



THE FOAM RANGERS Newsletter Urquell

Beery Christmas Edition

December 2005 - Volume 25 Pints - Issue 12

Beer Riots Sweep City As Suburbanites Lack Reserve

By "Titanic" Bob Daugherty

The suburbs of Missouri City, Wharton and Pearland, Texas were set ablaze this week. The "Beer Riots" have continued unabated thus far by authorities. Disaffected strong beer enthusiasts known as Alco-Americans lead the riots. A recent shortage of a particular new strong ale from a local beer company is believed to have triggered the orgy of violence and vandalism. The source of their anger, however, runs deeper and stems from years of being forced to choose from only fizzy yellow water in their suburban liquor stores.

The fires began last week when the last six pack of St. Arnold's Divine Reserve #1 barleywine was sold at a Spec's Liquor Store near Highway 290 in the northwestern



Local homebrewers protest outside Saint Arnold Brewery over the lack of Divine Reserve #1

part of Houston. A crowd outside the store had been chanting for an hour, "No Divine! No peace!" A masked rioter going only by the name of "Stairway" hurled an empty
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Out (of) The Wazoo

By Ed
Moore,
Grand Wazoo



It's the end of the year and your new officers are taking over. Rob will be taking my place, so please give him your support to keep the Foam Rangers the premiere homebrew club in the USA. We have a strong slate of officers

coming into power and they will need your support in order to keep things rolling. The first Sundays are already on the calendar and it looks like we may have a new Texas competition circuit in addition to the MCAB competitions. We are still working out details on the new Texas circuit but I am sure the Foam Rangers will be able to step

up and win these Texas competitions. The Bluebonnet will be in March and the AHA regionals will follow in April. The Lunar Rendezbrew will be in July and the Cactus Challenge will be in September and finally the Dixie Cup arrives in October.

There will be plenty of officers meetings to plan club activities and the Dixie Cup. Please try to attend in order to give your input since the Dixie Cup is your competition. We have the monthly brew-ins at DeFalco's, so please come by and support the brewer's efforts on our behalf. We have a new event in early April – the first beer camp out. Please make your calendars. More details later, but it should be a fun time.

I am now becoming the Was-Waz and will catch you at the meetings and club events. Be sure to volunteer for club activities as your officers can't do it all on their own. Lastly, dues are due, so please pay your dues gentle brewers. See you at the Homebrewer's Christmas party!

December Meeting:

Saturday,

December 11

Noon - 4:00 p.m.

at St. Arnold

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Official Organ of the
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The Brewsletter Urquell is published by the Foam Rangers Homebrew Club, 8715 Stella Link, Houston, Texas 77025

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First, many thanks to Sam Calagione of Dogfish Head Brewing for sharing his Dixie Cup Milli-conference speech. I needed two solid pages of filler and it's a great way to fill them. If you missed his speech (like I did) then you can see that you missed a great one. Second, thanks to all my "staff" this year. People who filled in with cameras when I needed them to, the few folks who contributed unsolicited articles and the officers who were (usually) exceedingly faithful in meeting deadlines. Of note are T-Bob, whose voluminous output was both great and infuriating (fitting it all in was a blessing AND a curse.) and Rob, who was challenged with a "themed" Secondary column every month. Looking forward to next year... Bev

I.P.A. - It's All About The Hops...



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

This was my penultimate opportunity to be your scrivener (unless I can talk new scrivener Sean Lamb into writing up the Christmas party one). Next to barleywines and

stronger Belgium beers, India Pale Ales are my favorite ales. We had a very good selection and I do not think anyone went home disappointed (or overly sober).

ENGLISH IPAS

We began the meeting with the less bitter (and often less strong) English Pale Ales. The first served was Samuel Smith's IPA. For a change it was in a less skunkifiable brown bottle. Sam Smith is a puzzling brewery. I visited it in Tadcaster, Yorkshire in 2001. Though the company proudly still uses the traditional square, slate Yorkshire fermenters, they use (according to Steve Moore) hop extract and then put their product in clear bottles. The ones we had at the meeting were fine if not terribly exciting. We also had a couple of Fuller's 1845 bottles. I know it's not an IPA, but did not know where else to fit it and it's a damn good beer so... We also had a Scottish IPA: Twisted Thistle. Like other Scottish ales it is less hoppy than English ales. We also had a couple of examples of English style IPA made in America. These included Shipyard's Fuggles IPA (made with the hop of the same name) and Brooklyn Brewery's East India IPA that I brought back from the East Coast. The latter was definitely the more enjoyable of the two. I also shared a bottle of my Johnny Cochran Buckwheat India Pale Ale. It was over a year old and sadly, most of the hops had deserted it.

AMERICAN IPAS

We then made our way to the American IPAs. These included Anchor's Liberty Ale, and Sierra Nevada's Pale Ale (they make an IPA but I have only seen it on draught). We also had some Pyramid IPA, Bridgeport IPA, Flying Dog IPA, Great Divide Titan, our own St. Arnold Elissa IPA (I love that stuff!!) Lagunitas IPA, Left Hand Jackman's APA, Berkshire Brewing IPA (from Massachusetts but not terribly exciting),

McNeil's Deadhorse IPA (great label—so-so beer), Avery IPA, Stone IPA, Magic Hat Blind Faith IPA (not as good as I remember it), Offshore IPA (I brought back the two bottles and it was pretty average), Full Sail (Steve Moore's favorite brewery) IPA and Dogfish's 60 Minute IPA and Aprihop. My favorite was the recently arrived Victory Hop Devil. No IPA meeting would be complete, however, without Sierra Nevada's CELL-uh-BRAY-shun Ale and it was enjoyed by all.

