



THE FOAM RANGERS

Brewsletter Urquell

May 2017 / Volume 37, Issue: 5

EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT!!!

The only thing this brewsletter has extra of is filler. This month we made certain that each and every page was nothing but filler. **"FILLER?! I HARDLY KNOW HER!"** is what one might say during times like these. Well, go ahead, indulge in all the filler you hardly know. You'll hardly know more after you're done.

Upcoming Events

- June 4 / First Sunday & Officer Meeting @ Holler Brewing (2206 Edwards St)
- June 10 / Brew-in @ DeFalco's
- June 16 / Club Meeting @ DeFalco's (Wheat, Cider, Mead)

Things to look forward to in next month's brewsletter:

- New jokes...NOT!
- Articles (if you can call them that)
- Pictures of beer (not nearly as good as pitchers of beer)
- NOTHING (and that's a promise)

Hey! Foam Rangers!
We are currently **IN THE LEAD**
for the Lone Star Cup!!
Brew Brew Brew

Bottle Bottle Bottle

Aware		KGB Big Batch Brew Bash 22	Awards 21-May
Aware		Alamo City Cerveza Fest 12	Drop off deadline TONIGHT 19-May Awards Ceremony 24-June
Atari!		Austin Zealots Homebrew Inquisition 14	Only 6 weekends left to brew! Registration opens 25-June and closes again 9-July
Atari!		Cane Island Ales Operation Fermentation 4	Only 4 weekends left to brew! Registration opens 1-June and closes again 21-June





Out (of) The Wazoo

Janine (J9) Weber, Grand Wazoo

Hey all you Foamies! Competition season is in full swing and the Foam Rangers are KILLING IT!! As of last weekend, The Houston Foam Rangers are FIRST in points toward the Lone Star Cup thanks in large part the brewing efforts and supreme skill of Kyle Autry and Eric Heinz, Jeff Reilly, Hank Keller, and Robert Brown – these guys have been taking home loads of medals, steins and accolades. But that's not all! New brewers and re-started brewers are also pulling in the points: Denise Whitney, Nick Handel, and Phil Verdieck to name a few. Then there are some of us who just keep at it: Will Holobowitz, Jimmy Paige, and me. (Don't be mad at me if I didn't name you – it's not on purpose!) Brewing is what we're about, after all.

We might actually win back that Lone Star Cup if we keep sending entries in to the qualifying events. Coming up soon is the Austin Zealot Inquisition: Deadline to enter for 2017: July 9. Go to the Inquisition OpenBrewComp website to enter. They have strange non-BJCP categories which drives a lot of us crazy, including myself. But I'm thinking about it a bit different these days.... Their competition style is a lot like how competitions worked in the Netherlands when I was living there. You just have to think about the beer in a different way and don't expect precise feedback about the style. Act like it's just a stupid high school popularity contest and don't worry too much. It's still \$8 per entry, but you only have to send two bottles, and we will undoubtedly win some important points towards the Lone Star Cup. Their special style this year is New England IPA (shocker). You have a month to brew something crazy that'll get their attention. You can do it!!

Yay to Scott DeWalt for FINALLY getting a contract from the Crown Plaza Hotel!! Dixie Cup is ON. The date had to be shifted because the management at the hotel flubbed it up big time.

Dates: October 26, 27 and 28, 2017

Theme: The Dixie Cup at Sleepy Hollow! (see what we did there?)

The Beer and the Special Category: Something pumpkin this way comes

The hotel will not allow a potluck this year – DANG! We will adjust the schedule to accommodate. Please reach down into your pocket, pet your privates, then raise your hand to f*&^king volunteer! We need all the help we can get. Looks like we'll be getting some assistance from CIAlers, KGBers and maybe even some Barley Coherent types, but we are still in need of a Head Judge, Head Steward, and an experienced Cellar Man (person) to back up Mike B.

OK, that's enough from me. Cheers y'all!

Janine, Grand Wazoo of the Foam Rangers 2017

Update on scalded brew dog: Gretchen is doing great. Her fur has grown back over the shaved part of her back and new hair is growing on the scar. She is in top form, running around the backyard barking at everything and nothing, and occasionally nipping a visiting brew buddy. She's keeping a good distance from the brewing equipment and we are being more deliberately safe about brewing.



