



BARON MIND

The Monthly Publication of the Beer Barons of Milwaukee

May 2009

www.beerbarons.org

Monthly Meetings

That was sure some great beer at the April meeting! Thank you to Brian Van Zandbergen and Merchant du Vin for the information and for choosing to help make such great beers available to us here in the US.

May Meeting With Dave Cartwright

May will be a bit of a casual meeting. Summer's just around the corner, and it's time to just sit back and have a couple good beers among friends. OK, there will probably still be a little business to discuss, especially with World of Beer just around the corner. A selection of beers will be served that are new to our market or are seasonal brews that aren't available year-round. Dave Cartwright from Specialty Beverage will also be available to discuss and help answer questions about how the beer industry has and is changing over time.

Upcoming June Homebrew Meeting

We are planning a homebrew-focused meeting in June. We have some homebrew already lined up to serve, but more is always encouraged. Why not bring some of your State Fair entries to sample? Please try to let me know if you are bringing beer so we can plan for serving equipment. Bring your questions too! We will feature a focused discussion or two around popular homebrew topics, but questions and member discussion is what the homebrew meeting is really all about.

~Jason Heller, VP

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UPCOMING BEER BARONS MEETINGS AND EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, May: Monthly Meeting Dave Cartwright from Specialty Beverage
We will be sampling beers new to our market and some seasonals! @ Clifford's—7:30
WEDNESDAY, June 3rd: Officers Meeting @ Von Trier—Farwell and North
Open to all members, followed by social hour—Meeting @ 7pm Sharp

Presidents Letter

Each brewery night seems to get bigger and better. Brian from Merchant du Vin was no exception. A lot of truly classic examples of beer styles. It's been a while since I've had some and some were old favorites like Samuel Smiths Oatmeal Stout.

Jason and I are working on a couple style nights coming yet this year, barrel aged beer and Belgian style. Both of these meetings will require increased meeting fees to cover the cost of beer but will be well worth it! There are also a couple more homebrewing nights coming with topics that seem to get the lions share of questions in meetings and Brew-U classes. Hopefully they will help a lot of members in their brewing efforts.

Dave G is officially the Sergeant at Arms and newest Board member. He officially started his new duties as of the last board meeting. Unfortunately, as you'll read elsewhere in this newsletter, our Secretary Will is going to be leaving us for Graduate School in Madison this fall and will have to be replaced.

The 20th Anniversary gear is available for order on the Freestyle graphics web site at www.fsgpromo.com. Just click on the Beer Barons logo a couple times to get to the page with our stuff.

Mike Schwartz

World of Beer Festival

The 2009 festival is almost here. Ticket sales are already ahead of last years total so it looks like we're doing good. Don't forget to talk it up everywhere you go and tell all the beer geeks you know about it.

We'll have volunteer sign up at this meeting. Please sign up 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. If you have some homebrew that you're particularly proud of and would like to serve contact Jeff or Diana Kane. Homebrewers will be grouped together in their own prime location this year near the homebrew demo area.

Brew – U News

Inaugural Barons Brewing Summer Day Camp Success!

In honor of National Homebrew Day we thought it would be a good idea to hold a homebrewing double header. The event was called Barons Summer Camp and it was hosted by club President Mike Schwartz. We covered beginning partial mash brewing and all grain brewing. Both Professional and experienced home brewers were on hand to explain and discuss the processes to the 20 attendees. Several side conversations also broke out among the group on several topics including yeast growth and harvesting, kegging, using carbonation caps, and the differences between pellets, plug, and whole leaf hops.



For those of you who want to see the results of the all grain demonstration by Mike Schwartz, or the results of the partial mash / extract made by Johnny O'Brien and Chad Sheridan, go on out to <http://brewblog.beerbarons.org>, click on Club Brew-Blogs header, and scroll down to the 2009 Big Brews.

Both of the beers that were made will be available at future Baron homebrew meetings or the World of Beer Festival.

Thanks to Mike Schwartz, Johnny O'Brien, Chad Sheridan, Jason Heller, David Glazewaski, Mike Rice, and Mike Schindler for their help with the event.

Newsletter Volunteer Needed

Dear Barons,

It is with great sadness that I must inform you that I will not be able to fulfill my duties as newsletter editor/secretary for the Beer Barons of Milwaukee. After unsuccessfully searching for a professional position in my field of journalism for the last two years I have decided to return to school and pursue a master's degree from UW-Madison, thus making me unable to finish my term.

