



The Grain Mill

Publication of the

Scioto, Olentangy and Darby Zymurgists, Inc.

April 2005

Vol. 11, No. 1

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By RICK DESHONE

SODZ is 10 years old this month and just finished running its second British Beer Fest. Both of these are quite an accomplishment. There are too many examples of clubs that have started with a flash around the enthusiasm of a few individuals and then when that dissipated, the group dissolved. Clubs are successful and grow because they offer experiences and opportunities to their members in an area of shared interest. Over time the friendships and the camaraderie gained from these experiences are rewarding.

At the competition, it was great to see the enthusiasm emitting from the SODZ members. There was much to be done to make the competition a success. Frank Barickman did a wonderful job as our competition director and Mark Katona did a great job of organizing the flights and judges. It was nice to see the contributions from both old and new SODZ members. Just reviewing it in my head, I came up with over 20 active members that helped in setup, the raffle, the catering, and everything else that had to be done.

Having access to the facility the night before for setup was a great help. Our thanks go to the Leatherlips Yacht Club and Mike Mirarchi for a wonderful location. With the setup and early registration we did Friday night, the competition day went very smoothly. In fact, I don't believe I've ever attended a competition that went as smooth as this one. I'm sure the treasurer's report is coming, but I sensed that Frank was kind of gloating inside about how the club did over last year. SODZ also appeared to do well in the competition with our entries, but more on that later.

SODZ is more than just about beer competitions, however. Competitions are a way to help you understand different beer styles and the techniques and ingredients that go into making those styles. For beer enthusiasts, this variety is at the center of our finding the perfect beer for an occasion or meal. In addition to competitions, essential parts of the club include tastings, learning about different micro-breweries, techniques and ingredients, and finding locations around the city that serve great beer.

The new board has taken office, and Frank, Bonni, Mark, Don, and I are very excited about the club. We are working well together and have some excellent ideas for this next year. We have group brews at two club locations on May 7th - Big Brew Day. One is at the Katonas' (delayed Easter brew) and the other at Jay and Lori Wince's house in Zanesville. If you want to brew or just hang out, please get to one or the other. I also am planning an Iron Kettle Brewoff Challenge for June. I'm trying to avoid the National Homebrew Conference, so it will probably be either June 11th or 25th.

This upcoming meeting on Monday will be another great opportunity to expand some of our knowledge. We are meeting at Gallo's Tap Room on Bethel next to Micro Center. They have some great food, so come early for dinner if you can make it. Our speaker will be Ron Wilson from Premium Beverage, a distributor of some great beers. Ron will be talking to us about the state of the craft brewing industry as he sees it. In addition to Ron's talk, we will have competition results and wrap up and SODZ 10th anniversary shirts and celebrations. I hope to see you all there.

SODZ MEETING

Monday, April 18, 7 p.m.

Gallo's Tap Room

5019 Olentangy River Road, Columbus

Guest Speaker

Ron Wilson, Premium Beverage
"State of the Craft Brewing Industry"

BBF Competition Results

SODZ 10th Anniversary
Celebration

SODZ INFO

The Scioto, Olentangy and Darby Zymurgists, Inc. (SODZ) meets on the third Monday of the month at various locations in Central 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:

Mark Katona, Treasurer
2574 Zebec Street
Powell, OH 43065

Members receive *The Grain Mill*, the club's monthly newsletter. Articles submitted for the newsletter should be received no later than 10 days prior to the next meeting date. Articles should be submitted by e-mail, preferably in MS Word, and graphics in .jpg format to bkatona@columbus.rr.com.

Current SODZ officers are:

President

Rick DeShone
rdeshone@CTCODEWORKS.COM

Vice President

Frank Barickman
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Secretary/Newsletter Editor

Bonni Katona
bkatona@columbus.rr.com

Treasurer

Mark Katona
mkatona@columbus.rr.com

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Don Croucher
donpam@copper.net

SODZ Web Site

www.sodz.org

HOME BREWING: ANALYSIS VS. ENJOYMENT A PERSONAL VIEWPOINT

By Jay Wince

Have you ever sat at a table of homebrewers and wondered to yourself, "What kind of egotistical idiots are these people?" I certainly have, that is before I started thinking about what I had just said in the preceding half an hour. It sometimes seems that we could have brewed any given beer better or differently or could teach that brewer a thing or two about this or that particular style.