In addition, Ed Moore brought some Great Lakes Nosferatu that I liked very much. It is a very hoppy Red Ale and quite strong! Great Lakes makes great beers—all of —em! Wish we could get them down here! We also had, courtesy of Grand Wazoo Ed Moore, some samples of Bell's Two Hearted Ale. This beer went so quickly I did not even get to sample it! If it's from Larry Bell you know it'll be great! In the midst of these hoppy beers we tried Abita's Restoration Ale that Mike Heniff brought for the club. This is the first brew Abita has done since getting hit by Hurricane Katrina and the company is donating its proceeds to disaster relief. I hope they can get back to brewing full time soon again.

ELECTION and R-R-R-R-R-R-Raffle!

Of course the moment everyone dreaded could not be postponed much longer. Our Secondary, Rob Kolacny, had to attend his son's cub scout's induction and was going to be late. As a result, we delayed the election as long as we could until he got there. For those of you who have never attended a meeting in which a Foam Ranger officer's election takes place, I can describe it as only the purest and oldest form of democracy. Much like the Soviet Politburo used to pick its leaders, former and current officers gather in a hop filled room to decide the club's future. These candidates are then nominated at the meeting and, much like the political caucus of old, a voice vote is held. Of course the best way to get yourself nominated is not to attend the election meeting. Was-Waz Mike Heniff was not at the IPA meeting and doggone near got elected to every office. When the smoke cleared, your new Foam Ranger officers for 2006 year were: Rob Kolacny (Grand Wazoo -- AKA: The Most Powerful Man in Homebrewing), your current suffering writer is now Secondary Fermenter, Jim Youngmeyer (Treasurer) and Sean Lamb (Scrivener). We are fortunate that Bev

(Continued on next page)

What!?! No SPARGE WARS????



By
Rob Kolacny
Secondary Fermenter

What a year! Can you believe how much beer we drank? The first three meetings must have set some kind of drinking and attendance records! Do you remember all the Belgian beers? Me neither! Pale Ales and Bitters are some of my

favorite beers which made that meeting one of my favorites. Colby & Gloria threw one hell of a Pilsner / Pool party! (Did you get naked?) We will miss Colby & Gloria and wish them the best in Atlanta. And what about Dixie Cup? How much beer did we drink there? We had to have set a record there! And we won! It really has been a great year for beer. One of the best I have ever had. I really enjoyed being your Secondary Fermenter. Thank you for giving me that chance. I had a lot of fun and learned a whole lot. I hope that you all get a chance at the job! What better way to learn your commercial beers? And meet so many new drinking buddies? I want to also extend a big thank you to everyone who thought about the club and brought me out-of-town beer for the meetings. We have quite a good selection

(Continued from previous page)

Blackwood will continue as *Brewsletter Urquell* Editor [*speak for yourself... -Ed.*] and Scott Birdwell will remain Bozo Head of Special Events. The saint who volunteered to be Dixie Cup Coordinator and Competition Coordinator will be Scott "that's Capital D, capital W" DeWalt. Ed "He Won the Templeton" [*He Survived*] - Ed.] Moore will join the list of Was Wazes.

For a while we could not locate R-R-R-R-R-R-Raffle tickets, so this was delayed as well. Either they were located or we got new ones. I can't remember because by this time we were drinking Double or Imperial IPAs! Scott Birdwell donated an all grain and an extract IPA kit. Many glasses and mirrors were won and I'm sure there was other great stuff I didn't win!

I SQUARED PA's

Among those offered were Hercules IPA and "Everybody Must get Stone-d "Arrogant Bastard. I had a couple of bottles of my favorite Rogue's I2PA that I also brought. It's still one of my favorites. I was excited when the company

of most styles here in Texas, but for some we needed help, especially bocks. T-Bob will be your Secondary next year. Please be just as helpful to him as you were to me and remember the Foam Rangers when you travel. All we need is a 6 pack or 3-4 bombers. Just remember to pack them well in your luggage! Don't forget about the bottle openers. Let's see how heavy we can make that 'Chain-of-Command'! Whether on vacation, attending a beer event or visiting your favorite pub, if you spot a cool bottle opener, add it to the collection! And how can we forget the homebrew? That's what we're all here for! Thank you to everyone who brought homebrew to share at the meetings. I think the monthly meetings are the best way for a homebrewer to show off his latest brews or to get an honest opinion of them and how to do them better next time. Please remember to bring your own homebrew to the meetings.

