



# LIVIN' THE BREWS



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

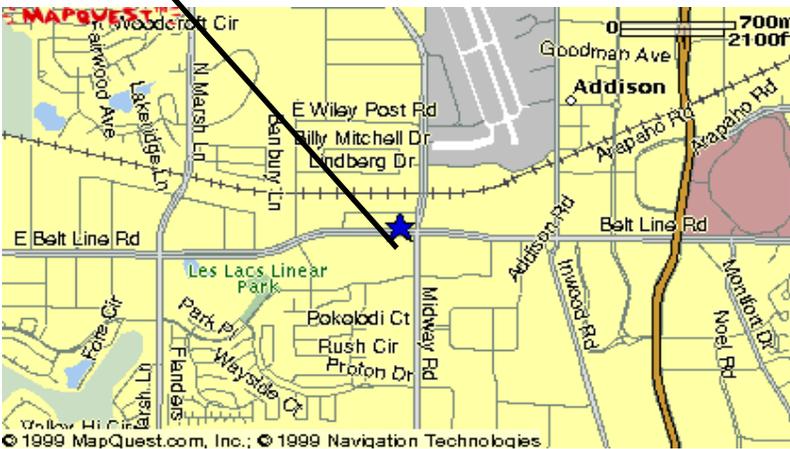
Volume XIV, Issue 10

October, 1999

## October Club Meeting

Tuesday, October 12, 1999, 7:30 PM

Location: Hoffbrau Steaks Addison  
4180 Belt Line Road  
Dallas, TX 75244  
(972) 392-1161



## Oktoberfest Party '99

by Bill Waters

This years Oktoberfest Party will be held on October 16th at my house. The location should be centrally located enough for everyone (see map for details) and there is plenty of room for us to spread out, chow down and enjoy some good beer on a fall day. Things will begin at 3 PM and continue until 9 PM.

The club will provide two kegs of the finest German Oktoberfest beer, wurst, brats and related fixings (buns, kraut, mustard, etc.). WE ARE ASKING THAT EVERYONE PLEASE BRING A SIDE DISH. Something appropriate to the food would be ideal (i.e. German potato salad and the like).

Homebrew is more than welcome at the party. I do ask that if you bring keged beer, please bring your own tapping equipment (CO2, regulator, tap, cooler w/ ice, etc.). If you bring bottled beer, please bring a cooler to keep it cold in.

