



IS IT A PORTER OR A STOUT?

Brew Crew News

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The Presidential Pint

Mark Easton

I'm writing this month's newsletter article in a hotel lobby bar in Dallas while passing time by watching American idol, accompanied by strangers similarly out of place in this corporate world of macroeconomic service hospitality. Thankfully, I've been able to procure a Sierra Nevada Pale Ale and I'm thinking to myself that it usually doesn't get any better than this.

Wait, is that...? It is. They have Deschutes Black Butte Porter on tap, in the land of Shiner Bock (if you're lucky) and Bud Lite. What a great beer. Ok, I know. In a place like Portland where the next beer can almost always be something new and unusual we forget about the old standbys that started it all. But really, this is classic microbrew. I can't think of a better beer to "rediscover" as we prepare for Mr. Bill Schneller's class on porters and stouts at our February meeting. Think you know the difference between the two styles? Have you ever considered how time and influence affects somewhat similar styles over history? Not me. I'm just here for the lobby beer selection, finest in all Texas am I right?

Nah, I live for this stuff and still remember the BJCP class I took from Bill like it was yesterday. It should be a good time so I hope to see you there.

For those of you who didn't make it to our January meeting, you missed a good one. A thousand thanks and a big sour high five to Ron Gansberg and Preston Weesner for a great presentation on the incredible things they are doing over at the Cascade

Brewing Barrel House. I'm not going to be shy about this folks: **Drink Cascade beer!** I love Cascade Brewing and with a little luck and some warmer temperatures, the club hopes to visit the Cascade guys soon in their natural wild habitat. Stay tuned.

Most of you probably know that we rolled out our new website recently. In addition to a new platform to showcase our club, this software is also managing our membership database. Your membership accounts are now fully accessible for you to make updates, renewals and of course keep track of everything Brew Crew. We even take credit cards! Can you believe it? On top of that we are making a conscious effort to make frequent updates to the site so I hope you check in often. By the way, most noteworthy information will be posted on the website well before newsletters are published. The latest information and the lowest fares can always be found on oregonbrewcrew.org.

I would like to finish by publically thanking each and every one of our board members for their time and dedication to our club since we took office on January 1st. It's quite humbling to be associated with fellow volunteers that also care so much about this club. I've already asked a lot of this board as we turn this ship into the wind and they've all taken it in stride. I hereby proclaim February Stout, Porter, and hug a board member month!

And with that, I'm going to get back to Idol. Man, I need another beer after that guy. **Cheers,**

Mark

Secretary's Report

Dan May

OBC January Meeting Notes

These notes for January 13th OBC meeting at Steinbarts were taken by James Watt for Dan May (thank you, James!)

Meeting started at 7:42 with an Introduction by Mark Easton and an overview of what is being planned for the club meetings for the next few months.

Chris Hummert then talked about the latest status of the OLCC legislation. Members need to contact their senators regarding Senate Bill 444. Earliest introduction possibly February, latest possibly June.

Mark then talked about the Newsletter and dues. He proposed to move dues to January and be pro-rated. Introduction of new website where you can join or re-new using a credit card.

The proposal to rotate the membership schedule to January was put to the vote and Passed with a show of hands.

The proposal to prorate new members and have them pay full membership if joining November or December for next year; (effectively 2 months free) was put to the vote and Passed with a show of hands.

Jeremie Landers talked about the Collaborator Project with Widmers. It will be announced in February for June. He gave a brief overview of

the Collaborator project and the McCracken scholarship fund for new members.

Mark then talked about the possibility of a dues increase to cover more educational activities and having a higher reserve for a rainy day. It was given to the membership to think about with no specific proposals put forward.

Educational Portion:

Ron and Preston from Cascade Barrel House gave a presentation and tasting of their sour beers. The membership got to taste a base beer and then blended some sour cherry and apricot barrel aged beers with the base.

Ron and Preston talked about types and methods of propagating the right bacteria. The board is looking at a possible out meeting at Cascade with a blending class.

Mark thanked the visitors and presented them with some specialty beers as a gift.

The members were told there were gift tags placed randomly under three seats and to look under their seat. Three members took home some unusual gifts!

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm.

Immediately after the meeting, Jason Rizos presented Ron Gansberg from Cascade Barrel House the special Sour Bung for their presentation.

**FEBRUARY
IS PORTER
& STOUT
MONTH**



February's style of the month is Porter or Stout! Please feel free to bring some commercial examples of these beer styles to enjoy at the meeting.

We humbly remind you to bring some beer of your own if you intend to sample others.

A Message From The Treasurer

Chad Hicks

Hi all! This first month sure went by fast.

