

Charles K. Cowdery, Biography

Charles K. 'Chuck' Cowdery is “the dean of American whiskey journalism” according to *The New York Times*.^{*} He is a Kentucky Colonel (Patton, 206), a member of the Kentucky Bourbon Hall of Fame (2009), and author of:

- *Bourbon, Strange: Surprising Stories of American Whiskey* (2014)
- *The Best Bourbon You'll Never Taste. The True Story of A. H. Hirsch Reserve Straight Bourbon Whiskey, Distilled in the Spring of 1974* (2012)
- *Bourbon, Straight: The Uncut and Unfiltered Story of American Whiskey* (2004).

He is the producer/director/writer of the public television documentary "Made and Bottled in Kentucky" (1992).

Other books include *Blues Legends* (1995), 20 profiles of notable blues musicians. Cowdery was a contributor to the book *1001 Whiskies You Must Taste Before You Die* (2012).

He is a columnist for *Whisky Advocate Magazine*, and the editor and publisher of *The Bourbon Country Reader*, the oldest publication dedicated exclusively to American whiskey. He is online at *The Chuck Cowdery Blog*.

In 2012, Cowdery was cited by the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals as an expert on the history and marketing of American whiskey in *Maker's Mark v Diageo*.

He wrote the 'Bourbon' article in *The New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture, Volume 7, Foodways* (2007).

He lives in Chicago, Illinois, near Wrigley Field.

^{*} "A Golden Age for American Whiskey Writers," by Robert Simonson, *New York Times*, January 4, 2017, page D6.