



**The Official Newsletter of the Cloudy Town Brewers**  
January 2008  
<http://www.cloudytownbrewers.org>

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**Next Meeting**  
Wednesday January 2, 2008  
**7:30 P.M.** at  
MinCo Computer Center

**From The Prez**

Hello My Minions

I hope everyone had a jolly good Christmas; it's hard to believe the holidays are over and a new year is upon us.

With a new year comes a new March Mashness right around the corner. With that comes a lot of preparing for the contest. We will again need as much participation as possible from the club members. This next meeting we will try to get organized and start executing a plan of action for March Mashness. The new brewpub in town "McCann's" will graciously host the event. It can be a lot of work to do a competition like this, but it all is worth it when you go to a best of the show and see people winning ribbons and prizes and just having a good time.

See you at the meeting,

Bruce

Cheers,  
Bruce  
[brewski1@charter.net](mailto:brewski1@charter.net)

## **December's Minutes**

- There wasn't really a meeting in December so no real minutes. Except fun was had by all and a lot of great beers were tasted at the Christmas Party.

## **Competitions**

For a complete list of competitions visit the Events & Calendar on the AHA's web site at <http://www.beertown.org/homebrewing/events.html>.



# “Brewin down the Haus” in ZinZinnati

## June 19, 20, 21 2008

All interested contact conference coordination chairperson Mike Beuning. The hotel is the Sheraton Cincinnati North. Details will be posted soon at [www.beertown.org](http://www.beertown.org).

## Tommy Z Generosity Award

Here are the point totals through December. There was no contest held in December.

Jerry Dusich	13 Points
Mike Beuning	10 Points
Scott Campbell	6 Points
David Arnott	4 Points
Erik Nelson	3 Points
Rick Vinje	3 Points
Charles Miller	3 Points
Pete Spengler	3 Points
Tom Zupanc	3 Points
Mike Esplan	2 Points
Tim Frakes	2 Points
Joe Leuthner	2 Points
Bruce LeBlanc	2 Points
Larry Nusbaum	2 Points
Tim Fuerstenberg	1 Point
Jennifer Meyers	1 Point
Tim Muntiferung	1 Point

## Cloudy Town Brewers Mugs & Shirts

We have two CTB Polo shirts available for \$22 each, size XL. I will bring them to the meeting on July 11th.

Tim

## New Brew shop In Town!!

There's a new home brewing supply store in town. Russ Windahl, CEO of MinCo Technology center has dedicated a portion of his store to home brewing and wine making supplies and equipment. MinCo is located where DeSoda's used to be. Russ will also be working out a discount for Cloudytown home brew club members. Way cool huh???



The new issue of Zymurgy is in; here is an article from it.

### Malt, Hop Prices on the Rise

Acreage of hops has been declining since the mid-1990s when supply far exceeded demand. An excess inventory of hops kept prices low for many years, leading hop farmers to shift acreage to more profitable crops.

Over the last few years, worldwide beer production has grown, driving up demand hops. This year, demand for hops exceeded supply and some varieties of

hops will no longer be available to home brewers.

As prices for hops go up, more acreage is being planted. Most hops take at least two years to reach full yield, so we still have a couple of lean years ahead of us.

Like hops, malted barley has experienced a declining supply and a rising demand. The result is an increased in price for malt. There are a variety of factors that are influencing the supply and price of malt including weather, demand for bio-fuels and malting capacity.

Before you panic, there should be plenty of hops and malt available through your local homebrew store (there may be some short-term shortages of some hops) but expect to see some increases in prices, but not enough to keep you from brewing as usual.

**See you all at the meeting! Bring a friend they'll thank you for it.** (Bruce will buy you a beer!)