



BARON MIND

The Monthly Publication of the Beer Barons of Milwaukee

March 2009

www.beerbarons.org

March Meeting

By: Jason Heller

Stone Brewing Company will be visiting the Beer Baron's on March 25th. Stone brews up some excellent beer. I'm a little embarrassed to admit that I am not intimately familiar with their beers (yet), but willing to take crash course! Beers from Stone that I have sampled have always been very excellent and tasty. Sadly, I may not be able to attend the meeting, as my wife Jessica and I are expecting our first child soon. In fact, her due date is the same day as our March meeting! Of course, the meeting will go on without me and there will be plenty of great beer to discuss and enjoy.

Stone Brewing was formed in 1996 by two friends who loved beer and shared some of the same ideas about brewing. Their ales are known for being pretty well balanced but just a tad bit more towards the hoppy side. Five out of their seven year round beers are greater than 50 IBUs and three out of their five special release beers are greater than 90 IBUs. Mid-West Regional Representative Arron Tyrell will be at the March meeting to discuss several of Stone's brews as we sample. Currently scheduled to appear are Stone's Pale Ale, IPA, Smoked Porter, Arrogant Bastard, Ruination IPA and possibly a special surprise or two.

As the April meeting nears, preparations are under way for a meeting focused on discussion and tasting of a number of classic beer styles. We have booked a guest speaker from Merchant du Vin, an importer focused on importing quality beers that are solid examples of the beer styles from various regions. During the meeting, we will likely be comparing and contrasting many beer styles, and learning more about how to taste and appreciate beer. More details are in the works and will be shared as the April meeting approaches.

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Presidents Letter

Tyranena was great. That Rocky's Revenge was incredible. Been drinking it at every chance since the meeting! Lets all send a big thanks out to Stacy and Nevin.

The constitutional and by-laws amendments passed. This should be the end of that business for the year and hopefully for a few years to come. I think the changes put us in a much stronger position for our current size and potential additional growth.

Jason, our VP is planning a schedule for the year to serve as a guide for future meeting topics. I can't wait to see it as he's had a lot of good ideas so far. We'll definitely continue the emphasis on homebrewing and may even be cooking up some new ideas to get more homebrew into our meetings. I hope his wife Jessica is doing well. For those who don't know Jason & Jessica, they may be parents by the time you read this!

I'm pretty excited about how things in the club are going and some of the things we're cooking up for this year. It's been a lot of work by a number of people that's lead us to where we are. We're getting more and more volunteers all the time spreading the work out making it all easier. We're doing some great things in our 20th year!

Homebrew Competition Recognition

A lot of our members win awards in homebrewing competitions. I'd like to start a new tradition of recognizing them during our homebrew nights. If everybody who has won an award this year would bring the award and be ready to tell us the competition, award and beer style that would be great. It'll be good to let the membership know who the best brewers are so they know who they're in competition with.

World of Beer Festival

Planning is underway for the 2009 festival. We've had meetings with a new sponsor GreatBrewers.com (Specialty Beverage). Planning and promotions are underway. If you'd like to get involved, there's a lot to do and we can always use help and ideas. Just talk to any committee member and let them know you're interested in helping out. We'll be starting volunteer sign up at this meeting. Please sign up early so we have an idea of how many people we'll have. We'd like to keep it all club members this year if possible.

UPCOMING BEER BARONS MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25th: Monthly Meeting featuring Stone Brewing
We will be sampling the current line-up! @ Clifford's—7:30
- WEDNESDAY, April 1st: Officers Meeting @ Sugar Maple—441 E. Lincoln Ave.
Open to all members, followed by social hour—Meeting @ 7pm Sharp

Parallel Brew III Wrap-up

- Dan Schlosser

The Parallel Brew is now history. The beer was served at the January club meeting and the general consensus was that the brewers did a good job.

The club provided ingredients to 6 brewers who each brewed a batch of beer that theoretically would be the same. The recipe was for a Brown Porter (BJCP Style 12A). Ingredients were handed out at the November meeting giving the brewers 2 months to get their batch completed and ready to serve.

The beer was initially served on taps that were numbered with no identification as to the brewer. The club did an informal tasting of the 6 beers and then voted on a simple scale of 1 to 6 for each beer.

We used the Brew Blog on the club website to post information on this for the membership to view. The 3 versions of the recipe are available there (All Grain, Partial Mash, Extract). Each brewer added information on their batch as they went along.

The vote was close with Partial Mash brews coming in first and third and an All Grain version second.

While all of these beers were similar to a degree, each was distinctive showing that the brewer and the equipment do make a difference in the results. Keep that in mind when you are brewing a recipe that claims to "clone" a popular beer. It may get you close, but you may have to brew it a couple of times with a few tweaks to get the result that you want.

We will be doing another of these Parallel brews in the future. If you have any ideas as to what you would like to see us do please let us know.

