



THE

Northern Brewer

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GREAT NORTHERN BREWERS CLUB

JULY 2008



The Prez Sez

by Ira Edwards

Well June was an eventful month and July is shaping up to be more great times shared with friends at our Great Northern Brewer's

Club events. The June Camping trip was a great time shared by all that attended. There was fishing (lots of reds in the Kenai), Biking and hiking to be done. And most of all, there were great times to be had around the campfires chatting with friends. As there are every year, this year had a fine selection of great homebrew and hard to find commercial beers saved for this occasion. Best of all, there were some truly excellent dishes served at the Saturday potluck... Make sure you make plans to attend the GNBC Campout next June...

July will start off with a bang on the 4th of July (everyone be safe out there, and then on Wednesday, July 9th, we have our annual July BBG at Jeff Loughery's home. Be sure to read on for more information, This will serve as our July meeting for the club, but is a great time to be had by the whole family. Later on in the month, we have our annual Golf Tournament hosted in partnership again with Humpy's Great Alaskan Alehouse, with the money raise going to a fine charitable cause. Last year we raised enough to buy a Disabled Accessable golf cart for Challenge Alaska. This year, the tourney is on the 26th of July (also known as Billy Opinsky's birthday...) Should be a great time, and

The Prez Sez

Secretary's Corner

GNBC Summer BBQ

Anchortown Invitational
Homebrew Competition

Bust Out Your Clubs and
Whack Some Balls!

**La
Bodega**
WINE BEER SPIRITS

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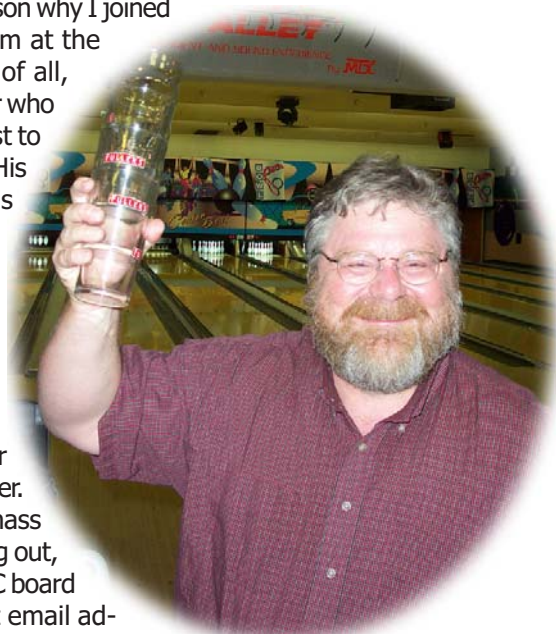
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I am sorry that I had a planned trip out of town that week...

Finally, it gives me great sadness to tell you all that we have lost a longtime and founding member of the GNBC. Dave Yanoshek was involved in a boating accident with friends and family on the Kenai River on Saturday, June 28th. He is presumed to be dead. Dave was a great man who excelled in his work and was very active in the community. He was very active in the homebrewing club and was a big reason why I joined several years ago after meeting him at the Alaska State Fair. Most important of all, Dave was a great husband and father who truly loved his family and did his best to provide a good example for them. His heartfelt, roaring laughter and his spirit that went into everything he did will be truly remembered by us all. He was loved by many, and will be missed by even more. Thanks for being a good friend. Thanks for everything Dave!

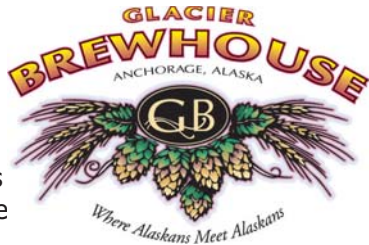
The details of what we can do for Yano's family are still being put together. If you have not been receiving the mass mailing that the club has been putting out, please contact someone on the GNBC board to make sure we have your correct email address. Check the website at www.greatnorthernbrewers.org for details. If you are one of the few who have eschewed the electronic revolution, make sure I have your proper contacts so we can inform you of future plans. As this is a very hard time for the Yanoshek family, please respect their privacy and give them some space. Be assured that we will inform the club of any news and of anything that we can help out with. I plan to have a toast and a moment of silence for Dave at 7pm sharp (this gives folks enough time to get there after the 6pm start) at the July Picnic on the 9th. I will bring some beers from a trip Yano took with a few of us to Belgium a couple of years ago. I was saving them for a special occasion, and this feels like a really good time to break them out... Dave had such a blast on that trip...



