



SAAZ BREWZletter

May 2019

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Words from the Prez

Welcome to spring/summer, fellow SAAZers! First off, would like to thank everyone helping SAAZ to be a great home brewers' organization. Your participation is what makes this club work.

Next, would like to welcome our new members! We have eight new members and look forward to helping them with their crafting of the brews, ciders and meads and having fun with the group. Please participate and get the most out that SAAZ has to offer. You are now a fellow Associate for the Advancement of Zymurgy. If you can attend this Sunday's meeting, we would like to chat about the best path in which SAAZers can help you move forward.

Watch for Aaron Pitts to have some good education sessions at upcoming meetings and he is going to be setting up some group brew days in the near future. Remember, even if you can't bring your equipment, you can bring yourself. The more that attend, the more the fun... especially if you brew. New members, these group brew days are good ways to see different set ups and techniques and if you have your equipment to get some input.

Anne Gregg is doing an incredible job again with Bottoms Up Beer Run, referred to as BUBR (bub-r). The beer and cider are in the process of being brewed. We need you to be ready to step up to the plate and volunteer to help put on this event that helps a very worthwhile cause, St. Baldrick's. There are numerous tasks that must be done to make this a success. Tell your running friends about it and get them to sign up.

Commander SAAZ is also in the formative stages and there will be early calls to get people to volunteer and help out with our 25th Annual CSAAZ competition and the events that go along with it. We have secured the Hilton on the beach in Cocoa Beach for the event. Sean McCoy and Chris Baum will be getting more information out via future newsletters, Facebook and email. The dates are set and the comp is registered with BJCP so we are out of the gate you might say.

Well, the summer party is right around the corner and will be great. Look forward to seeing you all this Sunday at Hell and Blazes for the meeting!

Prost,

Bob Bridges
President, SAAZ
President@saaz.org



Next Intra-Club “Smackdown” (Nope, it hasn’t changed since last month)



What: Lawnmower beer (5% or less ABV)

When/Where: Judging on **June 15th** at the SAAZ Summer Party

Why: Because we like beer and you like to brew and win prizes

You still have time to get in on this! If you don't have any go-to low ABV recipes, check the internet where you'll find many recipes for session beers. Remember that you'll need to bring 3 unmarked bottles to the party for judging, with unmarked caps (just like you would for Cmdr SAAZ or an external competition). Want to impress us all and bring the keg too? It's gonna be a hot one, so nice cold low ABV beers for party-goer consumption would be oh, so fine!

Next General Membership Meeting

Sunday, May 19th @ 2PM

Hell 'N Blazes Brewing Company

1002 E New Haven Ave, Melbourne, FL 32901

We'll be in “The Vault” (private meeting/party room)

[Facebook Event Page for the Meeting](#)



- **EDUCATIONAL SESSION - “Maintaining pH in Sour Beers”** by Hell 'N Blazes Brewmaster Todd Furbeck
 - 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!
 - **MEET & GREET 2:00-2:30 MEETING BEGINS @ 2:30**
 - **BRING YOUR HOMEBREW** and solicit feedback from other brewers to help you improve. NOTE: Not a commercial beer share. Let's show appreciation to our hosts... buy their beer and tip your server / beertender.
 - **BRING YOUR OWN NON-DISPOSABLE TASTER CUP** – We're “going green” and avoiding all those plastic disposable cups that don't disintegrate for a zillion years or so, so please remember to bring your own taster.
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Next SAAZ Casual Social (aka “Supporting Our Sponsors While Having Fun!”)

Not a meeting. Nope, simply a casual gathering with your fellow homebrewers and a way for us to support one of our loyal SAAZ sponsors with our patronage. We'll be sipping beer, winding down, chatting, maybe cracking some stupid jokes. You don't have to dress up or put on makeup. Just throw on a SAAZ t-shirt or SAAZ work shirt if you can. Otherwise, come as you are... jeans, work clothes, uniform, three-piece suit, scrubs... we don't care. It's a chance to give back to the sponsors who help support our SAAZ events like the Bottoms Up Beer Run and our Commander SAAZ competition, and a chance to hang out and get to know your fellow Brevard County home brewers.

