



THE FOAM RANGERS

Brewsletter Urquell

September 2017 / Volume 37, Issue: 8

DIXIE CUP IS COMING!

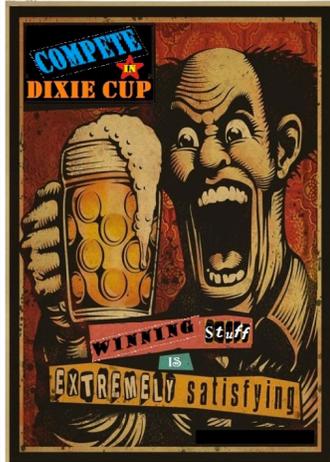
The following are the dates and times for the Dixie Cup sorting and judging session. Please attend as many sessions as possible! Remember, Dixie Cup does not happen without the whole club pitching in. So come on out and let's make this another great year for Dixie Cup! *wink and blowing kiss emoji*

- September 23 / Dixie Cup Sorting #1 & Early Registration Deadline / 2000 Lyons Ave
- September 30 / Dixie Cup Sorting #2 & Final Registration Deadline / 2000 Lyons Ave
- October 1 / Dixie Cup Judging Session #1 / 2000 Lyons Ave
- October 3 / Dixie Cup Judging Session #2 / 2000 Lyons Ave
- October 8 / Dixie Cup Judging Session #3 / 2000 Lyons Ave
- October 10 / Dixie Cup Judging Session #4 / 2000 Lyons Ave
- October 15 / Dixie Cup Judging Session #5 / 2000 Lyons Ave
- October 17 / Dixie Cup Judging Session #6 / 2000 Lyons Ave
- October 22 / Dixie Cup Judging Session #7 / 2000 Lyons Ave
- October 24 / Dixie Cup Judging Session #8 / 2000 Lyons Ave
- October 26 / Dixie Cup XXXIV Reception / 9223 Stella Link Rd (DeFalco's)
- October 27 / Dixie Cup XXXIV Main Event / 2801 Northwest Freeway (Crowne Plaza Northwest)
- *Main Event = Barley Wine Breakfast, Milli-Conference, Judging, Pub Crawl, Awards Ceremony
- October 28 / Dixie Cup XXXIV Cleanup / 2801 Northwest Freeway (Crowne Plaza Northwest)

Please book your rooms at Crowne Plaza ASAP. Our room rate is \$82/night. We have a room quota that is really important for the club to meet, so it is VERY important that you let the hotel know that you are with the Foam Rangers when booking your room. There are two ways to do this:

1. Call 713-462-9977 to make your reservation, and tell them that you are with the Foam Rangers group
2. Book online (<https://www.ihg.com/crowneplaza/hotels/us/en/houston/houppn/hoteldetail>) and enter the code FMR into the Group Code box

Doing so will ensure you get the club's negotiated room rate of \$82.00 per night and helps us meet our quota.



BREW BREW BREW

BOTTLE BOTTLE BOTTLE

Aware	 Ozapft Is!	Awards ceremony 7-Oct
Achtung!	 Texas Mead Cup	Drop off deadline 8-Sept (at De Falcos) Awards ceremony 23-Sept
Atari!	 Dixie Cup	Entry period now open! Drop off deadline 23-Sept Event held from Oct 26-28 Judges needed!



Out (of) The Wazoo

Janine (J9) Weber, Grand Wazoo

The Wazoo Speaks... September

Coming Up: Dixie Cup. The most important news this month is upcoming Dixie Cup Dixie Cup Dixie Cup! This is the big event of the year. When I first joined, it took me a while to understand what Dixie Cup means for the club, but once it was explained to me I have made it a top priority for me every year, helping out with sorting, judging and managing events at the hotel. This is why Dixie Cup is so cool and why you should be part of it this year:

- This will be the 34th Dixie Cup, that makes it one of the oldest continuously held homebrew competitions in the whole country, so we have HISTORY.
- The Dixie Cup is the major fund-raising event for the club. Revenue from the entries is what supports our club for a whole year, paying for monthly beers, club insurance, storage space for our team gear, and all the other things that make our club's existence possible.
- Donations for the D-Cup make it possible to have a raffle that sucks (in a good way) and the leftovers get raffled off later at meetings.
- Ticket sales for the D-Cup raffle also go to support us all year long.
- Our club hosts the final event of a year-long quest for points by brewers and clubs: the Lonestar Circuit.

