



SAAZ BREWZletter

May 2026

The Heat Is On

Well spring is officially in the rearview mirror and the heat of an upcoming summer is bearing down on us. I know at my house I'll be pulling out the ice on my next brew day since the tap water is so warm I can't cool my wort sufficiently.

We're only a couple month's away from Commander SAAZ and your club is looking for help storing the entries. We need six pack holders and case boxes to hold all the bottles. If you have either that you can bring them to the May meeting or contact a board member.

Finally, if you have entries for Hot n Humid 2026 bring them to the May 17th meeting.

Competition Results

Congratulations to our Hurricane Blowoff 2026 medal winners!

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| • Chris Jojola | 3 rd | 3C: Czech Amber Lager | Hilltop Polotmavé 13° |
| • Chris Jojola | 3 rd | 12A: British Golden Ale | Gilded Guzzler |
| • Chris Jojola | 2 nd | 26D: Belgian Dark Strong Ale | Four Times the Fun |
| • Sean McCoy | 3 rd | M1B: Semi-Sweet Mead | Can you taste the honey? |
| • Ryan Robinson | 2 nd | M2D: Stone Fruit Mead | 66 Cherry Blend |
| • Ryan Robinson | 2 nd | C3A: Fruit Cider | BUBR POG |
| • Sean McCoy | 3 rd | 999A: PINK Beer!! | Your Girlfriend Wants This |

Recent Events

April Meeting, Held at Hell 'n Blazes Brewing Co. 4/19

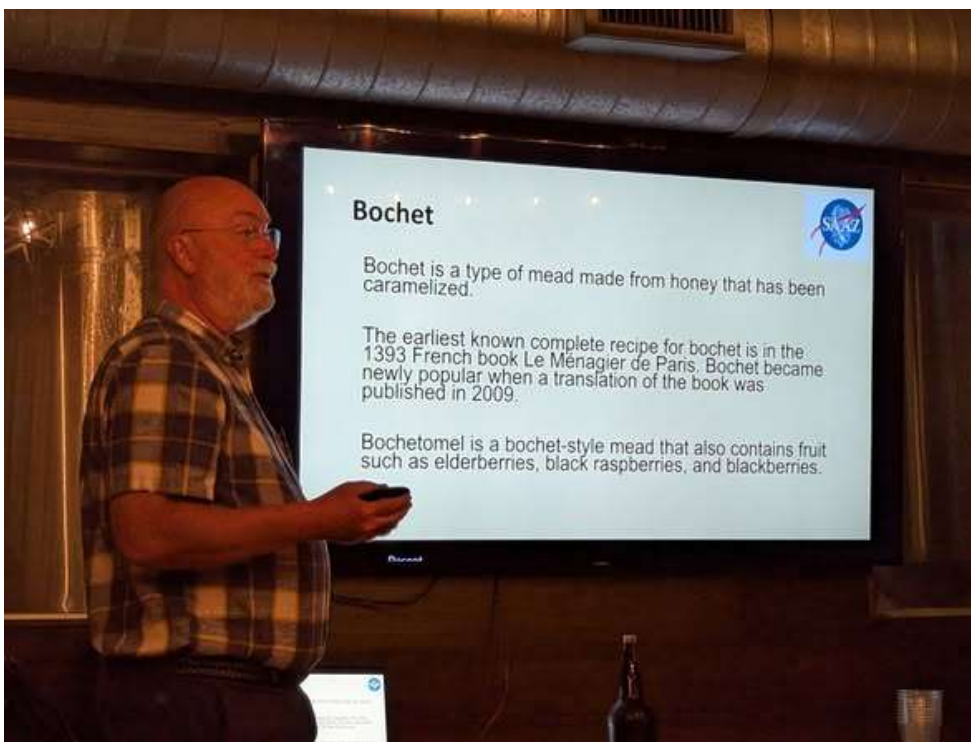
The club held its monthly meeting in the Vault Room at Hell 'n Blazes Brewing Company in downtown Melbourne. There was a great turn out and we had some guests as well. Don Russ did a excellent presentation on brewing a Bochet and there was a lot of questions and anecdotal information shared. We're looking forward to members sharing their take on this caramelized honey mead.

Thank you so much to H 'n B for being wonderful hosts as usual.

Pictures from the April Meeting (Courtesy of Ryan Robinson)



Sean was on a cruise ship and Anne stood in for him. Maybe he's communicating to her through an earpiece?



Don Russ did a great job of teaching us about how to brew a Bochet.

SAAZ Happy Hour, held at Village Idiot Pub on 5/6

Next Membership Meeting

Sunday, May 17th from 2:00 – 5:00

Van Beers Bottle and Tap

701 E New Haven Ave, Melbourne, FL 32901

Join us for the first club meeting at this new taproom!

