

Master Brewers Association of the Americas



Rocky Mountain District Winter Meeting 2007



MBAA District Rocky Mountain convened its winter 2007 meeting at the Pump House Brewery and Restaurant in Longmont, Colorado on February 15. The 40 members and guests from various brewing and brewing associated companies enjoyed an evening of excellent accommodations, Pump House Director of Brewing Craig Taylor's fine beers, an interactive technical presentation from the BIRKO Corporation and a wonderful meal.

President Doug Odell, Odell Brewing Company, presided over the meeting. Vice President Jeff Bigert, New

Belgium Brewing Company, announced that there were two winners of the contest to receive district-sponsored admission to the annual Rocky Mountain Microbrewing Symposium in Colorado Springs, CO on February 23. The winners are Ken Jones, Glenwood Canyon Brewing Company, and Rebecca Dickinson, Molson-Coors Brewing Co. Their 27-words or less submissions on why they should represent the district at the symposium were selected from the twenty entries received and judged by the district's executive-board.

Dana Johnson, Brewery Technical Representative,

BIRKO Corporation, gave the meeting's technical presentation, *Cleaning and Sanitizing in the Brewery*. Dana began by describing why and how brewers clean, and the difference between cleaning and sanitizing. Throughout his presentation, Mr. Johnson engaged his audience by having them discuss cleaning practices and experiences at their breweries. He presented ideas on BIRKO's non-caustic approach to cleaning brewing vessels and lines. In this approach, a typical cleaning cycle involves an ambient water rinse; acid circulation; non-caustic alkaline cleaner application; and a final

ambient water rinse to the water's neutral pH. The method is cost effective for the small brewery. Using it reduces handling hazards and the extensive personal protective equipment (PPE) required with caustic based systems. He showed numerous photo examples of before and after cleaning of vessels and equipment that highlighted the benefits of this non-caustic cleaning approach. Most of the attendees agreed with his statement that, "Cleaning is the least glamorous part of the daily brewing and packaging routine. But it is likely the most important for overall product quality."

Dinner and deserts were served in the upstairs banquet area of the Pump House Brewery's Restaurant. The members enjoyed several of the brewery's beers including the award-winning Igniter Pale Ale. Door prizes were awarded. The members gave a hearty salute to Craig Taylor, Pump House's Director of Brewing and Owner, for his hospitality, and for his support of MBAA District Rocky Mountain. The district's next meeting is May 9, at Anheuser-Busch, Inc. in Fort Collins, Colorado.

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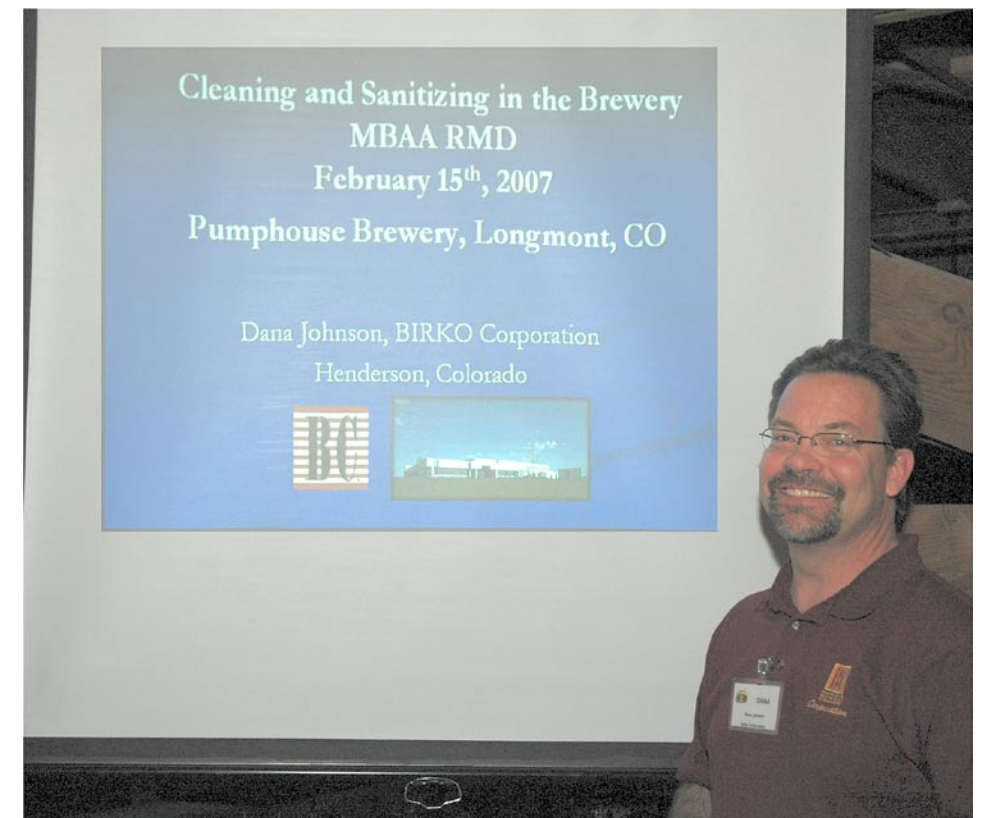
Thanks to Steve Presley, Publicity Chairman & Past President MBAA District Rocky Mountain for providing this information and photos.



MBAA District Rocky Mountain members Craig Taylor, Pump House Brewery Owner and Director of Brewing, Doug Odell, Odell Brewing Company, and Todd Isbell, Pump House Brewery brewer, meet over a beer in front of the brewery's bright beer tanks



District Rocky Mountain members and guests at the Pump House Brewery meeting in Longmont, CO.



BIRKO Corporation, Brewery Technical Representative, Dana Johnson at the start of his technical presentation *Cleaning and Sanitizing in the Brewery*.