@ Lunar Rendezbrew



Kyle Autry won Lunar Rendezbrew



Waz and Secondary checking out other clubs...

Foam Rangers Officer Meeting

Minutes by Mike Reed, Scrivener

May 7, 2017 @ Eureka Heights Brewing Company

In attendance: Janine Weber, Phil Verdieck, Denise Whitney, Luke Whitney, Mike Reed

Big bicycle rally ending at Eureka Heights, the place was packed.

- Meeting began with discussion around the storage shed. Janine sent a PDF to manager verifying our non-profit status and asked about an extension of the 4-month discount on the cost. She mentioned we do get a free month, but a regular discount is still not decided.
- Denise updating spreadsheet with people who have paid at the meeting
- Discussion around a new Foam Ranger T-Shirt design to be revealed
- Bryce G, new member, volunteered to be Scrounger. GO BRYCE! Janine put him in touch with Paul Smith. Denise has Paul Smith's book of what he put together and can send it to Bryce. Janine will set up a meeting with him and Paul.
- Discussion getting more involved reaching out where we haven't been for donations to get greater-value donations.
- Discussion around Dixie Cup
 - At some point we will have to start spending money on Dixie Cup (hotel deposit, shirt bill, etc.)
 - Denise and Janine still need to get together and look at the Dixie Cup notebook
 - Check on other options on locations for the future in case there are issues with future scheduling the Crown Plaza. They are planning to remodel it next year. Looking for a discount on the hotel this year because they screwed around on the scheduling.
 - Discussion around greater valued prizes for Dixie Cup and club raffles. People spend more money if prizes are of greater value. Maybe have a separate Dixie Cup meeting just for scrounging.
 - Janine will send in the information to AHA so that it can get put into the magazine.
 - Discussion around pubcrawl and changing the Saturday format to get people back early so awards and raffle don't end up finishing up so late
 - Denise will meet with Sharon to discuss the handling of the registration table
 - Volunteers:
 - o Rebecca will do the Pot Luck if we have one
 - o Howard or Mike? for Cellar man
 - o Deborah R. for Registration table
 - o Still need Head Judge and Steward. Waz will ask experienced Foamies to step up.
 - Discussion around Mili-conferences topics and who to invite. Janine hopes to have speakers lined up by next month's meeting.
 - Discussion around Dixie Cup Theme. Decided to use a Halloween theme.
 - Discussion around Dixie Cup Beer (Pumpkin Beer)



Meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m. Outta here.

Beer of the Month

By Phil Verdieck (Secondary)

This months meeting is a celebration of malt. Yes folks, its bock time.

Historically it is reported bocks were first brewed in the area of Einbeck and later picked up by Munich brewers and lagered. Due to their Bavarian accent, citizens of Munich pronounced "Einbeck" as "ein Bock" ("a billy goat"), and thus the beer became known as "bock". Noone knows if any of those Bavarians with funny accents were sleeping with goats, or which goats and how often, or this is the origin for the legend of Pan.

Given their hearty malt nature high strength bocks are brewed by Bavarian monks as a source of nourishment when fasting.

Bocks can provide a complex malt profile at their best in doppelbock fashion. They can also be unmitigated hot murky disasters which taste like soy sauce, when people who claim they invented everything about beer get experimentive and are not dissuaded, restrained or tazed repeatedly until they desist.

According to Beer Info, the top 10 Bock Beers brewed in the US are the following:

1. Point St. Benedicts - Stevens Point Brewery - Wisconsin
2. Samuel Adams Double Bock - Samuel Adams Cincinnati Brewery - Ohio
3. Troegenator - Tröegs Brewing - Pennsylvania
4. Mele Mai Bock - Big Island Brewhaus - Hawaii
5. MaiBock - Capital Brewery - Wisconsin
6. Goat Rancher - SandLot - Colorado
7. Andygator - Abita Brewing - Louisiana
8. Uff-da - New Glarus Brewing - Wisconsin
9. Maibock - Bayern Brewing - Montana
10. Maibock - Morgan Street Brewing - Missouri

As Foam Rangers, we are fortunate in 2 respects.