I have in fact caught myself saying, while drinking a damned fine beer I might add, "I could brew this better at home." Now what possessed me to make such a statement at that particular time eludes me at present, but I have definitely said this aloud and caught myself thinking it at times as well.

My whole point here is tolerance and open mindedness. We have all been programmed by competitions and style guidelines to critique every beer we pick up. I think we need to reevaluate our thought process and just ask ourselves, "Do I enjoy this beer?" I'm not saying we should throw the book out. I'm saying we should put it away when we are not competing.

As we all know, there are some world-class beers that just defy a style definition. We try to categorize the Belgian beers into neat and tidy little groups when by their very nature they are all unique and should be enjoyed for their diversity.

For instance, the beers of northern France, Biere de Garde and Saison, are grouped together with Belgian specialty ales, Belgian pales and Witbiers; but in truth, how can you compare them other than by the historical fact that they were all brewed on the farms within a certain geographical region for nourishment and refreshment? How can you lump a high alcohol malty beer alongside a less strong and drier hop-accented refresher?

To take this one step farther, how do you compare a darker, sweeter example of Biere de Garde with a lighter-colored, drier example with a greatly different flavor profile (i.e. Jenlain and Castelain)?

To simplify this long-winded statement, I think we should enjoy a beer if it tastes good. We should ask ourselves if this beer is enjoyable to drink and not if it meets all of the style parameters. We should ask ourselves if we would like to have another and not if the correct hop was used for flavor or aroma.

We need to unlearn what we have learned and enjoy a beer for what it is instead of berating a beer for what we assume it is supposed to be. Styles are a great yardstick for knowing what to expect when we order a beer, but they are by no means the final word on whether a beer is good or not.

The pleasure we get from the beer should be the final barometer; we must also remember that tastes are subjective, and we are not going to agree on these opinions. After all, we are homebrewers, which gives us a freedom and, one might say, an obligation to brew whatever comes to mind and not just adhere to the preconceived style definitions.

We have opened the door for the craft-beer movement in the USA and the world. Who knows, one of us just may create the next new style to be added to the BJCP Guidelines. Maybe not, but it will be great fun trying and besides, it will probably taste damn good too!

2005 SODZ 2ND ANNUAL BRITISH BEERFEST RECAP

By Frank Barickman

The 2nd Annual British Beerfest is now behind us and appears to be quite successful although we are still tallying the numbers. Here are some of the simple facts:

- 204 bottles of beer (210 including ringers)
- 102 entries (108 including ringers)
- 73 bottles of water
- 37 brewers
- 31 judges (17 BJCP)
- 15 loaves of bread
- 13 flights
- 12 stewards/assistants
- 9 different states (CA, MD, FL, MI, IL, KY, NY, PA, and OH) represented
- 8 lbs of pulled pork
- 8 lbs of beef brisket
- 7 minutes (number of minutes after 10am Mark Irwin made his grand appearance)
- 5 Best of Show Sponsors
- 2.76 entries per brewer (for us stat geeks)
- 2 Flight Sponsors
- 1 Best British Beer (BOS) goes out of state again!

An afternoon with good friends drinking beer – PRICELESS!

I would like to thank all of the SODZ members who helped out in making this competition a success. It is truly a group effort. There are many hours of work volunteered to be able to put on such a competition. Bonni Katona, Mark Katona, Rick DeShone, Eric Asebrook, Mike Mirarchi, Kris Huckaby (and “Snoogie”), and Betty Fisher all worked hard behind the scenes to make this event a success.

