



LIVIN' THE BREWS



June Meeting
Tuesday, June 11, 7:00 PM

The Old Monk
2847 N. Henderson Ave.
Dallas, TX 75206
(214) 821-1880

Prez Sez

By Walter Hodges

During last month's meeting we asked everyone to commit to making at least one beer to enter in a competition. A sign-up board was circulated and I hope most of you put yourself down for a category or two.

Why do we make such a big deal out of these competitions? A lot of us compete just for the fun of competition and to also find out how our beers stand up to other home brewer's beers. Others use the competitions to learn how to improve their beers through the comments of the judges.

There seem to be at least a couple of reasons that we should

not have to take time at the meeting talking up other club's competitions and spending club dollars sending boxes of beer around the country. The big reason this is important to us is that the competitions help support the sponsoring clubs. By supporting other clubs, we are in fact, helping grow the hobby of home brewing.

Grow the hobby? "It seems fine to me," some of you may say. Other may ask, "What benefit do I get from more people getting into home brewing?"

There's plenty of benefit for us all when the hobby grows. I was talking with a guy this last weekend, and he was telling me about how hard it used to be to get equipment and quality ingredients. How hard is it to find these things now? Not very! That is a direct result of the growth of the hobby (and a change of laws). We all now

have access to good grains, a wide variety of hops and dozens of strains of yeast. There are countless web sites, books and magazines to help us. All of these came through the growth of home brewing.

Another reason to push the competitions is that it helps build the friendly rivalries and camaraderie that our club enjoys with other home brew clubs. We have several members who have made the trips to New Orleans and Orlando this year and I have no doubt they will be in Houston this fall.

And the final big reason we push the competitions – WE WANT TO WIN! Each competition, I see that we are consistently placing well with the beers that are sent, but we just don't have the quantity to make up those last few points needed to bring home the big hardware.

The North Texas Home Brewers are a talented bunch. I'm convinced that if we all commit to sending at least one beer, maybe two or three, to the Dixie Cup, we can bring that trophy home!

July Meeting
Tuesday, July 9, 7:00 PM
Location: The Flying Saucer

June Brew Day
Saturday, June 15
Location: Mark Stolle's Home

BREWER ROYALE 2002

Style of the Month

Jul '02	American Lager	Cat. 1
Sep '02	Strong Belgian Ale	Cat. 18
Nov '02	Fruits & Veggies	Cat. 21/22
Jan '03	Bitter & Eng Pale Ale	Cat. 4
Mar '03	Brown Ale	Cat. 10
May '03	Eng & Scot. Strong	Cat. 11
Jul '03	European Pale Lager	Cat. 2

Standings	Points
Jim Layton	5
Rod Slattery	3
Kelly Harris	2
Russ Bee	1



Competition Corner

By Joe Scivicque

Well, in the last Competition Corner I made a promise that I would never promise never to make a mistake. And it's a darn good thing, because while I was typing that article, I was making another mistake. I am apologizing this time to Jeff Nolte. I intended to list everyone that sent entries to the Sunshine Challenge, and after Jeff sent me two e-mails telling me he sent beers, I still left him off the list. So, Jeff, thanks for the entries.

So, the Sunshine Challenge is behind us. Our club did not take the Sunshine Bowl as we had hoped. As is too much of a bad habit, the Central Florida gang has kept their record and trophy intact with 54 points. The North Texas Home Brew-

ers were a distant second with 21 points.

Once again, hats off to the brewers who made the effort to get their brews off to the competition. Here's the list of ribbons that our team brought home.

- Russ Bee
 - 1st Bock
 - 3rd Bock
- Val Bee
 - 3rd German Amber Lager
 - 2nd Strong Belgian Ale
 - 3rd Fruit Beer
 - 2nd Smoke-Flavor Beers
- Bill Dubas
 - 3rd Brown Ale
- Steve Hacker
 - 1st Smoke-Flavor Beers
- Jim Layton
 - 3rd Stout
 - 3rd Lambic & Belg. Sour
- Doug Nett
 - 1st Scottish Ale

Joe Scivicque
2nd Porter

Once again, I would like to remind you that the next competitions are the Cactus Challenge in Lubbock (<http://cactuschallenge.tripod.com/>) and the Dixie Cup in Houston. The Cactus Challenge is in September and the Dixie Cup is in October. Now is the perfect time to start your lagers for these competitions and you still have plenty of time to put some ales in the kettle. Don't procrastinate.

