

HEART OF THE VALLEY HOMEBREWERS

CORVALLIS/ALBANY OREGON
WILLAMETTE VALLEY



September 2009
Volume XXIX, Issue 8

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

The Heart of the Valley Homebrew Club meets on the third Wednesday of each month, alternating between Corvallis and Albany. This month's meeting, September 16 at 7:00pm, is hosted by Howie. The meeting will be at the his home in Albany. Anyone who might have a brew at home that they would like to share is welcome to bring it along. Directions came out early this week over the HOTV email list.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sept. 12 – Septemberfest. Benton County Fairgrounds. [more info](#)
Sept. 16 – Monthly meeting. 7:00 pm at Howie's.
Other upcoming events
Sept. 17-20 – Mt Angel Oktoberfest. Mt. Angel, OR. [more info](#)
Sept. 19 – Mid-valley Brewfest. Eugene, OR. [more info](#)
Oct. 3 – Hood River Hops Fest. Hood River, OR. [more info](#)

PRESIDENTS CORNER

Howdy all,
Its that time again when HOTV is putting together the best beer fest ever! Our club has really pulled together this year to make Septemberfest happen in style. There will be great bands, finger lickin' good food, and over 40 different beers from almost 20 breweries. Our main focus will be on our 3 local breweries in the locals only tent with 10 different styles of custom made beers to drool over. There will also be an Imported beer section to make your taste buds scream! Gates open at 2pm so tell your friends to come on down to Septemberfest.
Good beers for all,
Howie

NEW HOTV LOGO



Heart of the Valley Homebrewers has a new logo! Look for it at our banner at Septemberfest and on the website.

HOTV PICNIC

The HOTV Picnic was held on August 23 in Avery Park in Corvallis. Mike Gallagher planned a pre-picnic golf game and the weather turned out perfect! Mr. Bill, Bill Baxter, and others manned the BBQ area, fixing all manner of meaty items. Club members brought salads, deserts, and snacks to share. Joel Rea thought this was a great excuse to fire up the brew kettle and was seen adding peppers to the kettle. I can't wait to taste that one! Louis and Karen ran the games, which featured an egg toss, hop cone race, and keg roll. Congratulations to Dave and Ron for coming in first place. A separate contest tested the strength of our members by tossing kegs as far as possible (yes, the roll counts). That must have been a sight to behold if you were taking a leisurely stroll around the park! Dan Crall brought his pedi-cab and was giving rides around the park. The beer raffle organized by Dave Benson was a big hit, and as you can see below, some members couldn't wait until they got home to open their prizes.



CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to David Swisher, who won the following awards:

- At the Tillamook County Fair: 1st Scottish 80/- (Dunbar's Tru Scott), 1st Belgian Strong (Belgian Beauty), 1st Fruit (Raspberry Wheat - Wild Willie's Raspberry Wheat), 2nd American Wheat (Big Willie Wheat), 2nd Dark American Lager (High Country Old Cascade Trail Ale), 2nd Am Brown Ale (Old Brown Tail Ale), 2nd ESB (Chubbymeister's Hop Head ESB), 2nd Experiential (Sesquicentennial Ale - Smoked Am Brown Ale with Hazelnut), 3rd Blond (Silver Fox), 3rd Northern German Alt (Whitewater Alt), 3rd APA (Cascade Trail APA)
- At the Baker County Fair: 1st Runner up BOS & 1st place ESB (Chubbymeister's Hop Head ESB), 1st Munich Helles (Hottie Heidi), 2nd Belgian Strong Golden (Big Butt Belgian Babe), 2nd APA (Chubby's Cascade Trail APA) 2nd Blond (Dizzy Blonde), 3rd Vienna Lager (Hippie Daze), 2nd Labels (Chubby's Cascade Trail APA), 3rd Labels (Northwest Brewers Fishin'Hole Munich Helles)
- At the Oregon State Fair: 1st Runner up BOS Scottish 80 (Dunbar's Tru Scot), 1st Bo Pils (Big Bad Boy), 1st Euro Amber Lager Vienna (Hippie Daze), 1st Amber Hybrid Calif Comm (Kissin' Cousin), 1st Scottish & Irish Scottish 80 (Dunbar's Tru Scot), 1st Belgian Strong (Three Tits Tripel), 1st Fruit (Wild Raspberry Wheat), 1st Cider & Perry Apple (Forbidden Fruit), 1st Sesquicentennial Am Brown Sesquicentennial Ale (Old Oregon Trail), 1st Labels (Sesquicentennial ale), 2nd English Pale (Hop Head ESB), 3rd Lt Lager Munich Helles (Hottie Heidi), 3rd Amber Hybrid N Ger Alt (Raging Waters), 3rd Belgian & French Wit (Tail Waggin' Wit), 3rd Belgian Strong Golden (Big Butt Belgian), 3rd Smoke Flavored Am Brn (Old Oregon Trail Am Brn Ale), 3rd Speciality)Smokin' Tight Butt Hazelnut Am Brn), 3rd Cider & Perry (Pure Pleasure Apple W/ Pomegranates), 3rd Labels Hippie Daze

Also at the Oregon State Fair, Paul Jorgensen and Doug & Mare Goeger got 1st Mead (Bee's Knee's).

UPCOMING HOMEBREW COMPETITION INFO

by Bob Saathoff

Well we made it through the summer and for most of us that means it's time to start brewing. Only a few competitions on tap for this fall, but the Novemberfest is a long running comp from a club that traditionally has sent quite a few entries to ours. It would be great to see some sent up that way.

