

UNYHA  
P.O. Box 23541  
Rochester  
14692

# The Monthly Mash

The Monthly Newsletter of the  
Upstate New York Homebrewers Association



---

December 2011

---

## NEWS AND BREWS FROM UNYHA

---

### UPCOMING EVENTS OF NOTE

Pyramid Brewing Happy Hour Launch. 5PM at the Tap and Mallet, 381 Gregory Street - December 1  
Buffalo Cask Ale Festival at Mr. Goodbar (1110 Elmwood Ave) and Coles (1104 Elmwood Ave) -  
December 2-4 (more info below)

UNYHA BJCP session, 7PM in the snug at the Old Toad. Style: Spice/herb/vegetable beers and  
winter warmers (BJCP Category 21) - December 7

UNYHA meeting - 7PM Brew Guru: Brewing w/spices, meeting 7:30 - Merchants Grill, December 14  
Pub of the Month: MacGregor's (300 Jefferson Road, Henrietta) - December 21

\*\* An expanded calendar can be found at the end of the newsletter \*\*

---

### AGENDA FOR DECEMBER MEETING

UNYHA's monthly meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month (December 14 this month) at Merchants Grill (Merchants Road near Culver), in the upstairs room. Guests are always welcome! Come early for dinner and a brew in the dining room. Meetings start at 7:30 (Brew Guru sessions begin at 7:00).

**Remember to bring your tasting glasses! (Keep 'em in your glove box!)**



1. **Brew Guru** session will begin at 7:00 sharp upstairs! Scott Ofslager will give a presentation on brewing with spices.
2. **Pick up your personalized membership renewal form** (or take a blank one) along with your name badge from the back table when you come in. Dues are \$25/person or \$40/couple.
3. **Welcome:** We will welcome new members, guests, and pro brewers. Newbies are encouraged to stand up and introduce themselves and share a little about their brewing experience. Pro brewers: what's new & noteworthy?
4. **Monthly membership drawing/giveaway:** All members present and in good standing are eligible to win a donated prize! Please pick your name/ticket up off the back table and put it in the drawing bin. Feel free to bring a prize to donate.
5. **Mailman/Events Report:** Steve Hodos
6. **BJCP Class Announcement:** Deron Weet/Thomas Barnes. They will give a report on this month's session on Spice/Herb/Vegetable beers (BJCP category 21) and will announce next month's session on Sour Ales (BJCP category 17).

7. Todd Snyder will be there to present the New York State Homebrewer of the Year (**NYSHOTY**) award to **Ben Maeso**.
8. **Local Brewers' Night:** a panel of brewers representing such local breweries as ROC Brewing, Naked Dove, and Rohrbach will be there to answer your questions.

---

## PUB OF THE MONTH



Pub of the Month (almost) always happens on the third Wednesday of each month. This month POTM will be at MacGregor's in Henrietta, on Wednesday, December 21. Locations are selected by our POTM Czar, Jeananne Thomas (see contact info at the end of the newsletter to make a POTM suggestion). POTM starts "after work" and goes until "whenever" – to be a bit more precise, people begin showing up around 5:15, and some of them never leave... If you'd rather not be all alone at POTM, shoot for arriving around 6:00 or so and don't arrive after 8:00 or so.

*Pub of the Month for December 21 will be MacGregor's Grill and Tap Room in Henrietta.* Drop by after hitting the mall for your last minute Christmas shopping. Or just drop by after work. No word on what the brewery of the month will be for December, but whoever it is, their beers will be \$3.50/20 oz. imperial pint or \$2.50/11 oz. It's a great deal (and if you order what's on special there's less of a chance the beer has been sitting around in the lines for a while, hint hint).

---

## AT LAST MONTH'S MEETING



Alan Guidera gave a presentation on label design. He shared his designs with the audience, including the award-winning label above, which won the Brew Your Own 2011 National Label Contest. He discussed software, printing, and cutting and affixing labels.