OG:	1.050
FG:	1.014
IBU:	25
BU:GU:	0.50
SRM:	20.3

The target numbers for the recipe that we used are on the chat on the right.

AHA COC Upcoming Competitions

The 2008/2009 club only competition winds down with the Extract Only competition in May. Any beer that has 50% or more extract in the recipe can be entered into this beer, so brewers of every level and experience are encouraged to enter this one. The Beer Baron's club competition will be held at the April 22 meeting, and the winning beer will be sent to the national competition. As always please bring three 12 - 16 oz bottles of your beer to the April meeting. I will take one bottle of beer for the local club judging portion. If your beer is selected as the winner I will collect your two other bottles and ship them in. There is no cost to the brewers for entering this competition so show off your best extract brew. As always please feel free to email me with any questions that you may have on this competition.

The high gravity competition will be held the weekend after our next meeting so I have no result updates to report.

The 2009/2010 competitions start back up in the August with Amber Hybrid, then European amber lagers. After that there are Belgian Strong Ales, English Session beers, American Ales and finishes up with Extract beers. Hoping to see more entries next year, so start planning now as some of the beers for next year need a few months of aging.

Dave

The table below shows the basic stats for each batch:

Brewer	Type	Brew Day	Days in Primary	Original Gravity	Final Gravity	Ferment Temp	Alcohol by Vol	Apparent Attenuation	Score
Brian Joas	All Grain	12/03	6	1.054	1.016	68	5.1 %	69 %	4.14
Tim Minger	All Grain	12/13	8	1.052	1.010	68-74	5.5 %	78 %	2.27
Rich McKagen Robert Hecht	Partial Mash	12/13	n/a	1.050	1.015	n/a	4.6 %	70 %	4.04
Erik Scott	Partial Mash	12/09	6	1.050	1.014	64-69	4.8 %	71 %	4.19
Jason Heindal	Extract	11/25	n/a	1.051	1.020	60-68	4.1 %	60 %	3.36
Ken Klima	Extract	11/22	19	1.042	1.009	63	4.3 %	78 %	3.17

Baron Brewers Medal at Upper Mississippi Mash Out and Babble Brew Off

<http://brewblog.beerbarons.org>

Winter is an excellent time to spend some quality time brewing and it would appear that a few of our club brewers have turned out some pretty good batches.

Dave Glazewski's Lucky Leprechaun took the Bronze in the Irish Red Ale category at the Upper Mississippi Mash Out.

At the Babble Brew Off James Lewis took the Gold in the German Wheat / Rye category with his Weizenbock.

Dan Schlosser took home multiple medals from the Babble Brew Off. His Mild VII took the Gold for English Brown Ales. In the Fruit Beer Category Dan's Apricot Wheat took the Silver. He also picked up two Bronze medals, one for his Red '07 in the Sour Beer category and the other for his Stout '07 in the Smoked & Wood Age category.

Way to go guys! Hopefully next month we'll be reading about how well the Barons did at the Drunk Monk competition.

More information for some of these brews is available out on the Barons BrewBlog. We'd love to see additional creations out there. It's there to help us all learn. Tells us what you're brewing, how you did it, and what the outcome was. Email us at brewblogadmin@beerbarons.org and we'll get you set up.

Treasury Reports at the Monthly Meetings

In an effort to speed up some of the club business at the monthly meetings the Board had decided to condense the Treasurer's Report. Instead of getting up in front of the club and going over the numbers the Treasurer will just come before the members and take any questions they may have about the balances, allocations, and upcoming expenses. The Treasurer will always be available during the social period of the club meeting should any members have any questions about how the club funds are doing. The sole purpose of this new format is to speed up the club business section of the meeting. If after a few times the membership chooses that they do not like this new format we will switch back to the old way of conducting the Treasurer's Report during the meetings.

Treasure reports will still continue to be posted in Baron Mind each month. In addition to this the Treasurer will also post some additional reports to the Beer Baron Members – Club Business section of the Baron Forums (<http://forums.beerbarons.org>). These new reports provide additional depth and information on how monthly income and expenditures tie into the yearly budget.

Upcoming Brew – U Events

Inaugural Barons Brewing Summer Day Camp – A Brew U Double Feature!

What: Basic Brewing and Intro to All Grain Brewing:

When: May 2nd, 2009 10 a.m.

Where: Mike Schwartz's Back Yard

Cost: \$5 to cover materials and homebrew samples.

In honor of National Homebrew Day we thought it would be very appropriate to hold a homebrewing double header. Both classes together at the same time and hosted by our club President in his spacious yard. Come see how both partial mash and all grain methods are done and participate in discussions with experienced home brewers. We'll be making a Saison and an English Mild. The end result of both batches will be served at an upcoming Baron meeting. All beer made that day will be tracked using the Baron BrewBlog – <http://brewblog.beerbarons.org>.

Brewing 301 – Intro to All Grain Brewing:

Tired of doing extract brews and want to take it to the next level? Frustrated from reading how it's done and wondering if you would be doing it right? This is the course for you. We'll take you from crush to boil. This course will cover the mash, sparge, and boil.

