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# The Grain Mill

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

June 2001

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## President's Corner

*by Mark Irwin*

As we've finished up the regular meeting schedule for the summer I would like to briefly reflect on the past year and too look to our future. As a club we have definitely grown as brewers. While I think we all realize that from sampling at our meetings, this belief is validated on how club members have done in competition. Going through my records I've recorded 28 beers from 12 brewers winning awards, including three Best of Show winners, in the past year. I've also been pleased by how many of you have volunteered to help out in the past year. A club like ours will only survive and thrive if the members participate and not sit back. I'm always looking for ideas for what to do at meetings and other club events. Help in organizing them is always appreciated.

With regards to our future, there are a number of paths we could take. One would be to stay the course. Another possibility would be to get more involved in competitions. This could involve training to be better judges, such as with a course similar to Gordon Strong's or Jeff Seeley's. An extension to this would be to have any interested members write the BJCP exam. Another option in becoming more involved in competitions would be

to host our own competition, similarly to the other major central and southern Ohio clubs. I realize that we are involved with the State Fair competition, but since Brett and the State Fair staff do almost all of the work, I really don't see that as "our" competition. One idea I would like to pursue, assuming there is enough interest, would be to host an AHA Club Only competition. The size of these are reasonable (under 40 entries) and could be a good way to see if we want to get more involved in hosting competitions. As I found out last Saturday, all that seems to be involved in hosting one is to contact the AHA informing them of our interest. We would then get put on a waiting list for the next open slot, which might take 6 months or might take 2 years. Jeff and Gordon seemed to suggest that 6 months might be more likely. Once a spot opened up, we would be informed of the style and asked

if we still wished to do it. Unfortunately we couldn't pick the style as AHA has some mechanism for deciding the styles for the upcoming year. If they tried to give us American light lagers, we could always turn it down.

I was pleased to see most of the local microbrewers at the Alt tapping a few weeks ago. If I remember correctly, six brew pubs in Columbus were represented plus one in Mansfield. Thanks for coming out and helping us celebrate gentlemen. I would like to thank Victor and Walter at Hoster's, Ben at Columbus, and Vince at Elevator for their support of the club over the years. And especially I want to thank Scott, Angelo, Brad, Lenny, and the rest of the Barley's staff for what they have done for us, in particular for hosting our meetings and for brewing another club beer.

I would like to thank Josh and Karen for hosting the Club Brew and Jeremy for brewing his porter on Saturday. I'm sure that everybody had (CONTINUED next page)

## Mark Your Calendar...

**JUNE 10 Afternoon with the Brewers, Barley's Underground**

**JUNE 20 Ohio State Fair Homebrew Competition Entries**

must be mailed by this date

**JULY 14 SODZ Picnic at Bill Hughes' home**

**AUG 21 Beer and Sweat Keg- Only Competition**

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## SODZ INFO

The Scioto, Olentangy and Darby Zymurgists, Inc. (SODZ) meets on the second Thursday of each month usually at Barley's Smokehouse, Dublin Road, Columbus, Ohio.

Meetings begin at 7 p.m.

Membership dues are \$20 per year and are renewable during the member's anniversary month of joining SODZ. Dues may be mailed to:

Jim Leas (Treasurer)  
9477 Tramwood Court  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45242

Members receive The Grain Mill, the club's monthly newsletter. Articles submitted for the newsletter and should be received no later than June 1st for next month's issue and may be submitted by e-mail, preferably in MSWord, to markrichards@columbus.rr.com or on disk in MSWord.

Current SODZ Officers are:

### **President**

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### **Vice President**

Herb Bresler  
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(614) 258-5751

### **Secretary/Newsletter Editor**

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### **Treasurer**

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### **Membership Director**

Bonni Katona  
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**www.sodz.org**

a good time (I'm writing this on Wednesday before the brew and I'm guessing that this newsletter will go out after the brew). Regardless of when this goes out, I'm looking forward to sampling the beer at next month's picnic.

I will be taking over maintenance of the web site in the next week or so. The site I've been playing around with the last couple of months and mentioned in last month's newsletter <<http://www.stat.ohio-state.edu/~irwin/sodz/>> will be copied over to [www.sodz.org](http://www.sodz.org) when I can get an evening to do it, most likely when the quarter is over at OSU. I will keep a copy up on the Stat

department's server as a mirror and a place to debug changes. I would appreciate any of you taking a look at the draft site and let me know if you have any problems or if you have any suggestions. Any content additions would also be appreciated. I would like to thank John for maintaining the site for the last few years. But unfortunately Katherine doesn't allow him the time to do it any more. At least she still allows him to attend club events.

I think its about time that I stop rambling on and go get a beer. See you all at the next event, whenever that is.

## Bockanalia Results:

While we came close, Jeremy's and Matt's Maibock just got edged out in the latest AHA Club Only competition. Their beer was the high scorer in the first round with 42.5 points and was one of six beers from four flights to go onto the Best of Bock round. None of the other 36 beers scored in the 40s. I'm not quite sure exactly how things went in the final round as Elaine Seeley wouldn't allow Gordon Strong, who's Maibock also made the final round, or me in the judging room. If I remember correctly, a Doppelbock from Cary, NC won, followed by an Eisbock from San Diego, and a Maibock. The last beer in the final round was a Doppelbock.

There were some excellent beers entered and I was able to try three of the final round beers on Saturday. I judged the Eisbock and the runner up Doppelbock in the first round and was able to try Gordon's Maibock after the judging since he happened to bring along an extra bottle. All were very nice beers. Unfortunately there were a few clinkers in the first round, though most were enjoyable beers. They just happened not to be good examples of Bocks.

The next Club Only competition is for Belgian Wit beers (Category 19B) which will take place in August. We will have to judge our entries at the picnic next month, so you should have some time, but not much, to brew one to be considered.

# BARLEY'S

## BREWING COMPANY

### ALE HOUSE NO. 1

Just a reminder that the Afternoon with the Brewers is coming up this Sunday (the 10th) from 2 to 5 in the Underground at Barley's Ale House #1.

The winning brews from last years competition, Stoutasaurus Rex, the Russian Imperial Stout brewed by Bill Hughes and Chris Ticknor and Full Moon Ale, the Barley Wine that's more like a big IPA (think Sierra Nevada Celebration on Steroids based on a sample from a month ago), brewed by Mark Irwin and Mark Katona, will be tapped at this event. Also the winners from this year's competition will be announced. Hopefully the club will has similar success to last year. In addition to Scott Francis and Angelo Signorino from Barley's, Victor Ecimovich from Hoster's, Ben Pridgeon from Columbus Brewing, Vince Falcone from Elevator, and Eric Bean from Gordon Biersch are scheduled to attend with samples of their wares. The cost of the event is \$15 which includes beer samples and appetizers.

## AHA Club-Only Competitions:

**August 2001**  
Category 19B. Witbier

**Early October 2001**  
Category 6C.  
California Common

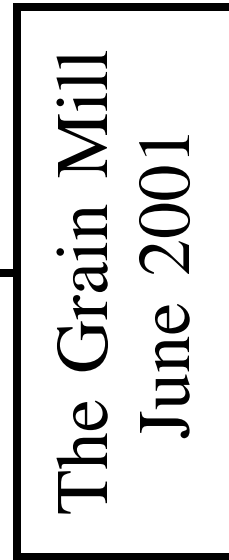
**Early December 2001**  
Category 10A. Mild



Beer Quote of the Month

“With beer the spirit is kept in balance with the liver and blood”

- Egyptian medical book



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