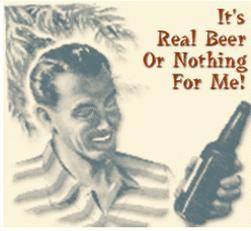


# LIVIN' THE BREWS



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH TEXAS HOME BREWERS ASSOCIATION



## Prez Sez

By James Dorman

Wow, time really flies when you are having fun. My term as club president is coming to an end soon, and it seems like it only started 11 months ago (oh wait, it did start 11 months ago). This month is officer election month. Included in this newsletter is a ballot with the names of people who are interested in volunteering to be an officer for the upcoming year. We will be collecting the ballots at the club meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> at BJ's in Plano. We will have extra copies of the ballot just in case you forget to bring yours, but don't think we are encouraging voting early and voting often.

I'd like to thank all of the people who entered beers in competitions this year, whether you won an award or not. We came in 4<sup>th</sup> in the club standings for the Lone Star Circuit, and hopefully we will do better next year. Winning is nice for bragging rights, but the real benefit of competitions is you get feedback on your beer so that you can improve your brewing.

I really do feel bad about missing last months club meeting, but unfortunately by boss decided I needed a trip to San Antonio. I hear everyone had a great time, and believe me, you definitely had a better time than I did.

The next Bluebonnet Committee meeting will be November 19<sup>th</sup> at Big Buck Brewery in Grapevine. We are still looking for artwork for the event so if you have any artistic ability we would appreciate a submission. Just so you know, this is the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Bluebonnet and some of the ideas brought up revolve around it being a coming of age year. We don't want to copy the Dixie Cup which had a poker theme to the artwork for their 21st, but any other ideas would be appreciated.

Until next month,

James Dorman

## Announcements

- Oct. 14 Club meeting at BJ's in Plano
- October 18 Brewday at Fred David's house
- Dec. 9 Christmas Party at Bo and Robin Turton's at 6:00 pm.

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## What's Brewin'?

By Fred David

The Oktoberfest party at Pam and Walter Hodges' house is now come and gone. The weather that evening, as promised, was spectacular. Walter and Pam, as usual, hosted a wonderful evening of traditional food and drink with the sound of fest music in the background. The beer was great with a lot of great homebrew and Spaten Oktoberfest on tap. I did my best to drink it all but to no avail. We ended up with 8 gallons left over which will be used

for a brewday or two and or up coming Christmas party on December 9<sup>th</sup>. I would like to thank everyone who donated for the keg of Spaten. We ended up falling shy of breaking even by only \$10.00 which is a great. Hopefully we will be able to do something similar next year!

Next up is the Christmas party! This year it will be



on Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> and it will be, of all places, at Robin and Bo Turton's house. Robin and Bo have hosted the Christmas party for the last few

*(Continued on page 2)*

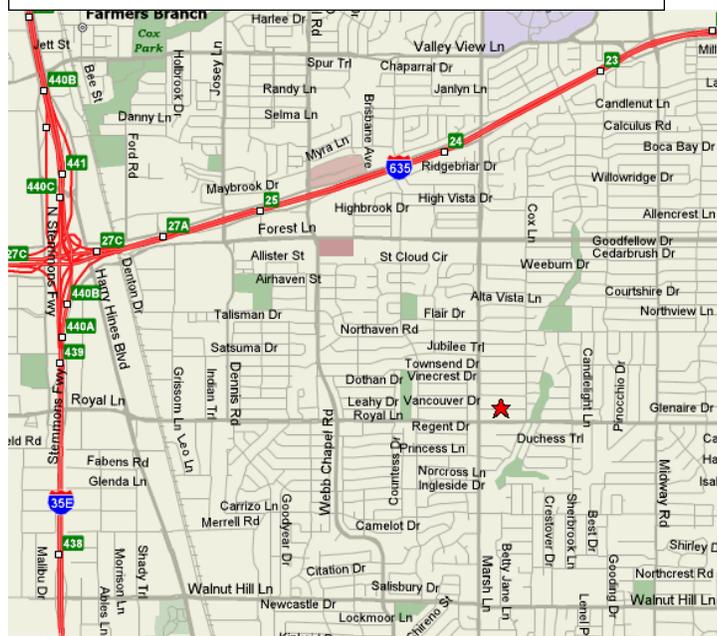
(Continued from page 1)

years and they have a great place to party. For those of you who know Bo and have been to Bo's house in the past it will come as no shock, but Bo has added 900 sq ft of space to his back yard. I think he annexed some of his neighbor's yard. This is, although Walter would argue, the club's biggest party of the year with both the raffle of the "big mo-hunker" (\$300 toward a freezer or credit at Homebrew Headquarters) and the White Elephant gift exchange. As I have mentioned in previous articles, I hope everyone will get more into the spirit of the White Elephant exchange and come up with some very ingenious and funny brewing related gifts for this year's exchange. We all drink great beer across the year but great laughs last much longer. I hope that every one of you can and will attend the party at Bo's. If I don't see you for the rest of the year please have a very joyous and safe holiday season!

