

THE Northern Brewer

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GREAT NORTHERN BREWERS CLUB

FEBRUARY 2013

The Prez Sez

by Peter Hall

The time has finally come...a new era has arrived...sorta. I have to lead off with a huge thank you to Tim Strayer. He has been there for the club with a huge smile and open ears. There is a long legacy of big shoes to fill in the brew club presidency. Tim has done none other than make me feel both at ease while I juggle Club needs and have a ton of work to do in my new job.



Thank you, Tim! Thanks also to the outgoing board members. We are hanging onto a few of them. Thanks to both the incoming and outgoing board members. Leadership is always changing and I am now getting a taste of the work these members do. Hopefully everyone can help me express our thanks to those that have helped the club in so many ways.

My time to be president is finally here. I will do everything I can to advance this group along. We are all a part of a well-seasoned club. There may be a number of new faces in leadership, but we are drawing on many years of experience.

Whew! We made it through Alaska beer week! The January club meeting was a great success. Paul Gatza, Director of the Brewers Association, was our first speaker. I know it was interesting for me to learn about many of the intricacies of the beerocrat world. It was great information on the loops that brewers jump through to open up and run a business. Next, Chad Yakobson of Crooked Stave Brewery took a few minutes to talk to about brewing with brett. He seemed worried about putting people to sleep but I know I was very interested. I am quite motivated to buy a bunch of tubes and gaskets so I can work both worlds of saccharomyces and brettanomyces.

There were a myriad of meetings and discussions leading up to our part on January 17th. Some more positive than others but the end result was a great time. Thank you to Dr. Fermento and the Brewers Guild of Alaska for all you did to help put our January meeting together. Thank you to John Burkett and Odom for kicking in a ton of beer and swag for the raffle. Finally, thank you to all the club members that volunteered and attended. Everyone had fun, and we made it out without a scratch.

The Prez Sez

Secretary's Corner

Night in Beervana

Fur Rondy Homebrew Competition Details

Talkeetna Beer Trippin' 2013

Brooms and Beers at the Anchorage Culing Club

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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Planning for next year has already come up and I'm sure it will continue to be a great event for everyone. If I forgot anyone that particularly deserves thanks, it unintended. There were so many people involved in making this great event happen, it's hard to keep up. Thank you!

A few great events are quickly approaching. Don't forget about Brooms and Brews and the Fur Rondy Homebrew Competition, both are happening on February 9. Submission for the Fur Rondy competition will be accepted at the Snow Goose Basement on Friday the 8th. Please check out the articles in the newsletter for more information and come out to participate.

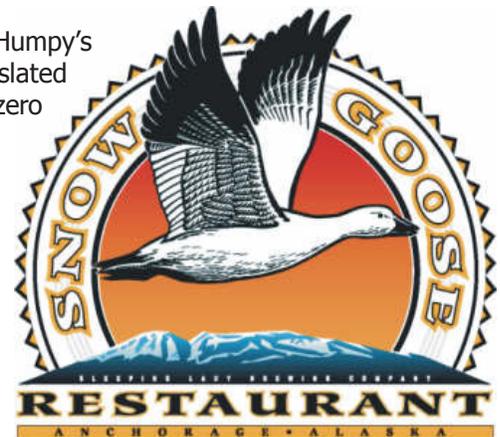
Just a little further out but can't quite come soon enough (for those with rooms reserved) is Talkeetna Beer Tripping. The people at Denali Brewing always greet us with beer and smiles to a long and fun weekend. This is another great article to investigate closely. If you would like to go (you should) and don't yet have reservations, get a move on!

With so many thank yous and events coming up, my head is spinning a little. There are always new events and lots of recognition for past events. I'm just getting into the swing of things. One last one...

Thank you all for your confidence and know that we will call on you when we need your help.

Oh! Before I forget, this just in: The Humpy's Bigfish Awards Ceremony has been slated for Monday, February 25th at the Subzero Bistro and Microlounge at 7 PM.

Brews hot, Beers cold



February 2013 Secretary's Corner

by Kat Karabelnikoff

Well it seems that everyone survived BEER WEEK! There were some great events to attend and beers to taste! Our January Meeting was a great success and a great place for Homebrewers and Commercial Breweries to meet, network, exchange ideas and drink great beer!

