



BARON MIND

The Monthly Publication of the Beer Barons of Milwaukee

January 2009 www.beerbarons.org

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

By Mike Schwartz

The last year has seen a lot of changes in the club, some obvious, some less. I think the board accomplished a lot of good and I hope most members feel the same way. At the January meeting I'd like to take time to thank the former board members for their hard work.

In the year ahead the club is celebrating it's 20th anniversary. That will be a major focus of the year in activities and events. The club was formed in December 1989. In January we'll be kicking off the start of celebrations by honoring the people in the club who are responsible for starting the club – the remaining founding members. This includes Jerry and Mary Uthemann, Robert Wilson, Esther Franklin, and Rich Grzelak.

We have a lot of fun stuff in the works for 2009. One of the thoughts brought up is to have the 2009 December meeting be an all homebrew Christmas party. Gentlemen (and Ladies) start your brew kettles! We'll also be taking orders for 20th anniversary club apparel. Let's make it a great year for the Beer Barons!

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JANUARY MEETING

HOMEBREW

Bring Your Homebrew To The Meeting!

By VP Jason Heller

We always invite any member to bring homebrew to any meeting, and especially so for the homebrew meetings! Remember, the club will reimburse you for the beer drank at the meeting. It would be very helpful if you could let your VP know ahead of time if you are bringing beer and whether it is kegged or bottled so we can plan for serving equipment.

The primary feature of the January meeting will be the sampling and discussion of the club parallel brew organized by Dan Schlosser. The parallel brew consists of six brewers making the same beer using the same or similar ingredients. The parallel brew recipe is for a Brown Porter (BJCP 12A). This time around, we'll have batches across three brewing methods: extract, all grain, and partial mash using a combination of extract and grain. The beers will be on tap for sampling and discussion.

ADIOS

Well folks, my two years on the board & as Baron Mind newsletter editor are up. Thanks to all those who submitted articles. Please welcome new editor Baron Mind Will Mueller. I'm glad to have helped on a few member nights, like getting us into the Miller Tech Center. I told Schwartz that I'd like to continue to help on World of Beer. I'll be relaunching my newspaper soon, again covering beer, wine, spirits, food, music and a little more, but mostly...beer. See you folks at some damn bar or beer festival in the near future.

-Whispering Jeff

UPCOMING BEER BARONS MEETINGS AND EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28th: Monthly Meeting featuring Homebrewing with the Beer Barons Night!

Come and learn about homebrewing and beer @ Clifford's—7:30

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4th: Officers Meeting @TBA-See Online Calendar

Open to all members, followed by social hour—Meeting @ 7pm Sharp

INTERMEDIATE HOMEBREWING TIME AGAIN

Taking it to the next level

Registration is still open for our second Intermediate Homebrewing class. This year we'll be holding it on February 7th at the House of Hamburg starting at 10am.

The intermediate class covers how to take basic homebrewing techniques up one more level in order to achieve better and more consistent results.

Items we'll discuss include:

- Yeast starters and the use of stir plates.
- Wort chilling - immersion vs. counter flow.
- Kegging, carbonation caps, and bottle using pressure fillers.

This class involves a lot of discussion and participation by some of the club's experienced members. Participants will walk away with a wealth of tips and new ideas.

As usual there will be homebrew on tap, including the beer that we'll be kegging that day. The cost for the course will be \$5 to help cover course materials and the homebrew.

When: February 7th, 2009 @ 10 AM
 Where: House of Hamburg - 5937 S Howell Ave, Milwaukee
 Cost: \$5 to cover course materials and homebrew samples.

Must RSVP at <http://www.beerbarons.org/Brew-U/index.html> and be 21 years of age to attend!

Coming in February – Brewing 201 Intermediate Homebrewing Techniques

Thanks – Bruce Buerger

A Word From Our Sponsors

We'd like to send out a very special thanks to the following for their raffle prize donations to the club for the Christmas Party, their donations are greatly appreciated!