Arriving hungry? [Intruck Coastal Bites](#) is open Thursdays at Intracoastal until 9PM.

Thursday, May 30 @ 6PM

Intracoastal Brewing Company
652 West Eau Gallie Blvd, Melbourne, FL 32935



Upcoming SAAZ Events



- **May 19** – General Meeting @ Hell 'n' Blazes Brewing Co., Melbourne
- **May 30** – “SAAZ Supports the Sponsors” Social, Intracoastal Brewing Co.
- **June 8** – Bottoms Up Beer Run @ Wickham Park, Melbourne
- **June 15** – Summer Luau Party @ Bonnie & Ed Worme's residence in Melbourne (Lawnmower Beer Smackdown)
- **June 26** – “SAAZ Supports the Sponsors” Social, BeachFly Brewing Co.
- **July 21** – General Meeting @ BeachFly Brewing Co. (12PM, this month only)
- **August 10** – Multi-Brewery Bus Trip (members only)
- **August 18** – General Meeting (details TBA)
- **September 20 & 21** – 25th Annual Commander SAAZ Interplanetary Blastoff

OTHER BREW / BEER EVENTS: Also check the event page off the **SAAZ Members** Facebook page titled [Brew Events Around Us](#) for some beer-centric events in our area and across central Florida.

GOOGLE CALENDAR: Do you or your family already have your own Google calendar? If you'd like to add the SAAZ Google calendar to your calendar view, email your request to editor@saaz.org from your Gmail account. We'll send you an invitation to enable viewing of the SAAZ calendar along with yours.

TEXT ALERT SYSTEM: Sign up for text messages in case of last minute SAAZ event cancellations or emergency change of venue by texting **SAAZ** to **24587**. **IMPORTANT:** 1) This service is no longer a reminder service. Going forward, it will be used only for announcing changes and cancellations, not for reminding you of upcoming events. 2) Since we pay by the message and phone number, this list was purged at the beginning of February to ensure we're not paying to alert individuals who are no longer active. Please sign up again if you wish to subscribe to the alert service.

Summer Party Luau

Saturday, June 15, 2PM - ? (Note start time change)

Bonnie & Ed Worme's Residence

Windover Farms, Melbourne

Members, please check the Facebook event page, or email events@saaz.org, or see an officer at the next meeting for the address. We don't publish residential addresses in our newsletter.



SAFETY FIRST: Plan ahead as to who is going to be the designated driver or plan a ride home (Lyft, Uber, friend or family member you can call).

DRESS: Casual and comfortable luau wear. Grass skirts, Hawaiian shirts, a flowered mumu, leis and, of course, bring your swimsuit!

FOOD: Ribs, hot dogs, burgers, and Hawaiian pork will be provided. Bring a delicious side dish or dessert to share. If you're looking for inspiration for luau-worthy side dishes, see the links below.

LAWNMOWER BEER SMACKDOWN: Bring three unmarked bottles of your summer session style beer (< 5% ABV) with unmarked caps, competition-style, for judging.

THE REST OF THE BEER STORY: We'd love to have some delicious kegs of the homebrew you entered in the Lawnmower Beer Smackdown. If you don't have homebrew to share, bring some interesting commercial session beers to share. Remember that it's going to be hot, so sticking with low ABV beers would be greatly appreciated.

RAFFLE? Yup, bring cash!

WHAT TO BRING: Your side dish or dessert to share, swim suit, a towel, sunblock, folding chair, your own non-disposable taster cup, your smackdown entries, low-ABV kegged/bottled beer to share, a thirst for beer (Ha, like we had to remind you of that one!) and your smile!

MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS PRIVILEGES – No "cover charge" for SAAZ members and family members in the same household. If you want to bring a friend who is not a paid SAAZ member, they will need to pay \$5 at check-in and sign the SAAZ Code of Conduct.

