



SAAZ BREWZletter

February 2019

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Words from the Prez

Cheers all! I would like to thank all the members and visitors who attended the January meeting at Coasters Biergarten. We had a pretty good crowd, some good education, the rain held off and it wasn't freezing. We also had a somewhat smaller showing at the bonfire on the beach last week, but there was an amazing amount of fun had by all who attended.

This weekend will be the first SAAZ brew day in a while and you are invited to stop by and share the day. See the [event page on Facebook](#) or the info here in the newsletter for details. We will have several different brew systems going.

I guess for this month, I would like to encourage greater attendance at club events. I understand we are all busy and involved in many things, but we would like to see you at the meetings and events. We will be working on a barrel project in a short while and will be looking for a number of brewers to participate. We are going to try to make sure there are interesting areas for all members.

Okay, that's a wrap for this month. Hope to see you at an event or meeting soon.

Sláinte!

Bob Bridges
President, SAAZ
President@saaz.org

Next Intra-Club “Smackdown”

How's Your Smackdown Brew Doing?



Here's hoping your Irish and Scottish brews are coming along nicely. Let's make the judging tough with a delicious lineup of awesome beers! A quick reminder of the styles included: 14A – Scottish Light, 14B – Scottish Heavy, 14C – Scottish Export, 15A – Irish Red, 15B – Irish Stout, 15C – Irish Extra Stout, 17C – Wee Heavy. You're a bit late if you haven't started a wee heavy already, but you've still got time to get one of the other styles brewed. SAAZ Education Coordinator Aaron Pitts compiled style information for us, and it's posted in the **Files** area on the [SAAZ Members Facebook page](#) and as a [post](#) on the SAAZ website for your downloading, viewing, learning, and brewing pleasure.

Upcoming Intra-Club “Smackdown”

Start putting together a great lawnmower beer recipe (5% or less ABV) for our summer party in June. Don't just brew the same recipe you did last year. Do some research and get creative. The smackdowns are an opportunity for you to improve your knowledge and brewing technique as well as a chance to have fun, impress your friends, and (woo-hooooo!) win a prize!

Next Event

RSVP NOW!
Brew spots available, brewers
and assistants wanted

“Brew/Education Day”

Saturday, February 16 – 9:00AM to 4:00PM

Group brew day! All levels of brewing experience welcome, from newbie to master, as well as those who haven't yet done their first brew.

SAAZ Member Aaron Pitts has offered up his residence for this group brew day. His address is posted on the Facebook [event page](#) (off the private [SAAZ Members](#) page). We don't post residential addresses in the newsletter, so if you can't get to the Facebook page, email Aaron at education@saaz.org.

There's room for eight brew setups, so be among the first eight to RSVP as brewing (either on the Facebook event page or by emailing Aaron, then plan your recipe for whatever style you'd like, and pack up your brew equipment and supplies. Don't currently have a working brew setup? Come out and help someone else brew, or just watch and learn how it's done on a setup you've never used before. (There's also a pool if you want to take a dip!)

And finally, what would a SAAZ event be without food and drink? We'll be having a **potluck lunch**, so bring food to share (see what that new Instant Pot you got for Christmas can do). You're welcome to **bottle share** and bring your home brewed beer, cider and/or mead to share as well. Ball lock setup available so if you want to bring a keg, the keg is all you'll need to bring.



Next General Membership Meeting

Sunday, February 17 @ 2PM

Dirty Oar Beer Company

329 King St, Cocoa, FL 32922, USA
(Back outdoor area)



- **EDUCATIONAL SESSION - “Water Chemistry”**

Please be courteous to our presenters and to those who want to listen and learn. Socialize and share homebrew before and after the meeting presentations (not during). Thanks in advance!

- **GREAT RAFFLE PRIZES** – Bring cash!

