

LIVIN' THE BREWS

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



March Quick Glance:



[Club Meeting](#)
[March 10th at](#)
[The Flying Saucer](#)
[in Addison](#)

[Club Brew Day](#)
[NO Club Brew](#)
[Day in March](#)

Prez Sez By Mike Grover

Welcome to March! It has certainly been an “interesting” February from a weather point of view. Hopefully March will bring us some fairer weather, but as I type this winter is threatening our first day of Bluebonnet Brew-Off judging. Speaking of that, I hope to see many of you at the judging site helping us knock out the 1,328 entries that must be judged. If you haven’t already registered to attend the Bluebonnet, there is time but I believe it shuts down after the first week of March. After that you must buy tickets at the event, and they are first come, first served. The Bluebonnet website is www.bluebonnetbrewoff.org. Login went well although we could have used some additional folks in the afternoon to help with the QA process. Several of us had to show up early Sunday to finish that up before we could pull flights for first round judging. **The judging location is 3301 Conflans Road, Suite 304, Irving, Texas (<http://goo.gl/maps/LuKLi>)**. The location is easily accessible off of the George Bush Turnpike or Airport Freeway (183) via Belt Line Road. The site is on the north side of Conflans Road one block east of Belt Line. Turn north onto Luke Street and turn right into the parking area between the second and third building. A huge thanks to Einar Jonsson for finding this great location! It has two walk-in coolers, plenty of space for judging, and an office for the data team. Finally, good luck to all of our members who entered their beers in the competition!

One last Bluebonnet-related item: be sure to bring a keg of your good stuff to the event for the People’s Choice award (aka Room Crawl). Bill Lawrence has already started a discussion on this topic. We really want to showcase our members’ brewing talents. This is definitely not the venue to get rid of “meh” beers to free up kegs. Unless it turns out unexpectedly foul, I will be bringing the IPA that I brewed at my January brew day. I kegged it up last night and so far, so good. The March club meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 10th at 6:30 p.m. at The Flying Saucer Draught Emporium located at 14999 Montfort Drive, Addison, Texas (<http://goo.gl/maps/3FDNE>). Most of us are well aware of this location, but for anyone new to the area it is just east of the Dallas North Toll way off Belt Line Road near the massive Whole Foods Market. We will be meeting in the back room.

The officers meeting will be held at 6:30 at the Taphouse Gastro Kitchen & Bar located at 8320 Texas Highway 121 in Frisco. The location is near the northeast corner of 121/Sam Rayburn Toll way and Parkwood Boulevard. This is another new location that has a good beer selection and that we'd like to scout as a possible club meeting location. As always, club members are welcome to join us at the officers meetings.

Pros't!

The First Sip By James Smith

March is upon us and it's time for Bluebonnet! I hope all of you have planned on attending some or all of this great event. As you have seen via emails and postings, judges are needed...this is a great way to help out! I had a great time helping last year and just wanted to throw my 2 cents in and say I am looking forward to participating again this year. Hope to see you there!

Beyond March, which is quite a busy month on my calendar, I will be planning to knock out a few warmer weather brews in preparation for the Texas summer. Also, it's been almost a year since I bought a complete 3-keg system. I have yet to set up my home kegerator....guess I should probably get on that too pretty soon. At any rate, on to the business at hand...

Volunteers (and keg contributions) Needed for Bluebonnet People's Choice Competition!!

Friday evening of the Bluebonnet weekend will include a people's choice competition. NTHBA will have the club kegerator (and likely some additional jockey boxes) in a designated area where we will have our taps pouring beers contributed by the members. Club participation in the People's Choice Competition involves set up and tear-down, as well as serving throughout the evening. This event will go from 10:30 pm - 2:00am. Needed are the following:

- 2-3 volunteers to help set-up starting as early as 5pm
- Volunteer servers to give about an hour of time to help man the club area and kegerator. I will have 5 1-hour time slots with an estimated 2-3 volunteers needed for each time slot.
- 2-3 volunteers to help shut down after the event and tear-down the next day



It is a lot of fun to help out with this portion of the Bluebonnet weekend. Please, if you are able, contact me at your EARLIEST opportunity to get your name on the volunteer list!! socials@nthba.org

