



Website – clubwort.com or [.net](http://clubwort.net)

January 2019

Next Meeting – Feb. 12

Regular meeting at Tap House Grill in Palatine

Upcoming Club Events

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Jan. 2019 Club Meeting

1. **Guests:** Leah

2. Holiday party recap

Feedback on holiday party is that the food and atmosphere was great. Recap of Mark P.'s interaction with Tap House management on his pony keg of home brew:

Mark: "Yeah but everybody else is bringing home brew."

Manager: [looks around] "...oh my god."

3. Brew-in schedule

Elliot will post his schedule but club members are encouraging others to host using Elliot's stored club equipment. Craig can help transport if club members want to do a brew-in, and Nancy offered What's Brewing's premises & equipment, as well. Craig is

brew-in club chair, so send questions his way.

4. Pub crawl

Pub crawl through Chicago breweries occurred January 26; recap in February meeting!

5. Education segment

Matt from Brewlosophy will come to do a side-by-side taste test of some experimental brews.

6. Officer reports

Treasurer reports \$500 in bank. Librarian wants to revamp collection and obtain new materials. We need to think of creative ways to pass on old books.

7. Book club, Feb. 8

Book is "The Last Night Out" by Cathy O'Connell. Mark P. is hosting, see email or roster for his address.

8. Changes to the club meeting format & goals

- We'll host a style of the month rather than a quarterly competition
- More 1:1 feedback through personal sharing and judges' table
- Updates to website
- No beer stewards
- Might host separate tech / education sessions on floating dates each month
- Examine & sell equipment we don't use, use money toward new equipment
- Be more active in festivals (club might fund brew-in share to bring to festival)

9. Show & tell

Jim A. showed an automatic system, BrewFather, which has a web app to help you brew. He also showed off the wort chiller thermometer sold by Grainfather.

Styles of the month

Note the style guidelines for each beer. Check [Homebrewers Association](#) to get the style info.

February 2019: Stout

March 2019: Norwegian-style yeast

April 2019: Pale ale

May 2019: Maibock

Competition activity

Club Worters have been about town winning and judging competitions!

2018 Midwest Homebrew of the Year – our own Jeff L. has won for the second time in a row!! We knew his stuff was great, but now we know that judges across the Midwest agree.

Jan. 12, 2019 – Winterbrew 2019 from Square Kegs Homebrew Club in Chicago

- Dave Duff won second for his Level Up IPA (NEIPA)
- Jeff L. won:
 - 1st for Church's Poncho Vienna
 - 2nd for Dank RedX American Amber
 - 3rd for Brad Ramsey Thinks This Beer Smells Like Feet American Light Lager
 - 3rd for Fancy Pants Munich Dunkel

Upcoming Competitions (by Jeff L.)

Feb. 16, 2019 – Midwinter Homebrew Competition by Beer Barons of Milwaukee. Registration open 12/29 to 2/2. [MWHBOTY competition and MCAB Qualifier](#)

Feb. 16, 2019 – Kansas City Bier Meisters 36th Annual Homebrew Competition; register now

through 2/7 (capped at 600 entries). [MWHBOTY competition qualifier](#)

Mar. 9, 2019 – Drunk Monk Challenge by Urban Knaves of Grain, DuPage County, IL. Club Wort's own Jeff L. is co-organizer and Brad Ramsey is Sponsor Coordinator. This is the 21st year of the competition, which has become one of the most competitive and large home brew competitions in the nation. Capped at 800 entries, also hosts 100 judges and stewards during the day and 150 people during the raffle and awards ceremony. Stay tuned for more details.

Mar. 23, 2019 – Charlie Orr Memorial Chicago Cup Challenge by B.O.S.S. Homebrew Club in Crest Hill, IL. This is the second largest Chicagoland competition, topping out at 450 entries. Winning entries may be commercially brewed and entered into the Pro/Am competition at the Great American Beer Festival in Denver, Co. [MWHBOTY competition qualifier](#)

April 15, 2019 – What's Brewing's annual home brew competition (stay tuned)

Education corner

By Tom Hayosh, Club Librarian

Club Wort held a technical session apart from the main monthly meeting on Jan. 23 at Roaring Table in Lake Zurich. I presented on "Multiple Beers from a Single Brewday" and discussed various ways to split a batch of beer. The talk ranged from making the same style with two different yeasts through making completely different styles of different original gravities. Several beers from split batches were tasted in the course of the meeting.

(cont'd)

There is interest amongst club members in holding an off-flavor session. Typically this is done by spiking Coors Light or another light lager. But dark beers can mask off flavors, and we are thinking of having an off-flavor session based on dark beers. Please send email to me (thayosh@gmail.com) if you are interested in participating in a dark beer off-flavor session or a more typical light lager off-flavor session.

Travel corner

Your newsletter editor got a chance to thaw out in Arizona in January! Here are some places to try in Phoenix / Scottsdale, as well as Tucson.

Solid craft beer bars

If you only have a chance to visit one or two spots, try these bars, which allow you to try a wide variety of local taps at once:

- **The Wandering Tortoise** hosted a solid selection of local taps.
- **Kings Convenience** (a.k.a. Kings Beer & Wine) had 75 taps, many of local origin but a fantastic national selection, too.

Notable breweries in Phoenix/Scottsdale

- **Modern Times** – enjoyed several nice beers by this brewery, including a very special BBA stout with macadamia nuts, coconut, and cacao.
- **Wren House** – visited the brew pub on a special release day for their Morning Molé (cinnamon & chocolate BBA stout)
- **SunUp** – had a fantastic BBA “white Russian” stout at King’s; nice brewpub in Tempe
- **O.H.S.O.** – nice beer garden & food; beers tasty

Notable brewery in Tucson

My friend told me about **Pueblo Vida**, but I didn’t get a chance to go because I didn’t have time outside of donor meetings (sheesh, work getting in the way of drinking). Next time.