LINKS TO LUAU SIDE DISH IDEAS:



- <https://www.polynesia.com/recipes/>
- <http://dish.allrecipes.com/luau-party/>
- <https://www.tripsavvy.com/luau-foods-and-recipes-1533862>
- <https://www.sunset.com/.../flavor.../hawaiian-luau-menu-recipes/>
- <https://www.nobiggie.net/25-hawaiian-party-foods/>
- <https://www.myrecipes.com/menus/hawaiian-luau-menus>
- <https://www.thepurplepumpkinblog.co.uk/recipes-hawaiian-tr.../>
- <https://www.liveyouraloha.com/hawaii-spam-recipes-roundup-.../>
- <https://www.cookinghawaiianstyle.com/.../rec.../recipes/tag/spam>

Update on the 25th Annual Commander SAAZ Interplanetary Blastoff



- Event weekend dates finalized: **September 20-21** (Mark your calendar!!!)
- Event weekend location finalized: **Cocoa Beach Oceanfront Hilton**
- Competition is now registered with the BJCP and will be listed in Reggie soon
- Competition and event weekend details will be on SAAZ.org by the end of May

A Homebrewer's Tale

Sean McCoy, SAAZ Vice President

I developed an appreciation for beer other than Budweiser while working at a beer joint in Greensboro, North Carolina. We had a big selection of fancy beer from all over the world. I would buy most of our new beers at Total Wine to share with my coworkers so we could figure out how to sell eight-dollar beer.

The first time I ever tried homebrew, a regular customer brought us a few bottles of a honey-ginger lager. Tasty stuff, but the cap could have killed somebody, the way it shot off that bottle. Almost ten years later, I would make a friend in Savannah who happened to be a brewer. My first beer was brewed the same day of the year as this one; St. Practice Ale, 2015. We brewed another beer after that on his system; both turned out to be great examples of why AB InBev has all the money. What stuck out was that after six hours of mild labor, most of which involved monitoring for boil-overs, ensuring that bugs or dog hair didn't get into the kettle, and all-around good times, I had found an art that I wanted to explore more deeply.

Now, four years and two score brews later, I am proud to share my beer with my friends, and sometimes strangers. Had I not gotten involved with SAAZ, my beer would probably still be barely suitable as plant food. Membership in SAAZ makes it easier for all of us to make better beer through the sharing of information and experiences. Why not share YOUR experience? Pick a topic below, or come up with something else. What do you know? What do you want to see? Let's talk about it at the next meeting. Let's make some great beer and keep raising the bar!

Article Ideas:

- Temperature Control is the One True God
- Why Chicks Dig Homebrewers
- Malty-Tasking for Dummies



Picture THIS... and THAT!



Photos serve as a pictorial history of our club's activities. However, sometimes we get so into the moment that we miss the opportunity to record the activities in photos (as we did with our last general meeting), so we could use your help. Most of you are carrying around phones these days that double as high-res cameras. Please grab a few shots whenever you attend a SAAZ activity and post them to the members' Facebook page or email them to one of the officers (photos from "real" cameras are welcome too!). Some may make it into a newsletter and some will end up in the [SAAZ SmugMug photo archives](#). Also, try to remind the officers BEFORE everyone starts leaving an event to grab big group shot. Thanks very much!

SAAZ Stars



SAAZ Winners in the 2019 Hurricane Blowoff Competition:

- SAAZ Prez **Bob Bridges** – **GOLD** in Dark British Beer and **SILVER** in Trappist Ale
- SAAZ Vice Prez **Sean McCoy** – **GOLD** in Amber Malty European Lager



Membership Dude **Billy Dawson** and our officers and members who represented at recent area beer events, “Craft Brews in the Park” and “5th Annual Brewmaster’s Invitational Beer Festival.” Talking SAAZ up to interested attendees brought us eight new memberships... some very experienced brewers and some looking to learn brewing.



Thank you to **Chris (Cbo) Baum** and **Sean McCoy** for running the SAAZ entries up to Gainesville for the upcoming Hogtown Brew-Off. **If they took entries for you, don't forget to get Cbo some gas money if you haven't already.** It would have been a hassle and you would have paid quite a bit to ship them. Also, your entries got there safely, which doesn't always happen when you ship.



