The High Plains Draughters

April 2007

DRAUGHT CARD



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Our Last Meetings

<u>Technical Session March 16th.</u> A technical session was held at the City Arts Building, State Fair Grounds. Items discussed included the Bricktown Brew Fest (April), and the 2007 National Homebrewers Conference (NHC) in Denver (June). The second portion on brewing procedures was presented in the educational portion of the program.

Motions on whether to undertake a Club table at the NHC in Denver were held and attending members voted to bypass this activity, attend NHC and relax, not worry and drink homebrew!

The Trail Boss put forth a second call for volunteer kegs for the Bricktown Brew Fest (late-April), and for Draughters to man the booth at the event. It is important that we get organized early so the Club is prepared. In addition, it appears our fellow brewers in FOAM will be attending the event and purveying fine beer, so it's time to step up and put on our "A" game. If you've got a keg or want to man the table, contact the Trail Boss or Ramrod.

Bluebonnet Brew-Off, March 23rd-24th. The 2007 BBO was held in Dallas. Among the medal winners of the competition were four Draughters. Charles Wheeler won first place in the Dry Stout category, Keith Wright won second in the Light Lager category, Dave Doroughty and Gary Shellman won second and third, respectively, in the Bock category. Congratulations to the winners.





Relax, don't worry...

Our Next Meeting; April 20th

April 20th is the next Technical Session. We're meeting at the City Arts Building, General Pershing Boulevard, State Fair Grounds, from 7-10 PM. We will be considering things related to the Bricktown Brew Fest on April 28th, and the fast-approaching Big Brew Day (May 5). Schoolmaster Stan Babb will present the educational program.

Competition Information

The last local phase of the Club-Only Competition schedule was Scottish Ales, Categories 9A-C. Unfortunately, there were no entries sent in. Therefore, the judges sampled a recent Barleywine produced by the Old Boss, and other things on tap at Casa Shellman. *The next COC will involve Extract Beers, Categories 1 through 23.* The club hosting the National COC has set May 4^h as the last arrival date for entries, with the competition held on the 11th. The local phase has been set for April 19th, 6 PM at the Shore Hacienda, 1213 SW 117th Place, OKC. Stand by for a more detailed announcement and map when the COC gets closer.



2007 COC Competition Schedule

Here's the Club-Only Competition schedule for the rest of 2007. The local phase for some of the COC's have been posted to the Draughter website (www.draughters.com) under 'Competition Brewing'. Check in regularly for updates on COC info. You can also get information at: http://www.beertown.org/homebrewing/schedule.html.

<u>Type</u>	Entries for Local Judging	BJCP Category	National Dates
Extract Beers	May/Jun 2007	1-23	May 11
Strong Ales	Aug 2007	19	Aug 10
Bock	Sep/Oct 2007	5	TBA
Pilsner	Nov/Dec 2007	2	TBA



Extract Beers, What's What?

To be considered an 'Extract' beer, a homebrew must have more than 50% of the total fermentables provided by extracts. Other than that, it's pretty much open as to what gets included in the grain bill, so long as the flavor and aroma profiles conform to the category/subcategory the brew is entered in. Since there are a lot of club members who do extract or mini-mash brews, here's to a big turnout! Information on style guidelines for the different categories and subcategories are available at www.bjcp.org/2004_BJCP_Guidelines.pdf. Guidelines are also available at http://www.bjcp.org/stylecenter.html. Inprint information on many of the different beer categories can be found in the AHA Beer Style Series Books.

Club T-Shirts and Glasses

Club t-shirts are available for \$11. Sizes range from medium to x-large. The Trail Boss reports the supplier can produce collared golf shirts with the design embroidered on the pocket for \$18, assuming there's enough interest. If you want either shirt, contact the Ramrod (Joel May). <u>ALSO</u>, new Draughter glasses are available for \$5. The design is similar to the t-shirt image, but is a single color (gold), as on the previous glasses.

YEAR 2007 DUES

Club dues for the 2007 calendar year are due! Single dues are \$12 per member, or \$20 gets you the family package. Remember to bring your checkbook Draughters. We use the dues to help defray the cost of room rentals for technical meetings and other such things.

Brewing with the Trail Boss

I would like to thank everyone who attended Bluebonnet Brew-Off this year, it was quit strange not having all the worries of setting up a room. I will work hard to make sure we get started early enough to plan for the event next year.

Congratulations to the four members who won medals at Bluebonnet, job well done.

Our next big event is the Bricktown Brew Fest. It will be on the 28th of April. I still don't have all the details yet. Dave is hard at work getting the event set up. It does look like the Brew Fest may start 1 hour earlier as Dave is talking about having a VIP session for the first hour. I will get the information out as fast as it arrives! I have 4 kegs committed as of now so if anyone has beer and would like to help the cause please let any of the officers know. Hopefully we will be able to put all the finishing touches on brew fest at our meeting on the 20th at City Arts.