There will be German music for your enjoyment and don't

## Cactus Challenge '99 - Big Success

by Steve Hacker

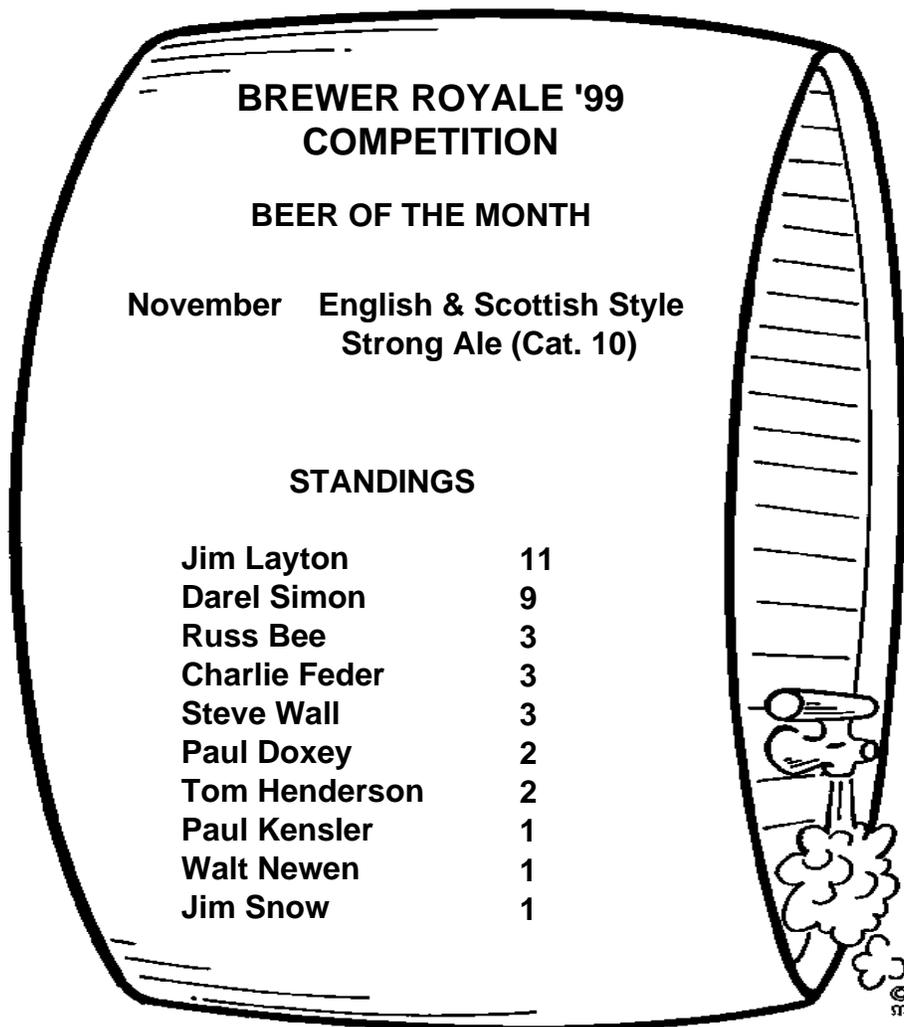
Those folks out in Lubbock did it again! The Ale-ian Society put on a real nice competition. There were 156 entries this year; up from 66 entries last year.

Mike Sawyer (Ale-ian Society President) did a fine job bringing it all together. Mike and Kim had a real bad house fire in August that complicated things but the Ale-ians pulled together and the event ran as smooth as silk. The Dallas/Ft. Worth area clubs captured

## Bluebonnet Update

by Rett Blankenship

I hope everybody is getting as fired up about the Bluebonnet Brew-Off as the organizing committee is. As you probably know already, the NTHBA is the lead club in the production of this monstrosity known as the Bluebonnet. Although we are the lead organization in 2000 there is no way we could reach our lofty goals without our sister clubs (Cowtown Cappers, Knights of the Brown Bottle, and the new kids, The Net Hoppers) help. I would



## Competition Corner

by Russ Bee, Competition Coordinator

It's Dixie Cup time!!!! O.K. you guys and gals. This is our last chance this decade of the millennium to win a Gulf Coast homebrew trophy before being skunked for the year (thanks mostly to the Florida Gang). By the time you get this letter the early entry deadline will have passed. But anyone who wants to enter the Houston Dixie Cup bring your entries to our club meeting. Entry forms, packing materials, and labels will be on hand, the club pays for shipping. Entry fees will be \$10 per. Entry info can be found on the web at [www.foamrangers.com](http://www.foamrangers.com). This is a good chance to test beers for the Bluebonnet as well as score a few major wins for yourself. See you (and your Dixie Cup entries) at the meeting.

And speaking of the Florida Gang, it's been 2 months since we've gotten an annoying postcard from them rubbing our noses in their taking our Bluebonnet trophy. Could it be that the reason they have stopped sending us postcards is because they are too busy brewing beer to beat our butts AGAIN in March???? Think about it and start brewing Now for the Bluebonnet. Good luck at the Dixie Cup and CONGRATS to all those who took home trophies

## Bluebonnet Update

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personally like to thank all the people who have dedicated their time thus far and in the coming months. We would like to invite any other folks who would like to help put this competition together to contact me or just come to our next committee meeting.

