

Since first taking the BJCP exam in 1993, it has been fulfilling to see the program grow to its current state through the dedicated efforts of so many volunteers. I have lived in the Northeast region for most of judging years except for brief excursions to the Mid-Atlantic and Mountain West regions. I feel that I can represent the region and maintain its identity while still making the overall needs of the organization the priority of the Board.

My personal contributions have focused on the exam program, which most of you realize went through a crisis in 2009 when our exam count increased at a faster pace than we could recruit and train lead graders. The growth of the exam program has continued in 2010, and while I think we are no longer in crisis mode, we have had to constrain the number of exams per month as well as the number of examinees per exam. The other exam directors and I have taken some steps to mitigate this problem, and while they have made some impact, we would like to explore other changes to the exam program which meets the needs of our members without sacrificing the validity of the exam. Some of the proposed changes may require approval from the Board, and I feel this opportunity to represent the BJCP exam program in these discussions will enable me to provide valuable input guided from my years of experience.

Scott Bickham

