

HANK Speaks Again... So Listen By Hank

The previous bio was from **Sam Grooms** but his name was not included. perhaps that month there was a lack of some letters such as "m" and "s" (which SG has a multiplicity of and I have none) or the **evil spirits** that cause young people to think that Coors Light is beer were at work again.

Well, anyhow, here is some more information. I sent a number of questionnaires out and if you forgot to reply or didn't get one it may be due to a lack of your e-mail address so send that information to CCH.

We few, we happy few, we Band of Brewers

A little background on these CCH folks with whom we work, drink and meet. We have so many new folks that I want to know more about them especially so I can craft personalized witty insults about them.

Richard Cuccia

1) When, where, why and how did you become a homebrewer ?

I have never really become a homebrewer. I like to taste bier, lots of biers. However, I do not drink bier. My choice is to taste 2 oz of 10 different biers. In fact, I have not drunk a whole bier in at least 5 or 6 years. "Life is too short to drink a whole bier."

1a) Why did you think that you wanted to join a homebrew club?

A homebrew club is the best place to find lots of different biers, which are available to taste. I consider someone who is a fermenter as you've been someone who's interested in homebrewing. How often have you been taking wort home and fermented?
Through 2013, I would take wort home 3 to 4 times per year.

1b) Is your interest in scotch an offshoot of the homebrew sampling experience?

Yes, sort of. Tim Riley, then a CCH member, in early 2012 introduced me to Scotch Whisky.

1c) or do you think you would have done this even if you had never been in CCH?

Don't really know. Tasting lots (100s) of biers over the years has made me quite knowledgeable about bier tasting & brewing. This bier experience made it quite easy to transition to Whisk(e)y tasting & distilled spirits tasting. The bier experience shortened, accelerated, & sophisticated my distilled spirits knowledge & skills. It made me quite knowledgeable & skilled in whisk(e)y quite quickly. For over 3 years (since Feb/Mar 2012), I have studied & tasted a lot of distilled spirits (rums, American whisk(e)y [Bourbons, Tennessee, other], brandies [brandy, Cognac, Armagnac], Scotch Why, Irish Why, & Canadian Why]. During that time I have done quite a bit of distilled spirits tasting, much of it in blind tastings. Fortunately, I also have a pocketbook capable of acquiring a fairly large collection of moderately price, but good quality whiskys & other distilled spirits. I consider myself fairly well knowledgeable & a moderate expert in distilled spirits tasting.

2) When and why did you join CCH?

The Wednesday before 9/11/01

3) Where did the club meet?

DH.

4) What equipment/supplies did you use then that you no longer use? NA. 5) Where geographically have you brewed?

The one time that I did home brew was at my house. Many, many times, I have brewed at CCH BrewOffs.

6) What equipment (kitchen stove-atomic reactor) have you used?

NA.

7) When if ever did you go to all grain?

The only time that I brewed at my house.

8) Is there anything in your background such as occupation/hobbies/family experiences that helped you improve your technique?

No.

9) Where are you from?

If after age 10, you were local (lived within 10 miles of the directionally improbable junction of South Claiborne with South Carrolton) where were you raised?

From NO. From 1948 – 1977 lived near St. Bernard & Robert E. Lee. Since spring 1977, you know where I live. *(Hank note-In Metairie, beyond Transcontinental).*

10) Who if anybody do/did you brew with?

My one time at home, no one, except moi. With lots of people at CCH BrewOffs.

11) How often do you brew?

At home, once every 14 years.

12) Any advice for new brewers such as 3 most important things for creating a good beer?

Brew bier a lot more than me.

(Hank observation: Richard went to the Bank Street School for Wayward Lads which many Orleanians know as Jesuit High School-which was once a rival to my own high school. Because of this, he always wears short pants being in their usual state of suspended pre-adolescence. He is a hard worker, a pleasant companion and for many years ran the brewoffs, attributes probably due to the influence of his wife Maggie who did NOT attend Jesuit High School)

REMINDER: I still accept beer donations for ME ALONE at the meetings!!