Now let me tell you what we have been doing so far. Our first big news is that we are trying out a new venue. This years Bluebonnet will be held at the Wilson World Hotel and Suites DFW. I hope this new site will work out well or I will be wearing egg on my face.

The room rates will be more affordable so that hopefully more people will be able to attend and stay the night. I know that drive home can seem like hours after a heavy dose of beer tastings. The base price for a regular room should be around \$59.00 a night. The next item of change is a bit of bad news. There will be no Lambic tasting this year. "Charlie the Great" is not able to make those monthly pilgrimages over to Belgium to pick up the various old world brews anymore. We at the Bluebonnet would like to thank

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## Classified

Kegs Modified - Stainless steel welding and cutting. Low cost - \$30/keg.

Call Mike or Tom at  
972 412-1972

## New Website for Bluebonnet Brew-Off

by Steve Hacker

A new (but temporary) website for Bluebonnet Brew-Off 2000 has been established.

Due to computer problems, the Bluebonnet Brew-Off and North Texas Homebrewers Association websites are not currently accessible. Actually all club websites that are hosted by HBD are not accessible. The folks at HBD are hard at work to correct the problem and should have it completed soon. In the meantime, our beer buddy Dave Dixon of the NET Hoppers, AKA Assistant Director, 14th Annual Bluebonnet Brew-off, has put together a temporary website for Bluebonnet Brew-Off 2000. You can access it at <http://welcome.to/bluebonnet>. Dave will be posting any updates and information that will be important to you about the event. Comments (and thanks) can be sent to Dave via his email address, [ddreaded@home.com](mailto:ddreaded@home.com) or call him at home (817) 571-3779. Also, don't miss Retts Bluebonnet Update article in this issue. He has some information about changes for the upcoming event and a schedule of planning committee meetings you might like to attend.

Take a look at the Bluebonnet website and watch for the HBD site to be back up and running real soon,

## Bluebonnet Update

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him for the two good years he was able to guide us through some of the Lambics mysteries. In the place of lambics will be another novel idea that I hope the Bluebonnet attendees will enjoy. A room crawl. This will be held after our yearly beer tasting session and will be brought to you by all the home-brew clubs who would like to participate. Essentially a person would walk from one room to another on the same floor and visit with members of other clubs while trying out different brews, homemade and/or commercial, and get to know each other and our creations. There will be some good groceries to consume while wandering about because we figure that the midnight munchie monster will have hit most mortal men by this time. I hope y'all will take this opportunity to make new friends.

Other news would include: a BJCP exam to be held on Sunday, March 26th about 10:30 AM. I encourage everybody to take advantage of this. Contact Mike Porter at 972 792-3940 if you're interested. I hope to have our keynote speaker arranged soon but will keep it from the public until final confirmation is made. We hope to unveil a new Bluebonnet Trophy this year. We have extended our T-shirt, stein, beer glass, and poster, design selection until our next committee meeting in October. If you have something to contribute please get it to me

ASAP. Registration at the Bluebonnet will be streamlined to speed your way to the free beer.

There are many other items of interest being worked on by your Bluebonnet Brew-Off Committee that I will keep you apprised of in the coming months. In the mean time get to work on those lagers and BIG beers because March will be here before you know it.

### IMPORTANT DATES:

10/17 SUNDAY @ 1 PM - Bluebonnet meeting Wilson World Hotel DFW 4600 W. Airport Frwy Irving  
**DESIGNS DUE and Everybody is welcome !!!!!!!**  
 11/21 SUNDAY @ 1 PM - Bluebonnet meeting GingerMan Dallas  
 12/19 SUNDAY - TBA if needed  
 1/9 SUNDAY - Coors FT. Worth  
 2/25 EARLY ENTRY DEADLINE  
 2/26-2/27 EARLY ENTRY PROCESSING  
 3/3 LATE ENTRY DEADLINE  
 3/4-3/5 LATE ENTRY PROCESSING  
 3/11-3/12 1ST ROUND JUDGING  
 MARCH 24-26 BLUEBONNET BREW-OFF 2000

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## Oktoberfest Party

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forget, "Lederhosen is recommended".  
**COME RAIN OR SHINE** - there is plenty of room inside for everyone to be seated. If it is nice enough, I plan to seat everyone outside. If it is a touch cool, I have a nifty outdoor fireplace that will knock off the chill.

