

December Meeting

When

TUESDAY, DEC. 8, 1998
 7:00 PM

What

EXTRACT BREWING WITH
 SPECIALTY GRAINS

ALSO

ANNUAL HOMEBREW
 SIX PACK EXCHANGE

PLUS

TASTING CLARK'S FINEST
 ALES AND LAGERS

Where

CLARK'S ALE HOUSE
 122 W. JEFFERSON ST.

If you would like more information about our club, please join us at one of our monthly meetings on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM. You can also call one of the officers listed on the back cover of this *Brewsletter* for more information. If you wish to join the club, simply send \$15 to:

THE SALT CITY BREW CLUB
 P.O. BOX 1935
 SYRACUSE, NY 13201-1935

and you will begin receiving the club newsletter. As a member of the club you will also be eligible for discounts on club activities such as tastings as well as discounts at local homebrewing shops.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

BY PETE KIRKGASSER

Our November meeting was held at Clark's Ale House. We sampled a couple of German lagers made by Tom LaBarge, a hard cider made by yours truly and Otter Creek's Octoberfest. Tim Hunt from "I'm Smart" of Syracuse gave us a discussion and slide presentation about the program. He had me try on a special set of "beer goggles" which simulate the effects of alcohol on your vision and equilibrium. It was difficult to see and to walk with them on. He offered us a club discount rate for joining the program (see page 5). After seeing through the beer goggles, I think that it is definitely worth the money. Anyone who is interested in more information about the "I'm Smart" program can call Tim directly at 471-3751.

We will be hosting a homebrew exchange at our December meeting. Bring in a bottle or a six pack of your homebrew and take home a similar quantity of someone else's homebrew. Please limit your exchange to no more than one six pack and make sure your bottles are labeled with your name and the style of your beer. Some members have also requested that members bring copies of their recipes to exchange with the beers. This is optional.

January's meeting will be the SCBC election night. Think about who you would like to nominate to be our club officers for 1999. Nominations will be taken at the December meeting to be put on the ballot for January. Feel free to call me any time if you have any questions, suggestions or just want to chat. Happy Brewing! Pete.

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SCBC BREWSLETTER

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 10, DECEMBER 1998

AHA CLUB COMPETITIONS

The American Homebrewers Association's Club-Only Competition program offers AHA registered homebrew clubs an opportunity to compete nationwide with other homebrew clubs. Each competition focuses attention on a specific style of beer or mead, giving clubs the opportunity to educate their members in these styles by focusing on them at club meetings or tasting events.

Upcoming competitions for 1999 have been scheduled as follows:

February: Category 23 - Specialty and Experimental Beers.

March: Category 2 - Belgian and French Style Ales (no lambics - these will be done in the year 2000).

May: Category 12 - Bock

August: Categories 25, 26 and 27 - Traditional Mead and Braggot, Fruit and Vegetable Mead, Herb and Spice Mead.

October: Category 9 - Porter

December: Category 10 - English and Scottish Style Strong Ales.

Please note that styles for club tastings are being coordinated with these competitions so that the club entries can be selected by the membership at a general club meeting rather than at a separate judging for each competition. If you have any questions on these competitions, please contact a club officer.

ROCHESTER PUB CRAWL

Unfortunately, the Rochester Pub Crawl had to be cancelled due to a lack of sign-ups. We are not sure if this was a bad idea or simply a bad time of the year with the holidays approaching. We'll give it another try in 1999 and see if there is enough interest then to make it successful. Stay tuned!

FUTURE CLUB EVENTS

Please note that the following list of planned future events is **tentative** and is provided here for your information and input. If you have ideas for future club events, please do not hesitate to share them with a club officer.

January: Regular meeting on the 12th. Location to be announced. Topic will be yeast culturing presented by club member Phil Stone. We will be tasting holiday beers and judging specialty and experimental beers for entry in the AHA Club Only Competition to be held in February. Voting for club officers and for adoption of the club by-laws will also be held.

February: Regular meeting on the 9th. Location to be announced. Topic is (tentatively) "All Grain Brewing". We will be tasting Stouts. Special event will be the club's annual homebrew competition on the 27th.. If interested in helping out, please contact a committee member (Andy Moon, Bernie Moon or Mick Barnes). May try the Rochester Pub Crawl again?

March: Regular meeting on the 9th. Location to be announced. Topic is (tentatively) "Hops". We will be tasting and judging Belgian and French Style Ales for entry in the AHA Club Only Competition to be held later in the month. SCBC Winter Party to be scheduled.

April: Regular meeting on the 13th. Tasting Bitters and ESB's.

