



GENCO GAZETTE

MAY 2023

GENCO MEETS THE 4TH WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

May 24, 2023: NICOLE HITCHCOCK – J WINERY

Good Shepherd Church

1402 University St. Healdsburg – Gruenhagen Hall

JUNE 25, 2023: GENCO PICNIC (NO REGULAR JUNE MEETING)

APRIL 26, 2023

FOOD AND WINE PAIRING WITH

Our April meeting featured a lesson on how to pair wine and food presented by Mary Lou and George Marek. The event began with a presentation by Mary Lou on the historical and scientific background of pairing and some principles and strategies to make matches that elevate both the wine and the food. Then George led a curated “hands on” demonstration of 6 wines, each paired with 3 or 4 different bites. Members commented on their preferred matches and learned why certain wines “worked” (or didn’t) with particular foods.

Round 1 included Ivan Lukrich’s Sauv. Blanc with a winning goat cheese pairing, a commercial Chardonnay that worked especially well grilled chicken in curry sauce, and Dennis McCarter’s Pinot Noir with the surprise winner English cheddar. Round 2 featured 3 of the Mareks’ “Big Reds” (Cabernet Franc, Zinfandel and Petite Sirah) with 7 bites. Members were challenged to mix and match sips and bites to select their favorite pairings.

Thanks to Ivan and Dennis for contributing their award winning wines and to Mary Lou and George. SUPER!



MAY 24, 2023 – WEDNESDAY 7:00 PM

NICOLE HITCHCOCK – J WINERY

Nicole is the head winemaker at J Vineyards & Winery, where she oversees all aspects of winemaking. She was just named Wine Enthusiast Winemaker of the Year for 2023! Nicole attended U.C. Davis, where she earned a degree in Viticulture and Enology and a minor in the Italian language. This combination enabled her to work at an agriturismo in Todi, Umbria for a summer. Back in the U.S., Nicole took a role as a winemaker, crafting wines grown throughout Northern California. In 2015, Nicole also earned an MBA from the Wine Business Institute at Sonoma State University.

Discussion topics will be:

- ✿ My personal background & an overview of J Vineyards & Winery
- ✿ My winemaking approach/ philosophy for Sparkling and Pinot Noir
- ✿ Discussion about maturity/chemistry at picking and decision-making about significant steps in the process
- ✿ My husband and I make garage wine nearly every year, so will share some learnings from those experiences & what I’m planning for this vintage
- ✿ I’d like to share a sparkling base wine + a finished sparkling wine as well as a couple of vintage 2022 Pinot barrel lots.

RSVP BY MAY 21 TO: Linda Hagen

2 GLASS MEETING



<LHagen1@comcast.net>

GENCO WINE COMPETITON

- ✿ 87 WINES
- ✿ 14 BEST OF CLASS
- ✿ 13 DOUBLE GOLD
- ✿ 11 GOLD
- ✿ 45 SILVER
- ✿ 16 BRONZE
- ✿ Kevin Holloway – Sparkling Chardonnay
- ✿ Bruce & Linda Hagen – Chardonnay
- ✿ Tom Stanley – Fruit Rosé
- ✿ Karen Sindar – Bordeaux
- ✿ Bruce & Linda Hagen – Rosé of Sirah
- ✿ Barry Morris – Zinfandel
- ✿ Tom Jereb – Italian Red: Barbera
- ✿ Kevin McCann – Other Reds: Tannat
- ✿ Ivan Lukrich – Sauvignon Blanc
- ✿ Marc & Debbie Kusich – Pinot Noir
- ✿ Rod Larrick – Port
- ✿ Werner Siegert – Cabernet
- ✿ Bruce & Linda Hagen – Other White: Viognier
- ✿ Ivan Lukrich – Rhone Red: Syrah

