

LIVIN' THE BREWS

The Newsletter of the North Texas Home Brewers Association
Volume XXXI Issue I - January 2016



QUICK SIPS FOR JANUARY:

Club Meeting @ The Londoner
January 12th @ 6:30p



Winter Party @ Fred & Sue David's
January 16th @ 6p-11p

Club Brew @ Mike Grover's
January 23rd @ 9:00a-3:00p

THESE AND OTHER EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON OUR [FACEBOOK](#) PAGE.

PREZ SEZ BY JAMES SMITH

Introduction

Welcome all to 2016 and another year of North Texas Home Brewers Association. This 2016 term marks the 3rd consecutive year for me on the Board of Directors, and first as your President. I want to first start by acknowledging the outgoing 2015 Board members:

- Mike Grover - President(now Past President)
- Jimmy Orkin - Treasurer
- Brian Beyer - Secretary

THANK YOU for your work and dedication to the club!

With that, I want to again introduce your 2016 NTHBA Board of Directors:

- President: James Smith
- 1st Vice President(Competitions): Matt Parulis
- 2nd Vice President(Socials): Bill James
- Treasurer: Walter Hodges
- Secretary/Minister of Education: Dean Weaver

2016 should be another active year for the club. We're getting the year kicked off right away with the Winter Party coming up on the 16th, then our current Past-President, Mike Grover, will be hosting the January brew day the following weekend on the 23rd. These are two great events that you will not want to miss, so be sure to attend one or both! Don't forget that you MUST be present to win the Big Mo-Hunker at the Winter Party!!

Finally, from a goings-on perspective, I want to remind you to take a look at the Bluebonnet schedule and note that events have been moved up almost 2 weeks with registration starting January 10. This should make February quite a busy month if you have entries to get ready and/or plan on judging. Please go to www.bluebonnetbrewoff.org for the most up-to-date information!

2016 Objectives

Lastly, I want to highlight, speaking for your board, a few areas we will be focused on for 2016.

Education

You have spoken and given this repeatedly as a top issue. Ensuring that we have consistent, current, and relevant education has been and will continue to be a point of emphasis. With that, we are always in need of those willing to step up and share their insight at brew days. Please get with our MoE Dean Weaver to discuss the possibility of sharing your knowledge with your fellow homebrewers.

Competition: Club Only and Lone Star Circuit

Last year seemed to be fairly light as far as hardware goes, both at the individual and club level. Membership in the club does not compel you to compete, but it certainly helps you become better at your craft. With your help, we would like to turn that around and get some wins under our belts for the club as well as individual members.

Social Events

Being the now former party boy, this is something near and dear to me. We all seem to have more and more busy lives, and it seems there is an equal amount of demand on our free-time these days. Having said that, more participation at club-sponsored events enhances the experience for all members. We will continue to drive this for 2016 and your participation is greatly appreciated.

Website Rehoming and Social Network/Website Refresh

Just over the past couple of years, the landscape of how we use information and the World Wide Web has changed dramatically. Specific to our club, we have seen some decrease in website traffic & forum use, but an increase in our total reach on Facebook. Of course, we do not foresee the need to eliminate the club website, in conjunction with planning to move to a new host in 2016, you may also see some changes to it. We shall see, but there are definitive plans to change hosts for NTHBA.ORG. From a club website and social networking perspective, our emphasis will be to provide easily accessible and concise communication and relevant information.

Here's to a successful year of homebrewing, learning, competing, making new friends, and sharing some great beers along the way!

Cheers!

“Smitty”

Photos from December Club Meeting @ Bitter Sisters



THE FIRST SIP BY BILL JAMES

Greeting fellow brewers from your new party boy Bill James, I hope everyone had a great Christmas and New Years. We have a few activities in January, first we have our Winter Party on Saturday January 16 at Fred and Sue David's house out in Allen at 6803 Overbrook Dr. The party starts at 6 pm, and as always please bring a side dish. As always homebrewed beer is always welcome. This could be the last chance to get some beer evaluated before the Bluebonnet registration ends.

The other activity this month is the annual Mike Grover brewday at his house at 1939 Castille Dr. in Carrollton on January 23 at 9 am. Mike's brewdays are always interesting as the weather varies each year. So gather your equipment and come brew with Mike or just stop by and check out what is going on.

I will be looking for people to host parties and brewdays. We will need someone to host the Spring, Summer and Fall parties and we will need someone to host the brewdays every month. For those that don't know, the brewdays are one of the ways we pass along knowledge of brewing. The club pays for the hosts brewing supplies and also provides donuts and lunch. If you want to host either a brewday or one of the seasonal parties, please contact me.

COMPETITION CORNER BY MATT PARULIS

Happy New Year to all North Texas Homebrewers Association members! I hope you enjoyed the holidays! With the cold, winter months in full swing, it's a great time to be brewing for the 2016 Club Only and Lone Star Circuit competitions! We have a great year of competitions lined up and we hope everyone will enter (and share) some of their great brews this year!

Our first competition of the year is the January Club Only Competition (COC). The styles for this month's competition are Stouts and Porters which covers BJCP categories 12 & 13. Please note that all competitions this year will be judged based on the [2008 BJCP Style Guidelines](#) unless announced otherwise. The deadline to drop off entries at either Dallas Homebrew or Homebrew HQ is **Friday, 1/8 at 6pm**. I will also be collecting entries at the January club meeting on **Tuesday, 1/12**. We need 2 labeled bottles for each entry and labels can be printed here: [BJCP Bottle Labels](#).

