



THE FOAM RANGERS Newsletter Urquell

Special Dixie Cup Edition!

October 2005 - Volume 25 Pints - Issue 10

Lindemans Lambics Lambasted By FDA as "Date Rape Drugs"

By "Titanic" Bob Daugherty

Last week United States Food and Drug Administrator Tom Cantillon announced plans to seek a ban on the importation of Lindeman's Fruit Lambic Belgian beers. The move follows several well publicized stories of the ale being blamed for a lack of good judgment and taste resulting in several sexual encounters deeply regretted later by female participants. The Lindeman Company plans to fight to proposed ban. Lindeman's fruit lambic beers are the most popular of lambics beers imported to America. Unlike other beers, lambics are "spontaneously fermented" by wild yeasts found in the Senne River valley after the newly brewed beer is left to cool in shallow (Continued on Page 6)



Scott Weizenhoffer wonders how soon he'll "get lucky" as Rebecca quaffs another Lindemans Lambic

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October "Meeting"

Friday and Saturday,
 October 21 & 22

Dixie Cup XXII:
 Sparge Wars!



Comfort Inn
 SW Freeway

Out (of) The Wazoo



By Ed
 Moore,
 Grand Wazoo

Another Dixie Cup is here, the 22nd, to be precise. We're the second oldest competition (behind Kansas City) and the largest single site homebrew contest in the world. [Pending a positive entry count this year. -Ed.] This year's edition has

a Star Wars theme and we have taken it to the extreme. Storm troopers, clones, The Dark Side, The Force, R2D2, and plenty of beer to be consumed. I hope you will have a great time and in the words of a Chicago alderman: "Judge early and judge often." With so many beers we need all the help we can get judging!

I hope you will take advantage of the many activities available at the Dixie Cup. There are many to choose from: judging, stewarding, the pot luck, raffle, Fred Tasting, the barley wine tasting at 8:30 Saturday morning, Brian Dunn, John Palmer, and Sam Calagione, more judging and stewarding, the pub crawl, another raffle and at last, the award ceremony.

The pot luck will be now known as the 3 M pot luck dinner – Mark Muckleroy Memorial Pot Luck Dinner. Mark was instrumental in providing food for our meetings and for the pot luck dinner. He will be sorely missed this year and for years to come. Take the time to enjoy the beer and friendship of your fellow brewers.

I'd like to welcome our fellow home brewers that were able to be here from Louisiana and East Texas. Your spirit is an inspiration to us. I hope the time you spend here in Houston provides a chance to relax and enjoy yourselves. Now, let's have some beer!!!!

The Brewsletter Urquell

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October Brewsletters are actually very rare creatures. Usually everyone is far too busy getting Dixie Cup going to really contribute. So a special thanks goes out to all the officers who contributed to this edition and especially to T-Bob who had the unenviable task of contributing not just one, but TWO articles while designing the DC giveaway beer labels, helping us with check in, early judging and entering a huge number of beers in Dixie Cup.

It's interesting to me to see how far the Dixie Cup has come in 22 years, but it's noteworthy that even a decade ago it drew entries from the entire country and was widely regarded as the premiere event of the Gulf Coast Circuit. Some things never change!

Food, Fun and Floodwieser at the Oktoberfest Meeting



By
**Bob "Titanic-Bob"
Daugherty**

"Venetian" Beers
September's BOMs were Viennas and Maerzen/Oktobers. The night began with the few examples of Viennas that are available in these parts—i.e. Negra

Modelos (or Negro Modelas...I never get it right) and Dos Equis. Thanks to the great brewer and tennis player Steffi Graf, this beer style was brought to the New World and flourished in Mexico. Otherwise the style would have been lost. Unfortunately over the last decade or so the beers have been increasingly Coronasized (watered down, even more corn added, etc...), but I still love 'em (at least at restaurants when the only other alternative is Bud and its clones) When Secondary Rob Kolacny asked about the Vienna selections at Spec's, the salesman (not our own Jason Hildebrand) said of Negra Modelo: "this is the last Venetian beer still made." Sometimes a little knowledge can be worse than none at all...

The Meetin'

Grand Wazoo Ed Moore's meeting naturally emphasized the upcoming Dixie Cup: **Sparge Wars: Return of the Fred!** Judges and stewards are needed but if you cannot do these jobs there are plenty of other ways you can help. We need people to make and serve food for the Mark Muckelroy Memorial Potluck Friday night. (We certainly will miss Mark's cooking and contributions!) In addition, we need your homebrewed beers (in kegs) to serve. It takes a great deal of people to make the Dixie Cup the best homebrew competition in the galaxy, so please do your part!