None of this stuff can happen without volunteer efforts from all our members as well as from members of other local club (yes, they usually help too). There are many ways to volunteer:

- Help out at the two sorting events where we unpack boxes of beers to check them in and place them in medal category boxes.
- Be a judge – you don't need to be BJCP certified. If you have some training, you'll be paired with a certified judge. There are many opportunities for judging.
- Be a steward – if you don't feel qualified to judge, help the judges by bringing them beers from
- Assist the Head Judge, Sean Lamb, as a data entry person.
- Be the Head Steward – organizes all the stewards who bring beer entries to the tables for the judges and helps the Head Judge prepare the beers for the Best of Show judging.
- Be the in-house pub crawl director – figure out where the participating breweries will put their jockey boxes and help them get set-up.
- Sign people in at the start of the event, hand out t-shirts, glassware and programs.
- Help at the raffle by selling tickets and handing out prizes.
- Help clean up after the event.

Ask any of the officers or old-fart members about any of these duties if you want to know more. We want your help, we NEED your help! And it's fun and there's sooooo much beeeeer!

The Brew-In last Saturday was very nice (for a change) – the weather was delightful, so lovely that it seems everyone was out enjoying it without a thought to homebrewing, that is, all except the new guys Ryann and Steve. These new members watched and helped Secondary Phil brew up a New England IPA on the DeFalco's "back patio" for the larger part of the day, learning how to unstick a sparge and how to load up a crap-load of hops into a hop spider. Welcome to Ryann and Steve! And

that IPA is merrily fermenting.

Harvey Harvey Harvey! Houston's very own hurricane. Thanks to everyone who turned out weekend before last to help Foamies Sean and Nena get their house a little closer to being cleared out after the flood. Other Foam Ranger flood victims include Scrivener Mike Reed and his wife Deborah, and Howard Rushing. These are all that I know of. If you've been flooded and could use some beer-powered brute force with hammers and crow-bars, let the Wazoo know and I'll try to round up a work party for you.



Cheers and Peace and Love and Beer!! ---J9 Weber, Grand Wazoo of the Foam Rangers 2017

Beer of the Month

By Phil Verdieck (Secondary)

This months beer style is Oktoberfest. The tradition of Oktoberfest stretches back to 1810. The tradition of drunken Germans stretches back millenia.

To celebrate the wedding of Crown Prince Ludwig to Princess Therese of Saxony-Hildburghausen, the citizens of Munich were invited to attend the festivities held on the fields in front of the city gates. The fields have been named Theresienwiese ("Theresa's fields") in honor of the Crown Princess ever since, although the locals have since abbreviated the name simply to the "Wies'n". This demonstrates the Teutonic tendency towards terseness as well as their disregard for loyalty, the combination of both into one demonstates another characteristic, efficiency.



Horse races in the presence of the Royal Family marked the close of the event that was celebrated as a festival for the whole of Bavaria. The decision to repeat the horse races in the subsequent years served as cover for drunken revelry.

In the first few decades the choice of amusements was sparse. But if you were drunk, you didnt care. There are stories that most common drinking games today were first invented during the Oktoberfest. The first carousel and two swings were set up in 1818. Visitors were able to quench their thirst at small beer stands which grew rapidly in number. In 1896 the beer stands were replaced by the first beer tents and halls set up by enterprising landlords with the backing of the breweries.