Secretary's Corner

by Dena Sessler

Hello all. This months Secretary's corner is short and sweet, but packed with reminders of the summer's events.



The Loughery's have generously opened up their home again this year for a family BBQ on the 9th of July, starting at 6pm. Bring something to put on the grill for you and your family and plenty of homebrew, mead, or cider to share. Directions to the Lowery's are as follows: Take O'Malley up and look for Stoneybrook Road, towards the top, on the right. Follow this road a short distance to the end, then take a left on Mountain Lake Drive. This turns into Lake O' The Hills Circle. The lake will open up on the right. Follow this around to the end and their home is at the end. Their address is 7051 Lake O' The Hills Circle. When parking, please respect their neighbors. Hope to see you all there for a great time!

Saturday the 12th of July is the ET Barnette Homebrew competition in Fox Alaska, just 13 miles North of Fairbanks. Scott Stihler needs our help. If you don't have any other plans for the weekend please come out and help to judge. There is an RV park very close to Silver Gulch Brewing Company in Fox, and many hotels available within a decent distance from the brewery. If you can attend and help judge, please contact Scott Stihler at 907-474-2138 or email him at stihlerunits@mosquitobytes.com.

Debbie Roberts is organizing the annual GNBC//Humpty's golf tournament again. It is scheduled for the 26th of July. She will be in great need of help with the event, so if you can lend a hand please contact her at 907-337-9360 or on her cell at 907-227-5287.

Don't forget about the inaugural Anchor Town Invitational Homebrew Competition. The date and details are yet to be determined but as soon as its organizer, John Trapp, has new information, we will be sure to get it out to the club.

There has been a change in location for the BBQ in August. Mike Kiker and Ann Spohnholtz will be unable to host this year, but Ira and Kara Edwards have graciously offered to hold the event at their home. The BBQ has been scheduled for Saturday the 16th of August from 5pm-11pm. They will have a few grills available to cook on and a fire pit to cozy up around so bring beer, mead, or cider to share, something for the grill, a side dish, and camp chairs to sit around the fire or in the yard. Their address is 8800 Solar Drive. Head up Abbott Road and make a left onto Elmore road and a right onto Mars. The next left will be Solar Drive. You can also head up Elmore road and take a left onto Mars and a left onto Solar Drive. Their home is on the left. If you have any questions or get lost give Ira a call at 440-9112. Look forward to seeing you all.

Mark your calendars for the 16th of September, when our club will resume its 3rd Tuesday of the month regular meeting schedule. Enjoy the rest of the summer!



EVENTS

Every First Thursday

Moose's Tooth First Tap

Every Friday

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

09.....GNBC Summer Picnic at the Loughery's

12.....Beer Dinner Hosted by Tim and Julie McDonald

12.....E.T. Barnette Homebrew Judging at Silver Gulch Brewing Company

15.....Entries accepted for the Anchortown Invitational Homebrew Competition: Arctic Brewing: 11:00 AM - Close

17.....Anchortown Invitational Homebrew Competition judging at Cafe Amsterdam: 10:00 AM

19.....2008 Golden Days Beer Fest at Silver Gulch Brewing: 3:00 PM

26.....GNBC/Humpty's Golf Tournament Moose Run Golf Course

01.....Chena River Brews Cruise on the Riverboat Discovery in Fairbanks: 6:30 PM

16.....GNBC Summer BBQ held at Ira and Kara Edwards house 5:00 PM - 11:00 PM



GNBC August BBQ and Meeting Details

by Ira Edwards

There will be a little bit of a change up on the BBQ schedule this summer. Mike Kiker and Ann Spohnholtz will be unable to host the annual August BBQ at their house due to the convergence of many business and personal projects. As a result, I have volunteered to host the event at my house this year. My wife Kara even approved. Families are welcome, as long as you don't let the kids feed my dogs too much beer...

