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## What kind of wine lover are you?

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How serious and how enthusiastic are you about wine?

According to [WineRelease.com](#), a Web site that lists release information from 940 North American wineries, its consumer survey suggests that one-third of wine enthusiasts drink 10 or more glasses of wine a week (that's me) and about half of the serious wine enthusiasts spend between \$40 and \$50 per bottle (that's not me).

I happen to be one of those wine lovers who really gets a kick from finding an inexpensive (under \$10, rarely more than \$15) good wine.

I've even been known to buy a 99-cent bottle from the 99 Cents Only store (a malbec from Argentina), brown bag it and pour it at a dinner attended by serious wine collectors.

Some of them still talk to me.

**PETITE SIRAH:** Petite sirah fans of long standing know the names Concannon and Foppiano.

These two California wineries have been producing superior renditions since the days when the other syrah (with the "y") was relatively unknown to California wine drinkers.

Consequently, at a recent petite sirah symposium, Louis J. Foppiano and Jim Concannon were honored with Lifetime Achievement awards.

Incidentally, there are currently more than 150 producers of petite sirah, the grape generally acknowledged as the durif varietal named after Dr. Francois Durif, a French botanist who developed it in the mid- to late 19th century from the peloursin and syrah grapes.

Cool-climate petite sirah grapes tend to produce a spicier, more peppery wine, while wine from warm-climate petite sirah grapes is definitely fruitier.

I've liked petite sirah ever since I enjoyed a bottle of it by Concannon with dinner at a restaurant on the Lake Tahoe shore one evening in the early '70s.

Oh yeah, and one group of petite sirah growers and producers call themselves PS I Love You.

Visit them on [psiloveyou.org](#).

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