

August  
1998

# BARON MIND

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

## From the Presidents Desk...

### Greetings, Fellow Humans and Other Beer Lovers

I'll be swift this time.

Get ready for the picnic. It will be fun. In the Root River Parkway. Beer. Food. Beer. Munchies. No laborious brewing. Beer. Chicken. Beer. Fun. Beer.

Please bring ten dollars (US currency, check or money order... sorry for any inconvenience but we will not be accepting credit cards) to this (the August edition) meeting.

We need to have as many people as possible sign up for the picnic so we can pay for it and have a clue how much food, beer and fun we need to bring along. For each person that pays the ten bucks, the September **Beer Barons** meeting is free. Your incentive to pay the large exorbitant picnic fee has just been explained. If unclear please read again.

Lots of beer and food. Little money. September 12 picnic date. Pay up front at the August **Beer Barons** meeting held at Clifford's on the fourth Wednesday of the month.

So now boys and girls that means you should be

prepared to pay your normal meeting dues of five US dollars as well as the 10 additional US bucks for the picnic at this months meeting.

Don't forget that your admission covers the cost of the September **Beer Barons** meeting as well. Pretty good deal if you ask me, but I won't ask since I've already told you.

Show up and Hoist a few with us.

Dean Halonen

### Visit Our Website



Do you have a computer?

For the latest information about the **Beer Barons**, as well as Recipes, Tools, and links to other Beer related sites, set your browser to:

<http://www.execpc.com/beerbarons>

### Upcoming Events

- August 26: Weiss Beers
- September 12th: 2nd Annual Picnic
- September 23rd: Octoberfests
- October 28th: To be Determined
- November 18th: Officer Nominations
- December 16th: Christmas Party and Officer Elections

### August Meeting

The August monthly meeting will be held at Clifford's, 10448 W. Forest Home Ave., Hales Corners, at 7:30 PM on August 26th. As usual, a \$5.00 meeting fee will be assessed. The meeting will feature a variety of Weiss Beers.

### Membership Information:

The Beer Baron's 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 53217.

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 its time to renew.

# The Beginners Brewpot

by Richard Grzelak

In this column last month we had talked about ways of educating yourself about particular styles of beer. Because, beer is, by its very nature, a social lubricant, why not combine your interest in beer in a social setting by conducting your own beer tasting? Not only can this be a lot of fun, but it is a good way to introduce your friends and relatives to the hobby.

The first thing to do when setting up a tasting is to determine what type of beers will be tasted. There are two different approaches. You may either want to try several beers of a given style, or try a sample of several different styles. In any event, try not to have any less than three different beers, nor more than eight. Any more than that is too tiring, and if you have only one or two, why bother?

It is important to remember that you are conducting a tasting, and that a 12 ounce bottle of beer can easily serve four people. The object at this point is not to get drunk, but to appreciate the differences between the beers.

It is a good idea to hold the tasting in a well-ventilated and smoke-free room so as not to interfere with the beers. Each taster should have ample space to write upon as well.

Once you determine what type of tasting you are going to have, the next step is to choose what glassware you are going to use. Plastic cups are ideal for tastings, but if you chose to use glassware, you will need at least two glasses per person. This allows for ready comparison between the different beers.

It is also a good idea to have some cheese, preferably a mild cheddar, or a colby, and some crackers or bread available to clear the palate between tastings. The crackers, bread, and cheese, should all be relatively mild so as not to interfere with the beer. For this reason, it is also a good idea to conduct the tasting prior to dinner, or at least an hour after dinner.

Finally, you should have the beer chilled to an appropriate

temperature for its type. Ales, Stouts, and Porters should be served at temperatures no colder than 45 Degrees F, while lagers should be served at colder temperatures. It is conceivable that you may want to conduct a tasting in which the character of a given beer is compared at different temperatures. This is probably not a good idea if all of your fellow tasters are novices as the differences that temperature makes can be extremely subtle.

Finally, you may want to print up a judging form for each of the beers tasted. This form should at least contain the following information:

**Beer Name.**

**Beer Type.**

**Date Tasted.**

**Appearance** (Color, Head Retention, Clear or Cloudy, etc.)

**Aromatic Characteristics.** (Malty, Fruity, Hoppy, etc.)

**Taste** (Malty, bitter, etc.)

**Other**

### General impression

There are many different systems for judging a beer. Because this one is relatively subjective, it is suggested for a social type tasting, one in which there is a good mix of experience between the tasters. In addition, it is both relatively simple and, at the same time, similar to the format used in competitive judging. This form is also useful when appraising a beer for the first time, and one that I personally employ.

After you have tasted the beer, compare your results with the other people at the tasting. In some ways this is both the most enjoyable, and instructive part of the tasting. Very often, you may come across a flavor or aroma that you cannot quite identify, but someone else may be able to detect.

One final note: You may or may not like a particular style of beer. Either way, it is not relevant to the tasting. You should consider whether or not a beer is appropriate for the style it purports to be, however, the ultimate objective of a social tasting is to have fun.

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

<b>President</b>	Dean Halonen	Email: woodill@execpc.com
<b>Vice President</b>	Matt Kuspa	3248 E. Waterford
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mark Goerke	529-0207
<b>Editor</b>	Rich Grzelak	Email:rgrzelak@execpc.com

The **BARON MIND** is published monthly for members of the **Beer Barons of Milwaukee** thanks to the efforts of Rich Grzelak, Dean Halonen, Jim Jesse, and other club members who contribute articles. The permanent mailing address is: **Beer Barons of Milwaukee, P.O. Box 27012, Milwaukee, WI 53227**

# 2nd Annual Picnic



Whitnall Park, September 12, 1998  
1:00 PM to ???, Site #3, Root River Parkway

**Featuring Beer, Food, and Fun**

*Because Summer does not have to end on Labor Day*

## Reservation Form

Bring to August Meeting, or Send Payment to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Important:** This form must be submitted by

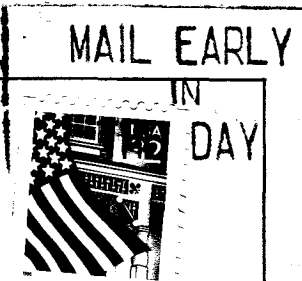
**August 31, 1998**

Number of Adults @ \$10.00/each\* \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of Children under 18 (No Charge)

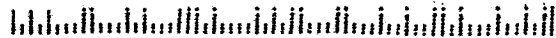
\*Includes September meeting fee.

# BARON MIND

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



33219-2664 08



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!***