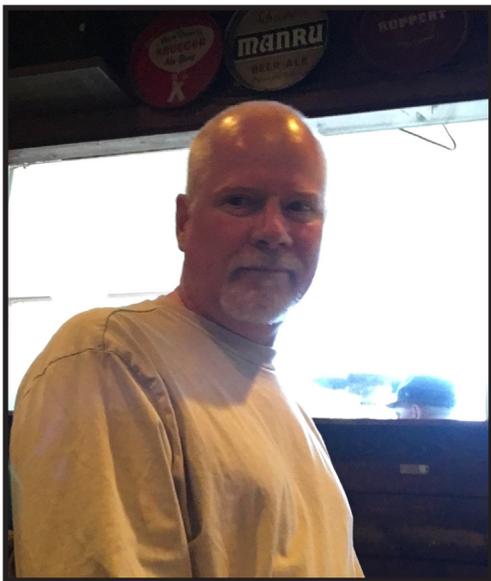
First, that Shiner Bock isnt on this list. Second, that one of our own has made the list!

We are also fortunate that one of the best bocks in the world, Schneider-Weisse Aventinus is available to us in regular and Eisbock strength. Also of note to those who are unaware, Schneider-Weisse has begun bringing out older bottles of Aventinus. There are 2010 and 2012 vintage available at Specs. I have seen it at Wesleyan and Downtown.



This Month in Foam Ranger History

Compiled by Bev Blackwood II



This month in Foam Ranger History

Compiled by Bev Blackwood II

Five years ago – May 2012

In The Brewsletter: Grand Wazoo Jaime gets all anal(ytical) about his brewing, although by the end of the article it's RDWAHAH as usual. Hello Kitty is revealed as the club's new corporate sponsor, Bev scrapes the bottom of the barrel while describing Bock and provides a recipe for a Maibock, The Hello Kitty theme is reprised in Jaime Ortiz's Scrivener column.

At The Meeting: In honor of the style of the month, a Goat Skull is added to the Hello Kitty beer cart along with an umbrella, for some reason. Many bocks are consumed and the Wee Waz flogs the upcoming Big Batch Brew Bash and a new order of the classic

FR T-shirts is also touted.

Other Events: National Homebrew Day was held behind DeFalco's.

Ten years ago – May 2007

In The Brewsletter: The April meeting date and time remain un-updated, suggesting extreme haste in its production. Photos from the MS150, National Homebrew Day at the old Saint Arnold brewery and an "Extreme Brewery Makeover" for Ed Moore's meager brewing setup catch the eye. Mike and T-Bob talk competitons, Storge goes to Pittsburgh and drinks beer, Scott expounds upon bocks and everyone is encouraged to drink more (to support the craft industry) by Brad Petit. Life In The Carboy features a formerly good yeast gone wild...

At The Meeting: Grand Wazoo T-Bob starts up a CafePress Foam Ranger store... It still exists! (<http://www.cafepress.com/+foam-rangers+gifts>) Randy Mosher and Steve Grossman (not Ken, but Steve) are announced as speakers for Dixie Cup.

Other Events: National Homebrew Day was held at Saint Arnold's old brewery location off of 290.

Fifteen years ago – May 2002

In The Brewsletter: You weren't aware that May is "Wear a Mash Tun on Your Head" month? Consider yourself informed! Wazoo Jimmy talks up the AHA Nationals. Kuyker talks up Bocks, Bev suggests you check your ego at the door when entering competitions and makes excuses for lousy judging. A beery word search puzzle appears on page 5, along with a Doppelbock recipe and a



History column that looks suspiciously like the 1997 section of this one. Emma Sarah Birdwell appears in the photo section, along with the usual drunks. There are also photos from National Homebrew Day. Bev fills a couple of pages with an account of his trip to London.

At The Meeting: Jimmy "Play Stairway" Paige is impeached (with the proviso that he perform all the duties and functions of the Grand Wazoo until the next sucke... er, Grand Wazoo is elected. A new round of badges arrive as well as Foam Ranger t-shirts. Steve Moore reminds us all that the AHA sucks and we're idiots for helping them out.

Other Events: National Homebrew Day was held at Saint Arnold's old brewery location off of 290, there were lots of "big rigs!"

