

HEART OF THE VALLEY HOME BREWERS

**This is the HOTV Brewsletter
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PRESIDENT: Scott Caul
VICE-PRESIDENT: position vacant
NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Mare Goeger
TREASURER: Scott Leonard
FESTIVAL DIRECTOR: Scott Caul

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

The Heart of the Valley Homebrew Club meets on the third Wednesday of each month, alternating between Corvallis and Albany. In lieu of our next meeting, the club will be celebrating the holidays on Friday, December 9 (about 7PM) with its annual Christmas party. Usually, no business is taken up at this event. Instead, come prepared to enjoy a potluck supper, Beer and Chocolate Pairings with chocolate hand-made by our own Bill Baxter, Name-That-Beer (better study because last year's winner Ron Hall will be dastardly in designing this contest), and Ring Toss emceed by Michael Villiardos. As for beer selections, our VP Matt Arsenault recently relocated to Massachusetts. He has left a double IPA and a bourbon-barrel-aged Russian Imperial Stout for our enjoyment. In addition, the club will be furnishing a keg of Yankee Clipper from Oregon Trader. Come ready for fun and to drink responsibly, have a designated driver, or bring a sleeping bag, there's lots of room to crash.

Directions to Sam's house:

1875 NE Noble, Corvallis, OR 97330 (758-3563, 715-7635-W).

From Albany, follow Hwy 20 toward Corvallis. Turn right on Seavy Avenue, right again on Seavy Circle, then right on Noble. Follow Noble all the way to the end (it makes a 90 degree turn half way there). 1875 Noble is the last house on the left. From Corvallis, well, to say the least it's tricky. According to Sam, he usually takes Hwy 99 (the northern continuation of 3rd Street). Turn right on Walnut, left at Conser, an immediate right on Seavy Avenue, then left on Seavy Circle and a right on Noble. Follow Noble all the way to the end (it makes a 90 degree turn half way there). 1875 Noble is the last house on the left. This round-about route allows you to avoid the problem of "no left turn" from Hwy 20 onto Seavy Avenue when you're heading away from Corvallis.

LAST MONTH'S MEETING

John Sterner welcomed a large group to his Albany home in November. Our trusty president Scott Caul, being unavailable for that evening, appointed Joel Rea to direct the meeting. The agenda included Holiday Party details, organization of a late-Winter / early-Spring pub crawl, quarterly litter pick-up, discussion on the club's internet provider, and election of 2006 officers.□

First and foremost, we have an almost completely new slate of officers who were□ elected unanimously. Congratulations to the

PREZ's CORNER

by the one and only Scott Caul

How many years have I been doing this? However many it was, I've had a blast as HOTV President. Although a lot has changed over the years, much has stayed the same. I first became a member shortly after moving to□ Corvallis in 1997. Since then, I've made a lot of friends, gained a lot of knowledge, had some of the best times, and put on a few pounds. Mmmm...beer... I am grateful for the opportunities this club has given me and even more-so for the friendships that will last a lifetime. Thank you all for making this club what it is, we should all be proud. Now, since that's over, who's going to get off their butts and make a commitment to the 2006 Oregon Homebrew and Microbrew Festival? I will start recruiting in January. If we're going to pull off another big bash, I'm going to need a lot of help. I know there are enough of you folks out there to make it work, so watch for my pleas for help next month! Finally, I wish the best of luck to our new batch of officers. Ahoy Malloy will,□ no doubt, do a fantastic job. VP Royal will do a bang up job with...what does the VP do again? I look forward to Ron Hall's newsletters. And Mr. Leonard has proven himself as a top notch Treasurer. Thanks for giving your time to our club. Thanks also to all those who have volunteered to take on supporting roles, past present, and future. You're all the best! Happy Holidays!

TRY BEFORE YOU BUY

Tom Parker has recently purchased a beer gun which is an alternative to the conventional counter pressure filler like the club has for□ member use. Tom has been kind enough to offer to let club members borrow his equipment to see if they like it before taking the ~\$75 plunge and purchasing their own. Contact Tom at Congatom@yahoo.com (or 541/829-9256) for more info.

YOU'VE GOT TILL THE END OF THE YEAR

submitted by Scott Bruslind

Wynkoop Brewing Company (Denver, Colorado) is looking for the 2006 Beerdrinker of the Year. The annual contest honors the most passionate, knowledgeable beer lover in the United States. Could that person be one of your patrons?

Beerdrinker of the Year candidates have until December 31, 2005 to send their beer resumes to Wynkoop. Resumes must include each entrant's beer drinking philosophy and details highlighting their passion for beer.