A hearty congratulations to following club members for their recent competition wins. Give them a "Well-done!" the next time you see them! David Swisher 2nd place BOS at the Oregon State fair (as well as for his many, many other ribbons in that competition) and Paul Jorgensen 1st Place Mead at the Oregon State Fair.

No club only tasting this month. We'll be tasting Belgian Strong's at the October meeting so time to dust off some of your aged beers and see what might stand up to the test. After October we'll have a lull until January when we taste English Brown, so now is the time to begin formulating that recipe.

Cheers,
Bob

Local Competitions

Competition	Deadline
Jackson County Harvest Fair	09/11/2009
Yakima Fresh Hop Homebrewers Competition	09/26/2009
Novemberfest	11/03/2009

AHA Club Only Competitions

Club Mtg	Style	BJCP Style #
Oct 09	Belgian Strong Ale	18
Jan 10	English Brown Ale	11
Feb 10	American Ales	10
Apr 10	Extract Beers	1-23
July 10	Mead	24,25,26

During the club meeting before entries are due, HOTV members can bring in their beers for consideration into the AHA Club Only competitions. Beers will be judged side-by-side by BJCP certified club members (and anyone

else who wants to try them). We'll select one beer to enter to represent our club and the club will pay the shipping (ground only) and entry fee. The winner is responsible for the packaging and getting the entry down to Joel's shop in time to make it by the deadline.

SEPTEMBERFEST

Septemberfest is September 12 at the Benton County Fairgrounds. This is the second annual Septemberfest and will be great fun. The festival starts at 2:00 and goes until 9:00. The



program is [now available on the website](#) – look it over and plan out the beers you want to try! Print it out and bring it to the festival, we will have a limited supply on hand to give out. There is a shuttle again this year, starting at 3:00 from Reeser

Stadium with an additional pick-up at Block 15. Polka music will be back again this year, as well as Kinzel & Hyde and Bon Ton Roulet. Thanks to everyone who signed up to volunteer!

CALIFORNIA DREAMIN'

by Irene Schoppy



Our big summer backpacking trip had us heading down to Yosemite National Park. As always, we were also interested in visiting a brewpub or 2 if they happened by. Since we were pretty sure that wouldn't happen in the wilderness areas we were backpacking through, we decided to visit a brewery on the way down, and a different one on the way back. Lunchtime was approaching and so was Sacramento. I looked through our trusty brewery listings from Northwest Brewing News and picked Rubicon Brewing Company. Why did I pick them? Not having a digital mapping device (GPS, etc) or cell phone internet access, and only a lousy map of the Sacramento area (courtesy of

the Rand McNally US Atlas), it seemed like an easy one to find. It is on Capital Street, so we figured if we took the downtown exit and headed towards the Capital, we would find it. If not, there were a few other breweries in the area and we were bound to pass one eventually. Luckily, our brewery location system was right on target, and once we found the Capital, sure enough Rubicon was a short drive away. Started in 1987, Rubicon is a comfortable and friendly pub in midtown Sacramento. Their menu is standard pub fare, and you can choose from sidewalk seating, the art-filled dining area, or the cozy bar. To accompany our sandwiches, I had a pint of Goldfinger English Bitter served on Nitro, and Armand had their Monkey Knife Fight Pale Ale. Both of these brews are under 5% ABV and make a great choice for lunch when you still have some driving to do. For dessert we shared the Irish Dry Stout. We bought a 22oz bottle of their IPA for the campsite later that evening.

On the way back home, we decided to go big and visit Sierra Nevada Brewing Company. It is in Chico, California, about 30 miles off Rt. 5. Since it was the end of the day we decided to spend the night in Chico so we could enjoy a nice dinner and some brews at their brewpub. Address in hand, we drove into Chico and enabled our brewpub guiding system. Apparently 2 ½ weeks in the wilderness seems to negatively affect the accuracy of our system, but after a few U-turns we saw the gleaming tanks ahead. There is no





missing this brewery, with rows of huge stainless steel tanks, a solar-array covered parking lot, and hop fields right next door. Needless to say, this brewery isn't located right downtown. As we sat down to dinner, we were pleasantly surprised by the menu. This wasn't standard pub grub! We were very happy with our dinners, and not just because we had been eating dehydrated food for 3 weeks! The beer was also delicious. I had the Kellerweis, a Hefeweizen made using the traditional Bavarian style of open fermentation, and their Stout. Armand had 2 of their beers that aren't available in bottles – the Brown Ale and Brown Saison. Unfortunately, we didn't get there in time for a tour, but that leaves us with an excuse to go back! If you are in the area, do stop by but note they are closed on Mondays. Chico reminded us of Corvallis in many ways, it was very bike friendly (we even visited with a local pedi-cab driver!), is home to Chico State University, and has a lively downtown area. Wondering exactly what we did between these two very different brewpub visits? We backpacked the John Muir Trail, 227 miles through the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range in California, ending on the highest point in the lower 48 states – Mt. Whitney. I say that deserves a pint! Cheers.

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. If you check out a piece of club equipment, please clean and return it to Corvallis Brewing Supply as soon as possible for other members to use. 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.
- 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. –Joel

PRESIDENT: Eric 'Howie' Howard
VICE PRESIDENT: Dave Benson
TREASURER: John Sterner
SECRETARY/NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Irene Schoppy
FESTIVAL CHAIR: Armand Schoppy
COMPETITION CHAIR: Bob Saathoff
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