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

- There is no **March Brew Day** due to Bluebonnet.
- 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 tentatively scheduled to be held at the great Four Corners Brewery. Stay tuned for the final details, but mark your calendars to attend. Link below for those not in the know. <http://www.homebrewersassociation.org/aha-events/national-homebrew-day/>



Competition Corner By Walter Hodges

We had nine entries representing a wide range of styles in the February COC. The winners are:

- 1st Place – Doug Nett – 19A Old Ale**
2nd Place – Matt Parulis – 6D American Rye
3rd Place – Bill James and Tim McGrath – 12A Brown Porter

Thanks to Mike Grover, Richard Harris, Jimmy Orkin and James Smith for coming out to judge. With the second COC in the books, our Brewer Royale standings are:

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

The next COC will be held in April and is any of the lager styles (BJCP Categories 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 20, 21, 22, 23 fermented with lager yeast).

Competition Schedule			
Lone Star Circuit		Club Only	
Competition	Entry Deadline	Theme/Styles	Entry Deadline
Bluebonnet Brew-Off	2/19	Lagers BJCP Categories 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 20, 21, 22, 23 fermented with lager yeast	April
Alamo City Cerveza Fest	3/13	Session Beers All Limbo Categories	July
Cactus Challenge	3/37	Sour Beers BJCP Category 17 and sour beers in categories 20, 21, 22, 23	September

Big Batch Brew Bash American Barleywine	5/1	Belgian and French Styles BJCP Categories 17 and 18	November
Lunar Redezbrew	June		
Limbo Challenge	July		
O'zapft Is	August		
Dixie Cup	September		

March will be a busy competition month. By now we are into Bluebonnet judging, so I hope you entered your best beers. The competition will be stiff and we'll need everyone's best effort to hold onto the Bluebonnet Club of the Year stein.

If you have some time, please consider coming out to the Bluebonnet judging. We'll need lots of help and judging a flight or more will go a long ways in making the competition successful.

The next Lone Star Circuit competition is the Alamo City Cerveza Fest and the entry deadline is 3/13. Their registration site is open at: www.bexarbrewers.org/accf/ The ACCF is open to all categories. We will host a packing party between 5:00 and 6:00 on Friday, March 6th at Dallas Homebrew. If you cannot make the packing party, you may drop your entries off at Dallas Homebrew any time before Friday. Any entries dropped off early must be shipping ready (i.e. no six pack holders).

Right on the heels of the Alamo City competition is the Cactus Challenge. They moved their competition up and their entry deadline is, 3/27. We'll have a packing party at Homebrew Headquarters for this competition. Again, watch your email for the date and time.

Prosit!

Walter

The Treasure's Report

By Jimmy Orkin

Summary:

Equity December end \$3,816.74

Equity January end \$3,959.93

New members in January: 17.

Current members January end: 208.

Current members at the time of this article: 218.

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.

Bluebonnet Brewoff

The Bluebonnet is here. The NTHBA is the host club this year. The Bluebonnet Brewoff is a concerted effort between four Homebrew Clubs in the DFW area, NTHBA, Knights of the Brown Bottle, Cap & Hare and the Red River Brewers. This is our year to fill most of the committee positions and we have done that. The final push is to judge all the entered beer, mead and cider. We have 1,328 entries this year. With your support we can knock out all the judging in three weekends.

Please come out and help us judge this year. If you are an experienced judge, we need your help. If you are inexperienced in judging, please come out and learn how to judge beer. Judging beer will improve your beer by sharpening you understand of beer styles and you senses used to taste beer. We judge Saturday and Sundays 9:00AM to 5:00PM.

The judging location is:
3301 Conflans Rd #304
Irving, TX

You can make your discounted hotel reservations now. The closing date to reserve your rooms is March 4th. Here is the link to make your hotel reservation: <http://goo.gl/wjlp6u>

Here are the remaining dates:

First round Judging	February 28, March 1, 7, 9.
Second Round Judging	March 14, 15.
Event Weekend	March 20, 21.

Brewing Topics

To return after the Bluebonnet Brewoff is over.

Brew Strong!

Jimmy

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Our Supporting Home Brew Stores



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**Homebrew
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Richardson, TX 75080
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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