

# LIVIN' THE BREWS



The Newsletter of the North Texas Home Brewers Association

Volume XXXVII

Issue VIII - August

## *Quick Sips for August:*

Officer Meeting	August 3rd 6:30pm	Whole Foods, Richardson
Club Meeting	August 10th 6:30pm	Heritage Pizza & Taproom, The Colony
Brew Day	N/A	Judge Limbo Instead
Entries Due	August 7 <sup>th</sup> 12:00 noon	Alamo Cerveza Fest
	August 30 <sup>th</sup> 12:00 noon	Dixie Cup

## Prez Sez by Stephen Tyner

Greetings NTHBA! The dog days of summer are almost behind us and things are in full swing for the club. I want to start out by thanking everyone who came to the Summer party and a HUGE thank you to Smitty and Julie for hosting. This was the first club party since January 2020 and it was great to see everyone at an actual club social function. We had a great turnout with awesome food and spectacular weather. I know I'm not alone in looking forward to the next party (Terry has more on that below).

As far as club business goes, we have the August officer meeting at Whole Foods (Richardson). The club meeting will be held in the air conditioned halls of Heritage Pizza & Taproom (The Colony). We look forward to seeing you there.

As is the case with the NTHBA in July and August, Limbo is in the homestretch. With that, I am issuing a final call for judges. If you like beer so much you could stick your nose in it, come judge. If you like to hold beer up to the light and marvel in its magnificence, come judge. If you want to further impress your friends and family with your beer prowess, come judge. If you want the opportunity to try a wide variety of beer styles that would take you years to brew, come judge. Judging is one of the (if not THE) best ways to improve as a brewer. No prior judging experience is required as you will be paired with an experienced judge. All jokes aside, judging is a great way to expand your homebrew horizons while helping out the club. We've got 300 entries to judge and it will start August 6th (Smitty's house) and we will have three judging sessions planned with a fourth as a backup. If you are interested in judging please email Walter Hodges or Fritz Schanz at:

Walter Hodges, Director – [limbodirector@nthba.org](mailto:limbodirector@nthba.org)

Fritz Schanz, Head Judge – [limboheadjudge@nthba.org](mailto:limboheadjudge@nthba.org)



*Just Think - This Could Be You*

We look forward to seeing you at one of the judging sessions and the upcoming meetings!

*Prost, Stephen*

## The First Sip by Terry Olinger

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So last month's newsletter I said brew days were getting hotter. I failed to mention how muggy it has been. The July brew day proved to be very muggy. Lots of shade and cold homebrew helped cool things down but I was the only one who was brewing that day, brewing a 10-gallon batch of Irish red. I managed to not get too distracted by all the discussions, homebrew tasting and lunch and it has turned out well. The day finished on the patio under ceiling fans and misters, with cigars being smoked and Jimmy gleefully ringing the bell (you had to be there...) (editor's note for the less than wholesome out there: no, "ringing the bell" is not code for anything; there actually was a bell)

Last month also had a return to parties with the summer party at Smitty's house. There was a good turn-out, great food, and, something that was missing at brew day, a swimming pool!. Thanks go to Smitty for cooking the brisket and pork, and everyone else who brought great sides and desserts, (and homebrew of course)

August activities are going to be limited to Limbo competition: check in, judging, and awards, so no brew day will be held. See the competition update for more info. Brew day will return in September, and in October, we will be holding our fall party at Matt Parulis's house. The October party theme will be Oktoberfest with a people's choice award competition, see more details below.

### **Here's what's on tap for August**

**Monthly Officers meeting** will be held **Tuesday August 3rd** at **Whole Foods Tap Room, 1411 E Renner Rd, Richardson, TX 75082**. We will be arriving around 6:30 with business starting at 7:00pm.

**Monthly Club meeting** will be **Tuesday August 10th** at **Heritage Pizza and Tap Room, 3750 Plano Pkwy Suite 600, The Colony, TX 75056**. As usual socializing for the first 30 minutes starting at 6:30 and official business starting around 7:00pm.

### **Brew day:**

None for August due to Limbo activities.

### **Current Scheduled brew days**

August – No brew day due to Limbo Judging

September 11th – James “Smitty” Smith residence, Plano TX

October – Robert Petrin residence, Allen TX – Tentative

November – Teach a friend to brew day, discussing with local brewpubs.

If you would like to host a future brew day, please let me know at [socials@nthba.org](mailto:socials@nthba.org)

### **Fall Party**

Mark your calendar and get your brew rigs ready for the fall party. Matt Parulis will be hosting at his house in Carrollton on **Sat 10/2**. We would like to hold a people's choice competition for German / Oktoberfest style beers at the party! A list of the styles included in the competition is below. Everyone will vote for their favorite beers and prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. More details on the party to come as we get closer to the date but we wanted to give everyone enough time to brew for the competition. The club kegerator will be at the party for storing the entry kegs.

