

Press Release

The Rocky Mountain District of the Master Brewers Association of the Americas held its fall meeting in combination with the American Association of Brewing Chemists Wild West District, at the Coors Brewing Company in Golden, Colorado. The meeting was well attended by members and guests from both organizations.

Vice-president Jeff Biegert, New Belgium Brewing Company, presided over the business meeting. Each of the committee chairpersons reported on his respective area. Several new members from Anheuser-Busch, Inc. in Fort Collins were introduced to the membership.

The technical talk for the night was *Electron Paramagnetic Resonance (EPR) Practical Applications in Brewing, Beer Flavor Stability and Hop Antioxidants*. Presenting was Bob Foster, Manager of Flavor Stability and Chemistry, Coors Brewing Company. Bob's talk, although somewhat technical, emphasized the importance of keeping free radicals, i.e., oxygen and its oxidative catalyzing agents in check to minimize the creation of flavor degrading oxidative compounds from occurring in one's beer. He also stressed the importance of maintaining beer's natural antioxidants through proper handling of wort and beer. Several of the known antioxidants and methods to reduce oxidative flavors that he has studied and reported on are; ethanol, SO₂, Iso-alpha-acids, polyphenols, oxygen scavenging crowns and various chelating metals. Mr. Foster's studies have shown that antioxidants, if not removed from the wort or beer, can renew themselves and be "recycled" back into the role of helping ensure beer's freshness stability. His talk is best summarized by the words of Bill Coors that he related to the audience, "Do not scorch the wort. When you move beer you can bruise it."

The District and its members are grateful to the Coors Brewing Company for hosting this annual joint meeting. Each attendee received a Coors German made classic pilsner glass provided by the District to commemorate the meeting.

Submitted by:

Steve Presley
Past President and Publicity Chairman
MBAA District Rocky Mountain

Accompanying photos:

Fort Collins Bus.JPG – Members of the northern Colorado breweries Anheuser-Busch, Inc., Big Horn Brewing Co., New Belgium Brewing Co., Odell Brewing Co., and Pitchers Brew Pub on the bus from Fort Collins to Golden.

New Members.JPG –New and existing MBAA members from Anheuser-Busch, Inc. enjoying dinner.

Speaker.JPG – Technical speaker Bob Foster, Coors Brewing Company