This year Wynkoop has increased the winnings for the title, and expanded its search to include the nation's leading beer bars. The 2006 Beerdrinker wins free beer for life at Wynkoop Brewing Company, and \$250 (up from the previous amount of \$100) of beer at their local brewpub, beer bar or brewery tasting room.

The local beer establishment of the winner gets featured in all publicity regarding the 2006 Beerdrinker of the Year. (They also get the

following people:

President: Jerry Malloy
Vice-president: Royal Willard
Treasurer: Scott Leonard
Newsletter editor: Ron Hall
Festival director: Scott Caul

Additionally, a non-elected position, that of litter patrol coordinator, has been passed on to Kristen Taylor. She will be learning the ropes at the December 17 pick-up, and taking over beginner Spring quarter. Many thanks to Kristen for volunteering.

A long-awaited pub crawl is looming just around the corner. Joel Rea has offered to organize a trip. It will most likely take place the Sunday of President's Day weekend, giving those who get the Monday off a chance to recuperate. More details to come as they develop. The discussion of internet provider service for our club is still on the table. Lots of ideas, but nothing concrete yet.

DUES ARE ON SALE NOW!

Pay your 2006 dues by December 31st, and you'll get a bargain basement price of \$12. Miss the deadline and the price goes up to \$15. So what does this tell us? Bring your checkbook, cash or money order to the Holiday Party at Sam's.

HOLIDAY ALE FESTIVAL

for you who missed the party train

Wow. More than 25 holiday seasonal beers from local breweries and a bunch of Belgians and the like from the "Big Boy Bar" were yours for the tasting at Portland's Holiday Ale Festival. A huge group of HOTVers and their friends took the Amtrak Cascades up and back on Dec 3rd. We detoured from the Portland train station to House of Louis for dim sum so everyone had a "full stomach" buffer against too many tastes taking their toll. We sipped brews all afternoon before heading out to dinner for the return trip (balloons, Xmas lights, hats included) There will be plenty of digital pics around if you want to see what you missed.

HOTV CLUB EQUIPMENT

by Joel Rea

Our club has brew gear that is available for members to use. All of the items reside at Corvallis Brewing Supply. There is a one week check out limit unless pre-arranged with the equipment dude...that would be me.

- RIMS (Recirculating Infusion Mash System) Due to the tenacity of this piece of equipment I would strongly suggest that you have a training brew session with someone who has experience in using it. Scott Caul has in the past been gracious to hold open house brewing sessions with this fine piece (of equipment) usually several times of the year.
- Motorized Grain Mill
- CO₂ kit - Includes CO₂ bottle, regulator and tool box full of draft parts
- Oxygen Bottle and Infusion Stone
- Counter Pressure Bottle Filler
- Low-Pressure Burner with tank
- 12 gallon Stainless Steel Liquor Tank
- 15 gallon Stainless Steel Mashtun / Lautertun
- Bench Capper
- 10 gallon Cornelious Keg
- AHA Style Guidelines Books 1-8

If you have a piece of equipment that is collecting dust and you would like to donate it to the club please let me know.

immense pride of having a customer as the winner, and a groovy plaque for their place.)

Please share details of the search with your most beer-minded patrons.

The top three entrants get flown to Denver (at Wynkoop's expense) for the Beerdrinker finals on February 25, 2006. The three finalists will be queried by a panel of judges (comprised of the nation's best beer minds and previous Beerdrinker winners) who pick the 2006 Beerdrinker of the Year.

Beerdrinker of the Year resumes can be sent by mail to:
The Beerdrinker of the Year
Wynkoop Brewing Company
1634 Eighteenth Street
Denver, Colorado 80202

Beer resumes created in Word can be emailed to Wynkoop Brewing Company (sent as an email attachment) to jamien@wynkoop.com

For complete contest details, more information, and a look at the beer resume of 2005 Beerdrinker of the Year, Tom Ciccateri (home pub: Founders Restaurant & Brewery, in Alexandria, Virginia) visit www.wynkoop.com



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EVENTS CALENDAR

Dec 9 HOTV Winter Party at Sam Holmes' house

Dec 17 Winter Litter Patrol. 11am Hyak Park

AHA CLUB-ONLY COMPETITIONS

Here is the latest list for AHA Club-only competitions. Dave Benson will be coordinating mailings of HOTV's top beer to these categories. Bring your entries to the club meeting indicated, and our top-notch judges will choose the best entry for sending in. We've done pretty well in the past, let's try and out-do Strange Brew in number of points scored.

Feb '06 Big Beautiful Belgians, Entries due 2/4/06, bring to January mtg

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