

LIVIN' THE BREWS

The Newsletter of the North Texas Home Brewers Association
Volume XXXI Issue IX - September 2016



QUICK SIPS FOR SEPTEMBER:



*Club Meeting @ Lake Flying Saucer
September 13th @ 6:30p*

*Club Brew Day @ James "Smitty" Smith's
September 24th @ 9a-3p*

THESE AND OTHER EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON OUR [FACEBOOK](#) PAGE.

PREZ SEZ BY JAMES SMITH

Welcome to September and another Limbo Competition in the books. Thanks again to all of the participants, judges, stewards, committee members, and others who assisted in making Limbo and Labor of Love a success. I want to specifically call out a few key individuals without whom these competitions would not have been possible.

- Matt Parulis - Limbo Competition Coordinator
- Jimmy Orkin - Labor of Love Coordinator and overall data ninja
- Brian and Melinda Beyer - Judging and LoL check-in location as well as Melinda on data
- Fred and Sue David - Judging and Limbo check-in location
- Cary Hodson and his entire crew at Intrinsic Smokehouse & Brewery

THANK YOU!!!

Call for 2017 Officer Candidates!

With Limbo behind us, it is on to the fall and time to start planning for next year. Coming up in November, we have elections for your 2017 Officers. Without your NTHBA Board and other volunteers, the club would cease to exist. Your board consists of 5 elected members: President, 1st VP(competitions), 2nd VP(Social), Treasurer, and Secretary. Along with that, the prior year's President resides on the board to vote and assist as needed. We also have two additional appointments. They are IT Director and Minister of Education(MoE). Roles and responsibilities for each of these can be found at <http://nthba.org/?q=groups/club-information/officer-tasks>.

The amount of volunteer time required in these positions is enough to keep you involved with the club, but negligible enough to not overwhelm you. NTHBA needs member participation to keep going. If you have any interest in serving as an officer, please let one of the current officers know ASAP! Better yet, start attending the officer meetings to see how things work. We would love to have you!

Bluebonnet Update from Jimmy Orkin and James Smith

Last month, it was mentioned in a post and at the club meeting that the Bluebonnet Committee is actively discussing the future structure of the event. This is everything from the location to the format of the event itself. As a club, we have sought feedback from you and represented the position in favor of revisions to the structure and relocating back to a host hotel. Other clubs have agreed on this as well. We have more time to devise the format and schedule, while our most pressing need is to nail down the location for 2017.

The actual date of the event is not set in stone yet. However, the Big Texas Beer Festival is March 31–April 1. We presently have a non-binding reservation with the Irving Convention Center for March 24–25. We are also going to investigate the Westin (prior BBO location) to see if we could go back. Other locations will be very quickly scouted for possible alternatives. The main criteria is for it to either be a hotel OR have a hotel within a block of the event space so as to affordably accommodate shuttles. We expect to hear what our viable options are very soon, possibly by the time of our club meeting. As soon as we have something to share, we will do so.

As for the event format itself, the current plan is to keep the commercial tasting, but split the homebrew and commercial tastings into different days/nights. The sacrifice here may be the popular pub crawl, while at the same time adding more on-site events such as tech talks and seminars. It is also possible, however unlikely, that it could be scaled back to the point of only occurring on a single day/night.

As far as other information to pass along, there is a possibility of an increase in the entry fee to offset the cost of hosting, judging, and storing the beer. As many of you know, there have been variances over the past several years on this. The committee is looking for a more static solution for storing the entries, such as purchase of a cooler or refrigerated truck.

Monthly Club Meeting/Officer Meeting

The **September Club Meeting** will be held on Tuesday, September 13 at the burger-friendly [Lake Flying Saucer](#) at Lake Ray Hubbard. They are located at 4821 Bass Pro Dr., Garland, TX 75043. We will get started at 6:30. Please be sure to bring along some extra cash for our raffle.

Go to here: [NTHBA Facebook Events Page](#) or here: [NTHBA.ORG Events Page](#) for more details on our monthly club meetings.

The **September Officer Meeting** will be held on Tuesday, September 6 at [The Fillmore Pub](#) in Downtown Plano. The address is 1004 E 15th St, Plano, TX 75074. As always, club members are welcome to join. We will arrive at 6:30 and get going around 7:00.