If you haven't heard, the brew shop will no longer provide a 10% discount to club members. Chuck said he just doesn't have the profit margin on his product to provide a discount.

-- CHEERS!!! ---

Dan Shore, -Yer Trail Boss

Some Beer-Related Items

<u>Bricktown Brew Fest, April 28th.</u> Though the details have yet to be released, the date of the Brew Fest has been set. The Trail Boss is asking for volunteer kegs or bottles, and volunteers to man the booth. Interested? Contact the Trail Boss (<u>ddshore@cox.net</u>).

An Important Competition Date. The Regional phase of the AHA National Homebrew Competition is due to run in late-April with entries due at the regional sites between April 2nd through 13th. Information on beer styles, rules, regulations, and delivery sites can be found at www.beertown.org, and the most recent copy of Zymurgy, so check it out.

A Way to Name Your Beers. The Really Old Boss has found a site that will generate names for beers by use of a 'random name generator'. Check out the possibilities at http://www.strangebrew.ca/beername.php?Mode=Generate.

New Chief Beer Officer. Four Points by Sheraton has chosen a Chief Beer Officer. Scott Kerkmans of Phoenix, Arizona, beat out 3,500 other applicants for the position. He will write regular beer blogs for Four Points and serve as their ambassador for their new "Best Brew" program, helping to promote craft beers served at Four Points lodgings. Man, what a job!

Big Brew Day, May 5th. Location and time are TBA. Be on the lookout for announcements in the near future.

Heard Round the Campfire

News From The Brew Shop. The Supply Master has received another truckload of goodies at the Brew Shop. Get in and buy the makings for one of those extract beers.

Change in Telegraph Operator. Web Master/Telegraph Operator Michal Carson has decided to step down and turn over all telegraph operator activities to Matt Anthony. Please join the Editor, and the other officers, in thanking Michal for all his work and efforts as the Web Master over the last few years. Better yet, buy him a brew the next time you see him.

A Beer Tidbit. Rob Rescinito recently returned from a trip to New York. Check out the Road Trip posted to the Tap Room for a report on some of the brews he tried at the Heartland Brewpub.

A Site For Beer News. From the Old Boss. It's a site that has a newsletter full of interesting things related to beer. Check out http://www.beerinfo.com. The most recent release includes info on Flying Dog Brewery's whisky barrel-aged Imperial Porter. If you wish, you can subscribe to beerinfo.com and get it regularly.

One For Belgian Beer Geeks. This one comes from Jon Graber, Marketing & Sales Manager, Wyeast Labs. Three strains of Belgian Ale yeasts have been re-released, just in time for spring brewing. Included are 3763 (Roeselare Ale Blend), 3822 (Ingelmunster Ale – formerly known as Dutch Castle), and 3726 (Farmhouse Ale). They're available from April through June, so check in with Wyeast at vse@wyeastlab.com and make yourself an interesting Belgian!

Another Beer Tidbit. From Rob Rescinito and the Old Boss. BJ's Restaurants/Brewpubs is opening two new locations in Oklahoma; one in Norman, and another near Quail Springs Mall in Edmond. Also, Old Chicago is apparently going to do some expansion in the OKC area. Be on the lookout Draughters.

The Editor's Notes

<u>Membership Drive:</u> We're <u>always</u> looking for new members. If you know someone who's interested, turn 'em on to the <u>www.draughters.com</u> link or bring 'em to a meeting.

<u>The Draughters Want YOU!</u> We are actively looking for folks like you (yes, you) to enter beers and judge or steward at club-only competitions. A vast amount of experience is not necessary, just a willingness to learn, and participate in a learning experience. What better way to improve your beer-making abilities? What better way to find out how people like your stuff than to share it with friends?

CO₂ Refills Available: Automatic Fire Control (1708 SE 22nd, OKC) will fill a 20 lb bottle for \$15, plus tax, with the presentation of a Draughters club membership card. So pay those dues!

Useful Web Links

Below are some links you may find useful in your brewing efforts:

- http://www.beertools.com/
- * http://www.howtobrew.com/
- * http://www.beertown.org
- * http://www.beertown.org/education/styles.html

WANTED

If you have an interesting story to tell, an article to publish, questions to ask, or a recipe you'd like to share, send it to the Editor (bnorthup3@cox.net).

So, if you've been traveling the planet lately and visited a truly memorable pub (good or otherwise), or tasted some seriously interesting brew, we want to hear your thoughts. Been anywhere exciting (or truly awful)? Send a blurb to the Editor and it'll be put on the web site.



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