Twenty years ago – May 1997

In The Brewsletter: There was one, but I don't have a copy... So thanks to Sean Lamb's careful research: Grand Wazoo Steve Moore recounts the history of Foam Rangers, telling of the founding by Adolphus Birdwell in 1765. 2ndary Steve Capo explains Bocks, suggests that the club "get our collective penises together and beat the bushes for new members"; and gives his list of top 10 least-loved Dopple-bocks, including "Expectorator" and "Castrator". The "What's on Tap" section listed the beers available from the 9 brewpubs in Harris and Galveston counties and from St. Arnold. Highlights: cask conditioned IPA at the Houston Brewery, IPA at Two Rows and Maibock at the the Village Brewery

At The Meeting: Twas' the night before Jennings (and apparently there was a crowd wanting to get an early start on their hangovers...) The club agreed to buy some chemicals for a Spectrophotometer that the club would have access to and Larry Mayhew brewed a beer that didn't suck. Some Bastard took over as Scrivener.

Other Events: None noted.

Twenty Five years ago – May 1992

In The Brewsletter: Suspiciously resembling a losing raffle ticket, a glance at the postmark is required to confirm this is indeed the Brewsletter I'm looking for. Grand Wazoo Lou Carannante talks up a trip to Celis Brewery being raffled off at the meeting, the upcoming Bayou Rendezvous and thanked the members who drove to Dallas to judge in the HWBTA Nationals. Several winning recipes for IPA and Pale Ale from the 1991 Dixie Cup are featured. A hilariously not to scale map to Jennings occupies a page.

At The Meeting: Held at the house of Tim Case and Donna Milton, everyone was impressed with Tim's brewery and how clean it was. It rained, but there was beer and brisket that helped to make up for the inclement weather. The Celis tour was postponed it seems and for some reason there was only lukewarm support to visit the AB plant instead.



HOUSTON
FOAM RANGERS
Est. 1981

May 2002

The Brewsletter Urquell

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE HOUSTON FOAM RANGERS HOMEBREW CLUB VOL. 22 - ISSUE 5

**AHA Declares May
Wear A Mash Tun On Your Head Month**

By Steve "Scoop" Moore

Boulder, CO—Abandoning previous efforts such as National Homebrew Day and Teach a Friend to Brew Day, the American Homebrewers Association has declared May to be Wear a Mash Tun on Your Head Month. "This is the new, in your face, X-treme AHA with an attitude! Those older PR campaigns were just preaching to the choir. We've got to be aggressive if we are going to continue to fund The Great and Mighty Charlie's extended intercontinental pub crawls and, you know, help out the homebrewers with whatever money is left over," said AHA director Paul Gatza.

The Charlie to whom he refers is Charlie Papazian, who founded the AHA and its various spin-offs which are collectively known as the Association of Brewers. After resigning as AHA President, he appointed himself "President for Life of the Association of Brewers". Later he also declared himself "Leader of (Stainless) Steer", "Implacable Apostle of Brewing" and "Mac Daddy of Homebrew". Though basically retired, Papazian draws the Association of Brewers' largest salary and spends much of his time on association-funded pub crawls.

According to AHA project coordinator Gary Glass, "Wear a Mash Tun on Your Head Month is the lynchpin of our efforts to reverse declining membership."
(Continued on page 10)



AHA Supporters in front of World Headquarters in Boulder

Out Of The Wazoo

By Jimmy Paige, Grand Wazoo

Wait, time for another installment of the Brewsletter. Sean and Steve continue to do an excellent job of beer journalism done the Foam Ranger way. Although Sean or Scott could have probably told me, I did a little research the other day on the Grand Wazoo. I like history and I wanted to see what www.google.com might have on it. All I have to say is whoever came up with the title must have been a long time Frank Zappa fan. Seems one of his albums from 1972 was titled The Grand Wazoo. Does anyone have a copy of this they could bring to the meeting?

May is upon us and it already seems like summer. By the time you read this we will have already had



**May Meeting
Friday,
the 17th
8 P.M**

Out Of The Wazoo

By Jimmy Paige, Grand Wazoo

First, I want to say Bev Blackwood did an outstanding job organizing the AHA contest and with the help of homebrew friends he has made all over Texas and Louisiana. He ran a very smooth judging session. It is hard to believe we even hosted the event because there was no panic, no arm twisting, no whining, ok scratch that part. The Putz did do his share. Bev and the Foam Rangers received tremendous praise for the event, now let us see if the AHA duplicates! Thanks Bev and everyone else who came out to Saint Arnold's to judge and steward. Special thanks to Brock Wagner coming to our rescue and the AHA's. Mark Muckleroy, your brisket was outstanding on Sunday as usual.

