

LIVIN' THE BREWS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH TEXAS HOME BREWERS
ASSOCIATION VOLUME XXX ISSUE IV



April Quick Glance:



[Club Meeting](#)
[April 14th at](#)
[Franconia Brewing](#)
[in McKinney](#)

[Club Brew Day](#)
[April 11th at](#)
[James Smith's](#)
[House](#)

Prez Sez By Mike Grover

If you are reading this then you survived Bluebonnet Brew-Off weekend! Congratulations to all of our winners, and a huge thank you to the many club members who volunteered their time at the event. Congratulations are also in order for Jimmy Orkin for achieving the title that he has so enthusiastically sought over the last year: Past Bluebonnet Director! The event was great and I have heard a lot of positive feedback on it. I hope that each of you had a chance to chat with some of The Brewing Network folks during the event. Great people and they all really enjoyed the event. I saw lots of familiar faces from our club judging, serving beer at the Big Thirsty or commercial tasting, and manning our club kegerator during the room crawl. Without all of your efforts the event would not have been the success that it was.

The April club meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 14th at 7:00 p.m. at Franconia Brewing Co, 495 McKinney Parkway, McKinney, Texas (<http://goo.gl/maps/HmKjb>). We will make arrangements for food and will provide some updates as we get a little closer. Come out and enjoy "The Bier from Hier" with us on the 14th. We will be recognizing our Bluebonnet Brew-Off winners at the meeting.

The officers meeting will be held at 6:30 at BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse located at 1101 North Central Expressway in Plano. The location is near Collin Creek Mall on the west side of Central Expressway about two blocks south of 15th Street. As always, club members are welcome to join us at the officers meetings. Give us a heads up if you plan on joining so that we get a big enough table.

Don't forget that we have two other events this month: club brew day at James 'Smitty' Smith's house on Saturday the 11th and the campout at Cedar Creek Brewery (<http://www.cedarcreekbrewery.com/>) on the 18th-19th. Smitty has all the details in his article. Look for updates on club events in your email, on the website, and on our Facebook page.

Pros't!

The First Sip By James Smith

Well, we're past the big Bluebonnet Brew Off and I hope to all those that attended, you had a great time. With the exception of the soggy weekend, I think it was a great success as an event as well as for NTHBA as the host club this year. Thanks to all those that contributed kegs to the People's Choice Competition and a special shout out to the following individuals for helping serve the club beers:

- Melinda Beyer
- Matt Saladin
- Nicole Gerlach
- Chris South

To Matt and Nicole especially...you guys are ROCK STARS!!

Notable Club Events Coming Up(Please mark your calendars!!):

- The April Brew Day will occur on April 11 from 9am to 4pm. It will be held at the home of yours truly, James Smith. The address is 4100 Camino Dr. Plano 75074. [CLICK HERE FOR MAP](#)

- SPECIAL EVENT: The weekend of April 18-19 will be the Annual Cedar Creek Campout. You cannot miss this event, so mark your calendars to spend the day enjoying a people's choice contest and some great Cedar Creek beers. Then, bring your best camping gear and spend the night at the brewery under the stars. [CLICK HERE FOR MAP](#) MORE INFO SOON!!!



- The May Brew Day will be held on May 2 from 9am to 4pm. If this date looks familiar to you, you're probably on to something. This is American Homebrewers Association National Homebrew Day. Homebrew Headquarters' Kelly Harris is the official host of this event and it is being held at the great Four Corners Brewing near downtown. [CLICK HERE FOR MAP](#) Stay tuned for the final details, but mark your calendars to attend. Link follows for those not in the know. <http://www.homebrewersassociation.org/aha-events/national-homebrew-day/>



- The Spring Party will be held on Saturday, May 9 and is being hosted by Mr. Doug Nett and his wife Kathleen. Their address is 5505 Lomita Circle in Plano. [CLICK HERE FOR MAP](#)

You can always find out about the latest events coming up on the NTHBA Club Calendar here: <http://nthba.org/content/club-calendar>

As always, if ever you have a question or comments, or if you would like to provide suggestions or feedback about a specific event, please do not hesitate to e-mail me at socials@nthba.org. I look forward to hearing from you!

Brew Hard!

James, aka "Smitty"

Competition Corner By Walter Hodges

March was a busy competition month. We had two packing parties where we shipped off entries for the Alamo City Cerveza Fest and Cactus Challenge. Then, we had the Bluebonnet Brew-off with two weekends, several week nights of judging and the event itself. While the NTHBA had a solid showing, we did not hold on to the coveted Bluebonnet Stein. In fact, we finished third behind the Cap and Hares and Bay Area Mashtronauts. Thanks to everyone who entered their beers and congratulations to our winners.

