

March, 2024

Society of Northeast Ohio Brewers



Our Next Meeting

Monday, March 4th,
7:30 p.m.

Sachsenheim Hall
7001 Denison Ave.
Cleveland, Ohio 44102

Upcoming Events

March Meeting

Monday, March 4th,
7:30 p.m.

Sachsenheim Hall
'Big Beers'

March Night Out

Tuesday, March 19th,
6:00 p.m.

Masthead Brewing Co.

April Meeting

Monday, April 1st,
7:30 p.m.

Sachsenheim Hall

*See more details on
these and other events
inside this newsletter.*

President's Krausening

- Mike Ontolchik

Cheers, fellow SNOBs.

Even with the extra day this year, February flew by. Out here in Lake County, Ballentine and 1899 host their annual IPALooza, where the two bars tap 28 IPAs for the month. I wouldn't recommend it for anyone that doesn't live fairly close to downtown Willoughby and can plan on spending 6-7 evenings in February drinking all of those hop-forward beers. I also judged and attended Stout it Out Loud at Butcher & the Brewer and traveled to Grand Rapids, Michigan where six of us SNOB Members attended the Michigan Brewers Guild Winter Beer Fest. A highlight to that road trip was Bier Camp in Ann Arbor. Cool spot with a few nice beers on tap to go with their barbeque, bratwurst and deli snacks in a mostly outdoor space.



Congratulations to Erica Anton, Scott and Wendy Eckroate and Jim Jadwisiak for each scoring "medals" in our annual Chili Cook-Off. We had a nice turn out with 9 chilis. I was impressed by the quality of beer being made at Forest City Brewery.

Looking ahead to March, we will have our first focused beer meeting where we will dive into Strong Beer. Erica Anton, Jay O'Neill and I will all have beers at the meeting where the ABV will be 6.5% or higher. Someone else may have told me that they have something to bring but I do not remember. As a group, we will discuss what it takes to brew higher ABV beers. Everyone is encouraged to bring your bigger beer so that we can discuss them with those in attendance.

Katie Melnick and Paul Klammer are working on a SNOB and SAAZ Akron Area brewery crawl for May 18th. You should try to keep your calendars free. Someone from Fat Heads will discuss hops at our April meeting and May's topic with Andy Tveekrem is yet to be determined. Before we know it, it will be time to drop off carboys at Terrestrial Brewing for Big Brew.

Cheers,

Mike

Club News

Chili Cook-Off

The annual Chili Cook-Off was held once again at Forest City Brewery. Forest City has graciously hosted us for the last several years. We were joined by Head Brewer Matt as well as the owner, Jay Demagall. It was a fun night and the overwhelming choice for best Chili went to Erica Anton. Scott and Wendy Eckroate and Jim Jadwisiak were the other top vote getters.



March Meeting

The March Meeting will feature strong lagers and ales. Please bring homebrews and/or bottles of craft beer that are 6.5% and stronger to share and discuss. We will discuss some of the considerations of brewing higher ABV beers.



SNOB to Invade SAAZ Territory!

Katie & Paul Klammer have been working on an Akron area brewery crawl for the club. The event is scheduled for Saturday May 18th. Hoppin' Frog, Eighty-Three and Akronym are on the schedule. Put it on your calendar now so you don't miss this fun event. They are also working on some other brewery tour events for the year. Details to follow.

