



# BREWSLETTER

SALT CITY BREW CLUB of CENTRAL NEW YORK

April 2004

Volume 11

Issue 4

## The Perfect Pitcher

By Rudy Haas, club president

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Spring is here and I hope you are well into fulfilling your New Years resolution to brew more and different beers. The snow piles have long gone from around my house and this year there is a different view from my window. Not spring crocus, but piles of spent grain in the garden and brew barrel trub that didn't make it as far from the edge of the driveway as I thought. You guessed it, I've started all-grain brewing! This was made possible by the encouragement and support from fellow club members. One of the best benefits of club membership is the willingness of members to share their successful brewing styles and techniques with one another. National Homebrew day is Saturday May 1<sup>st</sup> and our club has planned an event hosted by Pete Kirkgasser. If you want to try your hand at a different style of brewing or compare techniques and samples, discuss the weather or take a break from yard work, call Pete for details or just stop by his place and see what going on.

Thanks again to Lee Turner for his Mead presentation and to Paul Shafer for the talk on Porter. Club members are encouraged to volunteer to give a short talk on a Brew topic.

Our club is still looking for someone to head up the Wine tour this fall. It's a popular event, so consider doing your share to support the club and let us know. Those of you that still need to catch up on your 2004 dues, see our club secretary Tim Butler at the next meeting.

**The next Salt City Brew Club meeting will be held at"**

This month's club-only competition is Extract only. Bring in any style and it may win the prize sponsored by E.J. Wren Homebrewing.

Mark your calendar for the Saranac brewery tour on April 17th. Plan to add your name to the sign up list at the next meeting. You need to bring your money to the April meeting since Pete needs the cash for the bus rental.

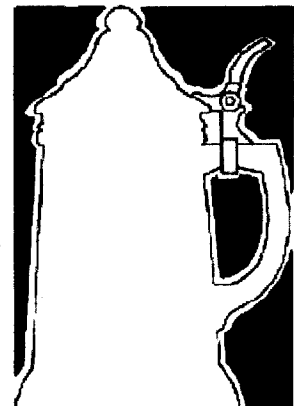


301 W. Fayette St.  
April 13<sup>th</sup>  
7pm

The April meeting presentation will feature Stout ales. Members will have a chance to match up three blind pours with styles presented in the lecture. This will be a chance to test your skills. The tasting will be a selection of styles from a variety of noteworthy producers that will be assured the produce a favorite for everyone.

Remember to support those merchants that support our club, E.J. Wren Homebrew, Kitty Hoynes Restaurant and Middle Ages Brewing Co. Remember to drink in moderation and don't hesitate to call "I'm Smart" if you're having too much fun.

I hope to see you all at our next meeting.  
Rudy



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### Regular Meetings:

The second Tuesday of every month. Everyone is welcome. See pg. 1 for current location.

## Secretary's Report

By Kevin Flood for Tim Butler, club secretary

Our March meeting opened with upcoming events including the Erie Canal Museum's exhibit on Brewing Beer in Upstate New York. They would like us to do brewing demonstrations between their opening April 2 and September 2. See related article on page 3. Other events are the Saranac tour (see page 3) and the Spring Fling at Bob DiCaprio's. Pete Koloski can get ribs if anyone is interested in cooking up the Porter Back Ribs outlined in last months Brewsletter.

Don Cazantre encouraged people to go to "Tap New York", the brewfest at Hunter Mountain, which will be held the last weekend in April. Great food and Great beer!

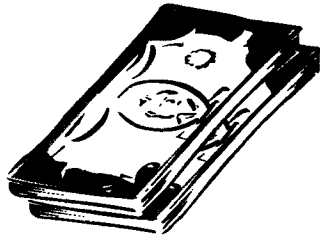
The club competition for dry stout (recipe in last month's issue) scheduled for May has been moved until June as the May meeting will be held at Middle Ages.

Lee Turner gave a through presentation on meads with many varieties to sample. The tasting style was porter with many commercial samples and many member brews. Paul Shafer discussed porters, his secret—no black patent, lots of chocolate malt, roasted barley, cara and English hops.

In the last brewsletter we discussed sending it out in e-mail (PDF) format and it was discussed at the meeting with no conclusion. This will be brought up again for discussion at April's meeting.

The SCBC would like to start sending out it's Brewsletter in e-mail (PDF) format starting in May. We will still be printing up hardcopies for handouts at various locations around the area. If you do not have access to e-mail, or cannot open PDF files, or prefer a hard copy, let Chris Sack know. He will be happy to mail a copy to your home.