As I said, I have had a blast this year being your Secondary. I hope you will all be at the Homebrewers' Christmas Party Sunday where I will bestow the 'Chain-of-Command' around T-Bob's neck and E-Mo will place the sweaty (and heading straight to the drycleaners after the party) Fez upon my head! Life's Short, [*and so's his column - Ed.*] Brew often!

went from the nip 8 ounce bottles to the larger 26 ounce ceramic Grolsch type bottles but they are very pricey! We also enjoyed Dogfish Head's wonderful 90 Minute IPA and the surprisingly good Breckinridge Batch 471 Double IPA. Great Divide's Hercules Double IPA was on hand. Naturally we also imbibed a couple of bottles of Dogfish Head's 120 Minute IPA (yum.....) as well as a bottle of Raison D'Extra (about twice as strong as the regular Raison D'Extra!) that I brought. Bev Blackwood provided a huge bottle of a Dogfish Head IPA. I recall Bev kept saying it was from 1993. We reminded him that Dogfish probably had not started at that point. Eventually he [*read the bottle and*] realized it was 2003. Whatever its year, it was fantastic! I brought along a work friend, Stephen Higginbotham, to the meeting who had expressed interest in hoppy beers. For whatever reasons (moving, family, burn out) we have several members leave the

(Continued on Page 11)

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 19th - 21st, 2006

Dixie Cup XXIII



November 17th, 2006

India Pale Ale



December 11th

Homebrewer's Xmas Party

Foam Ranger Events

December 11
Homebrewers
Christmas Party
Saint Arnold Brewery

December 29
Pack & Ship (Unpaid)
Upper Miss. Mash-out
DeFalco's

January

January 8
DC/Officer's Mtg (3:00)
First Sunday (4:00)
Richmond Arms

January 12
Pack & Ship (Unpaid)
Meadlennium
DeFalco's

January 14
Brew-in by Someone
(Maybe **You?**)
DeFalco's

January 20
January Meeting
DeFalco's

January 26
Pack & Ship (Unpaid)
Boston HB Comp.
DeFalco's

Febrewary

Febrewary 5
DC/Officer's Mtg (3:00)
First Sunday (4:00)
BJ's Northwest

Febrewary 11
Brew-in by Someone
(Maybe **You?**)
DeFalco's

Febrewary 17
Febrewary Meeting
DeFalco's



By Mike Heniff,
Competition
Coordinator

Well, I'm finishing up my terms of the last 2 of the 5 officer positions that I have held in the last 3 years. The last few years have been a great time for me and I believe it to be so for the Foam Rangers. In the last 3 years, we have grown as a club and introduced many new brewers to the great hobby of homebrewing and enjoying great beer. We have seen a number of brewers and judges grow from the novice to advanced levels. We have held legendary Dixie Cups, have had a number of great pub crawls and First Sundays, and have had a ton of great times at other informal meetings. On the competition level, we have won the Dixie Cup (5 years running), the Gulf Coast Homebrew Club of the Year (last 3 years), Bluebonnet Trophy (last 2 years), not to mention a ton of individual awards as well as a ton of awards to first time brewers. I have a ton of pride for how great of club we are. Even though I will not be an officer next year, I will continue to be very active member. Thanks for the great times!!!

Upcoming Competitions

Competition	Club Paid Shipping
Pack and Ship	
Upper Mississippi Mash Out	No
12/29/05	
http://www.mnbrewers.com/mashout/	
(St. Paul, MN, New MCAB Qualifier)	

Meadlennium	
1/12/06	No
http://www.cfhb.org/	
(Orlando, FL, Meads only)	

Boston Homebrew Competition	
1/26/06	No
http://www.wort.org/	
(Boston, MA, MCAB Qualifier)	

Kansas City Bier Meisters Competition	
1/26/06	No
http://www.kcbm.org/	
(Kansas City, MO, MCAB Qualifier)	

Regale and Dredhop

Competition Corner

2/16/06	YES
http://hopbarley.org/dredhop/	
(Boulder, CO, MCAB Qualifier)	

Drunk Monk Challenge	
mid February	No
http://www.knaves.org/dmc/	
(Chicago, IL, MCAB Qualifier)	

Bluebonnet Brew-off	
2/17/06	YES
http://www.bluebonnetbrewoff.com	
(Dallas, TX, MCAB Qualifier, Texas Circuit)	

MCAB VII	
mid February	YES
http://www.hbd.org/mcab	

Other Competition News**MCAB**

There is exciting news for the Masters Championships for Amateur Brewing (MCAB). Longtime coordinator, Foam Ranger Louis Bonham who has been quite busy with his career in the past few years has passed on the reigns to Curt Stock. Most of you who have been to the last few Dixie Cups know Curt. He is a great guy, a great competitor, and is sure to bring life back to MCAB at MCAB VIII. Look forward to an announcement soon for an update for MCAB VIII in the St. Paul, Minnesota area in early March. **Be sure to plan for their Upper Mississippi Mashout in January which has become a new MCAB qualifier (they have supported us well, let's show some support in return!).** Here are our MCAB qualifiers so far (with one qualifier to go):

Rob Kolacny 10, Mike Heniff 13, Scott Dewalt 16, Susan Reilly 17, Joe Lindsey 4, 19 Jeff Reilly 8, 17, Jeff Reilly/Jimmy Paige 1, 14, Jimmy Paige 6, 8, Bob Daugherty 18

Gulf Coast Homebrew Circuit

Next year, Sunshine Challenge in Orlando, Florida will not be held due to the Central Florida Homebrewers hosting of the AHA National Homebrew Competition (June 21-23, mark your calendars!). Therefore, with only the Bluebonnet Brew-off and the Dixie Cup left in the circuit, we are looking at a possible all-Texas Circuit for 2006 and maybe beyond.

