

Date: 10:11 AM CDT, 05/02/2022

From: Urban Knaves of Grain Communications <communications@knaves.org>

To: Kevin <communications@knaves.org>

Subject: Knaves Knewsletter - April 2022



Knaves Knews

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

April 2022

*** Claim the Urban Knaves of Grain (UKG) as your club when you signup for the AHA (American Homebrewers Association). By using the links in this Knewsletter, your AHA dues payment helps UKG through funding kicked back from the AHA. Click our club link to [Join or Renew with the AHA](#).

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Board of Directors

Abbess - [Eileen Uchima](#)

First Lady / Head Penguin -

[Mike Uchima](#)

Master of the Coin - [Darrell](#)

[Proksa](#)

Master of Coms - [Kevin](#)

["Woj" Wojdak](#)

Chaplain of Education -

[Andy Day](#)

Welcome Address



Hey, everyone!

I hope you are all well, having a great spring, and enjoying a return to (somewhat closer to) normal! It's nice to see business picking up at local restaurants and breweries. We all just need to remember to return to normal in a sensible manner. If you don't feel good, STAY HOME! If you are somewhere crowded and have an immune-compromised loved one, wear a mask. I have a friend who was going to attend a group gathering with "just a chest cold" until the hostess told her to please stay home. We shouldn't need to be reminded anymore that a "cold" may not just be a cold...and that most of us have someone in our lives to whom we don't want to spread even "just a chest cold"!

I feel that
Bubblehouse is



Brother of Events

Planning - Tim Devitt

Minister of Tournaments -

Dan Acheson

Drunk Monk at Large - Jeff
Landers

Monk at Large - Tom

Hayosh

Monk at Large - Dave Fetty

Monk at Large - Ray

Nonnie

Retired Abbot - Chuck Fort

Contributions

Mike Uchima - Photography

Ed Bronson - Photography

Communications Channels



ukg.slack.com

Click here to request an invite

from a Board member.



<https://groups.io/g/ukg>

Editor's Note:

*Most images in the newsletter
can be enlarged to see further
detail. Simply click on the image*

working out very well for our monthly meetings. It is centrally located, there is plentiful parking (remember that they have a back parking lot, too), and there is plenty of food nearby if you don't have time to eat before meeting. Most importantly, we have a meeting place with excellent beer that is willing to be open just for us! Join us there for our next meeting on Tuesday, May 17. Please be sure to show them some love by grabbing a beer or two during the meeting and maybe some to go!



For those who didn't make it, our April combined Tech Session / Social Event at **Dragon Fire Coffee Roasters** was fascinating. Joe Kotvan, owner and UKG member, took us on a

tour of coffee from green coffee beans through the roast (and the dreaded over-roast) and into the cup. He had roasted a batch earlier in the day and then we over-roasted a batch there to demonstrate the difference. It is interesting to see how much coffee and beer have in common. I think Joe was surprised by how many members in attendance roast their own coffee. Visit **Dragon Fire Coffee Roasters** and order a bag and look for it in stores in the future!

Big Brew day is just around the corner on Saturday, May 7. This year, the club is celebrating on our own with a brew-in at Ray Nonnie's house. You can brew one of the official Big Brew beers (check the AHA website for recipes), or something of your own invention. You can even feel free to come just to socialize and just observe. Check out details on the club calendar and let Ray know if you are planning to come. Bring food for yourself or a dish to share...Ray will have a grill available.

and it will open into a new window.

Nominations of board officers will take place at the May meeting, with elections in June. If you are interested in helping out with the running of the club in any way, please let one of the existing officers know. It is always good to bring new blood to the board!

Elected Board Officer positions:

- President
- Treasurer
- Communications

Keep your eyes open for more details on spring and summer events for UKG. Possible events include a summer picnic, a trip to the Kane County Cougars, and likely some other surprises.

As always, keep an eye on the calendar and Slack for updates on meetings, social activities, DMC, etc. If you have anywhere that you would like to suggest for a future meeting location or social night, or a tech topic which you would find interesting, please post to Slack or email the Board. We will be having a board meeting after the holidays to plan meetings, etc. for the next few months.

Sláinte!

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 Woj at Knews@Knaves.org or email Eileen directly at President@Knaves.org.

Welcome to Our New Members!

- Ed Williams - Plainfield
-

UPCOMING on the Calendar...

May

- **Saturday, May 7 @ 8 a.m. - Big Brew Day**
Brew-In @ Ray Nonnie's House, 817
Dugout Trail, Carol Stream
Details and what to bring are available on
the [UKG Calendar](#).
- **Tuesday, May 17 @ 7:30 p.m. - UKG**
Monthly Club Meeting.
Location: [Bubblehouse](#)
[Brewing Company](#), 2121 Ogden Ave., Unit
A, Lisle
Topics: Nominations for Board Officers



June

- **Tuesday, June 21 @ 7:30 p.m. - UKG**
Monthly Club Meeting.
Location: [Bubblehouse](#)
[Brewing Company](#), 2121 Ogden Ave., Unit
A, Lisle
Topics: Board Officers Election

Other Social Activities Into 2022

- **June** - Kane County Cougar's Baseball Game Outing - Date: TBD
- **August** - CHAOS BrewBQ Homebrew Beer Festival - August 20th @ 2 p.m.

For more details on these events, see the **Club Calendar on the website.**

Board Member 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:

- **UKG President** - Eileen Uchima
 - Responsible for conducting the meetings.
 - Represents the club in an official capacity.