HopUnion – For the hops, shirts, and hats.
www.hopunion.com/

Briess Malts – For the specialty grain kit.
www.briess.com/

Wyeast Labs – For the yeast certificates and apparel.
www.wyeastlab.com/

Northwestern Extract – For their extract donations.
www.nwextract.com/

DECEMBER 2008 TREASURER'S REPORT By Bruce Bruger

Beginning Balance \$6,649.88

Income

December Meeting Admission \$1,295.00
Christmas Party Raffle \$1,142.00
World of Beer Raffle \$431.00
Check Card Error \$256.92
Total Income \$3,124.92

Expenses

Christmas Party -
 Door Prizes \$210.00
 Food \$597.35
 Raffle Prizes \$529.00
Monthly Meeting-
 Beer \$214.10
 Clifford's \$142.00
Officers Meeting \$50.00
Bank Card Error \$256.92
Newsletter (Nov/Dec) \$155.00
Election Forms \$6.90
Silver Paddle
Award Engraving \$42.24
AHA Club Only
Competition \$23.00

Total Expenses \$2,226.51
Ending Balance \$7,548.29

Meeting Attendees

November Meeting 142

Membership

Paid Members 174
Trial Members 21

Beer Barons Membership Registration - 2009

I hope all of you had a wonderful holiday season and that you either had a chance to brew or at least enjoy some good brews during that time.

As you may recall, 2009 is the year that we will be transitioning over to an annual renewal period for all members. This new approach will allow the clubs to better plan the upcoming year and along with the new club membership cards reduce the payment line at the beginning of meetings.

In order to be fair to those who renewed throughout 2008 we're going to implement a prorated membership fee schedule for 2009. This way someone who paid \$15 in August of 2008 won't be hit up for another full \$15 in 2009. There is a reference document posted to the Member Dues and Fees Payment page at beerbarons.org for current and trial club members that list how much each member owes. If your name is not on this list then it means that you are due to renew for a full year at \$15.

We have three different options that members can use in order to pay this year.

Use the new Member Dues and Fees Payment page that we've created on the Barons web site. This page utilizes Google Checkout and allows members to renew using their credit card. It's important to note that the Google Checkout functionality prohibits anyone in the club from seeing your credit card information. It's also been tested using the Treasurer's and President's own personal credit cards. This page can be found at - <http://www.beerbarons.org/payments.html#> or click on the word Payments listed on the left at <http://www.beerbarons.org>

Write out a check for the amount owed in 2009 to the Beer Barons and mail it in to PO Box 270012 Milwaukee, WI 53227.

Pay the Treasurer the amount owed by check or in cash at the next Barons club meeting.

After you pay your membership fee you'll receive your membership card for 2009 at the following Barons monthly meeting. This membership card will help us speed up the check in line at meetings and provide you at present with discounts on home brewing supplies at two local shops (10% off at either Brew & Grow in Brookfield or Cedarburg Homebrew and Wine).

This year we are also offering club members the option of pre-paying for club meetings when renewing their memberships. Why might you want to take advantage of this option?

This pre-payment will cover admission charges for all the regular monthly meetings (including the Christmas party) and insure

you from having to pay additional fees for special meetings (like Belgian night).

Simply show your pre-paid member card at Baron monthly meetings to get your wrist band and away you'll go.

The details for these options can also be found on the new Member Dues and Fees Payment page on the Barons web site. Members can pre-pay for club meetings either on the web page, at a meeting, or via check mailed to the Barons PO Box. The renew message column on the reference document was put there to direct you towards the appropriate area on the Member Dues and Fees Payment page. The same document can also be found on the page under the label Check the List.

Please be sure to renew your membership by the end of the March club meeting. After that, all memberships from 2008 will be cancelled. Feel free to pass along any questions you may have. See Bruce at the next meeting as well.