We will keep you posted!



This Month in Foam Ranger History

By Sean Lamb, Club
Historian (Sorta)

15 Years Ago:

In the Brewsletter:

Grand Wazoo Chris Todd regales everyone to bring food for the Christmas Party meeting. Tony Radoszewski informs readers about Christmas Ales. Secondary Steve Daniel explains the derivation of the term "wassail" in his BOM column. Chris Todd is interviewed by John Gonzales for the "Brewer Profile". "By the time the Dixie Cup came along, I was beginning to break my fever...I couldn't drink, my brain was kind of addled, I wasn't able to do the stuff I was supposed to do for the Dixie Cup...." Allan Dray submitted the announcement of the creation of the Texas Association of Brewpubs/Microbreweries

At the Meeting:

Christmas Party held at the gestating Magnolia Brewing Co. "The last thing I remember was hiding from my ready-to-go designated driver and getting a big kick out of watching Pete Whalen and an appropriate friend get down to some funky, but fine dancing"

Other Events:

St. Louis Christmas Competition results: John Donaldson and Scott Icenhower take 1st place in Steam Beer, John Donaldson and David Power take 1st place in Bavarian Wheat, and John Donaldson, Jerzy Trybek and Janet Peterson take 1st place in Specialty beer.

10 Years Ago:

In the Brewsletter:

Grand Wazoo Autumn Woods apologizes to the membership if anyone feels that she has let the club down. Beto Zuniga contributes a recipe for rum cake. Jim Harper recounts the Dixie Cup and the loss of the Dixie Cup trophy to the Central Florida Homebrewers. Some comedian contributes an article titled "If operating Systems Were Beers" and another titled "The 4 Day Beer Fast".

At the Meeting:

Held at the Oddfellows lodge in the Heights on 16 December.

Other Events:

Christmas party with the KGB at St. Arnold Brewery on December 17th. Randy Veazey, Bob Simle, Gardner Biggs, Patrick Bush, Carl Degner, Ian Quigley, William Henning and David Odom all join the club.

5 Years Ago:

In the Brewsletter:

Grand Wazoo David Cato reveals his plans for secret homebrew world domination. Bev Blackwood gives detailed instructions on how to gather beer when on the road as the Secondary Fermenter.

At the Meeting:

Christmas Party held at St. Arnold Brewery. Donna Smith, who died during the year, was honored by new Grand Wazoo Bev Blackwood. Phil Endacott was also given an award for his contribution to the homebrewing community.

Other Events

None Noted.

Join the Foam Ranger E-mail Lists!

By Dave Cato, List owner

In the example that follows, LISTNAME should be one of these mailing list names: **foam-rangers**, **foam-rangers-announce**, or **houston-homebrewers**. Replace LISTNAME with the *actual name* of the list when subscribing!

To subscribe to one (or more) of these lists, send the single line:

subscribe LISTNAME

in the body of an e-mail message, in *plain text* (make sure the message is not sent in

HTML or RTF format) to:

majordomo@crunchyfrog.net

You should receive a reply from the server requesting that you complete the subscription, by sending another message back to majordomo@crunchyfrog.net. Once your subscription is confirmed, you will receive a reply with the guidelines for the list you subscribed to, including instructions for unsubscribing in the future.

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.

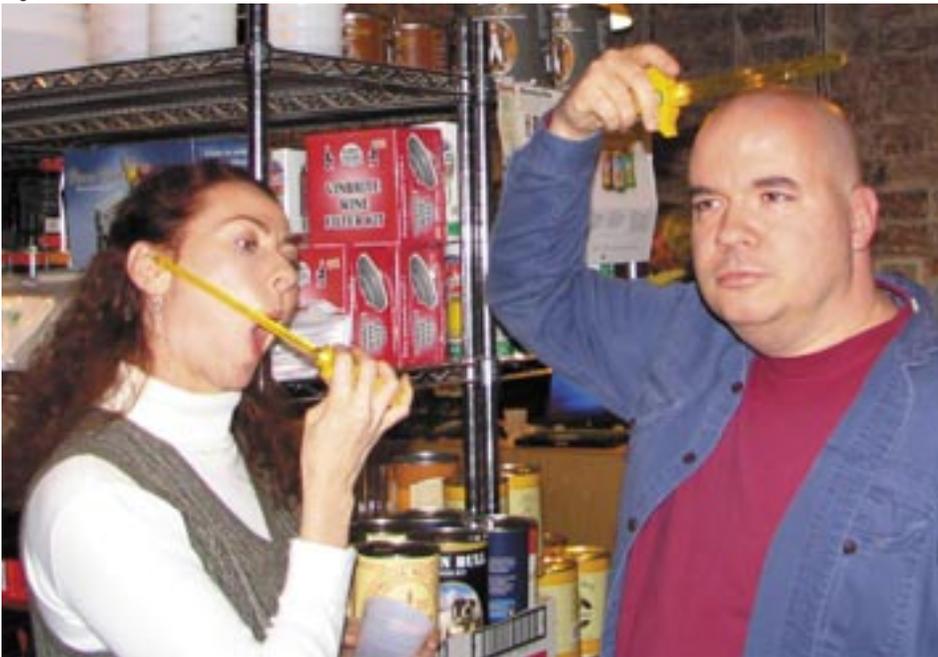
Joe Lindsey
409.925.4664 (H)
409.763.2366 (W)
Joe Never Sleeps

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



Steve and Hazel work on their "10:00 Shadow."