We did our part to support homebrewing with this
(Continued on page 2)

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Other Events: Bayou Rendezvous (aka: Jennings, LaTex) took place on May 30th, many crawfish gave their lives for the event, which also featured a bus tour of greater Jennings hosted by the Mayor and many beer related games.

Thirty years ago – May 1987

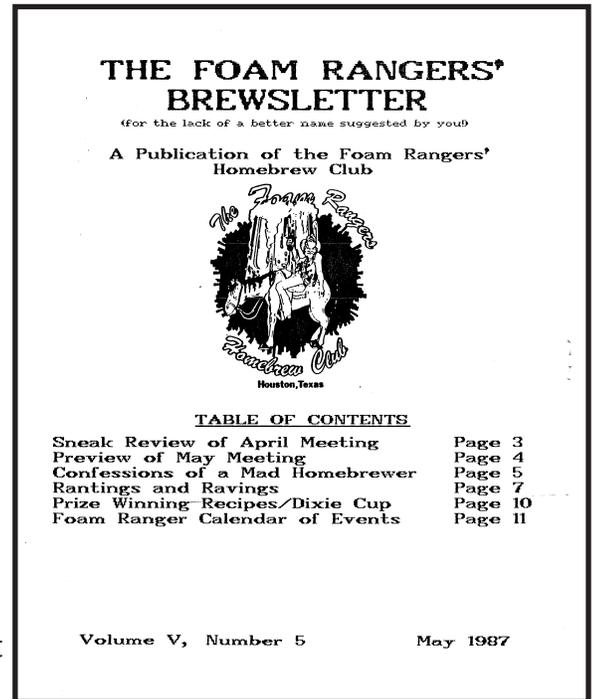
In The Brewsletter: Future Foam Ranger Andy Thomas is complimented for organizing the Eastern Homebrewers Alliance convention in New Orleans. "About 8" Foam Rangers attended... It's not made clear whether the fractional Foamie was over or under $\frac{1}{2}$ a person. Cary Jensen writes about the trials of moving his homebrew (and homebrewing equipment) from house to house. DeFalco's closes (oh, that was just a joke, apparently) and... The club has no money, needs Dixie Cup volunteers, needs food for the meeting, has leftover t-shirts for sale and a bunch of members still hadn't paid their fucking dues! (Wow, that sounds familiar...) A recipe for a Bock (and a caution about using R.O. water) is included.

At The Meeting: Held at the Gingerman, a stunning 4 real Bocks were offered up as the Beer of the Month and Shiner Bock was ridiculed. The "bottom of the barrel" myth was yet again debunked.

Other Events: None noted.

Thirty five years ago – May 1982

Lost in the mists of time!





**I WANT TO BE SOMEBODY IN PARTICULAR!
SIGN ME UP TO BECOME A MEMBER OF
THE FOAM RANGERS HOMEBREW CLUB!**



NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

MEMBER E-MAIL _____

2ND MEMBER E-MAIL _____ **PHONE** _____

AMOUNT PAID _____ NEW RENEWAL CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Membership Renewal: \$35.00 Individual / \$45.00 Family (Member +1)

Paid between October 31 and December 31 \$30.00 / \$40.00 (Pay early and save!)

New Member Fees: (per year)

Paid between January 1 & June 30 \$35.00 / \$45.00

Paid between July 1 & October 31 \$25.00 / \$35.00 (Includes Dixie Cup!)

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:

Detach & Keep!

Welcome to the Foam Rangers! Now get connected!

We have two E-mail lists:

The **Foam Rangers Discussion List** & the **Foam Rangers Announce List**.

What's the difference?

The **Foam Rangers Discussion** list is where people can interact and reply to the posts of other Foam Ranger list members. The **Foam Rangers Announce** list is where the Grand Wazoo posts club announcements and is **not** a discussion list. Anything posted to the Announce list will also be posted to the Discussion list, so you don't have to subscribe to both.

To subscribe to the **Discussion** list, send an e-mail to:

foam-rangers-join@foamrangers.com



The Foam Rangers

To subscribe to the **Announcement** list, send an e-mail to:



foam-rangers-announce-join@foamrangers.com

You will receive a reply from the server with instructions for confirming your subscription.. Follow the instructions to complete the subscription process.

Once you have successfully subscribed, you will receive a reply with the list guidelines as well as instructions for unsubscribing.