

LIVIN' THE BREWS



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH TEXAS HOME BREWERS ASSOCIATION

Prez Sez

By Leroy Gharis

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and New Year's holiday. We had a great turnout at the Christmas party hosted by Walter and Pam Hodges. I think everyone enjoyed having the food catered. Hopefully we will be able to do that again in 2010. There were some comments from some people about missing the extra side dishes people bring so we will see what we do next year.

The winner of the Big Mohunker was Bill Lawrence. The first name pulled was Jimmy Orkin. Since Jimmy won it last year he gave it up so that someone else could win. That was really admirable and amazing for him to give up a \$300 gift certificate.

We also gave away three ball-lock kegs, two carboy/bucket combinations, two pounds of hops, four \$25 gift certificates and two \$50 gift certificates. It remains to be seen if we do a similar give-away at next years party. The club does have 7 more 6 gal. carboy/bucket combinations that we will sell for \$18 each. That is what the club paid for them. They are slightly used by someone who was using them to ferment and condition wine as part of a commercial business. The

business was a victim of the economic downturn in 2009.

As we enter into 2010, I want to reflect back a little on 2009. First I want to say how much I enjoyed working with the 2009 officers. I want to thank Jimmy Orkin, Orlando Guerra, Brian Beyer, Damon Lewis, Ken Woodson and Mike Grover for the hard work they all did in 2009. We were Bluebonnet Homebrew Club of the Year for the second year in a row. Several NTHBA members won their first stein. We finished second again in the Lone Star Circuit to BAM. It reminds me of a quote from the old Houston Oilers coach Bum Phillips(Wade's dad). He said, "We've been knocking on the door. This year we're going to kick the door down." That was after loosing the AFC championship game to the Steelers for two or three years in a row. As far as I remember that door in Houston is still there waiting for us to kick it i n .

Orlando Guerra and Damon Lewis won Lone Star Circuit Homebrew Team of the Year. They also won two first place medals at the NHC in Oakland as well as first runner-up in the Best of Show for NHC. That is second best beer of over 5,000 entries. That is really a great accomplishment that the whole

club should be proud of. As part of their prize they got to go to Sierra Nevada Brewing for a weekend with other winners and brewed a baltic porter on their system.

As I transition from treasurer to president I want to let you know that the treasurer position is a lot more work than I thought it was. We have five new officers this year and one officer returning after taking a few years off. The 2010 Competition Director(1st VP) is Scott Townson. Scott lives in Hurst but still manages to attend almost all of our meetings and brewdays. He will need assistance in finding places to have COC judging and competition packing parties that are closer to the r e s t o f u s .

This year we have a "Party Girl" instead of a "Party Boy". The Socials Director (2nd VP) is Kim Rhea. In case you don't know she is one of the ladies that has been selling raffle tickets at club meetings. If you are interested in hosting a brewday you need to talk to K i m .

The Secretary for 2010 is Melinda Beyer. She is the other lady who sells the raffle tickets at the club meeting.

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Melinda and Kim are also members of the Cougar Brewers who made some awesome beers this year and won several awards.

Bill Lawrence will be the Treasurer for 2010. Bill is returning to the position he held for 2 or 3 years a few years ago. He will be maintaining the books, membership list and getting raffle prizes to meetings and parties. It is a very busy job, especially in the spring time.

Clay Mahone will be our 2010 Education Director. If you have ideas for topics let Clay know. I am sure he will also listen to offers to make a presentation. I am looking forward to what Clay will come up with to help make us all better brewers.

Damon Lewis is taking on the new position of IT Director/Webmaster. He did a great job of redesigning our club website and getting the newsletters out to everyone. We will be working on making a few tweaks this year. This is the place where you can get all club related information. Most importantly date and location of the next meeting and brew day, competition information. There is also a library of education articles on many topics. The url is <http://www.nthba.org/>.

We will all need your input and support. You are the club! You can help make it as great as possible with your participation. You don't have to be an officer to make a contribution. I am looking forward to a great year.

