



GENCO



Garage Enologists of North (Sonoma) County

www.gencowinemakers.com

Next Meeting: March 29, 2012 - Thursday
Place: Soda Rock Winery, Hwy 128, Alexander Valley
Time: 6:30 PM

FEBUARY MEETING: EFFECTS OF VINE MANAGEMENT ON VINEYARD YIELD

Rhonda Smith - Viticulture Farm Advisor, UC Cooperative Extension

It was like going back to school! Rhonda is extremely knowledgeable about the science of grape growing and she had a powerpoint presentation that got us all up to speed on the physiology of a grapevine. It helped us understand the factors that affect yield and how we should manage our vines to achieve satisfactory yields. We all benefited by her discussion and her responses to our questions. We closed the meeting with tasting of several Bordeaux varietals and a brief discussion of the characteristics of each.

MARCH MEETING: WILD FERMENTATIONS PRIMARY AND SECONDARY

Antoine Favero - Winemaker: Mazzocco, Soda Rock, deLorimier, Matrix Wineries

Natural yeast fermentation is not the choice in the mainstream of wineries but it is certainly popular. Some winemakers swear by it and Antoine Favero is one of them. Many of us have had natural yeast take off during cold soak but for Antoine, that's the way he likes it. He will tell us how he manages it and what benefits he experiences with indigenous yeast fermentation. He will fill out the meeting with discussion about malolactic fermentation, the natural way -- the how of it and the why of it. If you haven't been to the new Soda Rock Winery, you will enjoy it. We'll get to sample some of his creations during the discussion about his winemaking style.

DUES - If you haven't paid the annual \$20 (a bargain for membership), bring it to the meeting for Mike.

GENCO BARREL UPDATE - Our barrel of Cab is coming along fine. It will be racked this week. You can find photos on the website in the next few days.

SUPPLIES PURCHASE - Natural corks will be ordered in April for May delivery. If you need some before then, contact Bob as smaller quantities are available.

WINE COMPETITIONS - The big ones are fast approaching. If you want to enter a recent vintage and haven't bottled it yet, better get it done so it can get over bottle shock.

PICK OF THE VINE - April 2. *Don't miss it. Food, wine, live band and auctions, and it is for a valuable non-profit agency that assists Sonoma County seniors. Experience what many other GENCO members have enjoyed. More information can be found on the GENCO Website Calendar.*

I (Bob) will have tickets at the March meeting!!

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