

**By The Simple Fact That You Hold This Document In Your (*digital*) Hand, You Are
Hereby Invited To:**

DR ENTROPY'S BASTILLE DAY CRAFT AND SINGLE MALT WHISKY LIBERATION CELEBRATION

**JULY 14, 2001
PORTLAND, MAINE**

Storm those cold stone societal walls and free the repressed child within – release your libido –shuck off those corporate tensions – forget about your 401k plan – the hell with the stock market and huge energy conglomerates sucking at the free market system like monetary vampires...

Free your mind¹ of all those programmed responses/restrictions and come spend the day remembering what it is to do what you want, instead of what is expected and/or demanded of you. Ask yourself these questions – “When was the last time I did something really crazy? When DID I start acting adult, worrying about things I can’t take with me?”

This is your big chance. I’m hosting this once-in-a-lifetime² party to combine the things in life I treasure most – making a big permanent mess³ and getting sanely hammered on VERY fine single malt scotch whisky so as to appreciate the chaos immediately!

I know – someday I’ll “probably” grow out of this silly stuff but all we can do for now is to revel in the insanity of it all... works for me anyway! Hope I can convince you of the same... read on for a slice of my vision for the near future...

Warning:

This event will definitely “sell out”⁴ – I can only manage to host about 20 – 30 folks at any given time so if interested, you must RSVP ASAP.

Or you can just crash it and see if I even notice.... Chaos ‘R Us!

¹ As George Clinton of Parliament Funkadelic fame was often quoted as saying: “free your mind and your ass will follow...” I think that covers it pretty well...

² ...at least the only time I’ll be insane enough to host such an affair this summer... it’s probably a short-term memory thing... what were you saying?

³ Never underestimate the staying power of fiber-reactive dyes... my asphalt driveway will never be as interesting as it will be the next day... with your help of course!

⁴ Now I’M confused – I thought we were storming the Bastille and freeing the societal repressions locked within... we’re selling out now? Damn, this is contradictory and confusing...

BASTILLE DAY AGENDA (WAY OPTIMISTIC...)

Rain or Shine – July 14, 2001

(Although I really hope it's a nice day. If any of you have banked karma, this is the time to cash it in! Focus kids- we need focus!)

8 – 9:30 am: Setup in the barn & the yard for the craft portion of the day. Coffee and Dunkin Donuts provided by the house for all early risers

~9 am – 3 pm: Craft / Art extravaganza! I plan to send detailed outline of available techniques within a week or so to all confirmed/interested parties, but for now here is the listing of techniques that I'll be set up to facilitate that day:

Direct dye
Batik
Gutta Resist
Tie-dye
Shibori
Jar/Baggie Dyeing
Spray/Splatter/Projectile Dyeing
Immersion Dyeing
Marbling
Candlemaking

As noted earlier – a big permanent mess – YES!

I have about a dozen and a half or so white T-shirts (mix of adult and child sizes), many yards of cotton, silk and hemp⁵ fabric (which will be pretreated for marbling as signups indicate an interest in this area). However, if you plan on creating a huge amount of work that day (remember, we only have 6 hours maximum...) please contact me about your “off-the-wall plans” and we'll work out the logistics or I'll give you a dummy slap upside the head...

~11:30 am to 1 pm: Lunch – Theme is BBQ! Looking for folks to bring hamburgers, kielbasa, hotdogs, porterhouse/sirloin steaks, cole slaw, potato salad, hummus, you know the stuff we need for excellent BBQs! If you're attending the craft portion of the day, let me know what you're thinking of bringing and we'll organize a nice balanced lunch of the various saturated-artery-clogging BBQ options for that part of the day.

⁵ Don't get excited, you can't smoke this stuff... I've tried and it only gives you a headache... Why does the gob'mint refuse to legalize industrial hemp again? Did someone mention the oil and paper conglomerates? Nah... GW wouldn't cater to special corporate interests... unless maybe they're from Texas or they gave him huge sacks of cash...

~3 to 4 pm: Craft table breakdown and setup for Single Malt Whisky Tasting / psychopharmacological ramparts storming operation (remember George Clinton again here... he was actually the one who really taught Bill how to misbehave, it wasn't Roger as the press has misinformed you repeatedly...)

4pm to whenever: Single Malt Whisky Tasting in the Barn O'Tim!

Theme: Free-Style Clean-up Dramming

As any of you who have sampled the water of life at my house can attest, I have this perturbing habit of only keeping about 20 or so bottles open at any time to avoid the unfortunate phenomenon known to SMWS lunatics as "Collapsing in the Bottle". This refers to what happens when whisky loses much of its more delicate aspects due to its natural tendency to maintain vapor pressure in the bottle as the level drops with consumption, and also what happens to me when I start to stress about all that evaporating essence and try to capture the escaping spirits while still in its prime...

So, for this tasting I will dredge out ALL my open bottles and as we kill them off, we can then open a new bottle from my collection for the next dram (I will choose the selections that we will select from – my house, my rules! More about this later in the "Rules" section... ;-). This is also a good mechanism to force me (and you) to drink the less spectacular drams in my collection that would otherwise collect dust for decades.