Here are the highlights of the meeting:

6:30- Welcome all visitors and members, Social Time and Food. We had many home brewers and guild members as well as special guests from visiting breweries, distributors or beer enthusiasts. The food provided was quite a spread and there was plenty for all. Homebrews were shared as well as some local commercial brews. A huge thanks to all the breweries and distributors who contributed beer and or raffle items for this event.

Thank you for your time to GBNC members who volunteered to staff the front door to assist and welcome our members, guests, collect homebrew and raffle items. Much appreciation also goes out to those who staffed/ served at the Homebrew sampling station as well as those who sold raffle tickets and assisted with the raffle drawing and distribution of prizes. We couldn't have these events without our volunteers!!

Around 7:20, January 17th , Prez Tim Strayer Called the Meeting

New Business:

Prez Tim Strayer, welcomed and introduced the new 2013 GNBC Officers:

President: Peter Hall

Vice President: Ross Aldridge

Secretary: Kat Karabelnikoff

Treasurer: Tim Bisson

Awards Handed out:

Home Brewer of the year: Steve Jayich

Appreciation of Service: Dennis and Lisa Urban for their BJCP training contributions to the club.

Appreciation of Service: King Street brewing for their support of the club: Free wort day, board meetings, and hosting the Anchortown comp.

Guest speakers were:

Paul Gatza - Director of the Brewers Association Discussed Alcohol Laws, Growing number of Craft Breweries and American Brewers Association.

Chad Jacobson- Crooked Stave Brewing (Denver, CO) Discussed Brettanomyces Yeast and talked about his brewery Crooked Stave.

We thank our Special guest speakers for their time and insightful information they shared with us at yeast, beer, alcohol legality and the industry of brewing.

Passing of the Baton:

Outgoing Prez Tim, at about mid meeting, called Prez Elect Peter Hall up on stage and officially handed over the duties as Club President. Peter Hall at that time presented Tim Strayer with an award for his service to the club and thanked him for his contributions!!!

EVENTS

Every First Thursday

Moose's Tooth First Tap

Every Friday

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

8.....*Entries for the Fur Rondy
Homebrew Competition
11:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Downstairs at the Goose*

9.....*Fur Rondy Homebrew Competition
Judging 10:00 AM downstairs
at the Goose*

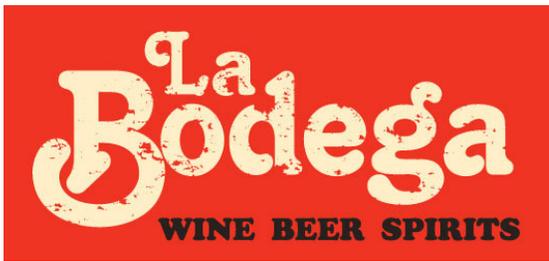
9.....*Brooms and Beers
Anchorage Curling Club
2:00 - 6:00*

19.....*GNBC Monthly Meeting
7:00 P.M. at the Goose*

25.....*Big Fish Awards
7:00 PM at Sub Zero*

25.....*Big Fish Awards
7:00 PM at Sub Zero*





We thank all of the outgoing Officers & Board Members for their services and contributions to the club and Thank and Welcome the New Officers & Board Members for stepping up and giving back to the Club. I know, as one of the new Officers, I look forward to serving and assisting the club where ever needed. Please contact me or a Board member if you would like to volunteer at a GNBC

event or help in some other way. Contact info can be found on the club's webpage and in each newsletter.

OLD BIZ:

-2013 Fur Rondy Homebrew Comp-

When: Saturday, February 9th. Judging will begin at 10:00 a.m.

Where: Snow Goose Restaurant & Pub

Entries: Friday February 8th from 11:00 am to 6:00 pm at the Snow Goose in the basement

This will be the first competition in 2013 to garner as many points as possible towards the 2013 GNBC Homebrewer of the Year Competition.

Get more detail on this at our event page on

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/319003978210006/>

-GNBC Brooms and Brews (Curling)-

When: Saturday, February 9th. 2pm-6pm (or later)

Where: Government Hill Curling Rink, Anchorage, AK

Cost: \$5.00

PLEASE NOTE: Homebrew is welcome. Also, the Curling Club has a bar with Denali Brewing on tap, and other beers and booze. What to bring:

Warm clothes and an extra pair of shoes with clean soles.