Thanks to **Dave Webb** for hosting the recent officer working meeting for the P&Ps, providing a somewhat half-way point location to accommodate out widespread group of officers.

Bottoms Up Beer Run

SAAZ's 7th Annual Bottoms Up Beer Run is taking place on **June 8th** and we need YOU to be part of it! The club has donated \$25,000 to St. Baldrick's Foundation for pediatric cancer research so far through this event and we would like this year to be even bigger and better. How you can help:

- **Help promote the event** - Share the [event page](#) on Facebook and encourage all your running/walking/strolling friends to participate. Talk up the fun aspects of the event and remind them that costumes, groups, and furry four-legged friends are welcome to participate (and that beer is involved). Remind them that the proceeds help support a very worthwhile charity as well as SAAZ. Get some promotional materials from event director Anne Gregg and spread the word around your town with posters and postcards. It's a great way for newer runners/walkers to get their feet wet with racing since it's a 4K rather than a 5K, and so it's a bit shorter than many of the area races.
- **Work the event** - [Email Anne](#) and volunteer to work the race. We need help to set up, get runners/walkers checked in, to pour/distribute beer, to work the raffle, to help distribute snacks, etc.
- **Help find sponsors** - Encourage friends with businesses to become a BUBR sponsor. They'll get some great promotional exposure, the event will be even bigger and better thanks to their generosity, and we'll be able to donate even more to St. Baldrick's Foundation. Again, [email Anne](#) if you have any leads on possible sponsors or if your business or employer would like to become a sponsor.



Upcoming Competitions

Visit the websites for full details

Like Commander SAAZ, these Florida Circuit competitions are multi-day events with fun activities (that include beer, of course), culminating in an awards dinner/ceremony. They're a blast to attend with other club members, so think about heading over for a day or for the entire event. Hotel and event/dinner ticket information can be found at the links below.

- [Hogtown Brew-off](#) – Gainesville (ENTRIES CLOSED -- Please volunteer to judge/steward)
 - Competition/event weekend: **May 24-26**.

 - [Sunshine Challenge](#) – Orlando (ENTRIES CLOSED – Please volunteer to judge/steward)
 - Competition/event weekend: **June 20-22**
 - **If you have entries you'd like taken over to Orlando, bring them to the May 19 meeting**

 - [First Coast Cup](#) – Jacksonville (Entry Window: June 10 - July 3)
 - Drop-off deadline: July 3
 - Competition/event weekend: **July 26-27**
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About that Facebook Thing... Part 2: Event Pages

As most of you probably know, SAAZ has a presence on Facebook, which we find very helpful to disseminate information quickly (especially when a last-minute event/opportunity arises), to encourage brewing-related discussion and informational posts among our members, and to help promote the club. Continuing our Facebook information dump we started in last month's BREWZletter, here are a few more tips to help you get the most out of our Facebook pages. This month, we'll concentrate on how we use EVENTS pages (which is sometimes a little bit out of the ordinary!).

First... let's review the differences between the two SAAZ pages.

- SAAZ has two primary Facebook pages... [SAAZ Homebrew Club](#) and [SAAZ Members](#).
- **SAAZ Homebrew Club** is a public page that anyone can "Like" and "Follow." SAAZ meetings and other public activities, events and announcements are posted on this page.
- **SAAZ Members** is a closed group for paid members only. SAAZ parties, activities/meetings held at member residences, and any members-only offers and activities are posted in the **SAAZ Members** group. This is also where we share questions and tips, fun beer/brew related articles, links to local beer/brew related events, etc. This members-only group recently underwent a long-overdue purge. We compared the page's members against our paid membership list and removed anyone who isn't a current member. Of course, we gave many weeks of warning before doing this, both on Facebook and in last month's BREWZletter so that everyone had a chance to get their membership renewed if they wanted to stick around. If you joined or renewed recently, please ask to join this page. If you were accidentally purged because your Facebook profile name doesn't match the name we have in our membership list, please shoot a note to editor@saaz.org to let us know your name on Facebook, then ask to join the group again. Also, let us know if we just flat-out made a mistake... it happens.