2015 Bluebonnet Brew-off		
Category	Place	Brewer
Light Lager	3 rd	Richard Harris
Pilsner	1 st	Arthur Stockstill
European Amber Lagers	1 st	William Lawrence
European Amber Lagers	3 rd	Don VanSlyke
Bock	2 nd	Richard Harris
Light Hybrid	3 rd	James Smith
English Pale	2 nd	Don Trotter
ESB	2 nd	Mason McPhail
Scottish and Irish	2 nd	Matthew Linnenburger
Brown and Baltic Porter	2 nd	Matthew Linnenburger
Robust Porter	1 st	Matthew Linnenburger
Sweet and Oatmeal Stout	3 rd	William Lawrence
Strong Stout	2 nd	Jimmy Orkin
Belgian Wit and Farmhouse	1 st	Walter Hodges
Belgian Pale and Specialty	1 st	Anthony Gachima
Sour Ale	2 nd	Anthony Gachima
English Barleywine and Old Ale	1 st	Leroy Gharis
English Barleywine and Old Ale	Honorable Mention	Mike Grover

With the first completion in the books we now have standings for the Brewer of the Year award. Just as a reminder, this award goes to the brewer who collects the most Lone Star Circuit points throughout the year. 1st place receives a \$150 check, 2nd receives \$100 and third gets \$50.

Homebrewer of the Year Standings	
Brewer/Brew Team	Points
Matthew Linnenburger	7
Anthony Gachima	5
William Lawrence	4
Arthur Stockstill	3

Leroy Gharis	3
Richard Harris	3
Walter Hodges	3
Don Trotter	2
Mason McPhail	2
Jimmy Orkin	2
Don VanSlyke	1
James Smith	1

Now that the Bluebonnet is wrapped up we can continue our Club Only Competition. April's COC category is lagers. Any beers in the BJCP lager categories: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 20, 21, 22, 23 fermented with lager yeast are eligible. Bring your entries (two bottles) to the club meeting or drop them off at either Dallas Homebrew or Homebrew Headquarters by 5:00 on Friday, April 17th. Please no six-pack holders for homebrew store drop-offs. Pack them in a sealed box with padding. We don't want them getting lost or broken at the store. I will accept your entries at the club meeting in six-pack holders. We'll judge the beers the week of April 20th. If you are interested in learning about judging beer, the COCs are a great opportunity to hone your skills.

Brewer Royale Standings	
Brewer/Brew Team	Points
Mike Grover	3
Doug Nett	3
Don VanSlyke	2
Layne Mceath	2
Barrett Tillman	1
Bill James & Tim McGrath	1

Competition Schedule			
Lone Star Circuit		Club Only	
Competition	Entry Deadline	Theme/Styles	Entry Deadline
Big Batch Brew Bash American Barleywine	5/1	Lagers BJCP Categories 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 20, 21, 22, 23 fermented with lager yeast	April
Lunar Redezbrew	June	Session Beers All Limbo Categories	July
Limbo Challenge	July	Sour Beers BJCP Category 17 and sour beers in catego- ries 20, 21, 22, 23	September
O'zapft Is	August	Belgian and French Styles BJCP Categories 17 and 18	November
Dixie Cup	Septem- ber		

Prosit!

Walter

The Treasure's Report

By Jimmy Orkin

The Treasurer's Report
By Jimmy Orkin

Summary:

Equity January end \$3,959.93

Equity February end \$4,444.80

Equity March end \$4,539.03

New members in February: 10.

New members in March: 9.

Members at February end: 217.

Members at March end: 226.

Current members at the time of this article: 226.

The final monthly reports are available on the club website at the following link:

<http://nthba.org/content/club-documents>

Please let me know if you would like to discuss any of the clubs financial information. Let me know if you would like additional or different information in this article.

This month's article is special as I had the March closing numbers when I wrote the piece.

Bluebonnet Brewoff

The 2015 Bluebonnet is over or almost over. As I write I still need to get steins to Cap & Hare and BAM for Club of the year and Mueller Brown respectively. I am also working on shipping merchandise.

So what did you think about this year's Bluebonnet Brewoff Homebrew Competition and Beer Celebration? I separate those two as I would like feedback on both, separately. Did we do a good job of judging your beer? Did you have fun at the Celebration?

Brewing Topics

To return after the Bluebonnet Brewoff is over.

Brew Strong!

Jimmy

NTHBA Officers

President

Mike Grover
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1st vice president

Walter Hodges
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2nd vice president

James Smith
socials@nthba.org

Treasurer

Jimmy Orkin
treasurer@nthba.org

Minister of education

OPEN

Secretary

Brian Beyer
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Past President

Walter Hodges
pastpres@nthba.org

Our Supporting Home Brew Stores



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Richardson, TX 75080
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www.homebrewhq.com

North Texas Home Brewers Association

The North Texas Home Brewers Assoc. is a group with an interest in beer in general and home brewing in particular. We meet once a month on the second Tuesday at various locations in the area. Visitors are welcome! "Livin' the Brews" is our newsletter and is published once a month. We do accept advertising, although the NTHBA, its officers, assignees, and editors are not liable for losses or damages resulting from mistakes or misprints, or any other consequences of advertising in this or any other publication. Ads are \$30 for a 1/3 page and \$50 for a full page, subject to change without notice. Readers are encouraged to submit articles. The deadline for ads and articles each month is 14 days prior to the club meeting.



Visit the NTHBA Website at
www.nthba.org