



BARON MIND



December, 2024

beerbarons.org

The Monthly Publication of the Beer Barons of Milwaukee Cooperative



PRESIDENTS LETTER

To All Barons Members:

I wanted to thank you all for the Privilege of being your President. It has been an honor. I also wanted to thank the board for their support. And finally, I wanted to thank everyone who helped, whether small or large, everyone's efforts make this club what it is. Which is the best damn homebrew club around.

Remember the last amazing Midwinter competition is around the corner. Volunteer, participate, be a part of the last dance.

Finally, we need to fill a few board membership rolls. Secretary, Sargent at Arms, and President at a minimum. Please consider volunteering for a year, there's a gold card and many good times to be had with the 2025 board.

See you all soon, please bring a side dish or dessert to share for December's meeting. It's a social night so bring yourself, a couple cold ones, drink and be merry.

Joe

VICE-PRESIDENTS UPDATE

Happy Holidays Everyone!

Belgian Night with Eli was a massive success and I am happy someone from Supermoon was able to show up to lead us through the inspirations for our local brewery. A quick note to those I didn't get to tell I person, the reason for the odd collection of Belgian beers this year was because one of the 3 major distributors closed their doors this past year, so selections were sparse.

But all of that is behind us for the Holiday Party! Bring festive attire, an empty stomach, and cash for raffle prizes.

* * * And remember, **NO ONE EATS UNTIL ALL POSITIONS ARE VOTED !!!!** * * *

-Kyle

PS: If you are an American Homebrewers Association (AHA) member, [please tag Beer Barons of Milwaukee I your account](#). With enough club members signed up they, will wave our insurance fees! If you are looking [to become a member or renew](#), please use code **Beer-Barons-of-Milwaukee** at checkout to save \$5 for yourself AND get a \$5 kickback for the club. With both insurance waived and the \$5 per member, that is enough to have a 3rd obnoxiously priced meeting, like Belgian or Barrel Night (and I'm willing to hear suggestions).

Dec – Holiday Party

Jan – 2nd annual Mead Night with Mazer Cup entries (aka How I gave up and learned to love the fruit bomb)

Feb – *Beer and Cheese Pairing with Tyson of Mars Cheese Castle (tentative)*

Mar–Cask Ales with our very own Bruce Buerger Jr

Apr – 608 Brewing Company with owner and head brewer Phil Humphrey

TREASURERS REPORT

November Meeting:

3 Guests

No new members

69 members (36 gold)

Total members 130 – 58 gold members

Thought of the Month: New Officers, New Year, New Brew!

Rand

SERGEANT AT ARMS

We are looking for someone to take over this position as of February 1st. This will be voted on at the Christmas Party Meeting. If you are considering it, please ask questions of our board and they will be able to clear things up.



PLEASE SUPPORT

Clifford's Supper Club

Friday Fish Fry

Weddings, Rehearsal Dinners, Baptisms, Birthdays,
Showers, Anniversaries, Funerals and Family Gatherings

Wed. Karaoke Wally's 65 Cent Wings

Karaoke Every Wed, Fri, & Sat – 9:30 pm

Clifford's offers the use of their banquet room to the Beer Barons at a reduced rate. Our support will show our appreciation.

10481 W. Forest Home * Hales Corners

(414) 425-6226 * www.cliffordsfinefood.com

BARONS BOARD MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 8th, 2025 at Magellan's, 370 W. Main Street in Waukesha. It would have been held on the 1st Wednesday of the month, however, this happens to fall on News Years Day, thus the change of date. The meeting will be begin at 7:00 pm and usually lasts only an hour or less. So come on out and join the board members for a glass of beer on the club. This way you can see what the board does and how decisions are made.

December Features Barrel-Aged Beers

We're continuing with Black Friday leftovers

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|---|----------------|
| • Milwaukee County Stout | The Explorium |
| • Black Gold | Central Waters |
| • Nine Lives (Anniversary) Stout | Raised Grain |
| • Last Christmas | Eagle Park |
| • Café Deth | Revolution |
| • Bourbon County Brand
Vanilla Rye Stout | Goose Island |

We'll add one of these when a keg is consumed

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| • Louie's Resurrection | Milwaukee Brewing |
| • Bourbon County Brand Stout | Goose Island |
| • Big Eddy Imperial Stout | Leinenkugel's |
| • Brandy Barrel Aged Cuvee Stout | Belching Beaver |
| • 26 (Anniversary) Stout | Central Waters |



SECRETARY

To all our wonderful members:

Since my term as club secretary is ending, I would like to thank all the members who contributed anything to our newsletter, our club or helped me in any way with this position. When I first signed up for this job, I was leery about what I had gotten myself into, but after a few months I really enjoyed taking minutes, looked forward to creating the newsletter (using my imagination) and getting to know all of you better. This position also helped me remember more of your names since it seemed when I first joined, that half the members names began with a J (ie: Jason, Jim, Jared, John, etc.). A special thanks goes out to those members who helped me get the newsletter out to you using Mail Chimp. I really appreciate it. And those who contributed pictures from events. I couldn't have made it presentable without you.

Please consider running for this position. It really is a lot of fun. If you have any questions about it, you can ask me or many of the other members. There is always someone ready to help.

See you at our meetings.
Debbie Minger



Brew your own Beer, Wine, Mead, or Kombucha

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MIDWINTER COMPETITION 2025 – THE FINALE

It's with a very heavy heart we announce that 2025 will be the last Midwinter Homebrew Competition. When we started this endeavor back in 2011 we set out to create a competition that rewards quality beer, mead, and cider makers and had a reputation for quality judging. Delivering on that for 15 years has been a great pleasure and a very rewarding experience.

