

Washoe Zephyr Zymurgists

The Homebrew Club for the greater Reno, Washoe Valley, Truckee Meadows region

A Monthly Newsletter

April 2009

Chili in a "Man Cave"

As in previous years of the annual chili cook-off there was plenty of chili to go around. With PJ's return to hosting the cook-off it was a much more structured competition. As chili was brought in by competitors, the chili had a number attached to it for judging purposes. After all voters ballots had been cast PJ counted the votes and the prizes were handed out. PJ had a nice plaque for the winner along with some donated items from Rob Bates, Reno Homebrewer shop proprietor.

Unfortunately for us we did not know the winner so I can't post his name in here. PJ had quite a few friends and neighbors in attendance also. The venue was very spacious, a sort of "man cave" with antique fuel pumps around the perimeter and other automobile type artifacts adorning the room. The room is a converted garage complete with a

hydraulic lift, great fun for the kids!! The members in attendance had an informal IPA tasting. We had about 4 homebrewed IPA's and a couple commercial examples. Thanks again for the cook-off PJ!

Firefest with a Twist

The April meeting brings Firefest at Ali and Ben's place, just like last April. This year's Firefest will have a little different twist on our meeting. At Ali's suggestion, we will be holding an informal homebrew competition. Bring whatever homebrewed beer you would like, in any size bottle and we will have a blind tasting and judging of the entrants. This is also a great opportunity for those of us that have recently, November, taken the BJCP exam to get some practice in judging some different styles.

For those of you that are already practicing judges, we would love to have you there for your experience and learn a little more about what we are tasting.

As usual, bring a dish to share and homebrew for the competition. You can also bring some commercial examples but please don't enter them. Get there around 6 to begin the setup and start tasting.

WZZ NEWS

National Homebrew Conference

Early registration has now ended and the Conference Grand Banquet is sold out. The website now says that only 10% of the tickets for the educational seminars remain. The full conference tickets without the banquet are \$220 now and the social package without banquet is \$165, both prices are for AHA members. Add \$38 for a non-member which is the membership price for a year.

As stated in previous months, this event will sell out, see below for hotel info. This event is nearby us, let's do our best to make a good showing. Go to www.beertown.org for more details, click on National Homebrew Conference on the left side of the screen.

GREAT BASIN BREW-OFF

The Great Basin Brew-Off will be held on Sunday May 3rd this year. Entries for this competition must be delivered or mailed to the Reno Homebrewer no earlier than 4/14/2009 and no later than 4/25/2009. For further information and to register your beer, go to the club website, where you found this newsletter if you're on-line. Click on the competition tab and the instructions and links for registering and volunteering are on that page. Also see the flyer on the next page of this newsletter.

Due to time and space constraints, the Hawaii brewery review will make it next month, I hope. Here's some pictures from last month's meeting



Calendar of Events

- ◆ **April 18th, Ali and Ben's Firefest and homebrew competition, Reno, NV**
- ◆ **May Meeting**
Rob and Elaine or Jason Green,
Firm date and place to be decided
- ◆ **June 13th, Frank-N-Stein**
Tom Baldwin's annual meeting
Sparks, NV

Great Basin Brew-Off

Homebrew Competition brought to you by the Washoe Zephyr Zymurgists

Date: May 3, 2009, judging at Great Basin Brewing Company, Sparks, NV

For complete information, visit <http://washoezz.net/WZZ/Competition.html>

All entries are due between April 14 and April 25, no exceptions.

Ship to, or drop off at:

The Reno Homebrewer (775-329-2537)

2335 Dickerson Road

Reno, NV, 89503

The goal of this event is to provide an excellent homebrew competition to homebrewers in the region, and to select a winning beer to serve as the [Great Basin Brewing Company's Pro-Am Entry](#) at this year's [Great American Beer Festival](#). The Great Basin Brew-Off will strive to provide the best possible judging. Reno and northern California are home to many highly qualified [BJCP](#) judges, and we produce one of the finest assemblages of judges of any competition. Plan now for this event. First time brewers and veterans alike are encouraged to participate. No one is too much of a novice, nor is anyone too experienced to compete. Join in on an event that is certain to provide insight and education for all homebrewers involved.

The Best of Show winner will receive a \$100 gift certificate from [Great Basin Brewing Company](#) AND a \$100 gift certificate from the [Reno Homebrewer](#)! A separate selection will be made from the Best of Show finalists to choose the beer to be brewed for the [GABF Pro-Am event](#). This is to ensure that the beer can be brewed in the amount of time required, and to not limit the Best of Show beer by the same constraints*.

This event is a [Beer Judge Certification Program](#) recognized and [American Homebrewer Association sanctioned event](#). All beer styles will be accepted as recognized by the [BJCP](#) and the [AHA](#), including mead and cider categories. ALL categories and subcategories as recognized by both the [BJCP](#) and the [AHA](#), including meads and cider, are eligible for entry. We reserve the right to combine styles or categories with fewer than 5 entries. All entries are expected to comply with [BJCP](#) regulations and will be judged according to [BJCP style guidelines](#). Standard 50 point score sheets and [BJCP](#) methods will be used by judges, and written results will be made available to entrants promptly after the competition is held.

*Great Basin Brewing Company reserves the right to work with the winning brewer to make any adjustments that may be required to accommodate their brewing equipment (e.g., scaling issues, unusual ingredients, unusual yeast, etc.).

Mashoe Zephyr Zymurgists

Join us this month at Ali and Ben's house for Firefest 2009 and homebrew competition. Please bring a dish to share also.

953 Yori Ave.

Reno, NV

232-7818

Saturday, April 18th, 2009

6pm for setup and tasting/judging



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2335 Dickerson Rd., Unit A

Reno, NV 89503-4905