This year will be the 184th Oktoberfest. It is the largest festival in the world, with some 6 million visitors from all around the world attending. In 2015 it is estimated 5.9 million people drank 7.7 million liters. This sounds wrong. This would indicate there is a majority of

Upcoming Events

- September 23 / Dixie Cup Early Registrattion Deadline
- September 30 / Dixie Cup Final Registration Deadline
- October 8 / First Sunday & Officer Meeting @ Saint Arnold Brewing Co.
- October 26-28 / Dixie Cup @ Crown Plaza NW
- November 4 / Learn to Homebrew Day @ DeFalco's
- November 5 / First Sunday & Officer Meeting @ City Acre (3418 Topping St.)
- November 11 / Brew-In @ DeFalco's
- November 17 / Club Meeting @ Elections @ DeFalco's (IPA & Amber)

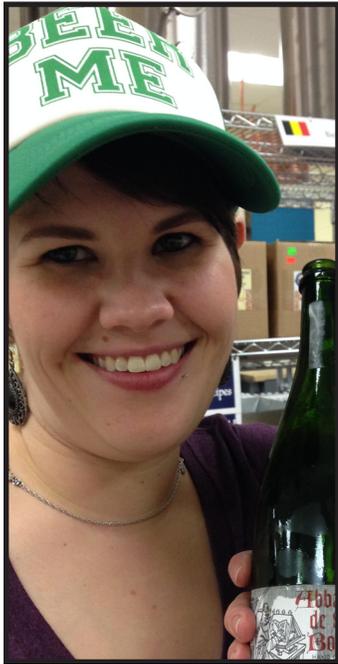
featherweights attending who are just there taking up space. Your average crew of Foamies could easily distort those numbers.

The Oktoberfest is still held on the Theresienwiese, so the locals still refer to the event simply as the "Wies'n". So "welcome to the Wies'n" means nothing other than "welcome to the Oktoberfest"!

Foam Rangers Officer Meeting

Minutes by Denise Whitney, Purser/Substitute Scrivener

September 4, 2017 @ Petrol Station



September First ~~Sunday~~ MONDAY Officers Meeting

Well, thanks to our visitor Harvey, the First Sunday meeting was moved to Monday this week, to allow extra clean up time for the Lambs, and for others in our homebrew community to get out and help them. We instead met on Labor Day, which proved to be a tad more challenging than expected. Location 1: Oops, it's closed Monday! Location 2: After multiple confirmations they would be open on Monday, that turned out to be not so true, which we learned T-minus 1 hour to meeting. Location 3: Skip the brewery and hit up Petrol Station, because well, they were OPEN, and you really can't beat \$3 on all beers. Just sayin'. Also no thanks to Harvey, our Scrivener Mike was absent, as he was also dealing with water in his home.

In attendance at the lovely Petrol back patio meeting was Grand Wazoo Janine Weber, Secondary Phil Verdieck, Purser Denise Whitney, Competition Coordinator Nick Handel, and 2017 Dixie Cup Head Judge Sean Lamb.

The club business end of the meeting was rather lean, as most of the conversation was driven toward Dixie Cup action needed that does not need to be recapped in detail here.

First Business topic: MONEY

- We are at that time of year where money feels very tight. We discussed that this should be alleviated soon, as entries for Dixie Cup should start pouring in the following day, Tuesday 9/5 as registration opens. In the mean-time, there will be charges coming in soon for the payment of t-shirts and medals (possibly 50% payment up front).
- Reimbursements pending: Paul Porter for August beer, as he filled in for Phil. Denise needs receipts from Paul to reimburse. Reimbursement owed to Denise for \$248 for club insurance fees that were put on a personal credit card in this tight money window of the year.

Second Business topic: SEPTEMBER EVENTS

- Brew In: Phil signed up for the Brew in that took place Saturday 9/9.
- September meeting: Oktoberfests & Smoked beers. Insert: Some discussion of good Oktoberfests to include in the line-up, with most recommendations coming courtesy of Nick H.
- Denise is on Vacation through 9/15 and may or may not make it to the September club meeting. She will know better ON 9/15 due to flying standby, and will notify Janine if club money stuffs need to be covered in the Purser's absence.

Remaining Chatter: Dixie Cup – all very important conversation that will not be 100% recapped in this forum. A few notes:

- Registration is opening Tuesday; Rich Goeggel has stepped back in to help get this running smoothly
- We should expect to start putting out money for deposits and payments of event necessities
- We are in need of a projector to use for the event – does anyone have one? Sean Lamb's was lost in the flood damage in his home.
- Due to heavier costs at the hotel and strict limits on us bringing our own food in, we decided to have the Thursday night opening reception at DeFalco's rather than Crowne Plaza. This will save the club some

money and give us more liberty to have the type of event we want.