Brewing 101 - Bare Bones Basic Brewing - Thinking about giving Home Brewing a try? Maybe you gave it a try but it didn't turn out quite so well? Tired of hearing about Home Brewing at Beer Barons meetings and wishing you could see how it's done? We'll take you through the process of making the wort and pitching the yeast. No super technical jargon, no advanced homemade brewing equipment, and no complex beer recipes. We'll make simple ale without the geek speak and use equipment from a Home Brew shop starter kit.

If you're interested in attending this brewing spectacular, or if you have additional class ideas, please visit the Brew-U sign up page and let us know. Spots are limited! You must register in order to attend and receive directions to the event

<http://www.beerbarons.org/Brew-U/classCatalog.html>

FEBRUARY 2009 TREASURER'S REPORT

By Bruce Brueger

<u>Beginning Balance</u>	\$9,641.88
<u>Income</u>	
Meeting Admission	\$790.00
Membership Fees	\$540.00
Brew U-Intermediate	\$205.00
<u>Total Income</u>	\$1,535.00
<u>Expenses</u>	
Brew U-Intermediate	\$74.40
Brew U-Promo Printing	\$2.20
Newsletter Postage	\$84.00
Meeting Facilities	\$128.00
February Meeting Beer	\$223.72
Officers Meeting	\$50.00
Feb Meeting Handouts	\$10.90
2009 Wristbands	\$67.58
AHA Club Only Comp	\$16.00
F&F Winterfest Handouts	\$75.42
Transaction Fees	\$4.10
<u>Total Expenses</u>	\$736.32
<u>Ending Balance</u>	\$10,440.56
<u>Meeting Attendees</u>	
January Meeting	122
<u>Membership</u>	
Paid Members	202
Trial Members	38
<u>Estimated Upcoming Costs</u>	
Chilton Tickets	\$2,000.00
Great Taste Tickets	\$2,200.00
Newsletter & Postage	\$170.00
PO Box Renewal	\$60.00
<u>Total Upcoming Costs</u>	\$4,430.00

2009 Wisconsin State Fair Homebrew Competition

Ladies and Gentlemen, fire up your brew kettles, the 2009 Wisconsin State Fair Homebrew Competition is coming soon. This year's competition will be on Saturday, May 16th. If you've entered in recent years, you should be receiving a post card in the mail soon. This year you must download the Rules and Regulations and Entry Forms from either www.wsfp.state.wi.us/home/wsfp or www.beerbarons.org. Entry forms must be mailed to the State Fair by May 1st. As last year, we are charging a late fee for entries received after the May 1st deadline. After May 1st, entry fee increases from \$5 per entry to \$20 per entry. So save money and enter by May 1st.

As in the past, we will be using the Beer Judge Certification Program (BJCP) Style Guidelines. You can also download the most recent guidelines, dated 2008, at www.bjcp.org.

Just like last year, the State Fair is giving out cash prizes. The Best of Show winner gets \$50, 2nd Best of Show winner gets \$35, and each Best of Category winner (with six main categories) gets \$20. The Best of Show winners also receive plaques. First, Second and Third Place ribbons will be awarded in each category.

The competition is a great way to learn more about beer, either by entering and getting feedback, or by volunteering at the competition. As always, we will be asking for volunteers to help judge and steward. The day includes a potluck lunch that we share with the Wisconsin Vintner's Association, who hold their competition at the same time. And of course, there's the famous Beer Table. Ask someone who's been there before.

So start figuring out which beers you are going to enter. If you have questions about entering or about volunteering, you can contact either Rich Heller at rich.heller@hotmail.com or Dan Schlosser at dan-schlosser@wi.rr.com. The Wisconsin State Fair Homebrew Competition is one of the highlights of the Beer Barons brewing year- we hope to see you, or your beers, there.

Cheers,

Rich Heller and Dan Schlosser
Competition Coordinators

Membership Registration–Final Update!

Continued...

The club transition to an annual membership will be wrapping up at the end of March. After the March club meeting all memberships that have not renewed in 2009 will be cancelled. To date over 150 members have made their full or pro-rated payments for 2009 and we thank you very much. If you haven't made your payment and received your membership card please do so by the March meeting in order to avoid uninterrupted membership services. Remember – Membership brings you:

Preference over non-members for beer fest ticket purchases.

Discounts at two local home brew supply shops (with more discussions in the works).

The ability to get a login for the Barons Brew Blog.

Preference over non-members when signing up for Brew U courses.

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.

Please be sure to renew your membership by the end of the March club meeting. After that, all memberships from 2008 will be cancelled. People will still be able to purchase 2009 memberships but it will be at the current full year rate.

Feel free to pass along any questions you may have. See Bruce at the next meeting as well.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL HOMEBREW SHOP

*10% off starred locations with BB membership card

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

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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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