



THE

Northern Brewer

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GREAT NORTHERN BREWERS CLUB

June 2019

Brewer's Log 2019.06.01

By Mike Fisher

Fellow brewers, full-on summer is here! While I know a lot of you consider the summer to be a non-brewing season, lacking a garage floor drain I always look forward to the warm summer days when I can run my chill water onto my lawn or the driveway without creating a death glaze for vehicles and pedestrians.



We kicked off the summer with Brew-a-thon on May 4. Despite fantastic weather, the turnout was unfortunately very small. Still, batches were brewed and fun times had by those who attended. A huge thanks to Kevin Sobolesky for organizing the event, Kevin's parents for hosting this rowdy crew, King Street Brewing Company for their yeast, and Arctic Brewing Supply for the port-a-potty.

A few weeks later, we had our regular monthly meeting at a new location, Bread & Brew. We had Denali Brewing Company down again this year to taste all of the creative finishing touches our members put onto Denali's Twister Creek IPA wort. We had an amazing turnout of 29 beers spawned from the Twister Creek wort, ranging from different yeasts to all sorts of fruits and creative additions. In the popular vote, I'm honored to have received first place for my Guava Facepunch tropical IPA. Robert Trospen's Twister Sister Orange was second and Mike Cragen's Oak IPA was third. I tasted each and every one and really enjoyed each. Thanks again to Denali Brewing Company for the whole event, and to Sassan for coming down to be part of the meeting.

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Near the end of May, the 27th Annual Haines Craft Beer and Home Brew Festival took place. One of the festival's regular events is a homebrew competition. While our club members did not take great part in the competition, two of our members had a very solid showing. Holly Kelty took second and third place with her meads and Mike Cragen took first place in several of the beer categories: smoke and wood aged beer, dark and strong ales, wheat beers, and European lagers and hybrids. Mike also placed third in spiced and fruit beers. Congratulations to Holly and Mike for their impressive showing!

In the next 3 months, we have a great lineup of GNBC and community brewing/craft events. The highlights include:

June 8: Alaska Run for Women and Team Brewbies

June 14-16: Camping at Eklutna Group Site B

July 11: Beer in the Garden at the Alaska Botanical Garden

July 16: Club barbecue at Jeff Loughrey and Cathie Straub's house

August 20: Club barbecue at Rick and Eileen Levinson's house

While we're on summer break as far as our monthly meetings are concerned, we've still got a lot of events planned for the summer months. The next big club event is the June camp-out. We'll be back at the Eklutna Group Site B. Come out for the weekend or the day. See the article in this issue for more details.

For this month's flame-out, I brewed a Wee Heavy with a very healthy glob of yeast built up from the Brew-a-thon yeast. It's scaled up from a test batch I made that is a single malt beer, with a large portion of the wort pulled off early and boiled down to a dark, smoky, caramel concentrate. I'm sure I'll have a sample to share at a future gathering once the yeast has done its work and the beer has had time to mellow.

Summer's here. Make the most of it!

Secretary's Corner

Once again, a huge thanks to Denali brewing company for hosting the club for Beer Tripping and allowing us to experiment with their wort. It was wonderful that Sassan Mossanen from Denali Brewing company could attend our May meeting and try all the creative ways our club members finished their wort. I am impressed that our club was able to come up with 30 different finished beers from the same base. Overall, I would say our last regular meeting, before

summer break, was a huge success.

Although we are not having regular club meetings during the summer, that does not mean the fun has stopped. I hope you will be able to join us June 14th-16th for our summer campout at the Eklutna campground. On July 16th, Jeff Loughrey and Cathie Straub will be hosting our summer BBQ. If you are too busy enjoying our short Alaskan summer, we will see you on September 17th when we resume our regularly scheduled meetings. Remember if the salmon aren't biting, relax and have a homebrew.

Cheers, Jordan

J

2019 Alaska Run for Women GNBC Team Brewbies

by Julie McDonald

Registration is open now, for The Great Northern Brewers Club walk/run team, GNBC Team Brewbies, in the 27th Annual Alaska Run for Women slated for June 8, 2019.

See our Facebook events page here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/2053303451459218/>

The Alaska Run for Women is Alaska's premier women's running event that raises money for breast cancer research and support, detection and awareness programs. Although it's women who are doing the walking and running, men are encouraged to participate as volunteers, cheerleaders or phantom donors.

