

The Strange Brew Review

Newsletter of Northeast Wisconsin's Oldest and Largest Brew Club –
The Green Bay Rackers* Established 1982 <http://www.rackers.org/>



" If You Want It Done Right, You Have To Brew It Yourself !"

May, 2005

Vol.24 No.1

Regular Bi- Monthly Business Meetings:

1st Saturday of: Feb, April, June, Aug, Oct, and December.
1:00 PM at: Titledown Brewing Company, Green Bay, WI

Club Brew Meetings:

1st Tuesday of: Jan. March, May, July, Sept, and Nov.
Locations and Times: To Be Announced

**Next Meeting: Our Annual Club Picnic
Saturday, June 4th, 2005**

For more info: see Picnic story elsewhere in the newsletter.

EVENT NEWS



The Racker's "Titledown Open XI"

Congratulations to all the winners in this year's Titledown Open held April 30th. Each year the Green Bay Rackers host the Titledown Open Homebrewing Competition. Held again this year at Titledown Brewing in Green Bay. The several Judges, including, long time Racker member and nomadic brewer, Rich "Gak" Stueven along with Paris Cunningham, who came back to town for the event, had quite a task judging the best of 135 entries submitted.

Congratulations all of our Titledown Open XI Racker winners including, **1st place winners** – for Belgian & French Beers; Chris Schroeder (“4 Seasons”), Dark Beers; Dave Malcolm (“Blacktip Stout”), German Wheat; Chris Schroeder, (“Dupa Dunkel”), Light Ales/Lagers; Trevor LaRene (“Cream Ale”), Mild Amber/Brown; Dave Oldenburg (“Playoff Ale”), Pale Ale; Bob Franklin (“English IPA”), Specialty Beers; Scott Koehler (“Wheat Wine”). For a full list of winners and all the scores, check our web site via this link:

<http://www.rackers.org/open/Results2005.pdf>

Other Contest News:

The AHA National Homebrew Competition

Congratulations go out to Green Bay Rackers; Jeff Bushner and Trevor LaRene for taking third place in the Belgian Strong Ale and Spice/Herb/Vegetable Beer categories, respectively, in the first round of the AHA National Homebrew Competition

<http://www.beertown.org/events/nhc/1st_round.html>.

Club Picnic

Chuck Golueke abramschet@yahoo.com and **Trevor LaRene** larene4@tds.net

Let's kick off the summer with good food, friendship and fun. The Racker's annual club picnic will be held the first Saturday of June (JUNE 4th), starting at 12 noon and located at Chuck G.'s place, near Abrams, 13 miles north of Green Bay (contact Chuck for directions). All members and their families are invited. You are asked to bring a dish to pass (a salad, or beans, chips, dips, desert etc.) along with your drink of choice. The club will be providing the main entrées also the rolls and buns – grilled barbequed spicy pork, beef roast, “beercan” chicken, and hotdogs - all skillfully prepared by Trevor. Mmmmm!

If you can, remember to bring a folding chair and your own eating utensils – but, we'll have extras if you forget. We plan on “eating” ... all day ... but the meat should be finished grilling at about 2PM so that will be the “picnic” time. Please e-mail Trevor at the above address if you, or your family (or guest) plan on attending so he can get an approximate head count. This will be a rain or shine

event (we have several large tents and tarps), *unless, there is severe weather forecasted*, in which case we ask you to contact the event chairs that morning for the possible cancellation. Throw in a Frisbee and kite or other picnic game if you have one. For those of you who want to stay the evening and into Sunday, there'll be a campfire and a camping area will be provided.

The club asks; if you plan on drinking beverages containing alcohol, please have a designated driver or plan on staying the night and camp. Hope for good weather and we'll see you there.

Club-Brew News

By Ryan Loock, rloock@new.rr.com

Imagine if you will, about 15 guys standing around and watching water boil. To normal humans, this would not be the way they would like to spend a Spring evening. However to the Rackers, this is heaven.

