

Rubber Chicken September 2023 - MHF Report



Our motley crew at the **Michigan Homebrew Festival** at Camp Agawam in Lake Orion: Mark Hofmann, Ian Purvis, Greg Sanial, Eric Smead, Mies Martin, Bill Smith, Matt Mead, Jeremy Gavin, Rick Kruse and David Kilgore. Count the medals!

BUT BEFORE WE GET TO THAT:

Thursty Thirsday on September 7 is at **Brewery Nyx** who've carved out a niche for themselves with their gluten-free beers. Don't be one of those that judges them on other peoples' opinions - give them a try! :)

And **Brewery Vivant** hosts our regular meeting on **September 20**, where the monthly competition beer is Belgian Dark Strong Ale (26D). Keen observers will know the 'Brewer Of The Year' award is by no means wrapped up, yet!

We will have a guest speaker; **Keith Patterson of Manitou Films** will give us a preview of this month's media launch for his proposed '**Beer City USA**' **4-part documentary TV series** that shines a light on the history and celebrates the rich culture of the craft beer scene in Grand Rapids, including its homebrewers. His 'sizzle reel' video is really impressive and makes one proud to be part of it all. Don't miss this one!

SO.....THE MICHIGAN HOMEBREW FESTIVAL:

Yes, this was a blast as always. I guess there were 17 or 18 clubs participating and PrimeTime were well represented with nine of us making it, most camping for the weekend, plus day-trippers, and having nine kegs of beer, cider and a 'looong drank' of a gin cocktail rotating on our club jockey box, plus bottles of mead and other libations! Excellent effort.

The weather was brilliant, the sandy soil perfectly challenging for our race track - the 'straw bale' hairpin being particularly tricky on a scooter. Our Pit Crew in matching black T-shirts did the business and we saw some memorable performances on my grandson Raymond's little blue strider bike, with 'The One & Only Sophie' recording a fastest lap time of 10.35 seconds!



This is not Sophie, Tiffany maybe?, either way she was good!



Mark Hofmann's 'HammerSchlagen' game was a winner!



Motor City Mashers always bring it!



Bill's pancakes - excellent!

AGAWAM SPEEDWAY		
START/FINISH LINE		
PrimeTime Brewers - 'Suds Series' Races		
MHF 2023		
LAP TIMES		
NAME	TIME	POS'N
DJ	12.3	2
Tiffany	13.4	4
Ian	13.35	4
KC	12.62	3
*one sec only setup	0.55	1
Phillie	14.01	5

Fastest lap times!



Drinking buddies!



Free ice creams!

The Usual Suspects club had a great pirate theme with a cannon belching smoke, 'brass monkeys' of cannon balls, and a friendly skeleton chugging beer. Keepers of Craft won the theme award (I can't remember the proper name, help anyone?), for their Trivia contest on Friday night, which drew a big crowd, followed by Karaoke on Saturday, even bigger!

We were definitely in the running for the Gang Beer contest with our 'Catherine's Cherry' sour, which we reckon was only narrowly beaten into 2nd place by Motor City Mashers' excellent Pils - made with Rice Krispies as their 'other' Michigan ingredient; creative!

The Michigan Beer Cup medal awards ceremony is a major item on the agenda and PrimeTime got our share of medals: Greg Sanial: Gold for a Cream Ale (1C); Bronze for a British Golden Ale (12A), and Bronze for a California Common (19B). Bill Smith: Silver for a Belgian Pale Ale (24B). Ian Purvis: Gold for a Fruit Beer (29A). David Barrett: Silver for a Specialty Wood Aged Beer (33B). Jeff Carlson: Silver for a New World Cider (C1A), Bronze for a New World Perry (C1D), Gold for a Specialty Cider/Perry (C2F), Silver for a Cider with Herbs/Spices (C2E), & Hon. Mention for a Cider with other Fruit (C2B). Matt Mead: Bronze for a Pyment (M2B), Gold for an Experimental mead (M4C), and Hon. Mention for a Braggot (M4A). As a whole, PrimeTime came 4th overall of the 16 clubs participating, and reportedly had the highest percentage of medals to entries. Well done fellas.

Mark Hoffmann of Rivertown Brewers joined us for the weekend bringing a 4-tap jockey box and his 'Hammer-Schlagen' game, which was a big hit (Google it if you don't know it). He also picked up three (3) Gold medals.

Mies Martin & Bill Smith scored trophy medals from Keepers of Craft for tasting all their 25 taps, and Jeremy Gavin was untouchable for the 'Dirty Thirty' beer chugging challenge. Who'd even think to challenge him?

Our set up was sandwiched between Pontiac Brewing Tribe on one side and Livingstone Brewers / Keepers of Craft on the other, all great neighbors. Everyone was sharing beers and many clubs were cooking and sharing food - something we should do next year. All told it was a brilliant couple of days and nights sharing stories and beers with fellow brewers, some complete strangers, and some new friends.

We chatted about switching to a different site next year, opposite our current location, where a 20' x 12' structure just needs a couple of tarps to make a great covered area and we could add our 12' x 12' pop-up canopy - after all it does rain in August sometimes! And a lumberjack theme maybe? Anyway, put it on your calendar for the 3rd weekend in August.

Cheers everyone,
Ian Purvis