



THE Northern Brewer

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GREAT NORTHERN BREWERS CLUB

JULY 2012

Prez Says

by *Tim Strayer*

I hope your summer has been an enjoyable one thus far. Mine? It hasn't been too bad, although I am still traveling across country as I write. I should be back in Alaska before the 4th if all goes as planned. I have had a few interesting beers along the way, but nothing yet that knocked my socks off.



I want to congratulate the ladies of homebrewing aka "Brewbies" for their participation in the Alaska Run for Women. It was a beautiful day for the walk/run, a great cause, and as always they made the club look great! There is an equivalent event coming up for the men - Team "Beer Nutz". Check the facebook page for more information!

The newsletter is short this month for two reasons. First, since we are in the middle of summer, and understandably, brewing activities usually tend to slow down, I have less to report this month than usual.

Second, there has been a recent downturn in newsletter submissions from members and associates concerning events going on, brewing activities at home and even just plain beer-related entertaining and educational events. The content of our newsletter is predicated by member submissions, which determine the length of the newsletter, its content, and shapes the overall reading experience. Sure, everyone's busy, and we're hardly at home: I'm a premier example of that. But just the same, we'd appreciate your input to help keep our newsletter lively and enriching.

As always you can send me anything you want to put in by emailing it to me at tim@strayermail.com. I typically look it over and shoot it off with our other submitted materials to our newsletter editor for final editing and layout. The deadline for submission is typically the last day of the previous month and sometimes there's even a little wiggle room depending on how long it takes to put the newsletter together, so always email with something, regardless of when.

Still, spend some time looking over the list of events for the weeks and months. Just because many of us are not brewing does not mean the club is inactive!

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The Prez Sez

Picnic on the Hillside

Anchortown Homebrew
Competition (reprint)

Haines Recap

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This month's GNBC meeting will take place as part of the Club's annual summer picnic. Once again, our very gracious host Jeff Loughrey is holding the event at his beautiful home on the hillside. This is a fun, family event. Look for a related article in the newsletter. Let's hope for some good weather.

As always, Until next month, I wish you tight lines and cold beer my friends.

Flame out,

Prez Tim

Picnic on the Hillside

By Jim Roberts

Once again, our gracious host, Jeff Loughrey is hosting this year's annual Club Picnic at his beautiful and spacious home on the Hillside. The event is slated for Tuesday, July 10 from 6-10 pm.

This is a family oriented event. Jeff's home faces Lake O' The Hills, a private lake with paddleboats, fishing and playing in the manicured grass surrounding the grounds. Volleyball nets and horseshoe pits are available. If the weather cooperates, this event is a great chance to get the family out to a unique location right here in town and enjoy good food, camaraderie, and of course a ton of good homebrew that members bring along to share.

To make this a great time, bring along everything you feel that you, your family, and others might enjoy. This would include your own meat to throw on the grill, a side dish or two that are big enough to share with others at this pot luck-style picnic. Whip together your favorite dish and bring it along to share with others.

It's a given, but bring along homebrew to share with others or good commercial brew worthy of the club palate. Hell, bring along schwag if it suits you, but do bring beer.

To get to the gig, head up O'Malley and look for Stoneybrook Road on the right, towards 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 have a good time!





Fifth Annual Anchor Town Invitational Homebrew Competition

by John Trapp

Okay, we have everything squared away here. The fifth annual Anchor Town Invitational Homebrew competition will be held on August 19th. The judging will take place at King Street Brewery Starting at 10:00 a.m. and should finish up by mid afternoon. Entries will be accepted at Arctic Brewing Supply on Friday August 17th from 11:30 until closing (6:00 p.m.). Along with the plaques, medals and ribbons for placing, King Street Brewery **may** be picking a beer from the best of show round and brewing up a professional batch, so please fill out the recipe sheets completely. Notice how I said "may"? Well, there is no specific category to brew for the competition, it's entirely up to KSB to pick a winner and brew it if they like it enough and it fits their style. After all, it will be on-tap at King Street and Café Amsterdam. That's some pretty good bragging rights.

Don't forget, we also have the coveted Brass Tap Award, given to the highest averaging score sheets. Once again, in order to average the sheets, there needs to be more than one. All categories are open and there's no entry fee, so plan on dropping off your beer or mead on at Arctic Brewing Supply on August 17th and then help judge on the 19th. Good luck to everyone.