We're well on the way to implementing a new and improved way of checking in, as I'm sure you've seen by now. The new website is up and running and we're working on setting up membership cards for everyone in the club, so stay tuned in the coming weeks for more changes! If you haven't received an email invite to the new site, it's possible we have a typo in the records or maybe an old email address for you on file. Please feel free to email either Mark or myself and we'll make sure you get updated in the system.

In the meantime, I want to take a moment to address a feature currently lacking at our site. While we are diligently working to set up the

ability for you to pay your dues online, the software we are using simply cannot scale partial year dues. I would ask that if you are a current member needing renewal to please make arrangements to either pay at the meeting or mail the check in. As we said in the January meeting, we are going to prorate dues for the coming year in anticipation of moving to a January renewal date for all members. If you have any questions about how much your dues will be for the rest of the year, send me an email at chad.hicks@oregonbrewcrew.org and I will let you know the amount due. If you've lapsed over 3 months ago and want to rejoin, you will need to apply as a new member on the website.

Thanks, and happy February!

Zwickelmania-Oregon Brewery Tour

Saturday, February 19th, 2011 from 11-4 pm

On February 19th from 11 am to 4 pm, breweries across Oregon will open their doors to the public for Zwickelmania. While breweries all over the state are participating, at least twenty eight breweries, tasting rooms and brewpubs will be active in the Portland metro area.

For some breweries it is the only day of the year they are open to tours and many will have brewers on hand to talk about their wares, in addition to offering samples of the beer. This is a fantastic opportunity for brewers of all levels to see the workings of your favorite local joint and ask questions.

On top of all that, there will be two shuttle buses running, one focused on the downtown/northwest section of Portland, the other on southeast, that will take participants around the area to breweries for free, from the time Zwickelmania starts until it ends at 4pm.

For more information, check out the Oregon Brewer's Guild website, <http://oregonbeer.org/zwickelmania/>. It lists participating breweries, specials, bus times and even has a suggested itinerary for the indecisive amongst us.



Educational Corner

What is the difference between stout and porter? The BJCP divides stout into 6 distinct substyles - porter has three substyles. But are porters and stouts really that different? For much of their history, the terms porter and stout were used almost interchangeably. In fact our distinctions between the two are fairly recent. At the February meeting, we'll talk about the history of these two intertwined styles and we'll taste several examples blind to explore the distinctions. We'll also talk more generally about how we define styles and how styles change over time.

Let me know if you have questions.

Thanks,

Bill Schneller

billschneller@gmail.com

GET YOUR OLCC ALCOHOL SERVICE PERMIT!

Some events and festivals require a Alcohol Service Permit to volunteer. If you don't already have yours, it is easy to get! Just follow these easy steps:

1. Complete a Permit Application (Don't forget to print two copies):

http://www.oregon.gov/OLCC/service_permits.shtml#Alcohol_Service_Permit_Application_And_Instructions

2. Take the course and pass the exam. It is now offered online for only \$25 at orefoundation.org

3. Submit one application to the OLCC with a check or money order for \$23. The second copy is your temporary permit while you wait for the permanent one.

4. Receive your shiny new Permit in the mail from the OLCC-good for 5 years!

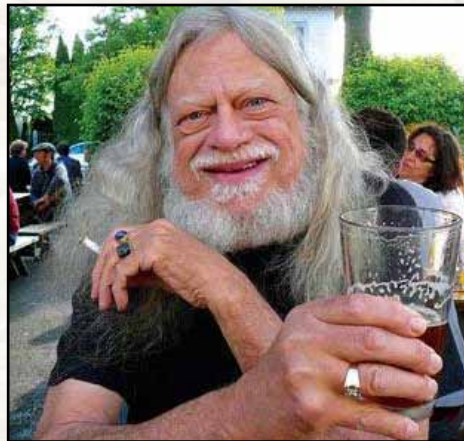
In Memorial

Don Younger, July 11, 1941 to Jan. 31, 2011

Portland publican Don Younger, who owned the world famous Horse Brass Pub, created Oregon Craft Beer Month and championed Oregon's beer industry early and long, is dead at 69.

"There's a huge hole this morning," said beer writer Lisa Morrison, whose weekly "Beer O'Clock" radio program keeps tabs on the Oregon scene. "He was the heart of Beervana, and not just Portland, he touched so many people in one way or another: if you've ever enjoyed a craft beer, you have Don Younger to thank in some way."

"More than anybody I've ever known," said



Carl Singmaster, who owns the Southeast bottle shop Belmont Station with Younger, "Don lived his life exactly the way he wanted, but he didn't do that by stepping

on anybody — we'd all be amazed if we knew all the people he's helped without ever putting his name on it. But he lived his life exactly the way he wanted to."

"I appreciated that he was not only supportive with us," said Kurt Widmer, "but that he would talk us up to other retailers, tell them, 'Hey these Widmer boys are doing some good things, you should try

their beers..."

