

# BOSMOPOLITAN

January 2008

## Name That Beer!

Friday, January 18 . Listermann's . 7:30pm

Think you can distinguish an ale from a lager? Do you know the difference between an American IPA and APA? Do you think that you would be able to distinguish an American Lager from a German Lager? You'll get the chance to try at Name That Beer!

Here's how it works: You'll be given samples of a commercially available beer. You must first decide if it is an ale or a lager? (1 point). Then define the general style. (Example: American Ale, another point.) Now, can you name the correct sub-style? (Am. Brown Ale, a third point). Finally, can you name the exact brand of beer? (In this example, Bell's Best Brown, another two points.) He/She who tallies the most points after five beers will be crowned the Big Shot Bloatarian Beer Nerd of the Month (Quite an honor!) To make things a little easier, for each beer we'll recruit a victim... er, expert, who will taste the beer and give impressions and guesses to the group. This gives you a chance to compare your tasting skills with some of our more experienced members, and maybe improve your overall palate. This fun and challenging January meeting promises to be another great one in what's become an annual event.

## Bockfest Competition 2008

Saturday, March 8

*Entry Deadline February 29th 2008*

Categories: The Bockfest Competition is strictly limited to the bock beer styles. The competition will accept entries for the following styles as defined in the 2004 BJCP Style Guidelines. See the flyer within and for more details and forms visit [www.bloatarian.org](http://www.bloatarian.org)

## Top Ten Things I Learned Teaching a Beer Judge Class

Dave Harsh

10. If you give a quiz every week on the BJCP purpose and Experience/Point Grid, your students nail it on the exam.
9. You can't teach tasting ability - you can help with terminology or recognizing flavors, but the palate is either there or it isn't. (Corollary: If I can taste DMS, the beer must have been sliced right off the cob.)
8. Dan is a closet blender of beers.
7. 50% of the people in your class take the exam, whether or not everyone said they were going to take it at the start.
6. It's i-ROn-ic that some people don't take the exam, usually because of some lame excuse about not having TIM-e to study.
5. Dan turns into a pumpkin at 11:30 on weeknights.
4. Chuck turns into a pumpkin when the beer is gone.
3. American Standard Lager or Light don't count as beer.
2. Solventy flavors have been compared to sucking on a woman's toes that have nail polish on them.
1. With respect to #2, some claim it's worthwhile if it gets you where you want to go.

*Bosmopolitan* is the official newsletter of the Bloatarian Brewing league (BBL), the original homebrew club of the Greater Cincinnati area. Annual dues are \$15, and include an electronic subscription to this newsletter. (A paper subscription is \$5 extra)

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#### Meeting Policy

All members and guests are required to abide by the following rules at all club meetings and events: Learn something new, teach something you know, bring something good to share (bring more than you drink), taste small samples, give other brewers lots of comments (good or bad) on their beers, and don't drive if you feel even slightly affected.

#### Editor's Address

Andy Melchers  
3023 Hull Avenue  
Cincinnati, OH 45211  
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#### Advertising Rates

Advertising is graciously accepted.

The rates are as follows:

Full page: 1 issue: \$32, 3 issues: \$75  
Half Page: 1 issue: \$17, 3 issues: \$40  
Quarter Page: 1 issue: \$10, 3 issues: \$25

Contact the editor for more information, including submission requirements. Back issues are available at no cost on the BBL website at [www.bloatarian.org/](http://www.bloatarian.org/)

#### Club Officers 2007-2008

*President:* Jennifer Hermann  
513-522-2436 [bathingotis@yahoo.com](mailto:bathingotis@yahoo.com)

*Vice President:* Ray Snyder  
513-759-2573 [raysnyder@fuse.net](mailto:raysnyder@fuse.net)

*Treasurer:* Kevin Spatz  
513-791-9355 [kevin.spatz@bostonbeer.com](mailto:kevin.spatz@bostonbeer.com)

*Secretary:* Paula Sup  
513-933-0020 [paulasup@yahoo.com](mailto:paulasup@yahoo.com)

## Dark Lord Day!

Three Floyds makes an Imperial Stout called Dark Lord. A number of sources have called it the best beer made in America, and #2 worldwide (Westv-letern is considered #1). It's released only one day a year, and only at the brewery. In 2008 that day is Saturday, April 19th. The event has grown so large it's been booked in the local Civic Center to handle the crowd.



