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# LIVIN' THE BREWS

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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH TEXAS HOME BREWERS ASSOCIATION  
VOLUME XXVI ISSUE VII



## PINTS OF INTEREST

- THE NEXT CLUB MEETING IS OCTOBER 11TH AT FRANCONIA BREWERY IN MCKINNEY
  - THE NEXT BREW DAY IS OCT. 15 AT BILL JAMES' HOUSE.
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## Prez Sez

By Wayne Yandell

For me its brewing season! The weather has turned and I've started the task of dusting off the brewing equipment. I managed to inventory my current stock to check what is good and what needs to take the long plunge to sea. If you have made it to a few of the club parties you might have had a chance to taste some of my Bochet mead. It is a caramelized honey mead that takes a few hours of simmering to caramelize the honey. I did a double batch, ten gallons, this time to keep up with demand. As you might imagine boiling honey attracts bees. Lots of bees. By the end of the brew session, I had a good size swarm buzzing around my head. They did not seem to interested in landing on anything, but they were definitely confused at not finding any flowers to harvest.

Besides the mead, I've also made some progress to getting set up for an honest to God beer brewing session! Vienna lagers and Oktoberfest are on my mind and my batch of Vienna lager from last year is not enough to satisfy. I hope to change that. Our club Oktoberfest party at the Beyer's house was a great time. Tons of great sausage, potatoes, sides and desserts as always. And beer! I want to thank Brian and Melinda for hosting such a great event. It was great to see the Cougar's win the people's choice 1<sup>st</sup> place with their Cherry Cider.

Our next club meeting is being hosted by Dennis at the Franconia Brewery in McKinney. The club

will be providing link sausages, chips and bread. Beer provided by Franconia so do not bring any of your own. This is a potluck event so bring your sides and desserts. I started a discussion on our forum to coordinate what everyone is bringing. Or bring what you like. I will be available to talk to those interested in serving as an officer this coming year so please approach me or any other officer to discuss your interest to serve. Hope to see you there!

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## What's Brewin'?

By Kimberley Rhea

Thanks go out to Melinda and Brian Beyer for hosting a wonderful Oktoberfest Party. The German Pork Roast and Sausages were yummy and all of the sides and desserts were delicious. Thank you again for hosting.

Bill James will be hosting our next Brew Day. It will be on October 15, from 9:00 – 4:00. Lunch will be served.

2801 Glen Forest Lane  
Plano, TX

See you all soon!

Kim  
"Woo Girl"

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## Greetings from Brew School!

By Chuck Homola

Now that we are well into fall at long last, we are quickly approaching the end of this year's addition of the BJCP Beer Styles Survey and Exam Prep class sequence. We wrapped things up on Sunday the 9<sup>th</sup> of October with a big splash of world renowned sour beers. We had close to 30 different attendees over the 11 class course. We went through about \$2000 worth of beer in that time frame (~220 different beers) – not bad for a bunch of amateurs! The BJCP exam is on October 15<sup>th</sup> in Flower Mound and we have 6 members of the club taking various portions of the exam. Good luck to all that worked hard to get to this point and I'm looking forward to us adding new judges to the ranks as a result of all this.

There is an "after party" the night of the exam that is quickly becoming a new tradition. We take any leftover funds from the class and purchase some special beers to be enjoyed by folks that took part in the classes. This gives us a chance to relax after all the work and studying and relish a few of the craft beers this country has to offer that can't be used within the class itself.

I am looking for a couple of people to present an educational topic at the two remaining brew days this year. I won't make the October one as it is the same day as the exam, but would still like to have something to offer for that and the November ones. If you have something you would like to share with the club at either brew day – please let me know right away at [education@nthba.org](mailto:education@nthba.org) thanks!

One last note for this installment – if anyone is interested in being the Minister of Education for the coming year – please let myself or any of the officers know. It's actually a great job to have but I have done it for a year and half now and I would like to get someone else to infuse some new ideas into the current offerings. I will be more than happy to work with the new Minister to make it as easy as possible.

Thanks Everyone,

Chuck

## Competition Corner

by Jim Lavin

### Now is the Time

The competition season is winding down for all of us here in North Texas, but before you know it, February will be upon us and entries will be due for the Blue Bonnet and NHC as well as several other Lone Star Circuit competitions. So now is the time to start brewing those beers that take months to perfect, so you will have them ready when the competitions start hitting us one after another in rapid succession.

The Celtic dates will also change next year and the competition is scheduled right on the heels of the Blue Bonnet so when your brewing for next year's competitions make sure you brew enough for all of the competitions and if you have the same problem I did this year with all of your friends drinking your beer, brew two batches, one for the competitions and one to share.

### Cactus Challenge

Congratulations to Doug Nett as he was the sole NTHBA winner in this year's Cactus Challenge. He received a 2<sup>nd</sup> place medal in English Pale and Brown Ales with "Haileys Better than Ordinary" and a 3rd place medal in Scottish and Irish Ales with "Haileys Strong Scotch Ale". So when you see Doug congratulate him and see if he has any of those beers left to taste.

