



LIVIN' THE BREWS



The Newsletter of the North Texas Home Brewers Association, Inc.

Volume XVI, Issue 9

September, 2001



September Meeting TUESDAY, Sept 11, 7:00 PM

The Flying Saucer
14999 Montfort Dr
Dallas, TX 75240-7519
(972)934-2537
COC: California Common

Competition Corner

By Russ Bee

Hey, Team, the Cactus Challenge hosted by those lovable Ale-ians from Lubbock is coming up in a few weeks. The club is shipping entries from Homebrew Headquarters this Friday (day after tomorrow). The Lubbock gang are a great bunch of people and always support the Bluebonnet enthusiastically (they won the best room at the room crawl). So dig around and find a few entries you can take to H.H. If you miss this shipment, the late entry deadline is next Friday. For entry info go to <http://www.door.net/homebrew> or call Jason at 806-749-2611, or e-mail him at

jfc111ssv@aol.com, or call Kelly at H.H. He also has forms.

Lets return the support they give us. Russ

Editor's note: The early entry deadline has now passed. There's still time to meet the late entry deadline. If you've got a winner, you owe it to yourself to earn an award. Good luck, Don



The Prez Sez

by Steve Hacker

Calling all Brewers – Calling all Beers

The fall competitions are coming and we need your entries. The Cactus Challenge and the Dixie Cup are the two regional events we enjoy participating in this time of year. September 14th is the late entry deadline for the Cactus Challenge in Lubbock. You can go to their website at <http://www.door.net/homebrew/> and download their registration packet and forms. We have a few more weeks before the Dixie Cup deadline so plan your entries if you want to help us hold on to the Dixie Cup this year! Their early entry deadline is October 5th. We will have a packing party on Tuesday, October 2nd at Homebrew Headquarters. Bring your pre-packed entries anytime before the store closes on Tuesday and the club will pay the shipping charges for your entries. We will have packing materials and entry forms for you to use between 5:30 and 7:00 PM if you want to pack your entries there. Our club Oktoberfest Party will be Saturday, September 29th at Bo and Robin Turton's home. I haven't determined which traditional German beer we will have yet, so if you have

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BREWER ROYALE 2001		
Style of the Month		
Jan.	Dunkel & Schwarzbier	Cat. 13
Mar.	Stout	Cat. 12C, & 16
May.	Bockanalia	Cat. 14
Jul.	Witbier	Cat. 19B
Sep.	California Common	Cat. 6C
Nov.	Mild Ale	Cat. 10A
STANDINGS		POINTS
Tom Henderson		5
Steve Hacker		5
Paul Doxey		3
Val Bee		3
Randall Woodman		2
Tom Garner		2
Jim Layton		1
Kelly Harris		1
Don Trotter		1

The Prez Sez

by Steve Hacker

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a favorite, send me an email at steve4beer@aol.com and I will do my best to get a keg of the most requested one for our party. Of course we want you to bring your homebrew to share with your club members too. We will have a potluck dinner with the meat (traditional German brats) provided by our club so bring your favorite vegetable, side dish or desert. Beer will begin to flow about 3:00 PM and the brats will be ready to eat about 5:30. The party will continue until about 10:00 PM or when Bo tells us it's time to go home.

For the brewers schedule, it won't be long before the club Christmas Party. This year we will hold the 2nd Annual Holiday Brew Contest (keg competition) so you need to be planning your

entry recipe. If you don't have a keg to put your brew in, contact Bo Turton. He will provide a "loaner keg" and instructions for club members that haven't tried keging yet. Last year we had 19 entries. Everyone at the party tried them and cast a "People's Choice" ballot for their favorite. All entrants received a Custom Made Tap Handle. We'll do it again this year so start planning. The 1st place winner will receive a \$50 gift certificate for brewing ingredients at Homebrew Headquarters.

The Bluebonnet Brew-Off committee has chosen the theme "Open Styles" for the 2002 competition. They are now accepting artwork entries for posters and glasses. If you would like to submit your artwork, please bring it to our club meeting on October 9th. Also be thinking about what beer style our club should brew and

promote in our room crawl suite.