The shoes are to help keep the ice clean. Bring some snacks too if you can.

RSVP: Tim Bisson an email at tbisson123@yahoo.com or respond to the Facebook invite.

Get more detail on this at our event page on

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/249448431849074/>

Bigfish Awards Ceremony - The Humpy's Bigfish Awards Ceremony will take place on Monday, February 25th at the SubZero Bistro and Microlounge at 7 pm.

-Club Only Competitions -

Homebrew clubs throughout the country are welcome to send in club-only beers.

When: Tuesday, February 17, 2013 6:30pm/ February Meeting

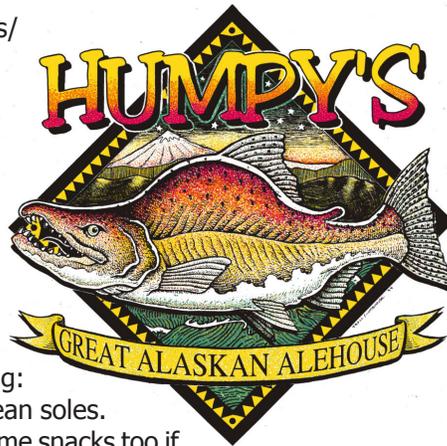
Where: Snowgoose Restaurant & Pub (Theatre), Anchorage, Alaska

PLEASE NOTE: Barleywine Ales: this competition covers English and American Barleywine styles (BJCP categories 19B & 19C). Get more detail on this at our event page on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/485277664849354/>

-GNBC Glasses for sale - Our New Glasses are in and they should be available to purchase for \$5 at our next Meeting.

-Talkeetna Beer Trippin - Friday April 5, Sat April 6 and April 7. Beer dinner is on Friday April 5 at Denali Brewing. Breakfast is April 6 at the Flying Squirrel. Get reservations now as rooms are at a premium. The Golden Carboy Competition is non BJCP. No style guide - whatever you want to brew. Get more detail on this at our event page on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/events/417521338317389/>

Miscellaneous



2013 Homebrewer of The Year Categories

Fur Rendezvous HBC

- Category 3
- Category 5
- Category 14
- Category 19
- Category 23

Snow Goose HBC

- Category 2
- Category 7
- Category 8
- Category 15
- Category 21
- Category 22

Anchor Town HBC

- Category 1
- Category 6
- Category 9
- Category 11
- Category 12
- Category 17

Equinox Mead HBC

- Category 24
- Category 25
- Category 26
- Category 27
- Category 28

Humpy's Big Fish HBC

- Category 4
- Category 10
- Category 13
- Category 16
- Category 18
- Category 20

TAP (Training for Alcohol Professionals) Pre-registration is NOT required! Upcoming TAPs classes held at CHARR's Charlie H. Selman Training Center located at 1503W. 31st Avenue, Suite 101 Anchorage. Remember this is required if you plan

to volunteer to steward at any fests or competitions or tastings this year.

Here's the latest schedule:

2/6 Wednesday 5:30pm

2/9 Saturday 11am

2/12 Tuesday 9am

2/15 Friday 1pm

2/20 Wednesday 5:30pm

2/21 Thursday 1pm

2/27 Wednesday 1pm

Renewal certification is available at the CHARR office Monday through Friday 10:00am to 4:00pm.

Renewal testing is also available with proof of previous training following Saturday classes at 2:00pm

-Remember if you have ideas for educational segments or guest speakers, feel free to post them on our Facebook page or contact any one of our board members or officers. Contact info can be

found on the club's webpage and in each newsletter.

MEETING SETUP

A - J Setup
K - P Cleanup
R - Z Food

A - J Cleanup
K - P Food
R - Z Setup

A - J Food
K - P Setup
R - Z Cleanup



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Handcrafting fine traditional meads, melomels and methyglyns in Alaska.

A Night in Beervana

By Ted Rosenweig

Or, more correctly, two nights at Inn Beervana. I had to go to Portland for a few days to finish recording an album, and a friend familiar with my fetish with all things beer found something interesting on the VRBO website. Inn Beervana....a bed and breakfast (less the breakfast part) in the Hawthorne district of Portland. After a little research I decided to give it a try. At \$125 a night (winter rate, \$140 in the summer), it was a bargain bested only by Motel 6.

