

LIVIN' THE BREWS



The Newsletter of the North Texas Home Brewers Association

Volume XXXVII

Issue X -

Quick Sips for October:

Club Party	October 2nd 6:30pm	Matt Parulis, Carrollton
Officer Meeting	October 5th 6:30pm	The Holy Grail, Plano
Club Meeting	October 12th 6:30pm	Bitter Sisters, Addison
Brew Day	October 16 th 9:00am	Robert Petrin's, Allen

Prez Sez by Stephen Tyner

Happy October NTHBA - Oktoberfest is upon us! Break out your lederhosen, grab a festbier, and don your Tirolerhut so we can all celebrate one of our favorite drinking holidays. The NTHBA is kicking the month off great with our annual fall party at Matt Parulis's house (more info below). We hope to see you there!

On the club meeting front, the officer meeting will be held at **The Holy Grail** in Plano on Tuesday, **October 5th**. The club meeting will be at **Bitter Sisters Brewery** in Addison on Tuesday, **October 12th**.



Yours truly at an Oktoberfest in Blumenau, Brazil in 2017 with some great people I met there!

The turn of the calendar to October does mark a sad occasion on the local homebrew scene as Homebrew Headquarters closed at the end of September after a very long run. I want to thank all club members who were able to stop by and see Kelly and the team this last month. I know it meant a lot for them to see old friends and hopefully we have not heard the last from Kelly.

Prost,

Stephen

The First Sip by Terry Olinger

Social calendar for October will be busy the first 2 weeks with regular club meetings, brew day and of course the fall party! The Fall party theme will be Oktoberfest with a people's choice award competition, see more details below.

Here's what's on tap for October

Monthly Officers meeting will be held **Tuesday October 5th at Holy Grail Pub, 8240 Preston Rd #150, Plano, TX 75024.** We will be arriving around 6:30 with business starting at 7:00pm.

Monthly Club meeting will be **Tuesday October 12th at Bitter Sisters Brewery, 15103 Surveyor Blvd., Addison, TX 75001.** As usual socializing for the first 30 minutes starting at 6:30 and official business starting around 7:00pm.

Brew day:

October 16th – Robert Petrin residence, 1606 Turnberry CT, Allen, TX

Current Scheduled brew days

October 16th – Robert Petrin residence, Allen TX

November 6th – Teach a friend to brew day, discussing with local brewpubs.

December -- TBD

If you would like to host a future brew day, please let me know at socials@nthba.org

Fall Party

Matt Parulis will be hosting at his house in Carrollton on **Sat 10/2 starting at 6:30pm.** We will 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 gift certificates will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. The club kegerator will be at the party for storing the entry kegs. If you do not have a keg and want to enter, bring 5 or 6 bottles of your entry to share.

Main food course will be provided by the club and will be Tamales and Pupusas. Yeah, not traditional Oktoberfest food but the vendor makes fantastic food! Club members are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Beer Styles for People's 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.

*Prost,
Terry*





I honestly don't know what to say about this. As I have not ever enjoyed a Premium Elephant Pilsner myself and am at a loss for words. It was however suggested by one of the other officers that somehow the elephant was involved in the production of the wort used to make that beer (an assertion I can neither confirm nor deny).

Anyhow, I suppose this is what beer drinking is on exotic Caribbean islands.

Competition Corner by Fritz Schanz

Recent Competitions

The Alamo City Cerveza Fest announced its results recently, and again, the mighty North Texas Homebrewers Association distinguished itself.

ACCF Club Achievement

As a club, we came in 2nd place while the stealthy Ninjas secured 1st place. We now hold a whispery 1 pt-lead over the Ninjas for 2nd place on the Lone Star Circuit. Hopefully, we can maintain our lead through the Dixie Cup.

2021 Alamo City Cerveza Fest			
Club	No. Medals	Points	No. Medalists
Bay Area Mashtronauts	9	18	5
Bexar Brewers	4	8	2
CIA	9	16	2
Foam Rangers	5	9	3
Ninjas	16	30	6
NTHBA	12	23	5

ACCF Individual Achievement

Congratulations, especially, to Terry for winning Best of Show, and congratulations to the 5 club members who placed. This is a good showing. Can you imagine our standings if we were able to channel more of our club members (many of whom are expert brewers) into the competition track?

