



THE FOAM RANGERS

Brewsletter Urquell

November 2017 / Volume 37, Issue: 9

DIXIE CUP IS NOW BEHIND US AND IT IS
TIME FOR THE 2018 OFFICER ELECTIONS!!!

Think you got what it takes to be an officer?! (a pulse is preferred, but not mandatory)

Well step on up and throw your name in the running for something...anything...**PLEASE!!!**

*****SPOILER ALERT***** There's already a DC Coordinator signed on for next year!
His or her name rhymes with Bank Teller. Find out how wrong your guess is on page 2.

**NOW LETS GET
OUT THERE AND
IMPEACH A
WAZ!!!**

Upcoming Events

- December 3 / First Sunday & Officer Meeting @ Underr The Radar Brewing (1506 Truxillo St)
- December 9 / Brew-In @ DeFalco's



Out (of) The Wazoo

Janine (J9) Weber, Grand Wazoo

Hey all you Foamies! (said while mimicking the Cookie Monster)
Have you recovered from Dixie Cup yet? Me neither! This is going to be short cuz I'm running on fumes – in terms of my term as Grand Wazoo! This is it folks, tonight y'all will impeach me and then it'll be up to someone else to stand up and ask to be nominated for Wazoo. Then you vote him / her in and off I go... Woo Hoo!

Hey, WTF! We all f*'n ROCKED at Dixie Cup! Lots of brewing and lots of GOOD brewing. A big shout out to Jeff Reilly who totally knocked it out of the park with his amazing meads and beers, but also for a bunch of us regular brewers who entered many many beers and managed to grab a small bundle of medals. It takes all of us to get the point tally to the top – and we did it! THANK YOU ALL!!!

Yeah, I could go on all night with thank you's. And I will (in person). Just know that every single person who helped at Dixie Cup did a bang-up job and helped to make it an epic adventure. Sure, not everything went as planned, but we got the medals handed out and folks went home happy. Super-giant and special thanks to Bryce Gorman for being our scrounger Supreme. Because of him we have boxes and boxes of cool shit to raffle off tonight and for months to come. As one of the "new guys" he really went above and beyond. I hope he sticks around for a long time so that we can share our amazing homebrew with him.

Next year will be even better because Hank Keller has stepped up to be D-Cup Coordinator. YAY!!!! We will be doing it in a new venue which will have a whole new set of challenges and I hope you all start thinking about how you can contribute to making it a bigger success than this year's Cup. If anyone knows of a good venue with an adjacent hotel, let Rebecca Weitzenhoffer (or one of the officers) know, so we can follow up.

About brewing.....The Bluebonnet is coming up. Don't forget about it (like I do almost every year). Brew now, during the cool days so that you'll be ready to enter some excellent beers. If we get our shit together early enough, we can carpool north to Dallas as a team to give those guys a scare! It's an amazing weekend event. Entries are due in the second half of January and the event is at the end of March. Start planning now. If you have a bunch of beers ready, it'll set you up for all the subsequent competitions through the early part of the year. Think of the medals! And maybe a Best of Show!!!

Brew early, brew often. If you want to learn more about brewing, show the fuck up at the Brew-Ins. You'll get hands-on experience and have a great time. If you want to learn more about brewing, subscribe to the magazines. I like Zymurgy (free with an AHA membership) and Brew Your Own. And BREW! And share your homebrew! And pay your freekin' dues!!!

Cheers y'all!

J9, Wazoo of the Foam Rangers 2017

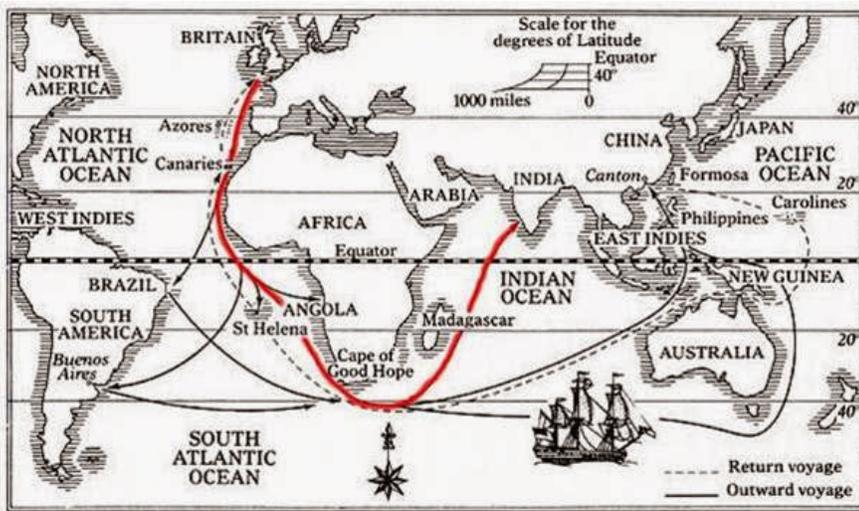
Beer of the Month

By Phil Verdieck (Secondary)

