



THE

Northern Brewer

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GREAT NORTHERN BREWERS CLUB

Brewer's Log

By Mike Fisher

Only a few months ago, we had no idea what would hit us, but as summer starts back up and restrictions are generally relaxed, I hope your adjusted 2020 plans for brewing, outdoor fun, etc. are going well.

We wrapped up our pre-summer meetings with our second virtual meeting on May 19. Thank you to all who did find some time to join us for a bit. Prior to that, we had our Brew-a-thon virtually as well, though the yeast was real. Huge thanks to King Street for donating hefeweizen yeast and to Christophe for portioning it out for people. Though we didn't get together to brew, on a positive note we had more controlled pitch rates that the old "one one thousand two one thousand" pour from the picnic tap. Though I didn't use the yeast on Brew-a-thon day (I'd already planned to brew a pale ale), I brewed my first of three wheat beer batches a few days later and the second not too long after that. A couple spoons' worth of the yeast slurry got them started fast.

Thank you to everyone who responded to our survey. You can read the summary below. This information will be beneficial for future planning.

Read the details about the club's annual campout later in this issue. We'll get the word out as other summer activities take shape, like the July and August BBQs. Let me know if you're interested in hosting!

Cheers!

June 2020

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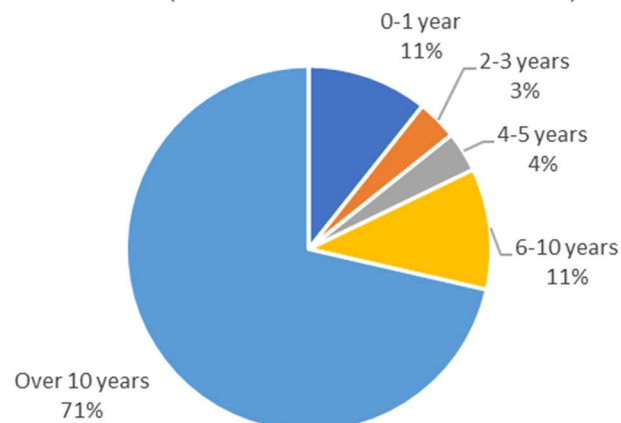
Summer Campout

Member Survey Results

By Mike Fisher

The results are in from our member survey, summarized below.

How many years has it been since your first homebrew (beer, cider, mead, and/or wine)?



NEXT MEETING:

Club Campout

June 12-14

Eklutna Group Site

GREAT NORTHERN BREWERS CLUB
PMB 1204
3705 ARCTIC BOULEVARD
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503

GNBC WEBSITE
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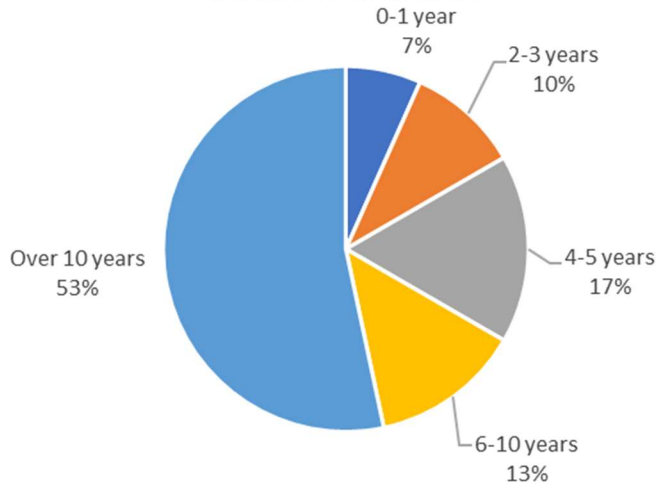
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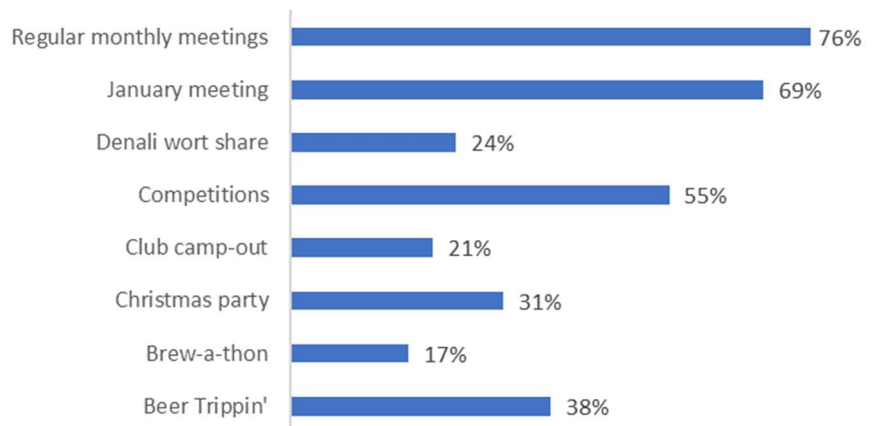
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membership@greatnorthernbrewers.org