#### **Beer Styles for Peoples Choice Oktoberfest Competition**

- Munich Helles (4A)
- Festbier (4B)
- Kolsch (5B)
- Marzen (6A)
- Altbier (7B)
- Munich Dunkle (8A)
- Weissbier (10A)
- Dunkle Weisse (10B)

Looking forward to another fun party.

In parting, here are some shots from brew day and the summer party, for those of you who missed out.



*Jimmy holding court at July brew day*



*Summer Party!*

*(editor's note: I generally refrain from publishing this sort of thing however Terry insisted so should you be offended please take that up with him)*

*Prost,*

*Terry*

## Competition Corner by Fritz Schanz

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### COC

Four beers were entered in the July COC, and all were of very high quality. The top 3 beers achieved scores ranging from 40 to 43. Judges were Walter Hodges and Stephen Tyner, and the judging was hosted at Terry Olinger's home. Thanks to all!

The July COC placements are as follows:

**1<sup>st</sup> Place:** Deanitude Edinburgh Eighty (Scottish Export), Dean Weaver

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place:** Kolsch, Jimmy Orkin

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place:** Czech Amber Lager, Garry Beckham

**HM:** The Hesitant Pirate (Munich Helles), Matt Parulis

Congratulations to the winners! Also, congratulations to Dean for his consistency in placing in every COC event this year. If you revisit the interview with Dean in last month's newsletter, you will understand why Dean aims for a consistently high performance day in and day out.

Also, congratulations to Garry for his first appearance on the leaderboard; remember Garry scored an Honorable Mention at the May COC.

On a humorous note: At the June club meeting, there was much animation about how everyone was going to pull together to surpass Dean on the leaderboard. At this meeting, certain members filled the air with bluster, braggadocio, and pantomime about how their brewing prowess will alter the leaderboard. It seemed as if an Italian opera was in the making. And perhaps it was, but now, the last act has been played, the curtains have been drawn, and we stare again in disbelief at Dean's continued ascendency. Is there anyone in this club who can shed his or her comic role, exit the refined stage of this Italian opera, and get down to serious brewing business in a sweltering unkempt garage? The leaderboard must be disrupted.

The Brewer Royale standings are as follows:

Brewer Royale		
Brewer	Total Points	COC
Dean Weaver	9	Jan, Mar, May, Jul
Fred David	3	Jan
Jason Garland	3	May
James Smith	2	Jan
Jimmy Orkin	2	Jul
Stephen Tyner	2	Mar
Garry Beckham	1	Jul
Matt Parulis	1	May

Month	Beer Style	Drop-Off
Jan 2021	Trappist Ales	Completed
Mar 2021	IPAs	Completed
May 2021	Open format	Completed
Jul 2021	Open format	Completed
Sep 2021	Open format	5:00 PM, Sun, Sep 19, Homebrew Hdqtrs
Nov 2021	Open format	5:00 PM, Sun, Nov 21, Homebrew Hdqtrs
Jan 2022	Open format	5:00 PM, Sun. Jan 23, Homebrew Hdqtrs

### **Belgian Brew Brawl** (hosted by South Austin Area Zymurgists, SAAZ)

This is a non-LSC competition; however, according to the LSC governing board, this competition will likely become an LSC event next year. The BBB had over 200 entries this year, which is a four-fold increase over entries in previous years. As a club, we had low turnout for this competition, but one of our members scored very respectfully:

- Dean Weaver, 3<sup>rd</sup> place, Deanitude Garde De Tude (Biere de Garde), 3<sup>rd</sup> place, Deanitude Smooth Operator (Belgian Dark Strong)

### **Limbo Challenge**

As you know, the Limbo Challenge is off to a huge start. A record number of entries was achieved as well as a record number of entries from our own club members. We are in need of judges, so please volunteer to help out. Judging is fun and informative, and I guarantee that judging will help you to improve your own beers. If you have never judged before, do not worry; you will be paired with a certified judge or with an experienced homebrewer with judging experience. Your judging partner will be a great help to you!

Best of luck to everyone who entered, and hopefully, we will regain ownership of our competition.

### **Alamo City Cerveza Fest**

The Alamo City Cerveza Fest comes on the heels of the Limbo, and it is an LSC event. Last year, the competition drew 300 entries, and as of this writing, 336 entries have been registered.

Below is a probability analysis of the ACCF 2020 entries; you might find this useful for determining which beer styles you will enter. Would you believe that 6 categories offer a probability of winning a medal greater than 20%?!

We had several club members do well at last year's ACCF, but historically, our club has been under-represented in this competition. Hopefully, the momentum we have attained at the Limbo will carry over to the ACCF.

