

## HENRY OF PELHAM FAMILY ESTATE WINERY

by  
Ingrid Merola



Members of the Niagara Chapter of the Ontario Wine Society enjoyed an evening at Henry of Pelham Family Estate Winery on Thursday, June 20, 2019. Henry of Pelham has been an ongoing Industry Partner, since the program's inception two years ago, supporting the work of the Ontario Wine Society in promoting Ontario wines.



Guests began the evening in the tasting bar sampling Cuvée Catharine sparkling Rosé and enjoying platters of cheese and crackers. Thanks to the warm evening weather at the start of the evening, guests mingled with each other, moving between the tasting area and the outside patio.



In preparation for the formal tasting, guests moved upstairs where tables were set with customized placemats identifying the six wines being profiled for us. President, Jackie Barrett, welcomed members and guests and thanked Henry of Pelham for their invitation to the wine society and the offer to host another event for us. Ingrid Merola, who planned the event with her husband, Nick Merola, thanked the winery staff who helped to make the evening happen and introduced winemaker, Lawrence Buhler, who was going to lead the group through the structured tasting.



Lawrence's presentation was both educational and entertaining, reminding members of the rich history of Henry of Pelham winery, describing his own journey in winemaking and, while leading guests through each of the wines, providing interesting information and his own unique perspectives about the wine making process. Guests were quite engaged in the presentation, asking interesting questions about the wines being tasted and the various aspects of the winemaking process Lawrence highlighted.

Many thanks to Lawrence for taking time out of his busy schedule and spending an evening with the Niagara Chapter members.

Guests were impressed with the wines featured in the tasting, including many in the Speck Family Reserve category, including the 2017 Pinot Noir, the 2017 Baco Noir, the 2016 Cabernet-Merlot, and the 2018 Riesling. In addition, guests sampled the 2016 Estate Chardonnay and the 2017 Riesling Icewine. Thank you to the Speck brothers and Lawrence for providing the group with such a wonderful selection of wines to sample.

After the presentation, President Jackie Barret thanked Lawrence for his engaging and informative presentation, the winery staff for their support in making the evening a special one, and the planners for the evening, Nick and Ingrid Merola. Guests were also reminded of the next event at Di Profio Estate Winery on July 17, 2019.



Once the formal part of the evening was done, guests spent some time socializing over charcuterie and cheese platters, and fruit and sweet trays, while perusing the wine selection and making their purchases.

Thank you to Henry of Pelham for the hospitality and ongoing support of the Niagara Chapter of the Ontario Wine Society.



Photos are by Niagara Chapter photographer, Bruce Jackson. More of Bruce's photos can be seen at: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/photosopphlake/albums/72157709253840613>