

The OVHA Tap

Vol 9 No. 4

April 2005

April meeting: Wednesday the 27th at Germania Mannerchor, 7:00 pm

Beer Evaluations

We will be evaluating a beer at all of our meetings in the future. Dan Lutterbach is going to reproduce a set of AHA style sheets for us to use (these will be provided to all new members, too) rather than hand out loose sheets at the meetings. We will evaluate the beer featured in Zymergy or a similar one if we cannot obtain the featured beer.

Indiana State Fair Brewers Competition

It's that time again! The Indiana State Fair Wine and Beer competition will be held on July 9 in Indianapolis.

Submission requirements are three unlabeled bottles for each entry, accompanied by a completed entry form (available later). Entries must be received by late June. Jack Frey will be going up to visit on June 11, and has volunteered to take any entries from club members at that time.

There is a new twist this year. The number of entries has been growing considerably in the last few years, so the judges have decided to expand things a bit. An award will be given to the homebrew club whose members win the most Gold Medals, so wrap up some of your best and give it a shot. You never know, we all make pretty good beer, we might win!

There is also a growing need for serving stewards for the actual judging. Jim Dippel and Jack Frey have been acting as stewards for the last few years, and have reported that it's a great time and a good learning experience. Jim is planning to take his camper up for the judging, so cheap accommodations are available if you are interested in helping out. Should be a good time.

If you are interested in learning to judge beers, this is an excellent way to learn about it. Judges usually are willing to share their thoughts with stewards.

Big Brew Day

May 14th is Big Brew Day. This is the day you drag all your friends who talk about brewing but never seem to get around to it down to Germania and force them to help make beer out in the parking lot. This is also an AHA event, so we need to get as many people there as possible.

Current plans are to brew two full mash batches and four extract batches starting at 8 am sharp. Typically it takes me all day to do a single full mash, from crushing grain to siphoning into the fermenter, but I usually don't start at 8 am, either!. Typical extract brew takes me only a couple hours, so we plan to do two in the morning and two later, depending on how things go.

We will be brewing Rye IPA and Porter, one each by full mash and two each from extract. We will hold a goodly portion of these beers to use at the Brew-ha-ha in September, along with whatever else everyone brings. I assume we

Meeting Schedule 2005

April 27 Germania 7 pm

May 25th Germania 7 pm

June 25th at Jack Frey's (Bring a present, it's Jack's birthday!)

July 30th at Steve's?

August 27th at Jim Dippel's

September 28th Germania 7 pm

October 26th, Germania 7 pm

November 16th or 30th, Germania 7 pm

OVHA

Peter Frederick
15805 Darmstadt Rd
Evansville, IN 47726

SWIRCA Brewers Festival

The response last year for the SWIRCA Brewer's Festival was outstanding, and it is being held again this year with a few minor changes. Current plans are to hold it August 20th from 6:00 to 10:00 pm at the Casino Aztar Events Plaza.

Details aren't fixed yet, but the format will be very similar to last year's event. We should have a number of Indiana and nearby breweries and brewpubs serving their beer much the same way as last year.

Naturally, we will need a similar number of volunteers again. Duties will include setup, teardown, hauling supplies, and serving beer. I suspect that there will be somewhat more emphasis this time on meeting Excise regulations (since it's at Aztar), so we will definitely need people with server's permits from the State of Indiana. If you would like to help out and don't have a permit, they are easy (and inexpensive for charity events) to get. See Jack Frey for more details. Updates will be published in the Newsletter as more information becomes available.

Big Brew Day cont

will also be drinking at least some if it somewhere, too!

Main Street Brewing will be supplying malt, hops, and yeast along with technical services. We will probably supply some snacks as well.

We will need volunteers to show up (with brewing equipment!) at 7:00 am to get set up to go by 8:00. Exact assignments will be determined at the April meeting. We will probably need six propane burners (two each for the mashers and one each for the extract brewers), sufficient mashing equipment, and four boilers. Spare chillers might be a good idea as well.

Plenty of potluck goodies for lunch (or dinner afterwards?) and lots of tasty homebrew are in order as well.

See ya there!