MIDWEST BEER FEST CALENDAR

*** FEBRUARY 15**

11th Annual Mid-Winter Beer Festival - 1-6 PM
Milwaukee Ale House, Milwaukee, WI - (414) 226-BEER

*** NEW DATE: FEBRUARY 21**

11th Annual Food & Froth Fest
Milwaukee Public Museum, Milwaukee, WI

*** FEBRUARY 21**

August Schell's Bock Fest - 11 AM-4 PM
August Schell Brewing Co., New Ulm, MN - (507) 354-5528

March 21:

A TASTE OF TOMAHAWK

Inshalla Country Club, Tomahawk, WI
Highlights: A variety of local microbrewed beers, wine, and food from Tomahawk area restaurants.

BJCP HOMEBREW COMPETITION

*** Kansas City Bier Meisters 26th Annual**, Roeland Park, KS

Contact: Neava Ford - (913) 432-9630

Entry Deadline: 02/07/2009

*** BABBLE Brew-Off**, Mundelein, IL

Contact: Bruce Dir - (847) 566-8012

Entry Fee: \$7/\$5 additional entries
Entry Deadline: 02/21/2009

*** Cincinnati Bockfest**, Cincinnati, OH

Contact: Ray Snyder - (513) 515-0799

Entry Fee: \$5 first entry, \$4 subsequent entries

Entry Deadline: 02/25/2009

***MCAB XI**, St. Paul, MN

Contact: Curt Stock - (651) 644-6098

Entry Fee: \$7—Entry Deadline: 2/27/2009

***9th Annual March Mashness**, St. Cloud, MN

Contact: Bruce LeBlanc - (320) 251-0229

Entry Fee: \$ 6 per entry—Entry Deadline: 3/15/2009

Using The BrewBlog Calculators and Reference Sections <http://brewblog.beerbarons.org>

For the final installment of the BrewBlog articles I thought it would be good to write about some of the utility and reference functionality that the site has to offer. There are 8 different calculators to choose from that can help a homebrewer estimate things such as keggings, carbonation, priming sugar for bottling, water amounts needed for brewing, alcohol and even the calories in your brew. Simply go out to the brewblog and choose Calculators in the header area.

The Calculators

Then choose the type of calculator that you'd like use, populate the parameters, and click the Calculate button.



Figure 2 – Calories/Alcohol/Plato Example

The screen will then refresh and display the results.

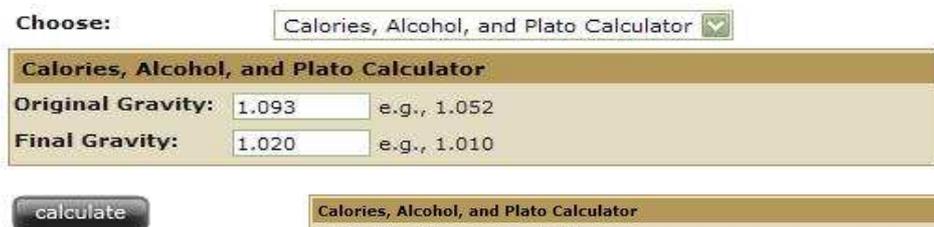


Figure 3 – Results Screen

The site also offers few good quick reference guides for such things as Carbonation, Hops, and Malts & Grains. Just click on the Reference link in the header area to display the different reference items

Figure 4 – Available Reference Items

Next, chose one of the reference items in the drop down box to display the contents.

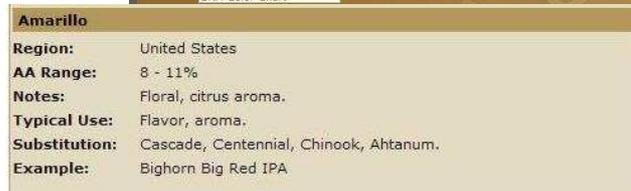


Figure 5 – Hop Reference Guide Example

We're up to 30 brew blogs and 65 recipes out on the site. This site has quickly become a valuable tool for homebrewers not only in our club but others as well. Take some time to check out some of the brewblogs currently posted on the site. On top of the WOB / Picnic Russian Imperial Stout and the Picnic Dunkelweizen we also have the Parallel Brews that currently in production. We'd love to see your current creations out there as well. Get a login, get brewing, and tell us about it by adding it to the site.

