

Homebrewing for me started in 1997 and I was instantly hooked. Since then I've brewed several batches, some were good and medal winners, others that could have turned out better. It took me a bit to seek out fellow people that suffered from the same affliction, but finally in 2006 I attended my first Beer Barons of Milwaukee meeting.

During my time with the Barons I've served in a few different roles. It began by leading different brewing classes helping to establish an educational program for the club. From 2008 to 2009 I was club treasurer and during that time I led the effort to incorporate, obtain insurance, and achieve a non for profit status. When my term was up as an officer I continued to stay involved as a manager and treasurer of our World of Beer Festival. In addition to my WoB duties for the past three years I've also served as coordinator for the Midwinter competition, co-coordinator of the German Fest Stein Challenge, and webmaster for the Schooner Homebrew Challenge. In between competitions I also participate in the Barons BJCP training program and proctor an exam from time to time.

In 2007 I judged in my first competition and in 2008 became Recognized by the BJCP. Since then I've achieved a National rank with hopes of making it to Master after re-taking the written exam this year. In 2012 I became a Mead judge, a second chair exam grader, and a member of the Cider exam committee. Later this year I'm scheduled to become a lead grader.

I've also been involved in efforts beyond the Barons and the BJCP. In 2012, I spoke before the Wisconsin State Senate and State Assembly sub-committees on behalf of homebrew legislation. At present I'm serving as coordinator for the 2013 NHC First Round judging in Milwaukee and later this year I'll be speaking at the NHC in Philadelphia on *How to Improve Club Events and Empower New Leaders*.

I would very much like to bring all of these experiences and my experience as an IT & Management Consultant to the BJCP Regional Representative position. If elected I would continue to serve in my current BJCP commitments, assist with future initiatives, and look for ways to eliminate the overlap in certain areas.

Thank you very much for your consideration. I look forward to helping the BJCP grow and continue its success.

Prosit, Sláinte, Salute, Na Zdravi, Cheers - Bruce Buerger