Competitions

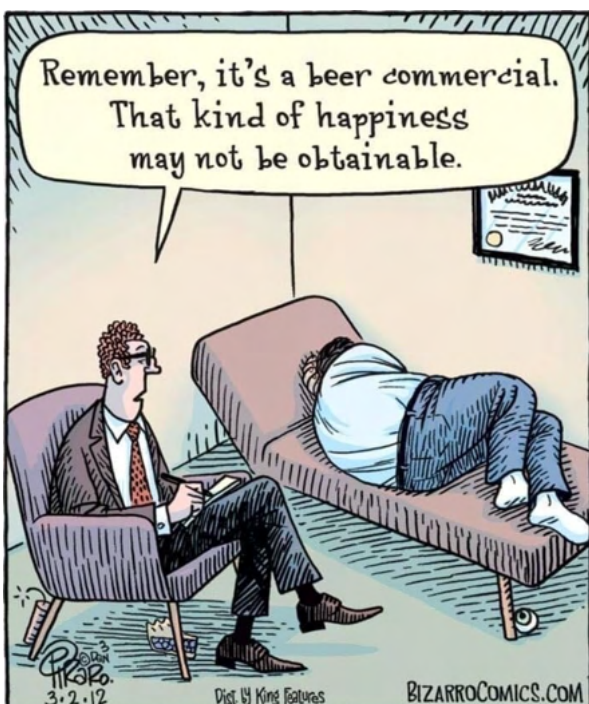
There are several regional and national competitions listed on the BJCP website that should be on your radar:

TRASH 32 Bellefonte, PA. Entry Deadline is Mar 6th— [TRASH 32](#) **TRASH is seeking more judges for this competition.**

Ohio 4 O.Z. Cleveland, OH. Entry Deadline is Mar 23rd— [Ohio 4 OZ](#)

British Beerfest. Lewis Center, OH (Columbus). Entry Deadline is Apr 25th— [British Beerfest](#)

National Homebrew Competition. Philadelphia, PA. Round 1 Entry Deadline is March 15th .



Extra, Extra -

HomebrewCon folded into 2024 Great American Beer Festival

Shamelessly borrowed from newschoolbeer.com

The American Homebrewers Association is folding their largest event, Homebrew Con, into the Great American Beer Festival in Denver, Colorado in 2024. This comes after reports of falling attendance at the annual gathering, which migrates to different cities across the country similar to the Brewers Association's Craft Brewers Conference. The Homebrewers Association is a sister organization of the Brewers Association, both non-profits created to organize and celebrate homebrewers and small and independent pro brewers respectively.



Rebranded the Homebrew HQ at GABF®, it will feature AHA-only exclusive events and the Homebrew Headquarters inside the Great American Beer Festival (GABF), Oct. 10-12, in Denver, allowing AHA members to have a focused presence at the nation's largest beer festival. Organizers say Homebrew Con is merely taking a hiatus this year, to return to its regular format in 2025, but homebrewers in the know are skeptical that it will return as the event they once knew and loved. Many in the homebrewing community see this as a dumbing down of homebrew con, and are not excited to see it as an adjacent side event to the main GABF which draws a rowdy crowd of drinkers and beer nerds to Denver each year. On the positive side, it will likely boost attendance for GABF which has also seen falling numbers both in ticket sales and breweries attending, and this could introduce many of them to homebrewing.

What's on Tap for Homebrew HQ

- **Homebrew HQ at GABF:** This AHA member-only area will be open during all Great American Beer Festival sessions, where you can sample 2024 Pro-Am beers, taste the delicious homebrews of Homebrew Rockstars, learn how to taste beer like a pro at You Be the Judge, watch live homebrewing demonstrations, explore the homebrew marketplace, plus much more to come! *A GABF ticket is required to attend the festival. AHA members will be required to show their membership card to access Homebrew HQ.*
- **AHA Member Gathering:** Mingle with fellow members at the Colorado Convention Center, date and time TBD. *Pre-registration, AHA membership, and a GABF ticket are required to attend.*
- **Exclusive Headline Speakers:** AHA members are invited to hear from homebrewing luminaries before the Great American Beer Festival session starts, dates and times TBD. *Pre-registration, AHA membership, and a GABF ticket are required to attend.*
- **National Homebrew Competition (NHC) Awards:** On Thursday, Oct. 10, the results of the world's largest homebrew competition will be announced live from the floor of the Great American Beer Festival. *A GABF ticket for Thursday, Oct. 10, is required to attend the NHC awards ceremony.*
- **Educational Opportunities:** On Friday, Oct. 11, attend Club Officer Bootcamp or Beer Judge Certification Program Exams in the Colorado Convention Center. *Pre-registration and AHA membership required for bootcamp; register for BJCP exams on their website.*
- **Local Savings:** Flash your membership card to save at [AHA Member Deal locations](#) in Denver and the Front Range.



