

Date: 07:33 AM CDT, 06/03/2018

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To: <woj@kiltedhopbrewing.com>

Subject: Knaves Knewsletter - May 2018 🐧🐧🐧



Knaves Knews

UKG... Because home is where great beer is brewed!

May 2018

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Board of Directors

Abbess - **Eileen Uchima**

First Lady / Head Penguin -

Mike Uchima

Welcome Address



Hail Knaves!

So much for spring; we've moved right on to summer! It's been hotter here the past few days than

it was our entire time in Hawai'i. We spent five days on the Big Island and a week on Oahu celebrating with Mike's family. Mike's father turned 88 this winter (a big deal birthday in Japanese culture), and Mike's Aunt Marion turned 100 (a big deal for anyone)! Madame Pele even joined in the celebration! Our visit to the Big Island involved multiple earthquakes, road closures, and new fissures opening up. We were lodged safely on the other side of the island, but

Master of Coin - **Darrell**

Proksa

Communications Minister -

Kevin "Woj" Wojdak

Chaplain of Education -

Andy Day

Sister of Events Planning -

Luann Fitzpatrick

Minister of Tournaments -

Jeff Landers

Retired Abbot - **Chuck Fort**

Newsletter Contributions

Ed Bronson - Photography

Mike Uchima - Photography

Chad and Seetha Mason

Communications Channels



ukg.slack.com

Click here to request an invite

from a Board member.

did experience the 6.9 earthquake and a smaller aftershock.

We enjoyed a lot of food, beer, and hiking on our vacation as well as other interesting tours and sites. Look for an article about a vanilla bean farm that we visited in the next edition of the Knewsletter. I have a new appreciation for the vanilla bean and a deeper understanding of the high price of real vanilla.

The advent of summer also brings with it a countdown to Homebrew Con and the final round of the National Homebrew Competition. To all who are attending, have a great time in Portland. Enjoy the conference safely and bring home some knowledge to share with the club. It would be great if some of the attendees would write a short article for the Knewsletter, present a small talk at a future club meeting or even a tech session. Please consider sharing what you learn with the rest of the club who cannot attend.

Best of luck to the seven UKG members that have entries advancing to the final round of the National Homebrew Competition. We'll be cheering you on, Jerry, Jeff, Tom, Dave, Chad, Andy, and Woj!

Lastly, nominations for club officers will be occurring at the May meeting. If you are



ukg-

subscribe@yahoogroups.com

ukg@yahoogroups.com

(Membership requires approval)

Editor's Note:

Most images in the newsletter can be enlarged to see further detail. Simply click on the image and it will open into a new window.

interested in joining the board to help with future events, please let us know. The June meeting brings a date change for our club meeting. Alter has been getting more (paying) requests for use of the Barrel Room on Wednesdays. We still need to work out details, but watch for an announcement and an update on the club calendar.

Stay cool!

Slainte and Aloha,
Eileen

P.S. Please remember that this is *YOUR* club. Your suggestions are always welcome! Please consider contributing a short article or photos for the newsletter, a suggestion for a Tech Talk, or a Social Night venue idea. Email Knews@Knaves.org.

Welcome to Our New Members!

- None at this time.

June Meetings and Events

- *Saturday, June 9th @ 1-5 p.m.* - UKG members pouring homebrew at the 2018 Mundelein Craft Beer Festival, 300 Plaza Circle, Mundelein.
- *Thursday, June 14th @ 7:30 p.m.* - Tech session - Topic: Knighted Knave Cup judging of your Big Brew 2018 beer creations, Skeleton Key Brewing, Woodridge.
- *Saturday, June 16th @ 7 p.m.* - Social Night - TBD.
- *Date TBD @ 7:30 p.m.* - Club Meeting, Alter Brewing, Downers Grove.

For more details on these events, see below or the **[Club Calendar on the website](#)**.