Upcoming club meetings are as follows:

- October: Tupps Brewing in McKinney
- November: Lakewood Brewing in Garland (Officer Elections)
- December: Bitter Sisters in Addison

Go to here: [NTHBA Facebook Events Page](#) or here: [NTHBA.ORG Events Page](#) for more details on our monthly officer meetings.

I hope everyone has a great September, and we'll see you at our upcoming events! Bill has information below on the September Brew Day I am hosting. I hope to see everyone there!

Cheers!

"Smitty"



Limbo Check-in @ Fred & Sue David's

THE FIRST SIP BY BILL JAMES

Not much to report on the party front for August. Of course there was the Limbo Challenge and the Labor of Love, but I expect our competitions officer will report on those. The September club brewday will be at our Honorable President's house on September 24th at 9 am. James Smith lives at 4100 Camino Dr. Plano 75074. Come join us and brew or just come and watch us brew, ask questions, teach or make snide comments at the brewers. Of course we have donuts and some type of lunch. The Fall party is still looking for a host. It is lots of fun and the club pays for the food. Come talk to me (Bill) at the next club meeting at the Lake Flying Saucer.

Limbo Judging @ Fred & Sue David's



COMPETITION CORNER BY MATT PARULIS

September is here! The weather is starting to cool, football season is getting underway, and the pumpkin beers are hitting the taps and shelves everywhere! The month starts off with the Labor of Love event on Sunday of Labor Day weekend (9/4) at Deep Ellum Brewing. We will also have a club only competition and packing party for the last Lone Star competition of the year. Finally, there are 2 BJCP sanctioned competitions that are not part of the Lone Star Circuit during September. Another busy month for sure!

Limbo Challenge

Thank you to all who sent entries and/or helped out with the Limbo Challenge this year! The competition was a great success with 199 entries! The NTHBA took home a few medals including the Lawnmower winner (Walter Hodges – Urinating Infant) and 2nd Best of Show (Mike Grover – Not So Vicious). Congrats to all who medaled in the competition!

All score sheets and awards were mailed out on August 24th & 25th. If you did not receive your score sheets/awards packet, please email me at director@limbocomp.org.

Labor of Love

The Deep Ellum Brewing Company is hosting the 5th annual **Labor of Love** homebrew competition. The event will take place on Sunday 9/4 starting at 6pm at Deep Ellum Brewing in downtown Dallas. For more info on the event and to purchase tickets, visit Deep Ellum's Labor of Love page on their [website](#).

September COC

Our next club competition will be in September and include some classic Lagers for fall. This will include Marzen (6A) & Vienna (7A) Lagers. The drop off deadline for entries will be on Friday, September 9th at Dallas Home Brew and Homebrew Headquarters. The final entry deadline will be on Tuesday, September 13th at the monthly club meeting. This month's club meeting will take place at the Lake Flying Saucer in Garland. Social will begin at 630p and meeting at 7p.

Dixie Cup Packing Party

The Dixie Cup is the last leg of the Lone Star Circuit competitions for 2016. It is open to all beers, ciders, and meads listed in the 2015 BJCP style guide. The entry period closes on 9/30 so the club will host a packing party to gather entries. Details are still TBD however the party will most likely take place the

week of 9/19. I will post more info on the club website and Facebook page as it becomes available. As always, the club provides packing supplies and pays shipping to send entries to the competition.

Upcoming Non – LSC Competitions

There are some other competitions coming up this fall that are not part of the Lone Star Circuit but are BJCP sanctioned events.

The **Rhymes & Vines Texas Music Festival** will take place at Melody Mountain Ranch in Stephenville this September and will include a homebrewed beer and wine competition. Info for the competition can be found at the festival's website. Click [here](#) to visit the site.

The **Pride of Southside Homebrew Invitational** will take place in October and includes beers from the Strong American Ale categories (#22). More info for the competition is available at the website. Click [here](#) for more details.

