Bill Covaleski and his childhood friend, Ron Barchet, met on a school bus in 1973. Twenty-three years later, after working in pioneering microbreweries and studying in Germany, Bill and Ron founded Victory Brewing Company.

Bill was born, and spent his first decade, in Levittown, PA. He graduated from Methacton High School in 1981 and then attended Temple University's Tyler School of Art with the intention of pursuing a career in graphic design. Instead, Bill detoured from his art education and immersed himself in the culture and craft of brewing after commandeering his Dad's home brewing equipment in 1985.

Bill secured a brewing apprenticeship under the German-trained Dutch brewmaster, Theo deGroen at Baltimore Brewing Company and then completed his brewing studies by traveling to Munich, Germany to attend Doemens Institute.

Bill and Ron (who was following a similar educational and training path) leveraged their European brewing training to secure a loan from the Small Business Administration. Bill used his Baltimore, MD-located row home (purchased for $51,000) as collateral for the loan. With that, Victory Brewing Company was launched in 1996.

Victory Brewing Company's craft beers can be found in 29 states and three countries. Victory also serves its local market with a 300-seat restaurant. Located in an abandoned baking facility, Victory Brewing Company has become the social center of a previously depressed community.

As Co-founder and Co-brewmaster at Victory, Bill has been honored to see his brews win critical acclaim. Victory beers have won medals at both The Great American Beer Festival and The Great British Beer Festival. Additionally, Victory's Prima Pils has twice been chosen by *The New York Times*' culinary staff as the "World's Best Pilsner."

Bill strives for excellence not only in his business, but also in his community. He maintains board positions on the Brewers of Pennsylvania, the Brandywine Chapter of the Pennsylvania Restaurant Association, and the Downingtown Main Street Association.