

LIVIN' THE BREWS

The Newsletter of the North Texas Home Brewers Association

Volume XXXIII Issue X - October 2017



Quick Sips for October:

Officer's Meeting	@ Bavarian Grill	October 3 rd	6:30pm – 8:30pm
Club Meeting	@ TUPPS Brewery	October 10 th	6:30pm – 8:30pm
Brew Day	@ James Smith's	October 21 st	9:00am—3:00pm
Fall Party	@ Bill James'	October 28 th	6:30pm—11:00pm

These and other events can be found on our [Facebook](#) page.

Prez Sez by Fred David

Sue and I have been travelling the great southwest for the last 30 days and there was so much to see. Sue had never seen the Grand Canyon up close and personal and we set out to fix that. This turned out to be a bigger task than I first thought. There are a total of 17 national parks in the states of New Mexico, Colorado, Arizona, Nevada and Utah with Utah having 5 of them. This is just a count of the national parks with national monuments, state parks, etc. adding up to many lifetimes of exploration. Seeing these places took us to some pretty remote locations but I was happy to see that a brewery or brewpub was not far away from any place we stayed. I had the opportunity to talk to some of their brewers and, almost without exception, they started off as homebrewers. When I asked how important scheduling was to their work they all agreed that they had to look at what was popular at any given time of year and brew that style in advance to be ready for the season. This got me to thinking about how we as homebrewers go about brewing for competition. Years ago, when I first started I was encouraged by the heavyweights of the club like Jim Layton, Russ Bee, and Charlie Gottenkiency to brew to a schedule for competition. Not all beers we brew are at their peak in 3-4 weeks. So I looked at the events I wanted to enter for the year. I then decided what beers I wanted to enter. I did a little reading to find out when each style peaked in quality and planned my brewing schedule accordingly.

I started looking at the Lonestar circuit current standings and three of the top four clubs are from South Texas. I don't think that, for the most part, they are better brewers than we are. I really believe that they have two things going for them. First, they enter more beers than we do on average. Secondly, and maybe more importantly, they are just well organized when it comes to their brewing schedule. Every brewer down there I know decides what beers he or she wants to enter into competition for the entire competition year and then they make up a calendar to schedule what beer they are going to brew and when. If they are going to enter a lager into a competition, then the beer really needs to be brewed 12 weeks before the entry deadline for that competition. Given that the entry deadline for this coming Bluebonnet is the beginning of February, you will need to be brewing this style no later than the second week of November. I personally am going to enter in one of these categories and I will be pushing it by brewing around the first week of November. If you are going to brew some of the Belgian styles you need more time than this. Old Ales, Barleywines, and Meads are out 1-3 years. If you look at the BJCP style guides you will find that better than 50 percent of the styles we enter take more time than I know that at least I used to allow for my competition beer to be ready. You can also brew too soon for some styles and they are past their peak. I know this personally about Kolsch. I don't know about you, but I think I'm going to make good use of one of those calendars I get this Christmas!

*Until then,
Prosit!!!*



Camping @ Cedar Creek Brewery

The First Sip by Nicole Saladin

Happy Fall Y'all!

We have lots going on this time of year! We had the 4th annual Cedar Creek Campout on Saturday. The weather was beautiful and we had a great turnout! There were lots of campers, homebrew flowed and our chef, Walter, whipped up some tasty food! A huge thank you to Walter for cooking and Cedar Creek Brewery for generously hosting this event!

The September brew day was held at the home of Andrew Kotas. We had a nice turnout on a beautiful day and Andrew brewed a porter, a favorite of his! Thank you to Andrew for hosting and opening up his home to the club!

Coming up this month we have the brew day on Saturday, October 21st at James Smith's house in Plano. We will get started around 9am and wrap up around 3pm with the club providing lunch. Brew days are a terrific way to learn new techniques, share successes and struggles and enjoy delicious homebrew. James lives at 4100 Camino Dr, Plano. Hope to see you there!

October is Fall Party month for the club. This year the Fall Party will be Halloween themed and hosted by Bill James. Bill lives at 2801 Glen Forest Ln, Plano, TX 75023. Come dressed in your best costume and a chance to win a prize! Bring some homebrew and don't miss this fun themed party!

November is Teach a Friend to Brew Day on Saturday, November 4th. Dallas Homebrew is gracious enough to host again this year. Dallas Homebrew is located at 1500 I-35E #116, Carrollton, TX. This is a great opportunity to bring a friend out and show them what homebrewing is all about. The club will provide lunch and we will get started around 9am and wrap up around 3pm. See you at Dallas Homebrew!

That's all for now!

Cheers,

Nicole



Camping @ Cedar Creek Brewery

Competition Corner by Matt Parulis

October is a great month in Texas! The weather starts to cool, football season is in full swing, and it's one of the best times of year for good beer! This month we have results from the September COC, awards ceremonies for 2 Lone Star Circuit comps, and we start to look forward to the 2018 competition schedule. If you have any questions or comments on competitions, please email me at firstVP@nthba.org.

