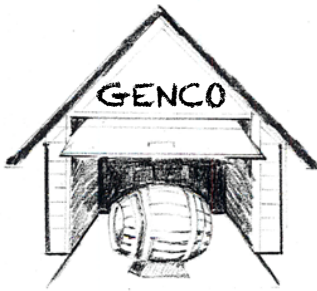




Garage Enologists of North County

www.gencowinemakers.com



Next Meeting: Tuesday - September 24, 2013
Place: Sinclair Ranch, Healdsburg
Time: **6:00 PM**
Glasses: 2

AUGUST MEETING - HARVEST & WINEMAKING 2013

It was a good open discussion about many aspects of winemaking. There was something for everyone, newbies and experienced. We dealt with vineyard issues as well as crushing, soaking, yeast, ML, fermentation and more. We closed the meeting with tasting of many fine Harvest Fair Gold and Silver medal wines. It was a very informative and entertaining meeting.

SEPTEMBER MEETING -- SINCLAIR RANCH VINEYARD VISIT

Mike Sinclair is winemaking partner to Gary Alvey and Sinclair Ranch Vineyard is the source of most of their award winning wine grapes. Mike is a commercial grower and has 20 acres with 10 acres planted to sauvignon blanc that are contracted to Dry Creek Vineyards and 10 acres planted to chardonnay contracted to Clos du Bois. The chardonnay will still be hanging when we meet and their sauvignon blanc and merlot will be fermenting. Gary will be pouring their 2012 Zin, Chardonnays, and Zin Rose where they received Harvest Fair Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals.

Sinclair Ranch address is located at 602 West Grant Street. Driving Instructions: 101N to Dry Creek exit. Turn LEFT. The first street on you left (past the 101(S) onramp) is Kinley Drive. Drive about a 3/4 of a mile or so and turn RIGHT onto West Grant Street. About 3/4 the way down the street on the left is Sinclair Ranch. Turn LEFT into his gravel driveway. You'll see a large redwood stump with Sonoma County & Dry Creek Valley Grape Grower Association signs on the stump and his chardonnay vineyard before the driveway. There is a big parking area by the barn.

COMPETITIONS - Thanks to all who entered into the Genco Wine Competition, and to those who helped in any way to make it happen. It is a significant undertaking and special thanks to Bruce & Linda Hagen for taking the lead in this activity. Competitions are nearly all done for the year. Cellarmaster in LA has the US Amateur Wine Competition in early November. It is a pretty good competition but not comparable to our Harvest Fair, Marin or Orange County Fairs. It might give you an early feeling for your newer wines that haven't been entered before.

GENCO BARREL - The Genco Barrel experience is full and we will be picking and crushing Syrah on September 21. The fruit looks good and it should be a good learning experience.

MERLOT PROJECT -- This program started with picking and crushing on Sunday September 15. We will all make our wines as we choose and compare the results a year later at a potluck get-together.

FUTURE MEETINGS - If any of our members has an idea for a meeting topic that would interest them, contact Bob at the phone number below, or through bennett9@aol.com. Also if you have a relationship with someone in the industry who would be good as a meeting presenter, pass that on as well.