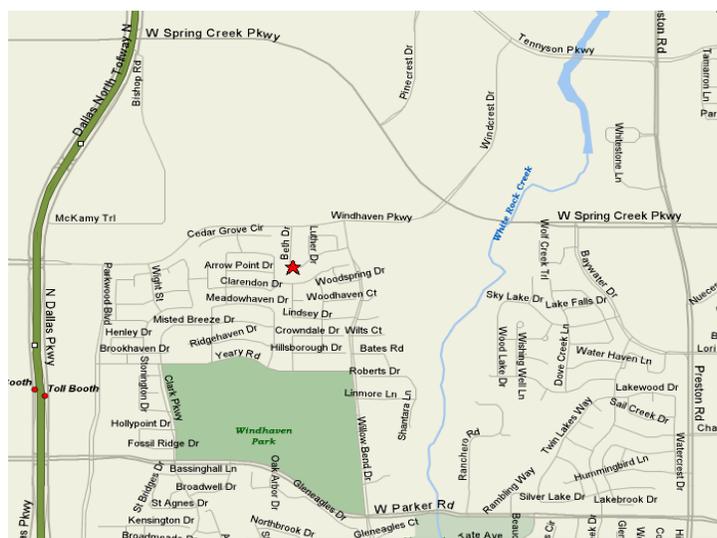
Until then,

Prosit!!!

**Robin and Bo Thorton's house at 3747 Vancouver Dr, Dallas, TX 75229. 214-538-9178**



**Fred David's house at**



## 2006 Brewer Royale

By Mike Grover

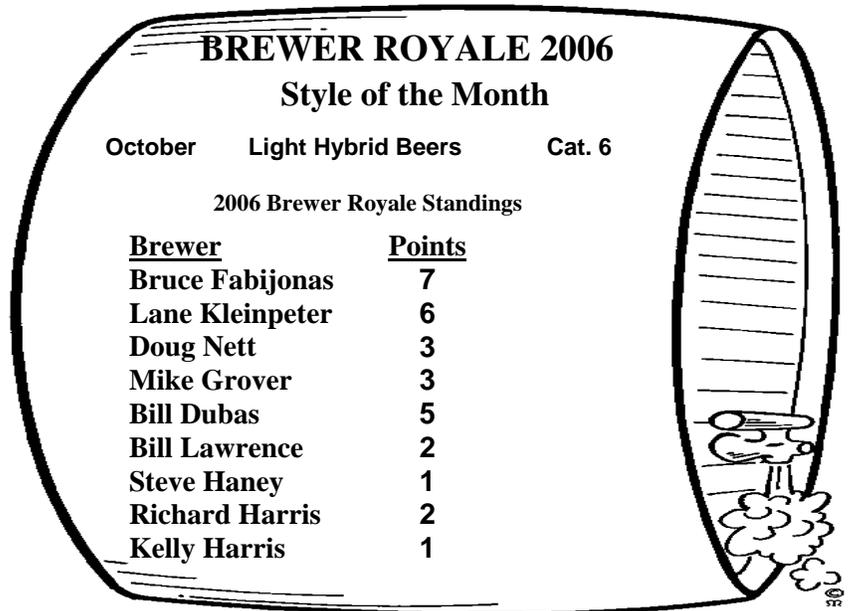
The final club only competition was in October at Bavarian Grill. The category was Light Hybrids, which includes cream ale, blonde ale, Kolsch, and American wheat/rye. Thanks to Walter Hodges and Kelly Harris for judging. The results were:

- First Place – Bruce Fabijonas (American wheat)
- Second Place – Bruce Fabijonas (cream ale)
- Third Place – Mike Grover (American wheat)

The 1-2 finish allowed Bruce to run away with what had been an extremely close field. Congratulations to Bruce Fabijonas, the 2006 Brewer Royale! Thanks also to everyone who entered the competitions and an extra special thanks to all of the judges. Here are the first three categories for the 2007 Brewer Royale:

