

# Curriculum Vitae

## Charles K. Cowdery

690 W. Irving Park Rd., Apt D1,  
Chicago, IL 60613-3130  
773-477-9691 - Cowdery@ix.netcom.com

### EDUCATION:

**J.D.**, DePaul University College of Law, Chicago, IL, 1996

**B.S.**, in Radio, TV, Film; Miami University, Oxford, OH, 1973

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

**Freelance Copywriter, Creative Director**, Chicago, IL. 1986-present.

Concept development and writing for all media; consumer, business-to-business, corporate communication.

**Private Practice Attorney-at-Law**, Chicago, IL. 1996-present.

Member, Illinois bar; general bar of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

**Author and Publisher**, Chicago, IL. 2004-present.

Made and Bottled in Kentucky (imprint). *BOURBON, STRAIGHT: The Uncut and Unfiltered Story of American Whiskey* (first title, published August, 2004).

**Editor and Publisher**, Chicago, IL. 1992-present.

*The Bourbon Country Reader*; a bi-monthly newsletter for enthusiasts of American Whiskey.

**Executive Creative Director**, Rogers Merchandising Inc., Chicago, IL. 1987.

Supervised creative department of national sales promotion agency (division of Young & Rubicam).

**Writer**, Price-Weber Marketing Communications, Inc., Louisville, KY. 1980-1986.

Writing and creative direction for national clients, for sales promotion programs and sales support materials.

**Radio-TV Director**, FS&M Advertising, Louisville, KY. 1978-1980.

Concept development, writing and production of TV and radio commercials for local and regional clients.

**Writer-Producer**, Byer and Bowman Advertising, Columbus, OH. 1975-1978.  
Concept development, writing and production of TV and radio commercials for major market department store clients.

**Writer-Producer**, Elder-Beerman Stores Corp., Dayton, OH. 1974-1975.  
Concept development, writing and production of TV and radio commercials for regional department store chain.

**Operations Manager and Disc-Jockey**, BGS Broadcasting, WOXR Radio, Oxford, OH. 1973-1974.

## **PUBLICATIONS:**

### **Books-**

*BOURBON, STRAIGHT: The Uncut and Unfiltered Story of American Whiskey.* Made and Bottled in Kentucky, Chicago (2004)

*Blues Legends.* Gibbs Smith, Publisher; Salt Lake City (1995)

### **Articles-**

“Too Little of a Good Thing: The Buzz Created by the Limited Editions Market.” *WHISKY Magazine* (Issue 70, June, 2008), 48-50.

“La Cocina de Zacatecas con Tequila.” *Midwest Wine Connection* (April, 2008), 16.

“Last Stand on Whiskey Row.” *Malt Advocate* (2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2008 Issue), 36-39.

“Young Guns: The Next Generation of America’s Distillers.” *WHISKY Magazine* (Issue 69, April, 2008), 14-18.

“Kentucky Brandy: It’s Not What You Think.” *Midwest Wine Connection* (March, 2008), 20.

“The Problem Is Not Enough Dickel.” *Midwest Wine Connection* (February, 2008), 15.

“Why Flavored Malt Beverages Exist.” *Midwest Wine Connection* (January, 2008), 16.

“Punch Is Good.” *Midwest Wine Connection* (December, 2007), 18.

“A Fable of Fancy Food and Free Whiskey.” *Midwest Wine Connection* (November, 2007), 19.

“Jamaica Rum Reveals Its British Roots.” *Midwest Wine Connection* (October, 2007), 15.

“Use the Golden Ratio to Make Better Cocktails.” *Midwest Wine Connection* (September, 2007), 21.

“True Stories of the Names Behind the Labels.” *Midwest Wine Connection* (August, 2007), 8.

“Tips for Making the Perfect Home Bar.” *Midwest Wine Connection* (July, 2007), 6.

“Continuous Respect.” (column stills), *Malt Advocate* (3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2007 Issue), 50-54.

“We Taste and Nose Some of the Finest Gin.” *Midwest Wine Connection* (June, 2007), 6.

“This Is Not Your Crazy Uncle’s Tequila.” *Midwest Wine Connection* (May, 2007), 8.

“It’s Time to Reach for America’s Best.” (whiskey), *Midwest Wine Connection* (April, 2007), 14.

“Back to the Basics: Booze 101.” *Midwest Wine Connection* (February, 2007), 15.

“When to Have That After-Dinner Drink.” *Midwest Wine Connection* (January, 2007), 15.

“Who Knew Burned Wine Could Taste So Good.” *Midwest Wine Connection* (December, 2006), 19.

“A Free Sofa with Every Case.” (whiskey advertising), *WHISKY Magazine* (Issue 59, November 2006), 52-53.

“Back in Business.” (George Washington’s distillery), *WHISKY Magazine* (Issue 59, November, 2006), 48-49.

“Yo Ho Ho and You Know What.” *Midwest Wine Connection* (November, 2006), 19.

“Vodka. What It Is, What It Isn’t,” *Midwest Wine Connection* (Volume 11, Number 8, October, 2006), 19.

“Whiskey. It’s the Water of Life,” *Midwest Wine Connection* (Volume 11, Number 7, September, 2006), 15.

"Gin Up Some Dutch Courage," *Midwest Wine Connection* (Volume 11, Number 6, August, 2006), 14.

