

LIVIN' THE BREWS



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH TEXAS HOME BREWERS ASSOCIATION
VOLUME XXV ISSUE 5

Prez Sez

By Leroy Gharis

The May club meeting will be held at [Franconia Brewing](#) in on May 11th. This will be the third year that Dennis has hosted one of our club meetings. This was our best attended meeting last year so don't be late or you might miss the pizza and beer. The address is 495 McKinney Parkway in McKinney. You can find Franconia brews on tap at many local establishments that feature fine craft beers.

We had a great brewday at Orlando and Teri Guerra's house in April. There was a really good turnout with many new faces with three brewers brewing. If you are interested in setting up your own automation Jimmy Orkin demonstrated several options for mash and fermentation temperature controls that you can build yourself. If you were unable to make it but are interested, talk to Jimmy next time you see him.

A new BJCP class started on the 18th. If you are interested in learning how to judge and/or take the BJCP test come join us. The next two meetings are May 2nd and 16th. The meeting dates have all been entered in the [club calendar](#) on our web site. The test date is Saturday, November 13th. That should get you your BJCP number and results just in time to judge at the Bluebonnet

next spring.

The Spring Party on Saturday the 24th was a beautiful weather day. Fred and Sue David opened their home to us for a wonderful evening of fellowship, brews and food. We were treated to smoked brisket and sausage from club member Earnest Pewitt. I learned at the party that Earnest has purchased a restaurant in Omaha, Texas near Mount Pleasant. Omaha is just a few miles off of I-30 on the way to Texarkana.

We are progressing well on some designs for the 25th anniversary club shirts. We will do a pre-order of Dickie's style button up short sleeve shirts, some t-shirts. We are also trying to figure out something for a ladies' shirt. The T-shirts will have the lettering on the front and the logo on the back. We plan to have the lettering embroidered above on pocket on the button shirts. We haven't decided exactly what to do with the logo yet for the button style shirts. We should have shirts in time for the summer party in July.

Your membership application will expire at the end of May. So, be sure to read Treasurer Bill's article in this newsletter about the advantages of being a "paid" member of the North Texas Homebrewers Association.

I hope you were able to attend the May brewday at Kelly Harris' house. It is being held in conjunction with the [AHA Big Brewday](#). This is an event the AHA sponsors each year with an emphasis on some recipes. There are three recipes this year. One is from Stan Hieronymus and his new book on brewing with wheat titled "*Brewing with Wheat*". The other two recipes, a Scottish 80 and Oktoberfest are in honor of Greg Noonan who was one of the pioneers of craft brewing in the United States. He was the founder of Vermont Pub and Brewery as well as the author of "*Scotch Ales*" and "*New Brewing Lager Beer*". The Oktoberfest is also in celebration of 200 years of Oktoberfest in Germany. We did pretty good at the Cerveza Fest but the Austin Zealots were the top club. It looks like we will have a three or four club race for the Lone Star Circuit Homebrew Club of the year. The Lone Star Circuit website currently has BAM with 61 points, NTHBA with 51, Austin Zealots with 46 and Foam Rangers with 38. I am not sure they have our points correct but that will get corrected if it is not.

Don't forget to get your entries in to the Big Batch Brew Bash (English Barleywine) by May

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7th in Houston and the Celtic on Friday, May 14th at Homebrew Headquarters. I would suggest getting your entries to Homebrew Headquarters by May 13th as we don't know what time the entries will be picked up.

Here is a [link](#) to the BBBB entry form with all of the needed information including shipping address. There is no entry fee. Entry requires three bottles. There is also an article in the newsletter about a new competition being started by the River Valley Ale Raisers in Ft. Smith, Arkansas. The president of RVAR is Steve Arnold who is an ex member of the NTHBA. It's called the "All American Brewoff" and will be held in July. It will feature all styles of American Ales. Sounds like a good idea for a competition in July.

That's all folks. Brew strong and I hope to see you soon.

Leroy

What's Brewin' By Kimberley Rhea

The recipes from the May Brew Day for an American Wheat and an extract Rocktoberfest, are available at www.homebrewersassociation.org. Our next Brew Day is scheduled for June 12th from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at the home of Brian and Melinda Beyer.

The Beyer's address is:
2117 Rheims Drive
Carrollton, TX 75006
972-951-5515

There will be a bottling demonstration at 11:00. Lunch will be provided, but if you would like to bring cookies or a side to share feel free.

Thank you Sue and Fred David for hosting our Spring Party this year. The party was a great success.

Thank you Orlando for hosting the April brew day and to Kelly for the May brew day.