- Low Gravity/Session Beers (O.G. <0.045) – January 2007
- Scottish Ales (Category 9A, B, and C) – February or March 2007
- Extract Beers (Extract >50% of fermentables – Categories 1-23) – April 2007

It seems far off, but January will be here before you know it. If none of your Limbo Challenge beers hold up that long (or if you drank the last of it), remember that you don't need a lot of time to brew most of these styles. Several of them could go from brew kettle to stomach in a month. Allow some extra time for cold conditioning if you plan to enter a Scottish ale. The extract competition is open to any BJCP beer style – the only requirement is that 50% or more of the fermentable sugars are derived from malt extract.



## Dixie Cup Results

By Mike Grover

The 2006 edition of the Dixie Cup, the last competition in the Lone Star Circuit, was held on October 20-21 in Houston. Congratulations are in order for Jim Layton. He won Best of Show with his Belgian Golden Strong Ale. This is an amazing feat when you consider that the Dixie Cup typically has around 1,200 entries! Jim also took first place in the witbier category. Bruce Fabijonas earned yet another award for his "It's too f\*cking hot in Texas winter ale" – this time first place in the Belgian Strong Dark Ale category. Fred David picked up a second place medal with "Dagwood's Blonde Ale."

Unfortunately, we had some issues with bottle breakage despite careful packaging. For the

major out-of-town competitions we are considering organizing a delivery run rather than commercially shipping our entries. If you'd be interested in helping out, let one of the club officers know.

## Lone Star Circuit Standings

By Mike Grover

With the completion of the Dixie Cup, the first-ever Lone Star Circuit is complete. While NTHBA had a good showing and captured Best of Show, we did not earn enough additional competition points to move ahead in the standings. The Circuit standings had not been officially updated at press time, but the final standings should look like the table on the right.

Not a bad showing, but THREE Houston clubs sitting atop the standings? If

## Brewdays

By Fred David

October was a busy month, but I was able to squeeze in a little time for the brewday at Brian and Melinda Beyer's on October 28 and I was very glad I did. Brewing on this day were Tom Garner and, of course, Brian Beyer. Tom brewed a Kolsch and Brian was brewing a 10 gallon batch of his Arrogant Bastard clone. Brian told us that he used 5 ounces of a new hybrid bittering hop he has been cultivating for the last two years that he affectionately called Cluster Fuggles. I can't wait to see how it turns out.

The usual suspects were hanging out on a nice October day. There were donuts and coffee

we want to have a better showing next year, the Bluebonnet is where we need to make our stand. Also, the Limbo Challenge will become part of the Circuit in 2007, giving us another local competition where we can win some points.

### Lone Star Circuit Standings

1. Foam Rangers	287
2. Mashtronauts	90
3. KGB	83
4. Red River Brewers	73
5. NTHBA	57



for the early arrivals and Brian and Melinda had burgers and brats for lunch. I brought 3 gallons of Spaten Oktoberfest, and several excellent homebrews brought samplings. Brian had an ordinary bitter on tap that was very tasty, but the crown jewel was Brian's magnum of 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary IPA from San Diego. I hope Brian's IPA turns out like this beer! We had some newcomers that were asking some very good questions and I hope that this brewday was beneficial for

them. A lot of fun was had by all on this day as we continue to learn about our hobby of creating good beer along with great fellowship along the way. This will be the last brewday of the year so I hope to see most of you either at one of our last two meetings of the year or at our Christmas party.

Until then,  
Prosit!!!

# Beer Talk With Jacque

News, Hearsay & Odd Info  
by Jacque Keller

## A GUITAR, A BUTTON, A COWBOY BOOT

If you find yourself without a beer bottle opener, any of these can get the job done. Or try bread, a motorcycle helmet or a toothbrush. Check out **1000 Ways To Open A Beer Bottle**, complete with how-to photos. The site is in German, but you can click to an English translation. The translation yields some surprising beer opener options, such as “mute servant.” See the site to find what that might be and how you open a beer with it. <http://stuff.twoday.net/>



## MULTI-TASKING

Thanks to Richard Harris for the inspiring photo of this beer bar/bike! Who says there's no time for exercise?



## OLD CHUB STICK

Billed as the world's first beer lip balm, Old Chub Stick is made with various ingredients including Old Chub beer and malt and hops. It tastes and smells like beer. I think we'd probably have to ding it on mouthfeel, though.