<b>Alamo City Cerveza Fest (2020)</b>	<b>Entries</b>	<b>% of Entries</b>	<b>Medal Probability</b>	<b>Winning Beers</b>
Table 1: Light Beer	10	3.3%	30%	Cream Ale, Cream Ale, Am Wheat
Table 2: Euro Pale Beer	17	5.7%	18%	Kolsch, Ger Pils, Ger Exportbier
Table 3: Malty European Beer	23	7.7%	13%	Vienna Lager, Marzen, Marzen
Table 4: Dark European Beer	16	5.4%	19%	Czech Dark, Munich Dunkel, Schwarzbier
Table 5: Strong European Beer	23	7.7%	13%	Brit Strong Ale, Baltic Porter, Wee Heavy
Table 6: Wheat Beer	12	4.0%	25%	Weizenbock, Weissbier
Table 7: English Beer	20	6.7%	15%	Eng Porter, Best Bitter, Ordinary Bitter
Table 8: Scottish-Irish Beer	20	6.7%	15%	Sweet Stout, Irish Stout, Irish Red Ale
Table 9: Light and Hoppy	21	7.0%	14%	Eng IPA, Blonde Ale, Eng Golden Ale
Table 10: Dark and Hoppy	9	3.0%	33%	Am Porter, Am Porter, Am Brown Ale
Table 11: IPA	13	4.3%	23%	Black IPA, NE IPA, NE IPA
Table 12: Strong American Beer	11	3.7%	27%	Double IPA, Imperial Stout, Am Strong Ale
Table 13: Sour Beer	16	5.4%	19%	Gueze, Wild Specialty Beer, Berliner Weisse
Table 14: Pale Belgian Beer	22	7.4%	14%	Trappist Single, Belg Blond Ale, Belg Pale Ale
Table 15: Strong Belgian Beer	19	6.4%	16%	Belg Dark Strong, Belg Dark Strong, Belg Golden
Table 16: Adjunct Beer	20	6.7%	15%	Wood-aged Dopplebock, Spec Wood-aged Christmas beer, Fruit Beer
Table 17: Cider	11	3.7%	27%	Cider w Other Fruit, NW Cider, Cider w Herbs/Spices
Table 18: Mead	16	5.4%	19%	Exp Mead, Spice/Herb/Veg Mead, Sweet Mead
<b>Total</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>100.0%</b>		

## I Heard It through the Hop Vine

I heard from one of the other area club presidents that there is some discussion about a Dallas – Ft Worth Competition Circuit. Also, heard that the Cap and Hare is working toward bringing back their popular O’Zapft Is! German-beer competition.

More to come; I’m sure.

## Competition Calendar

Two other LSC competitions are on the horizon: the Alamo City Cerveza Fest and the Dixie Cup, to which entries are due Aug 7 and Sep 2, respectively. These due dates are close enough to the Limbo that many of your Limbo entries can be entered in these competitions. We really need to bolster our standings here.

### Alamo City Cerveza Fest (hosted by Bexar Brewers, San Antonio)

- **Entry Registration** – Jul 5 thru Aug 7
- **Entry Drop-off Deadline** – Aug 7
- **Competition Entry Limit** – not listed
- **Personal Entry Limit** – not listed
- **Number of Bottles Required** – 3
- **Judging** – begins Aug 14
- **Awards Ceremony** – Sep 18, 5:00 pm
- **Website** -- <https://accf.bexarbrewers.org>
- **Entry Drop-Off** – Fritz will pick up beers from Homebrew Headquarters at 12:00 noon, Wednesday, Aug 4, and will drive the beers to the drop-off location in San Antonio on Aug 5.

### Dixie Cup (hosted by Foam Rangers, Houston)

Many of your Limbo entries can be sent to the Dixie Cup. The bulleted items below represent the latest information from the DC competition director, but the DC website has not been updated to reflect some of this information.

- **Entry Registration** – Aug 6 thru Sep 2
- **Entry Drop-off Deadline** – Sep 2
- **Competition Entry Limit** – 800
- **Personal Entry Limit** – 15, with 1 entry per subcategory
- **Number of Bottles Required** – 3
- **Judging** – Sep 8 thru Oct 16
- **Awards Ceremony** – Oct 16
- **Website** – <http://dixiecup.foamrangers.com/>
- **Entry Drop-Off** – Fritz will pick up beers from Homebrew Headquarters at 12:00 noon, Monday, Aug 30, and will drive the beers to the drop-off location in Houston on Aug 31.

