



## ABNormal News

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[Don Davidshofer](#), Vice-President  
[Dave Edmondson](#), Secretary  
[Brian Trower](#), Treasurer  
[Jim Nettleton](#), Technical Czar

### February 2005

#### This Month's Meeting

Our February meeting will begin at 7:30 pm on Monday, 2/14/2005 at Fat Jack's in Bloomington. Program feature is Brewing Software by El Presidente.

#### Steering Committee

The March steering committee meeting will begin at 7:30 pm on Monday, 3/7/2005 at Fat Jack's. All members are invited share their input. If you'd like a say in the programs, then show up. If not, quit your bitchin'.

#### March Meeting

Monthly meeting will be 3/14/2004 and will feature Sour Beers with Fred Morissette. (just like all the beers he makes!) And now, a double feature this month, Growing Hops with John Yoder. Better show up!

**Shirt committee** has approved a Henley T-shirt with the Brew Dude on the sleeve and ABNormal on the breast. Cost is \$15. See me for all your shirting needs. Sport your colors in Peoria! Buy a Valentine's Day present for your wife! Jeez.

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## Upcoming Events

**Feb. 19, 2005** - Libertyville, IL. FebFest 2005 Homebrew Competition. The 2005 edition of Febfest, Brewers of Bluff annual winter beer festival will include the return of the fan favorite homebrew competition. The competition will be held the same day as Febfest (Feb. 19, 2005) earlier in the day. This year Mickey Finn's Brewery, with the help of new owner Brian Grono and new Head Brewer Greg Browne; will host the event. Full details including rules, and entry pack and general Febfest details will be posted at [www.clubbob.org](http://www.clubbob.org). Contact: James Abrahamson, phone: 847 249-8738, email: [abrahamsonj@yahoo.com](mailto:abrahamsonj@yahoo.com), website: <http://www.clubbob.org>, fee: \$6.00, 5 or more \$5.00

**Feb. 19, 2005** - Atlanta, GA. Peach State Brew Off. This is the 12th Annual Peach State Brew Off! We are pleased to once again hold this friendly competition and invite all to compete and or participate. We are also part of the Mid-South Homebrew series. Contact: Joe Gramig, phone: 770-919-2002, email: [CovertHops@yahoo.com](mailto:CovertHops@yahoo.com), website: <http://www.coverthops.com>, fee: \$6

**Feb. 19, 2005** - Tampa, FL. Best Florida Beer Competition at the Florida State Fair. Competition open to all homebrewers in Florida or affiliated with a Florida homebrew club to determine the best beer (and best club) in Florida. Contact: Jeff Gladish, phone: 813-874-0937, email: [jeffngladish@ij.net](mailto:jeffngladish@ij.net)

**Feb. 21, 2005** - Aurora, IL. Urban Knaves of Grain - Drunk Monk Challenge. A qualifying event for the Masters Championship of Amateur Brewing. This is the first leg of The Midwest Homebrewer of the Year, featuring the Menace of the Monastery special event. Awards Ceremony: 3/12. Contact: Darrell Proksa, email: [djproksa@netzero.com](mailto:djproksa@netzero.com), website: <http://www.knaves.org/dmc/>, fee: \$5 online, \$7 paper, \$3/ Menace of the Monastery.

**Feb. 26, 2005** - Mundelein, IL. BABBLE Brew-Off. Second Annual homebrew competition is being held 2/26/2005. The event will accept al BJCP style entries including mead and cider. Contact: Bruce W. Dir, phone: 847-566-8012, email: [thedirs@comcast.net](mailto:thedirs@comcast.net), website: <http://www.hbd.org/babble/>

**Feb. 27, 2005** - Reno, NV. Washoe Zephyr Zymurgists Homebrew Competition. This event's goal is to be the premier homebrew event in the west. The WZZHC also serves as an excellent warm-up for the AHA National Beer Competition and other events in the west. You can expect comments and scores to be similar in this event as they would be for regional and national AHA events, barring any changes in beer quality over time. First time brewers and veterans alike are encouraged to participate. No one is too much of a novice, nor is anyone too experienced to compete. Join in on an event that is certain to provide insight and education for all homebrewers involved. The 2004 BJCP Style Guidelines will be used for entries and judging. Contact: John C. Tull, phone: 775-329-2537, email: [jtull@gmail.com](mailto:jtull@gmail.com), website: <http://www.washoezz.net/>, fee: \$6 first/\$4 ea. thereafter.

