

The Draught Card

NEWSLETTER DATE—JUNE 2009

Last Event—LTB's 2nd Annual Big Brew Day



Saturday, May 16th was a Homebrew Community brewing event—Learn To Brew's 2nd Annual Big Brew Day. The LHBS opened at 9:00 AM and the event ran all day until 6:00 PM. Many showed up well before 9:00 AM and braved some pretty tough winds throughout the day to produce that precious wort we all love so dearly. By the Editor's count there were 12 brewers with brewing rigs present, turning out everything from American Ales to Belgians. Even though all brought chairs, everyone had to think up some creative ways to form wind blocks to keep the fires burning. Classic Rock radio 107.7 FM had the brewing site rockin' and KRXO's own Dave Kelso joined the brewers on hand for the event, accompanied by his lovely wife Dana, and son David IV—the spittin' image of his old man! Several brewers picked up some KRXO schwag, or registered for the KRXO Economic Stimulus vault drawing, sponsored by the radio station and David Stanley Chevrolet. The brewers also brought plenty of homebrew to taste and enjoy throughout the day. The Draughter Club Chuckwagon was present, with a Belgian Wit, Cream Ale, Hefeweizen, and Aventinus Doppelbock clone on tap. The beers on tap received some very favorable reviews from the brewers at the event. A great time was had by all. Photos—Page 4

Next to Last Event—May 2nd National Homebrew Day

National Homebrew Day, Saturday, May 2nd—another battle with Mother Nature to get the brew in the books. There were two official registered sites—the Shellman Haus, and Bob Rescinito's End of the Alley Brewery, but Bob R came down ill the morning of the event and had to keep his brew rig under wraps. A pretty decent sized crowd of Draughters showed up at the Really Old Boss's to attend the brewing session of Sudden Death—a Belgian Golden Strong Ale. Just as we raised our glasses for the official toast at 12 Noon, Mother Nature opened the skies and the heavy rains came for about 25-30 minutes. Fortunately, we had the brew rig in the garage, so we were able to weather the storm quite nicely. We cranked out 20 gallons of Sudden Death, but it wasn't easy. The mash tun false bottom on the brew sculpture completely collapsed about 45 minutes into the mash, which made for a very long, 3-hour sparge to rinse the sugar into the brew kettle. Still hit the starting gravity of 1.091 for the batch, and had a huge yeast colony on hand, courtesy of Chase Healey at COOP Ale Works. Paul Solheim used his super chiller to cool the batch. Great food and beer were on hand. Sorry we missed you, if you couldn't be there—we had a blast!

Next Meeting—June 19th, 7-10 PM at Learn To Brew

The Draughters will meet at Learn to Brew, Friday, June 19th from 7-10 PM. The Editor and Cookie will be attending the National Homebrewers Conference in Oakland, CA—Sippin' on the Dock of the Bay, so please bring homebrew, chairs, and snacks to the meeting. The Schoolmaster will be making a presentation on hop flavors, including making numerous fresh samples of various hop teas.

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The National Homebrewers Conference

The 2009 National Homebrewers Conference, will be held from June 18th through 20th, and may be the largest gathering of homebrewers for one event on record. The organizing committee certainly has their sights on surpassing last year's conference attendance record in Cincinnati, and there were over 950 brewers in attendance in 2008, so they have their work cut out for them. This year's keynote speaker will be Ken Grossman, President of the Sierra Nevada Brewing Company in Chico, California—one of the original pioneers of the craft brewing market surge that started back in 1980.

The Conference is also the site for the National Homebrew Contest final round, and the best homebrewers in America will be on hand to collect awards for each of the 23 Beer, and 5 Mead and Cider Categories. Last year's number of entries exceeded 5,500—this year may in fact surpass that total, as interest in the competition grows. Some local homebrewers have entries going into the final round—Bruce Sanchez of Edmond, for his Belgian Blond Ale (2nd year in a row making the finals), and Larry Little and Andrew Bahner of Norman, who collaborated on a Weizenbock. We sure could use these brewers in the Draughters. Good luck to our local brewers, and those from our brethren up the road from FOAM in Tulsa—Jeff Swearingen, Peter Polczynski, Shawn Scott, John Karmazin, and Dennis Elrod. The Editor will be judging the Final Round of the NHC on Thursday, June 18th, so we'll see how everyone does. NHC is sure to be a blast again this year, so we hope to see some of you out there.