The Ale-ian Society in Lubbock has a goal of getting 350 entries in the Cactus Challenge this year. Let's help them reach their goal. And while you're helping our neighbors in Lubbock, don't forget that you can use those same batches to send to the Dixie Cup and bring it home.

Kelly Harris kicked off the Dixie Cup drive at the last club meeting. He has a poster at Homebrew Headquarters with a list of commitments from our team. He will bring the poster to each meeting to get more commitments. So far, we have 57 entries committed. Here are the folks who committed to enter:

- Brian Beyer, Carter Cathey, Mark Stolle, Steve Haney, Brian Martin, Thomas Taylor, Jeff Nolte, Robert E. White, Mark Todd, Patrick Kruger, Richard Harris, Paul Doxey, Bill Dubas, Phil Faulconer, Charlie Walker, Don Trotter, Rod Slattery, Doug Nett, Tom

(Continued from page 2)

Garner, Joe Scivicque, Jim Layton, Steve Hacker, Kelly Harris, and Walter Hodges,

Here are the BJCP subcategories that are still vacant: 2A, 2C, 4C, 5A, 6B, 10C, 11B, 12C, 14D, 16B, 17B, 17C, 17D, 18A, 19D, 19E, 20B, 20C, 20D, 20E, 25A, 25B, 25D, 25F, 25H, 26B, 26C. It would be great to get at least one entry in every category and even better to have entries in every subcategory.

Keep an eye out for the poster when you go to HBHQ and watch competition corner. We'll publish your names as you sign up. So, sign that poster and fire up those kettles.

GO NTHBA!

Brewing Safety

By Bo Turton

As a new father with a 14-month old son, I have been faced with baby proofing the house. As I look at my beer brewing, I realize that there are many safety aspects that I feel are import for other home brewers to think about. The club has been teaching the "community" how to brew beer, but I think it also time to consider teaching the community about **BEER SAFETY**. I hope this is the first of many new articles to come to ensure safer beer brewing.

This past weekend I left my hydrometer in a plastic box on the floor as I prepared to brew beer. Within a few minutes,

my son had broken the hydrometer and was about to walk through the broken glass. A week earlier, I watched as my son played with two 7 ½ gallon glass carboys. He laughed as he rocked them on the marble floor. The thought of heavy glass pieces cutting him went through my mind. So please, keep the glass brewing equipment, and cleaning chemicals away from your kids.

I have a friend that broke a plate glass table. His wife picked up the glass and placed it in a black trash bag. Later that week he went to take out the trash, grabbed that black plastic bag, and before he knew what had happened, the tip of his thumb was sitting on the floor.

So for us brewers, if you break a carboy, throw the glass in a trash can and dispose of it properly before someone gets hurt. Store your carboys on a

shelf and keep your kids well away from them. I bought a \$49 shelf at a local home improvement store and placed my carboys on the shelves away from my son's reach. In "BREW YOUR OWN" magazine, I saw an article about someone making plywood storage boxes for their carboys. I love this idea and might make some for myself.

When I go to the club brew days, I carry my carboys back and forth, taking the chance of breaking them. The plywood storage boxes would make it safer to transport the carboys. I have also seen some brewers use their 5 gallon Cornelius kegs to transport the beer and they pitch the yeast at home in carboys in a safe environment.

If you have a safety tip, please feel free to e-mail the tip to me for an up coming newsletter. My address is bo3769s@hotmail.com.

The Brewers Calendar 2002

(Revised June 2002)

June

11 June Club Meeting - 7:00 PM
Location: The Old Monk, Dallas, TX

15 NTHBA Club Brew Day
Location: Mark Stolle's home
Address: 3220 Mason, Plano, TX

20-22 AHA National Home Brew Conference
Location: Wilson World Hotel, Irving, TX

July

9 July Club Meeting - 7:00 PM
Location: The Flying Saucer, Dallas, TX
Brewer Royale Competition - Category 1
American Lager

Here's to the Winners !!!

