
The Grain Mill

Publication of the Scioto, Olentangy and Darby Zymurgists, Inc.

February 2003

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Bonni Katona

Happy Birthday, SODZ! The club was founded in April of 1995, so we're eight years old. I'll try to remember to bring my laminated copy of the Accent Section from *The Columbus Dispatch* when the club brewed a beer at its second meeting.

I'd like to thank the previous officers for their efforts during the past year. Thanks go to Eric Asebrook, Kristen Huckaby, Mark Katona, Jim Leas, and Mark Irwin.

Our 2003-2004 officers (besides me) are Rick DeShone, Vice President; Mark Katona, Secretary; Mike Mirarchi, Treasurer; and Frank Barickman, Membership Director. We have a good blend of veteran and relatively new SODZ members.

The new officers met last month at the Lazy Chameleon, which is just north of my house. Over a few pints of Otter Creek Mud Bock and some other beers, we talked about some goals for SODZ over the coming year and came up with a game plan to achieve them. Everyone had great ideas for club activities over the next year.

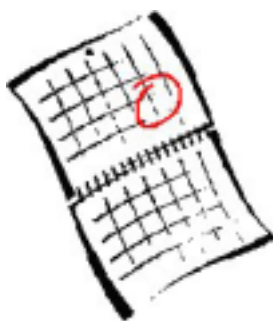
The first goal is communication. Through email and the newsletter, we'll let you know about up



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mark your calendars for these meetings and future beer events!

- April 21 SODZ Meeting; Sanitation in Brewing Process
AHA Style: English & Scottish Strong Ale
- April 25-27 National Homebrew Competition Judging
J.W. Dover, Westlake
- May 19 SODZ Meeting
- May 31 Ohio State Fair Judge Forms to Brett Chance
- June 19-21 AHA National Convention, Chicago
- June 20 Ohio State Fair Entry Forms & Fees Due
- July 19 Ohio State Fair Homebrewed Beer Judging
- August 23 Beer & Sweat, Ramada Inn, Florence, KY



SODZ INFO

The Scioto, Olentangy and Darby Zymurgists, Inc. (SODZ) meets on the third Monday of the month at the Shamrock Club, 60 W. Castle Road, Columbus, Ohio.

Meetings begin at 7 p.m.

Membership dues are \$15 per year and are renewable during the member's anniversary month of joining SODZ. Dues may be mailed to:

Frank Barickman
Membership Director
133 Miners Court
Delaware, OH 43015

Members receive *The Grain Mill*, the club's monthly newsletter. Articles submitted for the newsletter should be received no later than the end of the month prior to issue and may be submitted by e-mail, preferably in MS Word, to mkatona@columbus.rr.com.

Current SODZ officers are:

President

Bonni Katona
bkatona@columbus.rr.com

Vice President

Rick DeShone
rdeshone@CTCODEWORKS.COM

Secretary/Newsletter Editor

Mark Katona
mkatona@columbus.rr.com

Treasurer

Mike Mirarchi
mamirarchi@hotmail.com

Membership Director

Frank Barickman
fbarickm@columbus.rr.com

www.stat.ohio-state.edu/~irwin/sodz/

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER (CONT.)

At one time SODZ did very well in AHA Club-Only Competitions. Last month's newsletter included this year's competition schedule through fall, so you can begin planning your brewing schedule.

Finally, our last goal is to increase membership. Do you know anyone who enjoys brewing or at least drinking good beer? Please invite them to attend a meeting or club event. We're also looking into other ways to promote the club.

Now that we've established our goals, it's time to begin a road to achieving them. Our next meeting will be held on Monday, April 21, at 7 p.m. at the Shamrock Club. Shhh!—Don't tell anyone I told you, but it's Frank Barickman's birthday.

During our business meeting, we need to plan the club's all-grain brew, which is typically held in June. We need to decide a date, place, beer style, and the brewmaster. We should also set a date and place for the July picnic to drink the beer.

