



# The Grain Mill

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Darby Zymurgists, Inc.  
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## ***The President's Corner***

*by Bonni Katona*

Hi Everyone,

It turns out we're only 2 for 3 after all. The good news is that Barley's Smokehouse is reopening this week! I will contact them soon to find out about availability for future meetings, as they have always been very good to us.

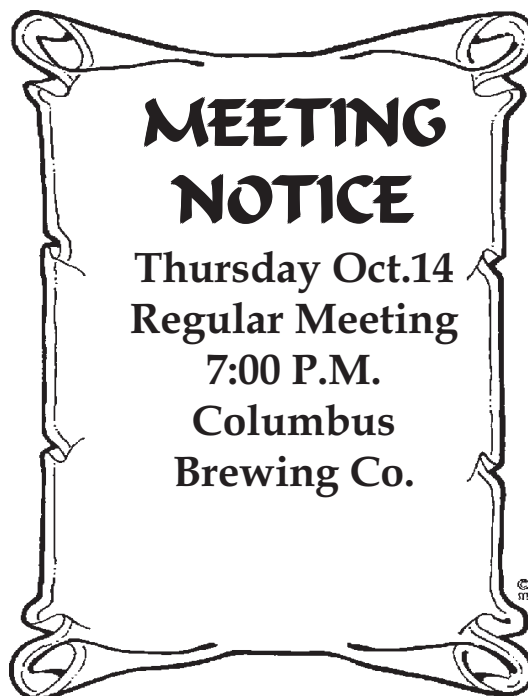
Thanks to Scott Francis and Jan of Barley's Ale House No. 1 for the use of The Underground for our September meeting. If you weren't there, you missed a really good presentation on porters by Mark Irwin. We learned the history of how porters evolved and sampled some commercial porters.

Also new to the Columbus market is Hops, located on Polaris Parkway just west of I-71. The opening reception is Monday, October 11. Their head of brewing, John Schwarzen, a third-generation brewmaster from Germany, will be there to answer questions and tell some interesting brewing stories. Thanks to Kurt Stocker for providing the information about Hops.

Don't forget about the CMI brewing competition, Oktobersbest Zinzinnati '99, this coming Saturday, October 16, in Cincinnati. Entries may be submitted in bottles or kegs. Participation as judges or stewards is welcome. I have forms, which I'll bring to the meeting. You can also visit their Web site, located at <http://home.fuse.net/cincinnati/maltinfusers>, for more details.

This month Ben Pidgeon welcomes us to Columbus Brewing Co. at 7 p.m. We will depart a little from our normal format to learn about winemaking from Tom Jones, an experienced winemaker. Time will be allotted for drinking homebrew, too. Please show your appreciation to Columbus Brewing Co. by joining us for dinner before the meeting.

See you Thursday!



**Visit the SODZ Web Site**

*[www.sodz.com](http://www.sodz.com)*

## SODZ INFO

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

Meetings begin at 7 p.m. Membership in SODZ costs \$20 and is renewed during the member's anniversary month of joining SODZ. Dues may be mailed to the Treasurer at 9477 Tramway Court, Cincinnati, OH 45242

Members receive *The Grain Mill*, the club's monthly newsletter. Articles for the newsletter are due by the end of the month. They may be emailed to the Editor or submitted on a 3.5" floppy disk in Word 6 or 5.1 format for either Macintosh or the PC.

The club's Web side is located at [www.sodz.com](http://www.sodz.com)

The officers of SODZ are:

**President—  
Bonni Katona**

*bkatona@columbus.rr.com*  
792-7933

**Vice President  
Mark Irwin**

*irwin.49@osu.edu*  
457-2487

**Treasurer  
Jim Leas**

*JimLeas@aol.com*  
(513) 936-3061

**Secretary and  
Newsletter Editor  
Mark Katona**

*markk@resourceinternational.com*  
792-7933

**Membership Director**

Larry Pesyna  
*ldpesyna@iwaynet.net*  
890-3278

## Future Meeting Plans by Mark Irwin

There are some interesting things planned for the rest of the year (well at least I think so). This month, the club's winemaking expert, Tom Jones, will be discussing winemaking. Then in November, Mark "Dr. Beer" Katona will be leading us in a game of "Name That Infection". Well, maybe not that, (**Oh yes it will !-ed.**) but he will be leading us in a session on identifying different flavours and aromas in beer, some pleasant and some maybe not so pleasant.

