



GENCO



Garage Enologists of North (Sonoma) County

GENCO website: gencowinemakers.com

Next Meeting: Tuesday - June 26, 2012
Place: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Healdsburg
Time: 7:00 PM

MAY MEETING: BACK TO BASICS II - HOME WINEMAKING PROCESS

Something for everyone. We handed out for discussion a list of every activity involved in the wine making process. As intended, it was largely a basic review of what it takes to become a successful winemaker. The session was largely led by Bob but many of us pitched in with our thoughts. We got into discussion on several of the activity areas but mainly stayed on track to touch on highlights of many of the steps along the way. We finished with a judging of several Italian varietals and one Merlot. With one exception we judged the wines as good but we reaffirmed that our members are tough judges and reluctant to give high marks.

JUNE FEATURE - FINING, A TOOL TO FIX WINE PRODUCTION ISSUES

Mike Gulyash, Winemaker, Zichici Winery ***A TWO GLASS MEETING***

Fining is done to improve some aspect in wine. It might be to remove unwanted color, haze, bitterness, excessive astringency, off-flavors, unpleasant odors, etc. Many different materials can be used as wine fining agents and each material has different characteristics. Mike will talk to us and provide examples of the effects and benefits of fining. This should be a unique and beneficial discussion for all of us. Don't miss it.

WINE COMPETITIONS - Get in on the Napa County Fair competition. The deadline for entry is June 15 which you can do on the Napa Fair website. Bring the wines to Bob Bennett by June 21. There will be no other popular competitions until the Harvest Fair in September.

SATURDAY SEMINAR - July 21, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Healdsburg

If you haven't already signed up, Brian Tuller says you will be welcome if you sign up right away. He needs a head count so that he can finalize the program. It is a first for GENCO and promises to be a fun as well as educational event.

ACTIVITIES - The GENCO picnic is June 24 at the DeLongs Santa Rosa home. Social time at 4:00 and dinner at 6:00. The picnics have always been highly popular and this one will be no exception. If you haven't already signed up call Carol Hazlett at 799-1363 or email to carolhazlett@me.com

MERLOT PROJECT - Many of us participated in a unique project last harvest of making wine from a single batch in any manner we wished and we will compare our results at a pot luck tasting. The simple rule is no combining with another persons efforts and no blending with other wines. We will have our gathering in late Aug or early Sept so start doing what you wish to do to get your wine ready. Barrel samples will be acceptable.

Bob Bennett - Editor
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