

Hello HOTV!

Please enjoy this edition of the HOTV Newsletter.

Presidents Corner



Greetings fellow members!

I hope this winter is treating you well. My family has been hit with various sicknesses so I haven't been able to brew much but hopefully we are on the mend.

Brew on HOTV,
Carrie

Secretary's Corner

Happy New Year! I'm pleased to serve as the Secretary for the Heart of the Valley AHA club for the 2016 year and look forward to engaging with club members and the community in the name of good company and good beer! I moved to Corvallis in the summer of 2014 from Kansas City to start an internship and work towards being admitted to Oregon State's Environmental Engineering graduate program. I was raised in Arkansas, and enjoy the plethora of outdoor opportunities here in the Willamette Valley and nearby Coast and Cascades. Thanks for the opportunity to contribute to this great organization! – Chris Cotton,
cscotton89@gmail.com

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Christmas Party

Report by Karen Hans

The Holiday Party was a huge success. We all had a good time and nobody got arrested! Over 40 HOTV member, family, and friends came to Louis and Karen's place. We set up in the shop with some mega heaters and the place was toasty warm. I was so busy eating all the fabulous food, I forgot to take a picture of the table full of appetizers, salads, main dishes, and desserts. We had our traditional games, Ring Toss and Name that Beer, and Bill Baxter hosted a special offering of beer and chocolate pairings. Louis and I really enjoyed hosting the party!



Great food and company started the evening



Name that Beer was hosted by Christiana and Bill.



I was so busy playing the ring toss I forgot to take a picture until most of the beer was won. Thanks to Joel at Corvallis Brewing Supply, and member donations, we had over 50 beers at the start.

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Monthly Meeting Minutes

Well, things got underway at Deluxe Brewing the night of January 20th with the club's first meeting of the new year. Major topics of discussion were the proposal and passing of the club budget, discussion of the educational opportunities our club is looking to foster, and the planning of the Oregon Homebrew Fest among other topics.

Budget: Looking back on a successful year, the club of 40 paying members supported efforts that raised approximately \$29,000 for local charities! After discussion amongst the board, club treasurer Patrick Gorman shared a detailed outline for expected income and expenses for the 2016 year. Due to an increase in funding, several budget items will see a boost this year including the purchase of a one barrel club brew system and a boost to the educational fund (i.e. brewery tours, BJCP training events, conference stipends, etc.)!

Education Fund: The former HDTV board president will act as the club's 2016 education chair member. Ron shared his vision for enriching club member knowledge. He has offered his expertise on interpreting the recently approved 2015 BJCP guidelines which have presented their own set of challenges to brewers as a previous 23 categories have now expanded to 40. Ron also wants to coordinate Beer Judge certification for interested club members (this will likely expand to include mead and cider certifications as well), which has also had recent changes including an online component for examination. If you have any suggestions for educational opportunities for the club please contact Ron Hall.

Oregon Homebrew Fest (OHF): Evelyn Squire will act as the competition coordinator for the 2016 OHF. As of the latest OFH committee meetings, the competition will be held on May 21st (Third weekend in May), and the location is pending. Patrick Gorman will serve as the Registrar for the event, Dan Rickli will serve as the Head Steward, Jon Sterner stepped up at the meeting to become the Judge Coordinator, and Barry Cooper volunteered to secure donations for participating judges and the raffle that will be held for them. We will need plenty of volunteer participation from the club as the event gets closer so please consider keeping your calendar open that weekend. This will be a great opportunity to see and assist with the judging process as well as provide opportunity to get familiar with the new BJCP guidelines. Contact Evelyn at ohf@hotv.org with inquiries or time commitments.

Additional Meeting Topics:

- Club Brew Day – OSU collaborative barrel project: Dan Rickli will be the point person for this exciting event in which a group of brewer's will be able to join the staff at the OSU fermentation sciences department for to brew an Old Ale on their pilot system. Per university regulations, yeast cannot be pitched on campus by mere local home brewers so the plan is to transfer wort to Patrick's basement for primary fermentation and then transfer into a barrel(s?) for secondary fermentation after a few months. Assuming that Patrick doesn't finish the barrel himself, we would hope to let the beer age for up to a year before bottling it off and distributing back to local collections. Dan Rickli, dan.rickli@gmail.com, will follow up with more sign up information and dates.
- Pacific Northwest Homebrew Conference: This event began as an alternative to Seattle's homebrew fest. The conference will take place March 3-5 (Thurs. – Sat.) and will include a home brewer's and professional brewer's night as well as a line-up of speakers and tastings. The club board has expressed an interest in having representation at the conference, and possibly having members set up with a jockey box to serve HDTV homebrew. Contact hotv@hotv.org if you have any interest in representing the club at this event.
- Club Equipment Needs a Home! There is a collection of club purchased/commandeered equipment that has been graciously stored by Joel Rea at Corvallis Brewing Supplies for some time and the club is looking for an opportunity to find a good home for any or all of the following: counter pressure fillers, Cajun style double burner, and parts for a RIMS system. Inquiries can be directed to Patrick via email: pgorman@moonpeak.net