EVENTS

Every First Thursday

Moose's Tooth First Tap

Every Friday

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

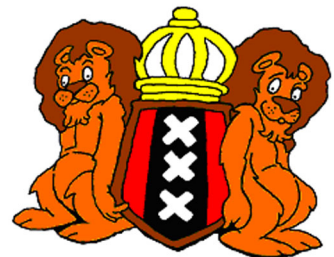
10.....*Summer Picnic at the Loughrey's
6-10 pm*

14.....*ET Barnette Homebrew
Competition Fox Alaska*

11.....*GNBC BBQ at Ira Edwards'
House 5 - 11ish*



CAFE



AMSTERDAM

Haines Beerfest: Revelry in the Rain

by Lisa Lamb

The 20th annual Great Alaska Craft Beer and Home Brew festival was celebrated in Haines over Memorial Day weekend. This annual event showcased the best of Haines; beer, hospitality, and dining. And, as with much of Alaska, getting there is half the fun.

Jim and I decided to fly to Juneau and take the MV Malespina ferry to Haines. The ferry was packed with people headed for Beerfest, including several familiar faces from GNBC and area breweries. Many folks from Juneau brought their mountain bikes and tents for the weekend. Judging for the home brewing competition started "as soon as the ferry gets in and everyone gets to the fairgrounds". Vans from Haines motels, and the Haines taxi van (\$5 for a trip anywhere in town), were waiting when the ferry pulled in. After checking into our room, we caught a ride with the motel van to the fairgrounds for judging. True to his word, Rob Miller, the competition organizer, waited until everyone on the list filtered in to the fairgrounds to begin judging. After judging, a pint or three at Haines Brewing, conveniently located on the fairgrounds, was in order. From the fairgrounds to the Captain's Choice Motel, where we stayed, was just about a mile walk, but we were graciously offered rides from John and Cyndi Trapp and Karl and Deb Morgan.

After a quick nap, it was back to the fairgrounds for the Brewer's dinner. The chef from the Fireweed Café, along with volunteer servers from all the local restaurants, served a wonderful five course dinner paired with 10 beers, representing many of the breweries in attendance, including the notorious 16-pound IPA from Haines Brewing. Steve Jayich's "Side A IPA" brewed by Alaskan Brewing, was served as one of two welcome beer courses. This American-style IPA was crisp, clean, and refreshing without being a palate-killer. Kudo's Steve for this wonderful beer!

The Brewer's dinner also offered each brewer whose beer was served the opportunity to speak about the beer, the beerfest, their attendance, or any other topic that they might choose. It was a lively atmosphere, made all the better by the excellent food, and logistical mastery that was displayed in serving 250 people quickly, efficiently, and with dishes at the appropriate temperatures.

Saturday brought cool, misty weather but that did not dampen the festivities. The Fish Pickers band provided lively bluegrass and country music to a friendly crowd that was intent on experiencing the best of Alaskan breweries and Yukon Brewing from Whitehorse. It was a particular treat to meet the brewer from Yukon Brewing and sample excellent pale ale and lager.

The festival ran from 1:00 – 5:00 affording plenty of time to drink beer and enough time for a hearty dinner afterward.

Restaurants were crowded, but festival-goers were patient and in good humor. Sunday, the Trapp's and Morgan's started the drive back to Anchorage. We spent a leisurely day walking around Haines, visiting local merchants, and catching up on our naps. Sunday evening, we boarded the ferry and waved goodbye to Haines.

Traveling by ferry is one of my favorite ways to get around Southeast Alaska. It's inexpensive, relaxing, and the views are unparalleled. The MV Malespina has a full cafeteria that serves hearty breakfast, lunch, and dinner, has a full bar area, and shows a movie for those folks who are tired of the scenery.

The Haines trip was a low-key way to get out of town for the Memorial Day holiday, without camping with the crowds on the Kenai Peninsula.

2012 Homebrewer of The Year Categories

Fur Rendezvous HBC

- Category 7
- Category 10
- Category 13
- Category 15
- Category 18
- Category 23

Snow Goose HBC

- Category 4
- Category 5
- Category 6
- Category 9
- Category 14
- Category 20

Anchor Town HBC

- Category 1
- Category 2
- Category 3
- Category 11
- Category 16
- Category 21

Equinox Mead HBC

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

Humpy's Big Fish HBC

- Category 8
- Category 12
- Category 17
- Category 19
- Category 22
- Side Challenge

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



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

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NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, July 10 Summer Picnic at the Loughrey's 6-10 pm