Scott REALLY knows how to "sell" a raffle item



"Say the magic word and win a hundred dollars!"

FOAM RANGER



Ed listens in as the new "Waz-ette" sets the Waz straight on his role.



Oh yeah.. THIS guy is going to be a "Grand" Wazoo, you betcha!



Hazel Ganze, starring in the Foam Ranger production of Peter Pan!



Photo prop of the Month: Little glowing swords.



Baby's first Dixie Cup medal!



"How you doin'? Good? Me too, I'm good..."



Ranger meeting bad idea
Number 26: Pouring
beer above a laptop.

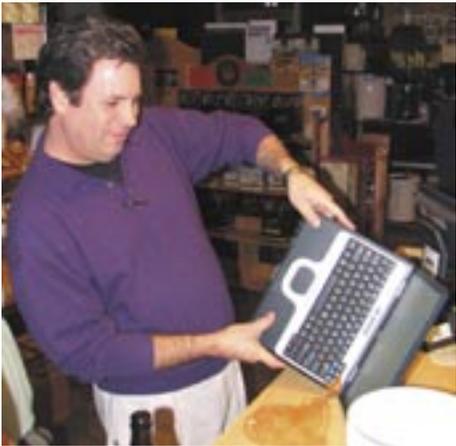
It's all fun and games
until somebody
loses an eye...



but apparently Sandy's
kiss makes it all better.



What it takes to be a
"Brews Brother"



Or was it all just an ACT?
Andrew's not telling...

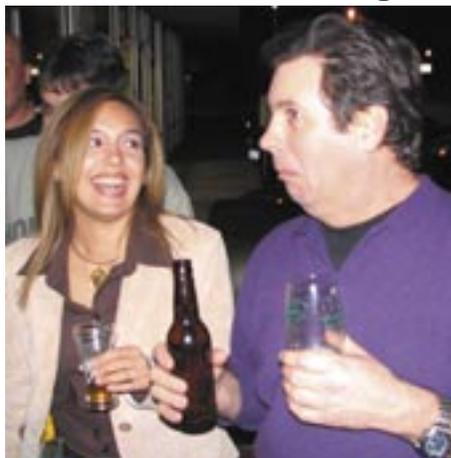


Jimmy is thwarted in his
attempt to escape Benny.

FOTO PAGES



Mr. Brewsletter Editor, I'm
ready for my close-up!



Hm...
I.P.A. ingredients:
Water, malt, hops,
hops, hops, hops,
yeast, hops...



BEER AT BREAKFAST: SAM CALAGIONE'S

A monologue exploring an alternative universe in which Woody Guthrie became the father of the American Homebrewing renaissance instead of the protest song.

FIRST COURSE

Howdy folks, I'm Woody Guthrie. Here to tell you a story or two. Just got back from the nation's capitol. Things felt kinda squirmy down there. Maybe I'm just a dumb Okie but I cain't always get my arms around the pal-atishian way. Fer instance... The national debit is one thing I caint figure out. I heard a senator on a radio a-sayin that we owe somebody 15 jillion dollars. I don't know their name but I do remember the price. Called it the national debit. If the nation is the government, and the government is the people, then I guess the people owe the people, that means I owe me and you owe you, and I forgot the regular fee, but if I owe myself something, I would be willing to just call it off rather than have senators argue about it, and I know you would the same and then we wouldn't have no national debit.

Any rate that's a whole other story. See, what I'm really here to tell you about is how I fell outa folk singin and fell into beer brewin. Started when I was a young feller livin in Pampa during prohibition. I got me a job as a soda jerk. I tended the fountain but I reckon I was really in the liquor business. I was fixin banana splits and milk shakes up top and selling bootleg Jamaica ginger under the table. Now I am a man of vast enthusiasms. With my reading I was always more vicious than voracious – why I'd inhale whole areas of knowledge then lick my chops for more. Anyhow, I got me to reading up on beer brewin. And I started to messin round with my gangs brewpot. Makin all kinds of crazy stuff using all kinds of crazy ingredients. I learned that it was a matter of funneling energy from one place to the other. Instead of ballads, cowboy songs, hoedowns and hymns, I learned up on porters, and stouts and I.P.A.s.

Fer instance did you know that the letters IPA stand fer Insipid – Politician

– Asskicker.

I did not know that. But the more I went out and sampled the different beers that were available to buy. The more frustrated I became. That corporate beer was so thin you could read a magazine through it... hell it was so thin even a senator could see something through it.

You see beer has always been the drink of the common man and I figured it was high time we took it back from the corporate brewers. The rich like to lull theirselves to sleep and sort of float half way between a drink of scotch liquor and a tile shit house - listnin to a raft of songs that's about as close to real as I am to forclosin on the farm. They might know from profits but they don't know from real beer..