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Board Meeting Minutes

HOTV Board Meeting January 18, 2016

- Ron Hall – outgoing board member

Board President

-Nominees: Armand Schoppy, Seconded, wins

-discussion about whether or not president and three year term should be considered together. Armand will follow up

Report about OHF options

- Date is set for Saturday May 21, 2015.

- BJCP has moved and approved 2015 style guidelines. 28 categories become 40. Many rearrangements have occurred, slight clarifications to styles, etc. Does this mean we need new software or we can update? New table signs will be needed, new style guidelines will need to be printed.

- Ribbons? Thoughts are working towards limiting number of ribbons/placements that are going to happen. Combination of different categories to condense to ~25 categories + some for meads, ciders.

- Looking at splitting IPA category, and combining others. Patrick mentioned that there are condensing recommendations. AHA provides proposed groupings (mix of categories/subcategories.) Patrick mentioned that we need to make these critical decisions for the competition software within ~2 months of competition date for planning purposes.

- Armand: we are an MCAB qualifier, what is required? Ron: They are abiding by 2015 guidelines, but we will double check.

- Clarifying Ribbons: Carrie: possibly just 1st place for all categories, other possible prizes or recognition for 2nd and 3rd place entries.

***We are going to go by the new guidelines, to decide on our categories we will likely look at recommendations provided by AHA/BJCP.**

- Location, location, location: Looking for new place for 2016. Options: Deluxe – this would mean bringing food and tables.

- What draws judges? Ron believes that something with a central location hold a lot of weight. Evelyn has been looking at Oddfellow's Hall, which Armand says will not charge a non profit (504 c.) or rather they waive the clean up fee, but charge for lights, electricity.

- Howie at Deluxe is happy to host, he won't be present.

-As for leaving Calapooia, we need to inform them of complete venue switch.

-Wednesday event: looking at doing it at a club member's house.

-Limiting entries: by way of capping entry number or by way of charging more by entries outside of "greater pacific northwest region"?

-Outside of region entries provide trouble with packaging, unpacking, etc. If we up-charge, is this discriminatory?

- If we limit registration, will this inhibit those who may be closer?

- We need to decide if online registrations equate to actual entries that show up... In the past we have had ~20% of online entries not show up.

- Focus should be on deciding a number of entries to limit comp. to so that we can sufficiently get the judges we need...

- Armand: If we are going to limit the number of entries, then Paypal will be mandatory, and a refund will not happen.

- We need to work on a limit between 250 and 260 entries. Big factor is competition fatigue for judges in the peak competition season.

- Judge Coordinator: Jon Sterner, Evelyn reaches out to outside judge. Jon speaks up and says he can most likely do, Ron says he can stand in as second for Judge coordinator.

- What can we sweeten the pot with? Raffle for judges only, they are given a ticket and can pick from an assortment of items as their tickets are pulled. Possible to still solicit prizes. Possibilities for beer, star san, yeast packets. ** must make sure we follow up with thank you's for donors.
- Armand is ready to ride asses. Entry limit? Definitely. Tiered fees? Still deciding. These decisions are left up to the OHF committee. The board as a whole needs to be alright with decisions of OHF committee.
- Meeting was adjourned by Armand. We will look to have February meeting. Possibly president's day.

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Upcoming Local Beer Competitions

Not much going on in Oregon for the next few months, but...

For a full list of all the upcoming competitions in the known Universe see:

http://www.bjcp.org/apps/comp_schedule/competition_schedule.php

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Upcoming and on Going Beer Events

February 4-6: Salem Winter Brewfest – A festival of winter beers, food, and entertainment all on the capitol lawn. Featuring: Salem Ale Works, Gilgamesh, Crux, Sierra Nevada, Ballast Point, Dogfish Head, Full Sail, Cascade Lakes, Lost Coast, Deschutes and more! Additional information and pricing [here](#).