**Mar. 4, 2005** - Chula Vista, CA. America's Finest City Homebrew Contest. Over 400 entries from 15 states. Numerous National and Master Judges from 3 states. Online entry begins: 1/3. Entry deadline: 2/3-2/23. Contact: Chad Stevens, phone: 619-656-6887, fax: 619-661-3189, email: [zuvaruvi@cox.net](mailto:zuvaruvi@cox.net), website: <http://www.quaff.org>, fee: 6



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**Mar. 5, 2005** - 16th Annual Reggale and Dredhop, Denver, CO. Colorado's largest and longest running homebrew competition. All 2004 BJCP Beer and Mead Categories will be judged, (no cider). Only two bottles per entry. MCAB Qualifying Event. Judging begins at 9 AM. Awards ceremony at 5:30 PM. Contact: Bob Kauffman, phone: 303-828-1237, email: [dredhop@hopbarley.org](mailto:dredhop@hopbarley.org), website: [http:// www.hopbarley.org/dredhop](http://www.hopbarley.org/dredhop), fee: \$5.00

**Mar. 6, 2005** - Redmond, WA. St. Patrick's Cascadia Cup. The 9th annual Cascadia Cup is the largest Homebrew Competition in Washington State, and largest industry sponsored competition in the Pacific Northwest! BOS Winners get brewed! This year's venue will be Waimea Brewing in Kirkland, WA. Once again we'll have judges/stewards raffle for prizes. Come join us for two great days beer, food and fun! See Competition Rules for more details. Contact: Alan Hord, phone: 425-707-8062, email: [CCOrganizer@CascadeBrewersGuild.Org](mailto:CCOrganizer@CascadeBrewersGuild.Org), website: <http://www.CascadeBrewersGuild.Org>, fee: \$6

**Mar. 12, 2005** - Tallahassee, FL. Big Bend Brew Off 2005. 9th annual homebrew competition in North Fl. All BJCP categories accepted. Contact: Joel Tedder, phone: 850-309-7825, email: [jandw1112@aol.com](mailto:jandw1112@aol.com), website: <http://www.nfbl.org>, fee: \$6

**Mar. 12, 2005** - **Peoria, IL. 13th Annual International Beer Festival, 309-673-1100**

**Mar. 12, 2005** - 10th Annual Kona Brewers Festival Homebrew in Kailua-Kona , HI. Judge all BJCP categories. See info about 10th Annual Kona Brewers Festival at <http://www.konabrewingco.com/beerfest.html>. Contact: Rocket Rod Romanak, phone: 808-325-7449, email: [rod@rocketsuds.com](mailto:rod@rocketsuds.com), website: <http://geocities.com/konabrewfest>, fee: \$5

**Mar. 19, 2005** - Irving, TX. 2005 Bluebonnet Brewoff. Early entries Feb 10-18, late entries Feb 25 (2) judging locations Event March 18-19 Clarion Hotel, Irving Texas ( same as 2004) 38 categories check web page for style guidelines Ship entries to Tim Sampert 202 Red River Rd. Whitesboro, TX. 76273. Contact: Richard Dobson, phone: 940 665-3269, email: [hogvn@cooke.net](mailto:hogvn@cooke.net), website: <http://www.bluebonnetbrewoff.com>, fee: \$7

**Mar. 19, 2005** - March Mashness, St. Cloud, MN. The Cloudy Town Brewers 5th Annual March Mashness Homebrew Competition will be held on March 19, 2005. Granite City Food and Brewery will be hosting the event in St. Cloud, MN. We invite home brewers every where to enter our competition. All BJCP styles are welcome. Contact: Bruce LeBlanc, phone: 320 251-0229, email: [brewski@astound.net](mailto:brewski@astound.net), website: <http://www.cloudytownbrewers.org>, fee: \$6.00

**Apr. 13, 2005** - Philadelphia, PA. 2005 AOB Craft Brewers Conference. Marriott in downtown Philadelphia. Contact: Nancy Johnson, phone: 303-447-0816 x 131, fax: 303-447-2825, email: [nancy@aob.org](mailto:nancy@aob.org), website: <http://www.beertown.org>

**May 1, 2005** - Tickets go on sale for the Great Taste of the Midwest.

**May 7, 2005** - Each year on the first Saturday in May, homebrewers unite non-brewing and brewing friends and family to celebrate National Homebrew Day, joining with thousands of homebrewers from around the world in brewing the same recipes and sharing a simultaneous toast at noon Central Time.