The meeting had a record attendance of over 80 people. We may be outgrowing our venue... if anyone has an idea for a place with good acoustics and sufficient space and seating for at least 80 people, which will allow us to bring in our own beer, which is well-lit and has a bathroom and a

sink and parking, let Vice President Doug Dalke know – he is in charge of scouting out possible venues for our meetings if our numbers continue growing. Contact Doug at [ddalke@rochester.rr.com](mailto:ddalke@rochester.rr.com).

The Brew-off teams brought their beers for tasting. This Brew-off focused on German Wheat and Rye beers (BJCP category 15). Those present voted on the beers they liked best using the same method as for the Brewer of the Month beers (dropping a poker chip – or a bottle cap after we ran out of poker chips to go around – into the bag behind their favorite beer). First place went to Adam Odegard's team's Hefeweizen; second place went to Walter Strassburg's team's Hefeweizen, and third place went to Jay Murphy's team's Dunkelweizen. Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all who participated.

Because UNYHA's bylaws require a vote by the membership to approve any purchase over \$300, those present were asked to vote on a financial outlay of approximately \$1500 for storage tubs and bags for our club grain stores, which are to be kept in Walter Strassburg's basement. Walter proposed that we buy a full pallet of 42 sacks and stock 15 varieties of grain plus offer a milling service. Most of those costs will be recouped through grain sales. The club's current treasury stands at about \$3500. The vote was in favor of the purchase.

#### Raffle results:

##### Donor

Paul Guarracini  
Andrew Jones  
Steve Hodos  
Steve Landgren  
Steve Landgren  
Turk Thomas  
Jeremy Belair  
Steve Zoller  
Al Schichler  
Sean Harnett  
Tony Parcero

##### Prize

Sierra Nevada Tumbler  
Saranac Season's Best  
Sweetwater Waterkeeper Hefeweizen  
Wolaver's Pumpkin Ale  
Victory Hop Devil  
Samuel Adams Irish Red  
6 oz. homegrown Willamette hops  
Great Divide Samurai Ale  
Genesee in a "glass can"  
Half yard glass  
420 pint glass

---

## FOR NEXT MONTH'S MEETING

Todd Snyder will be on hand to present the New York State Homebrewer of the Year (NYSHOTY) award to **Ben Maeso**! He won the competition with his American Brown Ale. For more information see <http://www.nyshoty.org>.

Representatives from local breweries such as Naked Dove, Roc Brewing, Rohrbach's and possibly a couple others will be on hand for **Local Brewers' Night**, a question and answer session. Come with any questions you may have for the pros. Oh, and they will probably bring some beer.

Payments will be due for full bags of grain ordered through the **Purchasing Co-op** from North Country Malt Supply. (More information on the Purchasing Co-Op is in the November newsletter.)

Tickets will go on sale for the **Beer and Food Dinner** (more info below).

---

## BEER AND FOOD DINNER



Given the number of talented chefs in our ranks, we've decided to do something different this year and offer a Beer and Food Dinner. We need some talented homebrewers to help out in providing the beer to go with the food... as well as hungry people to show up and eat it.

Here is the menu:

Soup Course: Smoked Gouda Soup paired with Steam Beer

Appetizer Course: Spicy Shrimp Cake paired with IPA

Salad Course: Salad Medley of Jicama, Apples, Figs, Beets, Goat Cheese w/ Lambic based dressing paired with Witbier

Intermezzo: Fruit Mead Sorbet

Choice of Entrees: Meat: Beef Carbonara w/ frites  
Veggie: Veggie Stroganoff

Both accompanied with sautéed Brussels sprouts  
Paired with either a Dubbel or Doppelbock

Cheese Course: Variety of cheeses paired with more of beers above

Dessert Course: Beer-amisu paired with a Sweet or Coffee Stout

We have booked the St. John Fisher dining hall for Jan 28<sup>th</sup> from 6PM on (until roughly 9PM). The facility will be available early for prep and cooking, possibly even on Friday.

We would like UNYHA members to volunteer to provide the beer, 2-4 six-packs (depending on attendance, we may need more). We'd like examples of the following styles: Steam Beer (California Common), IPA, Witbier, Belgian Dubbel, Doppelbock, Sweet Stout, Coffee Stout.

We will need some volunteers for wait staff and dishwashing, 3-4 people.

