



FROTH

Newsletter of the Brewers of Central Kentucky

July 2008

2008 B.O.C.K OFFICERS

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Froth is the publication of the Brewers of Central Kentucky, a non-profit organization dedicated to homebrewing.

If you would like to submit an article or have something that you would like to see included, please contact:
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National Homebrewer's Conference 2008

Fifteen (15) BOCK members attended the NHC in Cincinnati and a great time was had by all, minus hangovers. Tony was in charge of all of the audio/visual for the entire event. Those who attended the two catered dinners were very happy with the food and beverage. Our log cabin idea was a huge success as were the garage tap handles. So successful even that Charlie Papazian even had to come and have his picture taken on the front porch. And yes, Papazian thought Emmett's Pale Ale was very good.

Alltech Brew-Off 2008

The winner of the Alltech Brew-Off 2008 was Kevin Patterson's English IPA. Alltech will be brewing 1200 gallons of it to send to the Pro-Am competition in Denver.

State Fair

The KY State Fair competition judging will be done on Sunday, August 10. I have worked with the Louisville club to help re-construct the competition. We hope that things are more organized and smooth this year. They have converted to the BJCP guidelines and have reorganized the registration and awards process. This year, there will be an awards ceremony after the judging. If you're free, please go and help judge. I will be making a trip to Louisville on August 9th to deliver our beers.

Mountain Brewer Open 2008

BOCK has been asked to provide judging help (and entries) to the Mountain Brewer Open in Huntington, WV on July 26. Online entry registration deadline is July 20.
<http://www.hbd.org/ghha/Meetings2008/July2008/MBOAnn2008>

National Homebrewer's Conference



Club Night at the American Homebrewers Association Conference

My only role in preparing for the event was to brew a five gallon batch of brew. I brewed at David Harris' home around the beginning of May. Just like brewing at Alltech, I loaded up my brewing equipment and took it all to David's house early on a Saturday morning. I remembered everything except a tank of propane. Using club grain and David's grain mill, water and propane, I brewed an American Pale Ale. My recipe included 10 pounds of Pale Malt, 1 pound of dextrin, 1 pound of crystal, and 1 pound of white wheat. I used 2 ounces of cascade hops for 60 minutes and 2 ounces of cascade for 10 minutes. I'm not sure if it was the crush from David's mill, or the quality of the water at David's house, or the pound of white wheat, but to me this was the best beer I have ever brewed.

Because my wife Andrea is pregnant and due to deliver any day, I decided that it might not be a good idea to be away for that long, especially at a beer event. So I only registered for Friday night, which happened to be Club Night. I registered several months ago, and had been looking forward to it since then.

There were over 30 different homebrew clubs from around the country that brought homebrew and food for everyone to sample at Club Night. It officially started at 8 PM and lasted until around 12:30 AM. BOCK was represented by around 15 members. I split my time serving homebrew/burgoo and walking around checking out the other clubs and trying their homebrew/food. I met some neat people and talked a lot about homebrew. The crowd included everyone from people who don't brew but enjoy it to brewery owners and book writers. There were some big names of the homebrewing community including Charlie Papazian, who stopped by the BOCK booth. He even came up on our "porch" and pulled a pint of homebrew from one of our taps. I feel pretty lucky, because the tap he chose happened to have my American Pale Ale hooked up to it. After posing for some pictures, he took a few sips of my homebrew and even offered his glass to his wife who drank some and didn't make a "bitter face"! I caught up with Charlie and asked him what he thought about my beer. He probably thought I was crazy, because I was telling him how I liked the mouthfeel of it, and how I thought it was probably due to the white wheat. But he was nice and just agreed.

Some of my favorite homebrews were from the clubs right next to us. The Rocket City Brewers from Huntsville Alabama had a nice Saison. They all wore flight suits and had a smoke machine to give that "blasting off" effect. The club on our other side was the Primetime Brewers from Grand Rapids, Michigan. They had a really great apple cider, and a chocolate stout that came with a chocolate brownie. Another club had a MASH tent set up, and all wore army hospital outfits. They had a kahlua stout that really tasted just like kahlua. Another club was serving different foods paired with each of their homebrews. The BOCK "front porch" booth was amazing and was the subject of numerous photos, and the Bourbon Barrel Brown Ale and Burgoo were real crowd pleasers. I tried some other club's Bourbon Barrel Ale's and I think ours was the best.

At 12:30 AM Club Night was officially over and a few of us went to the hospitality suite, where the consumption continued. I had a few sips of a 14% ABV barley wine, and shortly later decided I didn't need any more homebrew that night. I even turned down a bacon grease flavored moonshine some guy was serving out of a mason jar. It was bedtime.

I had told Tony Aiken that I would help him set up for some of the conferences on Saturday morning. He said around 7AM would be a good time to get started. Some other people who were going to be up early to help out told me they would give me a wake up call around 7AM. So I was surprised when I woke up on my own at 8:15, but once I sat up and realized my blood alcohol level was not back to zero yet, I was glad they hadn't called. I went down and put my sleeping bag back in my truck and got some coffee. Then Tony instructed me how to turn the microphone volume up/down. I listened to Ray Daniels (author of Designing Great Beers) talk about how to serve good beer, then John Palmer (author of How to Brew) talk about residual alkalinity (which was as complex as it sounds). After the talks I went to the Hospitality suite and got some free schwag. I also bought a grain mill from Beer, Beer and More Beer who had a table set up. They weren't officially selling stuff, but I had asked them about it the night before and they said they would sell it to me. They even gave me a "Morebeer Deal of the Day" price, probably because it was after midnight on the west coast (if you don't understand this you can ask me or just check out their website).

As always when you're having fun time flies, and it was time to go home. It was a great 19 hours. I learned a lot and had some souvenirs. The highlight though was Charlie Papazian trying my American Pale Ale. When I had asked him what he thought of it, his response also sums up my feelings for my whole trip. He said it was "Damn Good!".



Calendar of Events

July 2008

July BOCK Meeting

Monday, July 14 – 7:00pm-9:00pm

Location: Mellow Mushroom

Indianapolis Brewers Cup

Fri-Sat, July 11-12 - Indianapolis, IN

<http://www.brewerscup.org>

Mountain Brewer Open

Saturday, July 26 - Huntington, WV

Mark Schentrup's 50th BDay Party

Saturday, July 26

August 2008

Mead Day!

Saturday, August 2 – Everywhere

<http://www.beertown.org/events/meadday/index.html>

Great Taste of the Midwest

Saturday, Aug 9 - Madison, WI

KY State Fair Judging

Sunday, August 10 @ Noon

Louisville Fair Grounds

August BOCK Meeting

Monday, August 11 – 7:00pm-9:00pm

Location: Mellow Mushroom

Beer & Sweat 2008

Saturday, August 16

Fort Mitchell, KY

BOCK Summer Party / Pot Luck

Saturday, August ??

September 2008

September BOCK Meeting

Monday, September 8 – 7:00pm-9:00pm

Location: Mellow Mushroom

Music City Brew-Off 2008

Saturday, Sept 27 @ Nashville, TN

October 2008

October BOCK Meeting

Monday, Oct 13 – 7:00pm-9:00pm

Location: Mellow Mushroom

Oktoberbest Zinzinnati (Tentative)

Saturday, Oct 25 @ Newport, KY

November 2008

Bonfire at Joel Damron's House

Saturday, November 8

Location: Versailles

November BOCK Meeting

Monday, Nov 10 – 7:00pm-9:00pm

Location: Mellow Mushroom