Congratulations to the following:

- Fritz Schanz – HM International Amber Lager, 2nd German Helles Exportbier, 1st German Pils, 3rd Rauchbier, 1st Scottish Heavy, 3rd American Pale Ale
- Mark Rendon – 1st International Amber Lager, 2nd Scottish Light, 3rd Pre-Prohibition Porter
- Stephen Tyner – 3rd Fruit Beer
- Terry Olinger – 1st Irish Red Ale, Best Of Show Irish Red Ale
- Walter Hodges – 1st Ordinary Bitter, 1st Roggenbier

With the above wins, the Brewer of the Year leaderboard is updated as follows.

NTHBA Brewer of the Year		
Brewer	Total Points	Competition
Mark Rendon	27	Op Ferm, BlueB, LR, LC, ACCF
Fritz Schanz	22	LR, LC, ACCF

Terry Olinger	12	Op Ferm, BlueB, LR, LC, ACCF
Walter Hodges	9	LC, ACCF
Dean Weaver	8	Op Ferm, BlueB, LR, LC
Jimmy Orkin	8	BlueB, LC
James Smith	5	BlueB, LC
Antony Gachima	3	BlueB, LC
Bill Lawrence	3	BlueB
Daniel Boyd	3	LC
Douglas Hicks	3	BlueB
Fred David	3	BlueB
Robert Lawrence	3	LC
Steven Franks	3	BlueB, LC
Jesse Thoresen	2	BlueB
John Driscoll	2	BlueB
Richard Harris	2	BlueB, LR
Stephen Tyner	1	ACCF

Also, the LSC Club of the Year is updated as follows.

LSC Club	
Club	Total Points
Cane Island Alers	200
NTHBA	130
Ninjas	128
Foam Rangers	95
Bay Area Mashers	140
North Side Alers	36
Horsemen of the Hopocalypse	30

Competitions in Progress

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

We completed judging this past Saturday, and it was really fun. James Lallande helped with judging, so there were some really great conversations and interactions. Great food and great beer in Denton.

- **Judging** – completed on Sep 25
- **Awards Ceremony** – Nov 6
- **Website** -- <https://texasredcoat.com/competition>

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

- **Judging** – Sep 30 – Oct 2

- **Awards Ceremony** – Oct 9
- **Website** -- <https://drafthorse.brewcomp.com/>

Dixie Cup (hosted by Foam Rangers, Houston)

To my knowledge, we only had 3 homebrewers submit beers to the Dixie Cup. Given the motivation of the Houston clubs to do well at this competition, I am expecting a large turnout on their part. Even so, I remain hopeful that our club's position will be modestly maintained.

- **Judging** – Sep 8 thru Oct 16
- **Awards Ceremony** – Oct 16
- **Website** – <http://dixiecup.foamrangers.com/>

Upcoming Competitions

Operation Fermentation (LSC, hosted by the Cane Island Alers, Houston)

- **Entry Registration** – Nov 13, 2021, thru Jan 7, 2022
- **Entry Drop-off Deadline** – Jan 7
- **Competition Entry Limit** – 600 **paid** entries
- **Personal Entry Limit** – 24, with 1 entry per category
- **Number of Bottles Required** – 4
- **Judging** – Jan 7 thru Jan 26 (virtual)
- **Awards Ceremony** – Jan 26
- **Website** -- <https://opferm.cialers.org/>
- **Entry Drop-Off** – Fritz will pick up beers from the drop-off location on 12:00 noon, Wed, Jan 5, and will drive the beers on Jan 6 to the drop-off location in Houston.

I wrote about club strategy for this competition in the following email: **NTHBA: Planning for Operation Fermentation**, which was delivered on **2021-09-17 3:25 pm**. See strategy discussion and commitment sheet in that email. This campaign is similar to that for the Limbo Challenge, and its rationale is that the CIA won the Limbo Challenge in 2020, 2019, and 2018, and we have never won their competition. It is time we change that!

As of this date, 3 homebrewers have committed to brewing beers for Operation Fermentation. The list includes 35 beers; our target is 125 beers. (Also, remember, everything you brew for OpFerm can be sent on to the Bluebonnet.)