- **EDUCATIONAL SESSION** - “Mashing” by Club Education Coordinator Ed Worme



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!

- **BRING YOUR HOMEBREW** and solicit feedback from other brewers to help you improve. In respect to our host brewery please do not bring commercial beers for share.

PLEASE NOTE: Let’s show appreciation to our hosts... buy their beer, food and tip your server / beertender.

Board Meeting Highlights

- 2026 Commander SAAZ planning continues. Melissa has letters going out to sponsors and hotel arrangements are being made.
- Ed Worme will present May education topic, “Mashing”
- Bottoms Up Beer Run – Date is 6/6. Jon Nowlin and Sean Gregg are gathering items needed.
- Members should bring Hot n Humid entries to May meeting. Sean McCoy will deliver.
- Need members to save cardboard 6 pack holders and case boxes for Commander SAAZ entries. Bring to meeting or contact a board member for pickup.

Are Your SAAZ Dues Paid for 2026?

PAY YOUR DUES FOR 2026! Dues allow us to continue to organize fun events and support the local craft brew and home brew community. Along with this, paid members also receive discounts on entry to home brew competitions and other events! Pay your dues here: www.saaaz.org/cms/join-saaaz/pay-dues/ or contact club treasurer Don Russ. Contact information can be found at the bottom of this Brewzletter.

Upcoming Meetings

May 17 – Van Beers Bottle and Tap

June 6 – Bottoms Up Beer Run (in lieu of meeting)

July 18 SUMMER PARTY! at Ed and Bonnie Worme’s house

August 15- Commander SAAZ

September 20 - Carib (TBR) Melissa is POC

October 17 - SAAZtoberfest Brad and Anita’s home

November 14 - The MEADing Nowlin’s home

December 11 Party Holiday open house AJ is POC

Upcoming SAAZ Events

06/20/26, 9:00 – 2:00 – SAAZ goes Kayaking at [Thousand Islands](#)

599 Ramp Road Cocoa Beach, FL 32931

Plan is to meet at 9 am at [Thousand Island in Cocoa Beach](#). Bring your kayak, drinks, towels, sunscreen etc. RSVP to Claire Caruana at ccaruana81@gmail.com so we know how many to expect.

07/10/26, Happy Hour and Dinner at Bunky's Raw Bar & Grill (the new one in Melbourne, formerly Charlie & Jakes BBQ). Organizers are Jon and Melissa. More information at May meeting.

Upcoming Competitions

- **Hogtown Brew-Off 2026** – 5/23/26
 - Entry Window 4/1/26 4/24/26 (full)
 - Delivery Window 4/1/26 4/24/26
- **Hot N Humid 2026** – 6/27/26
 - Entry Window 5/2/26 5/23/26 (full)
 - Delivery Window 5/10/26 5/23/26 (Bring entries to May meeting)
- **First Coast Cup 2026** – 7/25/26
 - Entry Window 6/1/26 6/26/26
 - Delivery Window 6/1/26 6/26/26
- **Commander SAAZ 2026** – 8/15/26
 - Entry Window 6/7/26 7/18/26
 - Delivery Window 6/7/26 7/18/26

- **Sunshine Challenge 2026** – 11/1/26
 - Entry Window 9/13/26 10/2/26
 - Delivery Window 9/20/26 10/2/26
- **Treasure Coast Brewfest HB Comp 2026** – 11/7/26
 - Entry Window 8/17/26 10/8/26
 - Delivery Window 8/17/26 10/8/26

Keep an eye on Reggie as this year's competitions will be posted as they become available, reggiebeer.com/ReggieLogin.php

Save the Date

Bottom's Up Beer Run (BURB) 6/6/26



It'll be an Irish theme, get ready to get lucky! Members that volunteered to brew have been provided brewing ingredients.

Organizer: Anne Gregg

Upcoming Brew Fests

- **Space Coast Brew Fest (Titusville)**
Date is 10/24 and will be held at Valiant Air Command Warbird Museum
- **Rocky Water Brew Fest (Eau Gallie)**
November
- **Craft Brew Hullabaloo (Sebastian)**
December

Feedback/Contact Us



[SAAZ Homebrew Club Public Page](#)

[SAAZ Members Page](#)

President: Sean Gregg – president@saaz.org

Vice President / CSAAZ Competition Organizer: Melissa Mierzwa – vp@saaz.org

Event Planner: events@saaz.org

Secretary / Membership: Don Deis – secretary@saaz.org

Treasurer: Don Russ – treasurer@saaz.org

Communications Director: Paul Brabson – editor@saaz.org

Education Coordinator: Ed Worme – education@saaz.org

Not sure who to email? Use info@saaz.org and your email will be forwarded to the appropriate person(s)