

BOSS Newsletter

March 2020

Scott Pointon, Editor

We are dedicated to the art of crafting and quaffing fine beers through the sharing of ideas and experiences, the advocacy of brewing as a hobby, and the responsible consumption of beverages containing alcohol



Brewers of South Suburbia is an Illinois not-for-profit corporation

In This Month's Issue

February – Meeting at Goose Island	p. 2
March – at Hailstorm Brewing	p. 3
Styles for the Year	p. 4
Meeting Schedule for early 2020	p. 5
BOSS Library	p. 5
Upcoming Competitions	p. 5
Contact the Officers	p. 6
Chicago Cup Challenge	p. 7
Membership Information	p. 8
Upcoming Beer Festivals	p. 8
Beer Quote of the Month	p. 9



MEETING RECAP

February Meeting at Goose Island Barrel Warehouse

In February we made our annual trip to the incredible Goose Island Barrel Warehouse. I have been writing the newsletter since 2011, and we have been visiting one Goose Island location or another at least that long. Once again, this was a super fun trip and everyone who attended had a great time. If you like the idea of drinking delicious beers in a temple of barrel aging, start thinking about attending next year!



Sincere thanks go to the entire BOSS Board for planning the event. Special thanks to President Mark Westmeyer for arranging the bus transportation and the burrito dinner feast!



March Meeting @ Hailstorm

BOSS doesn't have a "home base", but if we wanted to name one Hailstorm would be a strong contender! There remains nothing better than visiting a brewery started by BOSS members, and one that brews great beers and lies close to the geographic center of BOSS-land is a treat for sure. In March we will return to Hailstorm Brewing for fun times and beery education. Don't forget that you may bring your 2020 Chicago Cup entries right to this meeting and avoid the hassles of shipping or last minute drives to a drop-off location.

March Meeting Details

Date: Friday March 6th

Time: 7:00pm

Location: Hailstorm Brewery - 8060 186th St Tinley Park, IL 60487

RSVP: In order to plan for food, please let us know you're coming. [RSVP right away!](#)

Driving: From the West, take I-80 to LaGrange Road (Rt 45) and exit south. Take a left on 191st Street and follow that to 80th Avenue. Turn left on 80th Avenue, cross over I-55 then turn left onto 186th Street. The brewery is then in the second building on the right. From the East, take I-80 to Harlem Avenue (Rt 43) and exit South. Then turn right onto 191st Street, then right onto 80th Avenue and follow same directions as above.

Meeting Dues: The cost to attend this meeting will be \$10 for members and \$15 for guests.

Meeting Style: Remember, we're using the 2015 BJCP Style Guidelines now! The style of the month for our guided tasting is Irish Stout - Category 15B.

15B – Irish Stout

Overall Impression: A black beer with a pronounced roasted flavor, often similar to coffee. The balance can range from fairly even to quite bitter, with the more balanced versions having a little malty sweetness and the bitter versions being quite dry. Draught versions typically are creamy from a nitro pour, but bottled versions will not have this dispense-derived character. The roasted flavor can be dry and coffee-like to somewhat chocolaty.

Aroma: Moderate coffee-like aroma typically dominates; may have slight dark chocolate, cocoa and/or roasted grain secondary notes. Esters medium-low to none. Hop aroma low to none, may be lightly earthy or floral, but is typically absent.

Appearance: Jet black to very deep brown with garnet highlights in color. According to Guinness, "Guinness beer may appear black, but it is actually a very dark shade of ruby." Opaque. A thick, creamy, long-lasting, tan- to brown-colored head is characteristic when served on nitro, but don't expect the tight, creamy head on a bottled beer.

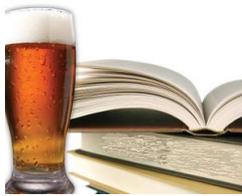
BOSS Meeting Schedule for 2020

With the club having grown to the size that it has, the Board continues to work hard to locate appropriate places to meet. That being the case, here is a planned list of upcoming meetings:

March 6th – @ Hailstorm
April 3rd – @ Brickstone Production Brewery
May 1st – TBD, hopefully @ Werkforce
June 5th – TBD, hopefully @ Soundgrowler
July 10th – @ Rainmakers Supply
August 7th – TBD, hopefully @ ByWay Brewing
September – BOSS Picnic – Date TBD
October 2nd – @ Evil Horse Brewery
November 6th – TBD, hopefully @ Arrowhead Ales
December – BOSS Christmas Party – Date TBD



BOSS Library



Steve Sikorski is the BOSS librarian. If you're interested in a particular brewing book, email Steve prior to the next meeting at stevesspambox2001@yahoo.com. A complete (maybe) list of the BOSS Library holdings can be found at www.bossbeer.org

Upcoming Midwest/Regional Competitions – Time to get brewing BOSS!

Entries in **GREEN** are likely part of the 2020 Midwest Home Brewer of the Year competition.

