



CHARLES CREEK  
VINEYARD

The Vintners Club is a California Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation, founded in 1971 for the purpose of advancing wine education. This prestigious organization brings together discerning palettes to conduct blind tastings. Approximately four hundred men and women (including wine writers and judges, winemakers, winery owners, restaurateurs, sommeliers, wine collectors, and people who simply love wine) are members.

Vintners Club tastings are held every three to four weeks, on Tuesdays, in San Francisco. Twelve wines are tasted in blind-conditions (meaning that tasters do not know which wine is in which glass until the results of the tasting are announced). Participants know the varietal, but the wines are not identified until after all the scores and rankings have been turned in for tabulation and the consensus discussion at each table has been concluded.

Each wine is poured into a separate, lettered *Riedel* cristal wine glass. The taster is seated and presented with a semi-circle of twelve wine glasses for analysis of the wines. To facilitate maximum concentration, a quiet atmosphere is maintained until each taster has completed his or her evaluation at which point consensus discussion begins. White tablecloths enhance visual evaluation. Tasting sheets and other aids in wine evaluation are provided. The results (consensus ranks and scores) are announced at the end of the evening, and are also e-mailed to members.

Over the past three decades, members have been enriched by hundreds of educational tastings and events. The Vintners Club has held over 1,450 tastings!