Friday night setup at the yacht club really made things go smooth on Saturday. Tables were set up, covered, and arranged, check-in procedures were ironed out, awards were prepared, raffle items set out, and last-minute details were discussed. Over half of the entries were checked in during setup, limiting the ‘pandemonium’ for Saturday morning check-in. Of course several British style ales were enjoyed afterwards.

SODZ owes a big thanks to Mike Mirarchi and Leatherlips Yacht Club for allowing us to hold the BBF there and set up in advance. I cannot stress enough how setting up Friday night made for a very smooth Saturday morning! Bonni Katona, Mark Katona, Rick DeShone, Mike Mirarchi, Mike Heilman, Don Croucher, Jim Leas, and Tim Esson (Bonni’s brother) all were a great help in setup.

(Continued on p. 4)

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(Continued from p.3)

Saturday morning went off without a hitch. Even with the docks being put in at the yacht club, congestion and parking problems did not arise. Entry check-in ran very smoothly, and the competition began on time at 10AM (YEA!!!!). Going into the competition Saturday, we were several judges short to run one session. Mark and I plotted several strategies Friday night to figure out how we could avoid running two sessions. This was all “thrown out the door” though because several judges unexpectedly showed up from area clubs at the last moment (Thank you, CMI, Bloats, and DRAFT.)

A ‘motley’ crew of stewards served the judges and in some cases even pulled double duty, serving judges in two different flights. Jim Leas worked tirelessly behind the counter; opening beer after beer, without a single “tip” from any of the stewards or judges he was serving. I believe there was not a single gusher this year.

We were able to complete the competition in one session with the exception of the meads. The meads had to be judged in a second session while all of the other judges got to relax and eat lunch. Thanks to Brea Ludwigson, Eric Drake, and A.J. Zanyk for judging this session and to Tim Esson for stewarding (and thank you all for saving some food for them!)

On request of Dave Rice of CMI, most of the 2nd and 3rd place beers were enjoyed by all of the judges and stewards while waiting for BOS judging to complete. I think this was great! Although it's not like Beer and Sweat where you can taste all of the beers you want because they are in kegs (i.e. there are gallons available vs. 12 oz.), it's a great idea to see how the judges scored things and how others interpreted a particular style. I am sure it's not a new idea, but I have never seen this done before at any of the numerous competitions I have attended. Next year, I think we will be better prepared and pull the

2nds and 3rds while we are pulling the BOS beers, making it smoother than it happened this year. Pulling labels and distinguishing marks can be done in a more organized way so winners are not known in advance.

After BOS was completed, Kris and “Snoogie” proceeded with the raffle. We had great support this year from sponsors. In all, over \$450 worth of merchandise was donated for the raffle. Please remember to support these sponsors and thank them (see ads in this newsletter).

On a personal note, I was not real happy with the raffle. Somehow, Rick DeShone and Mark Katona bought tickets just before and just after mine. Since out of 24 tickets I did not hit one number, I figure Rick and Mark must have somehow magnetized their tickets so that they repelled them away from mine; obviously theirs were positively charged and mine were negative! Although we bought tickets in different lots (groups of 6), the tickets that Rick and Mark bought hit multiple times were only +/- 6 from mine. So you can see that my conspiracy theory makes sense. [Editor's note: *Waah, waah, waah!*]

Following the raffle, awards were handed out. Thanks to our generous Best of Show and Flight Sponsors (again, please see ads in this newsletter and support them!!!) we awarded the BOS beer with a traditional English-style yard glass. Best mead and best cider were awarded pewter tankards with glass bottoms. Ironically, Betty Fisher, who won “best mead,” picked out the tankards three months ago. (Hmm, maybe a little foreshadowing.) Flight winners were awarded ½-yard glasses, and all other 2nd and 3rd place winners were awarded ribbons.

In all, I think the competition was a success, and as a club we looked very professional. It was nice to see many SODZ members working together to pull off this event. I know there are many of you whom I did not mention names of specifically, but I figured after all this rambling, to be fair I really would have to list about everyone in the club! Thank you, SODZ!

