



THE

Northern Brewer

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GREAT NORTHERN BREWERS CLUB

AUGUST 2009

The Vice Prez Sez

by *Kerri Canepa*

Since Ira, the current GNBC the Prez, is out of town until early September, I'm filling in for him. I haven't been brewing since last winter (my bad) so I'll just give a head's up about what's coming up this month and the near future.

In this edition, you'll find information about the Anchortown Invitational (drop your entries off by Friday August 7 to Arctic Brewing Supply), the annual August BBQ (Saturday August 22 at a new location this year – Celestial Meads) and the Equinox Mead Competition (Saturday September 26).

This year's annual GNBC/Humpy's Golf Tournament was a raging success. Every year the event gets bigger and bigger, and although the tally's not done yet, we anticipate a sizable donation to this year's benefactor of some of the proceeds, First Tee Alaska, an organization designed to get kids into the game of golf while teaching valuable life skills along the way. There was just enough beer this year to satisfy the thirsty golfers, and in true form, the Humpy's BBQ at the end was great. Roving beer carts and stations along the course ensured that everyone enjoyed mostly locally brewed beer throughout the event.

It's also State Fair time and while the club no longer participates in an official capacity, I'd encourage folks to enter and to judge if they are able. Information about entering, styles to be judged and labels can be located here:

<http://www.alaskastatefair.org/exhibits/2009/eg/2009%20Homebrew.pdf>

If you're able to help judge, please contact Mary Helms who coordinates this event: marymeet25@aol.com

The State Fair is having a fundraiser this year for the Creation Station: The Mighty Matanuska Beer and Barley Wine Festival and auction on Friday and Saturday October 17-18. While not part of the annual State Fair itself, it is something to look forward to. Preliminary information is available here:

<http://www.alaskastatefair.org/aboutus/media/pressrelease/080408.html>

Summer isn't over yet even if the monsoon season has started. Get out and brew and if you can't do that, get out and support our local brewing community!

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The Prez Sez

Anchortown Invitational
Homebrew Competition

Autumn Pour Homebrew
Competition

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Summer BBQ – Saturday August 22 at Celestial Meads: As Ira will be out of town until early September and unable to host the August BBQ, Mike Kiker has graciously offered to host it at Celestial Meads. He will provide a few tables and the club will provide the paper products and plastic flatware, cups, the usual stuff. Breck Tostevin will be lending his grill for the occasion. This event comprises the August GNBC meeting. Our first “regular” meeting of the season will be in September, and although it’s not hammered out yet, more than likely that meeting will take place at our “regular” location, the Snow Goose Restaurant and Sleeping Lady Brewing Company

The date for the annual BBQ is Saturday August 22 starting at 5 pm until whenever. Directions are below and there is plenty of parking in the front, the rear and on the street. Please be respectful of the surrounding businesses with parking, noise and trash.

Club members are asked to bring: something to sit on, a dish to share, homebrew or some other beer to share and whatever you’d like to throw on the grill for yourself and/or others

If you haven’t made it to Celestial Meads yet, here are the directions: Go west on International Airport Road, turn south on Arctic, turn east on 58th Ave (if you cross the railroad tracks you’ve gone too far). Go 600 ft and look for the white Celestial Meads sandwich sign on the right.

A good time should be had by all so mark your calendars for August 22 at 5 pm at Celestial Meads.

Second Annual Anchor Town Invitational Homebrew Competition

By John Trapp

The date is quickly approaching for the second annual **Anchor Town Invitational Homebrew Competition**. Ken and Shauna Pajak, of the famous Café Amsterdam, have graciously offered to sponsor and host this competition again. The judging will take place at Café Amsterdam on **Sunday August 9th at 3:00 p.m.** Notice the time change from our usual start. This is due to the fact that Café A is now open on Sundays, so we will work around their schedule. Entries will be accepted at Arctic Brewing Supply at their new location, 8401 Sandlewood Place, on **Friday the 7th from 11:00 until closing**. Do Not, I repeat Do Not show up at Café A to drop off your entries on Friday or Saturday. The good folks working there are busy enough serving awesome food and beer.

There will be no entry fee and all categories are open. What you’ll need is three 12 ounce bottles, preferably in brown glass with a completed entry form. Please fill out as much as you can on the forms, there’s nothing worse than telling the judges that you don’t know what’s in it – it just says “Category 21, Cabbage Ale”. Actually, drinking that beer may be worse than telling judges you don’t know what’s in it. Also, I think this will be the last year I allow flip top bottles. I realize some of you still use them, but they are a pain in the ass for the coordinator, and most competitions don’t allow them anymore. Save them for sharing homebrew with your friends.

The judging of this will be critical, and we’ll need as many judges as we can get. So please plan on attending so we can knock this out in about 4 hours. Once again, if you see Ken and Shauna before the competition say thank you to them for their generosity and contributions, not only to the brew club, but the brewing community. I hope to see a lot of entries for our second annual competition. Good luck to all.



Equinox Mead Competition

By Breck Tostevin

Mead and only mead! That is what next month's Equinox Mead Competition is all about on Saturday, September 26. Dude, say what you will about the competition but at least it's an ethos.

This AHA/BJCP registered competition is brought to you by GNBC and Celestial Meads.

Categories: 24 Traditional Mead; 25 Melomel; and 26 Other Mead.

The Best of Show mead will be produced as a commercial batch at Celestial Meads if deemed appropriate by Meadmaster Mike Kiker. Medals will be awarded to the first, second and third place winners in the three categories.

Please get those meads bottled and entry forms ready. Entries will be accepted at Celestial Meads on Friday, September 25 from 5:30-7:30 pm. Please bring two 10 to 14 oz bottles or one 750 ml bottle and an AHA/BJCP recipe entry form for each entry. Here is a link to the form: http://www.beertown.org/homebrewing/pdf/entry_recipe.pdf

Mead judges are also needed. Judging will be held at Celestial Meads, 600 W. 58th Ave., Suite B. in Anchorage from Noon to 3 p.m. on Saturday, September 26. Please contact competition organizer Breck Tostevin at 884-1819 or keegan@gci.net for

more information or visit www.CelestialMeads.com. Hail Mead Berserkers!!!



EVENTS

Every First Thursday
Moose's Tooth First Tap

Every Friday
Midnight Sun Brewery Tours and
Brew Debut: 6:00 PM 344-1179

07.....Anchortown Homebrew Comp
Entries Accepted at Arctic Brewing
Supply

09.....Anchortown Homebrew Comp
Judging at Cafe Amsterdam: 3 pm

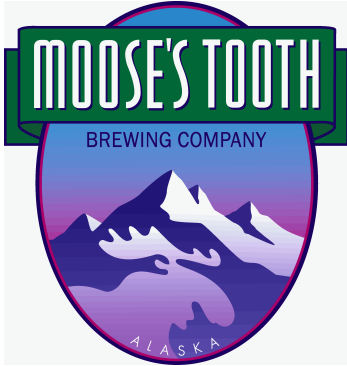
22.....GNBC Summer BBQ at
Celestial Meads at 5:00 pm

14.....South East Alaska's Autumn Pour
Homebrew Competition Deadline
Drop off Entries at Alaskan
Brewing Co. (Deadline)

16.....South East Alaska's Autumn Pour
Homebrew Competition at
Alaskan Brewing Co.

19.....South East Alaska's Autumn Pour
Homebrew Competition Awards at
Juneau Arts & Culture Center





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The Great Northern Brewers Club and the American Homebrewers Association remind you to.....Savor the Flavor Responsibly



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**NEXT MEETING: GNBC Summer BBQ August 22, 2009
at Celestial Meads 5:00 pm**