

LIVIN' THE BREWS

The Newsletter of the North Texas Home Brewers Association
Volume XXXI Issue XI - November 2016



QUICK SIPS FOR NOVEMBER:



Club Brew Day @ Dallas Home Brew

November 5th @ 9a-3p

Club Meeting @ Lakewood Brewing

November 8th @ 6:30p

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

PREZ SEZ BY JAMES SMITH

Hope all who came out to support the monthly brew day at Walter and Pam Hodges' house had a great time. I had planned to brew an all Sorachi Ace Saison, but the body shop that had my truck for almost 2 months had other plans for me. Hauling a brew rig in a Nissan Rogue rental was a bit impractical. Anyway, thanks to the Hodges for hosting and to Dean helping to dial in my PH meter!

Like I said last month, for the remainder of 2016, I will be centrally focused on 2017 with our upcoming Officer elections and the next Bluebonnet. Please contact me with any interest, questions, or concerns.

2017 Officer Elections!

We are very fortunate to have a few members step up for Officer Roles next year. They are:

- Cheryl Slaughter
- Matt Saladin
- Nicole Saladin
- Fred David

In addition, from our 2016 board, we have the following who have volunteered for another year:

- Matt Parulis
- Walter Hodges



To all of you, many thanks for volunteering your time and efforts in 2017 to keep the club going! Seeing as we now have more than 5 running, the choice is up to you, the membership. So, please do come out to Lakewood this month...ironically also on Election Day...and cast your vote!

We will still 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>. If you want to help out, please contact me or better yet, ATTEND AN OFFICER MEETING!

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. You are always welcome at the Officer Meetings. We would love to have you!

Bluebonnet Update from Jimmy Orkin and James Smith

As reported last month, contract is signed for the Bluebonnet event to be hosted at the Sheraton DFW in Irving. Once again, here are some highlights of the event:

- Dates: March 24–25, 2017
- Location: Very recently remodeled Sheraton DFW Airport – www.sheratondfwairport.com
- Over 10,000 sqft Grand Ballroom and 4,000 sqft Atrium for main events and breakout sessions
- “Big Thirsty” will be in a dedicated bar. This is a separate space in hotel that is an unlicensed ACTUAL bar with seats and table games.
- Hotel rooms starting at \$105 per night



Other notables regarding BB2017 updates and progress

Ticket prices are increasing to \$50 pre-sale/\$60 door for the weekend. Additionally, a single day ticket will be priced at \$40. You might have some “sticker shock” over the increase. If you do, know that many factors played into this, most notably the cost to run the event over the last few years. DFW is a high-growth area and a destination for many types of events at hotels and convention centers. This along with other factors, but most importantly the committee striving very hard to provide a first-class event, are the reasons for this. The aforementioned “Big Thirsty” is a great example. We feel you will be very pleased with the experience, but it is also very comparable to other events of this type. It is highly encouraged that you purchase the pre-sale tickets as soon as they are made available. There will be much more public awareness efforts for Bluebonnet than have occurred in the past.

It is definite that the schedule as hinted at last month will be followed. We are separating the commercial tasting from the homebrew club showcase. Friday events will include the keynote speaker and commercial brewer showcase. A limited special menu is planned to be offered by the hotel restaurant on Friday evening.

Saturday events will have technical talk in the morning, moving on to lunch and the popular offsite pub crawls. Should you wish to participate, a very special food and beer pairing lunch will be offered at an additional cost to a finite number of people. Again, a limited special menu is planned to be offered by the hotel restaurant for all others on Saturday. Those that do not attend the pub crawls will have the opportunity to attend 2–3 seminars along with the popular cigar session. From 6–9 PM, the awards ceremony and raffle will be held, followed by the Homebrew Club Showcase from 9P–12A.