Displaced Brewers

This meeting included several of New Orleans' Hurricane Katrina evacuees. These folks had pretty harrowing stories to tell and the club has decided to not charge admission any of the New Orleans or Beaumont area folks that can attend the Dixie Cup. We hope many can make

it. Also in evidence was some of the canned water provided by Budweiser to the hurricane victims. Nicknamed by attendees as "Floodwieser," many speculated that Budweiser actually had to add water to Budweiser to get its gravity back up to 1.000 to serve as water! Several jokes were made about pairing Houston area inactive or retired brewers and their equipment (i.e. Steve Moore and Jim Youngmeyer) with displaced homebrewers... perhaps we could set up Brewmatch.com.

Sidetasting

As in past meetings there was a "side tasting" going on throughout the meeting and included an American Pale Ale from Colby Sheridan as well as Old Dominion barleywine, Samiclaus from Sean Lamb as well as too many others to name (or remember for that matter!)

It's An (Oktober)festival!

Most of the Oktoberfests available in the Houston area (Spaten, Hacker-Pschorr, St. Arnold) were served. Also served was Westheimer Oktoberfest. I brought along my last couple of large bottles of Spocktoberfest. The beer has been good to me in competition but alas I now need to brew more! Sierra Nevada Bigfoot "Imperial India Pale Oktoberfest" also made an appearance.

R-R-R-R-R-A-F-F-L-E

The raffle offered several interesting items such as Grolsch bottles, stainless steel racking canes, spoons, and a Samuel Smith hat. A comical moment was when Mike "Beeriac" Heniff won a *Beertaster's Log*. We were certain he did not have this book (but it turned out he does) The best part was that the book is an **overdue** library book from the Missouri City Library. Several wags commented that libraries would be a great source for future raffle items. Scott "Birdman" Birdwell kindly provided an all-gran and an extractoktoberfest kit. However, Jeff Reilly won perhaps the most coveted item: Beerhunter Michael Jackson's framed underwear. And I thought I had all the luck.

Oh Black Beer

As the Oktoberfests got rarer, Rob offered several "Trust in the Schwartz" biers or black beers. Classic ones by Kostritzer and Japan's (\$12 a friggin' six pack!) Asahi were provided. Some Dunkels were also shared

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A long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away...

BREW WARS

-REDD KNECK VERSION

By Rob Kolacny, Secondary Fermenter

Episode XXII: Return of the Fredi

IT IS
A DARK
TIME FOR
THE HOMEBREW
REBELLION. THE FREDI
KNIGHTS, GUARDIANS
OF EXCELLENCE IN BREWING, FIND
THEMSELVES BATTLING MEDIOCRITY
ON ALL FRONTS. LED BY THE EVIL GENERAL
INEBRIATION, THE EMPIRE HAS BROUGHT FORTH
ITS ULTIMATE WEAPON, THE DEATH TUN, A MASSIVE
BREWING VESSEL CAPABLE OF INUNDATING
THE BEER WORLD WITH TASTELESS SWILL. THE
FOAM RANGERS HAVE SUMMONED THE
FREDI KNIGHTS TO ASSEMBLE IN THE TEXAS
SYSTEM ON PLANET HOUSTON IN A LAST
DITCH BATTLE TO SECURE THE CHERISHED
DIXIE CUP, GALACTIC SYMBOL OF
EXCELLENCE AND FINALLY ELIMINATE
THE THREAT OF BLAND BEER ONCE AND
FOR ALL...

We start this episode on the planet Austin at the Live Oak Brewery. Han DeWalt has just delivered the news: Flobey Solo has been kidnapped. A ransom note was left behind: "Your brewer has been captured and frozen in mashtranite. We have sent him to the planet Atlanta and there he will stay until you give up this Homebrew Revolution, forever.- the Emperor".

"Listen up people," shouted Admiral Heniff. "Calm down. We have lost a great brewer, but must remain focused and complete the mission. We must defeat the forceshield generator so that the others can infiltrate the DEATH TUN."

Just then Chip McElroy, the brewer at Live Oak, pipes in. "Is that what you guys are here to do? I know exactly where that thing is and how to destroy it. Give me an hour and my brewpaloompas and I will wipe that thing out! I hate the Empire!"

"Are you sure you can do the job?" asked General Lindsey.

"Consider it done!" proclaimed McElroy. McElroy and his team, along with the Foam Ranger Intelligence advance scouts, left behind, begin their attack on the forceshield generator and the Foam Rangers start the trip back to the Houston system...

...Meanwhile, the landing party is set to arrive at the DEATH TUN.

