



# Official Newsletter of Forest City Brewers August / September Edition

Next Meeting will be held at Prairie Street Brewing Company

Wednesday, September 6th, 2023 @ 7:00 PM

## HOW TO CONTACT FOREST CITY BREWERS

[Homepage: Forest City Brewers](#)

[forestcitybrewers@gmail.com](mailto:forestcitybrewers@gmail.com)

[fcbbeersteward@gmail.com](mailto:fcbbeersteward@gmail.com)

[Facebook: Forest City Brewers](#)

## Forest City Brewers

**Welcome to the Forest City Brewers!!**  
**If you're interested in learning about homebrewing for the first time or already have years of brewing experience – this is a great club to apart of.**

We assemble each month to promote the hobby of homebrewing by learning more about brewing, sharing our brewing experiences and our beers amongst our members. Each month during our meetings we start with a welcoming of new faces.

We discuss information about the club and the status of club functions and upcoming events.

Usually there is a presentation or discussion on “Better Brewing” that helps further our knowledge of the art of homebrewing. The style of the month will be the last item discussed before the tastings.

The highlight of the meeting is our homebrew sampling session. We ask for a \$2 donation for the sampling session. The beers being sampled are supplied by club members and is set out on two tables, the Style Table and the Open Table. During the sampling session we vote on the best “to style” beer on each table and the winner receives a small award. Everyone who submits a beer receives points based on how well they scored. At the end of the year the points are tallied and a Brewer of the Year award is given to the winner of each table.

## Upcoming Competition Styles

September – S.M.A.S.H. Beer (Single Malt, Single Hop) Malt & Hop type must be specified when entering.

October – 21B, Black IPA  
ABV 5.5 % - 9.0%

\*Please remember to preregister your beers to earn points for the Brewer of the Year contest by emailing  
[fcbbeersteward@gmail.com](mailto:fcbbeersteward@gmail.com)

or

<https://forestcitybrewers.us/index.php/pre-register/>

## Monthly Style Table Competition

**Style Table** – Every month, a different, predetermined BJCP style will be represented on the table. All beers on the style table are to be brewed as close to style as possible, based on the BJCP Guidelines. Voters should be extremely critical when placing a vote for a beer on this table. Even if the beer is extremely tasty, if it's out of style, it shouldn't get a vote. The style will be discussed briefly before the tasting, and if applicable, a classic, commercial example of the beer style will be shared with everybody in attendance to get them more familiar with the style.

### August Style Table – 25B Saison - Belgian

There was a total of two beers on the Style table this month. Scott Walker takes first place in this month's Style competition. Mark Davis placed second.

**Open Table** – The Open table is anything that is NOT that months style. All entries are still required to specify a BJCP style number. We encourage all voters to not only vote for the best beer on the table, but to vote for the best beer as it fits the indicated style. We encourage discussion of all the beers and styles during the tasting, as we're all there to learn and get better as brewers and tasters. Just be aware that the person you're talking to might have brewed the beer you're drinking. Constructive criticism is always welcome, but be constructive.

### August Open Table

Ken Wallyn placed in first in this month's Open competition with a great example of Belgian Dubbel. Jerry Machula takes home second place with a Citrus Blonde Ale. Lesley Davis received third place with a Pink Lemonade Sour. Honorable mention goes to Russ Madeen and Dave Benson

**NOTE:** For the “BEST” beer put the right chip into bag.  
OPEN Table = Red Chip  
STYLE Table = White Chip

**Link:** [2021 BJCP Style Guidelines](#)

## August Meeting Minutes

President, Ron Derry, started off the meeting welcoming everyone. He reminded all members that 2023 memberships can be renewed and there are currently Seventy-five 2023 paid memberships. A new member joined – Mark Perez, let's all welcome him to the club!!

First we have the Great Taste of the Midwest, which will be on August 12th. Tickets are sold out but if you are lucky enough to have a spot on the FCB bus, keep an eye on your email for updates and pertinent information.

Chaos HomeBrew fest is August 19. There will be another homebrew club competition between all clubs going and FCB beer entry will be represented by Scott Walker.

“Brewer’s Needed”!!!

Screw City Beer Fest will be held on September 9<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in having your beer poured at Screw City Beer Fest, please email the club with your Name, Beer style, Beer name and ABV.

There is no Brewer’s Guild scheduled for August. Check the FCB website or Facebook for any last-minute additions to the schedule. Please email the club if you’d like to volunteer to host.

The Summer Picnic is going to be held in September for this year. This will be more like an “Oktoberfest” look and feel.

Scott Walker went over the style for August which was a Belgian Saison. He explained that it is a family of refreshing, highly attenuated, hoppy, and fairly bitter Belgian ales with a very dry finish and high carbonation. Characterized by a fruity, spicy, sometimes phenolic fermentation profile, and the use of cereal grains and sometimes spices for complexity. Several variations in strength and color exist.