-
- **Treasurer** - Darrell Proksa
 - Manages the fiscal aspects of the club.
 - Reports cash flow at board meetings and annually through the Knewsletter.
 - Files and documents required to the state or Federal government.



- **Communications** - Kevin Wojdak ("Woj")
 - Maintains and publishes the *Knaves Newsletter* in a highly literary manner.
 - Communicates through online and social media communications vehicles that are deemed necessary by the board.
 - Liaison for organizational communications in general.



If you wish to be considered for any of these positions, please speak to any of the current board members above or another club member to nominate you in May.

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

Brave Noise Movement

We have all heard about sexual harassment issues in the local (and not so local) brewing industry, and this group is trying to do something about the problem. This is a collaboration with a goal: A safe and discrimination-free industry. Pro-brewers and homebrewers alike can register on the website to pledge their support for this movement. After registering, you will receive a copy of the Brave Noise recipe to brew in support. Check out Brave Noise at bravenoisebeer.com



Competitions

Competition Wins

April 9, 2022 — SODZ British Beer Festival, Lewis Center, OH

- **Dave Fetty**
 - 1st Place - "Oatmeal Stout" - 16B: Oatmeal Stout - Stouts table



- Honorable Mention - "Imperial Stout" - 20C: Imperial Stout - Strong Stouts table

April 22, 2022 — **Boot Brew Fest**, Eunice, LA

- **Kevin "Woj" Wojdak**
 - 3rd Place - "Party Kilt Jr." - 14C: Scottish Export - Scottish and Strong British Ales table



Master Homebrewer Program

Circuit of America 2022 Standings

(As of May 2, 2022)

- Jeff Landers - 7th
- Dan Acheson - 24th
- Kevin "Woj" Wojdak - 41st
- Mike Kimble - 178th
- Joe Formanek - 267th
- Tom Dennis - 277th
- Alex Chambers - 291st
- Gerald Hodge - 291st
- Dave Fischer - 344th
- Christopher Van Eynde - 411th
- Jay Kash - 497th
- Noah Wojdak & Kevin Wojdak - 526th



Master Homebrewer Program Lifetime Rankings

- **Kevin "Woj" Wojdak** - Master Brewer plus 1 x Silver Star, 1 x Bronze Star
- **Dan Acheson** - Recognized Brewer

Upcoming Competitions of Note

- **Indiana Brewers Cup**

Judge Registration: OPEN Now

(NOTE: they offer \$100 to judges traveling >50 miles if you judge 2 sessions)

Entry Registration: 5/17/2022 - 6/22/2022

Judging Dates: 7/5/2022 - 7/9/2022

See the [AHA Homebrew Competition Calendar](#) to find upcoming competitions to possibly enter.

- [Master Homebrewer Program — Circuit of America Competition](#) - Drunk Monk Challenge represents Illinois on the Circuit. Top 10 winners recognized on the circuit.
 - [Circuit Competitions List](#)
- [American Homebrew Association Competition Calendar](#)
- [Masters Championship of Amateur Brewing \(MCAB\) competition circuit](#)
- [Midwest Homebrewer of the Year Circuit Competitions](#)

Financials



Annual Dues

Annual membership renewal dues are **\$20**.

Click the PayPal link below or mail a check payable to "**UKG**" to:

Darrell Proksa
128 Sherwood Ct
Downers Grove 60516

Click this link to pay your dues:

[Click here to Pay Now.](#)

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

Brewery Review

by Darrell Proksa



Old Town Brewing

<https://www.otbrewing.com/>

Portland, OR

Old Town Brewing is a brewpub in the Alberta neighborhood on the north side of Portland. The building has no architectural interest and the exterior walls are dominated by large overhead garage doors. The interior has a little more aesthetic with exposed brick and a timber frame motif. Brewing operations started in 2011.

- **Helles** – Bright bread and honey notes. Finish lingers.
- **Irish Red** – Caramel notes give way to big hop flavor. Finishes clean with low bitterness.
- **Barrel-aged Maibock** – **Why??** Alcohol notes dominate behind cherry, vanilla, leather.
- **English IPA** – Good malt supports but, it doesn't dominate or overpower hop flavor. Balanced finish with moderate bitterness.



Join the AHA and Help UKG
(American Homebrewers Association)



Join the AHA Now

Every year, the UKG purchases club insurance through the AHA (American Homebrewers Association) to protect our club and its members from incidents that may happen during club events and activities.

One of the ways we lower the cost of the insurance is by having a certain percentage of UKG club members also be AHA members. Your support of the AHA lowers the cost of insurance for the UKG.

If you are already an AHA member but aren't sure whether you've claimed UKG as your club, then click the following link to learn how you can **Add Homebrew Club Affiliation** to your AHA membership.

[Click here for our Club's AHA Membership Referral Link](#)

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 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.



Because the shirt is custom made to order, the cost per shirt ranges from \$45 - \$50 depending on size needed and custom embroidery, etc.

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.

ATTENTION: It's Time to Order Work Shirts. Let Woj know you want one. Click the Marketing email link just above to send him an email.

UPDATE: I haven't heard back from my shirt resource and may have to see if my secondary shirt maker is still in business.

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

Available for Immediate Purchase

UKG Woodcut Graphic T-Shirts

- UKG Woodcut Graphic T-Shirt
(Charcoal Gray T-shirt with white and black vinyl design on Front)
Size: Medium
2 available
\$12 each



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

All items are sold at cost to club members except items which go through the LogoUp.com website which has their markup.

Contact us.

If you have any ideas for content for this newsletter, please send them to [**Knews@Knaves.org**](mailto:Knews@Knaves.org).



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