"I do hope Master RK and Admiral Heniff

were successful in destroying the forceshield generators," said BDB3PYO.

Carboy D-2 responds with his usual blip, bleeps and blurps.

"What do you mean you have the stuff?" chastised 3PYO. "What stuff? What could you possibly have? And what does it have to do with the current situation?"

"He's our secret weapon," proclaimed Stairway. "He's got the stuff alright! The Fredi Council has been working on a secret, highly concentrated wort that we intend on injecting into their lauter tun. It's really gonna change their beer!"

"I say, a wort that concentrated will likely be highly unstable," cautions 3PYO. "And dangerous. Are you sure it is safe to be near him?" 3PYO backs away from the small brew droid.

"Relax, don't get your skirt in a wad," snipped Drew Solo.

"Just drive the ship," commanded Stairway.

"Arrived we have," announced Birdwell. "The forceshield, down I sense it is. Act now we must!"

The forceshield was indeed down. McElroy and his team were successful and the party made their way through the confusion in the landing bay.

"The control room should be this way," suggested Stairway.

They made their way to the control room. Stairway easily defeated the two distracted guards posted to protect the room. Once inside Carboy D2 made his connection to the brew computer and singled-out the optimum location to attack.

As the team makes its way down the corridors, they are cutoff by Imperial troops and are forced to try different ways around. They find themselves lost and even further away from the target of attack. Just then, an image appears before them. It is Master Eckhardt, the original Fredi Master.

(Continued on Page 6)



Beer of the Month Calendar



January 20th, 2006

Porter & Stout



February 17th, 2006

Barleywine & Holiday



March 10th, 2006

Belgian & Fruit Beers



April 21st, 2006

Brown, Old & Scotch



May 19th, 2006

Bock



June 16th, 2006

Wheat Beers



July 21st, 2006

Pilsner & Kolsch



August 18th, 2006

Pale Ale & Bitter



September 15th, 2006

Oktoberfest / Marzen



October 20th - 22nd

Dixie Cup XXII



November 18th

India Pale Ale



December 11th

Homebrewer's Xmas Party



Floodweiser: more taste than the usual AB swill...



Now all we need is pizza.



"Where the HELL is the freaking Secondary?"



Are you happy to see me, or is that a steel racking cane in your pants?



"Touch me again, and it'll be a bloody stump."

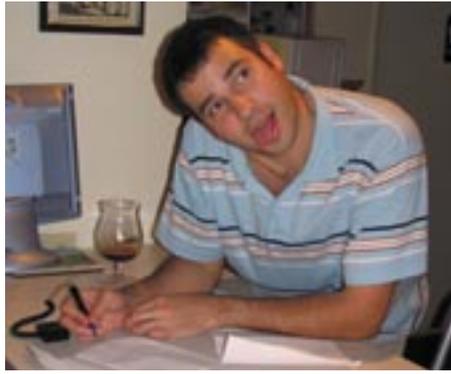
FOAM PHOTO



Andrew clearly wishes that Hazel had worn a *much* lower cut top.



Jeff Reilly: The man with Michael Jackson's underwear...



**The Foam Rangers:
We're equal opportunity
drunks... even for Jason**

**"Titanic" Bob Daugherty:
Scrivener at work.**



**What's all this "no
centerfold" bullshit?
Why the hell didn't
Bev ask ME?**



**The lost art
of conversation
apparently remains
lost at our meetings...**



RANGER PAGES

**Ed shares the Barley-
wine haul from Flowbee's
trade with him...**



They ain't blurry, but they clearly need to go home...

Foam Ranger Events



October

October 20

Dixie Cup
Welcoming Reception
7:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.
The Orange Show

October 21

Dixie Cup XXII
Comfort Inn SW Fwy.

Dixie Cup Judging
Noon - 8:00 p.m.

Dixie Cup Potluck
Appx. 8:00 p.m.

Dixie Cup Raffle
Appx. 10:00 p.m.

Fred Tasting
Appx. 11:00 p.m.

October 22

Barleywine Tasting
8:30 a.m.

Milli-conference
9:00 a.m. - Noon

Dixie Cup Judging
Noon - 4:00 p.m.

Dixie Cup Pub Crawl
4:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Your Bus Sucks

Dixie Cup Raffle
Appx. 9:30 p.m.

Dixie Cup Awards
Appx. 10:30 p.m.