The 2002 Gulf Coast Circuit is 75% complete.
 Here is the list of North Texas Home Brewers that entered winning brews.
 Congratulations everyone !!! Let's add more names for the Dixie Cup column!

Brewer	Bluebonnet Brew-Off	Crescent City Competition	Sunshine Challenge	Dixie Cup
☆ 1st Place ❄ 2nd Place ✱ 3rd Place				
Val Bee	☆✱	☆☆✱	❄❄❄❄	
Russ Bee	☆❄❄❄		☆☆	
Jim Layton	❄	☆☆	❄❄	
Steve Hacker	☆	❄✱	☆	
Joe Scivicque	☆		❄	
Doug Nett	✱		☆	
Jeff Nolte	✱	☆		
Rett Blankenship	☆			
Bill Dubas		❄	✱	
Greg Pratt		❄		
Richard Harris	❄			
Darrell Simon	❄			
Steve Arnold		✱		
Paul Doxey	✱			
Best of Show 1st				
Best of Show 2nd	Steve Hacker	Jim Layton		
Best of Show 3rd				

The Editor's Column

By Bill Dubas

Well, it was bound to happen sooner or later. After 4 straight months of 10-page newsletters, some of us came down with "writer's block" this month.

Some of you may have noticed that I took this lull as an opportunity to play with the formatting of the newsletter a bit. I changed some of the fonts to be more informal, modified the masthead to include our club logo, and most importantly, added a patriotic red, white, and blue color scheme.

Drop me a note if you approve, disapprove, have more ideas for the newsletter, or if you have an article that you would like me to include into the next month's edition (please!). I can be reached at (972) 862-8518, or bill_dubas@hotmail.com



The Brewing Equipment Trading Post



HELP WANTED

Homebrew Headquarters is looking for a knowledgeable person in beer and wine making. Help is needed for weekends mostly and some weekdays. Part and full-time available. Contact Kelly Harris @ 972-234-4411

FOR SALE

- 1 Fridge with ext. thermostat (\$75)
- 1 Hearts Homebrew Supply "Super Chiller", never used (\$100)
- 1 Little Giant centrifugal pump, never used (\$50)
- 2 7-gal carboys with handle and thermometer strip (\$20/each)
- 5 5-gal carboys with handle and thermometer strip (\$15/each)
- 1 16-gal keg with top cut out and nipple welded on, never used (\$75)
- 5 Cornelius kegs. . . the nice ones Jack used to sell (\$20/each)
- Many cases of bottles (\$5/case)
- Many "Zymurgy" and "Brew Your Own" magazines (\$1/each)

Contact Charlie Feder
972-223-8771

North Texas Home Brewers Association, Inc. Board of Directors

President	Walter Hodges	(972) 416-9330 wnp.hodges@verizon.net
1st Vice President	Kelly Harris	(972) 769-0958 killet@dhc.net
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Member-at-Large	Doug Nett	(972) 416-5429 Dnett@hodgesusa.com
Past President	Steve Hacker	M (817) 540-1210 steve4beer@aol.com

North Texas Home Brewers Association, Inc.



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 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. The deadline for ads and articles each month is 10 days prior to the next club meeting.


Visit the NTHBA Website at
<http://www.hbd.org/nthba/>

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
Darrell Simon	(972) 675-5562
McKee Smith	(972) 393-3569
Homebrew Headquarters	(972) 234-4411

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THE OLD MONK
 2847 N. Henderson Ave.
 Dallas, Texas 75206 • 214-821-1880

HOURS

Mon-Fri	6pm until 2am
Sat & Sun	12pm until 2am

HAPPY HOUR

Mon-Fri	4-7pm
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Livin' the Brews Newsletter
 c/o Bill Dubas, Editor
 P.O. Box 168274
 Irving, Texas 75016-8274

If you received this with a yellow post office forwarding sticker,
 please give Tom Garner a call at (972) 234-4411 and give him your new address.