Anyhow, I seen The big breweries kept getting bigger and the choices of beer styles kept getting thinner. Seemed like they were all makin the same exact beer with same exact machines. And we all know that machines cannot make beer half as well as men can. In the words of Uncle Walt Whitman: "it is not consistent with the reality of the soul to admit that there is anything in the known universe more divine than men and women." So I got to scheemin on a proletarian alternative to corporate beer and I set myself in motion to make it a reality sooner than you could say "Clydesdale euthanasia."

SECOND COURSE

(sung) *Theeeres a brown one, and an amber one, and a hoppy one, and a lambic one. And they all get put in bottles, Little bottles all the same.*

As the second world war closed down upon us ah figured I'd get the government fore it got me. I signed up for the merchant marines and set sail from New York harbor to the European

theater. And what a theater it was. I made five trips back and forth across the pond. Each time I was granted leave I used that week to go and learn me up on Eurpeein brewin. I met brewers from London and Brussels, and Moscow and I traded them each a song fer a yeast strain. I even met me a covert spy brewer from Berlin

"Me & some of the fellers decided to cook up a batch of home brew and the instructions on the yeast said 'add one packet and wait three days'... so we added three packets and waited one day. Well we drank all that brew right up the very next day... never been sicker in my life."

- WOODY GUTHRIE IN A LIBRARY OF CONGRESS INTERVIEW WITH ALLEN LOMAX

that smuggled out a lager yeast inside the bowels of his Doberman Pinscher. These brewers were each mighty proud of their hard work and the fruits of their labors. These brewers took giant steps between heaven and nature, in the witness of this immaculate fermentation. And

when you tried their amazing, diverse beers you could see the reflection of their people in the foamy head on the glass and, as the drinker, you too could expect to touch both heaven and nature with no more than a deep breath, a gulp, and a well bent elbow. So I took these various yeast strains back to the states with me. And I formulated a plan with a bunch of my most passionate hobo-poet brethren to set up a network of home breweries, barley fields, hop gardens and what not along the railroad lines across this great country. Pretty soon you had Little Guy Fly brewin DoubleBocks in Omaha, Mobile Mac makin Hefeweisens in Acron, Poison Face Tim pumping out porters in Boston and Dick the Stabber doin Imperial Stouts down there in Houston. Slowly but surely a proud little cluster of countrymen started making these beers. Folks that cared more 'bout what was on the inside of the bottle stead of the labels on the outside. Pretty soon some of the brewers got comfortable enough within this union of good beer makers and good beer drinkers to start formulatin their own recipes or magnifying the styles we learned about oversees and makin them their own. Why the notion of culture itself was souped up and made more

democratic. No longer was it all about Europein fine-arts tradition – now it could include practicly everything creative. It was a downright exhileratin discovery – AMERICA HAS A CULTURE – It also has a new hero – the common man- who suffers, grows, and survives.

Yessir, We truly built a union of good beer. It got to where brewin and politics were inseparable in my mind. Beer is politics. To buy the beer of the people is to organize. The struggle to popularize real beer, to make inroads against the domination of the corporate brewers – why that’s a metaphor for the fight against blind capitalism itself.

Pretty soon the reviews started comin in. Eventually all the major media bigwigs had to acknowledge our presence. But, like anything worthwhile it first started with the common people. I remember the first review I got for one of my beers. It came from a writer named William “hop along” Hearst and it was published in the communist paper : The People’s World and Brew Kettle, and it went something like this. “Mine eyes have seen the glory of the harvest of the hops. Brew it Woody, brew it! Carl Marx wrote it. Lincoln said it and Lenon did it. Brew it Woody and we’ll all get EQUALLY drunk on Quality together!” Mighty fine words, Hopalong, mighty fine words.

THIRD COURSE

(sung) *Noooow, There’s no cause for worry, cause everything is fine Ever since my lord turned water into barley wine.*

Well, I guess probably it’s about time that I got around to describing some of the libations you folks have been liberatin today. As I mentioned we formed us a union of good beer. Us brewers recreated an instinctive experience, or a la-boratory – a la-boratory where certain bedrock strains of American culture have been retrieved and reinvented. We took us a vote and decided to call our union “Brotherhood of the Dixie Cup”. Kind a like anna mona pia if you know what I mean. Don’t mean much of nuthin but it sounds kinda good. Your havin a number of beers from the Dogfish chapter of the brotherhood today.

Started off with the 60 Minute, just a straight forward ale of the people for the people by the people but with 60 IBUs and 6% ABV.

Next up in the ol’ picket line we had India Brown Ale

Now I like my beers big and complicated. As far as drinkin is concerned, I never touch a drop unless I’m by myself or with someone, and I never use anything stronger than water as a chaser. The next two beers you’d be tryin are shining examples of how we devised a proletarian alternative to corporate beer. The people have spoken.. And the people want beer with a little umph behind it. Your third beer is Punkin Ale In addition to the 60 minute IPA we make a 90 and a 120 minute version too. The 120 Minute is the world’s strongest IPA at 18% abv.

Purdy near licker as far as alcohol content is concerned but it tastes more like a beer mixed with a port mixed with a shovel upside the head.

Who woulda thought that beer, the drink of the common man, could line up so well with good grub. Could taste so different from each other. Could show as much diversity and potential as the American populace itself. Mighty tasty stuff. I’ll be up one last time before this hootenanny runs

out of steam. For now please join in raising our glasses to the union of good beer in America. To places like this one and people like you who care enough to expect more.