Food, Fellowship, and some darn good beer all on a Fall day. What could be better?

ANNOUNCING!

## A HOPPY HALLOWEEN CHALLENGE

The Prairie Homebrewing Companions of Fargo-Moorhead are sponsoring a major homebrewing competition this Fall. This is an AHA sanctioned event.

Complete details, style guidelines and entry forms can be obtained from the Official PHC Website: (<http://www.linkup.net/users/dtrautmann/phc.html>)

Or from: Susan Ruud, Competition Coordinator  
5605 56th Ave. N.  
Harwood, ND 58042  
Phone: 701-231-8445

Fees: \$7.50 per entry 1-4 entries (\$5.00 per each additional entry)

Forms: Official Hoppy Halloween entry forms / bottle labels OR standard AHA or BJCP forms will be accepted

Beer: Most AHA recognized styles are eligible PLUS a special "Halloween Theme Beer" category (see attached styles list)

Entering: Entries (3 - 12 oz bottles) will be accepted from September 27 and October 15  
Ship or deliver to: The PHC % Dave Trautmann  
1914 10th St. N.  
Fargo, ND 58102  
(701) 237-0756

Judging: preliminary rounds October 15 through October 29  
Best of Show and Awards Presentation - Saturday, October 30

### 16. Halloween Theme Beer a) Halloween Theme Beer\*

#### \*Halloween Theme Beer

Any beer with characteristics that would identify it as being made for, and in the spirit of, Halloween. Individual qualities such as aroma, appearance, and flavor may be part of the "Halloweeness" of the entry. Brewers should specify the style (if any) and any unique ingredients as appropriate.

Original Gravity ( <i>f</i> Plato)	Final Gravity ( <i>f</i> Plato)	%Alc./Wt. (Alc./V.)	IBUs	SRM (EBC)
1.030-110 (7.5-27.5)	1.006-30 (2-8)	2.0-9.5 (2.5-12.1)	0-100	1-100 (2-197)

Please note: This category will be judged with the theme in mind. The beer will receive points for overall quality AND for its "Halloweeness" (ie. how well it fits the Halloween theme). The name of the beer will be considered in the judging process. To insure anonymity, brewers are encouraged to name their beer accordingly (ie. please don't incorporate your name, initials or any other wording that would identify the beer as yours). Have fun!

Due to the "unique" nature of this category, the Gold medal winner will not be eligible to compete for Best of Show. Also, medalists in this category will not accumulate points toward the Great Pumpkin Award. Brewers are allowed to enter more than one beer in this category.

# Brewing Calendar Of Events

October 7-9	GABF - Denver, CO
October 12	NTHBA Club Meeting 7:30 PM @ Hoffbrau in Addison
October 16	Club Oktoberfest Party 3 PM til 9 PM @ Bill Waters home See article and map in this issue.
October 17	Bluebonnet 2000 Meeting 1 PM @ Wilson World Hotel, Irving Everyone is welcome to attend.
October 21	BJCP Exam - Houston 7 pm @ DeFalco's
October 22 & 23	Dixie Cup Homebrew Competition - Houston Early entry deadline Oct. 9th Late entry deadline Oct. 15th
November 9	NTHBA Club Meeting and Election of Officers 7:30 PM @ Bavarian Grill in Plano AHA Catagory 10 - Scottish Ales
November 21	Bluebonnet 2000 Meeting 1 PM @ GingerMan
December 11	NTHBA Christmas Party (and Meeting) @ Bill Waters home
January 11	NTHBA Meeting Location - TBA

## Election Time is just around the corner.

Are you interested in helping with  
the leadership of our club?