Tech Sessions

Recent Past:

Thursday, May 10th @ 7:30 p.m. - Advanced Mashing Techniques.
Location: Skeleton Key Brewing, Woodridge.

Upcoming:

Thursday, June 14th @ 7:30 p.m. - Knighted Knave Cup judging of Big

Brew Day 2018 beer creations.

Location: Skeleton Key Brewing, Woodridge.

Social Night

Past - Saturday, May12th - 7 p.m., **Mikerphone Brewery**, 121 Garlisch Dr, Elk Grove Village.

Upcoming: Saturday, June 16th - TBD

Elections

There are three elected positions within the club each with a 1 year term. They are:

- President
- Treasurer
- Communications Officer

Every year, the club as a group elects to keep the current officers in place or nominates new individuals for the positions. Club elections take place every year with nominations at the May meeting and voting at the June meeting.

Our current club officers and nominated individuals are:

- Current UKG President and 2018 Nominee - Eileen Uchima



- Current Treasurer and 2018 Nominee - Darrell Proksa



- Current Communications Officer and 2018 Nominee - Kevin Wojdak ("Woj")



Voting for these positions will be held at the June meeting.

Competitions

Competition Wins

May 5th , **2018 MCAB XX Championship** from the Master Championship of Amateur Brewing, Milwaukee, WI

Jeff Landers

- 3rd for his “Giraffes VS Turtles” English Golden Ale
- 3rd for his “Turtles VS Giraffes” American Amber Ale

Midwest Homebrewer of the Year Standings

UKG is leading the way with 2 members in the top 2!!!

- Jeff Landers is in 1st place
- Jay Kash is in 2nd place

Upcoming Competitions

- June 16, 2018 **A Walk on the Wildside** from Special Hoperations, Tampa FL. Sour and barrel aged beers only. Entries due by June 8, 2018
- July 14th, 2018 - **Indiana State Fair Brewer's Cup** from Brewers of Indiana Guild, Indianapolis, IN. Registration May 27 thru June 15, 2018. - **MWHBOTY qualifier**
- July 14th, 2018 – **2018 Ohio Brew Week Homebrew Competition**. Registration now through June 29, 2018
- July 21, 2018 **For What It's Wort** from the Association of Bloomington Normal Brewers, Bloomington/Normal, IL. Registration now through July 7, 2018

- July 14th, 2018 - **Indiana State Fair Brewer's Cup** from Brewers of Indiana Guild, Indianapolis, IN. Registration May 27 thru June 15, 2018.. - **MWHBOTY qualifier**
- July 27th, 2018 - **German Fest Stein Challenge** from Beer Barons, Milwaukee, WI. Part of the German Festival in Milwaukee. All German Beer Styles Only. Registration June 1 thru July 13, 2018. - **MWHBOTY qualifier**
- **Midwest Homebrewer of the Year Circuit Competitions**



Contributions by Jeff Landers

Festivals

The UKG participates in several festivals throughout the year. Our 2017 participation involved pouring our homebrew at 3 different events in Lake Zurich, Lombard, and Racine (WI) bringing more awareness about our brewing and the club to the community. This year, we have the following events already in the works:

- **May 11th, 2018** - **Lake Zurich Craft Beer Festival**, Henry J. Paulus Park from 5-10 p.m.

The Lake Zurich Craft Beer Festival was another successful event. It was a chilly night but we all made the best of it and found ways to keep warm. We all had a great time pouring our brews and



talking to the crowd.

The Brewers who represented UKG Friday, May 11th were *Woj, Tom Hayosh, Felipe Carmona, and Don Leonard*. (Due to a death in the family, Chad Mason was unable to attend.)

- **June 9th, 2018** from 1-5 p.m. - **7th Annual Mundelein Craft Beer Festival**, 300 Plaza Circle, Mundelein. UKG was invited to participate in this event as 1 of 5 participating Homebrew clubs.



Brewers representing UKG at this event include *Woj, Noah Wojdak, Felipe Carmona, and Scott Detlie*.

