

Date: 06:18 PM CDT, 07/06/2023

From: Urban Knaves of Grain Communications <communications@knaves.org>

To: Kevin <communications@knaves.org>

Subject: Knaves Knewsletter - June 2023



Knaves Knews

UKG... Because home is where great beer is brewed!

June 2023

*** Claim the Urban Knaves of Grain (UKG) as your club when you signup for the AHA (American Homebrewers Association). By using the links in this Knewsletter, your AHA dues payment helps UKG through funding kicked back from the AHA. Click our club link to [Join or Renew with the AHA](#).

Save \$5 with our **Promo code: Urban-Knaves-of-Grain**

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Board of Directors

Abess - [Eileen Uchima](#)

First Lady / Head Penguin -

[Mike Uchima](#)

Master of the Coin - [Darrell](#)

[Proksa](#)

Master of Coms - [Kevin](#)

Welcome Address



Hail Knaves and happy Solstice!

I hope everyone's summer is going great so far. Mine is extremely busy so, I plan to keep this short.

Much thanks to Tim for planning some great social events. Our trip out to Elburn to Obscurity Brewing and Meadery and Ream's Meats was very well attended, especially considering it's a bit of a drive for some of us. Beverages, BBQ, and beef sticks were all very enjoyable as was the company. I always enjoy any reason to get together with the brew crew!

Our June club meeting featured officer elections and the kick-off of a new Knighted Knave Cup

"Woj" Wojdak

Chaplain of Education -

Ray Nonnie

Brother of Events

*Planning - **Tim Devitt***

Minister of Tournaments /

*Drunk Monk - **Dan***

Acheson

Monk at Large - Tom

Hayosh

Monk at Large - Dave Fetty

Monk at Large - Curt

Czapski

*Retired Abbot - **Chuck Fort***

Contributions

Mike Uchima - Photography

Woj - Photography

Ed Bronson - Photography

Communications Channels



ukg.slack.com

Click here to request an invite
from a Board member.

 **Groups.io**

<https://groups.io/g/ukg>

challenge (Category: Pre-Prohibition American Beer, i.e. California Common, Kentucky Common, Pre-Prohibition Porter and Pre-Prohibition Lager). Bubblehouse is now open to the public on Tuesdays for the summer so, we had our meeting in the party room which was large enough to hold the number of Knaves who showed up. If it gets crowded at a future meeting, we can feel free to move out front after announcements. They did get quite a few other customers early in the evening but, we could have moved out to the front area as the others cleared out before our meeting ended.

Upcoming, in July, we have a brew-in at Tim Devitt's house on Saturday the 8th and a trip to **Nik and Ivy's** in Lockport on the 16th.



Our July club meeting will be on July 18th at Bubblehouse as usual. Mike and I will be flying to Hawaii for a memorial service and family reunion so, our illustrious Master of Coin, Darrell, will lead the meeting. Behave yourselves!



Don't forget to post your beers for CHAOS BrewBQ on the #BrewBQ channel on the club

Slack. Chances are, Jeff Whelpley at CHAOS will want a list of what we are bringing at the beginning of August. Remember, the BrewBQ is on August 19. If you haven't been to the BrewBQ previously, please try to make it! It is a homebrew-only beer festival where we all get to geek out over fellow homebrewers' creativity and show off our own creations. Admission, food and drinks are all free! Bring some cash if you want a

Editor's Note:

Most images in the newsletter can be enlarged to see further detail. Simply click on the image and it will open into a new window.

commemorative glass or to enter the raffle. If you can't make it, please consider sending a beer along with someone else so that UKG can represent. We would love to have eight beers on tap on our UKG Club Barrel Tap system.

Joe and Cathy Formanek will host a Summer Bash on Saturday, August 26. Parties at Joe & Cathy's are always great fun, so try to make that one, too. Bring beer, lawn chairs, and a dish to share.

See you all when we are back from Hawaii!

As always, keep an eye on the calendar and Slack for updates on meetings, social activities, DMC, etc. If you have anywhere you would like to suggest for a social night, or a tech topic which you would find interesting, please post to Slack or email the Board.

Aloha!
Eileen

P.S. Please remember that this is *YOUR* club. Your suggestions are always welcome! Please consider contributing a short article or photos for the newsletter, a brewery review, a suggestion for a Tech Talk, or a Social Night venue idea. Email Woj at Knews@Knaves.org or email Eileen directly at President@Knaves.org.

Welcome to Our New Members!

- None in June
-

UPCOMING on the Calendar...