Contact Rett Blankenship if you would like to  
run for office.

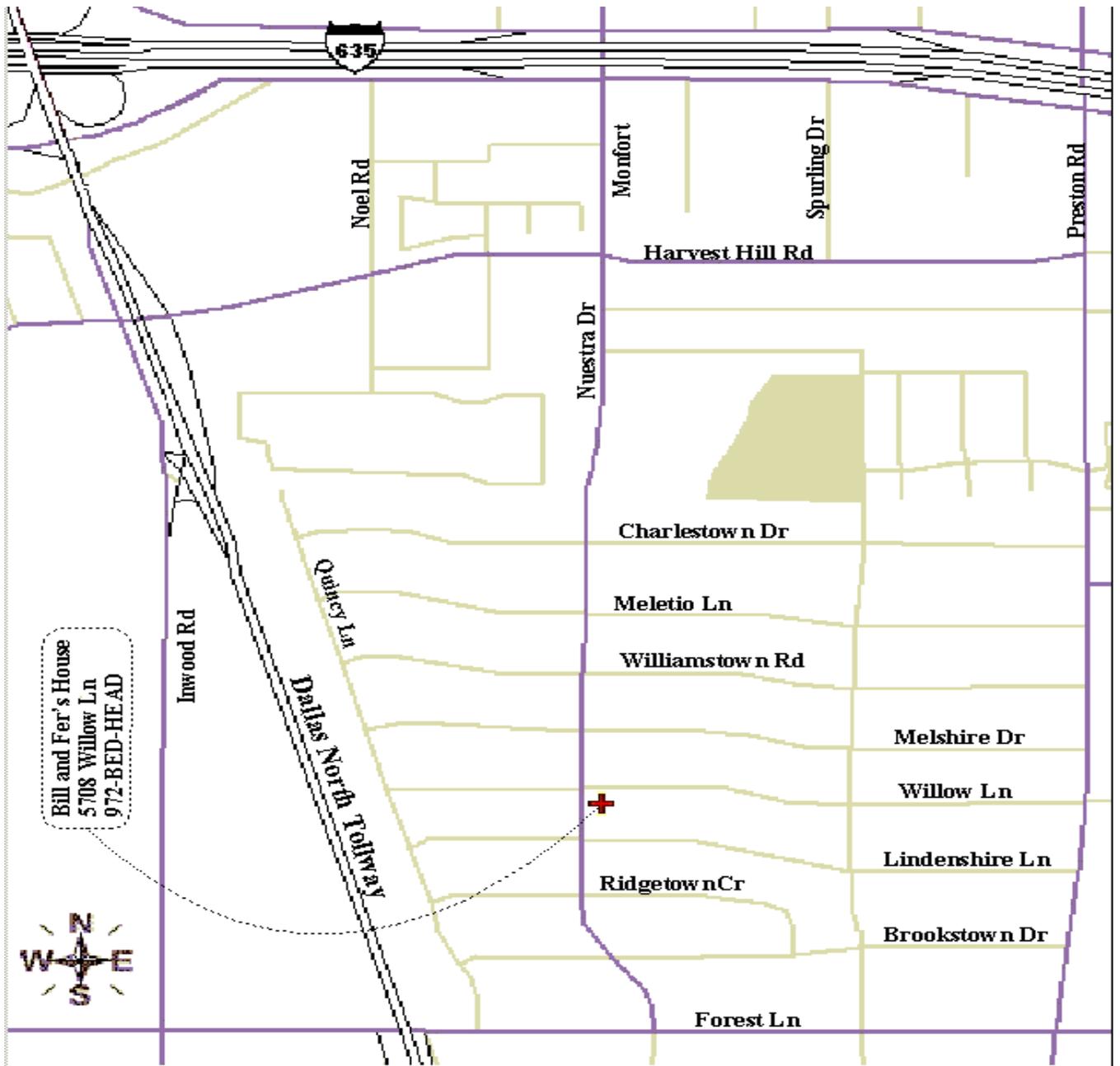
several awards. The Cowtown Cappers took 4 awards (2 - 1st Place) plus Best of Show - Dean Fiker with his Dopples Bock Dark Lager entry. The Knights of the Brown Bottle received 2 awards (1 - 1st Place). Dave Dixon of the NET Hoppers picked up 5 awards (3 - 1st place) for their club. And the North Texas Home Brewers captured 6 awards:

**1st Place Porter** - Russ Bee  
**2nd Place Other** - Jim Layton  
**3rd Place Light Lager** - Russ Bee  
**3rd Place Pale Ale** - Russ Bee  
**3rd Place Mead** - Tom Henderson  
**3rd Place English Bitter** - Doug Nett

Congratulations to ALL the winners!

The number of categories were expanded this year and plans have been made to increase again next year. The Best of Show Award was a custom made Silver Belt Buckle engraved in Montana special for the occasion. It looked really sharp and the concept will probably become the BOS Award for future Cactus Challenge





### The Map to Bill's Place

5708 Willow Lane - Dallas 972 233-4323

Club Oktoberfest Party Saturday October 16, 1999

3 PM til 9 PM

## Bluebonnet Planning Meeting - October

The next Bluebonnet 2000 committee meeting will be Sunday October 17th at 1pm. This months location is Wilson World Hotel - Irving (on Hwy 183 between the Holiday Inn and Embassy Suites).

Come by and listen in on the planning then tour the location of Bluebonnet 2000.



## The Brewing Equipment Trading Post

Does Anyone Have Brewing Equipment to trade or sell?

To list your equipment, include the following information -

- 1 - Description of item(s)
- 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 item(s).

You can give the information to Steve Hacker at a club meeting or send it as described at the bottom of the Brewers Calendar (in this newsletter).

Your item(s) will be listed in the next issue of the newsletter. There is **no charge** for this service if you are a club member.

### North Texas Home Brewers Association, Inc. Board of Directors

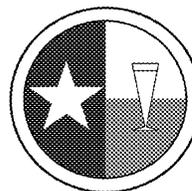
President -----	Rett Blankenship -----	(972) 353-3116 firebrew20@aol.com
1st Vice President -----	Kyle Newman -----	(214) 824-7802 knewman@airmail.net
2nd Vice President -----	Bill Waters -----	(972) 233-4323 waters@ti.com
Secretary -----	Steven Hacker -----	M (817) 540-1210 steve4beer@aol.com
Treasurer -----	Jim Layton -----	(903) 546-6989 j-layton@raytheon.com
Member-at-Large -----	Eric Schoville -----	(972) 874-8128 eschovil@us.oracle.com
Past President -----	McKee Smith -----	(972) 393-3569 mcksmith@iadfw.net

### 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
Ken Haycook -----	(214) 381-3770
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 WEB Site at <http://hbd.org/nthba>

# Bavarian Grill

ENJOY THE LIVE MUSIC OF  
**TOMMY LOY AND THE BAVARIAN BIER JAZZ**  
EVERY TUESDAY 7-10!



**Food** ★★★  
**Service** ★★★  
**Atmosphere** ★★★

Bavarian Food & Fun in Plano.  
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Sauerbraten entrees. Live music nightly.

**221 W. Parker 881-0705**

Facing Parker in the NW Corner at Central  
Lunch Tues.-Sat. 11-5; Dinner Tues.-Sat. 5-10

Livin' the Brews Newsletter  
c/o Steven Hacker  
P.O. Box 168274  
Irving, Texas 75016-8274

If you received this with a yellow post office forwarding sticker,  
please give Jim Layton a call at (972) 952-3718 and give him your new address.