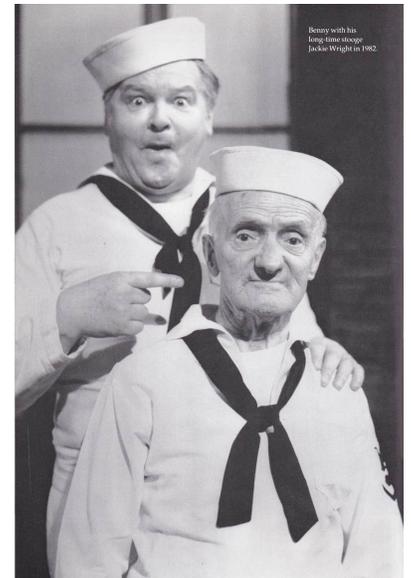
IPA.

Ah IPA. Glorious hops. Resiny, Citrusy, Fruity, Bitter, just plain awesome. The lovely singe of bitterness and flavor that says "I am alive! I appreciate a kick in the taste buds! I am addicted and there is no hope for me!" Its what we love and it has nothing to do with the original style.

History tells us the British had to hop the shit out of there Pale Ales to survive the 6 month trip to India. When you consider the journey back then, around the Cape of Gool Hope, its a wonder half the product wasn't consumed on the final leg of the journey.



I dont want to reproduce this to find a good IPA



Royal Navy Sailors on shore leave in US after their first American IPA

The original British IPA's last surviving example, Bass, is closer to what we consider an amber. Be that as it may, the allure of IPA has remained undiminished through the ages to those with a pulse, who have a fraction of properly functioning taste buds. It is a style that the unwashed masses are truly incapable of properly appreciating, much less consuming without running away in fear all the way home to mommy's arms in tears whilst soiling themselves.

But to those of us with a palate for hops, those of us who appreciate flavor, those of us with a finely honed palate, a great IPA or I2PA or Double IPA or Imperial IPA or Triple IPA is a Holy Grail. It is worth travelling far distances. It is worth waiting in queues and trading for to acquire this holy nectar. We will go to the ends of the Earth, and in some cases farther.

If one sits back and considers, I don't believe there is a beer style that can showcase such a wide variety of flavor as an IPA. While the style doesn't showcase the full variety of malt range that other beers do (roast/dark malts/dark fruits/chocolate/toffee/coffee/etc.), there is still an amount of malt variance and those other styles can't allow the wide range of varying hop flavors that IPA has. Since IPA is all about the hops, there is no example too extreme that won't qualify. And since the amount of malt can vary, sweeter examples are as acceptable as hop razors if we remain within the proper alcohol playground (and don't wet ourselves).



Crowd of IPA fans waiting for IPA delivery from England

IPAs have also displayed a spill over into other styles. We have seen the emergence of Imperial Pale Lagers (IPL) - aggressively hopped lagers. We have seen the wholesale and unabashed raping of the Pale Ale style with overly hopped examples. There are American Hopped Pilsners out now (Founder PC Pils). We have witnessed the oft failing and only occasionally palatable Belgian IPA category which in many cases resembles a yeast and hops dumpster fire more than a quaffable beer. Then there are Texas Browns, err Brown IPAs. Then there are QueefCadian IPAs, err Black IPAs. And there is still more. Red, Rye and White IPA. Style 21 of the BJCP guidelines has IPA and 6 subcategories under 21B Specialty IPA. I would be shocked if there weren't a couple of additions when the 2020+ guidelines come out.

We have taken and made the IPA style our own. It has exceeded our borders and is appreciated world wide. As they say, imitation is the sincerest form of flattery and the American IPA is now being imitated by its originators, across the pond.

