

SOCIETY OF MEDICAL FRIENDS OF WINE

SEPTEMBER 2017

On Saturday, August 26th the Society had a private visit, luncheon, and wine tasting at Kenefick Ranch & Winery, hosted by our long-standing member and past President, Dr. Tom Kenefick. Tom's property is in a beautiful and secluded part of the Napa Valley, with northern and eastern boundaries being tree-covered foothills that ensure privacy and inject a timeless feeling.

Of note, the property is a stone's throw from the celebrated Eisele Vineyard. Cabernets made by Joseph Phelps and Conn Creek in the 1970's and 80's from this vineyard, then owned by Milt and Barbara Eisele, brought fame to this part of the Valley. That property was purchased by the Araujos in 1990, who continued to make highly sought-after wines from the vineyard under the Araujo label. In 2013 the Eisele vineyard property was purchased by the owners of the Bordeaux first growth Chateau Latour, bringing even more international fame to the area.

With neighbors like this, one has immediate appreciation of the value and status of Dr. Kenefick's location, and a walk around Tom's beautifully maintained vineyard and a taste of the nearly ripe Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, and Petit Verdot grapes bordering our luncheon area just reaffirmed how fortunate we were to be able to visit this vine paradise.

Though the area is best known for its reds, Sauvignon Blanc and white Rhone type grapes also flourish here. With hors d'oeuvres we enjoyed a lovely 2015 Pickett Road White, a blend of Grenache Blanc, Marsanne, and Viognier grapes. A rich and flavorful 2015 Sauvignon Blanc accompanied the first course of grilled prawns.

With the main course and dessert we were poured three powerful and complex reds that showed their terroir beautifully. The Doctor's Cuvee is a Cabernet Sauvignon from the very best blocks of vines and is a tribute to the three generations of physicians in the Kenefick family. The 2013 Chris's Cuvee, named for Tom's son, is a blend of the five classical Bordeaux varietals. The 2013 Cabernet Franc, which contains 13% Petit Verdot, is so rich that it was chosen to accompany the chocolate dessert.

The complete menu and accompanying wines and pictures of a wonderful afternoon at the vineyard follow. Thank you, Tom and family, for hosting the Society.

Robert Blumberg, M.D.
Editor and Cellar Master
Society of Medical Friends of Wine

Tasting and Luncheon in the Vineyard

Kenefick Ranch & Winery

August 26, 2017

2015 Pickett Road White

Smoked Salmon with Cucumber

Wine Forest Mushroom and Goat Cheese Tart

Heirloom Tomato with Burrata Cheese on a Brushchetta

2015 Sauvignon Blanc

Grilled Prawns

Bibb Lettuce, Cherry Tomato, Red Onion, Fresh Herbs with Avocado Dressing

2013 Doctor's Cuvee

2013 Chris's Cuvee

Grilled Sliced Akuashi New York Steak

Smashed Yukon Gold Potatoes

Sweet Corn Salad

2013 Cabernet Franc

Flourless Chocolate Cake with a Chantilly Cream and Berry Sauce



Kenefick Ranch Cabernet vines

Photo by Dr. Jim Gallagher



Dr. Tom Kenefick and Dr. Richard Peterson

Photo by Dr. Jim Gallagher



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Dr. Tom Kenefick and former neurosurgical colleague, Dr. A Lyons

Photo by Dr. Jim Gallagher



☐ Dr. Bob Blumberg, Dr. Jack McElroy, Dr. Jim Gallagher, Sheila and Dr. Ron Light
☐ Photo by Susan Guerguy



☐ ☐ Dr. Ron and Sheila Light

Photo by Dr. Jim Gallagher



Dr. Jack McElroy

Photo by Dr. Jim Gallagher



Dr. Mort Rivo

Photo by Dr. Jim Gallagher



Dr. Norman Panting and Dr. Richard Peterson

Photo by Dr. Jim Gallagher