I still need a Brew Day Host for November 2010. Please contact me at socials@nthba.org if you are interested in hosting or have questions about hosting an event.

Be sure to keep an eye on the NTHBA calendar located on our website, nthba.org, and our Monthly Newsletter for upcoming parties, brew days, maps to locations and general information.

Kim
"Woo Girl"

A Note from the Treasurer By Bill Lawrence

Well boys and girls, it's that time of year again. Time to pony up and pay your NTHBA dues for another year. As usual, the price is again a reasonable \$20.

The thrifty out there might ask, what am I getting for my hard earned dollars (and trust me, I can relate to that)? Well, the payback is both tangible as well as intangible. Let's address the tangible as-

pects first.

I am an all grain brewer and I estimate that the cost of ingredients is roughly \$30 a batch on average and I would guess that I brew around 15 times a year. Now, I know that there are folks that do that many batches in the first couple of weekends of the year (and you know who you are) but I want to present this analysis from the standpoint of a reasonable person. Anyway, what that means is that I would spend roughly \$450 a year for ingredients alone. On top of that, let's say for the sake of argument, that I buy a few impulse items while in the shop (you know, t shirts, the occasional magazine, various washers, gaskets etc). Just for grins, let's say all that adds up to maybe another \$100 a year (I may spend more than that but I am not willing to own up to any more in writing). Ok, for the rocket scientists among you, that means that I anticipate spending \$550 a year at either Homebrew Headquarters or The Winemakers Toy Store (and that's a conservative estimate). Now this part is important so pay close attention, **IF YOU JOIN THE CLUB, YOU WILL BE ENTITLED TO A 10% DISCOUNT** at both these fine establishments. One principle of propaganda is that repetition is important so I'll write it again, **IF YOU JOIN THE CLUB, YOU WILL BE ENTITLED TO A 10% DISCOUNT** at both Homebrew Headquarters and The Wine Maker's Toy Store. Now I know I am being somewhat cryptic so I'll spell things out and follow this analysis through to it's logical conclusion. In my particular

case, what that means is that I will receive a discount of \$55 over the course of a year (you know, $\$550 * 10\% = \55). How many investments do you know of that have such a high rate of return in so short a time? Just think how good the math gets for somebody just starting out who intends to buy startup equipment or maybe a kegging system? It almost boggles the imagination.

Allrighty then, I believe I have taken care of the tangible side of the benefits of membership but there are some out there that don't care about money, they are mostly into it for the spiritual enrichment (hey I really don't get it but to each his/her own). First of all, the club sponsors four parties, eight or nine brew days along with eleven meetings a year. What that means is that you will be exposed to scintillating (and perhaps titillating) conversation, in depth analysis of current events, social trends, politics, art, fashion, sports as well as the occasional humorous antidote. While all this is going on, you will be quaffing beers, ciders and meads of unbelievable complexity which can not be procured commercially because they are all lovingly handcrafted by the members. Additionally, you will be exposed to the more exotic commercial brews and you will soon be admired by your non-brewing friends as a connoisseur of fine fermented beverages, a person of impeccable taste and style. Furthermore, you will soon feel part of the "group" and you will no doubt make friends after attending just a few events. In short order, you will probably end up quitting that cult you frequent because of the spiritual nourishment

received by being a member of this club. No longer will you need to handle snakes or sacrifice small barnyard animals or drink Coolaid to feel wanted and appreciated. You will not need to adorn your body with tattoos or piercing, endure arduous initiation rites or wear gang colors (of course, if you want to we certainly won't stop you). Last but certainly not least, you initially became interested in the club because you enjoy beer. Well, our group can go a long way toward making you a very good brewer, in fact we have an officer who's sole purpose is to help make you the best you can be. For those of you fueled by excess testosterone, we also offer several opportunities for competition. You do need to be thick skinned and understand that your mancard may be revoked when some of the women in the club kick you butt (but hey, it will make you a better brewer). Well, I could go on and on but you get the point, I don't want to be accused of being verbose.

To summarize, you should now be convinced that being a member of NTHBA is a wholeistic experience which will enrich you both body and sole. Not only will you save money but you will reach a state of enlightenment not experienced by many in this lifetime. All you need do to take advantage of this fantastic offer is to just complete the short enrollment application (a copy of which is attached to this newsletter) and pay the very reasonable \$20 annual membership fee (cash or check accepted). This can either be given to me at any meeting or event or left at either Homebrew

Headquarters or The Wine Makers Toy Store. In return for your money and completed application, you will receive a handcrafted membership card which you can use as proof of membership to receive your discounts and to proudly show to your friends and coworkers.