I am requesting that someone please volunteer to take some or all of my duties starting this September until the end of the year when elections for the new term come up. If one is unsure about their design and editing abilities, I would offer to remain on in that capacity, but would still need a replacement to attend board meetings and vote on issues, and to distribute the newsletter via mail. I have made distribution of the newsletter much easier than it has been in the past by having addresses printed and all newsletters folded by

the new printer making the only real work taping the newsletters shut, placing a stamp on each one and dumping the pile in a mailbox. This process usually takes me less than a half hour. If someone thinks they can handle design of the publication they are more than welcome to my publisher template.

I have really enjoyed my time in this position with the Beer Barons and thank everyone for the opportunity to take on this active role in such a great club. I look forward to continuing to be a member of the Barons and to be as active as I can while living in Madison and more so when I finish school.

Thank you for considering taking over this duty as it would mean a great deal to me, the other board members, and the rest of the club members who read and get their club information from the newsletter.

Yours in beer,

Will Mueller

April 2009 Treasures Report

Beginning Balance	\$9,557.46
Income	
Kegs	\$1,690.50
Chilton Beer Fest	\$440.00
Meeting Income - Fees	\$635.00
Membership Income -	\$180.00
Total Income	\$2,945.50

Expenses	
Great Taste Tickets	\$1,925.00
Meeting Expense -	\$1,117.48
Meeting - Beer	\$145.00
Meeting - Officers	\$55.00
Newsletter - Printing	\$74.13
Newsletter - Postage	\$84.00
Transaction Fees	\$35.63
Operating Expenses -	\$50.40
Summer Picnic Facility	\$199.58
Returned Check	\$60.00
Total Expenses	\$3,746.22

Ending Balance **\$8,756.74**

Estimated Upcoming

Chilton Beer Fest Bus	\$900.00
Great Taste Fest Bus	\$1,000.00
Newsletter & Postage	\$160.00
State Fair Homebrew	\$270.00
	\$2,330.00

Meeting Attendees

April Meeting:	145
Trial Members	17
Expired Members	31

National Homebrew Conference

The 1st round winners of the National Homebrew Conference are in and the Baron's have 2 members that took 3rd place. Mike Lemke took 3rd out of 31 entries in the IPA (14b) category. Dan Schlosser got 3rd out of 17 entries in the fruit beer category (20A). If you medal in the 1st round your beer moves on to the final round. Congratulations to Dan and Mike. Any medal in the 1st round is a major accomplishment.



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W62 N590 Washington Ave.,
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Frugal Homebrew

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238 W. Broadway, Waukesha

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234 Wisconsin Ave.,
Racine 53403

*The Marketbasket,

(800) 824-5562

14835 W. Lisbon, Brookfield

Homebrewing Depot

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8008 W. National, West Allis

Purple Foot

(414) 327-2130

3167 S. 92nd St, Milwaukee

***Brews Wine and Spirits on Capitol Drive in Pewaukee is now offering a 5% discount to Beer Barons Members!

BARONS 20TH ANNIVERSARY GEAR NOW ON SALE
<http://www.fsgpromo.com>

The web store for purchasing Barons Gear is now up and ready to take your orders. We currently have Polo's, Denim, T-Shirts, Ladies Cap Sleeve Tees, Ladies Tank Tops, and Pull Over Hoodies. Like in past years each item is available in multiple colors and sizes. Since it's the Barons 20th anniversary we also have two different logos to choose from.

**BREWING STRONG
FOR 20 YEARS**



**20TH
ANNIVERSARY**



Go on out to <http://www.fsgpromo.com/>, click on the Barons 20th Anniversary graphic, and then choose Beer Barons to see the catalog of all 7 items. All orders and payments must be made via the website. **Get your orders in by the June meeting because delivery will be at the July meeting.**

Membership Updates

The club membership continues to rise. We're currently at 180 members and could very well surpass 200 before the end of 2009!

As we move into May there are a couple of changes that will become active:

- The window for purchasing or upgrading to a pre-paid meeting membership (Gold Card) has now closed. New members can purchase a 2009 membership for \$10 starting with the May meeting. Those that have let their memberships expire over the last year will still be \$15 to renew.

Remember – Membership brings you:

- Preference over non-members for beer fest ticket purchases.
- Discounts at participating home brew supply shops.
- Discounts at participating brew pubs.
- The ability to get a login for the Barons Brew Blog.
Preference over non-members when signing up for Brew U courses.