Regarding the separate competition, the cost of entries remains in limbo. However, key dates are as follows:

- January 30 – Online Deadline
- February 2 – Drop Off Deadline
- February 4 – Check in
- February 10–26 – Round 1 Judging
- March 3–18 – Round 2 Judging
- March 24–25 – BB2017

	1/30 Mon	2/2 Thu	2/4 Sat	2/10 Fri	2/11 Sat	2/12 Sun	2/24 Fri	2/25 Sat	2/26 Sun	3/3 Fri	3/4 Sat	3/5 Sun	3/10 Fri	3/11 Sat	3/12 Sun	3/17 Fri	3/18 Sat	3/24 Fri	3/25 Sat	3/26 Sun
Online Deadline																				
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Round 1 Judging																				
Round 2 Judging																				
Bluebonnet Brew-Off!!!																				

One of the key takeaways here is it is very important that you start planning your brew schedule now for that final drop-off deadline!

BB2017 Judging Location and Volunteer Opportunities

We are still on the hunt for a judging location for BB2017. There have been a few leads and this is really the highest priority now that we have secured an event space. If you have **suggestions, ideas, leads**, or any other information on this key component, we ask that you please get in touch with Jimmy Orkin, James Smith, or the BB2017 Director, James Lallande(director@bluebonnetbrewoff.org).

Lastly, Bluebonnet 2017 would not exist without the help of volunteers. With that, there are several slots and volunteer opportunities needing to be filled. They are:

- Judging check-in
- Judging location set-up

- Entry wrangler – driving and coordination
- Judging breakfast and lunches
- Case box wrangler

If you are interested in helping out, please contact Jimmy Orkin or myself, or if you prefer, BB2017 Director James Lallande at director@bluebonnetbrewoff.org.

Monthly Club Meeting/Officer Meeting

The **November Club Meeting and Elections** will be held on Tuesday, November 8th at [Lakewood Brewing](#) in Garland. They are located at 2302 Executive Dr, Garland, TX 75041. We will arrive starting at 6PM and get the meeting going around 7PM. No food is offered at Lakewood, so please plan accordingly. Please be sure to bring along some extra cash though for the raffle.

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

The **November Officer Meeting** will be held on Tuesday, November 1st at [Whole Foods Market – Cityline](#) in Richardson. The address is 1411 E Renner Rd, Richardson, TX 75082. 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:

- December 13th: Bitter Sisters in Addison
- January 10th: Flying Saucer Addison(tentative)

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”



Pro Rig Demo @ Steam Theory

THE FIRST SIP BY BILL JAMES

Greeting fellow brewers, I hope everyone had a great time at the Club Halloween Party. We had some great costumes, I personally liked Walter and Pam's costumes. Matt Parulis won for best costume as a sexy beer wench. Steve Barsalou won for best subtle costume. Thanks to everyone that brought food and for the complement on the food that I cooked.

Walters Brewday was on the September 22 and he brewed a Pumpkin saison. He has brewed this beer a couple of times and it always comes out tasty. Hopfully we will get to taste it as some of the events in the future.

The last few brewdays have been lightly attended. Is there something we are doing wrong? Are we not promoting the brewdays and parties enough? Please provide us with some feedback, so we can improve our club and your experiences with our club.

The November brewday will be on November 5th at Dallas Home Brew store at 9 am. This coincides with the American Homebrewers Association "Teach a friend to brew day". Dallas Home Brew will supply all of the ingredients (grain/extract, hops and yeast) for a 5 gallon batch that is brewed on that day at the shop. I know a number of us will be brewing with Brian and Dallas Home Brew. If you have some friends that are interested in brewing, this event would be perfect as there will be a number of different systems on display. So come learn and participate in the Teach a Friend to Brew Day.



Fall Party @ Bill James'

COMPETITION CORNER BY MATT PARULIS

November has arrived and the 2016 competition season is winding down. This month we have 1 more club competition for the year and results from the Dixie Cup. With the holidays only a few weeks away, the calendar will roll over to 2017 very quickly so start planning your 2017 brew calendar now!