I hesitate to mention this however the club runs on membership dues so we need a good response to the annual membership drive. If we don't get the dues we need to run the club for the year, I am prepared to borrow a book of poetry (some really boring stuff) and I am going to let Scott ascend the bully pulpit at the next meeting for one of his rants and readings. By the time he is done with us, we will all be offering up our first born just to shut him up and yes, it will be ugly. To avoid this unpleasant fate,

JUST PAY YOUR DAMN DUES!



Limbo Challenge

By Jimmy Orkin

Limbo Challenge Planning
By Jimmy Orkin

We held the April planning meeting at Gordon Biersch in Plano. We had a good meeting. We still have much to work on for Awards and location for the awards ceremony.

The May planning meeting will occur on Thursday May 6 at the Catfish House, 3108 Old Denton Road, Carrollton, TX 75007, northeast corner of Old Denton Road and Frankford Road. We will start about 7:00 PM. Catfish House is BYOB so this is a low cost evening. The food is good also.

I am will be holding future planning meetings on the first Thursday of the month.

There is a thread in the club forum where I am posting all the information. Read this thread for the latest news.

Please come out and help us with the Limbo Planning.

Brew Strong!
Jimmy

The Competitive Edge (Where the action is!)

By Scott Townson

Results!

The Alamo City Cerveza Fest is completed and we made a respectable showing with the club earning 22 points. Our club winnings were as follows:

ACCF 2010 Results

4. DARK LAGER

1. Leroy Gharis (NTHBA)- Schwarzbier

10. AMERICAN ALE

3. Scott Townson (NTHBA)- American Amber Ale

11. ENGLISH BROWN ALE

2. Scott Townson (NTHBA)- Northern English Brown Ale

14. INDIA PALE ALE (IPA)

1. Scott Townson (NTHBA) - Imperial IPA

15. GERMAN WHEAT AND RYE BEER

3. Scott Townson (NTHBA) - Weizen/Weissbier

16. BELGIAN AND FRENCH ALE

2. Scott Townson (NTHBA) - Saison

17. SOUR ALE

1. Melinda Beyer (NTHBA) - Straight (Unblended) Lambic

19. STRONG ALE

3. Scott Townson (Foam Rangers) - English Barleywine

20. FRUIT BEER

1. Scott Townson (NTHBA)

22. SMOKE-FLAVORED & WOOD-AGED BEER

2. Scott Townson (NTHBA) - Wood-aged Beer

27. and 28. STANDARD CIDER AND PERRY

3. Cody Gray (NTHBA)- Common Cider

The AHA National Regional Competition is also complete. We had several club members that'll be moving on to the second round in Minneapolis in June. The Old West Regional results:

Category 3 European Amber Lager

3rd Place - 3a Damon Lewis, Orlando Guerra

Category 20 Fruit Beer

2nd Place - 20a Scott Townson

Category 22 Smoke-Flavored and Wood-Aged Beer

1st Place - 22a Anthony Perea

Category 26 Other Mead

1st Place - 26c Wayne Yandell

Category 28 Specialty Cider and Perry

2nd Place - 28d Wayne Yandell

Well done all!

Compete!

Do you have an English Barleywine that's aging nicely? The **Big Batch Brew Bash** deadline is the 8th of May. Please let me know if you have one to enter. You can reach me at competitions@nthba.org These will be sent out on May the 5th.

The **Celtic Brew-off** is quickly approaching, please be sure and have your entries at either HBHQ or The Wine Makers Toy Store no later than the 13th of May. The log-in is taking place at Fort Worth Homebrew on the 15th. Contact me if you can't make the 13th drop-off and we may be able to work something out. You can register your entries here: <http://hbd.org/kobb/celtic/celtic14.html>

The Annual Celtic Brew-off Homebrew Competition Is the largest homebrewing competition in the county devoted to exclusively to beer, mead, and cider of Celtic origins. Each year the Knights of the Brown Bottle host the Celtic Brew-Off to coincide with the Texas Scottish Festival and Highland Games held in Arlington each June.

The Club Only Competition for **Extract Brews** was judged on Tuesday the 20th of April and results are in:

- 1st Jesse Thoresen for his extract Maibock "May COC Bock"
- 2nd Doug Nett for his extract Scottish 80
- 3rd Leroy Gharis for his extract Schwartzbier

Congratulations to the winners and thanks to everyone who entered. A special thank you goes out to the judges who volunteered their time and skills to support this competition.