If you haven't participated in the event in the past, this is the year to get involved! You don't have to run, you can walk, or you can run some and walk some, you can stroll leisurely with your friends. Check out this info for more detail:

- 6:45-8:15 a.m. Bib Pick-Up; Registration for untimed events only; Merchandise sales
- 7:30 a.m. Yoga Warm-up with Anne Marie Moylan
- 7:55 a.m. Survivor group photo under finish arch
- 8:00 a.m. Staging all events
- 8:20 a.m. National Anthem by Rosie Rush
- 8:30 a.m. 1-mile run/walk start
- 8:45 a.m. 5-mile run/walk timed start
- 9:05 a.m. 5-mile run/walk untimed start
- 9:20 a.m. 5-mile UNTIMED PARTY WAVE & STROLLERS!
- 10:15 a.m. Zumba workout with Suzy Spackman
- 11:00 a.m. Awards Ceremony begins!
- 11:30 ish Door Prize Drawing and Annual RFW Raffle Drawing

To register: www.akrfw.org, click "Register".

*Be sure to indicate Brewbies under the team selection.

*YOUR ENTRY FEE IS A DONATION!

Your Entry Fee is a donation only. In order to include all women regardless of economic circumstances, there is no set registration fee. There are also no participant processing fees, so more of your donation can continue to be used to help all women and men in the fight against breast cancer. We encourage you to consider a donation at any level to help in the fight against this disease. The recommended registration donation is \$25.

****NOTE: While men may not register to race, they are certainly welcome to come as observers and support their racers on course or at the stadium, they can also volunteer (see the link below)!

****NOTE: DONATIONS from non-racers are accepted by going here: <https://www.akrfwregistration.org/donate/> and when you get to the "support a team" section, find Brewbies in the drop down menu.

For anyone that cannot run/walk but would like to volunteer, here is the link to volunteer sign up: <https://www.akrfwregistration.org/volunteer.php>

Please check out the race website, especially the race day information. It has info for shuttles and other things you may want to know.

If interested, contact Julie at juzy@gci.net for more information.

Summer Camp-Out, June 14th Eklutna Group Site B

Peter Hall (Recycled from a Kat Karabelnikoff article)

Snow is still here and there, but I'm going to talk about summer anyway! The summer campout is just over a month away! You can arrive early in the afternoon on Friday June 14th and the good times continue thru the 17th. Most people are packed up by 2pm on Sunday.

To find the campground, head north out of Anchorage, go about 25 miles, and watch for signs pointing towards Eklutna. Drive nearly 10 miles down Eklutna Rd. Follow the signs to find your way to Eklutna Group site B (The far end of an old airplane landing strip) (Is it only me who thinks it a little funny to give driving directions?) There may be a temporary sign or two to help direct the last few hundred yards. Please follow the event on Facebook. If any last-minute updates come up, I will make sure the information is posted there.

The highlight of the campout is the group potluck Saturday night and the theme is C. Cheese, Chips, Chicken, Chili, Citrus Shrimp, Crumpets, Cold BEER! (you get the idea.)

Even if you can't come for the entire weekend, it would be great to see you out on Saturday night for the food and "club business" (aka socializing). We'll plan to kick off the potluck between 5:00pm and 6:00pm. A bonfire is usually constructed at some point as well, taking the fun late into the sunny (we hope) Alaskan summer night. If you have some kind of pop-up shelter, this is an excellent place to have it on hand. There is no bad weather, only bad gear!

Bring your favorite foods and your homebrews, ciders, and meads. This is a family friendly event so bring the family, the kids, the dog, and guests if you like. If you bring your dogs, please always plan to have them under control. In previous years, we have had our canine friends help themselves to food at the potluck tables, and even run off and go missing.

We'll create a Facebook event at some point. Feel free to contact Peter Hall at alaskabrewer@gmail.com if you have any questions, or some bright idea. Hope to see you all at the campout this year!

Last friendly reminder. We will be in bear country, so be mindful of your food and other items that might attract bears to the site.

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The *Northern Brewer* welcomes letters, opinions, articles, ideas and inquiries. You can contact the editor, Debbie Grecco at:

The Great Northern Brewers Club and the American Homebrewers Association remind you to....Savor the Flavor Responsibly

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NEXT MEETING: June 14-16, 2019
Summer Camp-Out, Eklutna Group Site B