
LIVIN' THE BREWS



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH TEXAS HOME BREWERS ASSOCIATION
VOLUME XXIX ISSUE V

May Quick Glance:

[Spring Party at
Doug and Kathy
Nett's
Starting at 4 Pm](#)

[Club Meeting:
May 13th
At
Deep Ellum
Brewing Company](#)

[Brewday:
May 24th
At
Bill James's](#)

Prez Sez By Walter Hodges

We are heading into the month of May when flowers bloom, the weather warms up and your membership dues are due. I am sure that Jimmy will have plenty to say on the topic of your dues, but I just want to remind you of the value the club provides. First, you save 10% off of your purchases at Homebrew Headquarters and The Winemaker's Toy store. Second, we host monthly brew days where new and old brewers can pick up some tricks. Third, there are four parties throughout the year to give us the opportunities to share the fruits of our labor. Fourth, the club supports your competition habit with packing parties and Club Only Competitions. These are just a few of the benefits you receive as members of the North Texas Homebrewers Association. I hope you feel that the \$30 cost of your membership is money well spent.

I was asked at the brew day last weekend if I had any new events or plans for the club. My response was that my goal this year was to refocus on the basics. These are the things I feel are most important to our members (in no particular order); brew days, club parties, competitions and education. An important part of my plan is the regular distribution of the club newsletter. The newsletter lets everyone know what is going on with the club regardless of whether they use the web site, discussion forums, Facebook or Twitter. I hope you are pleased with the effort of your current board members. If there is something you'd like see improved, added or removed from what we do, I would love to hear from you. My email is: president@nthba.org

This month we'll be meeting down at Deep Ellum Brewing Company. I have been trying to get food trucks to come out, but we just don't have the volume they need to make their trip worthwhile. I suggest that folks grab a bite before the meeting at one of the relatively nearby restaurants since we will not have food available at the meeting.

*Prosit,
Walter*

The First Sip

By James Smith

Spring is upon us! I've had so much going on the last couple of months with my move that I went almost 2 months without brewing anything. Inventory had gotten dangerously low. The good thing is that I'm just about settled, so finally I have had time the last two weekends to knock out a couple of brews for the summer. It feels great to get the inventory back up to acceptable levels. Hope all of you are getting into the swing of the wonderful Texas Spring, including successful brewing. Cheers!

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!

Notable Club Events Coming Up:

- May 3rd is the 2014 Spring Party! Don't miss it! Festivities will commence starting at 4PM. It will be held at the home of Doug and Kathy Nett. Their address is 5505 Lomita Circle in Plano([Map Here](#)). There will be lots of BBQ chicken and sausage provided by the club and prepared by Doug. Here is what you need to know:
 - Please bring a side item of your choosing...deserts are great too!
 - BYOHB - Bring Your Own Homebrews!!
 - Bring a chair...seating may be limited, so if you have a portable chair, please bring it.
 - Bring a swimsuit(if you dare) - Doug and Kathy do have a pool and hopefully it will be warm enough.
 -
- The May brew day will occur on the 24th at Bill James' house. His address is 2801 Glen Forest Lane in Plano. [Map Here](#)

May Special Event: Cedar Creek Revival – MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!



Bring a tent, games, food, and all your best homebrews for an afternoon and evening out under the stars at Cedar Creek Brewery. The tap room opens at 12 on Saturday. There will be an informal people's choice competition from 3-5 PM. Come on out and have a great time with lots of great people!

The address for Cedar Creek Brewery is 244 E. Cedar Creek Pkwy, Seven Points TX 75143. [Map Here](#)

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

Cheers!

James, aka "Smitty"

Competition News

By Mike Grover

NATIONAL HOMEBREW COMPETITION

Congratulations to Barrett Tillman and Jimmy Orkin for winning in the first round of the NHC at the Austin judging location. This qualifies them to enter their beers in the NHC final round. Final round winners will be announced at the National Homebrew Conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan in June.

- Category 1 – Light Lager – 3rd Place Jimmy Orkin - Dortmund lager
- Category 17 – Sour Ale – 2nd Place Barrett Tillman – straight (unblended) limbic
- Category 26 – Other Mead – 1st Place Barrett Tillman – open category mead

Speaking of the National Homebrew Conference, there are still spots available for registration if you would like to attend. I have been to two of these and had a great time. More information is available at <http://www.homebrewersassociation.org/>.