Here’s a purdy good one I used to hear down in the country: “Here’s to her, and to her again. If you caint get to her, let me to her. I’m used to her. Cheers.”

DESSERT

(sung) *Miller High Life, Miller High Life, you’ve got no taste.*

If you call this the high life your life’s a disgrace.

Coors Banquet, Coors Banquet, you’ve got no heft.

If I ate at this banquet I would starve to death.

Budweiser, Budweiser, why you so light.

I’ll eat Chinese food if I want corn and rice.

Now folks I need you to do me a favor. Always remember and don’t ever forget. The worst thing that could happen to you is to cut yourself loose from people. And the best thing is to sort of vaccinate yourself right into the big streams and blood of the people. With this last drink of homemade rum paired with homemade dessert I want you to consider yourself right vaccinated. The beers from the brotherhood of the Dixie cup will suck you in like an –abyss-cracklin vortex and they are garunteed to relax the muscles of your soul.

Golly damn, feels like a real hootenanny now don’t it? On behalf of my commercial brewin brethrin the

country over we want you to know we are making beers of distinction, diversity and grandeur for you. Like you, we are out to make beers that will prove to everyone that this is you world and that if it has hit you pretty hard and knocked you for a dozen loops, no matter how hard

it’s run you down or rolled you over, no matter what color or size you are, we’re brewin the beers that celebrate your self and your work. And the beers that we brew are made up for the most part by all sorts of folks just about like you. Every man is capable of singing a wholly unique song. So I invite you to retrieve the innocence of your mind and revel in it’s dishevelment. You know what you like to drink better than your television does. I’m Woody Guthrie. Here to say thank you to the folks at the Dixie cup. Take it easy. But take it. Cheers.



DIXIE CUP MILLICONFERENCE MONOLOGUE

(Continued from Page 1)

Miller keg through Spec's window and, as spokesman for the newly formed Suburb Defense Force, Al Kohlic, said: "That's when all Hell broke loose!" However, as he further explains, the genesis of the rioter's anger goes deeper... much deeper: "These guys had been waiting for months for this new barleywine. When it appeared, they were angry that insufficient amounts had been distributed to their neighborhoods in the suburbs. They claimed that it is the only the most recent example of beer discrimination against the predominately suburban Alco-Americans. Through an e-mail network they were able for a brief time to alert each other of locations where the Divine Reserve was available. When the beer ran out, so did their patience. Vandalism against area liquor stores began and was soon followed by the repeating torching of Bud, Miller, Shiner and Coors beer trucks."

When asked about the composition and identities of the disaffected youth the spokesman continued: "Well, they really aren't youths at all. Most are guys are in their thirties or forties and they are overwhelmingly male, and are engineers or scientists. Many have large guts caused by years of drinking strong commercial and homebrewed beers. For years their anger has simmered, as the only beers available to them were commercial swill from the mega-breweries. Some hope came in the 1980s with the Revolution, the Microbrewery Revolution that is. Fine tasting strong beer was now available... or so they thought. The pathetic liquor stores in their suburbs wouldn't carry it however. The situation

was now actually worse than before. There was now good beer to be had but they to drive to downtown Houston liquor stores to get it! Some could not or would not do so, and often it was gone anyway by the time news reached them of its arrival. Pretty soon cells of these disaffected Alco-Americans began to meet monthly at local homebrew shops. There, no doubt, the riots were planned.

"Most of the Alco-American (some prefer the title Barley-Americans) cell members go by nicknames such as Beerbo, Stairway, Lambinator, Red Kneck and the oddly named Putz and Skirt Boy. This is no doubt to preserve their anonymity and avoid prosecution for their actions. We are not yet sure who their leader is. Early intelligence suggests that it is someone called the Grand Wazoo but we figure the brains of the operation is some guy called Beeriac. However, the guy we want most to find goes by the name Wifenswapper. We really want to find him, or least his wife!"

Though some believe the attacks are showing signs of abating, as the number of beer trucks burned each night decreases, others believe this is due to the fact that there are fewer and fewer trucks TO burn. Community members have expressed fear of how these rioters will vent their beer anger when all the beer trucks and suburban liquor stores have been burned. Some are predicting a wave of another kind of beerorist attack. Papers discovered on an arrested rioter, "E-Mo," suggest some members plan to attach over-carbonated homebrewed beer "bottle grenades" to their bodies and detonate them in public spaces, spraying innocent lite beer drinkers with strong

ales and lagers. An anonymous source has stated that Houston Mayor Bill White has a plan in place to deal with this very possibility, however, his spokeswoman, Ima Whimp, denied the assertion: "Mayor White has no such plans for a so-called pre-emptive 'War on Beeror.' We are too busy tearing up highways and streets and trying to get traffic lights in synch to deal with such an insignificant threat." However, anonymous sources stated that the mayor has been in touch with St. Arnold owner Brock Wagner, begging him to make more Divine Reserve. Despite the mayor's denial, Wagner has confirmed the story: "I told the mayor you just can't make barleywine overnight! It takes months to make a decent strong ale. Hell, I had a one of my biggest fermenters tied up for months conditioning the stuff. Do you realize how much 'Lawnmower' or 'Amber' I could have fermented in that time? Anyway, the mayor exclaimed, 'Why not? Stroh's used to!' I knew then the situation was hopeless. I immediately began brewing an Imperial Stout, but it will be months before it can be brought to market. He's on his own until then." Many have demanded that suburban liquor stores not only carry a better selection of beer but to charge the same price for credit as cash. "Many of these guys have big house, truck, or homebrewery payments and don't always have ready cash. It's unfair to price discriminate!" said a rioter who asked to remain nameless.