Next years AHA National Homebrew Conference will be in June 2002. A local planning committee is forming and needs volunteers from all area homebrew clubs. If you are interested in taking part in preparing for this special event, see me at our club meeting or email me at steve4beer@aol.com.

And last but very important, if you would like to help plan our club activities and be a part of the decision making team, put your name in the hat for the election of our 2002 Board of Directors. Contact Don Trotter and provide him with some information about yourself and your love of our hobby. Don will publish the candidate information in our October newsletter. The election will take place at our November club meeting. See you at the meeting!

Cheers,
Steve Hacker

Free the Beer

By Bill Waters

I Just got back from a week in San Fran and Wine Country. Great Food, Beer and Wine!!! I am peeved to see that the fat-cat Texas distributors are still denying me the right to order directly from wineries, brew clubs, and the like.

These guys, Free the Grapes, are geared towards wine, but if they get their way, the beer will flow too. Please take a second

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and sign the petition and/or send a letter to your congressmen.

<http://www.freethegrapes.org/>

--Bill Waters

Brewer Royale

By Doug Nett

This month we'll be judging California Common Beer. Bring in your entries for judging, and good luck to all.

-Doug

6C. California Common Beer

Aroma: May have a pronounced woody or rustic hop aroma (as from Northern Brewer, for example). Restrained fruitiness. May have a moderate toasted malt aroma. Diacetyl low to none.

Appearance: Dark gold to copper to medium amber.

Flavor: Malty, balanced with a pronounced hop bitterness. Rustic/woody (e.g., Northern Brewer) hop flavor medium to none. May have a toasted (not roasted) malt flavor. Balance is generally about even between malt and hops. Diacetyl low to none.

Mouthfeel: Medium-bodied. Medium to medium-high carbonation.

Overall Impression: A beer with solid malt and hop expression, only mildly fruity and having woody/rustic hop character.

History: American West Coast original. Large shallow fermenters are used. Originally, in the absence of handy ice or refrigeration, the locally cool ambient temperatures of the San Francisco peninsula led to a beer that was fermented with lager yeast, but at temperatures that were at the cool end of the ale temperature range.

Comments: Similar to American pale ale, although typically less fruity. Hop flavor/aroma is woody rather than citrusy, although a slightly citrusy character has been noted by some in a commercial example back in the mid-1980s.

Ingredients: Pale ale malt, American hops (usually woody, such as Northern Brewer, rather than citrusy), small amounts of toasted malt and/or light caramel/crystal malts. Lager yeast, however some strains (often with the mention of "California" in the name) work better than others at the warmer fermentation temperatures (55 to 60oF) used (some German strains produce excessive sulfury character). Water should have relatively low sulfate and low to moderate carbonate levels.

Vital Statistics: OG: 1.044-1.055

IBUs: 35-45 FG: 1.011-1.014

SRM: 8-14 ABV: 4-5.5%

Commercial Examples: Anchor Steam, Old Dominion Victory Amber.

Points of Interest

By Don Trotter

I just want to make a few announcements, which are sure to be covered at the next meeting.

First off, lets not forget the upcoming Club Only Competitions. This month we'll be judging California Common. Hopefully, we'll have several good entries to judge. In November, we'll be judging those Mild Ales we all brewed. If you haven't gotten one brewed yet, there's still plenty of time. I hope my two entries do well.

The club Oktoberfest party will be (tentatively) at Bo Turton's home on September 29. It's always a blast, and Bo always throws a good party. He'll probably have taps ready to receive your kegs of Oktoberfest, so plan to bring one along. Maybe we can have another keg competition like we did at the last Christmas party.

In Oktober, we'll be meeting at the Bavarian Grill. Sure, it's a little late to celebrate Oktoberfest, but it would be really early to celebrate in early September. Actually, it will be just after the Muenchen Oktoberfest ends, and we'll be keeping the spirit alive for a little while longer. Let's hope that The Bavarian Grill will still have their special Oktoberfest menu cooking.

