



Garage Enologists of North County



Next Meeting: **October 15 - Thursday**
Place: **Gower Ranch**
Time: **6:00 PM**

SEPTEMBER MEETING SUMMARY – HARVEST WINEMAKING 2009

We started our meeting with an on-line presentation by Webmaster Gary Alvey who went through the huge amount of data and links in the GENCO website. It is truly an outstanding piece of work that I haven't seen equaled in any home winemaking association website. There were a few questions but by and large the website speaks for itself. The presentation was followed by a discussion of activities associated with the beginning of the winemaking season. Cold soaking, crushing, fermentation, oak in fermentation, extended maceration, achieving balance, M/L activities; it was all up for discussion. I had several people say it was one of the most informative meetings they recall. We concluded the meeting by tasting a number of Harvest Fair Gold wines and hearing from the winemakers. I was amazed that it was the second largest attendance ever despite that it was a group discussion without a big time guest speaker.

OCTOBER MEETING – VINEYARD & WINERY TOUR – OCTOBER 15

Steve & Lisa Gower have volunteered to host our October meeting at their ranch. We will start with a vineyard tour with Steve who will discuss his vineyard makeup as well as his vineyard practices. This is a sizeable vineyard comprising 1 ½ acres with 5 varietals. After the tour we will visit his combined winery/workshop. Don't miss this birthplace of the current Harvest Fair Best of Class Zinfandel. Steve has some interesting home winemaking equipment he crafted himself and we will have a chance to taste some of his Crazy Run Ranch wines and barrel samples. We are starting early so that we will have sufficient daylight for the vineyard tour. If you can't make 6:00, come as early as you can. Address & directions are on the reverse.

DUES – \$15 keeps you on the mailing list.

SUPPLIES – It is time to place the group order for the Stavin oak products for your alternative oak needs. If you like these products, the sign up sheet will pass around at this meeting. Oak staves and beans are the products of primary interest to our members.

COMPETITIONS – Cellarmasters in L. A. hosts their 36th Annual U. S. Amateur Wine Competition. It is a good competition with more than 250 entries. Deadline is November 7 and the entry fees are graduated; the more entries, the lower cost per entry.

CHRISTMAS PARTY – This year the party will be hosted by John and Carol Hazlett on Sunday December 6. As we will have limited capacity we must limit attendance to those who have been to two or more meetings in the past year (and their partner/guest.) Mark your calendar!

[Directions to Steve & Lisa Gower's Ranch on page 2](#)

Directions to Steve & Lisa Gower's

From Old Redwood Highway and Starr Road intersection on the north of Windsor, go south on Starr Rd.

Approx. ½ mile, turn right on Gumview Rd.

Go down Gumview through the hard bend to the right

After the bend, we are the first driveway on the left

On the driveway, we are the first house on the left - 1495 Gumview

The winery is the detached building next to the house

Bob Bennett
433-4574