- **MEET & GREET 2:00-2:30 MEETING BEGINS @ 2:30**

- **BRING YOUR HOMEBREW** and solicit feedback from other brewers to help you improve. PLEASE NOTE: Not a commercial beer share

Officer Meeting Highlights

- Transition tasks continue
- Calendar/location discussions for meetings and other activities - Meeting date conflict in April due to Easter, so April meeting moved to the 14th (2nd Sunday). Try to avoid other major Florida competitions during scheduling whenever possible to allow SAAZ members to attend for judging, stewarding, and/or awards. Also avoid weekend of Rocky Water Brew Fest since SAAZ always participates. Continue to try to save the indoor, air-conditioned meeting venues for the hotter months. Since some of our sponsors' venues do not lend themselves well to meetings, schedule "Pack the Pub" social events for these venues (day of the week will vary), possibly attending some of the brewery trivia nights as a group. Considering scheduling bus trip for August, since most would consider it too hot to do activities like brew days that month anyhow.
- Aaron Pitts to compile a list of subject matter experts and experienced brewers within the club to help with member questions and mentoring new brewers. Need to collect specific areas of expertise (yeast, water, cider, mead, all-grain, electric system brewing, etc.). Investigating various brewing projects such as barrel project (Dave Webb has offered space in which to store the barrel).
- Need to order "2018 Brewer of the Year" shirt, but order minimum for shirts is 12 (any style) for silk-screen. Anne Gregg will post shirt order info so members can help fill the rest of the order.
- Beer railroad (getting SAAZ member entries to competitions) – Driver should be compensated for gas when entries are transported by car. Gas cost or shipping cost should be absorbed by members entering the competition as much as possible, as is done at other clubs. This will still be much less expensive for the member than if they had to do their own shipping. For future competitions, members should submit \$2 per entry to help cover gas/shipping. The club will make up the difference, if needed, for Florida Circuit competitions.
- Group Brew Day on February 16th still has brew spots open (Aaron Pitts can accommodate eight brew setups).
- Commander SAAZ – Hotel not yet booked. Sean McCoy (CSAAZ Event Coordinator) and Chris Baum, aka Cbo (CSAAZ Competition Coordinator) will be meeting with Chris Jojola (2018 CSAAZ Coordinator) to review requirements and will set up hotel visits to compare venues and prices.
- Bottoms Up Beer Run – Date/time set, location and most other major arrangements in place. Announcement postcards available (some distributed to members at January meeting). Web page update, posters, coasters and some other aspects of the planning currently delayed while awaiting logo rework.
- Approved purchase of laminator and supplies for member/officer name tags.

Upcoming SAAZ Events



- **February 16** – Brew/Education Day at Aaron Pitts' home
- **February 17** – General Meeting @ Dirty Oar, back outdoor area
- **March 16** – Spring Party @ Rotary Park, Suntree (Irish/Scottish Smackdown)
- **April 14** – General Meeting (NOTE: 2nd Sunday, due to Easter)
- **May 19** – General Meeting
- **June 8** – Bottoms Up Beer Run @ Wickham Park, Melbourne
- **June 15** – Summer Party (Lawnmower Beer Smackdown)

Do you or your family already have your own Google calendar? If you'd like to add the SAAZ Google calendar to your calendar view, email your request to editor@saaz.org from your Gmail account. We'll send you an invitation to enable viewing of the SAAZ calendar along with yours.

Text Alert System: Sign up for text messages in case of last minute SAAZ event cancellations or emergency change of venue by texting **SAAZ** to **24587**.

Upcoming Competitions

Visit the websites for full details

[2019 IPA Smackdown Competition](#), hosted by Dunedin Brewery and Suncoast Barley Mashers Guild (not a Florida Circuit competition) – Registration (already open) and drop-off by March 8. Bob and Laurie Bridges will take SAAZ entries over, but must receive them by March 7. Registration capped at 250, entry cost \$8. Limited categories, so please visit event site for more info. Brewer of the Best of Show beer will do a ProAm brew with the Dunedin Brewery.

[Hurricane Blowoff](#), hosted by Palm Beach Draughtsmen (a Florida Circuit competition) – Registration opens March 1 and entries must be received by March 29. Registration capped at 350, entry cost \$8.

[Sunshine Challenge](#), hosted by Central Florida Homebrewers (a Florida Circuit competition) – Registration opens April 16, with delivery window of May 1-25. Entries capped at 500.

Reimbursement reminder: If you are a SAAZ member and would like reimbursement for your first two competition entries in a Florida Circuit competition or one NHC entry (you must be a paid member, SAAZ must be listed as your homebrew club for your entries, and reimbursement must be requested within 90 days), contact SAAZ Treasurer Anne Gregg (Treasurer@saaz.org).

