



The Grain Mill

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

May 2004

Vol. 10 No. 2

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Bonni Katona

Hi All!

The BJCP class of 2004 graduated on May 1 and took their exams on May 8 in the serenity of the Leatherlips Yacht Club. Thanks to Jeff Seeley for volunteering his time, putting together course materials, and teaching the prep classes at the Thirsty Dog. Thanks also go to Eric Asebrook for providing the Thirsty Dog as a classroom and to Mike Mirarchi for arranging the exam location at Leatherlips Yacht Club. We hope everyone scored well on the exam.

Last month we held the Victory Malt Challenge. Dan Snyder was the winner and walked away with the tap handle crafted by Rick DeShone. Thanks to all who participated and to Rick for organizing the event!

Also last month, we saved June 12 as the date for the annual club brew, which is an all-grain brew. This has historically been an opportunity for members to learn all-grain brewing.

We're preparing to wrap up the regular meeting season. After our May 17 meeting at the Shamrock Club, we will be on summer break. Instead of regular meetings, we will be busy with brewing events, a picnic, and competitions. Just look at the Calendar of Events in this newsletter, and you'll see just how busy we'll be this summer!

On Saturday we'll be meeting at Rick DeShone's house for the Mystery Brew Team Challenge at 10 a.m. Bring your brewing equipment, recipe resources, and some yeast. Your \$25 entry fee nets you a brewing kit (all-grain or extract), and your team must use only those ingredients plus your yeast to brew a beer. You must declare a beer style, and your brew will be judged against that style at the September meeting.

The details for the club brew have not been worked out yet, so if you're willing to host the event or wish to be the brewmaster, let us know! The challenge with this brew is that we need to brew a style that will be drinkable in a month. Traditionally, we drink the beer at the club picnic, which will be Sunday, July 18. Of course, the brew will be really tasty by the time we resume our fall meeting schedule.

If it's competitions you crave, there are plenty of them this summer! Barley's is now accepting entries for their annual homebrew competition. Pick up an entry blank at The Winemakers Shop. The winner will be announced on June 13 at the annual "Afternoon with the Brewers" at Barley's downtown. The reward for Best of Show honors is to brew your beer large-scale at Barley's and served at next year's event. Last year's winner was Jay Wince, and you can sample his Russian Imperial Stout next month.

Brett Chance is accepting entry forms and fees for the Ohio State Fair Homebrewed Beer Competition until June 20. Do not ship your beers yet! Beers are accepted from July 12-16 at the Fairgrounds, and judging is July 17. One change this year—only two bottles of beer need to be submitted. Sorry, Eric, but you won't have as many beers to take to your after-competition party this year. ☺

Beer & Sweat is the world's largest all-keg competition and is sponsored by the Bloatarian Brewing League in Cincinnati. This year's event will be held on Saturday, August 21, at the Holiday Inn Eastgate in Cincinnati. I had hoped to give you more details, but the Bloats' web site was down. Check back later by going to <http://hbd.org/bloat/>.

This month's meeting program will feature brewing software. I'm sure laptops will be plentiful at this meeting as everyone does their own version of show-and-tell.

Finally, Mark Richards gave me the last six SODZ hats he had left in his inventory. We will

sell them for \$10 apiece. We are also looking into other products, such as shirts and hats, through the company that embroidered the hats.

See you Monday!



VICTORY CHALLENGE WINNER – DAN SNYDER



Thank you to everyone who crafted and submitted a Victory Malt brew; you made this challenge interesting! From IPA to Porter, submissions were judged on their drinkability. Even a couple gushers made it into the mix. Thank you to everyone who participated in the tasting and judging! A hearty thanks to Rick DeShone for organizing this challenge and making the prize – SODZ tap handle! What a success!



his winning recipe:

Congratulations Dan on your winning brew! Dan has graciously provided

Dan's Victory Celebration Ale

Ingredients:

1 lb Victory Malt (Steeped for 30 minutes)
4 lb Dry Amber malt Extract
4 lbs Alexanders Pale liquid Malt
1 oz Centennial Hops – 60 Minutes
1oz Amarillo – 15 minutes
1 tsp Irish Moss – 15 minutes
1 oz Amarillo – 1 minute
½ oz Centennial – Added to Secondary
Wyeast 1056 American Ale