February 6: Bottle Release Block 15 – Featuring Super Nebula, Breakfast with the Buffalo, Sweet Sassy Molassy & Kriek. February is Bourbon Month at Block 15 and they will be featuring bourbon barrel aged beer, bourbon inspired food, and a collection of unique bourbons.

February 12-13: KLCC Microbrew Festival, Eugene: Featuring over 80 breweries, live music, food and homebrew contest [website](#)

February 13: Zwicklemania - The annual one day event when Oregon breweries open their doors to the casual and hardcore beer fans, lands on February 13 for 2016. Learn more participating breweries and activities [here](#).

February 13: Festival of Dark Arts – A Carnival of Stouts – Astoria, Or: Darkness falls upon Astoria every winter... and stout lovers rejoice. On Saturday February 13th, 2016, all areas of the Fort George Brewery block will be overflowing with dark art, darker entertainment, and the darkest selection of craft beer ever assembled. Find out more [here](#).

February 28: Tripel IPA Fest, Portland - "The biggest and the baddest shine on this day. Triple IPAs from heavy hitters like Barley Brown's, Pfriem, Boneyard, Fat Head's, Breakside and more! Chicken and Guns is taking the afternoon shift and Bunk Sandwiches is locked in for the late shift from 6 to 9 to feed your face. Glasses and 5 tickets will run for \$10. if you have a glass from last year, you may certainly use that again this year." [website](#)

March 11 – 12: Hellshire – Oakshire, Eugene: This annual event stages some of the most sought after beer in the nation with rare releases not commonly seen on the West coast as well as a host of beverages made only for the event, this is an event to build a spring schedule around! Information on their [website](#).

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Monthly Encyclopedia Entry

Each month I'll share an entry of interest from my copy of the Oxford Companion of Beer. I've found some interesting odds and ends concerning all aspects of beer culture, Enjoy!

Ale Conner – an official appointed by a manor, borough, or town to assay the quality of ale served within a particular jurisdiction. In England, from at least the 1300's on, ale-conners were appointed annually in courts leet, special manorial courts that some lords were entitled to convene. These were courts for small claims and petty offenses. The ale-conner, also known as the "ale founder" or more grandly as the "Gustator Cervisiae," was to go from one ale house to the next, tasting the beers and certifying them to be of good enough quality to drink. If the quality of the ale was found wanting, the ale-conner was empowered to drag the offending brewer to the manor court to make restitution. Depending upon the rule of the particular manor, the ale-conner was sometimes also allowed to set the price at which a batch of ale could be sold, or to enforce a manor-wide fixed price for ales. Given the place of ale in the lives of medieval Englishmen, the role of the ale-conner was taken quite seriously. Here is part of the oath sworn by an ale-conner during the reign of Henry V:

And that you, so soon as you shall be required to taste ale of any brewer or brewster, shall be ready to do the same; and in case that it be less good than it used to be before this cry, you, by assent of your Alderman, shall set a reasonable price thereon... nor when you are required to taste ale, shall [you] absent yourself with-out reasonable cause and true... So God help you and the saints.

There is a commonly believed legend that ale-conners once roved the land wearing specially made leather britches. The ale-conner was said to have tested ale not by drinking it but by pouring some of the beer on a wooden bench and sitting down in the seat, and if the beer stuck his britches to the bench, this was a sign that the beer was improperly brewed. However, some versions of this story hold that stuck britches were a sign of high quality. In any event, it appears that there is no solid evidence that beer puddle-sitting was ever actually part of the assaying process. That said, ale-conners are still appointed to this day all over England. The role is now entirely ceremonial, and sometimes involves solemn robes and sturdy leather breeches, always worn with considerable humor. London still appoints four ale conners every year, and the appointment remains highly prized.

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Beer News

- Recycled water consumption is inevitable, but will the public embrace a toilet water lager? [link](#)
- Lagunitas Brewing Opening Portland Location? [link](#)
- The Basement Brewery on Bond: Old St. Francis School Brewer Has Deep Oregon Brewing Roots [link](#)
- First Look at Wayfinder Beer – Portland's Most Anticipated New Brewery of the Year - [Link](#)
- To Keep Troop Morale High During WWII, The British Built a Floating Brewery [Link](#)
- Top 10 Tips For Brew Day – by Denny Conn [Link](#)
- 7 Tips on Brewing German Wheat Beers [Link](#)
- Oregon Beer Growler Newsletter [Link](#): January 2016 – The Health Issue

Feedback:

Questions, comments, or suggestions be sent to the HOTV Brewsletter author at cscotton89@gmail.com. Thanks for Reading!

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