LONE STAR CIRCUIT STANDINGS

No change in the standing since last month. However, the Celtic Brew-Off results will be announced Saturday, May 3rd at 1:00 p.m. at the Texas Scottish Festival. This is a fun event held at U.T. Arlington's football stadium and the weather is forecast to be beautiful. The ACCF and Big Batch Brew Bash results are next after that.

- NTHBA 36 pts
- Foam Rangers 29 pts
- Cap and Hare 26 pts
- Austin Zealots 25 pts
- Bay Area Mashtronauts 16 pts

UPCOMING LONE STAR CIRCUIT COMPETITIONS

Our packing party for the Alamo City Cerveza Fest was a big success. We had about 10 folks come out and we packed up 35 entries. That's a good showing for a competition that we haven't always been well represented in. Good luck to all of our competitors. I didn't see any Texas Brown Ales, so unless some folks are shipping or delivering entries on their own we may not have any entries in the Big Batch Brew Batch. We should have results from both of these competitions prior to our June club meeting.

Next up should be the Lunar Rendezbrew, but I have not seen any dates for this competition yet. It is typically in July and is open to all beer styles. We will send out a dispatch as soon as we have the information and have scheduled a packing party. Dates have not been announced for the Cactus Challenge either, although I anticipate that competition being in the September timeframe.



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Dates were just announced for this competition which is open to all German styles and is hosted by the Cap and Hare club in Fort Worth. Entries are accepted from August 13th-31st and the awards ceremony will be on October 4th at T&P Tavern in Fort Worth. Judging dates will be announced later. This seems like a long way off but will be here before you know it. If you plan to brew any lagers for this competition the time is now!

Limbo Challenge

Walter Hodges and I are going to co-direct the Limbo this year. We will need several volunteers to take care of various tasks as we gear up for the competition. Look for an announcement soon for our first planning meeting. The entry window for the Limbo is July 18th-August 1st, 2014. Judging will be done on the weekend of August 9th and 10th, and the awards ceremony will be on August 23rd. Locations will be announced soon.

BREWER ROYALE STANDINGS

- | | |
|--------------------|------|
| 1. Charlene Hoke | 3pts |
| 2. Barrett Tillman | 2pts |
| 3. David Lee | 1pt |

As of this writing we have not judged the Celtic ales COC entries, but I intend to wrap that up prior to our May meeting at Deep Ellum Brewing Company. We have a good showing with 19 entries!

UP NEXT: Session Beers (Any category accepted in the Limbo Challenge except Lawnmower Beer – <http://www.limbocomp.org/styles.php>) – **Entry deadline Saturday, July 19th, 2014.** Think of this as a warm-up competition for the Limbo. I pushed the deadline back later in the month so that it is close to the Limbo entry deadline yet gives us a couple of weeks to get the judging done before Limbo check-in and judging start.

Looking Ahead

Check the website for the complete 2014-2015 Club Only Competition schedule (<http://www.nthba.org/content/coc-schedule>).

Entries for the Brewer Royale can be dropped off at either Homebrew Headquarters, The Winemaker's Toy Store/Dallas Homebrew, or you can bring them to me at club meetings, brew days, or club parties. For the club only competition we need only one bottle along with a label identifying the brewer, BJCP beer style, and name of the beer. Labels should be attached by a rubber band (please do not tape or glue them and do not use self-adhesive labels). I recommend using the BJCP bottle identification form (http://www.bjcp.org/docs/SCP_BottleID.pdf).

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Mike Grover, NTHBA Competition Coordinator

The Treasure's Report

By Jimmy Orkin

The Treasurer's Report
By Jimmy Orkin

Summary:

Equity February end \$5,236.07.

Equity March end \$5,512.29.

New members in March: 14.

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

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

We have a couple of big expenses that will hit our books in April or May. We have the charge for the pizzas at the April club meet at the Franconia Brewery and the down payment for the venue for the Holiday party in December.

We have one month left on your 2014 membership. Current renewals have a May 31, 2015 expiration date and will cost \$30. The homebrew stores have the new cards. I also have new membership cards and applications with me at all club events.

On June 1, I will purge the old email list. Only current members will receive the newsletter and club email messages. Don't let your name drop off our mail list. Renew your membership now.

PAY YOUR DAMN DUES!!!

Jimmy

NTHBA Officers**President**

Walter Hodges
 president@nthba.org

1st vice president

Mike Grover
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2nd vice president

James Smith
 socials@nthba.org

Treasurer

Jimmy Orkin
 treasurer@nthba.org

Minister of education

David Lee
 education@nthba.org

Secretary

Brian Beyer
 secretary@nthba.org

Past President

Barrett Tillman
 pastpres@nthba.org

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 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