THE
Northern Brewer
THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GREAT NORTHERN BREWERS CLUB

November 2026

Contents of This Issue

The Prez Sez
Membership Update
Secretary's Corner
GNBC Holiday Party
Reading About Beer
Club Clothes

Next Meeting – Nov 17 @ 49th State Belgian Beer

GREAT NORTHERN BREWERS CLUB

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Steve Johnson 2026-2028
Lisa Saperstein 2025-2026
Cody Baggett 2025-2026
Scott Clendaniel 2025-2026

Contact information via our website

The Prez Sez

By Elizabeth "Liz" Greer and Scott Clendaniel

Hello, Great Northern Brewers!

It is getting colder and darker every day, and I think there is nothing better than drinking beer when the Alaskan winter begins.

Next month, at our November meeting, Glacier Brewhouse's professional brewer Hannah Lumpkins has agreed to give a lecture on Belgian beers. Pull out your Belgian favorites and bring them to the meeting to share! Since I brewed a Belgian wit last month, I will be bringing that. Although, the only Belgian things about it are the yeast and the orange peels. I was going to bring it for the wheat beer-themed meeting, but we have changed that to February. Lisa Peltola will be talking about the use of wheat in brewing in February. I hope she brings some of her berry wheat ale, which is always a crowd pleaser and one of my favorites.

Another date to remember is our December meeting at Anchorage Brewing Co. on December 12th. That is our big holiday party, starting at 6:30 PM at ABC!

If you haven't paid your membership dues, now is a good time to get that in order.

The last thing to consider is **GNBC ELECTIONS!** Elections are next month at the November meeting, so if you want to be on the board or take on the responsibility of an officer position, November is your chance to get involved in the inner workings of the club. It is actually pretty fun! The board meets the week before the general meeting, and we have beers at a local brewery or in someone's home. This month, I'm hosting the board meeting at my house, and board members can enjoy a glass of my ginger honey ale. The general membership is welcome to attend board meetings, but keep in mind that we do try to get some business done.

See you all at 49th State next month!

Cheers!

Scott Clendaniel
Co-Prez

If you have thoughts on some fun activities, please let one of the officers know. More information on the club and events on the Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/Gnbc1/ & website https://greatnorthernbrewers.org/

Membership Update

By Steve Johnson



November is the second month of our club's membership year. Membership renewal payments are typically going strong by this time, assuring that the club has no issues in the new year paying room rentals, alcohol liability insurance, and other expenses.

Unfortunately, renewals slowed and almost stopped early last month, probably due to the stalled distribution of the October Newsletter. So far, just 30 members have paid for the 2026-2027 year. Last year, by October 30th, 55 members had made the payment. At the end of the 2025-20226 year, the club had 97 annual members..

Message of this column: Time to pay dues.

I have already printed membership cards and addressed mailing envelopes for everyone who was an annual member in 2025-2026. I can usually put membership cards in the mail a day after receiving payment--cash at a meeting or Pay Pal anytime, including at meetings. Do not make payments using Venmo--payments using Venmo do not reach the club's bank account. I do not know who set up the Veno account.

This month's meeting, Tuesday November 17th, is the last of the "regularly scheduled meetings" until February. The December meeting is the Holiday Party, Saturday evening, December 12th, at Anchorage Brewing Company. The January meeting is the Industry Meeting, Friday January 28th, the evening before the 2027 Craft Beer and Barley Wine Festival January 29th.

After November, the next "Third Tuesday" meeting will be at the usual 49st State location on February 16th. Wheat beer is the subject for that meeting, a good suggestion for what to brew now that will be ready to bring to the February meeting

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Secretary's Corner

By Nathaniel Gingery

Last month, we talked about brown beer. Jeremiah Christian, the owner and brewer of Magnetic North Brewing Company in town, gave a brief history of brown ales and talked about how they evolved from malty, slightly spiced British brown ales (think Newcastle) to the hoppier American variety (Sam Adams). We got to taste examples of the two variations and wow was there a huge difference!

Several members also took part in the theme and brought in their brown ale homebrew. I had never brewed a brown ale but I flipped through my copy of Brewing Classic Styles by Jamil Zainasheff and decided to brew the "Nutty Man Brown Ale" which is a southern English style. It turned out dark and roasty with a nice caramel undertone and at ~4%ABV, it's a really nice beer to enjoy with dinner as the nights get colder and longer. Brewing along with the theme was a good way to get me brewing a new beer and I really enjoyed seeing the different variations people were able to come up with.

Thank you again to Jeremiah for being willing to talk to us about beer! If you have a brewing topic you would like to talk about, please let the board know. We are always looking for interesting topics!

GNBC Holiday Party

By Cody Baggett (coming soon!)



The 2026 GNBC Holiday Party will be on Saturday December 12 at 6:30pm. It will be at Anchorage Brewing Company in the canning room. Doors open at 6pm if you can help set-up/decorating. Cody Baggett and Jordan Sullivan will be organizing this year's event.

More to come in the December Newsletter and on the Facebook "EVENT"!

Reading About Beer And Brewing

By Steve Johnson

Recent Changes at Zymurgy Magazine and the American Homebrewers Association (AHA)

Reading is a big part of the beer and brewing hobby for me. Online access to decades of Zymurgy back issues is the reason I eventually joined the AHA, after 20 plus years of brewing. A brief note on changes at Zymurgy and AHA seemed appropriate for the newsletter.

One change in Zymurgy is the schedule: from six issues per year to four issues per year. Each of the issues will be longer, however, so that the same number of pages are published in a year. Members may now receive the magazine in print, digital or both formats, all for the same price.



AHA also has a new Artificial Intelligence tool, trained on the contents of Zymurgy magazine and the AHA Forum. Although I am skeptical of AI, I was impressed with the response to my query about wormwood ale. I had previously retrieved much the same material through individual searches of Zymurgy back issues, the Forum, and other sources outside AHA.

Another change at AHA is opening up the Forum to non-member participation. This change is an effort to get non-members involved with the club, perhaps attracting participants from HomeBrewTalk.com, the long established commercial forum.

The background for these changes is AHA's independence as an organization. AHA is no longer a division of the Brewers Association, which AHA helped to found. For details, see homebrewersassociation.org

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Club Clothes!

You can now order GNBC Hoodies and Tee Shirts online! The Teespring link has been updated and is ready to roll. Nice Looking Blue Recommended, or pink for the Brewbies Run for Women! Here is the link to use:

https://my-store-59c1d0.creator-spring.com/listing/greatnorthernbrewersclubshirt





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