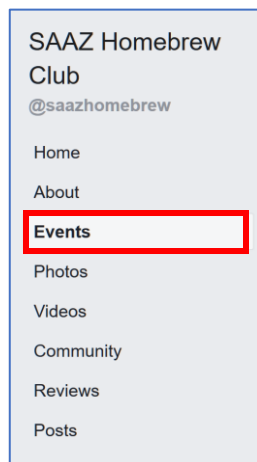
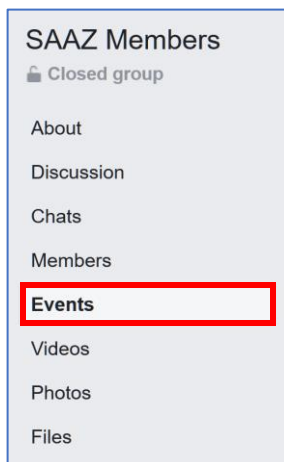
WHAT ARE FACEBOOK EVENT PAGES?

Facebook allows members to set up pages for an upcoming event, to include the date/time, location, description, etc., and allows that event to be a private event or a public event. It also allows potential attendees to RSVP. Depending upon the type of event, it can be set to either Public or Private. When set to private, people not specifically invited do not see the event page.

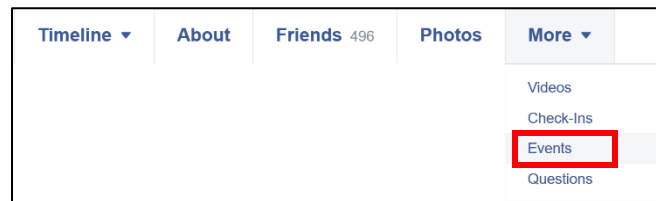
WHY YOU SHOULD RSVP WHEN WE POST A SAAZ EVENT

- 1) **So we get a headcount** – We’re trying to get a better handle on how many people we can expect at a SAAZ event. Like a party at your house, if you have no idea how many people are going then you tend to either not have enough food or you end up wasting food, along with the time/effort to make it and the money to purchase it. The “leftovers aren’t a bad thing” argument doesn’t work, because with so many of our events held outdoors the leftovers are often not safe to eat later. Those who are not on Facebook can RSVP via email the appropriate officer (usually, events@saaz.org).
- 2) **So you get reminders and updates** – Clicking on “Interested” (totally fine if it’s not an event where we need a headcount for food or space/chairs) or selecting “Going” puts the event into YOUR Facebook event list and notifies you if there are any changes made to the event. If you’re not going, then just click “Not Going.” We understand that no one can make it to every event and activity.

WHERE YOU CAN CHECK TO MAKE SURE YOU DON’T MISS A SAAZ EVENT



And, on your own Facebook home page...



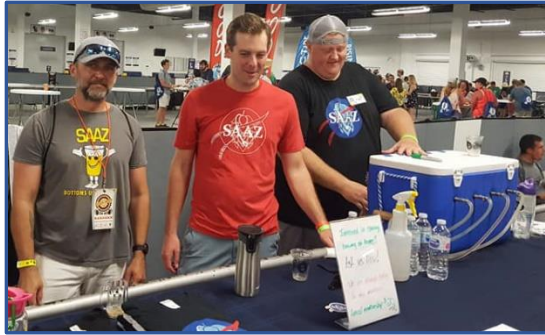
*TIP: If you RSVP with “Not Going,” the event will NOT show up in **your** Events, but can still be found on the appropriate the SAAZ page(s).*

WHEN IS A SAAZ EVENT ON THE SAAZ MEMBERS PAGE NOT REALLY AN EVENT?