**May 16, 2005** - 10th Annual St. Louis Microfest, 1-6 PM. Upper Munny lot, Forest Park, St. Louis, MO. (314) 436-2337 [www.liftforlife.com](http://www.liftforlife.com)

**May 22, 2005** - Orlando , FL. Sunshine Challenge XVI. This is the largest homebrew club competition in the Eastern United States, which promotes quality judging, the highest quality awards, and 3 days of special events. This is one of the premier competitions in the Gulf Coast Challenge. Contact: Mark Williams, phone: 407 696-2738, email: [bachian@juno.com](mailto:bachian@juno.com), website: <http://www.cfhb.org/>, fee: \$7

**June 4, 2005** - 11th Annual BUZZ Boneyard Brewoff, Champaign, IL. Qualifying event for Midwest Homebrewer of the Year. Beer and Mead will be judged from all BJCP categories. No cider. Special Category: No One Gets Out Alive High Gravity Brewoff. Entry fee \$6 for first; \$4 additional entries. Contact: Britt Weiser, phone: 217-352-7441, email: [weiser@insightbb.com](mailto:weiser@insightbb.com), website: <http://netfiles.uiuc.edu/ro/www/BoneyardUnionofZymurgicalZealots/>, fee: \$6 for 1st, \$4 for additional beers.

**June 4, 2005** - Arlington, TX. The 9th Annual Celtic Brew-Off; an AHA Sanctioned competition in association with the Texas Scottish Festival and Highland Games. This competition is open to styles of fermented beverages associated with the Celtic regions of England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland and Britain; 12 categories in all. Contact: Larry Land, phone: 214 712-3358, fax: 214 712-3357, email: [larry.land@merrillcorp.com](mailto:larry.land@merrillcorp.com), website: <http://www.hbd.org/kobb/celtic9.htm>, fee: \$6

**June 4, 2005** - San Joaquin Fair 2005 Homebrew Competition, Stockton, CA. Open to all BJCP/AHA 2004 style guidelines Open to all U.S. residents 1st, 2nd, 3rd place ribbons awarded Special award given for Best Cider/Cyser as the theme this year for



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the fair is Apples. Contact: Rick Stanton, phone: 209-745-3397, fax: 209-744-2644, email: [rogsam@softcom.net](mailto:rogsam@softcom.net), website: <http://www.brewangels.com>, fee: \$6

**July 16, 2005** - Amador County Fair Homebrew Competition, Jackson, CA. 7th annual event held before the Fair itself and will be judged under the new guidelines. Prelims will be scheduled if needed depending on entries. Final round will be 7/16/05 at the Fairgrounds. The Fair will not yet be open to the public and this is a private judging session. Contact: William F. Tarchala, phone: 209-476-8491, email: [sharkbrew@centralhouse.net](mailto:sharkbrew@centralhouse.net), <http://www.Brewangels.com>

**Aug. 13, 2005** - Madison, WI. Great Taste of the Midwest

**Sept. 24, 2005** - Growler's Pub Oktoberfest, Growler's Pub, St. Louis, MO

**Sept. 29, 2005** - Association of Brewers' Great American Beer Festival® Denver, CO. Contact: Nancy Johnson, phone: 888-U-CAN-BREW x 131, fax: 303-447-2825, email: [Nancy@aob.org](mailto:Nancy@aob.org), website: <http://www.beertown.org>

**Sept. 28, 2006** - Association of Brewers' Great American Beer Festival® Denver, CO. Contact: Nancy Johnson, phone: 888-U-CAN-BREW x 131, fax: 303-447-2825, email: [Nancy@aob.org](mailto:Nancy@aob.org), website: <http://www.beertown.org>

## AHA Club-Only Competition Schedule



**March/April 2005 - Sour Beers** - Hosted by Phil Clarke and the New York City Homebrewers Guild of New York, NY. Category 17\* Sour Beers

**May 2005 - Extract Beers** - Hosted by Susan Smith and the Hogtown Brewers of Gainesville, FL. All BJCP beer styles (Categories 1-23)\*. Extract must make up more than 50% of fermentables.

**August 2005 - Belgian and French Ale** - Hosted by Bob Kauffman and Hop Barley and the Alers of Boulder, CO. Category 16\* Belgian and French Ale

**September/October 2005 - European Amber Lager** - Hosted by Jack Kephart and the Society of Akron Area Zymurgists (SAAZ) of Akron, OH. Category 3\* European Amber Lager

**November/December 2005 - Baltic Porter** - Entries due November 4, 2005. Judging will be held November 12, 2005. Hosted by Brian Lanius and the Ruffian Brewers of Suffern, NY. Category 12C\* Baltic Porter

[Bottle ID Form](#)

[Recipe Entry Form](#)

[Rules and Regulations](#)

[AHA Beer Styles](#)

## Beer Nooz



Check out our updated website at <http://www.hbd.org/~abnormal>



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**We will be voting on the bylaws this meeting so it is very important for everyone to attend so we will have a quorum.**

**In addition, dues are due now! This is your last newsletter if not paid. You've already missed out on the new, stainless steel free bottle opener, so don't miss out on this gem also.**

**Future meetings** - looking for volunteers to present or organize. See any officer or speak up at a meeting. If you don't, I'll appoint you, so volunteer for what you want. This is a good opportunity to learn about a style of beer.