Primary Fermentation: 1 week
Secondary Fermentation: 2 weeks
OG: 1060; FG: 1020; ABV: 5.2%
Bottled on 2/28/04



TEAM BREW-OFF COMPETITION

Mark your calendars! Bring the results of the May 15th team competition hosted by Rick DeShone to the September meeting. Remember to invite any non-SODZ team members to come. At the September meeting we will be tasting the beers and awarding prizes. Beers will be judged according to the style and category listed on your entry the day of the competition.

Many Thanks, Rick, for organizing and hosting this event!

PRELUDE TO THE PUB CRAWL EXPERIENCE

By Betty Fisher

My first and only pub crawl experience was in Kansas City, where Ben & I joined the Kansas City Brew Meisters club for the 2003 Regional judging. (Thanks, Josh, for the invitation.) At this point in time, I remember going to several very nice brew pubs, a short facilities tour in one of them, and holding my tasting ticket and glass forward for one of the first pulls off a five-year-old barley wine. We all tasted many good beers and had a grand time meeting people on the bus as we went from place to place. I highly recommend the Pub Crawl experience to any homebrewer or beer connoisseur – at least once.

I meant to put my experience to paper a long time ago and never got around to it. Then after some prompting at a recent meeting, Don wrote an article about his Pub Crawl experience that speaks universally. Thank you again for a delightful read!

GOING ON A PUB CRAWL

By Don Croucher

A pub crawl. What a concept. When I first heard about this last fall, the very idea was simply delicious. The ticket was \$25, which covered transportation and socializing, and an event T-shirt. The bar tab at each location was your own to pay, based on what you drank and ate. The trip would include stops at the Hofsbrau House, Cock and Bull English Pub, The Dubliner, (my personal favorite) Mecklinburg Gardens, and the Barrellhouse. Imagine spending a whole day (ok, eight hours) with the sole purpose of drinking all the beer you want. You don't have to drive. You don't have to worry about getting lost, or finding a place to park. And in my case, since my wife Pam begged out, she wouldn't be there to keep asking me "Don't you think you've had enough to drink?" Kind of like asking me if I have too much money. I just don't understand the concept.

Since everyone in the club who has been on this trek before told me (ordered me) to go, I felt it an obligation not to let everyone down. I asked my son, Brian, since he lives in Cincinnati, if he would like to go. He thought about it for a minute, then said those famous words, "Let me talk to my wife." I assumed that was my clue to find someone else to partner with, but he called a couple of days later to let me know he had "talked her into it." His wife was actually out of town on some church business that weekend.

As I found out more about the logistics of this operation, I wondered how it would all work. There were 55 tickets available, based on the number of seats on the bus. It started at noon at the Hofsbrau House in Newport. Each stop allowed

between an hour and fifteen minutes to an hour and a half. Suddenly, eight hours of drinking beer was becoming a more realistic picture. I thought, 55 people can't possibly be served a beer, drink the beer, eat something, pay the tab, go to the bathroom, and make it to the bus in that amount of time. The whole thing would be like "Keystone Cops Chase the Bank Robber." Well, what a surprise. The whole thing came off like a fairly well-oiled machine. Everyone got served in timely fashion at each stop, drank their beer, visited with new friends, and when the bus was ready to roll, everyone filed onto the bus with the precision of a drill team. Of course, it had not occurred to me that the Malt Infusers have done this for six years, so they were bound to have worked out the kinks in past years. (I'm a newby; what do I know?) On the bus, between stops, there were lots of nice giveaways to lucky people whose names were called. My name was not called, except once, when I was in the bathroom too long. Same old' same old'.

Each of the stops was a nice location. Service was very good, the beer choices were great, some even outstanding, and lots of new friends were made in the process. My son has already told me he wants to do it again next year. I wonder how he already knows Sandy will be out of town that weekend. For my part, I already have that weekend reserved for what will be the 8th annual pub crawl, and I don't even know the date. My wife has been after me for a long time to get more organized, so planning things a year in advance is a good start, right? At any rate, I hope to see you there, too. After all, you get a T-shirt, even if your name isn't called.