November

November 6
Light Rail Pub Crawl
Red Line

fermenting vessels. The usual result is a relatively sour beer and frequently fruit such as cherries, raspberries and peaches are added to the beer. Lindeman's beers, however, are much sweeter than others and this, Administrator Cantillon states, is the problem: "What happens all too often is an aroused male meets a female at an upscale bar or restaurant offering Lindeman's. He asks if she would like a beer. The woman states, 'I don't like beer.' The male retorts, 'Well you haven't had a Lindeman's yet!' The fruit and sweetness disguise the alcohol and before long the female is chugging 'em like they're friggin' soda pops! The female's inhibitions (and good judgment) is consequently lowered, she decides to go home with the male, and frequently unwise sexual relations result."

Cantillon's assistant Frank Boon added that the Belgian ale's threat is growing rapidly "The effect of Lindeman's was for many years limited to only to nerdy beer enthusiasts—you know really desperate guys who'll do anything for sex. It was kind of an in-joke if you know what I mean. They gave the drink code words or nicknames like 'Liquid Panty

Remover' or 'Liquid Thigh Relaxer' or even 'The Hawaiian Drink' (you know, "the beer that will get you lei'd," get it?) However, knowledge of the drink slipped out of the beer snob crowd two years ago and we have seen what I can only call an epidemic of women selecting terrible bed partners. Regardless of the ridiculously high price commanded for Lindeman's the beer stores and restaurants can't keep up with demand. It is being peddled in the streets and probably soon will be in our schools,

(Continued from Page 3)

"Lost?" asked Master Eckhardt. "Let me show you the way".

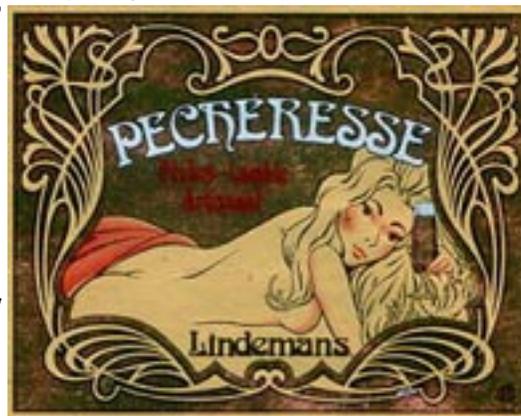
They follow Master Eckhardt to the lauter control room, long abandoned by all the confusion throughout the station. Upon arrival, they again connect Carboy D-2 to the brew computer and begin siphoning his contents into the lauter tun.

"That's all we can do," announced Stairway. "We won't know if we have succeeded until

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our proms! It is, in short, the date rape drug of this decade!"

An anonymous spokesperson for Merchant du Vin* (the American importer of Lindeman's) commented angrily. "We are not responsible for what people do with our product as long as they don't get on road and hit honors students. This is a conspiracy so immense of our competitors jealous of our success. They want no threat to their swill! First they got the TABC [Texas Alcohol and Beverage Commission] to keep Lindeman's off the shelves for over a year because of a stupid label issue and now this! C'est merde!**

A disinterested third party, St. Louis Bellevue, offered a compromise: "Perhaps a warning could be added to the beer's label or to the



Lindeman's critics cite this banned label as evidence of the beer's actual purpose.

special champagne like flute glasses used to serve it that says something like, 'Do not operate heavy machinery or have sex with strangers while under the influence of this product,' or simply 'Drink and Screw Responsibly!'" Single Foam Rangers expressed great fear at the proposed ban. Many concluded that they might have to undergo major personality

transformations in order to ever have sex again. Steve "the Putz" Moore was disconsolate more the most simply repeating, "The Horror! The Horror!" The majority of married Foam Rangers, however, showed no fear of the ban. Speaking for many of them Stuart "Storge" West offered, "Hell, Lindeman's already got me Sandy, watta I care?"

* Means "very expensive" in French

** Means "that is completely with substantiation!"

the Dixie Cup beers have been judged. We should make our escape now. Only time will tell if we have been victorious..."

(Continued from Page 2)

at the meeting's conclusion.

Our *Brewsletter* editor asked me to keep it short, so I shall. Next month of course is Dixie Cup. See ya this Friday and Saturday at the Comfort Inn and the following month back here at Defalco's for India Pale Ale night! May the Hops be With You until then!



This Month in Dixie Cup History

By Bev Blackwood with contributions from: Scott Birdwell, Steve Moore, A.C. Spraggins and Landry Hassell

20 Years Ago:

Theme:

No theme per se... This was the second competition formally known as the Dixie Cup, the third overall for the club.

The T-Shirt:

Had a cactus on it with a beer tap flowing into a mug that was being held by the official "old fart" Foam Ranger cowboy.

The Fred Tasting:

No Fred in 1985, he made his first appearance in 1987.

The Competition:

More than 112 entries, (1984) but less than 400 (1986)

Other details:

The contest was held on the patio of T.V. Rovers (now the Hops House.)