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Contact information via our website

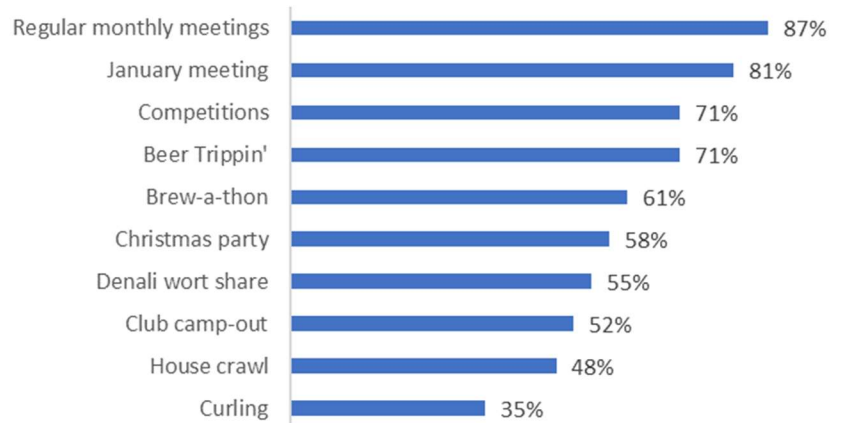
How many years has it been since you first became a member of GNBC?



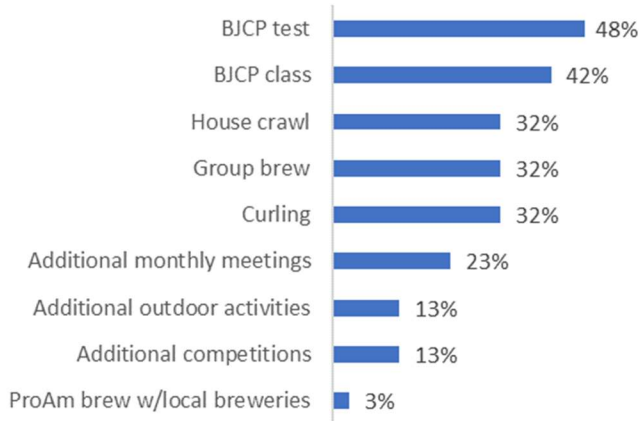
Which of the following club activities have you taken part in in the last year?



What club activities would you like to see continue from this year?



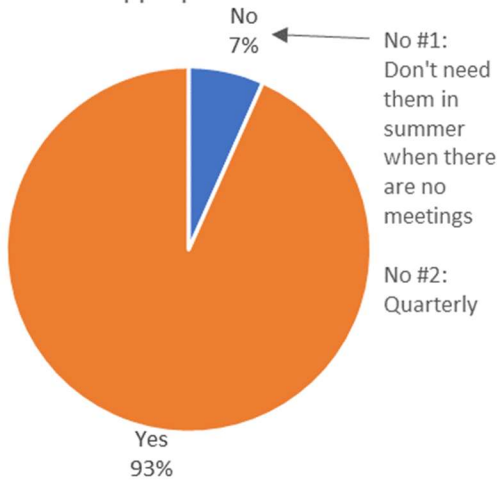
What club activities would you like to see added/brought back?



