



All in the FAMILY

How One Wine Couple Brings a Nurturing Art to Their Vineyards

There's a business side to wineries, but there's also a romantic side based on love of good wine and, in special cases, of family. These loves are the foundation of Lasseter Family Winery.

Nancy and John Lasseter moved from southern California to Sonoma County in 1992 for their family's quality of life. They soon became intrigued by making wine. Within a decade, they purchased land for a vineyard and bought a winery that they nurtured with caring, capable hands.

Nancy Lasseter oversees and is involved with all winery activities, from growing and harvesting grapes to bottling and selling wines. The wines are blends of Bordeaux grapes such as Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon and Malbec or of Rhône grapes such as Syrah, Grenache and Mourvèdre. Some of the blends are traditional, others are inspirational.

After tasting Lasseter wines, I expect that some will soon become cult wines, with demand exceeding supply. Indeed, the 2009 vintage of Amoureux is already sold out. Thankfully, the delicious 2008 vintage (see below) is available in Arizona.

Lasseter Family 2010 rosé blend "Enjoué, Sonoma Valley" (\$24):

Enjoué is French for "playful," which is fitting for this delightful blend of Syrah, Mourvèdre and Grenache. It features beautiful salmon color, enjoyable crisp acidity and dry complex flavors that carry through a long-lasting finish. Excellent for spring-summer sipping and very food friendly (including with fine milk chocolate).

Lasseter Family 2009 red blend "Paysage, Sonoma Valley" (\$40):

Paysage (landscape) is a blend of Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Malbec and Cabernet Franc. I especially enjoyed its intriguing complexity of aromas and flavors. Tannins provide a structural core that frames fruit highlights in this blend. A great pairing with beef.

Lasseter Family 2008 red blend "Amoureux, Sonoma Valley" (\$40):

Amoureux is French for lovers, and wine lovers will fall for this beautiful blend of mostly Malbec and Cabernet Sauvignon. Exceptional color depth with purple highlights is followed by powerfully complex aromas and intertwining flavors embedded in rich fruit. A personal favorite. 🏔️

Write to John Vankat at azpinewine@yahoo.com. The 2010 Enjoué and 2008 Amoureux can be ordered from your favorite Arizona wine store, and the 2009 Paysage from www.lasseterfamilywinery.com.