Officer email addresses
Leroy Gharis/President
 president@nthba.org

Scott Townson/Competitions (1st VP)
 competitions@nthba.org

Kim Rhea/Socials(2nd VP)
 socials@nthba.org

Melinda Beyer/Secretary
 secretary@nthba.org

Bill Lawrence/Treasurer
 treasurer@nthba.org

Clay Mahone/Education
 education@nthba.org

Damon Lewis/IT
 damon@brotherhoodbrew.com

Jimmy Orking/Past President -
 pastpres@nthba.org

What's Brewin' By Kimberley Rhea

I hope that everyone had a Safe and Happy Holiday.

Our Christmas Party was just fabulous. Thank you to Walter and Pam Hodges for hosting. It was a great idea to have the party catered and well I have to say the party favors (NTHBA Glasses) were just awesome.

Our first Brew Day of the Year will be at the home of Mike Grover on January 16th at 9:00am. His home is located at 2312 Westwind Dr., Carrollton, TX.

We have brew days almost monthly and four parties a year. If you would like to find out what is involved in having a Brew Day or Party at your home contact me.

Kim
 "Woo Girl"

The Competitive Edge (Where the action is!)

By Scott Townson

Wow! With the Holidays behind us, there's a whirlwind of activity and things are happening fast in the competitions arena.

First: I'm Scott Townson and I'm the new Competitions Coordinator.

<http://www.nthba.org/content/nthba-2010-officers>

Second: The deadline for the first COC (Club Only Competition) of the year is upon us with your English Brown Ales due to Homebrew Headquarters by January the 22nd.

<http://www.nthba.org/forum/viewtopic.php?f=4&t=698>

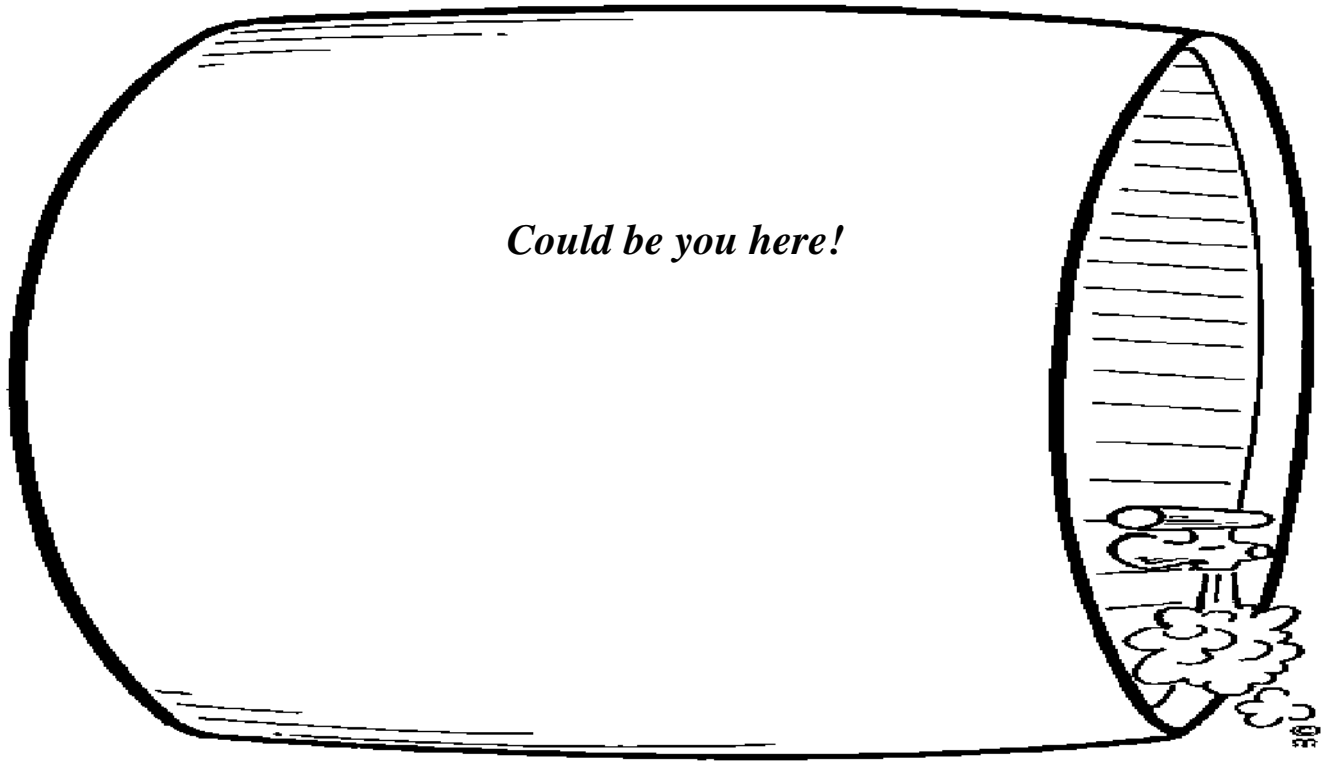
Third: The Bluebonnet deadline is quickly approaching only a mere month later on February the 24th.