So here are the details: **When:** Saturday, August 16th from 5pm to 11pm-ish. I have been told that "someone" will turn into a pumpkin after Midnight, so I have to get everyone out before that.

Where: Ira & Kara Edwards' home on 8800 Solar Drive, Anchorage, AK 99507 (put it into Google maps...) we have a big parking lot and wide circular driveway, but if you need to park on the street, please be courteous of our neighbors.

What: The Annual GNBC August BBQ, of course. There will be a grill or two to cook things on and some tables to place things on. If the weather turns, I have a few 10x10 pop-up tents to put out in the yard and a huge garage to store people in. I also have a fire pit and a growing wood pile, so prepare to sit around and chill out or do S'mores for the kids (young and old). Things to bring: BEER (or Mead, Cider, and Wine) to share, something for the grill, a side dish, bug spray (they have not come out yet due to the cold weather, but you never know), and camp chairs to sit around the fire or in the yard.

If you have any questions or get lost on the way there, feel free to give me a call at 440-9112

Time for a New Tradition

by John Trapp

It's time to start thinking about the inaugural, premier, epic, surely you don't want to miss it, homebrew competition coming up this August. I'm talking about the "**Anchor Town Invitational Homebrew Competition**". With the unfortunate demise of GNBC's relationship with State Fair, the club has decided to launch our own competition to fill the void left by a point-garnering judging event in August.

Ken and Shauna Pajak, of the famous Café Amsterdam, have very graciously offered to sponsor and host this new competition. The judging will take place at Café Amsterdam on Sunday August 17th at 10:00 a.m. Entries will be accepted at Arctic Brewing Supply on Friday the 15th 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. They'd love to, but don't have the time or staff to accept entries.

There will be a \$3 per entry fee and all categories are open. I also heard that this is the competition that will prove who's the "Schwarzbier King" of Anchorage. That's right, there's a Schwarzbier challenge that's being thrown down. So if you have a Schwarzbier, pull it out of the crawl space, dust off the bottles and get ready to do battle.

So let's review. There's a new homebrew competition run by GNBC and sponsored by Café Amsterdam, **The Anchor Town Invitational**. Judging takes place on **Sunday August 17th** at Café Amsterdam at 10:00 a.m. Entries can be dropped off at Arctic Brewing Supply on Friday August 15th from 11:00 a.m. until closing time (6:00 – 6:30?). There's a fee of \$3 per entry and all categories are open. And don't forget those Schwarzbiers. If you see Ken and Shauna before the competition be sure to say thank you to them for their generosity and contributions, not only the brew club, but the brewing community. I hope to see a lot of entries to kick off this competition the way GNBC knows how to. Good luck to all.



It's Tourney Time

by Debra Roberts

Summer's all about being outside, enjoying the sunshine (what little we've had this year), being more active and drinking beer. People define activity in thousands of different ways, but for that special subset of folks, golf makes the summer. The Great Northern Brewers Homebrew Club recognizes this with what's arguably the biggest event of the year. This year's 2008 GNBC/Humpy's Great Alaskan Alehouse Annual Golf Tournament tees off at 7:00 am sharp with a shotgun start on Saturday, July 26th at the Moose Run Golf Course.



Golf is a sport I've participated in for years, but never as a golfer. I've organized golf tournaments and spent a lot of sweaty hours slinging burgers over a hot barbeque, but regardless, I enjoy it all just as much. I like being outside too. Last year, I was honored to ask help organize the noteworthy, charitable event that not only gets you golfers on the green with tons of your great friends, but the proceeds of which always go to some charitable cause that helps others in need. How can being outside be any better? Let's just hope for great weather.

If you've participated before, the rules haven't changed. Sign up either with a team or individually, show up on time, come thirsty and try not to take the competition too seriously. The cost for a four-person team is \$350.00. The event has room for 144 golfers and every year, tends to fill up quickly, always leaving someone disappointed because they can't join in the festivities because they tried to sign up too late. The tournament is open to anyone, although we'd prefer to fill the course with reveling GNBC club members and staff, affiliates and customers of Humpy's, our co-sponsor. This is your call to hurry and organize a team and be a part of it all.

