

June
2000

BARON MIND

A Monthly
Publication of
the Beer Barons
of Milwaukee
Dedicated to
the Education
and Enjoyment
of Fermented
Malt Beverages

Wisconsin State Fair Homebrewers Show

The annual State Fair Amateur Homebrewers competition is scheduled for Saturday, July 15th in the Family Living Center at State Fair Park.

This event is sponsored by our club, Beer Barons of Milwaukee, along with The Purple Foot and the Wisconsin Vintners Association.

The Entry Registration closing date is July 3rd, with the entry drop-off on Thursday July 13th.

If you've never entered your beer in a competition this is a good one to start with for a couple of reasons. First of all, it is relatively inexpensive. The cost is only \$5.00 per entry, less than many other competitions, so this is a good deal. In addition, each entry consists of only 2 bottles of your brew (11 to 17 oz each).

Each entry will get judged according to the style that you enter it as. For each of your entries you will receive the scoresheets filled out by the judges a few weeks after the judging. Normally there will be at least 2 judges (and 2 scoresheets) per entry.

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Judges Needed

The State Fair Homebrew Competition is in need of more judges. For the past three years there have been well over 260 entries, and there have been less than the ideal number of judges for this competition.

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Upcoming Events



Meetings

June 28th: Homebrew night;

- Mike Rice will lead a Beer Fault evaluation session.
- Free admission if you bring a 6-pack of homebrew (or equivalent)

July 26th: Mexican Beers

Aug 23rd: Weiss Beers

Other Club Events

September 9, Annual Club Picnic; event will be at same place as last year, Valley View Park, New Berlin WI.

Tastings & Competitions, etc

June 25th, Leinenkugel Meet the Brewmaster Beer Tasting, featuring Greg Walter of Leinie 10th Street; 3 – 6 PM; Grapes & Grains G&G Tasting Room, 11301 N. Port Washington Rd, Mequon, WI (262) 240-0206

June 29th – July 9th, Summerfest; Henry Meier Summerfest Grounds, Milwaukee, WI

July 3rd, Entry Registration due for Wisconsin

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June Meeting

The June monthly meeting will be held at Clifford's, 10448 W. Forest Home Ave., Hales Corners, at 7:30 PM on Wednesday, June 28th.

A \$5.00 meeting fee will be assessed for those who come empty handed.

This meeting will feature Home Brewed beer. The \$5.00 fee will be waived for anyone who brings at least 6 12 oz bottles (or equivalent) of beer.

There will also be a selection of commercial beer.

Membership Information:

The **Beer Barons of Milwaukee** is open to anyone 21 years of age or older. Annual dues, which cover the cost of producing this newsletter, are \$10.00. In addition, we normally charge a \$5.00 fee for each meeting attended to cover the cost of the beer we taste that evening, however, additional fees may be required to cover the costs of special events. Dues may be paid at the monthly meeting, or a check may be sent to:

**Treasurer, Milwaukee Beer Barons,
P.O. Box 27012,
Milwaukee, WI 53227**

This newsletter will be sent free to prospective members for 3 months. The date that appears on the address label of your newsletter is the date that your membership expires. We do not send reminders, so be sure to check the date on the label to see when it is time to renew.

Judges Needed

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There may be a need to put limits on entries if more judges are not found.

If you are interested in judging or learning to judge beer, you can contact the Judge Coordinator, Dennis Davison, at 414/545-9246 or via e-mail at ddavison@execpc.com.

You can also sign up at the Purple Foot or at the June club meeting.

If you are an experienced judge, please consider helping out.

This is a very nice experience for any aspiring novice judges out there. You will be paired with an experienced judge who will guide your efforts. The only real requirements are a taste for beer and some knowledge of the attributes of the various different beer styles.

Go ahead, give it a try.....

Tastings & Competitions

(Continued from page 1)

State Fair Homebrew Competition; For entry forms and further information, contact the Purple Foot (414) 327-2130

August 12th, Great Taste of the Midwest; Olin-Turville Park, Madison WI

September 1st-3rd, Sprecherfest; Old Heidelberg Park, Glendale

Thanks to the Cream City Suds for some of the above information.

State Fair Homebrewers Show

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The judges will score your entry in several areas. These include Aroma, Appearance, Flavor, Mouthfeel, and Overall Impression. Points are awarded in each of those areas, with the total of the points being the final score for your beer.

In addition to the scores, the judges will usually include comments telling you what, in their opinion, is right and/or wrong with your beer. They will often add some helpful hints as to how to improve your brew.

Even if you don't win anything, the feedback that you get from those score-sheets can be a valuable help in improving your brewing.

Ribbons will be given for 1st, 2nd & 3rd

Club Picnic

The Annual Club Picnic will be held on September 9th at Valley View Park in New Berlin, the same park as last year. The only difference from last year is that we are trying to get into a site in an area with more trees.

Valley View park is located just off Sunnyslope Road between Beloit Rd and Grange.

Further details along with a map will be published in upcoming newsletters.

place in each category based on points scored. Category winners will advance to the 2nd round where the winners of each of the 6 classes will be determined. The 6 class winners will then be included in the judging for Best of Show. Prizes will be awarded for Best and Second Best of Show.