Between 1940 and 1945, Totnes created a 600-person ship-building industry from the ground up, transforming the town's rubbish dump in the process. Mostly unskilled men and women learned to build 23 wooden-hulled minesweepers using local timber. J 672 cleared mines from the Bristol Channel and the Italian coast, saving countless lives.
Totnes Sea Power.

BRITISH SEA POWER

IPA

PACKED WITH 'C' POWER

Centennial, Columbus, Chinook and Cascade hops give this beer a beautiful aroma which jumps out of the bottle.

British Sea Power's live career has seen them play atop the Great Wall of China, at the CERN atom-research labs, aboard the Cutty Sark and beside the diplodocus skeleton at London's Natural History Museum. And, to top it all, 2016 sees them star at the Sea Change Festival in Totnes!
www.britishseapower.co.uk

NO 999

OF 1000 BOTTLES

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 BEST BEFORE

NEW LION BREWERY is a fast-growing craft brewery in Totnes, designed to support the economic resurgence of Totnes, innovation and entrepreneurship. We also brew awesome, award-winning and much loved beers.

500ml

Foam Rangers Officer Meeting

Minutes by Mike Reed, Scrivener

November 5, 2017 @ City Acre Brewing

In attendance:

Janine Weber, Denise Whitney, Phil Verdick, Luke Whitney, Hank Keller (and later Paul Smith and Mike Heniff)

City Acre: Nice little place tucked in a lived in neighborhood. Tried Mike Heniff's Baltic Porter.

Discussions:

- Meeting began with recap of Dixie Cup, what worked and what didn't
- November meeting and having a major raffle. Reminder by Denise that November meeting is elections as well
- Holiday party first Sunday in December at Eureka Heights. Discussion around funding it and inviting other clubs. Food is Pot Luck. Reiteration that holiday party is for introduction of officers and Toys for Tots.
- Discussion around handing over the reins and impeachment of the Waz which should take place at the November meeting. Need someone to step up because Janine is adamant that she get impeached. Also, we need a Secondary.
- More discussion about November meeting, elections and club by-laws, various positions and their responsibilities. Denise will send J9 an initial list of officer responsibilities and J9 will expand.
- Discussion around making the responsibilities known to everyone taking office
- Discussion around potential candidates for positions. Incumbents Denise Whitney, Mike Reed and Luke Whitney agreed to continue current roles.
- Discussion around Secondary and picking beers for the meetings. There are guidelines but Phil said, what's the fun in that? "Guidelines, we don't need no stink'n guidelines."
- Little bit more about Waz and the coming year being a little easier because we already have a Dixie Cup coordinator. Hat's off or beer mugs up to Hank for stepping up.
- Various discussions around declaring Janine unfit for Waz and Phil's excess Barley wine
- More discussion about Dixie Cup and exploring different options for hotels and what spaces we need for judging, other activities and what the other activities should be:

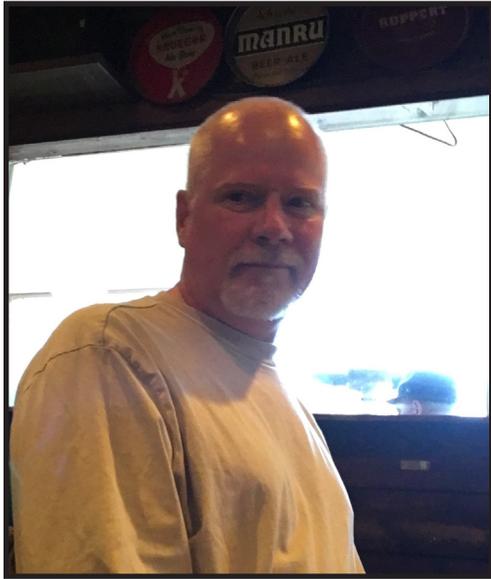


- Scott Dewalt is retired from spearheading the hotel search and Rebecca Weizenhoff volunteered to do it
- Buying fewer shirts and having other merchandise to sell like glasses
- What is the typical amount we start the year with?
- Increasing membership rates and a better tracking system
- Voted to have Brewsletter editor become a voting position. Vote was unanimous in favor. [editor's note: had I been allowed to vote before this vote took place, I would have strongly voted against the motion...]