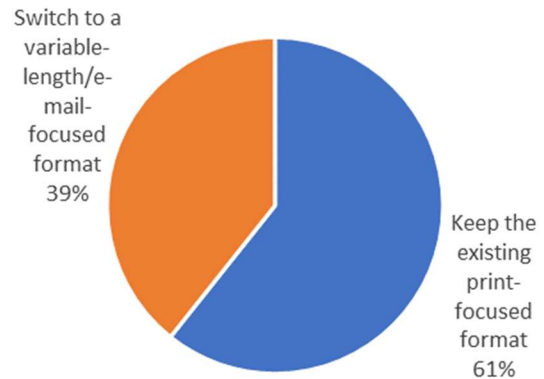
Have you volunteered for a club event in the last year?



Is the frequency of club's newsletter appropriate?



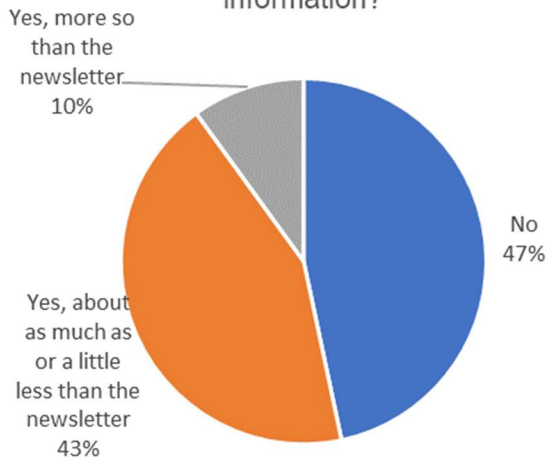
Should we keep the newsletter's format (print-focused) or switch to an e-mail-focused format?



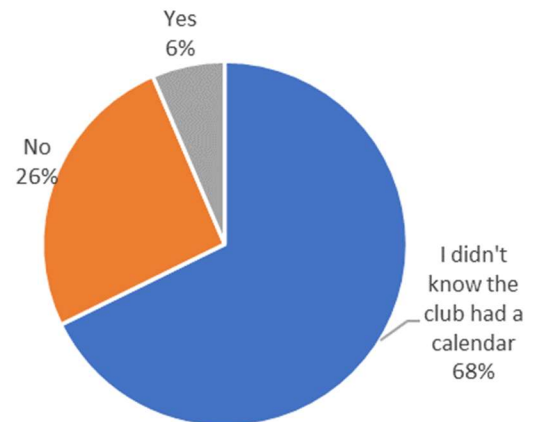
What sort of content would you like to see in the club's newsletter?

Stories of trips members have taken or events they have attended. Introduce new members. Beer recipes from winning comps or members. Perhaps include want ads for buy/ sell of equipment and gear. Style guide/recipe article. Brewer profiles, recipes, tips for improving your brewing. More local beer and brewery news. Brewing tips and tricks. Practically any "fannish" writing about beer or homebrewing. More beer in Alaska articles. Brewing with local ingredients. Harvesting wild local yeast.

Do you use the club's Facebook page for information?



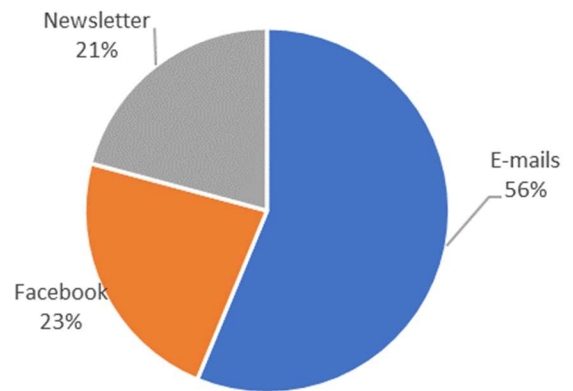
Do you use the club's Google calendar for information about events?



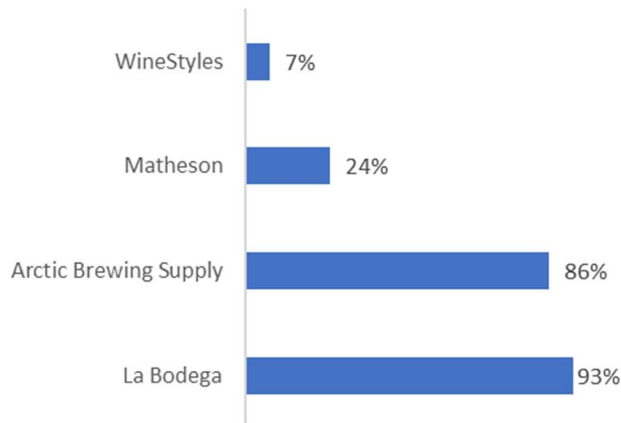
What would you like to see us post about on Facebook?



