

## The Story of the Flavor, Divided United

The story of Divided United starts with another flavor: Rocky Road. Rocky Road was created in the 1930's by William Dreyer of Dreyer's Ice Cream (or it was invented by George Farren of Fentons Ice Cream and copied by Dreyer. Since I worked for Fentons at the time, the George Farren story was greatly discussed and believed to be the true story). Whichever way you believe, Rocky Road was designed with the intention to bring a smile to people's lips despite the 'rocky road' ahead during the difficulties of the Depression.



As an ice cream man, I've always wanted to design a flavor for our times. So we are tasked to answer: what do our times taste like?

Flash forward several years and many flavors later, I was challenged by my muse to design a flavor that would split a pint in half with vanilla on one side and chocolate on the other and a layer of thick chocolate ganache between them.

I decided this bold flavor needed an anglaise vanilla with a European style custard chocolate; two of the purest and most decadent representations of the foundational flavors, vanilla and chocolate. Since, I had a surfeit of lemon drop kief, I decided to infuse the ganache layer. To enhance the limonene of the lemon drop, I hinted the ganache with a few drops of lemon essential oil. The chocolate was a rich amalgam of Valhrona, Callebaut, Dandelion, and some other artisan bean to bar chocolates I had on hand in the ice cream lab.

It came out deliciously; rich, bright, decadent, sophisticated. Of particular note was the variance in melt time between the custards of anglaise and chocolate and the ganache, creating an elongated 'ahhhhh' moment that just stretched and stretched.

As we ate our first pint, and the kief mellowed the evening, we reflected on our divided world, yet despite it all, we can be united by things like ice cream and cannabis. Divided but United, a flavor of our times, was born.

