



LIVIN' THE BREWS



The Newsletter of the North Texas Home Brewers Association, Inc.

Volume XV, Issue 2

February, 2000

February Meeting

Tuesday, February 8, 2000
7:30 PM

Location: Hoffbrau Steaks
4180 Beltline Road
Addison, TX 75244
(972) 392-1161

Do Not bring homebrew this month -
\$1 Draft Beer will be available

YOU'RE A WINNER, COME ON DOWN!!!!

by Rett Blankenship

Winning my first award at the Bluebonnet was one of the best experiences I have had in my short brewing history. The second time was even better due to one big difference. The first time I won, I was notified by phone a couple of days after the event.

"YEEHAW...." I screamed after recovering from the initial shock. It was only the second beer I ever had brewed, which just goes to show that anyone can have a chance regardless of experience. Boy was I pumped. But something was missing even though I did not realize it at the time. The second time I received an award at the Bluebonnet I yelled "YEEHAW" and so did all of my fellow NTHBAers, as well as people from other clubs, and family and friends who came with me. I walked to the podium to pick up my award and came back to the masses with a huge grin on my face. People were high 5ing me, asking what I brewed, and what yeast did I use. Questions like, when do we get to try it? Do you have more to send to Florida? Then and there is when I realized the difference between my first award and the second one. I got to share the moment with other folks that were interested in my hobby and I, theirs.

I would like to invite all of you in our club and

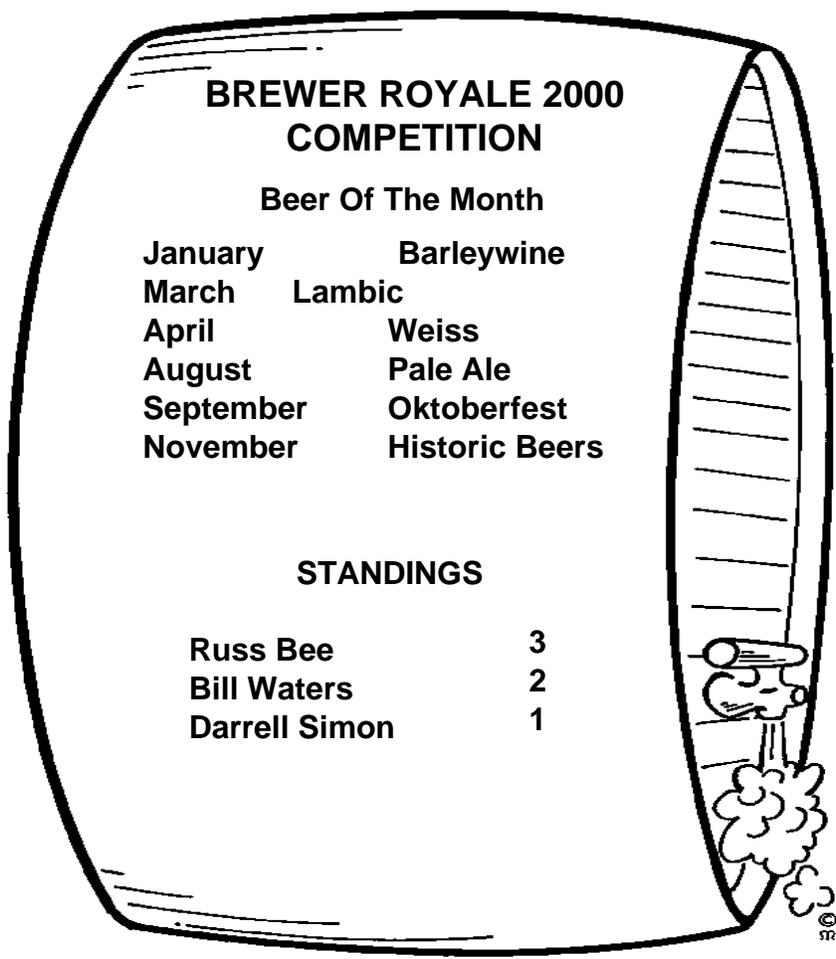
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Lettrz from the Prez

by Jim Layton

Hey, Bo! Great party! Good food, good fellowship, and some mighty fine homebrew were on tap at Bo Turton's Y2Keg shindig. Random memories: Tom Garner's cool GTO convertible, Russ Bee's Old Iron-Ass barleywine, and those fuzzy green beans... This month finds us meeting at Hoffbrau in Addison. John Morrison is the brewmaster there and he's a real good friend to the club. They have a great lineup of house brews (food's good, too). John will be on hand to give tours of the brewery and he's seeing to it that we get a break on beer prices. The Hoffbrau staff will be working hard to help us have a fun meeting, so show them that we appreciate their efforts by leaving your bartender or waitress a healthy gratuity. You'll find a call to arms from the Bluebonnet elsewhere in this newsletter and I'd like to add my 2 cents. This is a top event. Every effort will be made to ensure that your entry is treated right and fairly judged. I hope that each of you will enter several beers, and I look forward to seeing lots of NTHBA faces marching to the front at the awards ceremony. There is a spanking new Bluebonnet trophy this year. We can take it, but we need every member's help in the form of your best brews. This year, we are splitting the first round judging between two sites: one site in Ft. Worth, one in Dallas. We need judges and stewards, lots of them. All experience levels, even zero experience, are strongly encouraged to come. Novice judges will be paired with experienced judges so don't let a lack of

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Brewer Royale Barleywine Results

By Jim Snow

We kicked off the New Year with our meeting at The Flying Saucer and the first of six club-only competitions, barleywine. Five barleywines were entered, two American-style and three English-style. Many thanks go to Greg Kushmerek and Bill Dubas who assisted me with judging the excellent entrees. Bill was using this opportunity to help him prepare for an upcoming BJCP exam. For their efforts, the judges received six free raffle tickets. The beer gods were smiling that night as two of the three judges won prizes at the raffle. The first place award was awarded to Russ Bee for his excellent interpretation of Anchor's Old Foghorn. Bill Waters won second place and Darrell Simon picked up third. The next Brewer Royale competition will be held in March with lambics as the style. Anyone going to challenge Charlie Gottenkiency?