2ND ANNUAL BRITISH BEERFEST



Beer Hobbyists



It Tastes Like...



Bottle Openers



Judging View from Aloft



Hours:
Mon-Thu: 11:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Fri-Sat: 11:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Sunday: 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Featuring:
Fine American and Imported Craft Beer
Beer and Wine Accessories
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Be Responsible... Drink Responsibly

From the Vine
Fine Wines & Specialty Beer

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Left-hand Widdershins - Barleywine
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2ND ANNUAL SODZ BRITISH BEERFEST

COMPETITION RESULTS

APRIL 9 2005

Table 1 - Cider (6 Entries)

1 st Place	Gary Awdey No Club Affiliation - English Strong Cider	Eden, NY	28D Other Spec. Cider/Perry
2 nd Place	Gary Awdey No Club Affiliation - Emma's Bottlebrush	Eden, NY	27B English Cider
3 rd Place	Gary Awdey No Club Affiliation - Sweet Linnie's Mischief	Eden, NY	27B English Cider

Table 2 - Mead (8 Entries)

1 st Place	Betty Fisher SODZ - Sweet Drop O' Gold	Columbus, OH	26A Metheglin
2 nd Place	Roxanne Westendorf Bloatarsians - Orange Blossom Mead	Cincinnati, OH	24C Sweet Mead
3 rd Place	Benjamin Hansen SODZ - Strawberry Breeze	Columbus, OH	25C Other Fruit Melomel

Table 3 - Old Ales and Wee Heavies (9 Entries)

1 st Place	Gordon Strong DRAFT - Old Ale	Beavercreek, OH	19A Old Ale
2 nd Place	Don Croucher SODZ - Old Fart Ale	Westerville, OH	19A Old Ale
3 rd Place	Mel Thompson No Club Affiliation - Big Mo	Gaithersburg, MD	19A Old Ale

Table 4 - English IPA (5 Entries)

1 st Place	Rick DeShone SODZ - Tony Blair Pale Ale	Dublin, OH	14A English IPA
2 nd Place	Stephen Grushetsky No Club Affiliation - North Coast British Whale Ale	Lyndhurst, OH	14A English IPA
3 rd Place	Frank Barickman SODZ - English IPA	Delaware, OH	14A English IPA

Table 5 - Russian Imperial Stout (6 Entries)

1 st Place	Jay Wince SODZ - Anastasia Russian Imperial Stout	Zanesville, OH	13F Russian Imperial Stout
2 nd Place	Scott Lasky No Club Affiliation - Bat Guano	Vernon Hills, IL	13F Russian Imperial Stout
3 rd Place	A. J. Zanyk SODZ - Russian Imperial Stout	Columbus, OH	13F Russian Imperial Stout

Table 6 - Stouts (12 Entries)

1 st Place	Kirk Gaston SODZ - I'll Give You Short & Stout	Columbus, OH	13D Foreign Extra Stout
2 nd Place	A. J. Zanyk SODZ - Export Style Stout	Columbus, OH	13D Foreign Extra Stout
3 rd Place	Mel Thompson No Club Affiliation - Slick	Gaithersburg, MD	13C Oatmeal Stout

2ND ANNUAL SODZ BRITISH BEERFEST COMPETITION RESULTS

Table 7 - Robust and Baltic Porter (12 Entries)

1 st Place	Gordon Strong DRAFT - Baltic Porter	Beavercreek, OH	12C Baltic Porter
2 nd Place	Mel Thompson No Club Affiliation - Skid Mark	Gaithersburg, MD	12B Robust Porter
3 rd Place	Frank Barickman SODZ - Leg Lifter Porter	Delaware, OH	12B Robust Porter

Table 8 - Brown Porter (9 Entries)