Dixie Cup Results

Judging for the Dixie Cup wrapped in October and awards were handed out the weekend of Oct 22nd. We had 2 club members place in their respective categories at the Dixie Cup.

John Driscoll took 1st Place with his Fat Finger CC (California Common - 19B) in the Blonde, Amber, & Brown American Beer category. This category had a whopping 45 entries so for John to take 1st place is a great accomplishment! Congrats, John!

Some guy named Matt Parulis took 2nd place in the Specialty Cider & Perry category with a New England Cider (C2A). This category had 14 entries in this year's Dixie Cup.

Congrats to those who placed and thank you to those who sent entries to Houston. With the Dixie Cup wrapping up, the 2016 Lone Star Circuit competitions come to an end. The 2017 LSC competitions will kick off with the Bluebonnet in February / March. We hope to see a good turn out from the North Texas Homebrewers in 2017!

November COC

The last club only competition for 2016 is coming up in November and will focus on ciders and meads. The competition is open to any cider and mead category listed in the 2015 BJCP Cider and Mead Guidelines. Entries will be accepted at the November club meeting on Nov 8th at Lakewood Brewing Co in Garland. The drop off deadline at Dallas Homebrew and Homebrew Headquarters will be Friday, Nov 11th. The current Brewer Royale standings are listed below.

2016 Brewer Royale Standings

Joseph Flay - 6 pts
 Steven Barsalou - 5 pts
 Dave Kutschman - 3 pts
 John Driscoll - 3 pts
 Kevin Smith - 3 pts
 Chris Jazak - 2 pts
 Dean Weaver - 1 pt
 Matt Parulis - 1 pt

Cheers!
 Matt

Club Meeting @ TUPPS



THE TREASURER'S REPORT BY WALTER HODGES

As the year winds down, I wanted to give you an update on our 501c filing. The accountant who was working on our filing pro-bono has not been able to dedicate the time to filing the reports with the IRS. Therefore, I am beginning a search for an accountant we'll have to pay to file our reports. Once filed, we'll be able to active Pay Pal which will help with The Limbo Challenge and also be able to look into adding new ways to collect membership dues. I'll keep you updated as we progress.

Ask not what your homebrew club can do for you, but what you can do for your homebrew club!

Financial Summary			
Equity ended 9/30	\$7201.69	2016/2017 Membership	100
Equity as of 10/19	\$6946.77		

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



ProRig Demo @ Steam Theory

EDUCATION - PERCEPTION BY DEAN WEAVER

While I was preparing my entries for the recent Arktoberfest Competition, my mind was thrown back to the Labor of Love Competition, which NTHBA facilitated the judging. My judging partner and I were presented with our flight and we proceeded through the process of judging entries. We got to one entry that had the label removed from a previously used bottle, but the glue was still present. Handling the bottle left quite an impression. Whether consciously or subconsciously, I'm sure that impression made its way to the final score.

There is a remedy for bottle reuse and the removal of label glue that I have used for some time. I usually soak the bottles I intend to reuse in **cold** water. Cold water will keep the glue from getting too gummy to remove. Once the labels are soft, a good portion can be removed from the bottle. If you're lucky, you'll get bottles where 98% of the label and glue are removed. Unfortunately, I rarely have that kind of luck. Therefore, I use a coarse scoring pad to remove the remainder of the label and glue from the bottle. Eventually, that scoring pad will need to be thrown away, because it gets gummed up. It may take a few rinses, but you can remove 100% of the glue from the bottle!

After the label is removed, follow whatever cleaning and sanitation regiment you employee, and your bottles will look new.

For those who have judged before know about the sensory requirements to objectively evaluate a beer. However, for those who have not been a judge and enter competitions, I want you to understand that all the senses are in play and the bottle is the first impression.

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



Pro Rig Demo @ Steam Theory

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**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.



Pro Rig Demo @ Steam Theory



www.NTHBA.org