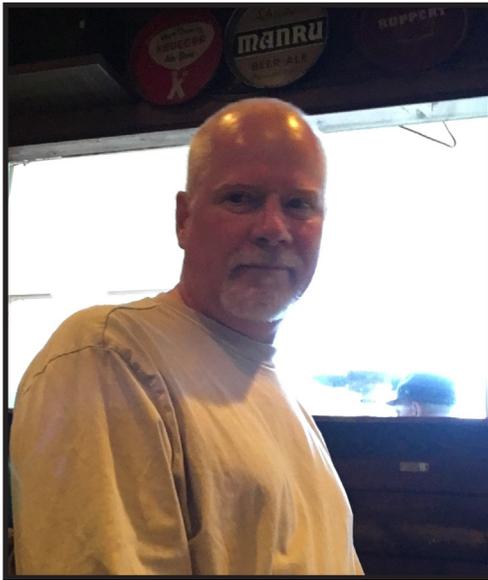
- Events for Sorting, Judging, and Dixie Cup are now listed on Facebook, so if you're a Facebook user please see the Foam Rangers events and make plans to join the fun (and work!)

And as I'm again the Purser subbing for the Scrivener, I'll use this remaining line to make a financial plug: Please Please Please pay your dues. You know who you are.

Signed,
Denise Whitney
Purser & Scrivener Substitutue

This Month in Foam Ranger History

Compiled by Bev Blackwood II



Five years ago – September 2012

In The Brewsletter: It's pretty much all Dixie Cup, all the time, with every column referring to the upcoming Beermageddon extravaganza. Wee Waz Jaime extols the mega-brew-in hosted by Jeff Reilly to prepare for Dixie Cup (there's a picture in the photos section) and talks about the downright oily wet-hop IPA he and Was-Waz Kyle brewed together at the September Brew-in. Secondary Bev gives a brief history lesson on Oktoberfest and offers up an award-winning recipe for anyone who needs it. Competition coordinator David Rogers updates the point totals for the Lone Star Circuit and urges everyone to enter early and often.

At The Meeting: Derived from careful analysis of photos in the November Brewsletter, there was a meeting. Held at DeFalco's on Stella Link (the current one) it can be safely assumed it was a sausage fest (no seriously, there was sausage served by Food God Eric) and there was a raffle, which clearly sucked. Everyone got tired of hearing about the Dixie Cup, getting your room for the Dixie Cup, and being sure to show up at Saint Arnold the next day to start sorting entries for Dixie Cup. It's a pretty safe bet we had an early night because, Dixie Cup. Secondary DeWalt writes the first chapter of "Oktoberfest For Dummies". The Doakenator holds forth on the August meeting and Competition Coordinator Beeriac catches us up on our point totals.

Other Events: Brewsletter Editor Emil Campos gets his plate in the "Ring of honor" at the downtown Flying Saucer. For all I know, it's still there (apparently near the bathrooms, with Sean's.)

Ten years ago – September 2007

In The Brewsletter: Covered in malt and weighing in at a digitally published 11 pages (try printing THAT...) The Brewsletter is dominated by exhortations to get ready for Dixie Cup, but a few other things made it in. Wazoo T-Bob says farewell to noted beer writer Michael Jackson and a photo of Jackson with Scott Birdwell appears on page 10, he also wishes former Wazoo and cat collector Ed Moore (E-Mo) a



fond farewell as he departs for Denver, Colorado. (Where he remains to this day!)

At The Meeting: Held at DeFalco's on Stella Link (the old one), the events of the meeting are once again derived from photographic evidence in the November 2007 Brewsletter. Sandy brought a tiny brown dog, there was beer (presumably Oktoberfest) Rob, Kuyler, Steve, T-Bob, Jimmy and Bennie were there too. Beerbo tried to kiss Rob. It appeared to be lightly attended. How bad the raffle sucked was unclear from the photos, but since there's no swag on display, one may assume it sucked pretty badly.