### Upcoming Club Only Competitions

Even though competition season is winding down, we still have several Club Only Competitions that will carry us through the holidays and in to next year's competition season. All entries can be dropped off at either Home Brew Headquarters or The Wine Maker's Toy Store.

September/October COC entries are due on October 8th. The theme is Specialty/ Experimental/ Historical Beers. Entries must indicate the nature of the beer and what makes it a specialty, experimental or historical in nature.

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The November COC is Hefeweizens. The club deadline is November 9th.

The January/February COC is Dark Lagers. The club deadline is still TBD, since we are waiting to find out the entry deadline from the competition organizers.

The March/April COC is Stouts. The club deadline is March 9<sup>th</sup>.

The May COC is Scottish and Irish Ale. The club deadline will be April 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **Thanks to all who helped**

I want to thank everyone who has helped during this year's competition season, without their help I would have gone mad trying to get everything done.

Special Thanks goes to Kelly Harris and Bryan Beyer from our local home brew stores for acting as drop off points for the various competitions and packing parties.

I also want to thank Orlando Guerra for keeping the tally of all of the competition scores for the Brewer Royal and Brewer of the Year Awards.

Thanks also goes out to the BJCP class members for helping with all of the judging this year.

Well, its time to pitch so I'll catch you all at the next meeting or brew day!

### **Officers Needed: No Experience Necessary**

By Larry Papkin

Have you been thinking about getting more involved in the club? Would you like to see things done differently? Would you like to see things continue just the way they are? Do you have ideas for things the club can do to improve? Would you like to meet more people in the club?

Well, if you can say yes to any one of these questions you may want to consider becoming an officer. You don't need prior experience, you don't need any particular skill, you don't need money, you just

need to have an interest in the club, a little time (not really that much extra time), and the desire to get involved and see our club continue to be the best that it can be and always has been.

Elections are coming up in November and we still are looking for a President, Treasurer, Competitions Director, Social Director and Director of Education. There will be help from other club members and past officers, so you won't be on your own—we all want the club to succeed. If you think you might be interested in becoming an officer for next year, see one of the current officers (Wayne, Chuck, Kim, Bill, Jim, Jimmy, Larry or Leroy) and find out more about it. Speaking from experience, it has been fun, informative and rewarding. I have agreed to stay on as Secretary next year, so I'll be there to assist any way I can.

If I've convinced you that becoming an officer is something you'd like to do and would like to throw your hat in the ring in the November elections, we will need a brief bio that includes your name, what position you're interested in and a brief description of why you want to be an officer and what your brewing background is (like I said, no experience is necessary, so don't worry about it if you're new to brewing.) Please send your bio to any of the officers listed in this newsletter. We need them soon, so please send bio's in as soon as you can. Hope to see you at a future Officers' meeting.

Larry

### **A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words**

By Larry Papkin

I know all these articles are fascinating, but wouldn't pictures make the newsletter better? If you visit a cool brew pub, brewery or beer bar, want to highlight your home brewery, or have other interesting beer-related pictures, send them to me (Secretary@NTHBA.org) and I'll put them in the newsletter. Include a caption for the picture and even a story to go along with it. The more the merrier. It's your newsletter, let's make it a good one.

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**- 2011 Competition Schedule -**

<b>Competition/Style</b>	<b>Entry Deadline</b>	<b>Competition Awards</b>
<b>Limbo Challenge</b> Beers w/ SG @ 1.050 or below	August 5th	August 27
<b>Cactus Challenge</b> All BJCP Beers, Meads & Ciders	August 5th	September
<b>August COC</b> Mead	August 5th (Club) August 20th (AHA)	August 27th
<b>September/October COC</b> Specialty/Experimental/Historical Beers	October 8th (Club) October 15th (AHA)	October 29th
<b>Dixie Cup</b> All BJCP Beers, Meads & Ciders	September 30 <sup>th</sup>	October 20th
<b>November/December COC</b> Hefeweizen	November 9th (Club) November 25th (AHA)	December 3rd (AHA)
<b>January/February 2012</b> Dark Lagers	TBD	TBD
<b>March/April 2012 COC</b> Stout	TBD	TBD
<b>May 2012 COC</b> Scottish and Irish Ale	April 20th (Club) April 27th (AHA)	May 5th

## NTHBA Officers

### President

Wayne Yandell  
president@nthba.org

### 1st vice president

Jim Lavin  
competitions@nthba.org

### 2nd vice president

Kim Rhea  
socials@nthba.org

### Treasurer

Bill Lawrence  
treasurer@nthba.org

### Minister of education

Chuck Homola  
education@nthba.org

### Secretary

Larry Papkin  
secretary@nthba.org

### Past President

Leroy Gharis  
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 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)