"The Name Game," *WHISKY Magazine* (Issue 57, July, 2006), 18-22.

"American Idols," *WHISKY Magazine* (Issue 57, July, 2006), 24-25.

"Exploring the Mysteries of Tequila," *Midwest Wine Connection* (Volume 11, Number 5, July, 2006), 15.

"Rail Splitter, Emancipator, Whiskey Seller." *WHISKY Magazine* (Issue 55; April, 2006), 38-40.

"Are We Running Out of Bourbon?" *WHISKY Magazine* (Issue 54; March, 2006), 56-58.

"Recreating History." *WHISKY Magazine* (Issue 53; January, 2006), 28-29.

"Meet Your Whiskeys." *Nightclub & Bar Magazine* (January 2006), 70-71.

"A New Spin: Twists on Classic Bourbon Cocktails." *Nightclub & Bar* (December 2005), 40.

"Canadian Whisky Today." *Nightclub & Bar Magazine* (November 2005), 28-29.

"From Bardstown to Brooklyn." *WHISKY Magazine* (Issue 51; October, 2005), 48-50.

"Understanding Winter Spirits." *Nightclub & Bar Magazine* (October 2005), 50-53.

"Beyond Bourbon; A Genius for Diversity." *Malt Advocate* (4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2005 Issue), 32-37.

"American's Shooting Star." *WHISKY Magazine* (Issue 50; September, 2005), 56-58.

"United Whiskeys of America." *WHISKY Magazine* (Issue 50; September, 2005), 7.

"Brown-In: A Fresh Look at the State of Whiskey." *Nightclub & Bar Magazine* (September 2005), 30-32.

"A Phoenix from the Flames." *WHISKY Magazine* (Issue 49; July, 2005), 25-29.

"The Birth of American Whiskey." *WHISKY Magazine* (Issue 49; July, 2005), 21-24.

"Barton Distillery: Perhaps the Best Kept Secret in Kentucky." *Malt Advocate* (3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2005 Issue), 33-39.

“Up on Forty Creek, the Whisky Sends Me.” *WHISKY Magazine* (Issue 47; April, 2005), 52-54.

“Pot Stills & Honey Barrels: The Real Story of Woodford Reserve Bourbon.” *Malt Advocate* (2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2005 Issue), 44-49.

“Women of High Spirits.” *WHISKY Magazine* (Issue 46; March, 2005), 66-68.

“How American Whiskey Began (and Bourbon Got Its Name).” *Food History News* (FHN 63, Vol. XVI, No. III), 1, 6-7.

“Stepping Into Heaven.” *WHISKY Magazine* (Issue 45; January, 2005), 52-53.

“American Whiskey Made Easy.” *Nightclub & Bar Magazine* (January 2005), 57-58.

“1933.” *Malt Advocate* (1st Quarter 2005 Issue), 45-50.

“Eight Greats: New Bourbons.” *Nightclub & Bar Magazine* (December 2004), 67-68.

“Beam’s Dream.” *WHISKY Magazine* (Issue 42; September, 2004), 40-42

“Teaching an Old Distillery New Tricks.” *WHISKY Magazine* (Issue 40; June, 2004), 38-41

“Tempting Samson in Chicago.” *WHISKY Magazine* (Issue 39; May, 2004), 46-49

“Welcome to the Bourbon Bunker?” *WHISKY Magazine* (Issue 37; February, 2004), 46-47

“James ‘Super Chikan’ Johnson and Robert ‘Bilbo’ Walker at Rosa’s Blues Lounge.” *Midnight Mind Magazine* (Number 4), 54-58

“Who Invented Bourbon?” *Malt Advocate* (4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2002), 72-75

“‘The Good Stuff,’ Once Again? Reconsidering Bottled-in-Bond Bourbon.” *Malt Advocate* (3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2002), 33-35, 59

“Do-It-Yourself Whiskey.” *Malt Advocate* (4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2001), 57-60, 74

“The Beams: America’s First Family of Bourbon.” *Malt Advocate* (2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2001), 40-44

“Tempest in a Tumbler; The Defining of American Whiskey.” *Malt Advocate* (3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2000), 40-42

“E-Whisky; Point. Click. Drink.” *Malt Advocate* (2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2000), 22-24, 59

“Booker, Bill and Mr. Brown.” *BEER, The Magazine* (Summer 1996)

“Beyond Beer. Meet America’s Other Grain-Based Drink.” *BEER, The Magazine* (May/June 1995)

“American Spirit,” *Private Clubs Magazine* (March/April 1994), 50-54, 66-67

“The Men Behind the Labels,” *Southern Beverage Journal* (November 1992), 14-15

## **TELEVISION:**

### **Writer, Producer, Director**

“Made and Bottled in Kentucky. The Story of Bourbon Whiskey.” One-hour documentary, produced for Kentucky Educational Television and distributed nationally to public television stations by the Southern Educational Television Association (1992)

## **COMMUNITY:**

**President**, 1997-2004; **Director**, 1997-present.

Maxwell Street Historic Preservation Coalition. A non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and publicizing the heritage of Chicago’s historic Maxwell Street neighborhood.

## **OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

**Finalist** (with partner Robert Palmersheim). 1995-1996.

National Moot Court Competition, won regional round (Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana) and competed in national finals in New York.