October Competitions at a Glance

10/7	Ozapft Is Awards
10/10	October Club Meeting - Tupps Brewery
10/28	Dixie Cup Awards

September COC Results

The September club competition focused on Fruit, Wild, and Sour beers from categories 23, 28, & 29. The breakdown included 5 fruit beers (29A), 2 Mixed Fermentation Sour Beers (28B), 1 Berliner Weisse (23A), and 1 Fruit Lambic (23F). A big thanks to our judges Mike Grover and Zac Cathcart for coming out to help with judging. Congrats to those who placed and thank you to all who sent entries! With that, the winners for the September COC are...

- 1st Place – Dean Weaver – Deanitude Cherry Bomb – Fruit Beer (29A)
- 2nd Place – Steven Barsalou – Double Barrel Bastard Child – Mixed Ferm Sour Beer (28B)
- 3rd Place – Kevin Smith – Blended Raspberry Porter – Fruit Beer (29A)

...and with 1 more competition left in 2017 the current Brewer Royale standings are...

Brewer Royale Standings 2017

Dean Weaver – 8 pts
 Fred David – 3 pts
 Dave Kutschman – 3 pts
 John Driscoll – 3 pts
 Jimmy Orkin – 2 pts
 Kevin Smith – 2 pts
 Matt Parulis – 2 pts
 Steven Barsalou – 2 pts

Don Trotter – 1 pt
Kevin Smith – 1 pt

November Club Competition

Our final club competition for 2017 takes place in November and includes European styles from categories 3 thru 9. Entries will be accepted at the monthly club meeting on Tuesday, Nov 14th and the drop off deadline at Dallas Homebrew and Homebrew Headquarters will be Friday, Nov 17th. Judging will take place early the following week since it's the week of Thanksgiving.

Lone Star Circuit Results

There are 2 awards ceremonies for Lone Star competitions in October. Look for results from the Ozapft Is and Dixie Cup in the November newsletter! These are the last 2 LSC competitions for the year which means the 2017 Brewer of the Year will be decided by the end of October.

Brewer of the Year Standings 2017

Dean Weaver – 11.5 pts
Matt Parulis – 8 pts
John Driscoll – 8 pts
Dave Kutschman – 6 pts
Jimmy Orkin – 4 pts
Fred David – 3 pts
Steven Franks – 3 pts
Mike Grover – 3 pts
Erich Gens – 3 pts
Layne McBeath – 2 pts
Jesse Thoresen – 1 pt
Walter Hodges – 1 pt
Anthony Gachima – 1 pt
Andrew Barker – 1 pt
Steven Barsalou – 1 pt
Doug Nett – 1 pt

2018 Competitions

With only 2 competitions left for 2018, it's a great time to start thinking about next year's competition schedule and what brews you want to enter. The 2018 club only competition (COC) schedule is listed below and the Lone Star Circuit schedule will be released later in the year. As

always, the Bluebonnet will be coming up in early 2018 (entries will likely be due in February) so it's the perfect time to start brewing before the holiday chaos begins.

January 2018	Ciders & Meads (Categories M1-4, C1-2)
April 2018	Extract Beers - must be made of at least 50% extract
June 2018	Weissbier & Witbier (Categories 10A & 24A)
September 2018	Altbier & Kolsch (Categories 5B & 7B)
November 2018	Seasonal Beers (Category 30)
January 2019	British Strong Ale (Category 17)

Cheers!

Matt



September Brewday @ Andrew Kotas'

The Treasurer's Report by Walter Hodges



After working for more than two years, the club is officially a 501©7 organization! This status won't mean much to individual members, but as an organization it is important since it will protect our assets from taxation.

Speaking of assets, we are great financial shape and our memberships are running a bit ahead of where we were at this time last year. Thank you to everyone who has renewed their membership.

I hope some of you are considering running for an officer position in 2018. Serving as an officer is the best way to serve your club, plus you get a free membership.

Financial Summary			
Equity ended 9/26	\$8239.81	2017/2018 Memberships	100
Equity as of 8/31	\$8300.01		
Note: Financials trail the newsletter by one month. Current financials are available at: groups -> financials-corner -> financial-statement-archive">http://www.nthba.org -> groups -> financials-corner -> financial-statement-archive			

Additional financial information may be requested by club members by emailing the treasurer at: treasurer@nthba.org.

Club memberships are effective for one year from June 1st through May 31st. If your membership is not current, please renew at either Homebrew Headquarters or Wine Maker's Toy Store. You may also obtain membership forms and cards at most club events. On-line membership forms are available at: <http://www.nthba.org/forms/membership.html>

Prosit!

Walter

NTHBA Officers

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Our Supporting Home Brew Stores



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North Texas Home Brewers Association

The North Texas Home Brewers Assoc. is a group with an interest in beer and homebrewing. We meet the second Tuesday of the month at various locations around the DFW area. Visitors are welcome!

"Livin' the Brews" is our monthly newsletter. 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.



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