May: Regular meeting on the 11th. Tasting and judging Bocks for the AHAC.O.C. to be held later in the month.

June: Regular meeting on the 8th. Tasting Pale Ales.

July: Regular meeting on the 13th. Tasting and judging Meads for the AHAC.O.C. to be held in early August.

August: Regular meeting on the 10th. Tasting Wheat Beers. Annual SCBC Summer Picnic.

September: Regular meeting on the 14th. Tasting and judging Porters for the AHAC.O.C. to be held in early October.

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ANNUAL SCBC "BREWOFF"

The Salt City Brew Club's Annual Homebrew Competition has been scheduled for Saturday, February 27, 1999. The committee is well under way with the planning for this event and five qualified beer judges have already been recruited. Additional volunteer help is still needed though to help make this event a great success. For those of you who are interested in helping out, please contact Andy Moon at (315) 656-8917 or Mick Barnes at (315) 474-8731.

The committee has been busy soliciting donations of prizes from a variety of sources. Participants already include L.D. Carlson, North Western Malts, F.X. Matt Brewing Company, Storey Publications, The Home Brewery and Empire Brewing Company among others. Prizes range from crystal mugs and brewing books to brewing grains and malt extracts.

So, if you haven't brewed a batch for the competition yet, there is still time. Don't be left out! Remember, anyone can win a homebrew competition (as has already been proven) but you can't win if you don't enter.

FROM THE EDITOR

In order to make the *Brewsletter* more representative of the group I invite anyone to send me articles or anything they might find of interest. This can include favorite recipe's, tips, bottle labels, reports on brew happenings, photo's of your favorite brew session... ANYTHING.

Submissions can be sent to me via email at fmh@thomasamerica.com or snail-mail at P.O. Box 92, Groton, NY 13073. If submissions are sent on disk or by email please save them as ASCII (dos) text as that seems to work best. If you don't have a computer, please type. If I can't read it...

Thank you for this opportunity and please let me know if you have any suggestions for improving the *Brewsletter*.

FRANK HEINE, EDITOR

DUES ARE DUE!!

Membership dues were due for everyone in September. As a courtesy to our members, we have continued to mail newsletters to all of last year's members without interruption but this cannot go on indefinitely. If you have not paid your 1999 dues by the end of this year, we will be forced to remove your name from our mailing list. Now, that is the last thing we want to do but, as you know, newsletters cost us money and we have to draw the line somewhere. If you haven't been to a meeting lately and are undecided about whether to renew, come to our December meeting and see what is going on. Better yet, run for one of the club officer positions or nominate a candidate. This is your club and the more you put into it the more you will get out of it. We look forward to seeing you again soon!

CLUB BY-LAWS

Your club officers have written a proposed set of by-laws to establish the rules by which the club can be governed. These by-laws set forth the purposes for which the club exists, the classifications of membership, method of voting, elections and duties of officers and the Board of Directors, handling of dues, organization of meetings, etc. Copies will be available at the December meeting for your review, questions, comments, etc. If you can't make the December meeting but do want to receive a copy, please contact Frank Heine and you will receive one by mail. In January, we will ask for a vote on their adoption.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The proposed by-laws call for the election of five club officers in January of each year: a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer and a Newsletter Editor. The floor will be open for nominations at the December meeting and a slate of officer candidates will be presented for election at the January meeting.

OUT OF TOWN VISITORS

Two gentlemen from Virginia were in the Central New York area on business last month and happened to stop in at Clark's for a sandwich and a beer. Much to their surprise and apparent enjoyment, they soon found themselves in the middle of a homebrew club meeting. Ron Smetek and Lou Von Kahle are certainly welcome to join us again if they have the opportunity!

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BREWING LOG SHEETS

Enclosed with this newsletter, you will find a blank "Brewing Log Sheet" which club member John Eckert has been kind enough to share with us. We suggest that you keep this one as your master and photocopy additional copies as you need them. If you are extract brewing, just fill out the heading including "Malt & Adjuncts" and then skip down to "Kettle Boil" and go on from there. For those of you who plan to enter brewing competitions in the future or just want to be able to replicate that one really excellent batch, good record keeping is going to be essential. If you have any questions on how to use the form, please catch up with John at a future club meeting.