Times have changed though and the judge numbers, in terms of existing judges as well as those looking to become judges, has greatly diminished over the past few years. For more information Go to <https://midwinterhbc.com/2024/11/27/midwinter-2025-the-finale/> now if you want to enter.

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IT'S TIME FOR A CHRISTMAS PARTY



YES, it is that time of year again. I'm talking about the Barons Christmas Party. (And yearly Board member Elections.) **PLEASE NOTE:** The regular meeting begins at 7:00 pm with election of new board members. After all votes are in and counted and we have a new board, that's when the Christmas Festivities begin. If you plan on coming, please sign up on our website, 'beerbarons.org' and pay at this time. It is under the category "Barons Store", and "2024 Christmas Party Tickets". All pertinent information is there.

If you have a homebrew to share, bring that along as well and we can put it on our Jockey Box but please enter it on our website so we can reserve a place for it. This will be much appreciated. Also, the club would appreciate donations of any gift cards, experience cards for sports or things such as beer or wine tastings, Zoo pass, tickets to a museum, movies, etc. If you have anything to donate please contact one of our board members.

Hope to see you all on the 18th.

MBB EUROTOUR 2025

Gary Luther of the museum of beer and brewing was at our last meeting before the main speaker and spoke of their 2025 European Brewing History Tour. This tour will be visiting Germany, Austria, Slovenia and Germany from April 26th to May 6th.

If interested in joining him or for more information go to their website

<https://museumofbeerandbrewing.org/> but do it soon. I hear they fill up fast.

BIG thanks to Andy and Cheryl Hemken for allowing us to store our club trailer on their land at:

Hemken Honey Co.

W229 S7120 Guthrie School Rd., Big Bend, WI
Business phone: 262-662-2843

Visit their website for information on their products and where to find them: <http://www.hemkenhoney.com/>



We are a family owned Honey Producer in Big Bend, WI.

We promote the art of beekeeping and benefits of using local honey through education of consumers, new beekeepers, school groups and community programs.

In 1996 Andy started with 2 beehives, he currently admits to 500.

After 30 years of safety and ergonomics consulting, he followed his passion and made beekeeping his full time career.

Cheryl came along for the ride.

FONDY BREWFEST 2025

This beer festival will be held on February 1st, 2025 at The Fond Du Lac County Expo Center. The Barons will be there once again, serving up their wonderful beers that our members donate for the cause. Keep this in mind, all you wonderful beer/cider/mead makers that we will be asking for donations soon so you may need to start making those great beverages soon.

FOOD & FROTH 2025 is also coming up on Saturday, March 8, from 7-9:30 pm. This annual event invites guests to an after-hours part at the Public Museum where they have the rare opportunity to wander the exhibit floors while sampling delicious brews and bites from dozens of local vendors. The evening also includes live music on the First Floor. For more information go the Milwaukee Public Museum under Events. Or wait for more info in our future newsletters. (And, YES, we will need donated beverages for this also.



MEET THE

SPIKE FLEX



4" tri-clamp with clear cap

Upgraded lid available - holds 15 psi



YOUR NEW SMALL BATCH FERMENTER

Spike is excited to bring small batch fermenting to another level that will open doors to quality, flexibility and functionality you can't find anywhere else. With all sanitary welded, 1.5" tri-clamp fittings and over 20 available accessories, you'll be able to control temps, carbonate, pressure transfer and more in this 304 stainless steel fermenter! Ditch that carboy. It's time for a FLEX!

SPIKEBREWING.COM/FLEX

Website: beerbarons.org
Twitter: twitter.com/beerbaronsMKE
Facebook: www.facebook.com/BeerBarons
Brewblog: beerbarons.org/brewblog/
Midwinter Brewfest: twitter.com/MidwinterHBC

President: **Joe Wichgers**
Vice-President: **Kyle Manderscheid**
Treasurer: **Rand Lindner**
Secretary: **Debbie Minger**
Sergeant at Arms: **John Bowen**
Member at Large: **Erik Carlson**
Member at Large: **Tim Ruppnow**
Social Media: **Andrew Grove**

IO Group:
<https://beerbaronsofmilwaukee.groups.io/g/BeerBaronsOfMilwaukee>

Contact the Board via email at:
officers@beerbarons.org
Or in writing at:
Beer Barons of Milwaukee Cooperative
P.O. Box 270012
Milwaukee, WI 53227

Beer Barons - Code of Conduct

Our goal is to improve our members' knowledge of home brewing and its enjoyment. Please show your respect and courtesy to the people you have elected to do the business of this club and the guest speakers that are graciously giving their time to come and put on a presentation for you by being **QUIET** during the meeting.

Nothing is to be removed from this room that YOU did not bring in (That means the club beers stay.) Please leave all un-opened beer for others to enjoy at other events.

NO outside food is allowed to be brought into the meeting that was not purchased at Clifford's Only exception is for snack items to enjoy with your beer

- Pretzels, popcorn, nuts
- Chips & dip
- Cheese, sausage & crackers
- Smoked or canned fish items

Please bring your own glass and clean up after yourself.

- Everyone must check-in with the treasurer, show your membership card, and pay your meeting fee to receive a wristband.
- Please put your wristband on your wrist (not on your glass/horn)

NO guns or weapons of any kind allowed in the meeting
NO SMOKING allowed in the building

Listen - Learn - Ask questions, someone will have the answer. Enjoy the meeting & guest speakers.

Baron Mind is published by the **Beer Barons of Milwaukee Cooperative**, 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 secretary or mail it to the club's mailing address.