I'm glad I did. The place itself was nothing particularly special. A really cool giant custom painting of a hop vine on the wall above the master bed was a nice touch, but the property itself was simple and comfortable. Basically, it is a mother-in-law apartment with an above garage loft, 2 queen beds, a full kitchen, and an open floor plan. Clean. Nice. And they allow kids and dogs.

What made it worthwhile was the 6-pack of local craft beer in the fridge waiting for my (and every) arrival and the host, Brian Yaeger, who lives with his family in the adjacent house. Brian greeted us and hung out, talking beer (and expressing a yearning to hit the GABBF), having a few, and dropping some choice advice on local beer tourism. A homebrewer and author of "Red, White, and Brew", a book telling of his coast-to-coast beer journey, as well as a pending tome detailing each and every Oregon beer, he had the credentials to put us on the right path. This began with him supplementing the sixer with a gallon mini-keg. He then unveiled the shining gem of our perfunctory local brew tour: Cascade Barrel House, just 5 minutes away.



THIRTEEN DIFFERENT SOUR BEERS MADE ON SITE!! He was relaxed and flexible with check-in and check-out times, which really helps the tourist at the whim of the cheapest possible AK Air flight. And he is a colossal Midnight Sun fan.

The location was perfect with many brewpubs, restaurants, and bars within walking distance or a quick cab ride of Portland's nicest neighborhood. I would suggest Inn Beervana to be the perfect jumping-off point for the Alaskan beer tourist embarking on the Oregon brew trail. Cheap, clean, flexible accommodation for the whole family with great beer and great beer advice from a hospitable host at no added cost.

Fur Rondy Homebrew Competition

by *Dennis Sessler*

A new year is upon us and that's right it's Fur Rondy time. I hope you have been brewing like mad men and women because winter is the best time to do so. The competition is all registered with the AHA/BJCP and we are ready to go.

The competition will be held on Saturday, February 9th at the Snow Goose. This will be the first competition in 2013 to garner as many points as possible towards the 2013 GNBC Homebrewer of the Year Competition.

The categories which will garner points towards the year long competition are;

| Category | Name |
|----------|----------------------|
| 3 | European Amber |
| 5 | Bock |
| 14 | India Pale Ale (IPA) |
| 19 | Strong Ale |
| 23 | Specialty Beer |

By no means are you restricted to just enter those beers, enter as many different styles as you like.

Judging will begin at 10 am on Saturday, February 9th downstairs at the Goose, and as always there will be a need for plenty of judges and stewards. This competition is an AHA/BJCP sanctioned competition so all beer, mead and cider categories will be open for entry. You can find the current style guidelines and entry forms at <http://www.bjcp.org/sitemap.php>.

Entries will be accepted at the Snow Goose in the basement on Friday February 8th from 11:00 am to 6:00 pm. For current GNBC members, there is no entry fee, for non members, a \$5.00 fee per entry. You will need to provide three 12 oz. bottles for each beer entry. Mead and Cider entries can be three 12 oz bottles or one 750 ml bottle. You will also need to bring a copy of your recipe with you. If you are unable to drop off entries during that time please feel free to contact me to make other arrangements.

This year's competition will award a Best of Show Beer and a Best of Show Mead or Cider. There will be unique prizes for both of the Best of Show winners plus all the great Fur Rondy medals and notoriety. Kassik's Brewing Company will be in attendance and like last year they will be selecting an award winning beer to brew it commercially. I will have all the leftover beer/meads and ciders along with all the judge evaluation sheets and hopefully the awards at the February 19th homebrew club meeting.



Let's make this a great competition. Dust off your mead and ciders, brew and bottle those beers and let's get ready to "Rondy!" For more information contact me at sessak@mtaonline.net.

Talkeetna Beer Trippin'

by Joe Michael

With the turn of the New Year and this year's Alaska Beer Week in our rear view mirror, our club of happy homebrewers is now looking forward down the road through 2013. One of the next major mile markers on the journey is Talkeetna Beer Trippin'. This is our 4th annual trek to Talkeetna, where we join our hosts at Denali Brewing Company for a weekend of fun, friends, homebrew, craft brew, and good eats.