Others warn that giving in to berrorism would only add to the problem. "If we give in to them on this they will only make more demands. They will just keep yelling for stronger and stronger

brews. We already allow almost 5% beer in Pearland. You cannot continue to feed the beast. Look at what giving in to Hitler did. World War III!" stated Pearland mayor Tom Reid.

Though initially sympathetic, most suburban citizens are now showing a lack of support for the beer rioters. One told this reporter: "City folk see these beerorists on TV and they think we all have big
(Continued on next page)



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(Continued from Page 3)

club each year (or at the very least the stop brewing). If our club is going to continue to grow and maintain the Dixie Cup and Bluebonnet Cup in the future we need new members. If you have a friend, relative or colleague that brewed in the past or has expressed in interest in good beer invite him or her to a meeting. They will have good time and maybe join us in the future. The quality and diversity of folks I have come to know through the Rangers (and through them other local clubs) is amazing and I am happy to count many as not just brewing buddies but friends. Just think how poorer our club would be if someone not welcomed a Mike Heniff or Bev Blackwood, Rob Kolacny, etc... when they made that brave decision to attend their first meeting or Dixie Cup.

I have enjoyed my time as Scrivener for the club and I strongly recommend it for anyone who wishes to get more involved in the Foam Rangers. As an officer, I enjoyed playing a role in helping to make decisions and seeing what a tremendous effort it took to put on the Dixie Cup. It was a pleasure to help select speakers and when they arrived to pick them up and show them the town. Should

(Continued from previous page)

bellies and only drink beer. Some of us, I'll have you know, drink, White Zinfandel. They make us ALL look bad and ignorant by their actions. It's just not fair!"

Another expressed frustration with the wave of beeror sweeping his sleepy community of Wharton: "What the hell do these guys want? Anchor made Foghorn available year round and put it in twelve ounce bottles. Great Divide and Avery put their Old Ruffian and Hog Heaven into the twenty-two ounce single serving (for them) bottles!" This reporter put that very question of what they wanted and all the disaffected beer rioters would answer was "More Bigfoot! Lots more!"

Perhaps it is that last statement that gives suburban citizens hope for a peaceful future. Sierra Nevada's famous barleywine is due to arrive in stores in January. The only questions are: Will there be enough, will it be in time and will any stores be left to distribute it?

you chose to consider this position in the future, your responsibilities will be to take good notes about what you saw, heard and tasted at the meeting (Or at least be imaginative!). What's more, you have to remain somewhat sober and, harder yet, not lose the notes that you did take! (This was always a challenge for me.) Try to get around and meet people [especially new members or guests (remember today's guests could be future Dixie Cup or Bluebonnet winners.))] In addition, should the Secondary be unable to attend a meeting you might have to fill in as temporary Secondary. I did this a couple of times for Rob and even though I got a couple of less than exciting months (wheat and bock), I had a fun time organizing and accumulating the beers. I look forward to doing it full time next year! I can in no way hope to equal the humor of Rob or Steve Moore Secondary article or the scholarship and expertise of Mike or Kuyler Doyle. I hope in my articles to do a bit of both. I will try to brew some of the less available styles, share my recipes, describe the brewing session, and bring samples of them to meetings. However, for our Beer of the Month to continue to offer the best selection of beer this side of the Atlantic, I need folks to

keep their eyes open when they travel for beers not available in Texas. If you wish to be compensated by the club, please don't buy more than a six-pack or two (or three to five 22 oz. bombers or grand crus) without first consulting a club officer. Our budget is limited! If you wish to donate the beer (and have our eternal gratitude) buy as much as you wish and can carry or ship home. Also please bring your homebrew. We ARE a homebrew club after all. It's better if it goes with the style of the month but even if it does not, bring it! I have always

received praise or at least constructive feedback for the homebrewed beers I have brought. If you do plan on bringing beers, either commercial or homebrewed ones, please let me know as soon as possible so I can give you credit and include your contribution in my secondary article or at least in the BOM list for the meeting. If you can't do so in time, please still bring the brew to the meeting and we will get Sean to mention you in his Scrivener notes. In addition we plan on keeping the BOM's in the same order as they were last year. However, we will make an addition or two to include more beer styles in some of the weaker months. Feel free to e-mail any suggestions to make the BOM better next year. You can reach me at Bob.Daugherty@gmail.com or by phone at 281-485-0612. Thanks for your past help and in advance for your help next year.

Our next meeting will be our yearly Christmas Party held on December 11th at St. Arnold's at 12 Noon until 4:00 p.m. If you plan on attending, please bring a food or dessert dishes and a toy to donate and maybe some nice beers of your own to sample outside the brewery to complement the fine St. Arnold's products we will be enjoying inside.

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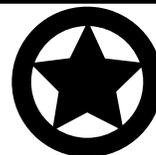


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