## Erie Canal Museum



### Treasure's Report

By Frank Volcko, club treasurer

After today's deposit we have \$1766.46 in the club checking account. At this month's meeting we received \$64 in tasting fees, \$35 for the 50/50 raffle and \$20 for one membership renewal. The only expense we have had so far is the \$15 which was given as a tip to the wait staff at Kitty Hoynes

The Erie Canal Museum has a new exhibition that opened Friday evening, April 2<sup>th</sup>. Golden Reflections of the Erie Canal: Brewing Beer in Upstate New York explores the brewing industry that developed and flourished along the Erie Canal in the late 1800's. Artifacts, images, graphics and early brewery advertisements and memorabilia have been assembled from museums, private collections and brewery archives across the state to interpret this fascinating chapter of New York State history. The exhibit runs from April 2 through September 19, 2004. Museum hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm, Sunday, 10 am to 3 pm with Mondays by appointment for guided group tours.

The museum would like club members to do brewing demonstrations, maybe two a month. Beth Kendrick will have a calendar with proposed dates for members to sign up at April's meeting. The museum will provide a tented area outside with running water and cover your brewing supplies. Mick Barnes and Kevin Flood are picking a date. Mick has a propane burner that we will use and Mick will make it available to other members if needed.

### **Saranac Brewery Tour** Saturday, April 17, 2004

A Retro Road Trip on the "Magical" Yellow Bus (it disappeared on us the last time!)  
Departure from Shoppingtown Mall parking lot. This is the east lot that borders the Agway office tower site. Departure is planned for 10:30 am sharp. The bus won't wait. Call Rudy's cell phone at departure that morning (263-3672) if you cancel so we don't worry about you. As always, bring along you refreshments. A light lunch is planned at Sara-



### **State Fair Homebrew Competition:**

The confirmed date for the competition is Saturday, July 31<sup>st</sup>. Fees will remain \$8 for the first entry and \$5 for each additional entry. Only two bottles per entry are required. (There will also be a pre-judging session on Friday evening, July 30<sup>th</sup>.)

Bill Benz is still investigating drop-off locations, since this is a state-wide event and I hear he has found many. We will inform you as soon as the locations have been finalized. Mick Barnes is coordinating the club's sponsorship.

### **Other Competitions:**

The National Homebrew Competition Northeast 2004 has a call for judges and I'm sure steward's. The first round will be held in Rochester (Rohrbach Brewing Company), NY on Friday through Sunday, April 23—25. The judge coordinator is Doug Brainard. He can be reached at 585 621-1258, [dbrainar@rochester.rr.com](mailto:dbrainar@rochester.rr.com).

The Western NY Homebrew Competition, Amber Waves of Grain Competition will be held at the Flying Bison Brewing Company, Buffalo, NY on Friday May 14 and Saturday May 15, sponsored by the Niagara Association of Homebrewers. Entries are accepted between April 12 through May 12. Information is available at [www.niagarabrewers.org](http://www.niagarabrewers.org). They can probably use judges and stewards too.



**Here is another food recipe that would be perfect for the Spring Fling:**

**The Brewing News—Beer Chef's Corner**

Brian LaMora, head chef at the Malt River Brewing Co. in Latham, NY kindly shared this recipe with Brewing News Beer Chef. Keep in mind that these quantities may be restaurant sized, so adjust them accordingly.

**Texas Pale Ale Chili**

**Ingredients"**

1 quart pale ale  
2 cups chopped tomatoes  
6 cups chopped red and green bell peppers  
3 cups diced red onions  
1 cup diced fresh jalapenos  
1/2 cup chopped fresh garlic  
1 cup Cajun seasoning  
1/3 cup cayenne pepper  
1 quart water (Blasphemy)  
1/4 cup salt and pepper  
4 pounds stew beef or 90 % lean ground beef  
Roux (flour and butter mixture)

Caramelize onions and peppers in oil in a 2 gallon stock pot. Add garlic and seasonings and observe flavor. Add beef and remainder of ingredients. Cook for 2 hours and add roux (flour and butter mixture). Simmer and stir for an additional 10 minutes until thickened.