OHIO STATE FAIR HOMEBREW COMPETITION

The competition will be held Saturday, July 17th at the Voinovich Center on the fairgrounds.

Once again this year, registration information for the Ohio State Fair Homebrew Competition is online. Simply click on the link below to get all of the forms and information needed to enter the competition (you will need to have Adobe Acrobat to access the information):

http://ohiostatefair.com/osf/04forms_books/04%20Homebrew%20Form.pdf

This competition follows the BJCP style guidelines.

note: This year only two bottles are required per entry instead of three.

- ❑ Postmark Entry Deadline is June 20.
- ❑ Hand-Delivered Entries are due July 12 – 16 between the hours of 8 AM - 4:30 PM to Brett Chance in the Admin. Bldg at the Ohio Expo Center & State Fair, 717 E. 17th Ave.
- ❑ Any judges entering the competition may hand carry their pre-registered entries on the day of the competition.

For questions, volunteering to steward, or signing-up as a judge, contact Brett Chance:

email: b.chance@expo.state.oh.us

phone: (614) 644-4126 Monday - Friday 7:30 am – 4:00 pm (leave voice mail message)

AHA CLUB-ONLY COMPETITIONS

Plan your brews for these AHA Club-Only Competitions. Bring entries to the meeting date most immediately prior to the entry due date.

- Wheat Beer Entries due August 20; judging, August 27.
- Smoked Beer Entries due September/October. More info TBA
- IPA Entries due November 5; judging, November 13

For more details, see <http://www.beertown.org/homebrewing/schedule.html>.

GREAT AMERICAN BEER FESTIVAL – VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Are you looking forward to Great American Beer Festival (September 30 – October 2, 2004)? If you have a desire to make the journey to Denver, Colorado, why not put in a couple sessions as a volunteer and rub elbows with all kinds of brewers? Sign-up will be online in June. Find information on volunteering on the <http://www.beertown.org/events/gabf/volunteers.htm> website.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mark your calendars for these meetings and future beer events!

- ▶ May 10-29 Barley's Homebrew Competition entries accepted at the Winemaker's Shop
- ▶ May 15 Informal Brew at Rick DeShone's house, 10 a.m.
- ▶ **May 17 SODZ Meeting, 7 p.m., Shamrock Club**
- ▶ **June 12 SODZ Club All-Grain Brew (Details TBA)**
- ▶ June 13 Afternoon with the Brewers, Barley's Brewing Co.
- ▶ June 17-18 AHA National Homebrew Competition 2nd Round Judging
- ▶ June 17-19 AHA National Convention, "Beer & Loafing in Las Vegas"
- ▶ **July 12-16 Ohio State Fair competition entries due, Fairgrounds**
- ▶ **July 17 Ohio State Fair Homebrewed Beer Competition, Fairgrounds**
- ▶ **July 18 SODZ Annual Picnic, Leatherlips Yacht Club**
- ▶ July 23-25 Oregon Brewers Festival, Portland, Oregon
<http://www.oregonbrewfest.com/>
SODZ contact: Mike Heilman mphe@yahoo.com
- ▶ August 21 Beer & Sweat, Holiday Inn Eastgate, Cincinnati
- ▶ **September SODZ Meeting & Team Brew-Off Tasting (date TBA)**
- ▶ Sept 30-Oct 2 Great American Beer Festival, Denver, CO
- ▶ Nov 5-6 International Mead Festival, Boulder CO



SODZ MEETING

Brewing Software

Computer tools for brewers.

Monday, May 17, 7 p.m.

Shamrock Club of Columbus

www.shamrockclubofcolumbus.com



ABOUT SODZ

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 Betty Fisher: bjfish7@rroho.com.

Information for www.sodz.org website can be e-mailed to Rick DeShone: rdeshone@ctcodeworks.com.

Current SODZ officers are:

President

Bonni Katona
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Vice President/Webmaster

Rick DeShone
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Secretary/Newsletter Editor

Betty Fisher
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<http://www.sodz.org>