#### BBL Membership Application

Yes, I want to become the best homebrewer I can be, learn more about the art and science of brewing, and especially participate in the secret Bloatarian ceremonies! I certify that I am of legal age to consume alcoholic beverages, with a sincere interest in homebrewing, and am willing to abide by the club bylaws and other reasonable decisions of the club officers. I promise to behave responsibly around alcoholic beverages. By joining and/or attending BBL activities, I agree to take full responsibility for my own actions and waive any and all claims against club, club officers, members, or their designates.

I also have \$15 to spare, so sign me up!

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Check this box if you prefer to receive your newsletter by regular mail   
(\$5 per year additional fee)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature (required)

Return this form along with check (payable to the Bloatarian Brewing League) to:  
Kevin Spatz, 9557 Main, Cincinnati, OH 45242

# CALENDAR

When you hear something your fellow homebrewers would be interested in, tell us about it so we can spread the word.

## JANUARY

- 5 .....Christmas Party  
Treehouse 6pm
- 18 .....Name That Beer  
Listermann's 7:30pm
- 23 .....Beer & Sweat Prelim Meeting  
D&J Manor 7:30pm

## FEBRUARY

- 4 .....Board Meeting  
Listermann's 7:30pm
- 9 .....Cabin Fever Brewout  
Garagemajal
- 15 .....Meading  
Treehouse 7:30pm

## MARCH

- 1 .....Group Brew  
D&J Manor
- 3 .....Board Meeting  
Listermann's 7:30pm
- 7 .....Bockfest Parade
- 8 .....Bockfest Competition
- 21 .....March Beer Madness  
Listermann's 7:30pm

## DISCOUNTS!

*Hey, you! Fancy a discount?  
Come to the meetings regularly?*  
Maybe you should be there more often seeing as Listermann's will be offering a 10% discount on all items purchased during club activities held at the shop!



Printed Version Courtesy of



11137 Reading Road  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45241  
513-554-1797  
www.allegracinci.com

## Upcoming Competitions

### FEBRUARY

- 23 .....SODZ British Beerfest  
<http://www.sodz.org/>  
Entry Fee: \$6 for first entry,  
\$4 per additional  
Entry Deadline: 02/15/2008

### MARCH

- 29 .....AHA Club-Only  
Competition  
Perfect Porter Challenge  
<http://www.beertown.org/homebrewing/schedule.html>  
Entry Fee: One entry per club, \$7  
(make checks payable to AHA).  
Entry Deadline: 03/21/2008

### MAY Bloatarian Open!

All board meetings are held on the first Monday of the month at Listermann Brewery Supply, 1621 Dana Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45212, 513-731-1130 unless otherwise noted. Meetings begin at 7:30 with a toast to cenosillicaphobia. All members are welcomed to attend. It's a good forum to discuss club business, new topics, and a good excuse to get out of the house and enjoy a few good beers!

# HOPPENINGS

## AHA Prep... Let's Get This Party PLANNED!

**Hospitality Suite Coordinator.** Each year the AHA sets aside a special room(s) that acts as a welcoming center for all of us thirsty homebrewers. There are many clubs that are "on duty" all at once serving their fresh brewed libations for anyone who wants to imbibe or just come to chat and check out what other clubs are brewing. The suite is generally open during the day and into the evenings on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. This is a fantastic chance to meet out of town brewers and show off our clubs shining talents!