March – Sour Beers – Fred Morissette and Growing Hops with John Yoder.

April – Beerphanalia & Collecting – Don Davidshofer

May – Something about Hops – John Moss

June – Beer & Snacks – Janice Bateman

July – Amber Lagers -

August – American Hops -

September – Specialty Grains -

October – Brewing Sanitation -

November – Porters -

December – Xmas Ales -

If you would like your own copy of the Original Electronic Brewers and Distributors Journal, click on this link to subscribe:

<http://brewpoints.com/subs/subscriptionForm.html> Journal comes in PDF form.

**We need to keep** thinking about brewing for the Peoria International Beerfest. Max has an Octoberfest and Meiser a Red, Jim N. will do his Wildfire Amber, Dave E his award winning Wheat, Mike H a pale, Yoder a Pale. At this rate, we'll only last to about 8 pm. Who else will step up?

**B-to-the-E (BE)**, Budweiser's newest entry in a long line of innovative beers by Anheuser-Busch, is a distinctive new product for contemporary adults who are looking for the latest beverage to keep up with their highly social and fast-paced lifestyles. As the industry leader, Anheuser-Busch is the first major brewer to infuse beer with caffeine, guarana and ginseng. Well balanced with select hops and aromas of blackberry, raspberry and cherry, BE will offer a lightly sweet and tart taste - a great mixture of beer and new flavors for adults to enjoy when out with friends at a club or at a bar after work with colleagues. Brewed at Anheuser-Busch's Houston brewery, BE will be packaged in a sleek, slim-line 10-ounce can with stylish graphics. BE will be launched in multiple phases throughout the year in markets across the country. "Contemporary adults thirst for variety and what's new, and our B-to-the-E delivers a beverage that is true to their lifestyles and range of drinking occasions," said Pat McGauley, senior director of New Products and High End Brands, Anheuser-Busch, Inc. "Our new B-to-the-E provides caffeine, guarana, and ginseng in a great tasting beer." BE will be priced slightly higher than Budweiser and marketed through local print advertising, point-of-sale materials, bar and club promotions and online programs. BE will contain 6.6 percent alcohol by volume. "We created a great new drink that's outside the boundaries of the taste adults would expect from a traditional beer," said Nathaniel Davis, brewmaster, Anheuser-Busch, Inc. "With B-to-the-E, we've come up with a beer that has a taste with a 'wow' factor at the finish." For more information, you can visit [www.anheuser-busch.com](http://www.anheuser-busch.com) or [www.budweiser.com](http://www.budweiser.com).

**A Slovak man** trapped in his car under an avalanche freed himself by drinking 60 bottles of beer and urinating on the snow to melt it. Rescue teams found Richard Kral drunk and staggering along a mountain path four days after his Audi was buried in Slovakia's Tatra Mountains. He told them that after the avalanche, he had opened his car window and tried to dig his way out



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with his hands. But he realized the snow was falling faster than he could dig, and would soon fill his car. He had 60 500ml bottles of beer in his car as he was going on holiday, and after cracking one open to think about the problem he realized he could urinate on the snow to melt it. "It was hard and now my kidneys and liver hurt," he said later. "But I'm glad the beer I took on holiday turned out to be useful."

**An alleged serial thief** should have known never Columbus police have a suspect in at least two authorities, a witness to a Nov. 9 home invasion Icehouse beer in a paper bag. Investigators convenience stores and spotted a man later Icehouse beer 30 minutes before the robbery. The police said. Investigators say they have linked back to 2002. Brundidge has pleaded not guilty to imprisonment, three counts of aggravated assault, Brundidge was being held without bond at Muscogee County Jail. Police also were looking for five others who may have been accomplices in the robberies.



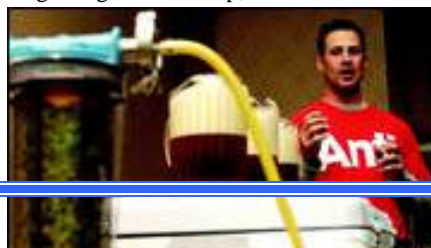
to drink and rob. Thanks to a can of beer, dozen armed robberies in custody. According to told investigators the robber was carrying an reviewed surveillance tapes from nearby identified as Mario Demarcus Brundidge buying an witness later identified Brundidge out of a lineup, Brundidge to at least 24 armed robberies dating 20 counts of armed robbery, four counts of false as well as multiple theft and weapons charges.