Another option is that we may also vat certain low fill bottles together to create a new whisky for in the world (albeit for a very short time) – in the past we've vatted Macallan and Talisker to create Macalisker – actually a very tasty dram that I believe was as good if not better than its parents! For guidance in this tricky area, I believe we will be blessed by the presence of one of the premier single malt whisky collectors in the world at this tasting, the infamous Dave Russo, who has a long and successful history with vatting plebian malts and creating very tasty drams from hardly anything.

As for opening new drams, if others bring open drams to the tasting the rules shift slightly here – we will open one new bottle from my collection for every two open "alien bottles" that are killed. When it's time to choose and open a new bottle, I will ask whoever is proposing to open a given bottle to explain to the group why that bottle is the one they've chosen, as well as invite opposing opinions on other choices. The group will vote which to open next based on the presentation. Majority rules (and I hold controlling stock in the enterprise, in case anyone has any doubt...).

After 4 or 5 drams and much pontificating, it will be time for DINNER!

~7 to 8:15 pm – Dinner

Theme: You will determine this by what you bring to eat for supper. Suggestions are to bring something that needs minimal preparation and is tasty but not too spicy so as to preserve our palates for appreciating the "water of life". We will need snacks for

nibbling on while dramming (crackers, cheese, smoked salmon, veggies and dip all work well). Some salads would also be appreciated. A few dinner entrees that can include BBQ if you want to manage that (I won't by then...), casseroles, stews (crockpots work well), there is chinese takeout in the neighborhood, and we can probably arrange for delivery of a wide range of foods if we remember to place the order at the right time – use your imagination here. And of course desserts (even though it's not a holiday I'll allow it this time... ;-).

RSVPs

Now here are the details of how all this will come together:

I think we can handle about 15 folks at a given time during the craft portion of the day (working that is... no limit on voyeurs). I also think we can accommodate ~25 or so folks for the whisky tasting, although again, we can have more if some are just watching which is not so uncommon as you'd think (many folks have brought designated drivers to ferry them home which do not count towards the 25 limit).

So, we'll need RSVPs from you to lock in a place – if we have more folks interested in coming we will need to set up a waiting list or you'll need to bribe me to slip you onto the list.

If you are interested in attending, please send me as much of the the following information as you can at this time:

1. Number of people you will bring with you (kids are ok for the craft portion of the day – see the rules for more information on this). **REQUIRED**
2. Time / portion of the day you'd like to participate. **REQUIRED**
3. What you are bringing for food & alternative beverages **CAN DECIDE LATER**
4. If interested in the craft portion, what you'd like to try to do that day (as noted earlier, details on the listed techniques will follow for those interested – let me know if you're not sure what this is about and only want a listing of the techniques and results to make your decision here. **CAN DECIDE TECHNIQUES LATER**
5. If you are participating in the whisky tasting, how you are getting home – no one will be allowed to dram and drive! Also let me know if you plan on bringing any of your own drams to kill that night. **CAN INFORM OF TRAVEL PLANS LATER**

I will create a listing of those confirmed and track their food items and other pertinent information and email it back to the entire participant list as it develops over the next few weeks. I'll also send directions to the Barn O'Tim for those who decide to throw caution to the wind and tear down the walls of the Bastille...

That's about it! Remember the politician's least-favorite phrase – Free your mind....

The Rules Follow on the Next Page...

Dr. Entropy's Rules for the Bastille Day Celebration

Rule No. 1: No dramming and driving!

All participants for the whisky tasting **MUST** make arrangements for the ride home or be willing to sleep with me (camping in the yard is also available and sleeping in your car is ok if you give me the keys), taxicabs or limos also work well (if it's a limo I may go home with you instead), or if you live within a few miles of Forest Ave stumbling home may also work for you. Hitchhiking is probably a bad idea.

Rule No. 2: Supplies

I will provide reasonable amounts of craft supplies and the single malt scotch whisky – you will bring the food and any other alternative beverages that you might want.

Rule No 3: Children

Children under 21 years old must go home by the start of the tasting at 4 pm. Children over 21 years old are strongly encouraged to stay to keep any random “adults” in check.

Rule No 4: Blackmail

No hurling in the barn (either from an excess of too much tasty single malt whisky or toxic craft chemicals). If you do, we will take photos of you and post them on the internet. We'll also make up a story to go along with the photos that will keep you humble and in control for years to come. Just a friendly warning for any newbies – don't try this at home – we ARE professionals and that peer performance-pressure has been the demise of others on occasion in the past. To be forewarned is, well, to be forewarned...

Rule No 5: Command and Control

I am in charge! My word is final even though you will undoubtedly ignore most of what I have to say – especially after 6 pm or so.

I think there are some other rules I can't remember at this time which means they must not be important, but you might want to check out my website at:

www.smwhisky.com

for the rest of them under the MASS (Malt Addict Sipping Society) link in the unlikely event you actually like to be told what to do...

Dr Entropy – 6/26/2001