If you're a new club member, and haven't joined us in Talkeetna during previous Trippin' events, this is not one to be missed. Each year, the schedule grows, with lots of fun and relaxing things to do. The

GNBC descends on Talkeetna businesses during the town's "off" season, and we are welcomed by all of the local merchants warmly despite the colder weather and darker skies.

There are many diverse choices for food and drink, including our friends at Twister Creek/Denali Brewing Company, Mountain High Pizza Pie, Talkeetna Roadhouse, and the Flying Squirrel Bakery. Take a walk down Main Street and peruse the many Alaskan artist's and crafter's wares, check out the nightlife at the Fairview Inn, or just hunker down in one of the cozy lodging options in the area. This weekend is also family friendly - many members pack their whole clan out for the fun. Children are welcome!

This is not just a casual getaway, either - the holy grail of the weekend is the Golden Carboy! This trophy (literally a golden carboy) is presented to the winner of the homebrew competition, which is the centerpiece of the weekend. This is a no holds barred, anything goes homebrew competition, judged by a mix of area locals and experienced judges. This is not a BJCP sanctioned competition, but you can believe that the club faithful take this one seriously. The winner not only holds bragging rights to the Golden Carboy for the year, but also has their winning brew done up by the pros at DBC, and debuted during the 2014 Beer Trippin' weekend! This is hot stuff folks

It is recommended that you get your lodging booked right away, as early as possible. This weekend usually sees most of the rooms in town booked solid! You can find a good representation of what's available by visiting the Talkeetna Chamber of Commerce at . Another excellent resource for reviews of local area lodging can be found on via the TripAdvisor website at <http://www.tripadvisor.com>. If you

aren't familiar with the area, most of the events take place in the heart of downtown Talkeetna, so book on or around Main Street to be close to the action, or escape somewhere off the beaten path if you prefer some added privacy. Talkeetna has something for all budgets, and all preferences, but the closer it gets to the date, the less options there will be.

Now for the details, as they exist as of publication date: Talkeetna Beer Trippin' 2013 will be held over the weekend of April 5-7. Most will start showing up during the early evening of Friday, April 5th, and everything culminates with a hearty breakfast on Sunday April 7th. If past years are any indicator, there will be activities all over town, especially on Saturday (also the day of the competition). More

details will be forthcoming very soon, to include the event t-shirt design, updated events, and other fun tidbits to get you ready to have a blast that weekend. Also, we'll create an event on Facebook to get instant info out that way, and will try to mirror that information and put it out there to you all via mass email too. For any questions, feel free to contact Joe Michael or Jim Lamb. Mark your calendars, book your lodging, and get that homebrew fermenting - we'll see everyone there! The Golden Carboy beckons!



Brooms and Beers

By Tim Bisson

What: Come curling with the GNBC!

When: Saturday, February 9th, 2013 2pm - 6pm (or later)

Where: Anchorage Curling Club (on Government Hill)

Who: GNBC members

Cost: \$5 per person for a one day Curling Club social membership

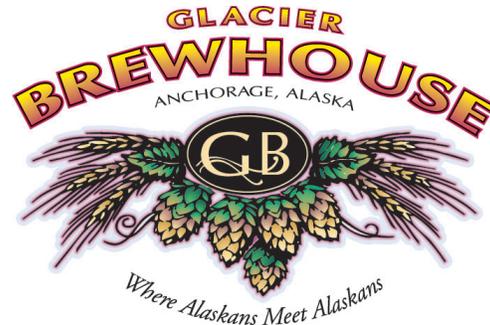
Adult Beverages: Homebrew is welcome. Also, the Curling Club has a bar with Denali Brewing on tap, and other beers and booze.

What to bring: warm clothes and an extra pair of shoes with clean soles. The shoes are to help keep the ice clean. Bring some snacks too if you can.

Details: The afternoon will be informal, fun and open to change. We will have a short tutorial on the game followed by some two end games and maybe some drills.

Also, so we have an idea of how many people are coming please either send Tim Bisson an email at tbisson123@yahoo.com or respond to the Facebook invite.

Good Curling!



2013 Home Brewer of the Year Categories

By *Tim Bisson*

Below you will find the list of BJCP Categories that will garner points towards the coveted Home Brewer of the Year. A traveling trophy is awarded to the homebrewer who throughout the year accumulates the most points.