Tuesday, May 3rd Jeremy and Tracy LeMere invited the club over to their abode and hosted the bi-monthly club brew. From the automated grain mill to the tri-kettle brewing system, we watched and commented as Jeremy brewed not one but two, 10 gallon, all grain batches using the ingenious system he built himself. It was clear, by the looks and responses of the onlookers, we were all very impressed with his brewing setup. He is definitely an avid home brewer.

In addition to the Scottish Ale and Pilsner of Jeremy's, which he had on tap, we sampled other club member's beer, most of which had been entries in the Tiletown Open contest. Various discussions ensued and others shared stories from the contest as we all did our own judging and enjoyed snacks, including, some of Jeremy's own homemade cheddar cheese.

Who wouldn't say - it was a great way to spend a Spring evening!

Again, thanks Jeremy and Tracy for your hospitality.

Our next regular club meeting will be our annual Club Picnic, June 4th.

See the picnic news elsewhere in the newsletter for more info.

Our next Clubbrew meeting will be July 5th in Oconto Falls - check www.rackers.org for more info.



May “Club Brewer” Jeremy LaMere and his brewing system.



Photos courtesy of: Trevor LaRene

Minutes of the last meeting

Green Bay Rackers

Minutes of the Business Meeting

April 2, 2005

Matt Arnold called the meeting to order at 1:13 PM, in the absence of the president. Minutes of the February meeting were read by the secretary and approved as read. The treasury has \$2127.24 in it.

Old Business:

Wooden sign for Titledown (Dave Oldenburg): Inquired as to whether or not we had been able to obtain a vector graphics file. Mike Conard indicated that Paul Chambers had a student convert our emblem to an

appropriate file and that we now have that in our possession. Mike will forward that to Dave to have he sign made.

Bus to Chilton Brew Fest (Mike Conard): Bob Franklin has sign-up sheets for this trip at the House of Homebrew and will be putting one up at Hinterland Brewing. Hinterland is donating beer for the trip. Sign up sheet was passed around. Cost is \$35 for beer and ticket.

Mass Club Brew (Trevor LaRene & Jeremy LeMere): Motion made to purchase a 53 gallon used bourbon barrel for the club brew. Cost will be about \$150.00 and the motion carried. Jeremy will use the next club brew to make a porter and Trevor will also be brewing a porter recipe to add to it. We will need other club members to brew so that we can fill the barrel. An email will be sent out to the club and in the newsletter for members to volunteer. The idea will be to have the porter brewed and fermented to completion so that it can be added to the barrel for aging on or about National Homebrew Day on May 6th. The committee will coordinate with House of Homebrew to see if they are still planning on doing a brew on that day that might also be used with this. One extra batch will also be solicited in case any of the batches go bad prior to addition to the barrel.

Club Picnic (Chuck Golueke & Trevor LaRene): June 6th – (*This should read June 4th*) is the firm date for the picnic. People can plan on arriving about noon. There will be a campfire and overnight camping for those who wish to do so. Motion made that the club arrange for a port-a-john for that event. Motion carried. Tim Olmsted is investigating the possibility of a friend who has a band that is offering their services in exchange for beer & food. Mike and Rob Zastrow will work on the port-a-john arrangements.

Joint meeting with the ALEs: Concensus was to move ask the ALEs if we could do this in the fall, possibly as some sort of an Oktoberfest activity. Mike will communicate this with the ALEs.

Titletown Open (Mike Conard): Mike took a short poll to determine how many entries might be anticipated. There are enough stewards signed up.

New Business:

Club Pub Crawl (Dave Oldenburg): Inquired as to the interest in putting together a club “pub crawl” via bus. There appears to be some interest for this as a fall activity – maybe in conjunction with the ALEs. Dave is appointed chairman for this.

It was noted that the chairman was much better dressed than is the norm for the presiding officer of this club and asked that this be duly noted in the minutes.

Meeting adjourned at 1:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Conard, Secretary
mconard@itol.com

New Members!