Barrel Projects: Wee Heavy beer is currently soaking in the barrel. The Imperial Stout will be added to the second barrel later this month.

Urban Forest Homebrewer’s Throwdown, bring your beer to an event hosted there, Alex and Heath will be the judges and the winning brewer’s beer will be brewed and served at Urban Forest on tap. Any beer style is welcome, October 11<sup>th</sup>, Good Luck to All!!

Merchandise store is live on the website:

<https://www.cafeopress.com/forestcitybrewers>



## TASTERS GUILD

The Tasters Guild for July was held at **Rock County Brewing Company**. Rock County Brewing Company is located at 10 N Parker Drive Suite 160, Janesville, WI. Rock County Brewing Company is Janesville 1<sup>st</sup> nano-brewery located in the historic Carriage Works building in the heart of the downtown area.



The Tasters Guild for August will be at the **Hairy Cow Brewing Company** Wednesday, 8/17/23 - 5pm to 9pm. Hairy Cow Brewing Company is located at 450 E Blackhawk Drive, Byron, IL. Currently Route 2 between Beltline Rd in Rockford to Illinois 72 in Byron is under road construction, please make sure to take alternate routes to Byron. Traffic from Rockford should utilize Beltline Rd, to Kishwaukee Rd to Illinois 72 then into Byron.

Stay tuned for a special Taster’s Guild in September!!!



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### UPCOMING TASTERS GUILD

August Taster's Guild will be at Hairy Cow Brewing on August 17<sup>th</sup> 5 – 9 pm.

### UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

#### **Great Taste of the Midwest**

Madison – August 12

We'll have two pickup/dropoff locations for this trip, one in Rockford and one in South Beloit. We'll be departing Rockford at 10:00am and South Beloit at 10:45am. Please be there 15-30 minutes early, so we have time to load everybody onboard. We recommend everyone be dropped off, but if you are driving, you can park at the locations all day for free.

**Rockford Pickup** (10:00am) / Dropoff (8:30pm): 5909 E State St, Rockford, IL 61108 (Old K-Mart Parking Lot)

**South Beloit Pickup** (10:45am) / Dropoff (7:30pm): 15766 Manchester Rd, South Beloit, IL 61080 (Fas Fuel)  
The festival goes from 1:00pm – 6:00pm. We'll be leaving the event at 6:30pm, so make sure to be back to the bus on time. Don't be left behind. Plan on being back in South Beloit at 7:30pm and back in Rockford at 8:30pm.

#### **C.H.A.O.S. Homebrew Festival**

When: August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 2 – 7 pm

Where: C.H.A.O.S. Club

2417 W Hubbard St, Chicago, IL

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=654139263406410&set=a.548199334000404>

#### **Screw City Beer Festival**

When: September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 11 – 5 pm

Where: Riverview Ice House

324 N Madison St Rockford, IL

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

Please email the club with your Name, Beer style, Beer name and ABV if you plan on bringing a beer.

#### **Urban Forest / FCB Brewer's Invitational**

When: October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 5 pm – 10 pm

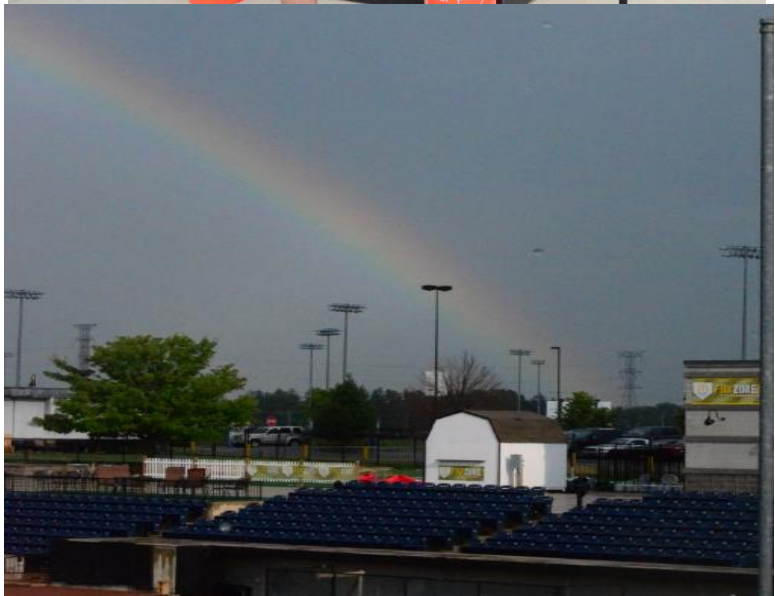
Where: Urban Forest Craft Brewing

6551 E Riverside Boulevard, Rockford, IL

Prizes: Brewery's Champion – Trophy & \$100 Gift Card

People's Choice – Trophy & \$50 Gift Card

## Around The Town



**Are you looking for an emergency C02 fill on a weekend when everyone else is closed?**

Please feel free to contact FCB member John Orosz