This Award is presented at the January GNBC club meeting which coincides with the Great Alaskan Beer and Barley Wine Festival club meeting.

Here is the run down on how points will be scored:

Each Category has several sub categories, **only** your highest scoring entry per category will be awarded points. This will minimize the shot gunning affect.

Points will be awarded as follows:

1st-6 points

2nd-4 points

3rd-2 points

If your HBOY entry wins Best of Show you will earn another 2 points

Fur Rondy Home Brew Competition (February)

Category Name

3 European Amber

5 Bock

14 India Pale Ale (IPA)

19 Strong Ale

23 Specialty Beer

Sponsoring Brewery- Kassiks Brewing Co.



Snow Goose Break -Up Home Brew Competition (April)

Category Name

2 Pilsner

7 Amber Hybrid Beer

8 English Pale Ale

15 German Wheat and Rye Beer

21 Spice/Herb/Vegetable Beer

22 Smoke Flavored/Wood Aged Beer

* Side Challenge ***Brewers Challenge*** (Double Points)

Sponsoring Brewery- Sleeping Lady Brewery



Anchor Town Open Home Brew Competition

Category Name

1 Light Lager

6 Light Hybrid

9 Scottish and Irish Ale

11 English Brown

12 Porter

17 Sour Ale

Sponsoring Brewery- King Street Brewing

Equinox Mead Competition

| Category | Name |
|----------|---------------------------|
| 24 | Traditional Mead |
| 25 | Melomel (Fruit Mead) |
| 26 | Other Mead |
| 27 | Standard Cider and Perry |
| 28 | Specialty Cider and Perry |

Sponsoring Meadery-Celestial Meadery and Alaska Cider Co.

Humpy's Big Fish Home Brew Competition

| Category | Name |
|----------|------------------------|
| 4 | Dark Lager |
| 10 | American Ale |
| 13 | Stout |
| 16 | Belgian and French Ale |
| 18 | Belgian Strong Ale |
| 20 | Fruit Beer |

*Side Challenge *** Schmitt Challenge *** TBD

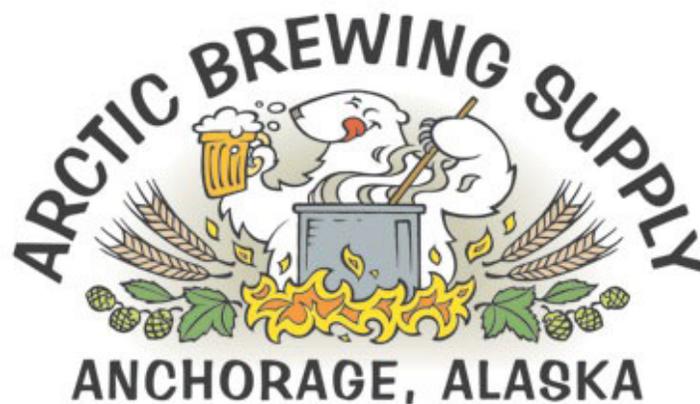
Sponsoring Brewery-Midnight Sun Brewing Co.



Keep in mind that with exception to the Snow Goose Spring Break-Up Competition and the Equinox Mead Competition all the other competitions are open to all 28 BJCP categories. But only these preselected categories plus the side challenges will garner points in this year long competition. Also keep in mind that every competition has the added bonus that your home brewed beer or mead could be brewed professionally by one of our sponsoring breweries/meadery.

So now that the criteria have been set let's get those winning recipes formulated and get brewing.

All style guidelines can be found on the BJCP website at <http://www.bjcp.org/2008styles/catdex.php>



The Northern Brewer is a monthly newsletter published by the Great Northern Brewers Club for distribution to all club members. Subscriptions are a part of club membership and may be obtained by joining the club. Membership is open to everyone over the age of twenty-one. Please send \$25 to:

Great Northern Brewers Club
Attn: Treasurer
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Anchorage, AK 99503

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



The *Northern Brewer* welcomes letters, opinions, articles, ideas and inquiries. You can contact the editor, Debbie Grecco at:

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**Great Northern Brewers Club
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3705 Arctic Boulevard
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**NEXT MEETING: February 19th, 2013
7:00 PM at the Snow Goose**