## BEER TRIVIA

**Last month's question:** No one correctly answered that Juan Gris is the Spanish cubist who painted Glass of Beer and Playing Cards. The consensus is that the odd, askew angles of the beer in the painting most resemble the odd, askew flavors of the infamous batch of St. Bridget's porter purchased long ago by Steve Jones and remembered by anyone who ever tasted it!

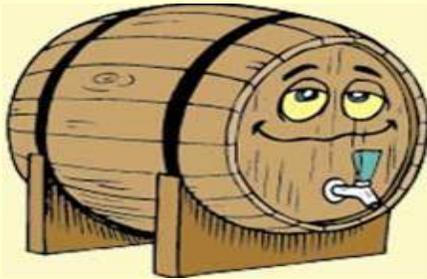
**This month's question:** What ancient people is credited with first having brewed beer?

## North Texas Homebrew Association 2007 Officers Ballot

Below you will find several candidates who have volunteered to serve on the club's board of directors for 2007. James Dorman will be "Past President," but there are six other open positions that need to be filled. Please select up to SIX names from the list below. The six candidates with the most votes will serve on the board next year.

- Mike Grover: I joined the club about 4 years ago and have been brewing a little longer than that. Up until this summer I was only brewing extract batches. I am a geologist with an environmental consulting firm. I enjoy all types of beer and so far I haven't brewed the same thing twice.
- Fred David - Fred has been brewing for about three and a half years but has been a member of NTHBA for about five. He has served as VP of social activities for the club for the last two years. His interest in good beer was first aroused while living in Germany for 5 years. His interest in better "good beer", aka homebrewing, started when he drank some of his good friend Bill Lawrence's homebrew. He brews both lagers, and ales using methods from extract brewing to all grain. Other interests outside work include music and golf.
- Sean Fitzpatrick: Sean is the current NTHBA newsletter editor and has been a homebrew enthusiast for over three years. When he's not rounding up newsletter articles, he's volunteering at KERA 90.1, developing the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth library catalogue, and focusing on his graduate studies in information organization systems, specifically focusing on how new developments in the science of emergence affect how people produce, understand, and retrieve information.
- Bill Lawrence: As usual, Bill is running under the campaign slogan, "pay yer damn dues!"
- Write-in candidate: \_\_\_\_\_

# The Brewing Equipment Trading Post



## HELP WANTED

Homebrew Headquarters is looking for a knowledgeable person in beer and wine making. Help is needed for full or part time. OK money, excellent employee discounts. Contact Kelly Harris @972-234-4411 or [brewmaster@homebrewhq.com](mailto:brewmaster@homebrewhq.com)

## 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 Sean at [news@nthba.org](mailto:news@nthba.org)

## **NTHBA Officers**

### **President**

James Dorman  
[jlmdorman@hotmail.com](mailto:jlmdorman@hotmail.com)  
903-450-5554

### **1st vice president**

Mike Grover  
[MikeGGrover@aol.com](mailto:MikeGGrover@aol.com)  
972-417-3057

### **2nd vice president**

Fred David  
[i\\_brewfer\\_2@verizon.net](mailto:i_brewfer_2@verizon.net)  
214-415-0233

### **Treasurer**

Bill Lawrence  
[Lawrencefam@attbi.com](mailto:Lawrencefam@attbi.com)  
972-644-8878

### **Minister of education**

Steve Jones  
[sjones@netbelay.com](mailto:sjones@netbelay.com)  
214-536-3243

### **Secretary**

Sean Fitzpatrick  
[news@nthba.org](mailto:news@nthba.org)  
940-594-8538

### **Past President**

Jacque Keller  
[Jacquelyn.keller@gmail.com](mailto:Jacquelyn.keller@gmail.com)  
214-320-8426

## **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!

Russ Bee  
[Russmbee@aol.com](mailto:Russmbee@aol.com)  
(972) 771-9489

Darrell Simon  
(972) 675-5562

McKee Smith  
(972) 393-3569

Jim Layton  
[Blutick@juno.com](mailto:Blutick@juno.com)  
(903) 546-6989

Homebrew Headquarters  
(972) 234-4411  
[brewmaster@homebrewhq.com](mailto:brewmaster@homebrewhq.com)

## **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](http://www.nthba.org)

Livin' the Brews Newsletter  
Sean Fitzpatrick, editor  
C/O Homebrew Headquarters  
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Richardson, TX 75080

If you received this with a yellow post office forwarding sticker,  
please give Bill Lawrence a call at (972) 644-8878 and give him your new address.