- **June 9th, 2018** from 1-5 p.m. - **Tri-City Craft Beer Festival**, Lincoln Park, St. Charles. - Due to a lack of UKG brewers to pour, our participation in this event has been cancelled.
- **August 18, 2018** - **CHAOS Homebrew Club Fest** - More details to come later.
- **September 15th, 2018** from 3-6:30 p.m., **Great Lakes Brew Fest**, Racine, WI - Four club members attended in 2017 and poured 9 beers and a cider. We had some of the best homebrew out for the day.

Signups for this one include *Woj* so far. Email Festivals@knaves.org to join in the fun.

If anyone has a suggestion for an event we should participate in or if you're



interested in signing up for one of them, please email Woj at Festivals@knaves.org.

Financials

Annual Dues

If you have not paid your 2018 dues, please click one of the links below to pay them online.

As communicated in prior newsletters, annual membership renewal dues are now **\$20**.

Cash or check payable to "UKG" will be accepted at club meetings by Darrell Proksa.

You can also remit dues via PayPal on the UKG website at <http://www.knaves.org/member.html> or click the link below.

[Click here to Pay Now.](#)

Questions about dues? Please contact Darrell at treasurer@knaves.org.



Member News

This section is for members making the news or who have been highlighted in the news lately.

Nothing new to report.

Written by Kevin "Woj" Wojdak

Club Schwag

LogoUp.com Merchandise

We have an account at LogoUp.com for making UKG club logo embroidered shirts, hats, bags, and a whole lot of other cool products. The merchandise is top quality and you can even get a club logo on name brand products such as Nike, Izod, or Under Armor. There are no minimums for orders and we can place an order anytime. Go to LogoUp.com and pick out items you want. Then, email Woj at marketing@knaves.org with your item numbers and colors and he'll coordinate placing the order with you.



UKG Bottle Labels

We have 4 sets of UKG bottle labels available for immediate sale. The labels are vinyl, reusable, write-on labels and are available in Charcoal Gray or

Brown. Labels come with a front-facing label and neck label. Labels may be written on with grease pencil for easy reuse. Each set of 12 labels is \$7.50.



PAID Products to Pickup - Contact Woj!

- Michael Flack - 24 Bottle Labels

UKG Work Shirts

Our official UKG work shirts are Charcoal Gray Dickies brand work shirts with the club logo over the left pocket and a full back transfer of the woodcut graphic on the back. Optionally, you may get your name and/or homebrewery name embroidered over the right pocket.

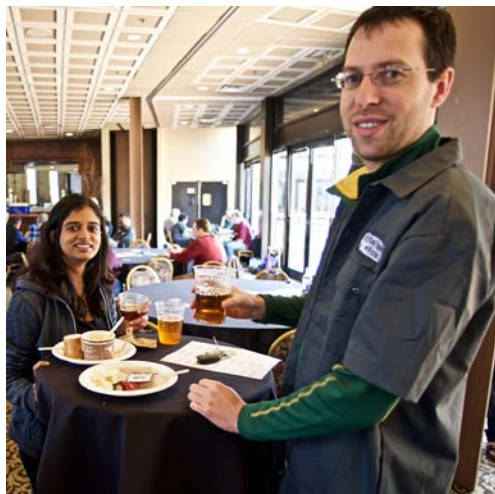


Club work shirts orders are placed by special order with our vendor and custom made to order. We place a new order 1-2 times per year and need to order so many shirts to make the order happen. Contact Woj at marketing@knaves.org to get on the list for the next order.

Club woodcut graphic T-Shirts are also ordered at that time.

Questions about Club Schwag or interest to buy anything? Please talk to Woj or email him at marketing@knaves.org.