July

- **Saturday, July 8th @ 9:00 a.m.** - UKG Brew-In at **Tim Devitt's** house, 1675 Whispering Oaks Dr in West Chicago. Bring your own equipment and brew a beer, or just come and observe. Bring food for grilling afterwards.
- **Sunday, July 16th @ 2:00 p.m.** - Sunday Social at **Nik & Ivy Brewing**, 1026 S State St in Lockport.
- **Tuesday, July 18th @ 7:30 p.m.** - Monthly Meeting at **Bubblehouse Brewing**, Lisle.

August

- **Tuesday, August 15th @ 7:30 p.m.** - Monthly Meeting at **Bubblehouse Brewing**, Lisle.
- **Saturday, August 19th @ 2:00 p.m.** - CHAOS BrewBQ Annual All Homebrew Beer Festival at 2417 W Hubbard St in Chicago. This is an awesome all homebrew festival with free admission (... \$5 donation recommended but not required) and free food.
- **Saturday, August 26th @ 3:00 p.m.** - Joe and Cathy Formanek's Annual Summer Bash at 184 Brookwood Lane West in Bolingbrook. Bring a dish to share and/or homebrew.

For more details on any of these events and directions and/or map links, see the **Club Calendar on the UKG website**.

Social Sundays with Tim

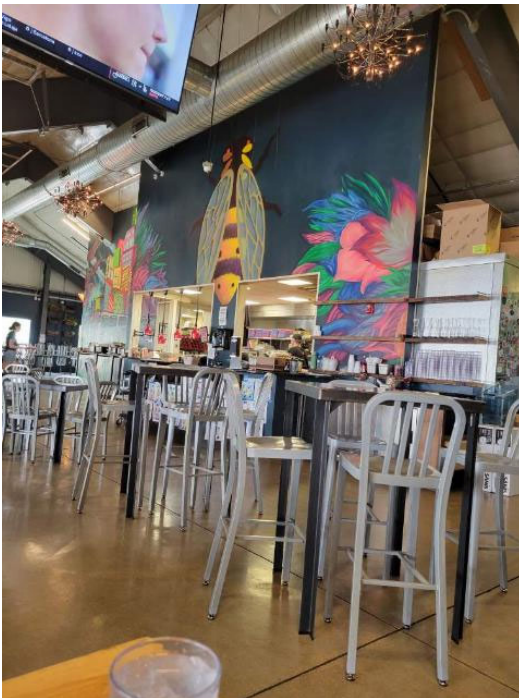


Sunday June 4th Obscurity Brewing and Craft Mead / Ream's Meat Market Visit

by Tim Devitt

Pictured is the Pilsner and then the Mac and BBQ and finally the Strawberry pop Cultured Golden Ale. Beer selection was good, The Pilsner was good and the Strawberry Golden Ale tasted like strawberry soda.

Here are a few pictures from the day:





Obscurity Brewing and Craft Mead
113 W N St,
Elburn, IL 60119

Board Member Elections

We held final voting at the June meeting for our 2023-2024 Club Officers. The current Club Officers were uncontested in the election and were voted in for another term.

Our Club Officers for 2023-2024 are:

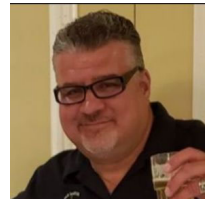
- **UKG President** - Eileen Uchima
 - Responsible for conducting the meetings.
 - Represents the club in an official capacity contacting breweries and vendors for club activities and events as needed.



- **Treasurer** - Darrell Proksa
 - Manages the fiscal aspects of the club.
 - Reports cash flow at board meetings and annually through the *Knewsletter*.
 - Files any documents required to the State and Federal government.



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- **Communications** - Kevin Wojdak ("Woj")
 - Maintains and publishes the *Knaves Knewsletter*.
 - Communicates through online and social media communications vehicles that are deemed necessary by the board.
 - Liaison for organizational communications in general.
 - Marketing for the club throughout the year.



Competitions

Competition Wins

June 24, 2023 — 2023 National Homebrew Competition FINALS, San Diego, CA

- **Kevin Wojdak and Noah Wojdak**
 - Bronze medal - "Can't Wait To See Where This Gueuze", 23E: Gueuze, European Sour Ale Category (162 entries)



Midwest Homebrewer of the Year (MWHBOY)

Top UKG member standings on the 2023 circuit as of May 29, 2023.

- Dan Acheson - **1st**
- Joe Formanek - **5th**

- Jim Silverstein - 11th
- Joe Skiles - 51st
- Jay Kash - 79th
- Greg Ellwanger - 84th
- Ray Nonnie - 132nd
- Dave Fetty - 133rd
- Mark Niemczewski - 165th
- Kevin "Woj" Wojdak - 187th

Master Homebrewer Program

Circuit of America 2023 Standings

(As of May 29, 2023 - **BOLD** indicates rank in top 10. Top 10 in Circuit of America win awards.)