**This is what happens when you drink bad, skunky, nasty beer, like Miller's.**

**When beer grows** too big for its mug, the beverage must be released - into a snifter. At the fifth annual Big Beers, Belgians and Barleywines festival, instead of mugs as in years past, attendees will taste the more than 125 beers on tap out of a 6-ounce snifter. "A snifter allows your nose to get up, close and personal to the beer and really enjoy the aromatics of these beers. Some of them are quite extraordinary. You're going to taste malt, coffee, toffee, rum and things of that nature. If you were to drink these out of a plastic cup, it just wouldn't do it justice," said John Carlson, executive director of Colorado Brewers Guild. The change in glassware is not only a nod to the big beers, which in Belgium each style of beer receives its own glass, but it's symbolic of the festival's growth and expanding notoriety. Representatives from over 30 breweries are attending in person to pour their big beers. "We are coming into our own, and the festival is taking off in a specialty direction that everyone is recognizing and that is awesome," said Laura Lodge, festival coordinator. She and her brother Bill, founder of the festival, own and operate High Point Brewing, a beer distribution company out of Gypsum. The festival pushes beer education and introduction, and pouring beers into the appropriate glassware is just the frothy head on the top of the learning beer. No "daily" beers, like Budweiser or Corona, will be poured at this festival. The Lodges intent is to steer people toward styles of beer that, unless you're a "beer geek," you've probably never tasted or even heard about. This festival is so important because there are so many styles of beer out there that people have never heard of, so they're not going to go to the store and look for it. People need to learn about all these different styles of beer. For the first two hours of the commercial pouring Saturday, attendees can only taste each beer once. Beer mugs in the margin of the festival's program, one of the educational elements of the event, will be checked as you drink. So instead of just standing at the Sam Adams table tasting Utopias all day, attendees are urged to walk around and learn a little bit. "It forces people not to settle into the beers they know and love. They have to try some other beers," said Bill Lodge.

**Within the last year or so**, brewers have invented a way to dry hop beer right from the keg on the way to the tap, giving the beer a floral fresh taste. The process is called randaling, and at 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Avery and Calagione will discuss it in full detail.

"It's a phenomena sweeping the nation. Basically we at Dogfish devised a machine, "Randal the Enamel Animal," that we fill with whole-leaf hops and as the beer leaves the keg and goes to the tap, the beer flows through the whole leaf hops and the alcohol in the beer acts as a solvent and strips the Calagione. Calagione calls the machine have hop beers, he said it feels like the little bit. "It's hopping on the spot," House in Denver has a randal that they



oils off of the hop leaves," said the Enamel Animal because when you enamel is being scraped off your teeth a said Bill Lodge. "Falling Rock Tap use. We wanted to feature it and hear



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about it from the pioneers in the industry that are doing it." "Randaling is adding a bit more fun to the beer drinking experience," said Avery. There's more to learn about beer than wine connoisseurs can shake a stick at. The people at Big Beers, Belgians and Barleywines festival plan to reveal some of the beverage's mystique Saturday from 2-7 p.m. at the Marriott Mountain Resort in Lionshead for the commercial tasting. The Home-brew Competition is Friday, which is open to the public, but it's not an interactive event. Over 40 amateurs have submitted entries. Tickets for the tasting are \$22 in advance (sold at the Vail Valley's major liquor stores) and \$25 at the door. For more information, log on to the festival Web site at [www.BigBeersFestival.com](http://www.BigBeersFestival.com).

The word for February is **QUOIN**. Know what it is? A wedge-shaped wooden or metal block used to keep casks from rolling. Now you know!

**HOPS** is having a bottle beer contest on Friday, March 11, 2005 in conjunction with the Peoria Beerfest. Stouts and Pales only, AHA rules apply. Let Meiser know if you want to enter.

**A 24-year-old Mesa man** was arrested at the 1000 block of East Eighth Street and charged with two counts of criminal damage early Sunday morning. Police alleged the man threw an empty beer keg at a Jeep Cherokee at the 900 block of East University Drive and that the keg also struck a second vehicle.

**Here's our own Jim Hall** accepting the awards and accolades for winning our own keg toss last summer. Oh, the adulation, endorsements, fame and fortune that goes along with this honor! By the way, that's Jim on the right. On the left is Anonymous.

