carol ensuring everything was right. Kudos to the very many other members who pitched in to make it happen.

CORK PURCHASE - Corks can be picked up at the meeting. Check availability if you didn't get your order in.

COMPETITIONS - Napa County Fair competition deadline is June 27. Go to www.napacountyfair.org under the **Get Involved** tab for details. Let's get together and we Sonoma County home winemakers will make our mark in Napa. Bring your wines (2 ea), completed entry form, and fee (\$5/entry) to the Tuesday meeting. Bob Bennett will deliver them Thursday June 26. Then, get ready for our Harvest Fair, the last big competition, in late August.

GROUP WINEMAKING PROJECT - We will be doing a barrel of Merlot for the current year group winemaking project. Call me if you wish to share in the project. You are sure to enjoy and learn from the experience. Preference for participation goes first to those who have not experienced this activity before.

MERLOT PROJECT - Started during the 2013 harvest, a bunch of us made Merlot from the same grapes, each in his or her own style. We will taste them all at a pot-luck gathering in August. If you participated, look forward to a nice evening with an interesting array of Merlots. Unfortunately, the event is open only to those who participated.

Bob Bennett
 433-4574
 Bennett9@aol.com

