



Official Newsletter of Forest City Brewers October/November Edition

Next Meeting will be held at Prairie Street Brewing Company

Wednesday, November 1st, 2023 @ 7:00 PM

HOW TO CONTACT FOREST CITY BREWERS

[Homepage: Forest City Brewers](#)

forestcitybrewers@gmail.com

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

November – 16A Sweet Stout (Milk Stout) British
ABV 4.0% - 6.0%

December – 9B Eisbock
ABV 9.0% - 14%

*Please remember to preregister your
beers to earn points for the Brewer of the
Year contest by emailing

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.

October Style Table – Black IPA

Dave Benson takes first place in this month's Style competition. Mark Davis placed second with Joe Coldwater taking third.

Honorable mention to Craig Milius.

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.

October Open Table

Craig Milius placed in first in this month's Open competition with a Cherry Sour Ale. A three-way tie between Lesley Davis (Apple Cider), Dave Benson (Midwest Imperial IPA) and Dan Meldrum (Belgian Strong Ale). Then we had a Two-way tie for third place, Mike Sears (Perry) and Scott Walker (English Porter Coconut-strawberry). Honorable mentions go to Ryan Petty, Mike Bohn and Russ Madeen.

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

Link: [2021 BJCP Style Guidelines](#)

September 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 Eighty-one 2023 paid memberships. 2024 memberships will be available soon, let's get our memberships paid-up.

Taster's Guild scheduled for October will be at Byers' Brewery in Dekalb on Saturday October 21st. Check the FCB website or Facebook for any last-minute additions to the schedule.

Dells on Tap Beer Fest at Severson Dells October 14th. Our members are donating beer and it will be a great time to come out and support our club as well as some of our favorite local breweries.

The Barrel Aged Sensory class focuses on compounds that cover a variety of common flavors that might be associated with the process of aging beers in barrels like almonds, vanilla, tobacco, smokey, coconut, whiskey, etc. Sign-up/get ahold of the club to sign-up to participate in this great class.

Office Elections – Be prepared to nominate officers at the November meeting. Maybe you will want to run for office!!!!

Discussion of etiquette and behavior during the voting for style/open table. (Politicking and attempting to sway votes) Chips will be in the bags by 8:15 or the votes will not count. Officers of the club and stewards will refrain from comments, criticism, or observations about the available beers until 8:15 when the bags are collected.

Merchandise store is live on the website:
<https://www.cafepress.com/forestcitybrewers>



TASTERS GUILD

The Tasters Guild for September was held at the **Carlyle Brewing Company** on Saturday, 9/16/23 I heard nothing but grand reviews of great beer and a great time had by all. Carlyle Brewing Company is located at 215 E State Street, Rockford, IL. Let's continue to support our local breweries, Prost!!

The Byers Family



Giving Back

It is our mission to make a positive impact on our community. With the purchase of any of our beers, a portion will be donated to a local non-profit. Each beer supports a unique non-profit. Great community. Great beer!



The Tasters Guild for October will be held at Byers Brewing Company on October 21st starting at 12pm. It is located at 230 East Lincoln Hwy Dekalb, IL. This is a local family-owned brewery that creates small batches of hand-crafted beer made right in the heart of downtown Dekalb. Let's all support this family, community and beer maker.

UPCOMING EVENTS

UPCOMING TASTERS GUILD

October Taster's Guild will be at Byers Brewery on
October 21st 12 – 8 pm.

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

Dells on Tap

When: October 14th , 2023 12 pm – 5 pm

Where: Pig Minds (Due to inclement weather)

4080 Steele Dr., Machesney Park, IL

Looking for brewers to donate beer and help serve at the fest. Contact the club with your name, beer style & ABV.



The Barrel Aged Sensory class focuses on compounds that cover a variety of common flavors that might be associated with the process of aging beers in barrels like almonds, vanilla, tobacco, smokey, coconut, whiskey, etc. Please keep your eyes peeled and your nose closed for more information on this great learning opportunity.

AHA / BJCP Sanctioned Competition Program

Contact information is provided for potential entrants or volunteers, please follow this link;

[Competition Schedule \(bjcp.org\)](https://www.bjcp.org/CompetitionSchedule)

Election Time / Officer Nominations

Just a quick reminder that the club is currently taking nominations for officer positions. The November meeting is where any elections would take place, so get any nominations in before that. Anybody can be nominated and run for a position.

PRESIDENT: The President shall preside at all Club and Executive Committee Meetings. The President shall decide all questions of order, appoint all Committees (other than the Executive Committee), unless otherwise ordered, and is an ex-officio member of all Committees. The President will set up and be the bus company contact for all bus trips. The President will be the contact for beer festival organizers.

VICE PRESIDENT: The Vice President is responsible for organizing and executing the Club events such as social gatherings, club projects, special meetings and for the purpose of determining the Members that shall represent the Club in AHA Club-only Competitions, as well as communicating to the Club Membership the dates involved in these events. Additionally, the Vice President shall be the main contact point between the FOREST CITY BREWERS and the American Homebrewers Association, of which the FOREST CITY BREWERS is affiliated.

SECRETARY: The Secretary shall record the minutes of all Club and Executive Committee Meetings, notify parties of their election to the Committee, issue the results of all Club Meetings and Elections, conduct the general correspondence of the Club, distribute the Club Newsletter on a regular basis to all Members in the Club, and perform other duties as may from time to time be imposed upon them.

TREASURER: The Treasurer shall receive and maintain sole custody of all FOREST CITY BREWERS funds and shall promptly deposit all moneys received. They shall be responsible for all collection of fees and fines. They shall be required to submit a Treasurer's Report at least annually.

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: The Technical Director is responsible for producing and maintaining the club's public internet properties (Club Web Site, Facebook, Soundcloud, YouTube, etc.) on a monthly basis. They are responsible for posting meeting updates, past Newsletter and other relevant material as deemed necessary by the Executive Committee (meeting updates, calendar events, newsletters, contest results, monthly styles, podcasts and other) in a timely manner. They are also responsible for setting up and maintaining Paypal (or other payment software) on the club's public internet properties. The Technical Director is responsible for producing and maintaining club meeting podcasts (or recordings) online for club consumption.