Our club is in need of a Hospitality Suite Coordinator for the AHA conference this year. Our time slot is yet to be determined. Our allotted time will be just 3 hours and happen just once either: Thursday, Friday or Saturday. Your primary responsibilities would include scheduling Bloats to "booth sit," choosing beers (meads and ciders too) from the TBD Bloated stash to have available to share with fellow homebrewers and to create a welcoming environment. If you are interested, please contact Jennifer, [bathingotis@yahoo.com](mailto:bathingotis@yahoo.com).

**Club Night** is THE party of the year in the homebrewing scene. Imagine a Mardi Gras-like scene complete with homebrews on tap, in bottles and the hands of many and you can begin to see what club night looks like. Most every club will have a table set with food and homebrewed libations to share with passersby. Some clubs really push the envelope with their decorations, inventive costumes and paraphernalia for sale. I saw some really cool tap handles when I was in Baltimore!

Club Night will happen **Friday, June 20th from 6-10pm**. I'll be looking for volunteers to booth sit, sell Bloated ware and talk about how great it is to be a Bloatarian. If anyone has ideas and wants to become involved with any

part of the brainstorming and planning of our part in this event, please Jennifer know. For now, we need to talk about BEER!

**AHA BEER.** As a club, we can expect that we'll need a lot of beer for our part in AHA this year. We'll need beer for club night, the hospitality suite and for session talks. To avoid having the same types of beer, we'd like to keep a list of who will have (or plan to have) what style of beer...mostly so that we don't end up with 25 kegs of APA! For now, send your beers of intent to Bryan Evenson so he can keep a running tally. We'll see what it's looking like a few weeks and then decide if there are styles that are excessively represented and take it from there. A suggestion from last year was the need for more session type beers. We all know how it is to drink 7% and higher beers for 3 days straight!

Send to Bryan at [bevenson@cinci.rr.com](mailto:bevenson@cinci.rr.com)

1. Brewer's Name
2. Style of Beer (OK to be undecided at this point)
3. Special ingredients, techniques, etc.



## Beer Quoted:

*The problem with the world is that everyone is a few drinks behind.*  
Humphrey Bogart

## Enter Your Beers!

**Rob Westendorf**

A big part of the National Homebrew Conference is the finals round of the National Homebrew Competition. Last year the Bloats got two medals, silver for Ron Mahan's Bohemian Pilsner, and gold for Brian St. Clair's Oak Aged Flanders Red (that was also first runner-up for Best of Show). The winners are announced at the Saturday banquet of the conference. It's time for Bloatarians to get their due! We want to hear your name in the medal announcements. But to win, you've got to enter! We've been quite remiss about entering our beers in Nationals. This is a perfect year to remedy that. The first round will take place in Columbus. Beers must be received by April 11th, and judging will be either the second or third weekend of April. (We also need to get a good showing of Bloatarian judges up to Columbus!) Since each of you is going to enter at least ten beers :-), you should probably get brewing right now.

A second issue concerning Nationals is the hotel situation. The primary and secondary hotels are sold out. We are working on a third hotel. If you are planning to stay in the hotel for any night(s) of the conference, you need to get on the wait list NOW. The host Sheraton has promised to find rooms for everybody on the wait list. To get on the list, send an email to Rebecca, [rvetter@cincinnatiSheraton.com](mailto:rvetter@cincinnatiSheraton.com), with your name, the dates you want, and mention the American Homebrewers Association. (A lot of the early reservations always end up cancelling, so people on the wait list should get in.) If you have already gotten a reservation, great! If you have a room and have any extra space, and are willing to share, please let me know ([R\\_Westendorf@fuse.net](mailto:R_Westendorf@fuse.net)). Likewise, if you don't have a room and are willing to share, also let me know. If we can get a few Bloats to double up, we can free up some rooms for others, and you can save a few bucks in the process. Thanks!



