

Wine & Cheese by TCC's April 2008 Beer Club

It's been a year since we've featured beers from Two Brothers Brewing Company in Warrenton, Illinois and we thought that was long enough to wait for more from this great local brewery. This month's first selection is the Monarch White Beer and the second is the Prairie Path Golden Ale.

Two Brothers Brewing Company was founded by Jim and Jason Ebel in late 1996. The brothers spent some time in Europe where they experienced the culture and diversity of European beers. Upon returning home, they found their option to get these types of beers was practically non-existent. So, what do you do when you can't get what you've come to love? You make it yourself! Jim started brewing beer and was joined shortly after by Jason.

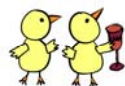
Jason started out brewing in Colorado. Jim attended DePaul University's College of Law and continued to run The Brewer's Coop in Naperville with the help of his mother and wife. As The Brewer's Coop continued to grow, Jason moved back to Chicago and the brothers' dream of running their own brewery became an obsession. As the planning began to open their own brewery, Jason attended the Siebel Institute of Technology to receive his degree in Brewing and Fermentation Sciences and Jim graduated from DePaul. Armed with the knowledge of how to run a business and the expertise in brewing, the brothers began their adventure.

The brewery was planned by Jason based on the traditional 3-vessel brewhouse found in Germany, the perfect design to brew the brothers' passion, Hefeweizen-style beers. With mostly donated equipment (bulk milk tanks from their retired dairy farmer grandfather converted to fermenters and dairy cream tanks converted to aging tanks), the Ebel's began brewing draft beers. They have come a long way from having no bottling line and brewing only draft beers. Now, they reside in a brand new, state-of-the art brewery that opened just last year!

In the following pages, there is some information regarding your beer club selections. You'll find a description of each beer and some technical information on the beer, including some cheese pairing suggestions.

As always, your feedback is greatly encouraged! Please call us or stop by with your comments regarding our selections.

Have a great month!
The Gang at TCC



Wine & Cheese by TCC



603 W. Lockport Street Plainfield, IL 60544
(815) 436-3449
www.wcbytcc.com

Two Brothers Brewing Company Monarch White Beer

Type:	White Beer
Brewery location:	Warrenville, IL
Country:	USA
Availability:	March
Alcohol:	4.5% abv

Interesting Fact

Wheat beer is a beer that is brewed with a large portion of wheat. Most wheat beers also contain malted barley. The addition of wheat adds a light flavor and pale color to the beer. The two most common varieties of wheat beer are the German Weissbier and the Belgium Witbier.

Witbier, aka white beer or Witte, is a barley and wheat, top-fermented beer that originated in Belgium. White beers are unfiltered and get their name from the suspended yeast and wheat proteins that give them a white color. In Medieval times, white beers were not brewed with hops but with a blend of spices and plants. Today, white beers often have added coriander, orange, orange peel, and hops that give them a fruity flavor.

Tasting Notes

Monarch White is Two Brothers' anniversary ale that is brewed only once a year in a small batch. Brewed with unmalted wheat and a small amount of oats to give it a light body and crisp finish. True to its Belgian-style, it is spiced with coriander and orange peel to give it a traditional citrus aroma and flavor. It is cloudy with a spiced sweet malt and yeast nose. With flavors of orange, clove, banana and malt, this beer has a creamy body and refreshing hops on the finish.

Food Pairing

The refreshing fruitiness and spice of this ale is a perfect match with sushi, Indian food, or a light vegetable quiche. A great match with garlic and peppercorn Gouda and Tarentaise cheeses or a Bananas Foster for dessert!

Cheese Club Pairing

Pair with the Iberico. The clove and banana of the beer is a nice complement to the mildness of the cheese.

Two Brothers Brewing Company Prairie Path Golden Ale

Type:	Golden Ale
Brewery location:	Warrenville, IL
Country:	USA
Availability:	Year Round
Alcohol:	5.1% abv

Interesting Fact

Golden ales are also called Blonde ales and range in color from straw to golden blonde. They are crisp and dry with a low-to-medium bitterness and aroma from added hops and some sweetness from malt. They can be fruity but not overly so with a lighter body. Golden ales are great session beers and can be the perfect introduction to artisan beer from mass-produced beers.

Tasting Notes

This beer is brewed with Belgian malts to give it a golden color and toasty malt flavors. Saaz and Goldings hops are added to balance the malt on the finish. It is a clean, crisp beer with a light color but full flavor. It has aromas of sweet malt and light spicy hops. A lighter bodied beer with biscuit and malt flavors that are perfectly balanced and refreshing.

Food Pairing

This is the ideal burger beer! Also great with BBQ ribs, your favorite cheddar cheese, and lemon meringue pie.

Cheese Club Pairing

Pair with the Mahón. The balanced flavors of the beer allow for the lemon fruitiness of the cheese to come through.

Enjoy!