15 Years Ago:

Theme:

A Renaissance of Brewing

The T-Shirt:

Fred Eckhardt appears on the t-shirt for the first time, dressed as a monk.

The Fred Tasting:

Beer and desserts. Fred brought a few gallons of Bridgeport Double Stout which was excellent with or without ice cream.

The Competition:

The contest was held "under the big top" in the parking lot of the old DeFalco's on Morningside. That site is now Woodrows in the Village (next door to the G-man.) It was the last Dixie Cup held under a tent. Steve Daniel was the organizer and Steve Moore remembers Tim Case winning the Templeton award.

Other Details:

Steve Daniel and Scott Birdwell brewed the first Dixie Cup commemorative beer, an unhopped strong dark Renaissance-style ale

named "Old Fred" and bottled them in 187 ml Anchor Old Foghorn bottles.

10 Years Ago:

Theme:

Unknown

The T-Shirt:

Unremembered

The Fred Tasting:

Unsure, but I'm sure it was tasty...

The Competition:

Best of Show beer went to Darrell Simon of the North Texas Homebrewers Association, Best of Show mead was won by Leroy Gibbins of the Foam Rangers. Todd Kellenbenz, also a Ranger, won the Templeton Award. The Dixie Cup was won by the Central Florida Homebrewers.

Other details:

The departure of the Dixie Cup to Florida resulted in a monthly postcard of the cup making the rounds of Florida landmarks.

5 Years Ago:

Theme:

The Dixie Cup Sells Out

The T-Shirt:

Fred appears on a 17 Dollar Bill while the rear logo is the classic pyramid with the floating eye, surrounded by the logos of the corporate sponsors. Our motto: In Fred We Trust, All Others Pay Cash.

The Fred Tasting:

A reprise of Beer & Cheese

The Competition:

721 Entries, 36 Categories. Best of Show beer went to a Northern English Brown by Roy Rogers of the KGB. Best of Show Mead was won by Steve Vallancourt of BATF (Brewing Anonymously Throughout Florida) The Templeton went to "Bert & Ernie," Al Bourg and Ernie Spreen of the Crescent City Homebrewers. The Dixie Cup was won by the North Texas Homebrewers Association, while the Foam Rangers finished a disappointing fourth.

Other details:

Bev Blackwood was the competition organizer. The event was marred by the very late arrival of the Pub Crawl busses but otherwise ran smoothly. The Foam Ranger "badge" medals make their debut. Milliconference speakers were Fred Eckhardt, Stephen Beaumont and Dr. Paul Farnsworth.

Brewers Assistance Program

Need help brewing?

Contact one of the following Foam Ranger members:

Bev Blackwood
713.432.1248 (H)
713.927.4832 (C)
Before 11:00 p.m.

Mike Heniff
281.204.4617 (W)
281.723.6357 (C)
Before 9:00 p.m.

Rob Kolacny
979.532.8056 (H)
979.532.1932 (W)
979.533.1173 (C)
Before 10:00 p.m.

Joe Lindsey
409.925.4664 (H)
409.763.2366 (W)
Joe Never Sleeps

Jimmy Paige
281.894.0307 (H)
832.576.6191 (C)
Before 10:00 p.m.

Ron Solis
281.799.8427 (C)
Before 9:30 p.m.

Please respect their stated time preferences when calling!

DeFalco's
713.668.9440
Business Hours only

**The Foam Rangers Homebrew Club
Houston, Texas**

**Brewsletter office
8715 Stella Link
Houston, Texas 77025**



The 22nd Dixie Cup

SPARGE WARS

**Episode XXII:
Return of the Fredi
October 21-22**



I WANT TO BE SOMEBODY!

**SIGN ME UP TO BECOME A MEMBER OF
THE FOAM RANGERS HOMEBREW CLUB!**



NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____

WORK PHONE _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

E-MAIL MY BREWSLETTER!

AMOUNT PAID _____

NEW RENEWAL CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Membership Fees: (per year) \$25.00 Individual / \$35.00 Family

Paid between December 1 and December 31	\$23.00 / \$31.00 (Pay early and save!)
Paid between January 1 & March 31	\$25.00 / \$35.00
Paid between April 1 & June 30	\$22.50 / \$31.25
Paid between July 1 & September 30	\$20.00 / \$27.50
Paid between October 1 & November 30	\$25.00 / \$35.00 (Includes the next year!)

Please make checks payable to: The Foam Rangers

Bring this form (and your payment) to the next club meeting, drop it off at DeFalco's or send it to:
The Foam Rangers, 8715 Stella Link, Houston, Texas 77025-3401