

GENCO Garage Enologists of North County

www.gencowinemakers.com

Next Meeting: **October 24, 2018**
Place: **Good Shepherd**
Time: **7:00 PM**
Glasses: **3**



October Meeting Notice

Open discussion on the recent harvest. (*notes from Bruce*)

Now that most of the grapes have been harvested, and most fermentations are done or nearing completion, it would be useful to share our thoughts regarding the 2018 harvest.

Undoubtedly, this has been an unusual harvest - a long, relatively cool growing season with heavy rain close to harvest, resulting in some rot issues for sensitive grape varieties. The rain also lowered Brix when ripening was beginning to slow due to cooler days and evenings. As a result, sugars, pHs and TAs have generally been lower than normal.

Be prepared to talk about things you hadn't expected, problems you encountered, and how you solved or worked around them. This is an opportunity to ask questions about any part of the winemaking process that you may be unclear about. We're looking for members to share their experiences, offer advice, offer relevant information, or provide insights. Some talking points: what worked well this year? What didn't? Do you plan to do things differently next year? Furthermore, members are encouraged to share innovations, or talk about new, more efficient or labor-saving equipment, etc.

I plan to run through the BMPs for winemaking so we are on the same page: crushing and destemming, sulfiting, cold soaking, enzymes, tannins, pressing, settling, yeast or allowing spontaneous fermentation, nutrients, dealing with H₂S, temperature control, MLF, aging, racking, sulfiting, monitoring, and topping.

For the wine tasting following the discussion, I want to try doing something different to allow members some time to socialize, network, and get to know one another. People will be poured several wines, either member wines or commercial wines, and then allowed to assess them using a simplified form. Members can do this independently or work with their neighbors. The evaluation forms will be collected just before we leave and the results emailed later.

For this meeting, I'd like to taste some wines that didn't fare well or measure-up for whatever reason. So, if you have some wine with some obvious defects let me know and we can have a bit of fun and learn something at the same time. If you prefer, wine can be submitted anonymously. Mark bottles with vintage and varietal. Let's face it, we've all had some disappointments. *Please let me know if you have a wine you'd like to submit for this exercise.* Bring three glasses.

Steve Nurse, GENCO Secretary