

For Immediate Release  
August 18, 2010

The 5<sup>th</sup> Ministry of Rum Tasting Competition took place August 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> in the private dining room at Miss Pearl's Jam House in Jack London Square overlooking San Francisco Bay.

Judged by a panel who has demonstrated its experience with sugar cane spirits a total of 19 gold medals, 16 silver medals and 6 bronze medals were awarded in nine categories ranging from flavored and spiced rums to premium rums.

According to Edward Hamilton, "As sales of sugar cane spirits continue to grow and the number of these spirits expands, it is heartening to see quality standards continue to be pushed higher, and 2010 was no exception." While this competition does not include every sugar cane spirit from every producer in the world, it confirms the fact that the many people in the rum industry are committed to bringing better products to the market.

The Ministry of Rum Tasting Competition is conducted by Edward Hamilton to recognize sugar cane spirit producers from around the world who demonstrate a commitment to quality and excellence. The Ministry of Rum Tasting Competition is a blind spirit tasting where each spirit is judged on its appearance, initial taste, body and finish. Scores are tallied and awards are made according to the natural grouping of the scores. The Ministry of Rum Tasting Competition is recognized as the most credible judging competition for sugar cane spirits by the judges and the participating spirit companies.

The complete list of award-winning sugar cane spirits and a list of judges can be seen at <http://www.ministryofrum.com/tc/2010.php>

Since 1997, the Ministry of Rum website has been the most reliable source of information about sugar cane spirits on the internet. The database of confirmed details on more than 800 sugar cane spirits from around the world is accessed thousands of times every day.

Edward Hamilton spent more than a decade sailing the Caribbean learning about sugar cane spirits from the people who make many of the best rums in the world. Today he is the most-quoted information source on the sugar cane spirits industry. In addition to sailing, writing and researching the distillers art, he is in demand as a public speaker and hosts sugar cane spirit festivals, seminars and rum-focused dinners around the country. Just *Google* RUM.