



THE Northern Brewer

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GREAT NORTHERN BREWERS CLUB

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Next Meeting
Industry Meeting
February 1 @ 49th State

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Contact information via our website

The Prez Sez

By John Trapp & Liz Greer

We had two awesome events in December, not to mention Christmas. The first was Humpy's Big Fish Home Brew Competition on December 2nd. It's great to see this once prestigious competition getting back on track after a 4-year hiatus. Congratulations to Karl Morgan for his BOS mead, and a big thank you to all that made this happen. If you see Billy Opinski around be sure to thank him too. Just a week later we had our Christmas party over at Anchorage Brewing Company. Once again we had a great turnout, incredible food and lots of tasty homebrews. Our Christmas parties keep getting better and better. Thanks to everyone that helped put this together and a huge thank you goes out to Gabe Fletcher for hosting us.

Here's the 3 month calendar:

January (February 1st) – Industry Meeting for Barley Wine Festival. 49th State 6:00 p.m.

February 20th – Monthly meeting at 49th State Brewing Company 7:00 p.m.

March 19th – Monthly meeting at 49th State Brewing Company 7:00 p.m.

Now that January is here, our largest meeting of the year, the industry meeting is right around the corner. This coincides with the barley wine festival and it's held on the Thursday of beer week. Well, the fest is pushed back to February, so our industry meeting is on February 1st. We told you last month that we were working on someone big for our special guest, and we delivered! Phil Farrell, level 6 Grand Master BJCP judge will be the speaker and guest for our meeting. Phil is also known as "The Chicken Man" and is responsible for handing out chicken beads that most of us wear during the fest. It should be a great speech at the meeting. Your dues need to be paid-in-full to attend, so pay up. Also, we will need volunteers to pour beers and help set up.

Our February meeting will be less than 3 weeks from our industry meeting, so keep that in mind as things turn around quickly. Also, once we get near the end of March and beginning of April, we need to start

thinking about Talkeetna Beer Trippin, which will be the 12th, 13th, and 14th of April

So this is my final Prez Sez column I'll be writing as Liz will be taking over in February. I just wanted to say that it has been an honor and a privilege leading this great club for a combined 5 years total. I thank everyone that helped make this experience so great, I couldn't have done it without the support of incredible officers and board members, and of course incredible club members too.

Until next time, keep brewing because life is good.

Cheers

Membership – by the numbers

By Steve Johnson

When the calendar year ends in December, the Great Northern Brewer's Club membership year still has nine months until each annual membership expires, all on the last day of September. Three months into our current year, the Club has received payments for 63 annual memberships. A year ago, the comparable figure was 73 annual memberships. Two years ago, that number was 54.

In September 2023, the end of the last membership year, the club had 90 annual memberships. In September 2022 and September 2021, those numbers were 76 and 81, respectively.

Do those numbers suggest a trend? That is unclear. However, if you have not renewed your membership, you can contribute to a positive trend by renewing your membership.

In early January I will send reminder emails to those who have not renewed their membership. I will also be removing former members from the club's email list.

Membership Services

Have you lost or misplaced or hopelessly mangled your membership card? Are you not receiving emails from the club? I can usually reprint and mail replacements for current membership cards within a day or two. Sorting out email issues can take longer, but usually is straightforward. Send details by email to membership@greatnorthernbrewers.org.

I look forward to seeing many members, if briefly, when I am checking memberships at the door to the Industry Meeting on February 1st. Until then, happy brewing!

Steve Johnson

Membership chair

membership@greatnorthernbrewers.org

Humpy's Big Fish Home Brew Competition!

By Elizabeth Greer

The 2023 Humpy's Big Fish Home Brew Competition was a success! After a four year hiatus, it was fun to have this BJCP (Beer Judge Certification Program) sanctioned event again on December 2. There was a

respectable 27 entries of beers, ciders & meads. Judging was a two round series with each panel lead by a certified BJCP judge. Entries were judged against style guidelines <https://www.bjcp.org/bjcp-style-guidelines/>



Thanks to Humpy's who arranged the venue and hosted the completion, to Arctic Brewing Supply for collecting entries, to all the judges and stewards who helped at the completion, and of course those who brewed/fermented and entered their creations!

Five entries made it to the final round... three beers, a cider, and a mead; and on an uncommon occurrence, the winner was the Mead! Congratulations to:

1st Place – Karl Morgan: Traditional Semi-Sweet Mead with Sorghum Honey

2nd Place – Andrew Holman: "Bellicose" Imperial Stout

3rd Place – Simone Lange: New World Perry

2024 Brewfest Volunteer Opportunities

The Alaska Craft Brew & Barley Wine Festival is looking for volunteers to help with the three festival sessions on February 2 and 3 at the Dena'ina Center. Tasks include (but are not limited to) managing the front entry, checking tickets, and of course pouring beer!

Event dates/sessions:

Friday, 2/2 5pm-10pm

Saturday, 2/3 11am-4pm

Saturday, 2/3 5pm-10pm

Sign up using the registration form below!

[REGISTRATION FORM](#)



Great Northern Brewers Club Members

2024 Alaska Beer Industry Reception

Thursday February 1, 2024, 6pm-9pm

The Great Northern Brewers Club and Brewers Guild of Alaska will be hosting this year's Industry Reception at 49th State Brewing's Heritage Theater, 717 West 3rd Ave, Anchorage

Featured speaker will be **Phil Farrell**. *You may know him as: "The Chicken Man", Head Brewer of StillFire Brewing, Grand Master Level 6 Beer Judge, former Board of Governors of the American Homebrewer's Association, Wynkoop "Beer Drinker of the Year", or maybe Beer Tripper Extrordinaire.*

- 6pm: Set-up and drop off
- 6:30pm: GNBC club business
- **7pm-9pm: Industry Reception**
- 7:30pm-8pm: Key Note Speaker*

****We request conversations during the Key Note Speaker be taken out of the Heritage Theater in respect of the speaker and audience***

Light appetizers will be provided as well as beer from home brewers, breweries and distributors. **Thank you for bringing your Home brew!** Homemade food "pot-luck" items appreciated. We could use some cookies!

We need **Volunteers** to help with check-in and pouring beer

Please plan to commit an hour+ for support -Thank You! **GNBC membership card required**, or membership can be purchased at the door for \$30. RSVP and volunteer: president@greatnorthernbrewers.com

Special thanks to 49th State Brewing for their support!

49th STATE
- BREWING -

Present your GNBC card at these suppliers for a members-only discount. See each store for details.



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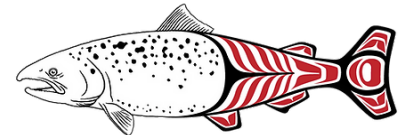
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