2016 Club Competition Schedule

September – Amber European Lagers – Marzen / Oktoberfest & Vienna Lagers – BJCP Categories 6A, 7A

November – Cider and Mead – BJCP Cider & Mead Guidelines

2016 Brewer Royale Standings

Joseph Flay – 4 pts
 Dave Kutschman – 3 pts
 John Driscoll – 3 pts
 Kevin Smith – 2 pts
 Chris Jazak – 2 pts
 Steven Barsalou – 2 pts
 Dean Weaver – 1 pt
 Matt Parulis – 1 pt

Cheers!
 Matt



Labor of Love Judging @ Brian & Melinda Beyer's

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THE TREASURER'S REPORT BY WALTER HODGES

Summer doldrums have hit and our membership renewals tend to level off until the temperatures cool a bit and folks start brewing and renewing again. Overall, club finances are in good shape. After Limbo Challenge expenses, our primary liability at this time of year is our insurance renewal. In 2015, our insurance cost was \$490.00. As of 8/16, the Limbo Challenge brought in entry fees of \$1592.00 and had expenses totaling \$1638.68 for a net loss of \$46.68. Of the Limbo expenses, \$1145.34 was for medals. We purchased three years of medals, so the next two years of the Limbo Challenges will not have a medal expense. Excluding the cost of year's two and three medals, the 2016 Limbo Challenge has a net profit of \$716.88.

Financial Summary			
Equity ended 7/31	\$5032.87	2016/2017 Membership	84
Equity as of 8/16	\$6490.02		

Note: Financials trail the newsletter by one month. Current financials are available at: <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.

Prosit!
Walter



Limbo Awards @ Intrinsic Brewing

EDUCATION - MASH EFFICIENCY BY DEAN WEAVER

The temperature outside is beginning to wane, the days are getting shorter and fall is just around the corner. It's time to start making the big beers again!

One thing that I have found when I'm making my big Quads, Double IPA's and Imperial Stouts: my efficiency diminishes 7-10%. The reason for this loss is due to my mash tun (10 gallon cooler with a false bottom) being completely full and not having a very good water to grain ratio. There is just not enough room for the enzymes to do their job.

In the past, I've always had my water to grain ratio at 1.25 gal/lb. However, some articles I've read have suggested a thinner ratio . . . anywhere from 1.5 gal/lb to 2 gal/lb to yield a higher efficiency. I'd like to try that, but it creates a problem with my big beers that I'd like to get past without spending a bunch of money on new, bigger, better equipment . . .

Well, I came across a podcast on Brew Strong with John Blichmann as a guest, called Triple Mashing. John had done an experiment with a large grain bill. Instead of mashing 30lbs in one mash, he divided the grain into three separate mashes. The interesting part was when he took the run-off from the first mash, heated it up to the strike temperature and began his second mash with the run-off of the first mash. When he lautered the second mash, the gravity increased. Again, he heated the runnings of the second mash to the strike temperature and began a third mash. The gravity from the third runnings were what they would have been had John done a single mash with the same water to grain ratio in a large mash tun.

The conclusion of the experiment was that the grains did not reabsorb the sugars from the previous mash, but only absorbed the water after releasing its sugars, resulting in a higher gravity. Interesting, indeed.

I will be trying this method on a Black Double IPA this weekend; although, I will only do two mashes. If I'm successful, this will severely shorten the brew day for my next Quad. To make up for the lost efficiency, I use to do a parti gyle to get all the sugars from the grains. That's not a bad way to get my money's worth from the grain, but I only have one burner and one kettle. That makes for an extremely long brew day.

If you have any questions, concerns or additions, please email [me](#).



NTHBA Officers**PRESIDENT**

James Smith
president@nthba.org

1ST VICE PRESIDENT

Matt Parulis
firstvp@nthba.org

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

Bill James
socials@nthba.org

TREASURER

Walter Hodges
treasurer@nthba.org

MINISTER OF EDUCATION

Dean Weaver
education@nthba.org

SECRETARY

Dean Weaver
secretary@nthba.org

PAST PRESIDENT

Mike Grover
pastpres@nthba.org

**OUR SUPPORTING HOME
BREW STORES**

Dallas Home Brew
 1500 N I-35E, Suite 116
 Carrollton TX 75006
 866-417-1114
WWW.DallasHomeBrew.com



300 N. Coit Road, Suite 134
 Richardson, TX 75080
 972-234-4411
www.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 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.



Limbo Challenge Best of Show Contenders



www.NTHBA.org