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Put down the pate and pass the popcorn

The munchies

The "Four P's" are what Peter Marks, director of wine at Copia, the American Center for Wine, Food and the Arts in Napa, Calif., calls America's top snacks: Peanuts, popcorn, potato chips and pretzels.

Lucky for wine lovers, these snacks go as well with vino as with beer or soda pop. But what sort of wine?

The Good Eating taste panel tried the Four P's with a variety of wines, red and white, still and sparkling. Tasters picked the snack food they thought went best with each wine. The snack choices were relatively classic: Chicago's own Jay's potato chips; Planters cocktail peanuts, Rold Gold Tiny Twists pretzels and Orville Redenbacher's Tender White microwave popcorn.

This will probably come as no surprise to veteran barflies, but the cocktail peanuts won out with two of the wines, but pretzels barely made a dent in the contest, earning just one vote.

THE SNACK: Peanuts

THE WINE: 2004 **French Rabbit** Chardonnay

The funky depth provided by the peanuts helped fatten up this French white's thin, herbal character. \$11 (1 liter tetra-pak)