



# BARON MIND

The Monthly Publication of the Beer Barons of Milwaukee

September 2009 [www.beerbarons.com](http://www.beerbarons.com)

**Wow, what a great picnic. With 19 homebrewed beers on tap, plus some cider, wine, commercial brew, and excellent mead, it was very difficult to taste everything! Congratulations to Jeff and Diana Kane for having the highest score to earn the Jerry Hetzel Award this year. It was borderline overwhelming putting all of those beers on tap and keeping track of them all and I appreciate the help from some key individuals who helped make the beer serving and judging go very smoothly. The picnic wasn't all beer either. There was a lot of great food, and more importantly great people. And what variety: disc golf, an accordion, guitar, dogs, and lots of great conversation.**

**Now it is time to look forward to the September monthly meeting featuring barrel-aged beer. Some excellent beer will be served along with a presentation on barrel-aging beer by John Harrison, Brew master at Delefield Brewhaus. Not all barrel-aged beers are stouts and barley wines, though. One of the beers we will feature was aged in wine barrels, plus there will be a few other interesting variations that you'll have to come to the meeting to experience. Don't forget though, the meeting price this month will be \$10 to help cover these exceptional beers.**

**Jason Heller, VP**

**I don't know about anybody else, but I had a great time at the picnic. Excellent food, lots of great beers, an excellent raffle with great prizes, and disc golf! A big thanks goes out to all the businesses that donated raffle prizes including: Dave Cartwright of Specialty Beverage | Beechwood Sales (finally got my Tripel Karmeliet sign - woo hoo!!), Discount Liquor, the Purple Foot, Brew and Grow, Homebrew Depot, Bitter Creek Homebrew Shop, and others I'm sure I'm missing. I'd also like to extend my personal thanks to everybody who brought homebrew and the great food, as well as to Will Mueller for setting up the disc golf course. Hopefully everybody enjoyed it as much as I did.**

**I'm looking forward to a fall chock-full of great meetings. Don't forget that next month is the barrel aged beer night. Might have to bring a sleeping bag for that one.**

**Skol  
Mike Schwartz**

#### **Brew-U Mead Classes**

**Again, don't forget that Saturday, October 17 is the date for Brewing 205 - Mead Making and Brewing 403 - BJCP Mead Judging. Steve Piatz is coming down from the Twin Cities that day to run both of these classes. Steve is a very highly regarded mead maker, winning the AHA Mead Maker of the Year and 2008, as well as being instrumental in implementing the BJCP mead judging standards and exam. Classes will be held at the back hall at O'Keefe's House of Hamburg. If anybody has a video system that we could use to the record these classes it would be greatly appreciated.**

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## **UPCOMING BEER BARONS MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

WEDNESDAY, September 23: Monthly Meeting: Barrel Aged Beer Night with John Harrison of Delefield Brewhaus @ Clifford's—7:30 WEDNESDAY, October 7: Officers Meeting @ Café Centraal— 2306 S Kinnickinnic Ave., Milwaukee 53207, Open to all members, followed by social hour—Meeting @ 7pm Sharp

## **National Homebrew Conference**

**The National Homebrew Conference is scheduled for next summer in Minneapolis. The NHC is the biggest event of the year for the home brewing community. It is held by the American Home brewers Association (AHA), moving to a different location each year. Organization of each NHC is performed by the AHA and by local home brewing clubs. The event is normally held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in June, and the 2010 Minneapolis event will be June 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>.**

**I have been able to attend the two most recent conferences, Cincinnati in 2008 and Oakland in 2009. I came away from both very glad that I had attended.**

**The conference consists of 3 days of instructional seminars during the day and some awesome events in the evening. In addition, judging for the Finals of the National Homebrew Competition takes place during the day on Thursday and Friday.**

**The seminars are presented by experts in the Home brewing and Professional brewing communities. They cover things basic and esoteric, such as sanitation, yeast care, Mead making, Brettanomyces fermentation, wood aging, hops, most anything that you can think of. Each conference has different speakers but all are top notch.**

**The evening events are phenomenal. Pro Brewers night is held on Thursday, which is basically a beer festival with a large number of breweries pouring beer (and in most cases the brewer and/or owner is present). Club night is Friday. Homebrew Clubs from all over set up booths to pour their best brew. Many clubs use a theme to decorate their area, and voting is held among all attendees to determine the best layout. The competition is fierce (and whacky). Saturday night is the Awards Banquet where the winners from the National Competition are recognized.**

**Through all of this there is the Hospitality Suite. Vendors from the industry set up booths where attendees can look over equipment and ingredients and talk to the people who run these businesses. And then there is the homebrew. Clubs take turns running a shift pouring homebrew at all hours that the Suite is open, morning till night.**

**In addition to the official activities other events surround the NHC. The BJCP has a dinner and seminar on Wednesday evening. There is also a BJCP members meeting on Saturday afternoon.**

**On top of all this, the local organizers always put together pre-conference events for the Wednesday before the conference. These can be Brewery tours, organized bar hopping, distillery or vineyard tours, historical tours, any number of things that the local group can come up with.**

**That brings us to next summer. With the event as close as the Twin Cities the Beer Barons need to make an appearance. At a minimum we should have a booth at Club Night and run a shift in the Hospitality Suite. If we can't do it alone then we should combine with the other SE Wisconsin clubs to get it done.**

**It should be mentioned that attending the complete conference can get to be a bit pricey when you take into account transportation and lodging, worth it but not cheap. The AHA does sell tickets to single events at the conference assuming the complete conference does not sell out. Perhaps the club could arrange a 1 day trip for Friday Club Night if we can't get enough members to attend the full deal.**