I'll send an updated commitment sheet next week. Be thinking about what you will brew and enter!

I'm not including strategy discussions in our newsletters going forward because our newsletters are not password protected and because they are being read and used by members from other clubs.

Regards,

Fritz

The Secretary's Missive by Bill Lawrence

September has been a wild month for the club and things will for sure not be the same as they were. As I assume most have heard, by the time you read this, Homebrew Headquarters will have closed its doors for the last time. I have been a customer for decades and have made untold gallons of beer with ingredients and supplies purchased there. Of course, I'm also friends with Kelly and the gang and I will greatly miss all that. For those who have never been involved in helping to run this club, I can tell you that the loss of our local homebrew shop will likely have a large effect on the way our club operates. Back in the day, our club regularly had roughly 150 members, most of which only joined to get the 10% discount the store offered on purchases. Some of those people were curious, attended a club meeting or event and ended up becoming active members (some were even foolish enough to become officers). Even those who didn't were putting money into the club coffers which kept the club going from a financial standpoint. I'll put this another way, HBHQ was subsidizing our club and was largely responsible for recruiting new active members. According to Walter (and he knows, see below), we currently have 44 paid up members and we find ourselves more or less in the same boat as the Foam Rangers down in Houston; membership down with no local homebrew store. Certainly, the pandemic has a large effect on what is going on here but things were slowing down even before that hit and homebrewing is definitely slumping. Interestingly, the Limbo Challenge had record entries this year but I fear that may have been an aberration and the reduction in our membership will start to negatively effect the contests in this state like the Dixie Cub (which has been around forever) as well as the Bluebonnet Brew Off. Hopefully Kelly and the guys will not be strangers at our events in the future and I would like to thank them for all they have done over the years.

One other sad bit of news came in this last week; apparently our Grand Puba Stephen Tyner has decided to help make chocolate bars with the fine folks at Nestle. According to the Facebook post I was privy to, he will be leaving North Texas near the end of the year to take up his new duties. I think he has done a great job serving our club this past year so I know he will be missed. Please join me in wishing him the best and I would also caution him about sampling too much of his new employer's wares.

Ok, so this coming weekend will be the club's annual fall party (aka Oktoberfest celebration). There is a People's Choice contest featuring the appropriate libations for this occasion and I encourage everyone to enter just to make this more sporting as well as to help provide enough social lubricant for the masses. Well, as usual my wordcount here is getting up here again and least I be accused of being verbose I will end this missive. Be careful out there and as always may God bless America.

*Prost,
Willy*

Beer Porn



Well, if you don't submit pictures to me for the centerfold of the newsletter you force me to show you the pathetic swill I produce here at Willy's Brewing. This is a modern Oktoberfest which I made using dry lager yeast (a first for me as I had always used the liquid yeast in previous lagers, it's a snob thing I guess). Anyhow it worked out pretty well and I will have no issues using the dry yeast option in the future depending of course on what I am trying to do.

The Treasurers Report by Walter Hodges

MONTH ENDED	EQUITY
JANUARY	8048.59
FEBRUARY	8040.71
MARCH	7670.46
APRIL	7760.38
MAY	7993.45
JUNE	8190.97
JULY	8166.17
AUGUST	9733.52

Current Membership: 44

The Limbo Challenge was a huge success this year and has set the club up well financially. Thank you to everyone who participated through entries, judging and hosting.

An end of an era has ended for north Dallas homebrewers. After decades of serving the Dallas area homebrew community, Homebrew Headquarters has shut their doors. I bought my first homebrew buckets and supplies back in the early 90's when Homebrew Headquarters was near Midpark on Central Expressway. This is truly a sad event for the North Texas Homebrewer's Association. Our club has been supported by Mike Lenard (previous owner) and Kelly Harris over all the years HBHQ was open. I was able to stop by HBHQ and tell Kelly what his support has meant to me all these years. Ordering supplies over the internet will never replace the comradery and help we all found at HBHQ. Who knows what the future will bring, but I hope we are not without a local homebrew store for long. **Thanks Homebrew Headquarters for all you have done for me and the NTHBA.**

Cost of membership remains \$30.

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.

Cheers,

Walter

NTHBA Officers

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1st Vice President

Fritz Schanz

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2nd Vice President

Terry Olinger

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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