## Brewouts

**AHA Group Brews.** We have a lot of beer to brew for AHA. Let's get boiling! Save the following dates and come brew beer with your fellow Bloatarians! Details for individual brew date will be announced individually. If you are interested in hosting a group brew, let us know! You can host whenever you would like to! The following dates are already taken!

### Feb. 9 Kevin & Amy Hardman's

(our newest members)

#### Cabin Brewing Fever at the Garagemajal

Kevin has 3000 sq foot heated garage (hence the name) so there is plenty of room for brewing. He also says he'll have Deer Chili & Deer Hamburgers for everybody to celebrate the end of deer bow season.

Address:

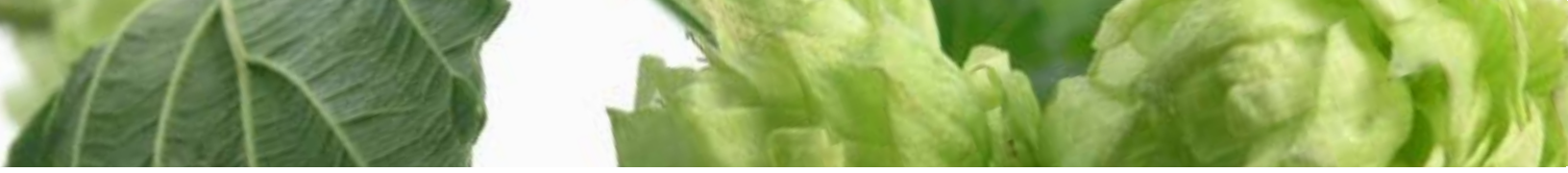
1453 Covered Bridge Road  
Cincinnati, OH 45231-2422  
H – 513-851-9967  
Cell – 513-364-0560

### March 1 D&J Manor

9985 McKelvey Rd.  
Cincinnati, OH 45231  
513-522-5436

**You might be a  
homebrewer if...**

"beer run" is now classified as a 3 hour escapade at the local homebrew shop.



## **Bastard Son of Zeply**

### **The Return of the Fixed Recipe Competition**

It's time again to fire up those kettles and show your fellow Bloats who's boss! For a limited, one-time return engagement, it's the return of the Bloatarian Fixed Recipe Competition! With some changes, of course, and some remaining confusion about what we're doing, but that's normal.

The Bloatarians have been holding a winter single category competition for over a decade. Most recently this has been in the form of Iron Brewer, but that format seems to have run its course. Prior to Iron Brewer the format was Fixed Recipe, and we're going to return to that for a very special reason. One of the activities associated with the National Homebrewers Conference is the brewing of a conference beer. Our commemorative beer is the result of a collaboration between the professional brewmasters of Greater Cincinnati, including Barrelhouse, Sam Adams, Hofbrauhaus, Mt. Carmel, Christian Moerlein and Rock Bottom. To honor the city where the style developed, these brewers have decided to produce an Imperial Cream Ale. And now we're going to give you the chance to try their recipe.

The details of the recipe are designed to suit the brewing system at Barrelhouse. We could convert these quantities to homebrewer's sizes, but it's more fun to let you do the conversions. So here we go:

**800' 2 row Brewer's malt**

**100' maize**

**50' Carapils**

**100' sugar**

**4' Hallertau and 5' Willamette hops - in the boil 45 minutes**

**6' Hallertau hops - in the boil for the last 5 minutes**

**Pick your own yeast**

Rick Debar expects about a 75% efficiency on his Barrelhouse system, so the target original gravity is 17° Plato, or 1.070. The target final gravity is 2° Plato, or 1.008. This degree of attenuation requires a highly fermentable wort, so Rick is planning a step mash of 121° for 30 minutes, 145° for 45 minutes, and 158° for 60 minutes. However, you can use whatever mash schedule you want. Rick is planning to use White Labs WLP001 California Ale yeast, but you can pick whatever yeast you prefer, including a lager yeast if you like. In the current hop market it may not be possible to find Hallertau or Willamette hops. You may substitute whoever you like - just keep the style description in mind. We will use the BJCP description for Cream Ale as the base for judging, with considerable latitude given to your interpretation of "Imperial."