- Dan Acheson - **3rd**
- Jay Kash - 388th
- Ray Nonnie - 395th
- Kevin Wojdak / Noah Wojdak - 505th
- Kevin "Woj" Wojdak / Jeff Knepper - 508th
- Mark Niemczewski - 508th
- Kevin Wojdak - 785th



Master Homebrewer Program Lifetime Rankings

- **Dan Acheson** - Grand Master II Brewer plus 2 x Silver Stars, 6 x Bronze Stars, LORD OF LAGERS
- **Kevin "Woj" Wojdak** - Master Brewer plus 1 x Silver Star, 2 x Bronze Stars
- **Joe Skiles** - Recognized Brewer plus 1 x Bronze Star



Upcoming Competitions of Note

- **Indiana Brewer's Cup**

Competition date: July 8

Part of the Indiana State Fair. This is a great competition to judge at as out of state judges are paid \$100 for judging at least 2 sessions. The after party and awards ceremony is quite elaborate.



See the **AHA Homebrew Competition Calendar** to find upcoming competitions to possibly enter.

- **Midwest Homebrewer of the Year Circuit Competitions**

- **Master Homebrewer Program — Circuit of America Competition -**

Drunk Monk Challenge represents Illinois on the Circuit. Top 10 winners recognized on the circuit.

- **Circuit Competitions List**

- **American Homebrew Association Competition Calendar**

Financials



Annual Dues

Annual membership renewal dues are **\$20**.
New members pay just **\$10** to join through the rest of the year.

Click the PayPal link below or mail a check payable to "**UKG**" to:

Darrell Proksa
128 Sherwood Ct
Downers Grove 60516

Click this link to pay your dues:

[Click here to Pay Now.](#)

Questions about dues? Please contact Darrell at
treasurer@knaves.org.

Join the AHA and Help UKG

(American Homebrewers Association)



Join the AHA Now

Every year, the UKG purchases club insurance through the AHA (American Homebrewers Association) to protect our club and its members from incidents that may happen during club events and activities.

One of the ways we lower the cost of the insurance is by having a certain percentage of UKG club members also be AHA members. Your support of the AHA lowers the cost of insurance for the UKG.

If you are already an AHA member but aren't sure whether you've claimed UKG as your club, then click the following link to learn how you can **[Add Homebrew Club Affiliation](#)** to your AHA membership.

[Click here for our Club's AHA Membership Referral Link](#)

Club Schwag

LogoUp.com Merchandise

We have an account at **[LogoUp.com](#)** for making UKG club logo embroidered shirts, hats, bags, and a whole lot of other cool products. The merchandise is

top quality and you can even get a club logo on name brand products such as Nike, Izod, or Under Armor. There are no minimums for orders and we can place an order anytime. Go to LogoUp.com and pick out items you want. Then, email Woj at marketing@knaves.org with your item numbers and colors and he'll coordinate placing the order with you.



UKG Work Shirts

Our official UKG work shirts are Charcoal Gray Dickies brand work shirts with the club logo over the left pocket and a full back transfer of the woodcut graphic on the back. Optionally, you may get your name and/or homebrewery name embroidered over the right pocket.



Because the shirt is custom made to order, the cost per shirt ranges from \$45 - \$50 depending on size needed and custom embroidery, etc.

Club work shirts orders are placed by special order with our vendor and custom made to order. We place a new order 1-2 times per year and need to order so many shirts to make the order happen. Contact Woj at marketing@knaves.org to get on the list for the next order.

Club woodcut graphic T-Shirts are also ordered at that time.

Available for Immediate Purchase

UKG Woodcut Graphic T-Shirts

- UKG Woodcut Graphic T-Shirt
(Charcoal Gray T-shirt with white and black vinyl design on Front)
Size: Medium
Only 1 left... just ask.
\$12 each



Questions about Club Schwag or interest to buy anything?
Please talk to Woj or email him at marketing@knaves.org.

*All items are sold at cost to club members except items which go through the
LogoUp.com website which has their markup.*

Brave Noise Movement

We have all heard about sexual harassment issues in the local (and not so local) brewing industry, and this group, the Brave Noise Movement, is trying to do something about the problem. This is a collaboration with a goal: A safe and discrimination-free industry. Pro-brewers and homebrewers alike can register on the website to pledge their support for this movement. After registering, you will receive a copy of the Brave Noise recipe to brew in support. Check out the Brave Noise Movement at bravenoisebeer.com. UKG supports the movement.



Contact us.

If you have any ideas for content for this newsletter, please send them to Knews@Knaves.org.



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