Copies of the Rules and Regulations, including Entry Forms, can be acquired from the Purple Foot, 3167 S. 92nd Street, West Allis, WI 53227. Their phone number is (414) 327-2130.

Entries must be registered by July 3rd. The bottles of beer can be shipped to the Fair Park or to the Purple Foot along with the registration forms.

An alternate method is to send in your entry registration by the 3rd, and then hand deliver your pre-registered entries to the Family Living Center on the Fairgrounds on Thursday July 15th. Contact the Purple Foot if you have any questions on entry requirements.

One important thing to keep in mind as you prepare your entries is that they will be judged according to the style that they are entered in. The best beer will not win if it is entered in an inappropriate category. Enter your beer according to how it tastes, even if that means a style that is different than what you were trying to brew.

If you want to get some advice on what style to use for your entries, bring a few bottles in to the June meeting. First of all you can get into the meeting for free, and even more importantly you can get your beer evaluated by your fellow club members.

Take advantage of this opportunity.

BARON MIND is published by the **Beer Barons of Milwaukee**, a non-profit organization. Club officers are:

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The **BARON MIND** is published monthly for members of the **Beer Barons of Milwaukee** thanks to the efforts of Dan Schlosser, Rich Grzelak, Larry Tischer, Connie Sowinski, and other club members who contribute articles.

The permanent mailing address is: **Beer Barons of Milwaukee, P.O. Box 27012, Milwaukee, WI 53227**

Ales What Cures Ya

Matt and Terri Kuspa

Fellow Beer Enthusiasts;

We just returned from a two-week vacation to the United Kingdom, and thought we'd share some of our experiences with you. While in the U.K., we visited parts of England, Scotland, and Wales.

Soon after arriving in Britain, we purchased a book titled "The Good Beer Guide" written by CAMRA (Campaign for Real Ale). This book helped lead us to many pubs serving ale the traditional way, by means of the beer engine or simply by gravity from the cask.

In one such pub, after conversing with the pubkeeper over a few pints, he offered us a few "souvenirs" to take with us. One of these items was a brass beer pump from a first generation beer engine dating to the 1940's. He had recently replaced this pump with a newer model.

The other item was a ceramic "Gingered Beer" bottle from a local brewery. He had discovered several of these bottles buried behind the pub. The brewery closed around 1920, so this bottle is quite old.

Quite the historian, the pubkeeper stated that since there were no landfills in those days, people buried their garbage in

their back yards. We will bring these items to the June meeting.

While in Scotland, we toured the Tranquair Brewery. This 18th Century brewery is still brewing, using the equipment from the 1700's, which was discovered on the site. This equipment included a false bottom comprised of primitive 2x4's and chicken wire!

I also found it interesting that this is the only brewery in the U. K. still fermenting all of its ale in open oak fermenters.

While in England, we toured the small village brewery of Hook Norton. This brewery dates to the mid 1800's and still delivers their beer with horse drawn wagons.

This brewery was interesting because it uses a steam engine to run all the pumps in the brewery. Having sampled their beers, we found the Old Hooky to be our favorite, with its hoppy aroma and sweet and fruity finish.

It's ironic, though sad, that we travel across seas to experiment and enjoy beers common to that area, and find the locals drinking Miller, and worse yet – Budweiser! Don't get us wrong, most people we encountered drink ales or European lagers, but as one person told us, American beer "gets you drunk

quicker"! How sad!

We could go on forever, but don't want to take up the whole newsletter. If anyone has any questions, feel free to ask us at a future meeting.

In closing, remember, "If God intended us to filter beer, he wouldn't have given us a liver"!

Cheers,

Matt and Terri

Brewing News

Milwaukee has a new Brewpub!!

The *Stout Bros. Public House* is now open at 777 North Water Street.

It is located 1/2 block South of the Pabst Theatre, 1 1/2 blocks from the P.A.C. This is about halfway between the *Milwaukee Ale House* and the *Water Street Brewery*, and is across the river from *Rockbottom*.

The brewmaster is Al Bunde, who includes some time at the Fox River Brewing Co in Oshkosh among his past experiences.

(If anyone would like to do a review, write it up and send it to the editor.)



BARON MIND



Beer Barons of Milwaukee
P.O. Box 27012
Milwaukee, WI 53217

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BARON MIND

Support Clifford's Supper Club with your Patronage

Clifford's allows us to use their banquet room at no charge to the Milwaukee Beer Barons. Our support will help show our appreciation.

Plus- The food is VERY GOOD!

June Meeting - Focus on Homebrew

We are planning on highlighting Homebrew at the June meeting. Registration of entries for the State Fair competition is due by July 3rd, a short time after this meeting, so this will be a good opportunity to bring in your brew to get some good feedback from your fellow club members.

To encourage everyone to show off their stuff, the normal \$5 admission will be waived for anyone who brings in at least 6 12 oz bottles of homebrew (or equivalent) to share with your fellow club members.

A selection of commercial beer will also be available at the meeting.

Mike Rice, one of the club's top Beer Judges, will be conducting a Beer taste evaluation session, using doctored beers to help us to learn how to identify faults and flavors in the beer that we brew and drink. This should be both educational and entertaining.