Old German Beer
Drinker's Saying:

Ein Mass a day,
keeps the Doctor
away!

Author unknown.

(Ein Mass is One
Liter of Beer)!!!

NHC FACT—The 2004 Ninkasi Award winner, Jamil Zainasheff placed 29 entries for all 2009 Beer, Mead, and Cider Categories into the Final Round. This is a new, all-time record. WHEW!!! He sure can BREW!!!



Left—Tapping the Chuckwagon with a confident pose — maybe a former career on the Price Is Right?
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Right—The taps on hand for National HB Day at Shellman Haus.
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Left—The collapsed mash tun screen — couldn't stand up to 69.5 lbs of grain.
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Right—Catching the grain bits as the boil kettle nears its full capacity after the mash tun collapse. =====>





Calendar of Events

There are plenty of events on the Club Calendar. Club Meetings are generally held on the 3rd Friday of the month. Upcoming meetings and special events are:

June—Club meeting, June 19th from 7-10 PM at Learn To Brew

July—Vacation time—No regular Club meeting planned

August—National Mead Day, on the August 1st from 2-6PM at Dan and Laurie Crook's (Directions will be sent well before the event via email and snail mail)

September—Draughter Oktoberfest in the Park, September 26th from 2-7 PM at Crown Heights Park, hosted by Joe and Denice Bocock

October—Club meeting, October 16th from 7-10 PM

November—Club meeting, November 20th from 7-10 PM

December—Draughter Christmas Party—event on December 12th at Stan and Penny Babb's. No regular club meeting planned.

This schedule is posted on the Draughter website- www.draughters.com in the Tap Room. Please check for updates as the schedule continues to ferment over the next few months.

Brewfest 6.1—The Call for Brew Crews is Revived

Just when we thought there was no sign of life for Brewfest VI with KR XO's Dave Kelso, we found out that Chris Milum from Learn To Brew, is picking up the banner and carrying the event forward—guess this makes it Brewfest 6.1. Actually, the event will be sponsored by a non-profit group, known as the Oklahoma Brewer's Association, and a request for final approval of the event has been submitted to the Oklahoma ABLE Commission. As soon as more details are known, there will be an email and website blast posted. All Brew Crew work and brews created to date can be taken to the event, and we need more kegs — so far, 7 of the 10 needed kegs are spoken for.. Check with the Trail Boss and Paymaster regarding the Club's share of the ingredients.

Brewer's Resources—Around the corner or on the web

Beer Radio Shows—<http://www.beerinfo.com/index.php/pages/beerradiopodcast.html>

Beer Television—<http://beeramerica.tv/>

Beer Community—<http://www.beertown.org/homebrewing/>

Finding Local Brewpubs—<http://www.beerinfo.com/index.php/pages/brewpubsUSA.html>

The Beer Library—<http://www.beerinfo.com/index.php/pages/beerlibrary.html>

Beer Tours—<http://www.beertrips.com>

Vote with your wallet—SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL BREWERIES!!!

Beer Quotes

"Not all chemicals are bad. Without chemicals such as hydrogen and oxygen, for example, there would be no way to make water, a vital ingredient in beer."

-Dave Barry

"Give me a woman who loves beer and I will conquer the world"

-Kaiser Wilhelm

"You can't be a real country unless you have a beer and an airline - it helps if you have some kind of a football team, or some nuclear weapons, but at the very least you need a beer."

-Frank Zappa



BREWERY TO LAUNCH ON TIME



Mustang Brewing Co, Mustang, OK

Just received notification from Tim Schoelen that Mustang Brewing Co will hit its planned launch date of July 1st, right on schedule. Currently, the brewery is searching for a local facility for their brewing equipment, so the brewery's product is being contract brewed by Stevens Point Brewery in Wisconsin. First out of the gate will be kegs of Mustang Golden Ale—an easy drinking session beer, at McNellie's and TapWerks, with an Amber Lager yet to be named in bottles in the months to come. The expected distribution area will be local to the OKC, Norman, Mustang areas, but could rapidly expand as sales volume increases. BREW!!!

