

Beer Barons of Milwaukee

Our December meeting was held at Benno's on December 27, 1989. 27 members attended, including 3 new members, which brings our membership roster to a total of 82. At this meeting we formalized our club by electing our first slate of officers, selecting a club name, determining a general meeting format and deciding on a dues schedule.

Election of Officers. The following officers were elected by a show of hands.

President: Mike Inda
Vice-President: Esther Gierszewski
Treasurer: Gary Lavota
Secretary: Steve Wrigley

Club Name. Four names were nominated and voted on by a show of hands. The top two vote getters "Beer Barons of Milwaukee" and "Milwaukee Beer Enthusiasts" were offered for a second vote. "Beer Barons of Milwaukee" won the second vote 14 to 10.

Meeting Format. Our general meeting format was decided upon by consensus. Each meeting will involve one general topic. General topics will change on a revolving basis from the following list.

Social Night
Beer Tasting
Home Brewing
Pubs that store and serve beer properly

In addition, some meetings will have special formats such as guest speakers and tours when they can be arranged.

Dues. A dues schedule was also arrived at by consensus and will consist of the following.

Annual Dues. Annual dues will be \$5.00 per family or household. They will cover the period from January through December and will be due by the first meeting of each new year. These dues will be prorated at \$0.50 per month remaining for members who join after January of each year. Annual dues will be used primarily to cover the expenses involved with mailing the monthly newsletter.

Meeting Fees. In addition to the annual dues, there will be a fee charged for attending each meeting. This fee will cover the expenses of our refreshments plus an additional \$1.00 to go into our treasury. When we have guest speakers there could also be a small additional charge to cover the speaker's expenses. (Our December meeting fee was \$4.00 and 27 people attended resulting in a collection of \$108.00. Our refreshments cost us \$86.00 including tip which left \$22.00 to go to our treasury.)

We will be collecting dues at our January meeting. If you are not able to attend this meeting, please mail a check for \$5.00 payable to our treasurer Gary Lavota at 1420 S. River Road, New Berlin, WI 53151. Thanks.

(Over)

With the above business concluded, we began discussions about future meetings and the newsletter. Among the topics discussed were the following.

Meeting Places. We need your suggestions for future meeting places. Benno's, while a very good pub, does not have a private meeting room and its open, public format does present problems when we are trying to conduct a meeting. Therefore, please use these criteria when making suggestions for future meeting places. The pub should offer some selection of GOOD beers and should have a private meeting room capable of holding 30 to 50 people.

Club Logo. We invite anyone with some artistic ability to submit examples for a club logo for evaluation.

Club Motto. We agreed that a club motto could be a good idea. Steve Wrigley offered "Dedicated to the Informed Enjoyment of Fermented Malt Beverages" as a potential motto. Any other suggestions are welcome and all suggestions will be considered at future meetings.

We discussed whether, as a socially responsible club, we should support the principles of MADD - Mother's Against Drunk Driving and BADD - Business Against Drunk Driving. Further discussion will be held at future meetings.

Some discussion was held on the idea of soliciting ads for future editions of the newsletter. These could include ads for area pubs, beer, wine and liquor stores, homebrew and winemaking suppliers as well as announcements of meetings of similar clubs or events of interest in the driveable area. This topic will be discussed in more detail at future meetings.

Also suggested for future discussion was the possibility of purchasing plastic mugs for our members.

Our meeting concluded with a tasting and judging of a homebrew provided by Jerry Utherman for our enjoyment. Along with the tasting samples a judging form developed by the American Homebrewers Association and used by the American Homebrewers Association and the Home Wine and Beer Trade Association was handed out. Members were asked to judge the homebrews according to the information on these sheets. Results may be available at the next meeting.

Remember our meetings are scheduled for the fourth Wednesday of each month. Our next meeting will be held:

January 24, 1990
7:00 pm

at

Benno's
7413 W Greenfield Ave.
West Allis, WI

!!! SEE YOU THERE !!!

(Guests and potential new members are welcome, but all will be required to pay the meeting fee.)

There are two homebrew competitions coming up in the near future. If you would like to enter one of your homebrews contact either Mary or Jerry Utherman (327-2130) or Gene Haupt (282-9860) for further information. The two competitions are:

8th Annual Home Beer Competition
of
New England
March 3, 1990

and

Home Wine and Beer Trade
Association
National Competition
Entry Deadline - Feb. 23, 1990
Judging March 9-10, 1990