I hope you're brewing your backsides off and if you're not, then why not? It's crunch time right now! There's so much beer to brew and so little time. With the COC schedule, the Bluebonnet, the Celtic, the Lunar, the Limbo, the Cactus, the Cerveza Fest, and the Dixie there's no time to lag.

Don't worry if you only brew extract or you think your beer has something just not right that you don't know how to fix. Not only is there a wealth of knowledge within the club to help you, your competition score sheets will provide great detailed feed back on your brew.

I do hope that you'll support our club in the competition arena this year. Somehow, being second place just doesn't seem right for an outstanding club like the North Texas Homebrewer's Association. Please help us compete in the Lone Star Circuit this year.

BREWER ROYALE 2010



AHA Club Only Competition Schedule

Date	Category
Jan/Feb '10	English Brown Ales
March/April '10	American Ales
May '10	Extract Beers
Aug '10	Mead
Sept/Oct '10	Sour Ale
Nov/Dec '10	TBD

- 2010 Competition Schedule -

Competition/Style	Entry Deadline	Competition Awards
Jan/Feb '10 COC English Brown Ale (BJCP style 11)	Jan 22 nd . (Club) Feb. 16 th (AHA)	Feb. (Club) Feb. 20 th (AHA)
Blue Bonnet Brew-Off All BJCP Beers, Meads & Ciders	Feb. 24th	March 19 & 20
March/April COC American Ales (BJCP Style 10)	March 24th (Club) April 3rd (AHA)	April (Club) April 10th (AHA)
May COC Extract Beers	TBD (Club) May 1st (AHA)	May (Club) May 22nd (AHA)
Big Batch Brew Bash English Barleywines (BJCP style 19B).	Early May	Mid May
Celtic Brew-Off Fermented beverages associated with the Celtic regions of England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, or Brittany	Early May	Early June
Lunar Rendez-Brew All BJCP Beers, Meads & Ciders	Mid July	Early Aug.
August COC Mead	TBD (Club) TBD (AHA)	TBD (Club) TBD (AHA)
Alamo City Cerveza Festival All BJCP Beers, Meads & Ciders	Mid July	August 15 th & 16 th
Limbo Challenge Beers w/ SG @ 1.050 or below.	Late July, Early August	Late August
Cactus Challenge All BJCP Beers, Meads & Ciders	Mid August	Mid September
September/October COC Sour Ale	TBD (Club) TBD (AHA)	TBD (Club) TBD (AHA)
Dixie Cup All BJCP Beers, Meads & Ciders	Mid-Late Sept.	Mid Oct.
November/December COC Strong Ale	TBD (Club) TBD (AHA)	TBD (Club) TBD (AHA)

The Brewing Equipment Trading Post



FOR SALE

To list your equipment, include the following information -

- 1 - Description of items
- 2 - Whether it is "For Sale", "Will Trade For _?_" or "Free, Come & Get It"
- 3 - Your name
- 4 - How and when to contact you.

Email Damon at news@nthba.org

NTHBA Officers

President

Leroy Gharis
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 214-460-5697

1st vice president

Scott Townson
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2nd vice president

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Treasurer

Bill Lawrence
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 214-263-4455

Secretary

Melinda Beyer
secretary@nthba.org
 972-951-5515

Past President

Jimmy Orkin
pastpres@nthba.org
 214-864-8516

Club Brewmeisters

Club Brewmeisters are members who are experienced brewers and have volunteered to help other brewers, new and old, with brewing problems. Give them a call with your questions! Just don't call too late, too early, or during Cowboy games!

Homebrew Headquarters
 (972) 234-4411

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 about 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