There are two upcoming competitions for us to pick up some more awards in. The Cactus Challenge is September 22. At the time of this writing, there was still time to get entries to

Homebrew Headquarters for shipping on the Club. I hope you all made the Friday deadline.

The Dixie Cup is coming up October 19-20. That doesn't leave much time to brew, but there's plenty of time to get entries put together and sent out. The club has not yet set a packing party deadline, but the early entry deadline is October 5. We'll have the packing party before then, possibly the week ending September 28. Get your entries ready before then.

Elections for the NTHBA officers will be held at the November club meeting at the Ginger Man (tentatively). In next month's newsletter, there will be a ballot for you to cast your votes. If you'd like to run for office, please send an email to djtrotter@yahoo.com by September 30 to tell us, and include your brewing history. This is a chance for your voice to be really heard. As an officer, you'll be able to help steer the club on activities and meetings. The winners of the election (held in November) will be announced at the December club meeting and Christmas party.

The December club meeting and Christmas party will be held at (tentatively) Bo Turton's home on December 15. Like last year, we'll be having the White Elephant Christmas gift giveaway. If you'd like to participate, bring beer, beer related, or brewing related items giftwrapped and ready. Hope-

fully, we'll have another keg competition.

As you should already know, a new law on open containers went into effect on September 1. As a responsible organization, we urge you to transport your brews for organized tastings responsibly. Remember, good beer is a terrible thing to waste!

Cheers, Don

Call for AHA Club Only Judges

By Tony Plank

I am seeking experienced judges who would be willing to help judge a small homebrew competition in Grapevine on September 15th at 5PM. This competition is a club competition which is preliminary to the

NHC Club Only competition. Obviously, we will be judging California Common this round.

The homebrew club is the BrewRats - a unique internet based group of brewers with international membership. The BrewRats were runner up for the NHC Homebrew Club of the Year award this past year. For more info, check out <http://www.brewrats.org>. I am expecting 6 to 10 beers and at least two of the entrants will be from brewers that have one NHC round two medals in the past. I am expecting some seriously good beer.

At least one other BrewRat will be in town for the competition and I will buy dinner for the judge. If you have any interest or questions, please contact me at tplank@yahoo.com.

Tony



Cheers from the great white north. I wish I thought of that.



October Meeting
The Bavarian Grill
221 West Parker Road
Plano, TX 75023
(972) 881-0705



The Brewing Equipment Trading Post

15 gallon corny keg w/SS carbonating stone, new cond. Could be modified to be an awesome homebrew unitank! Only 1 of 2 that I know about in DFW area. \$150/BO. Double headed brass tap tower, used, \$50/BO. Contact Rick Calley, metro 817-430-2141.

PLACE YOUR AD HERE

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 about your items).

You can give the information to Don Trotter at our club meeting or email it to djtrotter@yahoo.com.

Your items) will be listed in the next issue of the newsletter. There is **no charge** for this service if you are a club member. Non club members may post here for a modest fee.

North Texas Home Brewers Association, Inc. Board of Directors

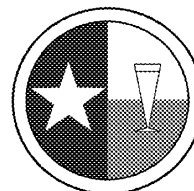
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Past President -----	Jim Layton -----	(903) 546-6989 j-layton@raytheon.com

Club Brewmeisters

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

Russ Bee -----	(972) 771-9489
Charlie Feder -----	(972) 223-8771
Darrell Simon -----	(972) 475-7571
McKee Smith -----	(972) 393-3569

North Texas Home Brewers Association, Inc.



The North Texas Home Brewers Association 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. Deadlines for ads and articles are the last Monday of each month for publication the following month.

Visit the NTHBA Website at <http://www.nthba.org>

The Flying and Brewing Magazine



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If you received this with a yellow post office forwarding sticker,
please give Tom Garner a call at (972) 234-4411 and give him your new address.