### Belgian Draft Horse (Non-LSC, hosted by the Horseman of the Hopocalypse, Ft Worth)

- **Entry Registration** – Aug 2 thru Sep 17
- **Entry Drop-off Deadline** – Sep 17
- **Competition Entry Limit** – not listed
- **Personal Entry Limit** – 8, with 1 entry per subcategory (limited subcategories)
- **Number of Bottles Required** – 3
- **Judging** – TBD
- **Awards Ceremony** – Oct 9
- **Website** -- <https://drafthorse.brewcomp.com/>

- **Entry Drop-Off** – Fritz will pick up beers from Homebrew Headquarters at 12:00 noon, Thursday, Sep 16, and will drive the beers immediately to the drop-off location in Ft. Worth.

**Redcoat Challenge** (non-LSC, hosted by the Denton County Homebrewers Guild, Denton)

- **Entry Registration** – Aug 15 thru Sep 16
- **Entry Drop-off Deadline** – Sep 16
- **Competition Entry Limit** – not listed
- **Personal Entry Limit** – 8, with 1 entry per category (limited categories)
- **Number of Bottles Required** – 3
- **Judging** – TBD
- **Awards Ceremony** – Nov 6
- **Website** -- <https://texasredcoat.com/competition>
- **Entry Drop-Off** – Redcoat admins will pickup beers at Homebrew Headquarters on Sep 16.

*Regards,*

*Fritz*

## The Secretary's Missive by Bill Lawrence

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So, are you warm enough yet? Frankly, I am not a real big fan of this time of year as nothing says excessive perspiration quite like brewing in this heat. As it turns out however, that is exactly what your fellow club members want you to do as the gauntlet has been thrown out by our own Matt Parulis. He is hosting the club Oktoberfest party this fall and yes, we will be competing among ourselves to see who can brew up the best German beer appropriate for that fall celebration. In days gone by, the club Oktoberfest party was the pinnacle of the social season and it generated an almost a "cult like" atmosphere. I am very excited that Matt has decided to recreate that tradition anew so it's time to get after it. Who doesn't love some polka music, brats, giant pretzels, kraut and copious quantities of wholesome beer? Can you make a good fest bier? Well, talk is cheap, show us (and let us drink some).

The Limbo Challenge is now going full swing and what will be needed is judges. Besides helping the club run this contest, you will be helping yourself make better beer if you take the time to judge. I am a firm believer that it is impossible to make award winning beer if you don't know what the good stuff tastes like. Once you understand what a winning beer is all about, you will be in a much better position to assess your own creations and should they come up wanting you will have an idea as to how to correct the situation. This year's competition filled up so each category should be as competitive as the categories are in the Bluebonnet and I know there will be some stellar beers competing. To all you neophyte brewers out there who are intimidated and feel nervous about judging, take heart. You will be paired with somebody who has done this a few times and trust me, you will make a valuable contribution.

As has been documented in prior editions of this very newsletter, I am still without a fermenting frig (although that will be soon rectified). In a desperate effort to remedy the situation, I started messing around with that Viking yeast Kviek Voss and ended up making three beers fermented at around 78F. I made an American Blonde ale, American Brown ale and an Irish Red. I can report that all three beers came out tasting just fine, the stuff just does not seem to throw out fusels at room temperatures. Sadly, I didn't get them done quickly enough to test them in competition as the Limbo filled up but the beers all tasted just fine to me. If you decide to try these strains yourself, I would strongly recommend rigging a blowoff tube as this stuff ferments very quickly and throws up a krausen as big as any Heffe or Belgian strain I have ever used.

Ok, the word count is getting up there so it's time to bid my gentle readers good by for the month. Remember be safe out there and may God bless America.

*Prost,  
Willy*

## Beer Porn

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This month's submission is an Australian Sparkling Ale. As you can clearly see however, this beer was made in Texas by a Texan and I assume quaffed by a Texan as well

## The Treasurers Report by Walter Hodges

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<b>MONTH ENDED</b>	<b>EQUITY</b>
<b>JANUARY</b>	8048.59
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	8040.71
<b>MARCH</b>	7670.46
<b>APRIL</b>	7760.38
<b>MAY</b>	7993.45
<b>JUNE</b>	8190.97

Current Membership: 37

You may have noticed a significant drop in club membership from last month. Up until now, I have been including 2020/21 members with 2021/22 members. I purged the club email list early this month, so if you are not renewed you will no longer receive club newsletters or emails, nor will you receive the 10% discount at Homebrew Headquarters. Club in person activities are returning and you will not want to miss out on any of the fun after a year of isolation. Cost of membership remains \$30. Memberships may be renewed at Homebrew Headquarters or by following the directions at: <https://nthba.org/?q=content/membership>

Financials trail the newsletter by one month. Financial reports are available on the club web site at:

<http://nthba.org/?q=groups/financials-corner/financial-statement-archive>

If you have any questions about the financials, contact me and I will be happy to share club financial detail.

Support your local homebrew shop!

*Cheers,*

*Walter*

## NTHBA Officers

### President

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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.



[www.NTHBA.org](http://www.NTHBA.org)