Cheers Don, save us a bar stool.

Article accredited to John Foyston

OR Homebrew Law - We Need YOU!

As I'm sure you know, last summer the OLCC ruled that many of the activities that OR homebrewers have engaged in for years were not legal. Things like homebrew competitions, clubs brewing in collaboration with commercial brewers, and even transporting homebrew outside of your home were found to be outside the scope of the current law. There is now a bill before the Oregon Legislature to correct these issues. Senate Bill 444 is written by Sen. Floyd Prozanski, a homebrewer, with input from the Oregon Homebrewers Alliance and the American Homebrewers Association. This bill will legalize all the things we have been doing for years. You can read the the bill and the amendments we have added to it at <http://oregonhomebrewersalliance.org/>. We need your help to pass this bill and we need it now! On Thursday, Feb. 10 the bill will be presented to the Business, Transportation, and Economic Development Committee, who will decide if it will go forward to the entire Senate. I'll be there to testify, as will other homebrewers, commercial brewers, and possibly AHA representatives. Before then we need you and your club members to do a few things....

1. Go to our website and read the bill and amendments
2. Use our website to find out how to contact your local representatives
3. email, write or call your representatives and tell them you support SB444 and you want them to support it also
4. Send me a letter on behalf of your club expressing your support for SB444. Just email it to me at this email address. I'll present these letters to the committee during my testimony

5. To get this done, and to get it done quickly, we need as many homebrewers, homebrew clubs, homebrew supply shops, professional brewers and other supporters to let the folks in Salem know we want them to vote for this bill. We want you to write letters, but we also need something compact but impressive to show we have a lot of people, businesses and organizations behind us. All we need to do that is your name. If you support this bill (and we sure hope you do), just let us know. Send us an e-mail telling us you want this bill passed, tell us your name, the name of your club, business or organization and where you're at and we'll add you to a list we'll present to legislators to let them know who has our back.

We hope to have separate lists of clubs, businesses, organizations and individuals who want this passed. But you don't have to be a homebrewer or member of the homebrew community to support this bill. Anyone who appreciates the ability to pursue our hobbies and other interests in a responsible way without government supervision or interference in invited to sign on. We appreciate your help.

Send an e-mail to any of the OHBA organizers and we'll get you on the list. The organizers are:

Ted Hausotter,

ted@oregonhomebrewersalliance.org

Denny Conn,

denny@oregonhomebrewersalliance.org

Chris Hummert,

chris@oregonhomebrewersalliance.org

Greg Bolt,

greg@oregonhomebrewersalliance.org

The time is short, so do it NOW!

Thanks for your support.

Denny Conn

on behalf of the Oregon Homebrewers Alliance

Competitions Are Coming Back...Soon!

Jeremie Landers

“As you likely have heard, current state law is such that homebrewers may not transport their brew anywhere outside the home. We all agree this is a bad thing for many reasons, especially since it prevents competitions from being held. Last year’s Competition Chair and this year’s Vice-President, Chris Hummert has made great strides working with legislators to help rewrite these outdated and tersely written laws. The state’s congressional session starts shortly and new bills for introduction may pass quickly correcting these defective laws but not soon enough for most of those with the competitive spirit. Take heart; there will be competitions in the near future. When the laws officially change, I’ll post a list of upcoming OBC-sponsored and AHA-related competitions for the remainder of the year.

One top competition to look forward to is the coming Collaborator project in June, likely coming on the heels of the homebrew law changes. Yearly, the Collaborator Project receives entries exclusively from homebrewers in the Oregon Brew Crew. These entries are judged by industry professionals and homebrewers alike to determine whether they meet the high standards deserving of beers brewed on Widmer’s pilot system for commercial release. Some particularly notable winners go on to be poured at the Oregon Brewer’s Festival and the Spring Beer and Wine Festival. Since these are the two events from which we derive our biggest and most generous contributions (one great reason to volunteer to help pour for them, hint hint...) being represented at these events is fantastic PR for the Brew Crew. Some of the elite recipes even go on to be brewed and entered at the Great American Beer Festival in Colorado!

The Collaborator Project has numerous releases at local pubs and there is frequently a

Collaborator on tap at the Widmer Gasthaus. From every barrel (two kegs) of Collaborator beer sold, Widmer Brothers donates \$4 (!!!) to the Bob McCracken Scholarship Fund, benefiting the OSU Food and Fermentation Sciences program with a yearly grant of \$500. This fund, thanks to myriad yearly donations from Widmer and other sources, has recently achieved self-sustenance!

It can now be announced that, provided the homebrew laws have change in time, entries for Collaborator this year will be accepted from the June OBC meeting to the Saturday after, June 9th through 11th up until 1 p.m. (Steinbart’s closing time on Saturday). Submit **ONLY** the BEST of the best of your brew. You may find you have what it takes to be the next Collaborator. Full details will be shown on the Collaborator page (to be updated soon) on the new OBC website, oregonbrewcrew.org.

