

LIVIN' THE BREWS

The Newsletter of the North Texas Home Brewers Association

Volume XXXIV

Issue III - March 2019



Quick Sips for March:

- March 5th – Officer's Meeting – Guitars & Growlers – Richardson, TX
- March 12th – Club Meeting – Oak Highlands Brewery – NE Dallas
- March 16th – March Brewday – Fred & Sue David's House – Parker
- March 16th – March COC Dropoff Deadline – Homebrew HQ – Richardson
- Week of March 18th – COC Judging – date & location TBD
- March 22nd – 24th – Bluebonnet Conference & Awards – DFW Sheraton

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

Prez Sez by Matt Parulis

February was a busy month with Bluebonnet check-in and judging in full swing! This Friday 3/1 (and maybe Saturday morning) we will be judging the last few flights and mini-best of show rounds! This means almost 1,500 entries were evaluated in just a few weeks' time! Outstanding effort and thanks to all who came out! If you have time on Friday evening, come on out and judge a flight. More info on judging times and styles available will be posted this week.

Bluebonnet is almost wrapped up but there will be several other opportunities to judge this year including club only and Lone Star Circuit competitions. If you are interested in judging, please look out for emails from the club requesting judges. With that said, I wanted to take a minute to talk about a couple of tips to make sure judging is enjoyed by everyone.

#1) Don't show up to judging on an empty stomach.

At some point, we all learned that its best to have a base before consuming alcohol! Most big competitions will provide snacks, sandwiches, pizza, etc for judges however food may not be served until after your first flight. It's best to have a small meal before heading out to the judging site.

#2) Arrange for a safe ride home after judging.

Have someone drop off / pick you up, take the DART, call a cab, Uber, or Lyft, etc. The most important part is not to drive when you've had too much to drink! We all know the potential consequences of drinking and driving so please make other arrangements. If at any point, you feel you have had too much alcohol while judging, let the head judge or other competition official know. They will assist with getting you home safely.

#3) Competition officials have the final ruling on all judging.

Competition officials are there to make sure the competition runs efficiently and, most importantly, safely. If an official makes a ruling on an entry or judge eligibility, this ruling is final. Please do not argue or cause a scene because you do not agree with a ruling. This could result in you being disqualified from judging for that day or even longer. The same is true if a competition official feels you are too intoxicated to drive. Competitions and judging locations can be held liable if you leave a location and get in an accident. This refers to tip #2 about having a safe ride home from judging. Officials volunteer their time to run these competitions. Please be courteous!

LIMBO CHALLENGE

July will be here before you know it which means the 14th annual edition of the Limbo Challenge, NTHBA's low-gravity competition, is right around the corner too! The club is looking for a member to volunteer as the 2019 Limbo Director. Meetings typically start in April (after everyone recovers from Bluebonnet), then registration in July and check-in, judging, and awards in August. The position includes assembling a committee, setting meeting dates, and making sure all parts of the competition are set up. The great thing about our club is that we have multiple people with experience directing competitions. They are usually happy to help with the right kind of encouragement (aka beer)! This means the Limbo Director will have plenty of support to run the competition smoothly and efficiently! If you are interested in volunteering, please contact me at president@nthba.org or any of the other officers.

MINISTER OF EDUCATION

The club is also still looking for a Minister of Education (MoE). The 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 talk to me at a club meeting or send an email to president@nthba.org

Cheers!

Matt

The First Sip by John Wherry

Our activities in February were a bit subdued due to a focus on Bluebonnet preparation and judging activities. We'll pick up a bit in March. Also, see information directly below for a future activity nearing final planning.

On **Saturday, April 27th** we'll have our **Spring Party**. We'll have a Cinco de Mayo theme and an informal competition for '**Best Mexican Style Beer**'. Be sure to insert this in your home brewing plans. We'll have further details on the party at the March Club Meeting and in the April Newsletter.

February Recap

The February Officers Meeting was held on Tuesday, 2/5 at The Shacks at Austin Ranch. For those that haven't been there, it's oriented toward the outdoors with patios and porches served by a variety of food/drink spaces oriented toward order and carry. There is a taproom with around 40 taps with many DFW craft brews. The porches overlook and provide access to a large dog park and multiple sand volleyball courts. Seems like a great place for a nice afternoon or evening outside.

The February Club Meeting was held at the Rugby House Pub. As usual, food, beer and service were good and Matt handed out a plethora of raffle prizes.



On the left, our leader in mid-pontification as well as the back of Mr. Grover's head. As a bonus on the right, a very nice photo of the back of Pam's head featuring the ever photogenic Mr. James. It seems that our honorable social director is a bit less than sharp with a camera but then I really shouldn't throw rocks concerning this issue, at least everyone is clothed.

March Activities

The **March Officer Meeting** is being held on Tuesday, 3/5 at [Guitars & Growlers](#) in Richardson. It's located at [581 W Campbell Rd Suite 101, Richardson, TX 75080 \(map\)](#). As always, club members are welcome to join. We'll arrive at 6:30pm and get going around 7pm.

The **Monthly Club Meeting for March** is being held on Tuesday, 3/12 starting at 6:30pm at [Oak Highland Brewery](#) (OHB). The brewery is located in Northeast Dallas at [10484 Brockwood Rd, Dallas, TX 75238 \(map\)](#). A couple things to keep in mind about the OHB Taproom -

- There is a two drink minimum
- There is no food served, so feel free to BYOF or plan on eating before or after the meeting. There are a number of take out and dine-in options within a few miles of OHB.

