



Zymurnauts

Monthly Meeting Minutes: February 20, 2020

Location: GSFC Rec Center, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Attendees:

- Kevin Schenk (president)
- Tom Northcutt (vice-president)
- Matt DeLand (secretary)
- Mary Wallace
- John Stachniewicz
- Mel Donahoo
- Wendy Lindboe
- Gordon Labow
- Sabrina Delgado-Arias
- George Davis

Topics:

Beginner Brewing

Matt briefly described the experience that he and Jackie Kendall recently had with the “brew on premise” process at Flying Barrel in Frederick. This approach offers some definite benefits for a novice. Many recipes are available (with all ingredients), since this is also a homebrew supply store. There are staff members available for guidance, although you do most of the work yourself (e.g. sparging the grain). There is better equipment (e.g. large kettle, floor drains, efficient wort chiller) than many new brewers would have on hand. Our process had two stages: We brewed on one day (2-3 hours total time), then we’ll return in a few weeks to bottle the beer and take it home. The total cost for a 5-gallon batch (2+ cases) is comparable to retail pricing for the style we chose, and it’s a good learning experience. Something to consider!



Beer Tasting for Points 101

Kevin led an introduction to beer tasting as a judge would do it. This is timely because the selection of club entries for the ICC (see item below) is based on matching a specific style, as compared to “Wow that tastes good!”. He used Harpoon IPA as an example to show us how the key areas of **Appearance**, **Aroma**, and **Taste** are evaluated on an overall 50-point scale, using a detailed scoring sheet. A second practice session, using homebrew products, is planned for the March club meeting.



Club Merchandise - Shirts

Kevin brought a polo shirt, silk-screened with the Zymurnauts logo, as an example of new club merchandise that we could sell. The sample shirt was raffled off to the attendees, and George Davis was happy to be the winner!

Planning:

ICC Downselect Event

The 14th InterCenter Competition (ICC) finals, where the best homebrewed beers from NASA centers compete for glory, will be held at Jailbreak Brewing in Laurel on Saturday, April 25. In order to send the best Zymurnauts representatives to this event, we will have a Downselect party at the **GSFC Rec Center starting at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 21**. You, the members, will judge how well each beer matches their chosen style, and pick the winners to advance to the finals. We hope you can join us!