I’ve also heard tell that there’s a notable local event called Portland Cheers to Belgian Beers going on that has not only professional brewers competing for top honors with the Wyeast 3878 Trappist High Gravity yeast, but homebrewers are also entering their yeast samples for analysis as well. Supposedly there’s a virtual dart toss going on where you can throw a virtual dart by picking two numbers between 1 and 10 (they can both be the same) and submitting this “toss” to competition@oregonbrewcrew.org, where it will find its way into the hands of the organizers. Something about dropping of your yeast samples at Lucky Lab on NW Quimby between April 19th and 22nd also comes to mind. Sounds fun!

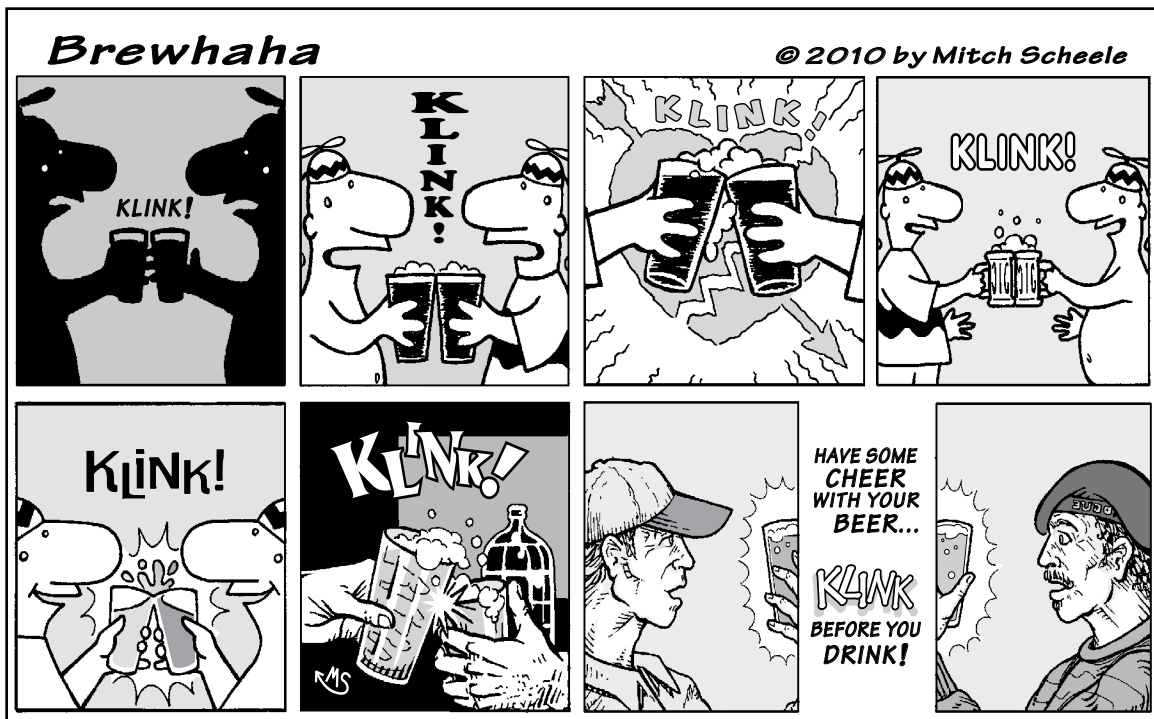
If you have any questions, comments, concerns, feel free to me at competition@oregonbrewcrew.org. I’ll do the best I can to address your concerns. Game on fellow homebrewers!”

Special Announcements



The next general meeting for the Oregon Brew Crew is scheduled for Thursday, February 10th at F.H. Steinbart Co. at 7:00 pm.

Our own Bill Schneller will discuss the difference between stouts and porters.



Check out the new Oregon Brew Crew website.
www.oregonbrewcrew.org

ON THE MENU...

Baguettes, cheese and crackers will be available at the meeting for those who did not have a chance to eat before hand.



Mark Your Calendars!

FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

APRIL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

FEBRUARY 10 **FEBRUARY OBC MEETING**
F.H. Steinbart Co.

FEBRUARY 14 **VALENTINE DAY WITH FRED**
Beer and Chocolate Tasting @ Rogue

FEBRUARY 19 **3RD ANNUAL ZWICKELMANIA**
Various Locations

MARCH ?? **MARCH OBC MEETING**
Out meeting TBD

APRIL 10 **APRIL OBC MEETING**
TBD

APRIL 22-23 **SPRING BEER & WINE FEST**
Oregon Convention Center



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