

August Meeting Minutes

I. Statewide News

- In the [Online poll](#) as of 8/1, Container Size leads (46%), followed by brewpubs (31), homebrewing (13) and breweries (10). The poll is open through the end of September, and we plan to announce the 2010 Legislative agenda in October.
- Birmingham FTH Oktoberfest is coming up.
From the site: First-ever Free the Hops Oktoberfest is Saturday, September 19, in downtown Birmingham on historic Morris Avenue between 21st and 22nd Street. Featuring German cuisine, live music, and more than 25 German and German-style American-made beers. Tickets are available for \$15, which includes admission to the event and a limited edition "Free the Hops Oktoberfest" 12.5 ounce beer glass. Advance ticket holders will receive 2 beer tasting samples during the event. Once inside the event, premium beer will be sold for \$3 a glass and a limited amount of high gravity beer will be available at \$5 per glass. www.freethehops.org/oktoberfest for more info.

II. Local Affairs

- [Dauphin Street Beer Fest](#) is Aug. 29. Todd Hicks will be manning the booth for the festival. [Contact him](#) if you want to help spread the word and increase membership.
 - Online registration has been approved, so they'll be using a new method where you get just one card for all the bars. You can find out more in [this story](#) from the Press-Register and you can register [here](#) after buying your ticket (\$20) from any of the following venues:
 - OK Bicycle Shop
 - Liquid Lounge
 - Crescent Theater
 - Serda's Coffee Co.
 - The Blind Mule
 - Hopjacks
 - Haley's
 - Alabama Music Box
 - Hurricane Brewing Co.
 - The Garage
 - Heroes
 - Pat's Downtown
 - Samurai J Sushi Bar
 - Boo Radley's
 - Joe Cain Cafe
 - Wintzell's Oyster House
 - Visions
 - The Corner Bar
 - Grand Central
 - Veet's
 - Martinis
 - The Royal Scam
 - Bacchus
 - Club Insanity
 - Noell B's
 - Risque
 - Soul Kitchen
 - B-Bob's
 - Gabriel's

Manhattan Club
Seven

- Memberships: If you haven't paid up in the last year, you can do it [online](#) or at the Dauphin Street Beer Festival. We'd like to expand the advantages to becoming a member. One idea involved sponsorships and the possibility of sponsor venues offering a discount, maybe 10%, to current Free The Hops members who show a valid membership card, which we can come up with.
- [IMAX On Tap](#): A benefit for Mobile Baykeeper, is next Thursday at the Exploreum, from 7-9. Called and asked about what beer is being served, but the girl didn't know. Event begins with a reception in the atrium of the Exploreum, a brief presentation by Mobile Baykeeper, Casi Callaway, and will conclude with a private screening of The Living Seas inside of the IMAX dome. \$20 a ticket. 433-4229 for more info.
- Emerald Coast Beer Festival and Dogfish Head Pairing Dinner
 - Beer Dinner is Thursday, Sept. 10, 7 p.m., at **Apple Annie's Courtyard in Pensacola**. Tickets are \$50 plus Tax and Gratuity. Six courses, each paired with a different Dogfish Head brew, including three that only come in 750 ml bottles.
 - Beer Festival is Friday, Sept. 11, 6-8:30. VIP tix get you in at 5:15. Info is available at www.emeraldcoastbeerfest.com.

II. Jim Eddins, owner of Perdido Vineyards, spoke about his dealings with the ABC board and really got the group fired up. He confirmed that the vineyard does have plans to brew beer.

III. We raffled off some 22 oz. bottles of beer, including Abita Abbey Ale, Rogue Northwestern Ale and Bear Republic Big Black Bear Stout, all of which only come in 22 oz. bottles.

IV. We Drank :-)

Special thanks to the folks at Hopjacks for providing the space and the great deals on Bell's Beer.

Mark your calendars now for the September meeting, Thursday night, Sept. 18. When we've settled on a venue, I'll send along more info.

Cheers!