Also in November we will do the judging for the AHA Club-Only Competition. The final style of the year is English and Scottish Style Strong Ales (AHA category 10). If you have something that you wish to enter, please bring it along.

Finally in December, we will have the annual end-of-year party, featuring the batches of the Y2K barleywines we brewed a year ago.

If you have any ideas for things to do at future meetings, please forward them to me. In addition, if you happen to come across the AHA Club-Only Competition styles for next year, please forward them to me. I haven't been able to find them, assuming of course that the AHA has actually gotten around to doing something about them.

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## Calendar of Events

October 14, Columbus Brewing - Regular Meeting  
Winemaking

October 16 Barrelhouse Brewery CMI Oktoberfest  
Judging  
10:00 A.M.

November 11 Regular Meeting Barley's Smokehouse  
Dr. Beer tasting

December Christmas Party Bonni & Mark Katona's  
House

2000- AHA Competitions - Whenever the AHA gets  
around to it

# Dayton Ale Fest

Jim Leas

My first impression of the Polen Farm in Kettering, Ohio, was that it looks like a country club without a golf course. A big, old "farmhouse", barn and several smaller outbuildings, all freshly painted white, residing on huge expanses of green lawn with a smattering of tennis and volleyball courts proved to be the perfect setting for the first Dayton AleFest. Upon leaving for home, I told myself this is what the Grandview beer festival could have evolved into. And Dayton did it in their first year!

The concept was similar to the old Grandview gathering. About 200 commercial beers, almost all bottled, were available for tasting. For an entry fee of \$20, we received a small glass and a card good for 20 tastings. Each taste was about 2 ounces of a micro or imported beer of your choice, although the attractive lady pouring the Chimay gave me a good 4-ounce taste. Curses! We also received a program listing each available beer, which proved helpful for making tasting notes.

Food, glassware and wearables were available for sale, and DRAFT, the Dayton homebrew club, was brewing two beers, an all-grain and a modified kit, as a demonstration. The demo drew quite a few interested beer lovers. A small combo provided attendees with an eclectic selection of live music while we quaffed.

Most of this festival was organized by Joe Waizmann, who works for Merchant duVin, the beverage importer. I spoke to his wife who informed me that Joe evidently financed this whole thing himself.

They expected to draw about 500 people and my guess is that they probably came close, but a little short. I hope Joe at least broke even. The attendance was remarkable considering the light publicity the event received.

The AleFest ran from 2-6pm. The rains came at about 4:30, but no one seemed too concerned since the tasting was under tents. Like many others, I headed for the tables where the Belgians were being poured to wait out the downpour. I left shortly thereafter with a mild buzz, having exhausted only 16 of my 20 tastes. Too many Belgians and maibocks, I guess.

I won't bore you with all my tasting notes, but I did try the Traquair House Jacobite Ale for the first time. It is spiced with coriander and is every bit as good as the regular Traquair House Ale, which I had to try as well. If you enjoy a GOOD fruit beer, try Melbourn Bros. Apricot and Strawberry Ales. This brewery was established in 1825, was closed in the 1980s to become a museum, and was re-opened in 1995. It was the first British brewery to resume brewing with wild yeast and seasoning with fruits and berries. These beers have a pleasingly sour fruitiness with more intense fruit flavor than the Belgian fruit beers.

Hopefully the year 2000 will include the second annual Dayton AleFest. You won't want to miss it.

(Editors Note: This was givento me earlier this year. The issue it was originally going in was over crowded and then I "lost" it on my hard drive for a couple of months. Sorry Jim)



2574 Zebec Street  
Powell, OH 43065



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## ***Mark Your Calendars***

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CMI Octoberfest Judging  
10:00 A.M.

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Barley's Smokehouse Dr. Beer

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*Locations subject to change  
with notice.*