The Bluebonnet Brew-off is the first of the Lonestar Circuit Competitions for 2016. Registration is open from January 10th – January 24th and awards will be March 11th & 12th. The full schedule for the Bluebonnet is listed below and

more details are available at www.bluebonnetbrewoff.org.

2016 Bluebonnet Brew-off Schedule

Registration

January 10 – January 24

Drop off Deadline

January 28

Login

January 30

Judging

First Round

February 6

February 13

February 20, 21

Second Round

February 27, 28

March 5, 6

Awards

March 11–12

For the Club Only Competitions (COC), we award the **Brewer Royale** trophy. The top three brewers who win points throughout the year will be given cash prizes and the first place brewer gets a cool trophy. First place gets \$75, second receives \$50 and third takes home \$25. The complete 2016 Club Only Competition (COC) schedule is listed below.

2016 Club Competition Schedule

January – Stouts & Porters – BJCP Categories 12 & 13

April – IPA – BJCP Category 14

June – Session Beers – Limbo Challenge Categories

September – European Amber Lagers, Vienna Lager, Oktoberfest / Marzen – BJCP Category 3

November – Cider and Mead – BJCP Categories 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28

For the Lone Star Circuit competitions, we declare the winner, **Brewer of the**

Year and also award cash prizes. We award \$150, \$100 and \$50 to first second and third respectively. With the exception of the Bluebonnet, the dates for the Lone Star Competitions have not been announced yet. For more information on the Lone Star Circuit competition dates, go to www.lonestarcircuit.com.

Looking forward to a great year of Club and Lonestar Circuit Competitions in 2016!

Cheers!
Matt

THE TREASURER'S REPORT BY WALTER HODGES

A new year and new officer's job for me. Treasurer is a new position for me and I hope to do as good a job for you as Jimmy has the last two years. My goal for 2016 is to register the club with the IRS as a non-profit entity. Once we are registered with the IRS, we'll be able to look into collecting dues using Pay Pal and credit cards.

Financial Summary			
Equity ended 10/31	\$6,051.28	New Members November	3
Equity ended 11/30	\$6,015.77	Membership as of 11/30	140
		Current Membership	145
Note: Financials trail the newsletter by one month. Current financials are available at: http://nthba.org/content/club-documents			

Additional financial information may be requested by club members by emailing the treasurer at: treasurer@nthba.org.

Club memberships are effective for one year from June 1st through May 31st. If your membership is not current, please renew at either Homebrew Headquarters or Wine Maker's Toy Store. You may also obtain membership forms and cards at most club events.

Prosit!
Walter

EDUCATION - DETERMINE GRAIN BILL BY DEAN WEAVER

Often times, we depend on programs and calculators to determine our grain bill for a mash, and we forget the math that is used to calculate that grain bill. I've tried to lay out the formulas to calculate a grain bill by hand for those not using BeerSmith, iBrew or any of the others, or for those who would like to know the formulas. For a more detailed explanation, please refer to Designing Great Beers by Ray Daniels.

Convert specific gravity (SG) to gravity units (GU):

$$\text{GU} = (\text{SG} - 1) * 1000$$

Determine total gravity units needed:

$$\text{Total Gravity} = \text{Final Target Gravity (FG)} * \text{Volume of Wort}$$

Determine GU of each ingredient (decimal representation of percentage, .33 = 33%) of recipe:

$$\text{Ingredient GU} = \text{ingredient percent of recipe} * \text{Total Gravity}$$

Determine amount of ingredient needed (refer to table for Potential Extract):

$$\text{Ingredient GU per pound} = \text{Potential Extract GU} * \text{System Efficiency}$$

Standard Mash Ingredients	Potential Extract per pound per gallon	Potential Extract GU per pound per gallon
Chocolate/black/roast	1.025-1.030	25-30
Crystal & Cara	1.033-1.035	33-35
Munich/Vienna/mild/biscuit	1.035-1.036	35-36
Pale or Pilsener	1.035-1.037	35-37
Malted Wheat	1.037-1.040	37-40
Malted Rye	1.029	29

Example

A recipe with an SG of **1.056** for a **5.5** gallon batch calling for **80%** base of Pale Maris Otter on a system that has a **70%** mash efficiency would be:

$$308 \text{ (Total Gravity)} = 56 \text{ (GU)} * 5.5 \text{ (gallons)}$$

$$246.4 \text{ (Ingredient GU)} = 308 * .8 \text{ (percent of recipe)}$$

$$25.2 \text{ (Ingredient GU per pound)} = 36 \text{ (Potential Extract GU per pound per gallon)} * .7 \text{ (mash efficiency)}$$

$$9.78 \text{ (pounds needed)} = 246.4 \text{ (Ingredient GU)} / 25.2 \text{ (Ingredient GU per pound)}$$

There you have it, 9.78 lbs of Maris Otter is needed for the recipe example.

I encourage any and all members, that has knowledge or an article they wish to share, to please email me at education@nthba.org with your document. I will ensure that it gets published in Livin' The Brews.



Dean

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**NORTH TEXAS HOME
BREWERS ASSOCIATION**

The North Texas Home Brewers Assoc. is a group with an interest in beer in general and home brewing in particular. We meet once a month on the second Tuesday at various locations in the area. Visitors are welcome! "Livin' the Brews" is our newsletter and is published once a month. We do accept advertising, although the NTHBA, its officers, assignees, and editors are not liable for losses or damages resulting from mistakes or misprints, or any other consequences of advertising in this or any other publication. Ads are \$30 for a 1/3 page and \$50 for a full page, subject to change without notice. Readers are encouraged to submit articles. The deadline for ads and articles each month is 14 days prior to the club meeting.



December Club Brew



www.NTHBA.org