Price is TBD but will announce at the December meeting. Discounts will be offered for all volunteers, hopefully free tickets.

---

## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

How about if we publish a recipe each month? Please e-mail your favorite to your newsletter editor at kiracalico@gmail.com. Those of you who recently won awards are especially encouraged to do so.

---

## BEER HUNTERS ON SAFARI

Going on a trip for business or pleasure? Planning to visit the local breweries? UNYHA would like you to bring back beer to share at a meeting. UNYHA will reimburse you for it *provided* ...

You contact Paul Guarracini in advance to get the OK. The beer isn't available locally.

You bring at least half a case of each beer so that everybody can get a taste.

---

## CLARK'S ALE HOUSE TO REOPEN IN 2012

Fans of Syracuse's most beer-oriented taphouse (no TVs, no jukebox, only one dish on the menu – but plenty of beer) will be pleased to learn that Clark's Ale House, which closed in September 2010, plans to reopen early next year (probably by mid-March) in 321-325 S. Clinton Street in Armory Square.

---

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

🏆 — COMPETITION INFO

📍 — UNYHA-SPECIFIC STUFF

😊 — NON-UNYHA EVENT

- 😊 **December 1, 2011.** Pyramid Brewing Happy Hour Launch. 5PM at the Tap and Mallet, 381 Gregory Street, Rochester. Pyramid, out of Seattle, WA, is one of the oldest craft breweries out there, but it's new to our market. Pyramid's brand local representative, Ron Roncinske joins us with free tastes and merchandise! Hefeweizen, Thunderhead IPA, Apricot Ale, & Snow Cap Winter Warmer will be on tap.
- 😊 **December 2-4, 2011.** 4<sup>th</sup> annual Buffalo Cask Ale Festival at Mr. Goodbar (1110 Elmwood Ave) and Coles (1104 Elmwood Ave). As in previous years this will be a pay as you go event. Contact: <http://www.colesbuffalo.com/> (716) 886-1449, [www.mrgoodbarelmwood.com](http://www.mrgoodbarelmwood.com), (716) 882-4000
- 😊 **December 3, 2011.** BJCP exam in Ithaca. Contact Scott Bickham at 607-974-1147 (d) or 607-962-6941 (e)
- 😊 **December 3, 2011.** 4PM-8PM. Seneca Lodge Brewfest. Seneca Lodge Craft Brewing, Walnut Road at Rte 329, Watkins Glen, NY. Local Craft Beers ~ Seneca Lodge Style Food ~ Acoustic Music. Full Band and Beer Specials from 8:00 - 11:00. \$45 per Person, \$35 for designated drivers. Motel Rooms Available For Brewfest Ticket Holders Only. Limited Tickets Available at Seneca Lodge 607-535-2014.
- 📍 **December 7, 2011.** BJCP training session. 7PM in the snug at the Old Toad, 277 Alexander St. Topic: Spice/Herb/Vegetable Beers. BJCP Category 21. This session will be a "Christmas Party" with the focus on Winter Warmers (21B) and other spiced ales. Led by Deron Weet.
- 📍 **December 14, 2011.** UNYHA monthly meeting. Merchants Grill, 881 Merchants Road. Meeting starts at 7:30PM, Brew Guru session starts 7PM. This meeting will feature Local Brewers' Night – representatives from several local breweries will be there to serve beer and answer your questions.
- 😊 **December 18, 2011.** 8PM. Christmas caroling at the Old Toad, 277 Alexander St. All your seasonal favorites will be sung by the whole pub and of course there will be special roast dinners available, hot mead from the crock and warm Christmas puddings! All reservations must be before 7PM to guarantee a table and all your party members must be present at that time. Of course you can come in and stay standing if you don't want to make a reservation.