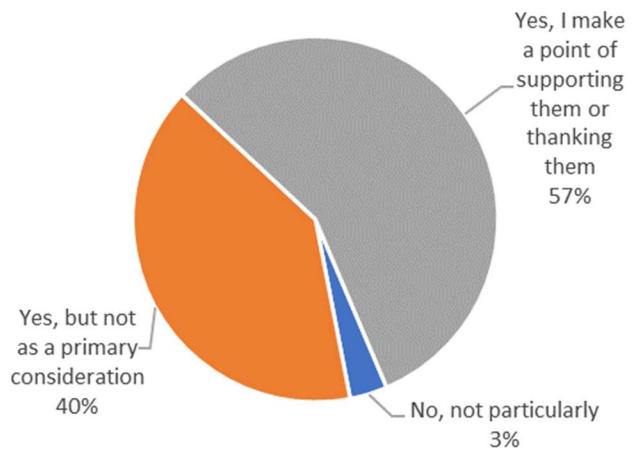
How do you prefer to receive news/announcements from GNBC?



What club discounts have you taken advantage of?



Do you support the companies that Support or Sponsor the club?



Are there any other benefits you think the board should pursue. Keep in mind that any additional benefits or discounts would need to be consistent with our purpose and legally permissible.

Responses included education and access behind the scenes at breweries for club members only.

What do you like most about GNBC?

Key themes were camaraderie with members/friends/those met over the years, education, knowledge, feedback, and sampling good beers.

What do you like least about GNBC?

Some of the key concerns about meetings were them taking on too much of a party vibe by some, there being too much of a commercial bottle share and drinking aspect, and too much drinking/overconsumption taking place at meetings. These comments tended to focus on a desire for the meetings to be more focused on homebrewing. Others expressed that there is too much focus on competitions.

Secretary's Corner

By Jordan Couture

Welcome to the unofficial start of summer, club members,

As things start to open back up for the start of the summer season, I have a few events to report upon. However as always, for up to date information please refer to our website and Facebook page.

A big thank you to everyone who participated in Brew-A-Thon over zoom. A big thank to Jim Lamb for leading us in the toast.

The summer campout is still planned for June 12–14 at Eklutna Lake Campground Group Site B.

The Brewbies are running again for this year's Run for Women. You can support or join them at www.akrhw.org.

Enjoy the return of daylight and remember the best way to stay calm during a crisis is to have a homebrew!

Summer Campout

By John Trapp

Have you been working from Home for over two months and need a temporary weekend vacation? Do you have a small child that you've been homeschooling since mid-March and you crave more adult interaction and conversation? Well, welcome to my world! That's why on Friday June 12th I'll be heading to Eklutna Lake (Group Camping Area B) for our annual summer campout. Once there I'll relax with a cold homebrew, a nice lawn chair and a camp fire. I might even fire up a cigar! I look forward to talking with everyone (from 6 feet away) and hearing about how you all spent the last 3 months.

If you don't wish to talk with me, that's okay, there's plenty of other things to do at Eklutna Lake. If you have a mountain bike, you'll love biking to the opposite side of the lake (12 miles) and back (another 12 miles). There's kayak rentals if that's your thing, or hiking trails and mountains to climb. My son is a big fan of throwing rocks, and if memory serves, he had a blast hucking rocks into the lake last time we were there.

Saturday evening is the group meal that will start at 6:00 pm. If you can't make the whole weekend, Eklutna is close enough to Anchorage (45 minutes) that you can come out and join everyone for dinner Saturday evening. There is no theme this year, or better yet, let me make up a theme now – You're Not At Home! There, how's that for a theme? Bring a dish to share and some tasty brews. Come with your tent, car or truck campers or RV. We have the site until noon on Sunday and I hope everyone can come out and enjoy the fresh air and good company. Cheers.

A HUGE Thanks to our 2020 Supporters

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



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