Our **Monthly Brewday for March** will be held at Fred and Sue David's home. It will be on Saturday, 3/16 starting at 9:00 AM and going until about 3:00 PM. Come out and see Fred's brewing set-up and bring your rig to share your brewing methods with fellow club members. Please bring some brew to share with fellow club members. We'll have a breakfast snack and coffee for those arriving early. Lunch will be served around noon. 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.

Future Activities & Other Stuff

Thanks to members volunteering for Brewdays! We have general plans set through September. For now, we'll pause on formalizing the hosts for the end of year brewdays. Hosts have been identified for the Spring and Summer parties. A host for the Fall (September/October) party has yet to be finalized. If you have an interest, please contact me.

If you 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 a Rye IPA I am assuming made by our head potentate Matt. Nice color and clarity here, I guess it's good to be king.

Competition Corner

March is here and the bulk of the Bluebonnet judging is complete! Big thanks to all who came out and judged! This month includes a club only competition, the Bluebonnet conference from 3/22 to 3/24 and registration for 2 Lone Star Circuit competitions.

March COC

This month's club only competition will focus on IPA's including categories 12C, 21A, & 21B. The drop off deadline is 3/16 at Homebrew Headquarters in Richardson. We will also be collecting entries at the March club meeting at Oak Highlands Brewery in NE Dallas. Please do not bring your entries into the brewery as this is a violation of TABC law. Judging will take place the week of March 18th. IPA COCs typically have a lot of entries so it is likely we will need about 4 – 6 judges for the competition. Please keep an eye on Facebook and your email for judging opportunities.

A quick reminder...if your entry places in a COC, it includes a gift certificate to Homebrew Headquarters. First place receives a \$20 gift certificate while 2nd place receives \$15 and 3rd place receives \$10. Another great reason to keep an eye on the COC schedule and plan your brews accordingly!

Lone Star Circuit Competitions

Registration is currently open until March 17th for the Lunar Rendezbrew hosted by the Bay Area Mashtrons. The Cactus Challenge registration will open on March 3rd and close on March 29th. Both competitions will have pick up times on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning at the Bluebonnet conference. We will pass along more info to you once it is available. For more info on these 2 competitions and others, please visit the [Lone Star Circuit](#) website.

2019 COC SCHEDULE

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|----------------|---|
| 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 |

The Secretary's Missive by Bill Lawrence

Well, let's see what is going on here this month. As you read this edition of my monthly epistle we are well neigh to the annual Bluebonnet weekend. I would encourage all members to attend as well....it' just fun and with some luck you might enjoy a decent beverage or two. Please, please, please plan to get a room at the hotel or at the very least have a designated driver or Uber if you plan to go home after the events Friday and Saturday night. Also, (and I know I mentioned this last month but my wife says repetition is a good thing) beer will be needed for the club event after the awards are passed out. Again, it's a point of pride that our club has the biggest keggerator (with the most taps) and naturally, it's best if they are all full. Oh yeah, one other thing about that: your beer will garner more positive feedback (and that's what we live for) if it pours clear at the event, appropriate to the style of course. Unless you filter your beer going into the keg I suggest jumping the beer into a clean keg leaving the sludge behind (I learned this from Jimmy so I know it's right) but naturally YMMV. Remember, your fellow attendees are beer snobs by and large so...yeah.... enough said.

I guess I would be remiss if I didn't thank the members for their "Beer Porn" submissions and I will be publishing a couple more in this edition. I would continue to beseech you for more photos as everyone loves to ogle a well turned out pint. I also floated the idea of putting up favorite beer recipes however so far there are no submissions. I guess if I don't receive anything I'll start putting some of my favs out there but most of you folks won't get exactly the same flavors I do as my mash tun (which is semi-famous by the way) is well seasoned creating that unique "house flavor" which most can only aspire to. Upon reflection it seems I am fairly needy here as I have spent much of my space here begging our gentle readership for all sorts of stuff, I'll try to do better next month. Humm...I guess your loyal scrivener is tapped out this month so as I am bound to say; may God Bless American and may he smile upon our members who have entered this most hallowed of beer contests (is it ethical to pray for steins? We will take up the ethical conundrum in a future issue).

*Prost,
Wilby*

Beer Porn



This is a kolsch submitted by our own Mr. Hodges. I was told that this lovely little charmer was made with official kolsch malt which I am given to understand is somehow different than the usual German pils malt that most outside of the Rhineland use to make this style. I really don't know what the difference is myself but then I rarely know what the hell I'm doing anyway so nothing new there. If you are interested, please direct any inquires to Herr Hodges and I am sure he would be more than happy to enlighten you (remember, he kicked some serious ass with this style a few years back at the Bluebonnet so he knows what he's talking about).

The Treasurers Report by Jimmy Orkin

Summary:

Equity December end \$9,787.05.

Equity January end \$9,654.62.

New members in January: 6.

Members at January end: 95.

Current members at the time of this article: 98.

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.

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 2020.

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*



This is Mr. Orkin's favorite style, a Rogginbier. I guess I would describe this beer as a dark seductress for lack of a better description. Indeed, your chastity will be surrendered after the first sip (at least according the Jimmy).

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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