You're A Winner

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members from other clubs to come out and be a part of the Bluebonnet Brew-Off. You will be able talk old times with old friends and make new ones while your at it. Take advantage of the judging, pub crawls, and visiting with Roger Protec, our guest speaker from England. I guarantee you will learn something new about our hobby during the weekend. OOOOOH, and did I mention beer? We have commitments from 22 sources on beer to be served at the tasting. And don't forget the room crawl to be held on Friday night after the banquet.

Not everybody is going to win one of the coveted awards, but you will be there to congratulate

somebody you know and share in their accomplishment and hoot and holler when someone in the club does well. I hope to see you there!

To make hotel reservations call Wilson World direct at 972 513-0800. Tell them your with the Bluebonnet Brew-Off to receive the discounted rate of \$59 a night. Space at this price is limited so make your reservations soon. Remember that by staying at the hotel you can avoid the long drive home after partaking in some malty beverages. PLEASE BE SAFE. We want to see everybody at our next club meeting following the Bluebonnet. If you cannot spend the night make sure you have a designated driver.

Rett Blankenship, Director:
Bluebonnet Brew-Off 2000

Study Group Sessions and BJCP Exam Information

The BJCP Examination will be given at the Bluebonnet Brew-Off, Sunday, March 26th at 10:30 AM in the Wilson World Hotel.

Free Study Group sessions are continuing with 3 classes planned in February. The next class will be this Sunday, 2/6 @ 3:00 PM at the Homebrew Shop in Arlington. John Morrison (Head Brewer at Hoffbrau in Addison) will be presenting information on troubleshooting your brews. What causes off flavors and how to avoid them. Remember, the classes are free and you don't have to take the BJCP exam to attend these sessions.

If you are planning to take the BJCP examination, you need to register and pay a \$10.00 deposit. The balance will be due the day of the exam. Contact Mike Porter at the Homebrew Shop in Arlington (817) 792-3940 for details.

Bluebonnet Brew-Off entry forms were included in the hard copy newsletter. You can obtain the forms at the official Bluebonnet Brew-Off Website

www.welcome.to/bluebonnet



Lettrz

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experience keep you away. If you really don't want to judge, come and steward. Stewards get to taste the beer too, you know. New brewers - this is a great opportunity to learn what common faults taste like, sample uncommon styles, and enjoy some truly wonderful examples of the best homebrews being made today. While I'm at it, I'd like to put in a plug for some other homebrew competitions. The Bluebonnet marks the beginning of the Gulf Coast circuit. The other comps in this circuit are the Crescent City (New Orleans), the Sunshine

Challenge (Orlando), and the Dixie Cup (Houston). These are all large, well-run competitions. Another noteworthy competition is the Cactus Challenge (Lubbock). The host club members knock themselves out to put on a competition and its all a labor of love. I encourage each of you to support these events with your entries. Another way to enjoy a homebrew competition is to go! Last year, I attended all of the Gulf Coast events and had a blast at each of them. Every competition has a unique personality, and each will be memorable. To really enjoy these events is dirt simple: grab a free beer and

say howdy to someone. Sign up to steward or judge a flight of entries. Go on a pub crawl. You'll make new friends and learn stuff about beer and brewing. Nice, eh? I'll be at the Bluebonnet, of course, but I'm not stopping there. I've already made reservations for the Crescent City Competition and Crawfish Boil, April 15 in New Orleans. The Crescent City Brewers put on a nice competition with real personality, and New Orleans offers a lot to see and do. Jazz, crawfish, voodoo queens, French Quarter, and lots more. If you want to go, start planning now.

North Texas Home Brewers Association, Inc. Board of Directors

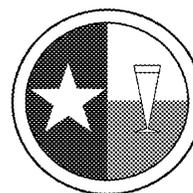
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			firebrew20@aol.com

Club Brewmeisters

Club "Brewmeisters" are members who are experienced brewers and have volunteered to help other brewers, both new and old, who are having problems. Give them a call with your questions! Just don't call too late or too early or during Cowboy games!

Russ Bee -----	(972) 771-9489
Charlie Feder -----	(972) 223-8771
Ken Haycook -----	(214) 381-3770
Darrell Simon -----	(972) 475-7571
McKee Smith -----	(972) 393-3569

North Texas Home Brewers Association, Inc.



The North Texas Home Brewers Association 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 about 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! Deadlines for ads and articles are the last Monday of each month for publication the following month.

Visit the NTHBA WEB Site at
<http://hbd.org/nthba>
 or www.nthba.org

Bluebonnet Brew-Off Trophy Struggles with Florida Confinement - Let's Bring It Back Home !!!!!

Enter ALL your brews in this years competition
Our Trophy needs your support.



Treated like a goblin.....



Used as a bucket.....



Taken for a ride.....



Forced to eat with the dogs.....



Exposed to a false sense of security.....

**What's instore for
Next Year ???**





Livin' the Brews Newsletter
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If you received this with a yellow post office forwarding sticker,
please give Jim Layton a call at (972) 952-3718 and give him your new address.