Brew Crews press ahead for Brewfest at Breakneck Speed!



Left—Dan Shore carefully checking the mash on his Belgian Tripel.
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Right—A Hard Working Brew Crew includes (L to R—Mike Divilio, James Andrews, Paul Solheim, and Keith Wright), enjoying some beer after cranking out a German Kolsch.
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Left—The Really Old Boss getting the mash tun filled at Learn To Brew's 2nd Annual Big Brew Day as he starts brewing 15 gallons of American Pale Ale on a windy day.
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Right—Paul Solheim proudly holds the fruits of the Brew Crew's labor, a nice German Kolsch at Keith Wright's house on a chilly late Spring day.
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Left—Dan Shore, and KR XO's Dave Kelso, taking a break to watch other brewers work, at Learn To Brew's 2nd Annual Big Brew Day.
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Right—The Trail Boss and Saint Andrews, watching Keith Wright do the heavy work while getting the German Kolsch mash just right.
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DRAUGHTER CLUB COMPETITION—COC takes a short Summer vacation. The next local Club Only Competition (COC) is for Amber Hybrid beers to be judged sometime in early August. National COC entries are due in Westminster, CO NLT August 19th, for judging on August 23rd. An email blast will go out for a call for judges and entries from the Head Examiner. This competition includes all styles and sub-styles in Category 7. Information on styles in Category 7 can be found on the web at <http://www.bjcp.org>. Any information needed on upcoming COC events can be found on the web at http://www.beertown.org/homebrewing/club_only/schedule.html. You will be able to drop off your entries at either LHBS by 4:00 PM, on the day of local judging and they will be picked up for the competition.

GOOD LUCK DRAUGHTERS!!!

National COC—Extract Beers

Mike Divilio's local COC winning English Barleywine went up against some very heavy competition in Fort Worth, TX, contending with 50 other Club entries at the National level. Mike's beer scored very well (in the upper 30's), but unfortunately did not place in the Top 3. The National results for Extract Beers are in:

1st Place - Kristen and Orsolya England from Saint Paul, MN, representing the Saint Paul Homebrewers Club with a Traditional Bock (Cat# 5 B)

2nd Place- Jeff Hickey from NY, representing the Brewers East End Revival (BEER) [NY] with a Winter Lager (Cat# 21 B)

3rd Place- Rodney Kibzey from Lombard, IL representing the Chicago Beer Society with an American Pale Ale (Cat# 10 A)

Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all who sent in entries, keep brewing and competing.

We're on the web—www.draughters.com

2009 Draughter Officers

Trail Boss

Mike Divilio
E-mail: fdiviojr@cox.net
Phone: (405) 360-3236

Ramrod

Joel May
E-mail: jmay37@cox.net
Phone: (405) 321-3527

Paymaster

Dan Shore
E-mail: ddshore@cox.net
Home phone: (405) 692-8095

Cookie

Darina Shellman
E-mail: darina.shellman@wildblue.net
Phone: (405) 381-9077

Editor in Chief/Town Crier

Gary Shellman
E-mail: gary.shellman@gdit.com
Phone: (405) 823-1632

Competition Coordinator/Head Examiner

Tim Nagode
E-mail: nagode@pldi.net
Phone: (405) 613-5787

Web Master/Telegraph Operator

Michal Carson
E-mail: michal@glomesdal.com

Schoolmaster

Stan Babb
E-mail: stanbabb@sbcglobal.net
Phone: (405) 659-4969

Supply Master - The Brew Shop

Chuck Deveney
E-mail: chuck@thebrewshopokc.com
Phone: (405) 528-5193

Supply Master - Learn To Brew

Chris Milum
E-mail: info@learntobrew.com
Phone: (405) 793-BEER

HIGH PLAINS DRAUGHTERS
513 N.W. 38th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73118