Your entry fee will buy you the course and the game, of course, but for an extra couple of bucks, you can game the system with mulligans and other extras that might make up for beer-induced inaccuracies on the course. Prizes will be awarded for the best score, longest drive and the ball closest to the pin. Oh, and my husband, Dr. Fermento, won't let me forget, there's plenty of beer that's served on the course by rotating beer carts and at special holes that feature special beer and events from our gracious distributors that help make the whole thing a resounding success.



Even if you don't golf (Fermento only shows up to proudly drink and drive the golf cart), I need your help. There's plenty of opportunity to help sign people in before tee-off, help with the barbeque, organize prizes, and generally make sure everything runs as smoothly as possible for the golfers. I especially need help now in the organizing stages. It takes a lot to harness the collective horsepower of the hospitality industry to create a lot of smiling golfers when everything comes to fruition on golf day.

Last year, between the proceeds of the game and additional gracious donations by Humpy's, we were able to purchase and put in place a beautiful golf cart designed to accommodate handicapped people on the course. Prior to the donation, a single, cantankerous cart was shared with the golf courses around town and had to be ferried between to allow challenged folks to enjoy the day and the game. This year, the proceeds are being donated to Operation Denali 2009, the mission of which is to "Enable four warriors wounded in the global war on terrorism to overcome devastating combat injuries and successfully summit 20,320 foot Denali, the highest mountain in North America, symbolizing the strength of our nation and those who defend it." If you want more information, surf out to http://www.theveteranscoalition.org/operation_denali/ for more details. It's fitting that our golf teams will enable a team of warriors to achieve personal and national success in a defining venture that will bring pride to Humpy's, Great Northern Brewers and our dedicated warriors that have sacrificed to keep our country free.

If you're interested in golfing, assisting or just showing up to check it out, contact me at (907) 337-9360 or on my cell at (907) 227-5287. Let's all work together to make this a noteworthy and fun event!



Grilling and fishing: Yep, that right! It's time for the GNBC July Picnic!!!

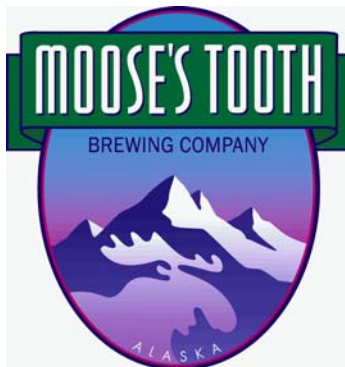
by: Ira Edwards

The Great Northern Brewers Club is lucky enough to have members that graciously open their homes to welcome our members for outside events that feature the best of what our club has to offer: good friends, good beer and a good time. For as long as I have been in the club, Jeff Loughery, a long-standing member of our club, has invited homebrewers up to his spacious abode on the Upper Hillside in Anchorage for a summer barbeque in July. This event is family-oriented and invites not just the brewers, but their families to enjoy an evening in the (hopefully) sun for outside recreation in a pristine setting with enough activities to keep everyone occupied.

Jeff's back yard opens to a lake with paddle boats and a recreation area where volleyball, horseshoes, fishing and expansive views are the norm. Come prepared to let the kids run around and enjoy themselves while you share a few bebies with friends, eat and be summer-time merry like it can only happen in Alaska in July.

Bring everything you need to be comfortable, including something to throw on the grill for you and your family, homebrew to consume and share, and your favorite Frisbee, volleyball, catcher's mitt, or whatever to engage others in good, vibrant outdoor fun. This year's event will be on July 9th beginning at about 6 pm and lasting until...whenever you and your family get worn out. To get to the gig, head up O'Malley and look for Stoneybrook Road on the right, toward the top. If you get to Hillside Rd., you have gone too far. Go to the end of this short road and take a left on Mountain Lake Drive. This will quickly turn into Lake O' The Hills Circle. The lake will open up on your right. Follow this around toward the end, and Jeff's place is at the end. His address is 7051 Lake O' The Hills Circle if you want to put it into Google maps. Please respect other homes when you park because it can be crowded. Come and enjoy a good time.

(Note: this article has been reprinted a few time, but this year has some new info and minor changes. I took excerpts from Fermento and other previous authors, as we all know that the prez has no original thought in him...)



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:

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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: July 9th, 2008
GNBC Summer Picnic at the Loughery's**