

LIVIN' THE BREWS

The Newsletter of the North Texas Home Brewers Association

Volume XXXIV

Issue I - January 2019



Quick Sips for January:

Officer's Meeting	@Flying Saucer Addison	January 2nd	6:30pm – 8:00pm
Brewday	@Mike Grover Carrollton	January 5th	9:00am – 3:00pm
Bluebonnet Registration opens		January 6th	
Club Meeting	@Flying Saucer Addison	January 8th	6:30pm – 8:30pm
Winter Party	@Fred & Sue David's House	January 12th	6:00pm – 10:00pm
Bluebonnet Drop Off Deadline		January 31st	

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

Prez Sez by Matt Parulis

Happy New Year, NTHBA! I hope everyone had a great holiday season! After a year off as an officer, I'm looking forward to serving as club president for 2019. I have some ideas for fun events and more ways to get involved with the club in the new year. First things first though, I would like to thank the 2018 officers for their service to the club. Without their contributions, our club would not exist!

James Smith – President

Zac Cathcart – 1st Vice President – Competitions

Walter Hodges – 2nd Vice President – Socials aka Party Boy

Kevin Smith – Treasurer

Jimmy Orkin – Secretary

With that said, I would like to introduce to the 2019 club officers!

President – Matt Parulis

1st VP (Competitions) – Fred David

2nd VP (Socials) – John Wherry

Treasurer – Jimmy Orkin

Secretary – Bill Lawrence

Minister of Education – TBD

Past President – James “Smitty” Smith

2019 Objectives

Events

Beyond the club meetings and brew days, I am looking into options for expanding the club’s social calendar. Living in DFW, there are countless opportunities for the club to get together including sporting events, dinners, and other outdoor activities along with a constant stream of new beery establishments opening up!

Competitions

Having served as competition coordinator in 2016 and 2017, I would love for our club to return to the top of the Lone Star Circuit standings. This will be accomplished by honing our brewing skills and planning to have entries ready for competition deadlines. Fred David will be taking over as the club’s competition coordinator this year. Fred will be instrumental in returning the NTHBA to the top of the LSC.

Education

This area goes hand-in-hand with the competitions section above. Learning more about various aspects of the brewing process will not only make everyone a better brewer but will also benefit the club in the competition standings. We are looking for a Minister of Education (MoE) for 2019. This position includes researching (or just sharing your knowledge) and writing articles or doing presentations on any number of brewing topics! If you are interested in serving as MoE, please see me at a club meeting or email me at president@nthba.org.

I look forward to a fun and eventful year for the club! Come on out to the meetings, brew days, and other social events and don’t forget to starting planning some brews for the Bluebonnet and other LSC competitions.

Cheers!

Matt

The First Sip by John Wherry

Happy New Year NTHBA!

We start off 2019 with our **Monthly Brewday** at Mike Grover's home on Saturday, 1/5 starting at 9:00 AM and going until about 3:00 PM. Bring out your brew rig and brew with Mike or just come out and network with other homebrewers. Bring your homebrew to share. The club will provide lunch. Mike Grover's address is [1939 Castille Dr., Carrollton \(map\)](#).

The **Monthly Club Meeting** will follow on Tuesday, 1/8 and will be held at the Addison Flying Saucer starting at 6:30pm.

Our big winter event will be held on the evening of Saturday, 1/12 starting at 6pm. Fred and Sue David will host our **Christmas/Winter Party**. The party will start around 6pm and run to about 10 or so.

- The club kegerator will be in attendance, so bring a keg of homebrew to share. Bottles are also welcome.
- Fred is smoking pork tenderloins as our main course. Please bring an appetizer, side or dessert to share.
- We will also have our White Elephant gift exchange. Bring a wrapped, fun gift valued at around \$10 if you want to participate.

Fred and Sue live at [6803 Overbrook Dr. Parker \(map\)](#). When you arrive, please don't park on the grass. Fred has sprinklers that are right along the edge of the road that can be broken if you drive over one.

I'm seeking volunteers to host brewdays in March, April, May, June, July, September, October, November and December. Hosts are also needed for our Spring (April/May), Summer (June/July) and Fall (September/October) parties.

If you are interested, or have thoughts for monthly club meeting locations or other social events, please talk to me at a club meeting or email me at socials@nthba.com.

Cheers,

John



This is what we do!

Competition Corner by Fred David

Well, they finally have me where I suppose I belong. I've harped at NTHBA as both the party guy and president for 4 years and so this will make five. Forgive my bombardment about competition but I believe that competition, at least in part, is what makes us brew better beer. A lot of people I know, me included, believe that brewing to style makes us all better brewers. A true story I will relate I hope will illustrate my point. A previous club member who went on to bigger and better brewing walked up to me on a Saturday brewday years ago and said, "hey Fred, would you like to try my English Brown Porter"? Brown Porter has always been one of my favorite styles so I said sure. It was one of the better American Stouts I've tasted but it was definitely not any style of porter. It had roast barley in it. To this day that's what separates porter from stout. If you research beer styles and follow basic recipe guidelines you would know this. After a long discussion he told me he didn't care about brewing to style. He said he just brews what he likes. Since that time he has become great brewer and preaches learning to brew to style as the path to making great beer. If you make better beer our club will have better beer at our parties. I know a lot of people don't want to bother entering competition but the feedback you will get on how to improve your beer makes it worth the effort. As your beer gets better, better beer comes to our parties and the more awards you have to be proud of and the better our club fares in competitions like the Bluebonnet Brew-off. The first competition of the calendar is this month's CoC is British Strong Ales (Category 19). Please drop off entries at HBHQ by Saturday, January 12th. This is followed up quickly by the Bluebonnet Brew-off. It has been for years the largest single site competition in the world. Our club has dominated this competition for years and winning club of the year in more years than any other club. We have recently started performing very poorly in number of entries but fairly well in medal for those who have entered. Let's pick it up a couple of notches on entries and dominate this competition and others for the rest of the year. Happy brewing.