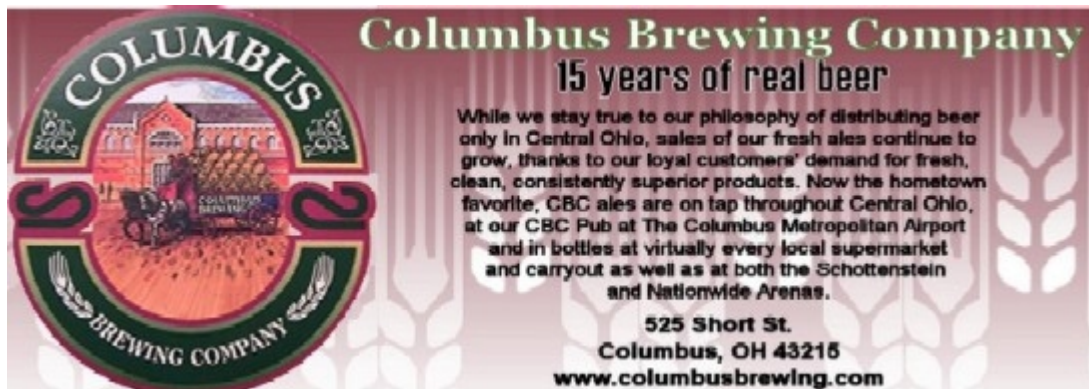
1 st Place	Gordon Strong DRAFT - Brown Porter	Beavercreek, OH	12A Brown Porter
2 nd Place	Tim Esson LBG - Taddy Porter	Painesville, OH	12A Brown Porter
3 rd Place	Kirk Gaston SODZ - Pop You in the Porter	Columbus, OH	12A Brown Porter

Table 9 - English Browns (9 Entries)

1 st Place	Mel Thompson No Club Affiliation - Quafalot	Gaithersburg, MD	11A Mild
2 nd Place	Rodney Kibzey I Don't Like Dark Beer	Lombard, IL	11A Mild
3 rd Place	Jay Wince SODZ - Ming's Mild	Zanesville, OH	11A Mild

Table 10 - Scottish & Irish Ales 9B & 9C (6 Entries)

1 st Place	Steve Huckaby SODZ - Huckabrew Brewworks - Stub in a Groove	Columbus, OH	9C Scottish 80/-
2 nd Place	Kirk Gaston SODZ - Cure what Ales the Scottish	Columbus, OH	9B Scottish 70/-
3 rd Place	Norm Penn	Cincinnati, OH	9C Scottish 80/-



2ND ANNUAL SODZ BRITISH BEERFEST COMPETITION RESULTS



CMI - Scottish Ale

Table 11 - Scottish & Irish Ales 9D (6 Entries)

1 st Place	Frank Barickman SODZ - Irish Red Ale	Delaware, OH	9D Irish Red Ale
2 nd Place	Frank Barickman SODZ - Stewart's Irish Red	Delaware, OH	9D Irish Red Ale
3 rd Place	Virg Redman No Club Affiliation - Other - PPB Irish Red Stout	Vacaville, CA	9D Irish Red Ale

Table 12 - English Pale Ale 8C (9 Entries)

1 st Place	Virg Redman No Club Affiliation - Other - PPB ESB	Vacaville, CA	8C Extra Special/Strong Bitter
2 nd Place	Joe Waizmann DRAFT - GW's Pale Ale	Dayton, OH	8C Extra Special/Strong Bitter
3 rd Place	Tim Esson LBG - Mild Pale Ale	Painesville, OH	8C Extra Special/Strong Bitter

Table 13 - English Pale Ale 8A & 8 B (9 Entries)

1 st Place	Mel Thompson No Club Affiliation - Sheep Dip	Gaithersburg, MD	8A Ordinary Bitter
2 nd Place	Mike Mirarchi SODZ - New Years Bitter	Hilliard, OH	8A Ordinary Bitter
3 rd Place	Mike Ameel TRASH - Percivals Special Bitter	Bethel Park, PA	8B Special/Best/Premium Bitter

BEST OF SHOW

1 st Place	Virg Redman No Club Affiliation - Other - PPB ESB	Vacaville, CA	8C Extra Special/Strong Bitter
2 nd Place	Gordon Strong DRAFT - Old Ale	Beavercreek, OH	19A Old Ale





Yes, beer fans it's time for the **First Annual AleFest Celebration in Cleveland!**
AleFest Cleveland is expected to attract all varieties of craft beer enthusiasts.