**Bottom line, if you are a home brewer the NHC is the best beer event that you can attend and every dedicated brewer should make it a goal to attend at least once.**

**Dan Schlosser**

### **Upcoming Brew - U Events**

#### **Inaugural Barons Brewing Summer Day Camp - A Brew U Double Feature!**

**What:** Basic Brewing and Intro to All Grain

**When:** November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009 10 a.m.

**Where:** TBD

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

**In honor of AHA Teach a Friend to Homebrew Day we thought it would be very appropriate to hold a home brewing double header. Both classes together at the same time and hosted by our Brew U Staff. 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? We'll take you through the process of making the wort and pitching the yeast. No super technical jargon, no advanced home-made 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>**

### **Upcoming Homebrew Competitions**

- **10/17/09, AHA COC , European Amber Lagers, bring your beers to the September general meeting**
- **10/24/09 Fall N'Down Fermentation Festival, Green Bay WI, Entry Fee \$5, Contact Edward Mathis at 715-324-5977 or <http://www.tricountyfermenters.com> for more information**
- **10/31/09 Spooky Brew Review 2009, Palatine IL, Entry Fee \$7, Contact Joe Presser at 630-759-4569 or <http://chibeer.org/> for more information**
- **12/5/2009, AHA COC, Belgian Strong Ales, bring your beers to the October general meeting**

### **Kane's Win Club Championship!**

**Jeff and Diana Kane (pictured below) won this years Jerry Hetzel Award for the best beer at the club picnic with their Blueberry Mead.**



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#### **\* Brew & Grow,**

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238 W. Broadway, Waukesha

#### **Hop to It**

(262) 633-8239

234 Wisconsin Ave.,  
Racine 53403

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8008 W. National, West Allis

#### **Purple Foot**

(414) 327-2130

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

## **National Homebrew Conference**

*I have been fortunate enough to attend NHC with my family for the last 2 years. Now that it is coming to Minnesota, not only am I going to attend but I want to participate! There is a little thing at the NHC called Club Night. It is held on the Friday night of the convention, and it a gathering where the homebrew clubs serve the beer.*

*The booths are usually theme driven, and have quite elaborate costumes, decorations, tapping systems and food. Instead of me trying to describe the evening go to [www.beertown.org](http://www.beertown.org) to check it out. Not only will you see pictures but also be directed to videos from Basic Brewing.*

*Something that needs to be stated up front is the cost. No one gets comped or discounts for participating. You still have to pay for the conference and still provide the beer and/or food.*

*Now since I am a member or former member of 3 clubs, Belle City, Beer Barons and Bidal Society I can try to hope coordinate any club participation. If one club does not have enough, we could form a SE Wisconsin booth. Also if cost is a concern, the 3 clubs could use their Schooner money to help defray these.*

*I will be in Minnesota next year for my 3rd conference, I bring my family and we have a great time. I hope more members will join me and we can show the purple state that Wisconsin clubs can help out in the party.*

*I know it is early but we should start coordinating brewing and booths as soon as possible.*

**Cheers**  
**Terry Mayne**  
**Go Pack!**

## **August 2009 Treasures Report** **By Bruce Buerger**

**Beginning Balance \$5,176.79**

### **Income**

<b>Great Taste Tickets</b>	<b>\$225.00</b>
<b>Memberships</b>	<b>\$70.00</b>
<b>Brew U Recipe Formulation</b>	<b>\$45.00</b>
<b>Lanyards</b>	<b>\$130.00</b>
<b>Glass Sales</b>	<b>\$8.00</b>
<b>Meeting Income - Fees</b>	<b>\$390.00</b>
<b>Left Over Beer Purchase - July</b>	<b>\$40.00</b>
<b>Picnic Admissions</b>	<b>\$330.00</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1,238.00</b>

### **Expenses**

<b>Keg Refund Correction Entry</b>	<b>\$6.00</b>
<b>July Meeting Expense - Beer</b>	<b>\$40.00</b>
<b>Brew U Recipe Formulation</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>
<b>River Boat Deposit</b>	<b>\$112.00</b>
<b>Great Taste - Beer</b>	<b>\$35.00</b>
<b>Great Taste - Bus</b>	<b>\$750.00</b>
<b>Meeting Expense - Facilities</b>	<b>\$101.00</b>
<b>Meeting Expense - Officers</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>
<b>Newsletter - Postage</b>	<b>\$89.00</b>
<b>Newsletter - Printing</b>	<b>\$75.99</b>
<b>Incorporation Fees - State Renewal</b>	<b>\$15.00</b>
<b>Transaction Fees</b>	<b>\$0.88</b>
<b>Picnic Food - Sausages</b>	<b>\$102.22</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,387.09</b>

**Ending Balance \$5,027.70**

**August Meeting Attendees: 101**

**Total Paid Members: 208**

**Trial Members: 16**

**Expired Members: 29**

**Pictures from the 2009 Beer Barons Picnic, held September 12th at Whitnall Park**



***Impressive Beer Selection!***



***Raffle Prizes***



***I don't know what's going on here?***



***The big winning table during this years raffle***

***Interested in Advertising in the Newsletter?***

***The board recently made the decision to potentially allow advertising in our newsletter as a means of generating more revenue. This is one revenue source we are exploring with the goal of keeping the meeting fee at \$5. More details to follow, please direct all inquiries to the officers mailbox via the Beer Barons web-site (<http://beerbarons.org/contacts/contacts.html>)***

***MILWAUKEE BEER BARONS BOARD MEMBERS***

PRESIDENT	MIKE SCHWARTZ	(414) 423-7930
VICE PRESIDENT	JASON HELLER	(414) 870-8030
TREASURER	BRUCE BUERGER	(262) 524-9546
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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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