Knowledge Share



Beer Adventures with Seetha and Chad

By Chad Mason

Part 1: Germany's Rhineland

Like many of you discovered upon meeting your significant other, Seetha and I both found we shared a passion for beer. That was back in 2009 in Helsinki, Finland. One of our first “research” trips was to Prague to taste authentic Pilsner. Since then, we’ve lived in Singapore for five years, and Detroit for a couple more. We’ve tasted beer in southeast Asia, New Zealand, and parts of Europe. Being away from home had its drawbacks but trying lots of different beers wasn’t one of them.

In the here and now, our most recent trip was to Hannover, Germany for an industrial trade show at the end of April. My company develops hydrogen fuel cells, so this show provided us an excellent opportunity to explore our shared beer passion. After the show, we went to Dortmund, Dusseldorf, and Cologne to sample the beers.

Its likely many of you have heard of Dortmunder Export beer, but have no idea

what it is. The 2015 BJCP guidelines call it a “German Helles Exportbier.” The Dortmunder name is supposedly protected, which is appropriate given all the city has gone through - the brewing industry there has been almost entirely decimated. The **Dortmunder**



Actien Brauerei is the only brewery remaining of the original breweries, through mostly consolidation. The *Dortmunder Union Export* beer was available for sale at their brewery museum, so we grabbed one. It was more bitter than expected, with the expected floral noble hop character. It had a balanced, malty body, with some grainy sweetness. Prominent sulfate from the water came through. Next was the *Hovels Original*, which was brewed on the former site of **Thiers Brewery**. This beer had a surprising amount of Munich malt character with slight caramel. Hops were woody and slightly minty, moderately bitter. Lastly, **Bergmann** is a newer craft-like brewery that has many available options, which we, of course, sampled. Their Export beer had a strong Munich malt character and quite a firm bitterness. Their “1972” was also quite interesting – very bitter, woody, slight herbal, strongly alcoholic, hazy, with a bready malt character.



Next, we went to Dusseldorf which is known for their “Alt” beer, an amber-colored ale. Most of the breweries are located in their compact city center. Walking around is quite enjoyable, and if there at night, you could expect a

party atmosphere. The breweries, **Füchschen**, **Schlüssel**, **Uerige**, and

Schumacher can all be visited in short succession. The Füchschen and Schumacher Alts had a very slightly lighter malt character than Schlüssel and Uerige. Most of them had woody, herbal German hops, and malt character usually dry, but had varying degrees of caramelization and breadiness. The mineral profile of the water always came through, so definitely account for that if brewing this style, yourself.

Last stop for us was Cologne, home of the famous Kölsch. It's unfortunate how many bad craft beer and homebrew examples of this style we've had over the years, so getting back to Cologne to really study this year was fun. BJCP 2015 actually describes Kölsch quite well, though ironically, leaves out the best commercial example, which would be *Päffgen*, according to locals (we concur). If you want to brew a great example of this style, find an extremely fresh version of this beer and study it. *Päffgen* is very crisp, yet smooth. Subtle fruity esters with notes of sulfur are present. The hop profile was floral Noble hops with slight wood and citrus. On the opposite end of the spectrum you'll find *Sion* – a mass market, watery Kölsch. The malt was a little candy sweet, with some light floral hops – not much else. Another unique example was the *Peter's* Kölsch, found at their restaurant, which was much grainier, and had a very slightly toffee-like malt flavor more so than all the others. *Note: this restaurant is very popular, so get reservations if you want more than just beer.*

The rest of the beers we tried were somewhere in between these extremes, with hop flavors such as floral, minty, and woody. Malts were pure Pilsner, but sometimes had other flavors like graininess, cracker, and general sweetness. The character of the water was usually present with some calcium and sulfates easily identified. On top of the beers we tried, the weather was nice and warm, which make it the ideal time to drink this style. We highly recommend checking out all of these cities and beers if you get the chance and, if you're interested in any perspective or advice on an upcoming trip, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Contact Chad and Seetha Mason

Contact us.

If you have any ideas for content for this newsletter, please send them to Knews@Knaves.org.



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