This is the schedule for Club only Competitions:

January 2019	British Strong Ale Category 17
March 2019	IPAs BJCP 12C, 21A, 21B
May 2019	Hefe, Wit and Saison BJCP 10A, 24A, 25B
July 2019	European BJCP cats 2 – 8
September 2019	Sour and Wild BJCP cats 23, 28
November 2019	Historical BJCP cat 27
January 2020	American Strong BJCP cat 22

Prost!

Fred!

The Secretary's Missive by Bill Lawrence

To all those who voted me into this lofty position, be advised that I will have my revenge at some point. Yes I know, it is not traditional for the club secretary to actually post articles in the club newsletter however assuming my creative juices keep flowing, I will endeavor to change that. Of course, it is not like me to avoid availing myself of a convenient bully pulpit with captive audience (and no censor). I suppose at this juncture I should warn all you gentle readers that I can be at times less than PC and frankly I'm pretty much unapologetic so if I happen to piss you off, well, get over it. Also, I realize that I am not the best speller so if you happen to run into a spelling mistake be so kind as to keep it to yourself as I know I am defective in that department and reminders are superfluous.

Ok, so what is going on this time of year? Yes Johnny, we have a winner.....it's getting ready for the Bluebonnet Brew-off in March. Those of you who are rather more clever than most have already figured out that yes, if you plan to enter, you might actually want to brew now because well, making beer involves a bit of lead time. You will likely hear our Competition Coordinator admonishing you to "gird your loins" (whatever the hell that means) and enter early and often. At the risk of being repetitious, much like dating, if you don't make the attempt you will surely not get lucky. Also, and I know we will hear from Smitty ad nauseum on this point, the club needs a good judging turnout. Especially for you neophyte brewers out there; you cannot hope to make good beer if you don't know what good beer tastes like and judging will help you more than you know (at some point you will actually turn into a snob). Much like indulging in the joys of the flesh, to gain any sort of proficiency one must practice (well ok, somebody told me that once). Finally, even if you don't enter, make plans to attend the event. Besides beer, all kinds of things happen for your enlightenment and amusement (can you imagine strumpets and topless midget monks to cite just a couple of less than wholesome examples?).

To close here, my goal is to make this fun and not take anything all that seriously (hey, come on; it's beer after all). Also, if you would like the opportunity to see your thoughts published I will welcome submissions from the unwashed masses. I think for instance it would be great to publish recipes that have worked out well in the past (maybe I'll give that a go next month assuming I don't get fired from this gig first). My first attempt at change is what I like to call "Beer Porn". Every month, I will be featuring a different beer much like the foldout in a Playboy or Playgirl magazine. This feature serves no useful purpose as it is meant to titillate as well as excite only (are you not salivating like one of Pavlov's dogs just looking at it?). This month's featured beer is a Scottish Export I made in late summer/early fall. Oh sure, the beer looks wholesome enough but behind closed doors she can be an erotic experience like no other. Be forewarned however, she does have a temper. Incidentally, if you have photos of a little temptress you would like featured in this space, just send me the file and I will get it included in

an upcoming edition. Ok, enough for this month, good brewing to all and as always, may God Bless America.

Beer Porn



*Prost,
Wilby*

The Treasurer's Report by Jimmy Orkin

Summary:

Equity October end \$10,638.79.

Equity November end \$10,435.57.

New members in November: 2.

Members at November end: 90.

Current members at the time of this article: 94.

I want to remind you that the financials trail the newsletter because I write this article before the end of the month.

The final monthly reports are available on the club website at the following link:

<http://nthba.org/content/club-documents>

Please let me know if you would like to discuss any of the club's financial information. Also, please let me know if you would like additional or different information in this article.

We have a good surplus in the bank right now. I want to push the club to expand the use of our assets that benefit our members. We will need to make some bigger purchases this year like buying the Limbo medals again. We buy 3 years worth at a time. I already upgraded our copy of Quickbooks as it had a special price. We were on QBs 2015, we jumped up to QBs 2019.

Our membership year runs June until May. If your membership is not current, please renew at Homebrew Headquarters or any club event. I'll be at most events and you can pay with a credit card. The membership fee is \$30 and will expire at the end of May 2019.

I or the officers always have membership forms and cards at all the club events. I'll send some email reminders. We will also keep you on the email list for a few of months into the new year even if your membership lapses.

Brew Strong,

Jimmy

NTHBA Officers

President

Matt Parulis

president@nthba.org

1st Vice President

Fred David

firstvp@nthba.org

2nd Vice President

John Wherry

socials@nthba.org

Treasurer

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Minister of Education

Who Knows? You can have this job.

education@nthba.org

Secretary

Bill Lawrence

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Past President

James Smith

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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