UKG Drunk Monk Challenge – (Aurora, IL)

Entry Deadline: March 6, 2020

Judging: March 14, 2020

Competition Information: <http://knaves.org/DMC/index.html>

BOSS Charlie Orr Memorial Chicago Cup Challenge – (Tinley Park, IL)

Entry Deadline: March 13, 2020

Judging: March 28, 2020

Competition Information: <http://www.bossbeer.org/competition.html>



Wizard of Saaz – (Akron, OH)

Entry Deadline: March TBD, 2020

Judging: May TBD, 2020

Competition Information: <http://www.saazakron.com/WoS/>

Germanfest Stein Challenge – (Milwaukee, WI)

Entry Deadline: TBD July 2020

Judging: TBD July 2020

Competition Information: <http://www.steinchallenge.com/>

Also, if you are interested in multi-competition challenges, here are two to consider:



Midwest Home Brewer of the Year

<http://midwesthomebrewer.com/>



Master's Championship Of Amateur Brewing

<http://www.masterhomebrewer.org>



Questions? Contact the Officers

Mark Westmeyer (President)	312-806-0127	dogacres@mac.com
Steve Sikorski (VP)	561-426-3930	steveppambox2001@yahoo.com
Scott Pointon (Secretary)	815-351-9333	spointon2002@yahoo.com
Terry Frey (Treasurer)	xxx-xxx-xxxx	havefundad@comcast.net
Brandon Banbury (Past Pres)	630-631-7173	brandon.banbury@gmail.com
Jim Todd (Webmaster)	xxx-xxx-xxxx	jtodd414@comcast.net
Ed Bove (at large)	815-474-3452	ebove@sbcglobal.net
Mike Morel (at large)	815-932-9906	m.morel@comcast.net
Steve Kamp (emeritus)	312-415-2337	evilhorsebrewer@gmail.com
Dick Van Dyke (emeritus)	xxx-xxx-xxxx	DVDsComp@msn.com

Newsletter Items

Since this newsletter is in electronic form and as such we don't have any space restrictions, I encourage all BOSS members to submit items for inclusion. Visit a brewery or great beer bar in your travels? Write up your impressions and send them to me. Digital pictures with captions are also welcome! Did you brew an outstanding beer recently? If you are willing to share the recipe, please do so and I will publicize it to our group. Got some news to share that affects home brewers in the BOSS area? Let me know about it. Send all those, or anything else you think would be interesting to me, Scott Pointon, at spointon2002@yahoo.com



2020 Charlie Orr Memorial Chicago Cup Competition Updates & Announcements

We are nearly all-set for our upcoming (and 29th annual) BOSS competition...and we need judges! If you are in this club and you are a BJCP judge, please register to judge the competition. If you know a judge who used to be in this club, or just plain know someone who is a judge, please encourage them to help us out. Judges can register here: <http://www.bossbeer.org/ChicagoCup/>

This is going to be a great year for our competition and we need all the help we can get! In case you have missed previous announcements, there will be 1 or 2 pre-judging rounds in the week leading up to the main competition day. The main contest will be held on March 28, 2020 at Hailstorm Brewing in Tinley Park, IL. We will also once again be holding an after-competition banquet.

You may enter your beers, meads, and ciders into the competition site until March 13th (which is also the final day to drop off entries) or until the entry limit is reached. BOSS club members may bring their *pre-registered and pre-paid* competition entries to the March club meeting at Hailstorm on March 6th. You can also utilize one of our many [drop off locations](#) if that is more convenient for you.

Also don't forget that we will have Lance Shaner as our keynote speaker at this year's awards banquet. For those who don't know, Lance is the owner/creator of Omega Yeast in Chicago.

Even if you don't enter the competition, please [make plans to attend](#) the post competition dinner, have a beer with your fellow BOSS members, hear Lance speak, and support BOSS!

Questions? Bill Goetz is our competition coordinator this year (wrgoetz78@gmail.com).



BOSS Membership Information

We only accept membership payments via PayPal! Look for more details on our [website](#). Also, to help the Board plan for and purchase an appropriate amount of club premium items, from now on, if anyone joins after the picnic, new member or renewal, they won't be eligible to receive this year's club premium.

Annual dues for Fiscal Year 2019/2020 are **\$32**. Our fiscal year runs from May 1st to April 30th. Payment any time between those dates constitutes membership until the following April 30th. So, anyone who has not paid for the current year will have “guest” status at meetings. There is no reduced rate for joining or renewing late in the fiscal year. If you have questions about paying annual dues, you can send an email to Terry Frey, BOSS Treasurer, at havefundad@comcast.net and he will find an answer for you.

Meeting Fees

Our standard meeting fees are \$10 for members and \$15 for guests. Because we base how much food to have on hand from the number of RSVPs received, if you RSVP late or show up to a meeting without sending an RSVP by the deadline, you will be assessed an additional \$5 to attend the meeting.



Upcoming Beer Festivals

At the request of our members, I am including a list of upcoming local and regional beer festivals (as I learn of them). Though these fests are not necessarily centered on the art of home brewing, we can all surely appreciate a commercially made beer from time to time.

Day of the Living Ales – Chicago – March 7, 2020

<https://chibeer.org>

Chicago Beer Classic – Soldier Field – May 2, 2020

<https://tickets.loudogevents.com/e/2020-chicago-beer-classic/tickets>

Drink at the Clink – Old Joliet Prison – October 10, 2020

<https://www.jolietprison.org/2020-drink-in-the-clink-the-old-joliet-prison-craft-beer-festival/>

Quote of the Month

As an avid reader, writer, brewer, and drinker of beer I am quite fond of beer-related quotes. Here is this month's quote:

"Good people drink good beer." - ancient Celtic proverb

Cheers and happy brewing!
Scott