- ① **December 21, 2011.** UNYHA Pub of the Month. MacGregor's Grill and Tap Room, 300 Jefferson Road, Henrietta. After work 'til whenever. Contact: Jeananne Thomas, [jthomas@esm.rochester.edu](mailto:jthomas@esm.rochester.edu)
- ① **January 4, 2012.** BJCP training session. 7PM in the snug at the Old Toad, 277 Alexander St. Topic: Sour ales (BJCP Category 17). Led by Thomas Barnes.
- ① **January 11, 2012.** UNYHA monthly meeting. Merchants Grill, 881 Merchants Road. Meeting starts at 7:30PM, Brew Guru session starts 7PM. This meeting will feature a presentation on home draft systems by Steve Mancini of Rochester Store Fixture.
- 🍷 **January 20, 2012.** Deadline to enter *Homebrew Alley 6*, Brooklyn, NY. Entry fee: \$7/entry. Contact: Chris Cuzme, [cuzme@cuzme.com](mailto:cuzme@cuzme.com), (646) 942-7758.
- ① **January 28, 2012.** UNYHA Beer and Food Dinner. 6-9 PM. St. John Fisher dining hall. Price TBA.
- 🍷 **February 10, 2012.** Deadline to enter *AHA Club-Only Competition: Dark Lagers (BJCP Style Subcategory 4A,4B,4C)*. Contact: Doug Newberry, [doug.newberry@att.net](mailto:doug.newberry@att.net), (630) 482-3075.
- ① **February 1, 2012.** BJCP training session. 7PM in the snug at the Old Toad, 277 Alexander St. Topic: Belgian Strong Ales (BJCP Category 18). Led by Deron Weet.
- ① **February 8, 2012.** UNYHA monthly meeting. Merchants Grill, 881 Merchants Road. Meeting starts at 7:30PM, Brew Guru session starts 7PM. **Brewer of the Month contest: Stout.**
- 🍷 **February 22, 2012.** Deadline to enter *Amber Waves of Grain Homebrew Competition, Buffalo, NY*. Entry Fee: \$7 for 1st 2 bottle entry, \$5 for each additional entry (this may change). Contact: Todd Snyder, [tmsnyder@buffalo.edu](mailto:tmsnyder@buffalo.edu), (716) 688-9105.
- ① **March 7, 2012.** BJCP training session. 7PM in the snug at the Old Toad, 277 Alexander St. Topic: Stout (BJCP Category 13). Led by Thomas Barnes.
- ① **March 14, 2012.** UNYHA monthly meeting. Merchants Grill, 881 Merchants Road. Meeting starts at 7:30PM, Brew Guru session starts 7PM. **Brewer of the Month contest: Oktoberfest/Maerzen.**
- 🍷 **March 17, 2012.** Deadline to enter *AHA Club-Only Competition: Stout (BJCP Style Category 13)*. Parker, CO. Contact: Rock Hoppers Club of Parker, Colorado, Kelly Kruegel at [kruegel.kelly@gmail.com](mailto:kruegel.kelly@gmail.com)
- ① **April 4, 2012.** BJCP training session. 7PM in the snug at the Old Toad, 277 Alexander St. Topic: Belgian and French Ales (BJCP Category 16). Led by Deron Weet.
- ① **April 17, 2012.** UNYHA monthly meeting. Merchants Grill, 881 Merchants Road. Meeting starts at 7:30PM, Brew Guru session starts 7PM. **Brewer of the Month contest: Kölsch.**
- ① 🍷 **April 21, 2012.** UNYHA Annual Competition (tentative date). Roc Brewing, 56 S. Union St.
- ☺ **April 28, 2012.** – BJCP exam in Buffalo. Contact Todd Snyder at [tmsnyder@buffalo.edu](mailto:tmsnyder@buffalo.edu)
- ① **May 2, 2012.** BJCP training session. 7PM in the snug at the Old Toad, 277 Alexander St. Topic: Smoked and wood-aged beers (BJCP Category 22). Homebrewed examples especially welcome. Led by Thomas Barnes.
- ☺ **May 5, 2012.** BJCP exam in Buffalo. Contact Todd Snyder at [tmsnyder@buffalo.edu](mailto:tmsnyder@buffalo.edu)
- ① **May 9, 2012.** UNYHA monthly meeting. Merchants Grill, 881 Merchants Road. Meeting starts at 7:30PM, Brew Guru session starts 7PM.
- 🍷 **May 10, 2012.** Deadline to enter *AHA Club-Only Competition: Scottish and Irish Ale (BJCP Style Category 9)*. Contact: Knights of the Brown Bottle, Arlington, Texas, Mike Porter at [msrw15@sbcglobal.net](mailto:msrw15@sbcglobal.net)
- ① **June 6, 2012.** BJCP training session. 7PM in the snug at the Old Toad, 277 Alexander St. Topic: English Brown Ale & Porter (BJCP Categories 11 & 12). Led by Deron Weet.
- ① **June 13, 2012.** UNYHA monthly meeting. Merchants Grill, 881 Merchants Road. Meeting starts at 7:30PM, Brew Guru session starts 7PM.