Rick DeShone is planning the technical presentation. This month's topic will be sanitation for the brewing process. In addition, if we have any entries for the AHA Club-Only Competition, we'll go through the style guidelines and judging process. If you wish to enter a beer, the style is Category 11 English and Scottish Strong Ales.

I'm excited about the upcoming year, and I hope the excitement is contagious!

OHIO STATE FAIR HOMEBREW COMPETITION

By Brett Chance

The Ohio State Fair competition date is Saturday, July 19. However, the deadline for submitting entry forms and fees is June 20. This is an Ohio State Fair deadline set for all competitions. Beer is NOT submitted with the entry forms; the delivery dates will be in July, just ahead of the competition.

I hope to be emailing all of the club members shortly to provide information about accessing the OSF Homebrew Competition entry information from our new Website, which should be up and running soon.

In the meantime, I am happy to report that I currently have all of the stewards I will need for the competition. Any judges who received a letter or email regarding the Ohio State Fair Homebrew Competition are asked to complete the registration form (whether you can make it or not) and return it to me by the end of May. It's hard to have too many judges, so I always appreciate getting as many judges registered as possible.

2003 GRAVITY HEAD

By Rick Deshone

March 8th, 2003 is a date that will go into my beer appreciation memoirs. This was the date of my first Gravity Head experience. This is a beer event that has occurred for 7 years running. The event brings together beer appreciation enthusiasts (sometimes referred to as snokkered guests) and a stunning array of high gravity (BIG!) beers. The following is a list of what was scheduled for 2003 Gravity Head:

BBC - Bearded Pat's Barley Wine 2001
Bell's Consecrator Doppelbock
Bell's Expedition (Imperial) Stout
Bell's Sparkling Ale
Browning's Doppelbock
Corsendonk Christmas Ale
De Dolle Mad Bitch
Delirium Noel
Gales Prize Old Ale 1998
J.W. Lee's Vintage Harvest Ale

Cask-Conditioned and sherry-primed
J.W. Lee's Vintage Harvest Ale

Cask-Conditioned and port-primed
Kasteel K-8

Kwak
NABC Solidarity (Baltic-style porter)
Rogue Old Crustacean (1996)
Rogue Oregon Brewers Festival 2002 "Charlie" IPA
Rogue Russian Imperial Stout
Sierra Nevada Bigfoot

Barleywine 2002
Stone Old Guardian Barleywine
Triple Karmeliet
Upland Winter Warmer

Gravity Head takes place at Rich O's Public House in New Albany, Indiana. This is just across the river from Louisville, Kentucky. This is a great place to visit anytime with a wonderful variety of beers on tap and some incredible beers in their vintage cellar. As far as I can tell Gravity Head goes on throughout the



month of March and it has two waves to accommodate all of the different beer in the line-up.

On March 8th there were 15 beers up on tap. None of the casks had come in, as there were customs delays on wooden kegs loaded with liquids coming in the country for some reason. Drinking a glass of each is referred to as completing the circuit. People that manage to accomplish this are referred to as "horizontal". I attended the event with a friend that came over from Pennsylvania, who asked not to be named until the police inquiry settles down. We each had about seven beers from the circuit, as

well as tastes of numerous other beers offered by other snokkered guests and some vintage beers sent out complimentary by Roger Baylor the owner.

As the only guest from Columbus, I was cordially invited by Pat Russel-Campbell to join the Dayton crowd in the Red room. This is a room decorated with the iconic imagery of soviet Russia. I found myself drifting away from reality under the watchful eye of Lennin. All the people from the DRAFT and FOSSILS groups were friendly, playful, and made us feel at home.