North Texas Homebrewers Association - Brewer Royal -

| Brewer / Team | January / February | March / April | April / May | July / August | Sept / Oct | Nov / Dec | Yearly Total |
|----------------|--------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|------------|-----------|--------------|
| Jesse Thoresen | | 1 | 3 | | | | 4 |
| Randy Friese | 3 | | | | | | 3 |
| Scott Townson | | 3 | | | | | 3 |
| Doug Nett | | | 2 | | | | 2 |
| Orlando Guerra | 2 | | | | | | 2 |
| Wayne Yandell | | 2 | | | | | 2 |
| Dave Werner | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| Leroy Gharis | | | 1 | | | | 1 |

The next COC is scheduled for July. Please have your Mead entries at Homebrew Headquarters or the Wine Makers Toy Store NLT then end of business on Tuesday the 20th of July.

Only one (1) 10-14 oz. green or brown bottles are required for each entry. If you are the winner (2-3) additional bottles will be required for the AHA Club-Only Competition. No swing tops allowed. **Printed crown caps must be blacked-out with a permanent marker and all labels removed to assure anonymity of all en-tries. Each entry should use an AHA/BJCP Bottle ID form: <http://www.homebrewersassociation.org/attachments/0000/0325/bottleid.pdf>**

Get a grip, gird you loins, stiffen those upper lips, and dig for victory!



Scott Townson

ANNOUNCING

THE ALL AMERICAN BREW OFF

Hosted by the River Valley Ale Raisers in Fort Smith, Arkansas

You and your brewin' buddies are cordially invited to send us your beers for impartial high quality judging, prizes, and bragging rights. This is a BJCP sanctioned event.

Categories: It's simple. Anything American. If it has "American" or "California" in the name, we'll judge it and reward the best. (Lite Am Lager, Standard Am Lager, Premium Am Lager, Classic Am Pils, Dark Am Lager, Am Wheat or Rye, California Common, APA, Am Amber Ale, Am Brown Ale, Am Stout, Am IPA, Am Barleywine). We reserve the right to combine categories as appropriate. We will use BJCP Style Guidelines 2008 version.

When: Start brewing now. Entry deadline will be July 10th, 2010. Awards ceremony is July 24th in Fort Smith, Arkansas. We'd love to have you join us for the ceremony/party.

Rules: Standard competition rules, \$7/per entry, 3 bottles, yada, yada. See <http://rivervalleyaleraisers.blogspot.com/> for more details.

Where to ship beers:

Wine Maker's Gallery
4100 Planters Road
Fort Smith, AR 72908-8440
(479) 646-4164

Who to call with questions: Steve Arnold, President, River Valley Ale Raisers 479-459-1749.

| - 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. 20 th (AHA) |
| Blue Bonnet Brew-Off All BJCP Beers, Meads & Ciders | Feb. 25th | March 19 & 20 40 club points |
| Alamo City Cerveza Festival All BJCP Beers, Meads & Ciders | March 6-21 | April 10 22 club points |
| March/April COC American Ales (BJCP Style 10) | March 24th (Club) April 3rd (AHA) | April 10 th (AHA) |
| AHA NHC All BJCP Beers, Meads & Ciders | April 1st | National Homebrews Conference June 19th |
| May COC Extract Beers | April 19th (Club) May 1st (AHA) | May (Club) May 22nd (AHA) |
| Big Batch Brew Bash English Barleywines (BJCP style 19B). | May 8 | May 16, 2010 |
| Celtic Brew-Off Fermented beverages associated with the Celtic regions of England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, or Brittany | May 14 | Texas Scottish Fes- tival, June 5, 2010 |
| Lunar Rendez-Brew All BJCP Beers, Meads & Ciders | TBD | July 31 st |
| Limbo Challenge Beers w/ SG @ 1.050 or below. | July 19 th - Aug 5 th | August 28 |
| Cactus Challenge All BJCP Beers, Meads & Ciders | July 19 th - Aug 6 th | September 10-11 |
| August COC Mead | July 20 th (Club) July 30 th (AHA) | July (Club) August (AHA) |
| September/October COC Sour Ale | TBD (Club) TBD (AHA) | TBD (Club) TBD (AHA) |
| Dixie Cup All BJCP Beers, Meads & Ciders | TBD | October 16th |
| 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
president@nthba.org
 214-460-5697

1st vice president

Scott Townson
competitions@nthba.org
 817-271-2307

2nd vice president

Kim Rhea
socials@nthba.org
 214-546-2133

Treasurer

Bill Lawrence
treasurer@nthba.org
 214-885-3531

Minister of education

Clay Mahone
education@nthba.org
 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

The Wine Makers' Toy Store
 (866)417-1114

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