**I'm Smart  
of CNY**

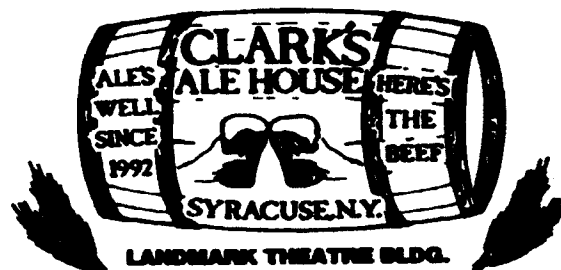
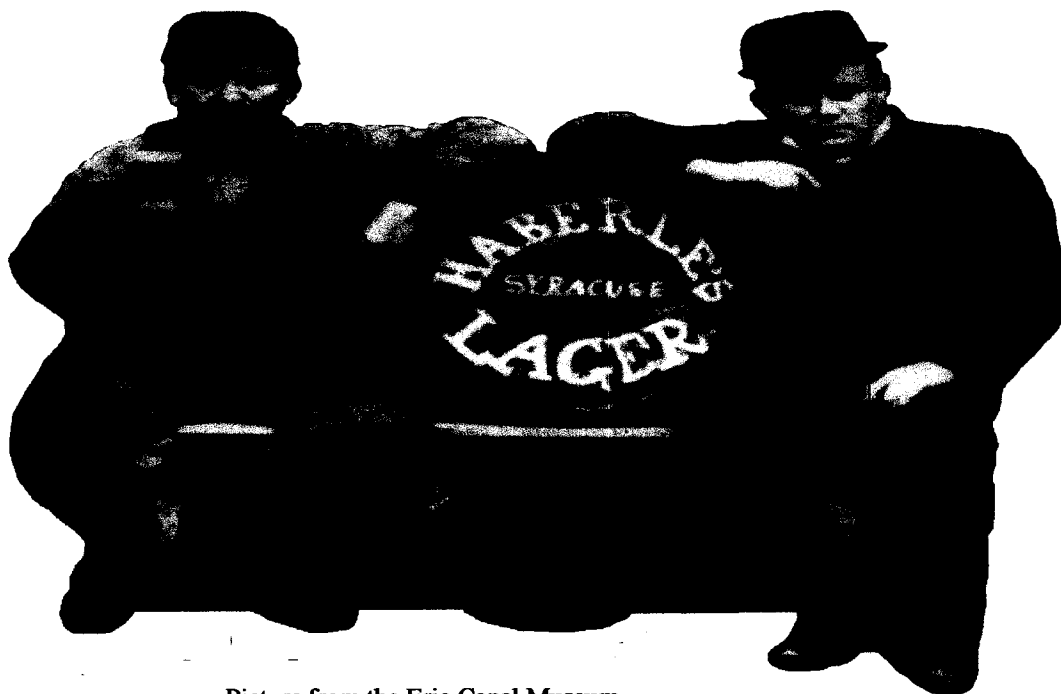


Photo from the Erie Canal Museum





Picture from the Erie Canal Museum

**April:**

- 13<sup>th</sup> - SCBC club meeting at Kitty Hoynes  
Tasting style—Stout  
Club only competition style - Extract only
- 17<sup>th</sup> - Saranac Brewery Tour

**May:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> - National Homebrewing day, hosted by Pete Kirkgasser
- 11<sup>th</sup> - SCBC club meeting at Middle Ages Brewing Co.
- 15<sup>th</sup> - Spring Fling, hosted by Bob DeCaprio

**June:** 8<sup>th</sup> SCBC club meeting at Kitty Hoynes, club only competition—Dry Stout

**July:** 31<sup>st</sup> - State Fair Homebrew Competition, Start brewing!

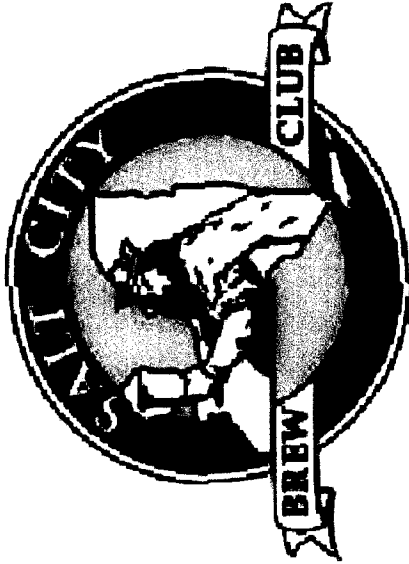
Next club meeting: April 13th  
at:

**Kitty Hoynes,**  
**301 W. Fayette St.**

Did You Know.....

....that George Washington was the first home-  
brewer elected President of the United States? (Is  
it a coincidence that he was arguably our finest?)

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**



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