Although I tasted several other beers on the circuit, I consumed glasses of the following:

BBC - Bearded Pat's Barley Wine 2001
Rogue Oregon Brewers Festival 2002 "Charlie" IPA
Bell's Consecrator Doppelbock, 1.081, 8% (I liked the Browning's better.)
Bell's Expedition (Imperial) Stout, 1.105, 10% (WOW!)
Rogue Old Crustacean (1996)
Three Floyds Behemoth Barley Wine (Vintage 2001)
Upland Winter Warmer, 9%

Amongst the other libations going around the table where I sat was a 1997 Thomas Hardy, L. W. Lees Harvest Ale, Nostradamus, several Belgians, a Cherry lambic and a host of others that still sometimes appear as vague almost decipherable labels in my dreams.

2003 GRAVITY HEAD (CONT.)

This is an event that requires a hotel room and a taxi. Everyone pretty much stays and the Holiday Inn which is about a mile away. The next morning was a bit painful, with my friend spending 45 minutes trying to locate his keys, and me trying to find someone to repair a flat tire at 9:00 AM on a Sunday morning.

I highly recommend this event to everyone. Next year lets put together a group and give Columbus a real reputation.



Bonni & Pam Raynor at the between Party at the Raynor House in Newark

BREW'S CAFE

By Mark Katona

On April 5th, the members of SODZ, past & present, took a trip to Granville to partake of the Action, comerade and beer at Brews Cafe and Brews 2. If you haven't been here, it is a must to travel to.

Only a half hour east of Columbus, on the main Drag in Granville Ohio is a beer mecca. There are 15-20 beers on Tap, and literally hundreds in the coolers behind the bar. To see what we partook of got to: <http://www.rewscafe.com>. there are literally hundreds of different beers to try.

After the afternoon get together, we traveled into Newark to the home of Pam & Wes Raynor to try some of



AJ, Ben & Mark I. at the between Party at the Raynor House in Newark

Wes's renowned brews and other fun things.

Once we drank all of Wes's Brews (Mark Irwin & I litteraly killed one keg), we went back over to Brew's to have a late dinner and some more beer. The pictures are from that

outing. You should come with us on our next outing. You could be having fun like we were.

2003 MAZER CUP

By Eric Drake

What kind of person gets up at 5:30 am to drive 3 ½ hours so they can start drinking by 10 am? That is exactly what Aaron Ardle and I did Saturday April 12 to go judge at the Mazer cup. The Mazer cup is perhaps the most notable mead only competition in the US, and was hosted in Ann Arbor Michigan. Shortly after we arrived, we were assigned flights in the melomel category and sat down for the calibration round. We used the typical BJCP mead score sheet and no flight had more than eight entries.

Having never judged before, Aaron and I were paired with more experienced judges, Aaron with Ken Schramm and me with Jeff Renner. Jeff and I were the slowest team in the morning rounds, but we were thorough. I even talked him out of giving high scores to a very vinous mead that had no honey character. After all the flights of melomel were finished, there was a mini "best of show" (MBOS) round to determine which one would go on to the actual best of how round. Each flight sent forward it's best two and the best of the category was determined from there.

In the afternoon I was paired with Ken judging braggots, and then held

another MBOS to see which mead would go forth from the open/combined category. Someone actually entered a hot pepper mead that had five pounds of jalapeno peppers in the batch. Fortunately I didn't have to drink it, but those who did gave it zeros for drinkability. There were more flights to be judged Sunday that we couldn't stay for, but all in all, it was a very interesting and educational experience. It was well worth the seven hours in the car. Considering the people I met and the fun I had, perhaps Michigan isn't so bad after all.



Frank & Mark K.. at the between Party at the Raynor House in Newark



John & Julie Bohn, AJ, Mark K. & Mark I. sitting in the booth we commandeered at Brew's Cafe. There was plenty of room for a few more. You could be here with us the next time,



SODZ MEETING

Monday, April 21, 7 p.m.

Shamrock Club

60 W. Castle Road, Columbus

Sanitation in the Brewing Process

**AHA Club-Only Competition:
English & Scottish Strong Ale**