

Ames Brewers League meeting February 6th, 2018 (Rescheduled from Second Tuesday of the Month)

Luke Hoekstra opened the meeting at 7:00 PM. There were twelve people in attendance, despite the snowy conditions, with one new visitor.

Old Business

Introductions

Tonight we arranged the tables a little different to encourage a wider group dynamic as well as employed name tags to help everyone including new or infrequent attendees to get to know each other better.

Brewer of the Year

This will be announced during the raffle. We discussed possible awards such as a gift certificate, a one-off T-Shirt for the winner, or possibly glassware.

Style of the Month

Luke proposed several changes to the Style of the Month competitions for 2018. Last year we had a bit of glut on IPAs, and it'd be nice to mix that up a bit more this year. Luke and Sebastian also discussed adjusting the timing of some of the styles in order to maybe fit in with Big Brew day or the club brew. Luke suggested possibly more open months to encourage more contributors to the contest. We will finalize this at next month's meeting, but please give input now if you have suggestions. The roughly outlined plan is shown below:

Month	Style
January	Open to All Styles
February	Belgians
March	European Ales (English, Scottish, Irish, Aussie)
April	Sours & Funky
May	Open to All Styles
June	Session Beer (anything less than 1.045 OG)
July	American Beer
August	Club Brew
September	Mead, Cider, Cyser
October	European Lagers (English, Scottish, Irish, Aussie)
November	Porters & Stouts
December	Big Beers

We will be using the 2015 BJCP style guidelines for the competitions.

Dues

Dues were collected at \$15/yr for members. Family membership is also \$15/yr. Visitors are encouraged to attend several meetings before paying dues in order to get to know the club before joining.

Communication

Currently the league's main communication channel is the closed Facebook group. We also have a Google Group which can be joined from a request from our website's main page: <http://amesbrewersleague.org>. We may need to utilize the group mailing list and the Facebook group both since not all members use Facebook. We may explore using a Google calendar to keep everyone updated with meeting and event schedules.

New Business

Introductions

We kept the new table arrangement and welcomed one new visitor.

Dues

Dues are collected at \$15/yr for individuals/couples. Please submit to the Treasurer or Secretary to deliver. Again, new visitors are encourage to attend several meetings first.

Brewer of the Month Glassware

Luke secured more glasses to award to each month's style competition winner.

League T-Shirts

We'll take orders at the next meeting. We'd like to get a commitment of 12 orders. There was support by several members for pursuing a new order, with a rough commitment of 7. The League has used a local business in campustown for previous orders, and there was support for using the same business for a new order. If anyone would like to request a shirt, send a note or drop a line on our Facebook page.

Funding

Luke would like to move forward with an initiative to use club money to help purchase grain and/or extract to jump start the new brewing year for members. We will wait until after the raffle when we have a treasury update. It's hoped this will help propel the new brewing season and assist members in May's "Open to All Styles" competition.

Raffle

This is the main discussion item for tonight's meeting. February 27th (Tuesday) at Torrent Brewery is the target for this year's raffle. This is the club's only fundraising event and it draws a crowd from Ames as well as outside the area. Invitations to attend will be extended to several clubs including Ankeny and Des Moines. Last year we collected donations from over 40 businesses. John Murphy, Sebastian Speer, Luke Hoekstra, and Scott Nelson will be spearheading this year's collections. More help is definitely appreciated for pickups, and Jan Warwick offered to contact Boone Valley Brewing. If you can help out,

please post a note on the Facebook page or send Luke or Sebastian a note. We're hoping to have a great turnout for another great raffle!

Style of the Month Competition: Belgians

1st place receives 3 points, 2nd place receives 2 points, and 3rd place receives 1 point. Entrants who don't place receive ½ point. Point totals will determine the League's Brewer of the Year.

3 entries

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| 1. | 21B IPA Specialty IPA - Belgian IPA | 3rd Place – Nadov Mer |
| 2. | 26B Belgian Dubbel | 2nd Place – Ron Nelson |
| 3. | 26B Belgian Dubbel | 1st Place – Pete Crow |

Congratulations winners!

Current Running Point Standings:

Ron Nelson and Pete Crow	5
Nadov Mer and Mike	1
Chase Colton and Andy Curtis	.5