
The Brain Mill

Publication of the Scioto, Olentangy and Darby Zymurgists, Inc.
October 2000

President's Corner

by Mark Irwin

It was great to see such a large turnout at the last meeting, especially all the new attendees. It was a big change from the September meeting last year when we only had about a dozen people show up in Barley's Underground. Hopefully this month's meeting will be as entertaining and informative as last month's meeting, though it will be hard to follow Jim. Check out Jim's article for this month's meeting plans.

Last weekend Mark, Bonni,

AJ, and I were involved in an interesting little experiment down in Cincinnati. The Cincinnati Malt Infusers decided they wanted to figure out the flavor and aroma characteristics of different hops. To do this, they brewed 9 batches of beer, all the same, except for the hop used. Where the four of us came in was helping them figure out how each of these beers smelled and tasted. A total of nine of us spent Sunday afternoon sampling beers with hops ranging from

Spalt and Ultra to Cascade and Willamette. The plan is for Mike Weaver, the organizer of this activity, to write up our ruminations as an article for Zymurgy. I don't envy him trying to put all of our notes together. Keep you eye out for it - in a few (or many) months.

I was thinking that it might be fun to do a short road trip later this month or early next month since we haven't done one for a while. My idea is to drive out to Newark one Saturday afternoon, and check out what Angelo has been doing at Bunky's and to drop in at Brew's, which I un-



Mark Your Calendar...

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| OCT 12 | SODZ Meeting 7:00 pm, Barley's Smokehouse |
| OCT 21 | Oktoberfest Zinzinnati 2000 |
| NOV 9 | SODZ Meeting 7:00 pm, Barley's Smokehouse |
| DEC 16 | SODZ Annual Christmas Party |
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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:

Eric Drake (Treasurer)
821 Hiawatha St.
Columbus, OH 43211

Members receive The Grain Mill, the club's monthly newsletter. Articles submitted for the newsletter and should be received no later than the end of the month prior to 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:

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www.sodz.org

PRESIDENT'S CORNER *cont.*

derstand has a great beer selection. I suggest a Saturday when the Buckeye's don't have a game in the Shoe since I understand that Brew's isn't open on Sundays. If you are interested in joining in, please contact me so we can decide on a date.

On the drive down to Cincinnati, the topic of the annual Christmas party came up. Mark and Bonni have offered to host the event again. Maybe they will let us use the large mash tun this year :-). The date of Saturday, December 16th was suggested. I think just about everybody last year agreed that moving the party from Thursday to Saturday was a success, so we should keep it the same this year. If anybody sees a problem with having the party on December 16th at the Katona's please let me know.

At least we shouldn't have to fight I-270 construction this year.

If any of you are looking for another competition to enter your beers, the Malt Infusers are having their competition this month. Entries need to be registered by October 14th, which can be done on their web page <http://home.fuse.net/cincinnati/maltinfusers/>. I will be going down to judge so I can take any of your entries down with me. Also if you are interested in judging or stewarding, they are looking for help with that as well. Information and registration is also on their web page.

Hope to see all of you on the 12th at the Smokehouse. Meeting will start at 7 pm as usual, with many of the usual suspects arriving for dinner around 6 o'clock.

"Most people hate the taste of beer to begin with. It is, however, a prejudice that many have been able to overcome."

- Winston Churchill





AHA Club-Only Competition

Mid-October 2000

BJCP Category 9
German Amber Lager
9A. Oktoberfest/Maerzen
9B. Vienna Lager



THIS MONTH'S MEETING..."YOU BE THE JUDGE"

The topic for our October meeting will be beer judging. Some of us have judged beers before, and some have not. But never fear, the process is not that tough. Our president, Mark Irwin, will lead us through the judging procedure, and we'll all judge a beer together.

Not so coincidentally, the Club-Only category for this month is, you guessed it, Oktoberfest! Any SODZ member who has an Oktoberfest/Maerzen, German Amber Lager or Vienna Lager style beer can bring it to the meeting where we will judge it. The highest rated beer will be sent to the Club-Only competition in Minnesota (I think it's there). After Mark's presentation, we should all be expert beer judges (yeah, right) so this will be an opportunity to shine. And if you still don't feel confident enough to

judge beers on your own, you can sit with someone who is judging and add your comments.

We will be doing future Club-Only judging according to the following schedule, so adjust your brewing schedule accordingly.

January -- Dunkel and Schwarzbier
March -- Stout
May -- Bock

Also the national judging for the bock is sponsored by the Cincinnati Malt Infusers and will be held in Cincinnati of course. More details about the Club-Only Competitions can be found on the AHA Web page at www.beertown.org.

If you have a beer that you would like to go through the formal

judging, please let Mark know ahead of time so he can bring the correct materials with him. It doesn't have to be German amber lager. However only plan on the group formally judging 3 or 4 beers so the activity doesn't go on all night. If we get more beers to judge than we can handle, Mark will come up with some scheme to decide which to judge this month. Maybe the ones we don't do this month, we can do in a future meeting. Beer will be accepted in any container (bottles, growlers, kegs), as we will run the judging similar to the CMI competition, which is a bit non-standard, but may be the way to go in the future. Also, this will be a blind judging, which is standard, so if you recognize a beer during judging, please don't say anything. Then we'll announce who's beers they are when we have finished.



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