To get your own personal login you must:

1. Be a member of the club.
 2. Email us at brewblogadmin@beerbarons.org with your full name and an e-mail address that matches our records.
- Contact Bruce Buerger if you'd like additional information, or e-mail us at brewblogadmin@beerbarons.org.



An **AHA Membership** is an excellent resource for every home brewer and beer enthusiast. The table below includes the discounts being offered for some of the memberships.

AHA Membership Evange-Ale-ist Program Offering

The club has associated itself with the Evange-Ale-ist Program offered through the American Homebrewers Association in an effort to extend discounts on AHA memberships to area homebrewers. By renewing your membership through the club not only are you able to take advantage of price breaks and promotional offerings, but you also help the club earn points towards AHA merchandise that can be used for future raffles.

For those of you who don't already know, a AHA Membership includes the following:

Zymurgy® magazine - The best keeps getting better! Medal-winning recipes, beer-brewing advice and equipment building tips to help you brew better beer in six issues per year.

Pub Discount Program* - Rockbottom Brewery and the Milwaukee Ale House's in the local area. AHA members receive discounts on food, merchandise and/or beer at participating locations across the U.S. See www.beertown.org for more information and a list of pubs that is growing every day! ** Must be 21 with valid ID to receive discounts. Discounts subject to change.*

AHA TechTalk Homebrewers Forum - Beer and brewing questions answered every day via email by the most experienced homebrewers. Over 11,000 AHA members are already subscribed.

AHA TechTalk Archives - Now members can research past issues of TechTalk to answer their brewing questions instantly.

Book Discounts - AHA members receive pre-publication discount offers on all Brewers Publications new releases.

Event Discounts - AHA members save money on registration fees to the **AHA National Homebrewers Conference** and entry fees for the **AHA National Homebrew Competition**.

Great American Beer FestivalSM Members-Only Tasting Session - This session of the GABF is now open exclusively to AHA and Brewers Association members!

Individual

	Regular Price	Discount Price
One Year	\$38	\$33
Two Year	\$68	\$58
Three year	\$97	\$87

Family

One Year	\$43	\$37
Two Year	\$77	\$77
Three Year	\$110	\$96

Support Your Local HOMEBREW SHOP

- *Bitter Creek**
(262) 644-5799
206 Slinger Rd., Slinger 53086
- * Brew & Grow,**
(262) 789-0555
285 Janacek Rd, Brookfield 53045
- * Cedarburg Homebrew Shop**
(262) 377-1838
W62 N590 Washington Ave.,
Cedarburg
- * Frugal Homebrew**
(262) 544-0894
238 W. Broadway, Waukesha
- * Hop to It**
(262) 633-8239
234 Wisconsin Ave.,
Racine 53403
- * The Marketbasket,**
(800) 824-5562
14835 W. Lisbon, Brookfield
- * Homebrewing Depot**
(414) 778-0781
8008 W. National, West Allis
- * Purple Foot**
(414) 327-2130
3167 S. 92nd St, Milwaukee

MILWAUKEE BEER BARONS BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT	MIKE SCHWARTZ	(414) 423-7930
VICE PRESIDENT	JASON HELLER	(414) 870-8030
TREASURER	BRUCE BUERGER	(262) 524-9546
NEWSLETTER	WILL MUELLER	(414) 687-4815
MEMBER AT LARGE	DIANA KANE	(262) 238-9073
MEMBER AT LARGE	JOHN O'BRIEN	(414) 372-6237

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O'Keefe's House of Hamburg



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*Hall & Catering Available

Tim & Mona Proprietors
"The best is just good enough"

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(414) 747-9444

Please support House of Hamburg as Tim O'Keefe donates his hall for Beer Barons' BJCP classes

Baron Mind is published by the **Beer Barons of Milwaukee**, a non-profit organization. If you have an article or information that you would like to contribute to the newsletter, You can email it to the newsletter editor or mail it to the club's mailing address.



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