It's not yet certain when we will judge these beers. In the past, judging was at the July meeting, but we want these beers to be ready before the June conference, and it's possible there won't be any left after the conference. It may be as a separate flight during May's Bloatarian Open, or we may find some other time. We'll let you know as soon as we decide. You do not need to formally enter until two weeks before judging, so there's no requirement to sign up now. If you have any questions, contact Rob Westendorf, [R\\_Westendorf@fuse.net](mailto:R_Westendorf@fuse.net), or 513-245-1224.



# Bockfest Competition

Saturday March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008

Cincinnati, Ohio

[www.bloatarian.org/bockfest.html](http://www.bloatarian.org/bockfest.html)

**Categories:** The Bockfest Competition is strictly limited to the bock beer styles. The competition will accept entries for the following styles as defined in the 2004 BJCP Style Guidelines.

5A - Maibock/Helles Bock

5B - Traditional Bock

5C - Doppelbock

5D - Eisbock

15C - Weizenbock

All entries must indicate both a category number and a sub-category letter in addition to a written description of the style. All entries will be judged according to the appropriate sub-category style guidelines. However, categories may be combined with related categories for the purpose of awarding prizes. Multiple entries per style are allowed.

**Entry Fee:** The Bockfest Competition is \$6.00 for the first entry and \$4.00 for additional entries. Make checks payable to the Bloatarian Brewing League.

**Eligibility and Registration:** Anyone may enter. Beer must be entered under the names of all brewers who participated in the beer. Beers brewed in commercial licensed facilities are ineligible. Entry deadline Friday, February 29th, 2008. Pre-register online.

**Entry Requirements:** Two 10 to 14 oz. brown or green bottles are required for each entry. Please print out the completed entry sheet, fold so your name appears on the front, and attach it to the beer bottles with a rubber band. Include entry fee (fold within label if you like). Flights will be fixed prior to event, so no late entries will be accepted.

**Mailing/Drop-off Instructions:** Entries are due between the dates of 2/25/08–2/29/08, unless they are pre-registered and hand carried by a judge and/or a steward.

Listermann Manufacturing Co., Inc.

Attn: Bockfest Competition

1621 Dana Ave.

Cincinnati, OH 45212-0251

**Call for Judges and Stewards:** Judges/Stewards are both begged and invited to join us. The competition is BJCP-sanctioned, and BJCP points will be awarded. If you are interested, please sign up at [www.bloatarian.org/bockfest.html](http://www.bloatarian.org/bockfest.html).

**Competition Location:** To be determined real soon.

**Awards:** Prizes will be awarded for first, second, and third place for each category (to be determined based on the numbers of entries in each style, etc.). An additional prize will be awarded for “Best Bock Beer” (BOS).

**Contact:** Darryl Dieckman, [darryl@rottiron.com](mailto:darryl@rottiron.com), (513) 235-8712  
Ray Snyder, [raysnyder@fuse.net](mailto:raysnyder@fuse.net), (513) 759-2573.



## Bloat Quote

overheard at the holiday social:

**“That's OK, you can keep your sheep stomachs.”**

Brian St. Clair to Ken Ewing  
on the topic of haggis

## New and Renewing Members

Welcome to the following *New and Renewing Members*

**Kevin and Amy Hardman**

Remember, without YOU the club doesn't exist! Make it a point to talk to our new members and guests. Offer them some of your beer. Make them feel welcome. If you don't, there's a good chance they'll decide they're not welcome, and they won't come back, and that's not good!

Bloatarian Brewing League  
3023 Hull Avenue  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45211

The mailing label shows your membership status.  
Your renewal date is shown in YY/MM format.