THE BEER PRAYER

Our Lager
Which art in barrels
Hallowed be thy drink
Thy will be drunk (I will be drunk)
At home as it is in the pub
Give us this day our foamy head
And forgive us for spillages
As we forgive those who spill against us
And lead us not into incarceration
But deliver us from hangovers
For thine is the beer, the bitter and the lager
For ever and ever
Barmen

(submitted by Phil Stone)

THE FISHERMAN

Having arrived at the edge of the river, the fisherman soon realized that he had forgotten to bring any bait. Just then, he happened to see a little snake passing by who had caught a worm. The fisherman snatched up the snake and robbed him of his worm. Feeling sorry for the little snake with no lunch, he snatched him up again and poured a little beer down his throat and went about his fishing.

An hour or so later, the fisherman felt a tug at his pantleg. Looking down, he saw the same snake with three more worms in his mouth.

BREWERS TO THE RESCUE??

Dave King, newsletter editor for Brewers in the Endicott Region (BIER) is looking for help. He writes:

"OK, I've been at it for over a year now. I still can't figure out how to draft my ales at a good CO2 level and a reasonable temperature from my soda can kegs. I've settled in on about 37 degrees F and 12 PSI but that's really too cold for my English ales. If I go higher temperature, all I get is foam. If I drop the pressure, the brew gets flat. I've got about 10 feet of thin tubing on the tap and I open it full when serving. I'd like to get about 45 degrees F with decent (about 2 volumes) CO2. Ideas?"

Anyone who can offer suggestions to Dave, please feel free to email him at DKing99@AOL.COM or you can drop him a line at 617 Leon Drive, Endicott, NY 13760.

"A CALL TO ARMS"

A herd of buffalo can only move as fast as the slowest buffalo and, when the herd is hunted, it is the slowest and weakest ones at the back that are killed first. This natural selection is good for the herd as a whole because the general speed and health of the whole herd keeps improving by the regular culling of the weakest members.

In much the same way, the human brain can operate only as fast as the slowest brain cells. Excessive intake of alcohol, we all know, kills off brain cells but, naturally, it attacks the slowest and weakest brain cells first. In this way, regular consumption of beer eliminates the weaker cells, constantly making the brain a faster and more efficient machine. The result of this in-depth, epidemiological study verifies and validates the causal link between all weekend parties and on-the-job performance. It also explains why, after a few short years of leaving the university and getting married, most people cannot keep up with the performance of new graduates. Only those few that stick to the strict regimen of voracious alcoholic consumption can maintain the intellectual levels that they achieved during their university years.

So, THIS IS A CALL TO ARMS! As our country is losing its technological edge, we should not shudder in our homes....GET BACK TO THE BARS! QUAFF THAT PINT! Your company and your country need you to be at your peak and you shouldn't deny yourself the career that you could have. Be all that you can be. "24 hours in a day, 24 beers in a case....Coincidence?? I think not!

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SALT CITY BREW CLUB MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL
THE NEW MEMBERSHIP YEAR BEGINS SEPTEMBER 1, 1998
KEEP YOUR NEWSLETTER AND CLUB PRIVILEGES COMING!

Please renew (my) (our) SCBC membership for the 1999 club year:

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Enclose payment of \$15.00 per person or \$25.00 for two adults in the same household and mail to the club address listed below:

SALT CITY BREW CLUB, P.O. BOX 1935, SYRACUSE, NY 13201-1935

Salt City Brew Club Officers

PRESIDENT	PETE KIRKGASSER		437.1981
VICE-PRESIDENT	STEVE ESKHOLME		673.3945
TREASURER	RONALD TOOKE		699.6785
MEMBERSHIP	LISA CSICSEK		451.3888
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	FRANK HEINE	FMH@THOMASAMERICA.COM	898.5054
WEBMASTER	PETER VERHEYEN	PDVERHEY@DREAMSCAPE.COM	475.0012
CLUB LIBRARIAN	RONALD TOOKE		699.6785
LISTSERV GATEKEEPER	KIERAN O'CONNOR	KOCONNOR@SYR.EDU	449.2844

ALL TELEPHONE NUMBERS ARE IN THE 315 AREA CODE.
(EXCEPT FOR FRANK HEINE WHO IS IN 607)

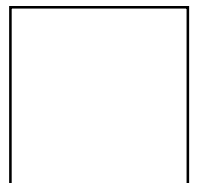
TO BE ADDED TO THE SCBC LISTSERV, PLEASE SEND AN EMAIL MESSAGE TO:

KOCONNOR@SYR.EDU

VISIT THE CLUB ON THE WEB, POINT YOUR BROWSER TO:
[HTTP://HBD.ORG/USERS/SCBC/](http://HBD.ORG/USERS/SCBC/)
(USE LOWERCASE CHARACTERS)

The Salt City Brew Club

P.O. Box 1935
SYRACUSE, NY 13201-1935



"ADDRESS CORRECTION AND FORWARDING REQUESTED"