

December 13  
NFBL Meeting

Saccharomyces Journal  
December 2007

# Saccharomyces Journal

## President's Message

Matt Ruddell



I am truly honored that you all as a club have chosen to have me lead for another year. When I look back on this year and all that we were able to accomplish, I find myself amazed.

We hosted a MAJOR competition. We were asked very last minute by the American Homebrewers Association (AHA) to host the National first round Southern regional competition. The club that is in Texas that was supposed to host dropped out at the last minute. I was

told to expect "close to 450 entries." We ended up with over 600 entries which we judge over one weekend. With some awesome volunteers, some great judges, and a whole lot of hard work we did something I don't think a club twice our size could have done half as well.

We participated in two charity events donating close to 70 gallons of homebrew for worthwhile community causes. We participated in the ElderCare Oktoberfest celebration with educational-style tasting sessions getting out in the community and educating the public about homebrew and better beer in general. We also participated in the Rotary Clubs Brew Fest which was a roaring success and I believe the only true beer festival in town. Both of these events helped raise money for some very worthwhile causes.

We grew our membership and actually managed to be in a good financial situation. You would have to ask Randy for the specifics but I know we are up as far as funds from this time last year. We have lots of new members even a few old ones showing up again.

Life in the NFBL is pretty good right now.

But I'm always looking to the future. What can we do this next year to make things even better?

One thing that is in the works is an enhanced website. We have changed hosting companies and have much more capabilities with the website now. Working with our web gurus, I hope to have one of the best homebrew club websites set up in the next several months. What would you like to see on the website?

What else would you like to see in the club? We in the EC work for you the members and it's your club. What do you want out of it? What new and innovative would you like to try? Drop me an email with your suggestion. I can't promise that we will do it, but I can promise that we will consider it.

ruddellmj@comast.net

Mark Your Calendars	
Dec. 13	NFBL Meeting
Dec. 15	NFBL Christmas Party
Dec. 20	Executive Board Meeting
Jan. 10	NFBL Meeting
Jan. 24	Exec. Board Meeting
Feb. 14	NFBL Meeting
Feb. 28	Exec. Board Meeting



## Treasurer's Report

**Balance:** The Club's account balance as of 12/4/07 is **\$1667.75**. The Club has **60 active members**.

Our newest member is **Lela Buttery** who joined at our November meeting. Welcome back to **Larry Agee** who will be enjoying beer with us again.

### Membership renewals due December 2007:

**Theo Francis**  
**Melissa Horwitz & Marc Dixon**  
**Courtney & Rob Shoen**  
**Emily Boyd & Stuart Davis**

### Membership renewals due January 2008:

**Denise & Charles Howard**  
**Corrigan Loduha & Johann Pautz**  
**Dan MacDonald**  
**Jerry Swerczek**  
**Jimmy Nelson & Robbi Nelson**  
**Mike Hankin**

### Membership renewals past due:

**Jessica & Sean Patronis**  
**Orin Walker**  
**Amy & Vince George**

Annual membership is \$20 for individuals and \$30 for couples. Please see me at the next meeting with your dues or mail checks

to NFBL, PO Box 3325, Tallahassee, FL 32315-3325. Attention Randy Desilet.

**Membership Cards:** Remember that it is important to keep current with your club dues. The NFBL card is used to identify members as being up-to-date with their dues and eligible for discounts at The HomeBrew Den. Only membership cards of active NFBL members will be honored.

### **NFBL Stuff For Sale**

We have Club t-shirts (\$15), Henley shirts (\$20) and bumper stickers (\$1), available at our monthly meeting. See Randy at the meeting for the selection.

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## November 8 NFBL Minutes

Officers Present: Matt Ruddell, Vince George, Corrigan Loduha, Michael Johnson, Randy Desilet.

The style for the month of November was Belgians, a dear favorite of many of our members. Vince began his commercial presentation by noting this, but also by making clear that he was not to be counted among those folks. He treated us with two commercial styles to sample: Ommededdon Farmhouse Ale and Kriek Cherry Lambic. Both were very good, and everyone especially enjoyed the Cherry Lambic (and so did I, sorry, Vince, for all those horrible things I said to you, I take most of them back). We also held our usual raffle, members having brought in quite a few nice things this month.

### Raffle Items

Duchesse De Bourgogne- Brian Hall  
Jenlain Biere De Noel- Brian Hall  
Wittekerle Whit Beer- Brian Hall  
Pacifico- Courtney Schoen  
Sweetwater Blue- Courtney Schoen  
Paulaner- Joe Pignatiello  
Alewerks Porter- Randy Desilet  
Alewerks Tavern Ale- Randy Desilet  
Lagunitas Maximus- Lela  
Mad River IPA- Walter Liebrich  
Wildflower honey- Jerry Swerczek

Raffle Winner: Thomas Crawford

The following homebrewers brought their goods to share:

Belgian Amber- Sean Patronis

## Corrigan Loduha

Belgian Pale Ale- Joe Pignatiello  
Saison- Thomas Crawford and Johann Pautz  
Belgian Specialty- Joe Pignatiello  
Belgian Double- Thomas Crawford  
Biere De Garde- Johann Pautz  
Red Ale- Theo Francis

### Executive Board Meeting: Nov. 29

Meeting held at Michael Johnson's house. Among items discussed were awards for the December club meeting, an overview of the fall charity events, and plans for the winter party. Ideas for the website and upcoming educational sessions were also issues.