Other Events: None noted.

Fifteen years ago – September 2002

In The Brewsletter: That article on page 10 about CAMRA and the Goddess Ninkasi? That's a real news article! Otherwise, we're treated to the classic tale of the Foam Rangers demanding the city build them a stadium for Dixie Cup or we'd leave... Probably for Portland, since that's where so much of our club seemed to be headed. The Wazoo column is largely faked, the Competition column is all about Dixie Cup, the Secondary column is all about Oktoberfests (and Dixie Cup). There's some truly fun photos of August's pool party AND the Austin pub crawl.

At The Meeting: One may assume that there WAS a meeting, that there were Oktoberfests and German dark lagers consumed, it was probably at DeFalco's on Stella Link (the old one), but sadly there are no actual records of the meeting in the Brewsletters of the day.

Other Events: Bev Blackwood (forever known afterwards as "Skirt Boy") Is the Houston Press' "People's Choice" award winner for Best Drag Queen after a hastily organized write-in campaign.

Twenty years ago – September 1997

In The Brewsletter: Actually one of the better Brewsletters of this era. Wazoo Steve Moore (The aforementioned "Putz" of the long lost 2002 article.) and several Foam Rangers toddle off to New Orleans and a trip report of the various breweries they visit makes for good reading. Editor Charles Vallhonrat interviews homebrew shop owner Scott Birdwell, an enlightening read. The Putz is further glorified with a Dr. Seuss inspired piece from Charles & Steve. An article of apocryphal drinking lore is offered and there's a bunch of commentary about an S&M Dixie Cup to be held the following month. Jim Johnson is not enrolled in another homebrew club for some reason, probably a lack of funding.

At The Meeting: Location uncertain, but assumed to be the Oddfellows Lodge. The bulk of the meeting revolved around Dixie Cup planning and preparation according to the few notes available.

Other Events: Unclear whether it was a part of the September meeting or not, but about this time the foundations of the Masters Championship of Amateur Brewing are established and are detailed in the . The Foam Rangers hosted the First and Tenth MCAB competitions... Anyone up to host the Twentieth?



In The Brewsletter: What appears to be Gomez Addams in Oktoberfest garb graces the cover. The chief feature is a reprint of an article from the Houston Press which exposes the hypocrisy of the fabled "Marine Mammal Park Exemption" that enabled Anheuser-Busch to sell its own beer at Sea World San Antonio, bypassing Texas' three tier system. There's a lot of Dixie Cup talk, amazingly enough, and an award winning Oktoberfest recipe from the 1991 Dixie Cup.

At The Meeting: Held at stately Moore manor on Wildwood, Steve's indoor homebrew taps attract admiration. Dixie Cup was the primary topic of the actual meeting and Oktoberfest was the beer of the month. There was also some discussion of a Halloween pub crawl and a trip to the Texas Renaissance Festival.

Other Events: None noted.

Thirty years ago – September 1987

In The Brewsletter: A combination September / October edition, back in the day when there was still an October meeting AND Dixie Cup the next day(!). Dr. Strangebrew addresses the exotic practice of dry hopping, Yet another Brewsletter Editor resigns, a summary of Dixie Cup tasks and even a budget(!) is listed. Three recipes are offered as well a review of the Labor Day pre-Dixie Cup brew-in, where 4 batches of beer was brewed.

At The Meeting: Held at DeFalco's in the Rice Village due to inclement weather preventing the usual gathering outside at The Gingerman. Sadly, the promised recap to be offered in the November Brewsletter was not forthcoming, but this much is known. The meeting was very Dixie Cup centric (as all September meetings are), the style of the month was "weird beers" which apparently included a selection of African lagers.

Other Events: A Foam Rangers garage sale was held, wherein all proceeds of donated equipment, gizmos, breweriana, etc. went to fill the club's coffers before Dixie Cup drained them. What a great idea!

Thirty five years ago – September 1982

The Pre-Brewsletter era...



**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:



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:



@FoamRangers

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.