Welcome new members since Dec 2004:

Mark Coshnet
Tom Duescher
Greg Gross
Ryan Jacobson
Ed Mathis
Tim Olmsted
Mike Rudolph
Mike Teske
Jason VanPee
Terry Wellner

Welcome back former members:

Rob Zastrow
John Blohm

From The Treasurer - Dues are Due

The following members have dues owed for 2005 - as of April 2nd
Please pay: Mike Conard, 1021 Juneau St., Kewaunee, WI 54216
Make your check payable to: The Green Bay Rackers

Mark Allen, Dean Bialozynski, Jeff Bushner, Nicholas Demark, Eric Dunning, Bob Ferguson, Dan Grady, Trent Hanson, Patrick Hartel, Cory Heins, Mike Jarvela, Robert Johannes, Todd Judkins, Jesse Kallionen, Jan Kasper, Tom Klatt, Ken Klausen, Bill Niquette, Steve Olson, Russ Pahnke, Tom Parker, Patrick Payne, Dan Pleshek, Joe Riha, Tom Rueckl, Sean Rupert, Damon Schultz, Steve Sellin, Bob Teasley, Mike Teed, Dan Tews, James VanRossum, Dave White, and Mark Wildenberg

NOTE: This list is - as of the last business meeting. If you have already paid – Thank You.

Other Events – *and news*

Chilton Brew Fest

14th Annual Wisconsin Micro-Brewers Beer Fest at the Calumet County Fairgrounds in Chilton is being held - Sunday, May 22!

The Green Bay Rackers Homebrew Club has organized a bus trip in co-operation with the House of Homebrew, Hinterland Brewery, Titledown Brewing Company and Slab City Brewery, going from Green Bay to Chilton for the 14th annual Wisconsin Micro-Brewers Beer Fest Sunday, May 22nd.

Although the signup date has passed, you might want to check with the House Of Homebrew at 415 Dousman St., Green Bay or e-mail them at staff@houseofhomebrew.com to see if there might still be room.

Appleton Libation Enthusiasts - The Beers Of Summer Competition June 11th

The Beers of Summer competition (sponsored by the ALEs) will be held on Saturday, June 11th at Stone Cellar Brewing (the former Adler Brau in Appleton.) This is part of the HICCUP series so we need to have as many entries as we can for this competition. The categories are Light Lagers, Pilsners, and Light Hybrid beers. Go the ALE's website at: <http://home.new.rr.com/thealeclub/>

Gak's Moving -

From: Richard Stueven rstueven@beerme.com

The good news: the sale of William Kuether Brewing is nearly complete. Full production should start up again in less than a month, with a big push for the bottled beers.

The bad news: I won't be part of their renewed success, as I gave them my notice yesterday.

The good news: I've been offered a job brewing at Gottberg Brew Pub in Columbus NE. They've been around for ten years under the same ownership and management, so it's a good stable place. I'll have eight or nine taps to play with. It looks like it will be a lot like the situation I had at Egan's way back when, only more successful.

For those of you who will be at the Green Bay Rackers Tiletown Open Homebrew Competition at Tiletown Brewing on April 30, I'll see you there! For the rest of you, I'll see you around. If you're ever in northeastern Nebraska, stop on by

have fun
RDS

\$\$\$ Spend Money At Tiletown - Help A Child's School \$\$\$

Mike Conard has Tiletown Brewing Company gift certificates available in \$10 and \$25 denomination. These gift certificates are part of the Scrip program through his child's school. You pay face value for the gift certificate and Tiletown gives our school a percentage. Since you are going to spend money at Tiletown anyway- how about buying the gift certificates from me and helping support a school? Contact Mike at 388-2728 or mconard@itol.com

Newsletter Editors –

Chuck Golueke abramschet@yahoo.com and Ryan Look rlook@new.rr.com

***Rackers**, as in: one who racks, (^rā^k) *tr.v.* **racked, rack·ing, racks** To drain (wine or cider) [*or beer*] from the dregs.