New members wishing to sign up should see Bruce at one of the upcoming Baron meetings. Expired members still have three avenues to renew:

Use the new Member Dues and Fees Payment page that we've created on the Barons web site. 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 either \$15 (Individual) or \$20 (Family) to the Beer Barons and mail it in to PO Box 270012 Milwaukee, WI 53227.

Pay the Treasurer either \$15 (Individual) or \$20 (Family) 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. Feel free to pass along any questions you may have. See Bruce at the next meeting as well.

AHA Membership Benefits

The AHA is offering a free copy of Brewing Classic Styles by Jamil Zainasheff and John Palmer this month with any new membership or renewal. This is a very good resource for the beginner or the experienced brewer.

If you'd like to take advantage of this offer please print the attached, fill out the form, and mail them in to the AHA with a check. This form has been marked so the club will get credit for the membership and receive discounts that we'll use for future raffle prizes.

The free book offer expires at the end of May so be sure to get your forms in if you'd like to take advantage.

Brewing 302 - Recipe Formulation:

Wondering which grains and hops you need to use to make that favorite style of yours. Struggling to figure out why your favorite recipe is so inconsistent? Want your beer to do better in competitions? This class is for you! This one is highly recommended for those who are considering taking the BJCP test. Like other Baron events, there will be brew present.

When: Targeting August, Where: TBD, Cost: TBD
Additional Brew U Events In The Works – Beginning Mead Making (TBD), Brewing Topics: Everything Yeast (TBD).

Summer Picnic Looking for a few good cooks -- and brewers!

The Beer Barons' Summer Picnic this September will come up fast.

The Beer Barons Summer Picnic committee is looking for volunteers to cook up a special dish to go along with this year's Cajun/Creole theme. Members are asked to bring a dish to pass, but we want to again have one or two main entrées. For example, last year's smoked Brisket and Pork Shoulder was a big hit. This year we are looking for a couple good cooks to "kick it up a notch". The costs will be covered as part of the picnic expenses. Let any of the officers know if you are interested.

Also, per Mike Rice last month, "YOU ARE ORDERED TO FIRE UP YOUR KETTLES!!!". We want and need lots of homebrew for the picnic, and the "Jerry Hetzel Homebrew of the Year Award" will again be up for grabs. This is always a highly competitive event; your beer being judged by your fellow club members.

The Summer Picnic will be held September 12th. It will be in a NEW LOCATION: Whitnall Park picnic area #8. This is close to the previous years' location, but our previous location was already booked. Additional Summer Picnic details will follow in future Baron Mind issues.

Meeting Etiquette

Over the last year or so, the Beer Barons has grown! That means we have a lot of new members as well as more logistic details during meetings. I'd like to clarify a few club details that may not be well understood, and I ask for your help. This message is not meant to single out one or two instances or individuals, but is based on things noticed or heard over many meetings.

Glassware and Cleanup:

First, we obtain the banquet hall at Clifford's for quite a discount. In order to maintain this and minimize the burden on Clifford's, all members are expected to bring their own glassware to the meetings. Also, as the meeting begins to wind down, please help clean up your table, including emptying bottles. Please put empty bottles on a table near the back door. Thank you to those of you that have already been a great help with this!

Homebrew on Tap:

Homebrew that is served and available prior to each meeting is beer that is voluntarily provided by club members to share with everyone. THANK YOU to everyone that has brought homebrew to share. That being said, beer selection and quantity is up to the members; it is not a duty of the officers or board to ensure homebrew is available prior to the start of every meeting. We are a club, and all of us together need to contribute and appreciate what others contribute to the club.

Featured Beers:

Our club is "dedicated to the education and enjoyment of fermented malt beverages". This doesn't mean we are just a beer drinking club. Sure, that is a great part, but discussion and education about beer is part of who we are, and sometimes that requires some patience and flexibility. Often when we have guest speakers or structured discussion, the speaker will introduce the beer. Featured beers are not meant to be served and drunk right away. Also, featured beers are meant to be tasted and discussed at meetings; leftovers are not free to take home. Excess beer is kept and used at later meetings or as part of raffle prizes at future Beer Barons functions.

Thank you very much for your understanding, cooperation, and assistance making the Beer Barons the great club that it is. Have fun, and don't let a couple of rules and requests get in the way of enjoying great brew.

~Jason Heller

MILWAUKEE BEER BARONS BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT	MIKE SCHWARTZ	(414) 423-7930
VICE PRESIDENT	JASON HELLER	(414) 870-8030
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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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