Meet Your 2019 Officers

Chris (Cbo) Baum, SAAZ Ambassador/CSAAZ Competition Organizer



Chris Baum, aka Cbo, is a St. Louisan who happens to live in Florida. A big fan of the St. Louis Blues, Chris is also a Cardinals fan, but only because it's expected of him as a St. Louisan, and not because he particularly enjoys watching the sport of baseball. He currently jockeys spreadsheets for a large aerospace conglomerate for a living, but would rather be cooking or brewing beer most days.

While Cbo has only been brewing for less than a year, he's been an avid beer fan (connoisseur, nerd, snob, etc.) since before it was cool to be so. As a somewhat demanding beer critic, he was reluctant to start brewing, but was luckily (finally) talked into it by former SAAZ President Sean Gregg, with whom he still has not had the pleasure of brewing. Chris now makes adequate beer, using an all grain system that can scale from 5 to 20 gallons. Cbo owes most of his burgeoning brewing skills to the guidance of Beer Sensei Chris Jojola, and looks forward to continuing the knowledge cascade to anyone who wants to learn.

(Editor's Note: "Adequate" beer??? This guy started snagging medals as soon as he started entering competitions!)

Brew Events Around Us

A New SAAZ Facebook Resource for People Who Like “Beer Happenings”

SAAZ Events Planner Marie-Anne Barcomb (pronounced Maryann, by the way) has created an event page off of the **SAAZ Members** Facebook page titled [Brew Events Around Us](#) to inform us of beer-centric events in our area. There are so many, that this page was spun off from the main members page to ensure that SAAZ announcements and brewing discussion don't get buried in the deluge of awesome beer-food pairings, beer fests, and non-SAAZ special beer events.

What you need to know about this page:

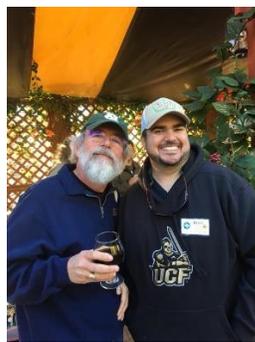
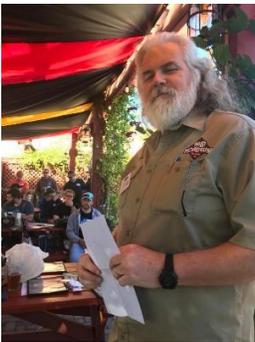
1. This will not be a general “what’s happening in the area” page, or a collection of non-related commercial posts, or a beer equipment marketplace, but rather a place where our SAAZ members can visit to see what’s happening locally that will specifically tickle their beer-loving taste buds.
2. The main event date on the page (December 31) is meaningless. It’s simply there to make Facebook happy and to keep the page active for the year. See the individual posts for the actual date, time, location, and other info about upcoming beer events.
3. If you want the posts from this page to show up in your Facebook feed, go to the page and click that you’re “Going.” This doesn’t mean you’re actually attending all these events... it’s just to ensure you get notified when something new has been posted. Since most of us don’t catch everything that passes through our feed, it’s also a good idea to visit the page occasionally to take a look through all the cool beer-centric events that have been posted.
4. Once you’ve clicked “Going” on the page, another way to find the page quickly is to click on **Events** from your Facebook wall or home page (it will show up as occurring on December 31st).

Recent Events and Activities

January General Meeting

Congratulations to our
“2018 SAAZ Brewer of the Year”

Chris Jojola





Beach Bonfire Beer Bash

(Thanks for the firewood donation, John Baldwin!)



Feedback/Contact Us

President: Bob Bridges – president@saaz.org

Vice President / CSAAZ Event Organizer: Sean McCoy – vp@saaz.org

Event Planner: Marie-Anne Barcomb – events@saaz.org

Secretary / Membership: Billy Dawson – secretary@saaz.org

Treasurer: Anne Gregg – treasurer@saaz.org

Communications Director: Laurie Bridges – editor@saaz.org

Education Coordinator/Historian: Aaron Pitts – education@saaz.org

SAAZ Ambassador / CSAAZ Competition Organizer: Chris (Cbo) Baum – commander@saaz.org



[SAAZ Homebrew Club Public Page](#)

[SAAZ Members Page](#)



@SAAZ_HomeBrew



Not sure who to email?

Use info@saaz.org and your email will be forwarded to the appropriate person(s)