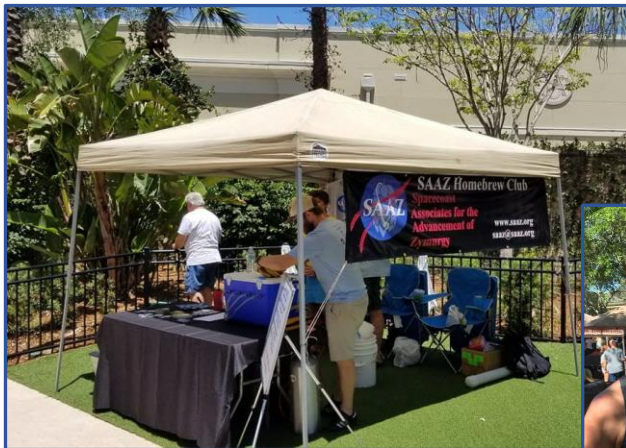
When we’re using it as a special discussion page! Facebook has a lot of cool features, but one thing it doesn’t have is the concept of a “breakout session” for specific discussions. So, rather than have interesting and potentially useful discussions get lost among all the new posts that appear on our **SAAZ Members** page, and rather than have the main page clogged with long discussions, we sometimes create a “fake event” that serves as a discussion area for a specific topic. Usually, but not always, it will have “Discussion” in the event name. To make Facebook happy, we have to assign it some sort of date, which is usually meaningless and can be ignored. Right now we have two such fake events, [Water Information & Discussion](#) and [Brew Events Around Us](#). Both have a dummy event date of Dec 31, 2019. In [Brew Events Around Us](#), members will find links to non-SAAZ area events that are brewing/beer-centric. Click “Going” on the main event page, and a notice will appear in your news feed when an event link is added.

Recent Events and Activities

SAAZ representing at the "5th Annual Brewmaster's Invitational Beer Fest," Port Canaveral



SAAZ representing at "Craft Brews in the Park," Viera



SAAZ May Officers Meeting at Playalinda Brix Project



Officer Meeting Highlights (April & May)

- Clean-up/revision of By-Laws and P&Ps (special working meeting held in April) – By-Laws must go to member approval vote when done. Simplify By-Laws, clarify officer position duties and operational processes in Ps&Ps.
- Ongoing discussion of meeting/social locations, educational topics, party plans, brew bus trip plans, SAAZ participation in external events (brew fests, Florida Circuit competitions, etc.)
- External competitions – Need those sending entries via the “Beer Railroad” chip in gas money (less work and expense than pack/mailing, and those driving should not have to bear expense).
- 25th Annual Commander SAAZ – Top priorities are lock in location & dates, get out sponsorship letters, get competition registered with BJCP and Reggie, get web pages updated. Reviewed bids from multiple hotels and voted to go with Cocoa Beach Hilton Oceanfront.
- BUBR - Planning well underway. SAAZ members should promote. Medals have arrived. Beer and cider in the works. Will need volunteers for setup and execution.
- Purge of SAAZ Members Facebook page completed (everyone warned prior via BREWZletter and pinned announcement on the page for several weeks).
- Special members-only event in the planning to distribute Lifetime Member gift.
- Approval given to purchase folding table for use at beer fests and other events (purchase made).

YOUR NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS WANTED!!!

We welcome interesting and informational newsletter articles from our members and sponsors... brewing tips, club history, reports on beer fests and homebrew conferences you've attended, new hops, your experience with a particular type of homebrew equipment or gadget, etc. Email your article in either text or Microsoft Word format to editor@saaz.org.

Feedback/Contact Us

President: Bob Bridges – president@saaz.org

Vice President / CSAAZ Event Organizer: Sean McCoy – vp@saaz.org

Event Planner: Marie-Anne Barcomb – events@saaz.org

Secretary / Membership: Billy Dawson – secretary@saaz.org

Treasurer: Anne Gregg – treasurer@saaz.org

Communications Director: Laurie Bridges – editor@saaz.org

Education Coordinator/Historian: Aaron Pitts – education@saaz.org

SAAZ Ambassador / CSAAZ Competition Organizer: Chris (Cbo) Baum – commander@saaz.org



[SAAZ Homebrew Club Public Page](#)

[SAAZ Members Page](#)



@SAAZ_HomeBrew



Not sure who to email?

Use info@saaz.org and your email will be forwarded to the appropriate person(s)