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## NFBL Christmas Party: Ho, Ho, Ho

Pat and Randy Desilet will be hosting our annual Christmas Party at their home Saturday, December 15 starting at 7 PM. The Club will provide turkey, ham, sodas and a keg of a commercial beer. Members are asked to bring a dish to add to the meat entrée i.e. casseroles, salads, vegetables, deserts. Additional beer from our brewers is always welcome. It would be unthinkable to run out of beer.

Below are the directions to the Desilet's home. The gates at Lafayette Oaks will be

open or will open when you approach. If you have any problems finding the house, **call Randy at 216-2204.**

**When coming into the east Mahan Dr. entrance to Lafayette Oaks**  
**Turn left on Touraine Dr. (immediate after the gate)**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> left on to Ile de France (across from pond)**  
**1<sup>st</sup> left on to Versailles Ct.**  
**Party at 2001 Versailles Ct.**

## Randy Desilet



## December Style of the Month: Holiday Beers And Best & Worst of the Year

Vince George

This month's style is holiday beers. Please refer to the Pumpkin/Spice recipes in the previous newsletter.

Borrowed from Beerbiker Mark:

Twas the night before Christmas and all through the house  
Not a creature was stirring, except me and my spouse.  
We were in the garage and bottling beer,  
To give to our guests who soon would be here.

We bottled off kegs with full carbonation,  
and wonderful beers for the great celebration.  
I was a filling and wife was a capping  
We were getting real tired and ready for napping.

With the last bottle filled and the mess stowed away  
We trudged off to bed and to call it a day.  
When all of a sudden we heard a commotion  
That kicked on the lights affected by motion.

We ran to the window and out in our yard  
Was a drunken old fat man I thought crashed his car.  
I grabbed me a golf club to serve as a tool  
To teach a short lesson to some drunken fool.

I threw open the door and what's this I see?  
It was Santa Claus taking a leak on my tree.  
Unable to speak, I just watched in dismay  
As he shook it a few times and put it away.

I continued to watch as I gathered my wits  
And he went to his sleigh for his bag full of gifts.  
It was then that I noticed the tiny reindeer

That pulled Santa's sleigh on this night of the year.

I saw Donder and Vixen and then realized  
That Cupid was leaving my lawn fertilized.  
Then Santa squeezed past me and right through the door  
To lay out the gifts near the tree on the floor.

A train set for Jimmy, a dolly for Sue,  
A conical fermenter for I think you know who.  
A sweater for sweetie that matches her hair  
Were all laid out gently with great loving care.

I offered old Santa a beer and some cheese  
His eyes grew real wide and as bright as you please.  
"I'm sick of those cookies and milk that they leave.  
If I have to eat more, then I swear I will heave."

He sucked down with gusto my double IPA  
And nibbled some cheese as he started to say,  
"This beer is real tasty, it's malty and hoppy.  
It's much better I say, than the crap from Milwaukee"

First one beer, then two beers and then it was three.  
I think it was six, then he had to go pee.  
He gathered his gift bag and went on his way  
He had many more stops before Christmas day.

The next thing I knew old Santa was gone  
And only some droppings were left on the lawn.  
I heard him pass over the roof of my house  
And said "Merry f-ing Christmas" I think he was soused.

## The NFBL Ultimate Grande Raffle Challenge

Sarah Bridegroom

As part of the NFBL educational objectives for 2008, Matt and I have been discussing a food and beer pairing event for NFBL members. The event will highlight some of the methods used to successfully pair food with beer and we will feature some techniques of how to maximize the enjoyment of food and beer.

The details of the tasting are still up for discussion, but we know for sure that it will involve some time and some costs on the part of the hosting NFBL members. It's likely that we'll structure the event where the attendees offer up a few bucks to cover costs, but our goal is to keep that dollar amount as low as possible.

To do that, we need to raise some seed money for the festivities. The Executive Committee has agreed to earmark the proceeds from both the December and January NFBL meeting raffles to help fund the food and beer tasting of 2008. So we're hopeful that everyone will share our goal of making each of these raffles pretty snazzy.

HomeBrew Den has offered a holiday gift basket to the December raffle that includes brewing supplies, gifts and of course, beer. There's plenty of booty in there for the taking. If you have an item that you would like to donate to the raffle, please bring it to the December NFBL meeting to liven the loot. And of course, bring an extra dollar to enter the raffle – not only to increase your chances of scoring the swag, but also to help get us going on the path of a solid food and beer tasting event for next year.



**Mission Statement:** The North Florida Brewers League is committed to sharing, promoting, and teaching the hobby of homebrewing to both beginners and experienced brewers through community involvement, regular meetings, and the Big Bend

North Florida Brewers League

NFBL  
PO Box 3325  
Tallahassee, FL 32315



**Newsletter submissions** should be sent by the Friday following the full membership meeting to [mdjohnson472@earthlink.net](mailto:mdjohnson472@earthlink.net)

## Long Term Calendar

December 13—NFBL meeting: Holiday beers, and the Best and Worst of the year  
December 15—NFBL Christmas Party  
December 20—NFBL EC Meeting  
January 10—NFBL meeting  
February 9—Beerfest, Mirboo North, Victoria, AU  
February 14—NFBL meeting  
February 2—9th Annual Domras Cup Mead Competition, Savannah, GA  
February 16—AHA Club Only Competition: Dark Lagers, Fargo, ND

February 28—The Coconut Cup, Miami, FL  
March 7—Kona Brewer's Festival Homebrew Competition, Kailua, Kona, HI  
May 10—AHA Club-Only Competition: Extract Beers, Naperville, IL  
August 2—AHA Club-Only Competition: Mead, Minneapolis, MN

This month's style:

Holiday beers, and the Best and Worse of the year



*Be there or be square.*