2024 Meeting Dates

January 8th, Monthly Meeting
 February 5th, Monthly Meeting
 March 4th, Monthly Meeting
 April 1st, , Monthly Meeting
 May 6th, Monthly Meeting
 June 3rd, Monthly Meeting

June 28th, Big Brew Cookout
 August 5th, Monthly Meeting
 August 26th, September Meeting
 October 7th, Monthly Meeting
 November 4th, Monthly Meeting
 December 6th, Christmas Party

Request for Homebrew

Please consider bringing a keg or growler of your homebrew to share at monthly meetings. Let Mike know in advance, he can add it to the meeting slides. Bringing your beer is a good way to get constructive feedback from the members and judges in attendance. Also as Mr. Rogers liked to say "It's nice to share".



Collaboration Opportunities

Would you like to be part of a SNOB collaboration team and help brew at a local craft brewery? Join a SNOB Collab. People interested should let Mike Ontolchik know of your interest. president@beersnobs.org



Newsletter

Have any ideas for the newsletter? Is there anything you'd like to see here occasionally or on a regular basis. Don't hesitate to share your ideas. Let me know! Cheers, Jay

SNOBwear T-Shirts

We still have a good selection of sizes of the SNOB T-Shirts available. \$10 for sizes S—XL, \$15 for larger sizes. Contact Jay if you want one — secretary@beersnobs.org



Society of Northeast Ohio Brewers

SNOB is one of Ohio's oldest clubs for homebrewers. Founded in 1990 and recognized as AHA's national club of the year in 2020, the club meets the first Monday of each month at 7:30 PM at [Sachsenheim Hall](#) on Cleveland's West Side. In addition to monthly meetings, the club also hosts special evenings at local brewpubs and restaurants, homebrew competitions, a spring bus trip, a summer camping event, our annual Oktoberfest weekend festival and an extravagant Christmas party. Visitors are always welcome at our meetings, where they will find lively presentations on beer and brewing, great conversation, and answers to any brewing questions they might have. Website at:

[SNOBS | Society of Northeast Ohio Brewers Cleveland, Ohio \(beersnobs.org\)](#)

Membership Dues

As always, non-members are welcome at meetings, but some activities (parties, bus trip, collaboration brews) are members only. Please consider joining today! Single member dues are \$40. Couples (living in same household) are \$60. Dues can be paid to the treasurer at the meetings, by contacting treasurer@beersnobs.org or using the paypal link found on our website, <https://www.beersnobs.org/>

Your membership dues are used to pay for club activities throughout the year like the annual Christmas Party and rental at The Brooklyn Exchange Cabin where we hold the annual SNOBtoberfest. They pay for club insurance, food, supplies and prizes for SNOBtoberfest, Chili Cook-off, Big Brew etc.

Plus, use your SNOB membership to gain discounts on all things brewing and beer-related at:

Cleveland Brew Shop - 10% off on all brewing supplies. Use the code SNOBs10 when filling out the online order form. <https://www.clevelandbrewshop.com>

Grape & Granery - 5% off on all brewing supplies. Use the code SAAZ1819 when filling out the online order form or show your card at checkout. <https://www.grapeandgranery.com>

2024 Officers



Mike Ontolchik—President, president@beersnobs.org



Katie Melnick—Vice President, vicepresident@beersnobs.org



Jessica Ihms—Treasurer, treasurer@beersnobs.org



Jay O'Neill—Secretary, secretary@beersnobs.org

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