Purpose: **AleFest Cleveland**, sponsored by Winking Lizard Tavern, is a charitable consumer event showcasing the finest beer styles of the world in a responsible & upscale fashion.

AleFest Cleveland benefits The West Side Ecumenical Ministry.

Date: Saturday, April 30, 2005 from 2:00 to 6:00 PM.

Place: Cleveland State University Wolstein Center.

Tickets: Available at Cleveland State University's Wolstein Center & Ticketmaster @ www.ticketmaster.com.

Cost: \$25.00 in advance, and \$30.00 day of the event. Each admission is good for 20 samples of craft beer, tasting glass, tasting guide, and live entertainment.

Advertising: Print ad, retail and on-premise posters and event brochures (available by early March), and Radio/TV PSA's submitted by The West Side Ecumenical Ministry.

Features:

- Raffle for **Beer For A Year** with your ticket purchase.
- Over 100 craft beers from more than 30 world-class breweries.
- Commemorative AleFest sampling glass.
- Live music by Skinny Moo.
- Celebrity Beer Tasting Panel.
- Raffle for beer collectibles.
- Retail sales of wearables and glassware.
- Silent auction featuring beer memorabilia.
- Food concession by Winking Lizard Tavern & CSU.

Please email your questions and comments to: AleFest@earthlink.net, or visit the website @ www.AleFest.com.

Ein Prosit!

Joe Waizmann & John Lane
AleFest Cleveland Co-Chairmen

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Larry Campbell & AJ Zanyk



Mark Katona, Jim Leas & Tim Esson

Celebration at the Winking Lizard After the British Beerfest



Doug Sershon, Pam & Don Croucher



*Frank Barickman, Mike Mirarchi,
Steve Huckaby & Rick DeShone*



Bonni Katona, Porter & Roma Barickman



*Pat Russell-Campbell & Mark Irwin
(aka "TheDead One")*



**100 Hutchinson Ave.
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2005 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mark your calendars for these meetings and future beer events!

- April 16 Mini Real Ale Festival, 2-6PM, Barley's Smokehouse
- **April 18** **SODZ Meeting, 7PM, Gallo's Tap Room**
- April 21 Gordon Biersch Maibock Tapping Party, Happy Hour
- April 22-May 1 AHA National Homebrew Competition Judging
- April 29 Hoster Gold Top Party, BW3, Marion, 7PM
- April 30 AleFest Cleveland, 2-6PM, Cleveland State University
- May 7 AHA National Homebrew Day
- May 7 Big Brew Day, Jay Wince's House
- May 7 "Easter Brew," Mark & Bonni Katona's House
- **May 16** **SODZ Meeting, 7PM, Location TBA**
- June 10 AleFest WPAFB
- June 16-18 National Homebrew Conference, Baltimore
- **July 16** **Ohio State Fair Homebrew Competition**
- July 23 Road Trip to Indianapolis
- August 6 AHA Mead Day
- August 20 Beer & Sweat, Cincinnati, OH – Hosted by the Bloats
- August 26 Winking Lizard Beer Dinner at the Columbus Zoo
- August 27 AleFest Dayton
- **September 19** **SODZ Meeting, 7PM, Location TBA**
- Sept 29-Oct 1 Great American Beer Festival, Denver, CO
- **October 17** **SODZ Meeting, 7PM, Location TBA**
- November 5 Teach a Friend to Homebrew Day
- **November 21** **SODZ Meeting, 7PM, Location TBA**
- **December** **SODZ Holiday Party**



THANKS TO OUR BRITISH BEERFEST RAFFLE SPONSORS

Be sure to express your thanks to the following for their donations
of raffle prizes and support of our 2nd Annual British Beerfest Competition:

Barley's Smokehouse

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Hop Union CBS, LLC

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