- ① **July 4, 2012.** BJCP training session. 7PM in the snug at the Old Toad, 277 Alexander St. Topic: IPA (BJCP Category 14). Led by Thomas Barnes.
- ① **July 11, 2012.** UNYHA monthly meeting. Merchants Grill, 881 Merchants Road. Meeting starts at 7:30PM, Brew Guru session starts 7PM. **Brewer of the Month contest: Witbier.**
- ① **August 1, 2012.** BJCP training session. 7PM in the snug at the Old Toad, 277 Alexander St. Topic: Fruit Beers (BJCP Category 22). Led by Deron Weet.

### Future AHA Events and Homebrew Competitions:

<http://www.homebrewersassociation.org/pages/competitions/aha-bjcp-sanctioned-competition/calendar>  
[http://www.bjcp.org/apps/comp\\_schedule/competition\\_schedule.php](http://www.bjcp.org/apps/comp_schedule/competition_schedule.php)

**Future AHA Club Only Competitions:** <http://www.homebrewersassociation.org/pages/competitions/club-only-competitions>

**Note:** If you are entering an AHA/BJCP sanctioned contest, please note the entry rules (including bottle preparation) here: <http://www.homebrewersassociation.org/pages/competitions/club-only-competitions/how-to-enter>

### Links to Other Local Beer Calendars

Great Lakes Brewing News (& others): <http://www.brewingnews.com>  
Ale Street News: <http://www.alestreetonline.com>

### Links to Local Beer Bars with Events

The Old Toad: <http://www.theoldtoad.com>  
Tap & Mallet: <http://www.tapandmallet.com>

---

## CONTACT US

PAUL GUARRACINI, President – [oldeezra@aol.com](mailto:oldeezra@aol.com)  
DOUG DALKE, Weiss President – [ddalke@rochester.rr.com](mailto:ddalke@rochester.rr.com)  
JOEL RADFORD, Treasurer – [joelradford@yahoo.com](mailto:joelradford@yahoo.com)  
KIRA BARNES, Secretary and Club Librarian – [kiracalico@gmail.com](mailto:kiracalico@gmail.com)

### Other club leaders:

STEVE HODOS, Mailman/Events -- [shodos@aol.com](mailto:shodos@aol.com) or 585-242-9626  
JAY MURPHY, Brewer of the Month Coordinator – [jay.w.murphy@gmail.com](mailto:jay.w.murphy@gmail.com)  
ADAM ODEGARD, Inspector Gadget – [aodegard@gleason.com](mailto:aodegard@gleason.com) or 315-597-5698  
THOMAS BARNES, BJCP Co-Coordinator – [thomasbarnes@frontiernet.net](mailto:thomasbarnes@frontiernet.net) or 585-328-0148  
DERON WEET, BJCP Co-Coordinator/Oktoberfest Coordinator – [staretoolong@hotmail.com](mailto:staretoolong@hotmail.com)  
ALAN MACK, T-shirts and Caps Liaison/Quartermaster/Cellarmaster – [amack@rochester.rr.com](mailto:amack@rochester.rr.com)  
TOM OCQUE, Brew-off Coordinator – [tommyok@mac.com](mailto:tommyok@mac.com)  
JEANANNE THOMAS, Pub of the Month Czar – [jthomas@esm.rochester.edu](mailto:jthomas@esm.rochester.edu)  
TINA WEYMANN, Brewsters' Network Coordinator – [tweymann@frontiernet.net](mailto:tweymann@frontiernet.net)

---