Meeting adjourned at 3:11

This Month in Foam Ranger History

Compiled by Bev Blackwood II



Five years ago – November 2012

In The Brewsletter: The usual rounds of post-Dixie Cup pats on the back and attaboys are handed out, along with a lot of broken toilet humor. The Foam Rangers returned the Dixie Cup to its rightful place at DeFalco's and won the Lone Star Circuit Club of the Year in the bargain. A brief history of IPA and two recipes (including the first of two homebrew versions of Pliny the Elder shared publicly by Vinnie Cilurzo) are offered up by Secondary Bev. Scrivener J9 actually recounts the events of the officer meeting in startling detail. There are a large number of Dixie Cup photos, mostly of people drinking from the cup and women wearing skimpy costumes.

At The Meeting: Bev Blackwood is elected Grand Wazoo for a second time (his first was in 2001). Joined by Secondary Dan

Muñoz, Scrivener Janine Weber, Purser Sharon Hayes, Brewsletter Editor Lindsey Muñoz, Competition Coordinator David Rogers, Dixie Cup Coordinator Will Holobowicz, Food God Noel Hart, and the ever present Bozo Head of Special Events, Scott Birdwell. Many IPAs are poured, sausage seemed to feature prominently (as the food item of the month).

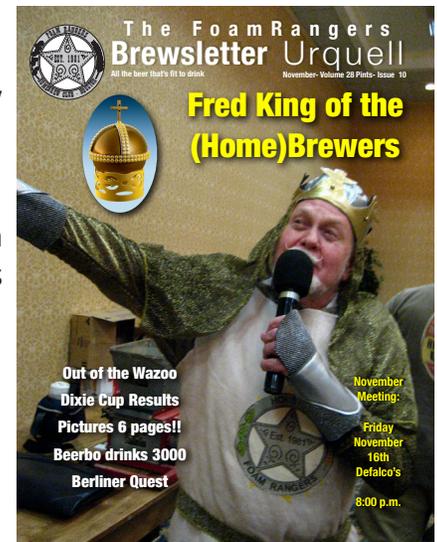
Other Events: David Cato, Grand Wazoo in 2000 and the longtime Foam Ranger data guru in absentia unexpectedly passed away in Portland, Oregon during early November. Remembered for his great sense of humor, skill as a brewer and for his custom engineering of the Dixie Cup competition software, he remains very much missed as a brewer, friend and Foam Ranger.

Ten years ago – November 2007

In The Brewsletter: Graced with Fred Eckhardt's nobly crowned visage, the contents are predictably Dixie Cup centric. Much praise is heaped and many kudos are given. Secondary Scott DeWalt strays from this theme and talks about IPA's and there's a single article talking about Beerbo's reaching the 3000 Barleywine milestone. Storge goes to Berlin and finds surprisingly few beers to talk about and Scrivener Doak urges everyone to bust ass to make the Foam Rangers the kick ass club that it is. The list of winners from the 2007 Dixie Cup is published, which is apparently no longer a thing.

At The Meeting: Scott DeWalt is elected Grand Wazoo, George "Stuey baby" West is elected Secondary, Eric Glaves becomes Scrivener, Rolland Pate is Purser and T-Bob gracefully (and gratefully) retires to become Was-Waz. Not much else is known from the few photos in the January Brewsletter, apart from the one where Sean is taping a bottle of Lagunitas IPA to T-Bob's hand, apparently to prevent him from dropping it.

Other Events: None Noted.



Other Events: A homebrewer's Computer BBS, the Houston Brewing University, is opened to public use.

Thirty years ago – November 1987 (Thank you Sean!)

In The Brewsletter: Dixie Cup follow-up stuff takes up much of the issue. A recollection of the Halloween Pub Crawl was written by interim editor Scott Birdwell.

At The Meeting: Held Friday November 20th at The Gingerman. 20-25 Rangers made it. Beer of the Month was Oktoberfest. Two were available, Paulaner and Spaten. The slate of candidates for the next years officers were discussed: Grand Wazoo Don Wilson, & Secondary Mike Seidnesticker. The meeting adjourned to the Birdwell residence, where a tape of the coverage of the Dixie Cup by Channel 13 news was viewed.

Other Events: Tim Case (future GABF award winning brewer at the Houston Brewery) and Dave Lupin joined the club

Thirty five years ago – November 1982

The Pre-Brewsletter era...

Dixie Cup XXXIV



Guest Speaker: Aaron Inkrott
St. Arnold Brewing



Guest Speaker: Sean Spiller
Jester King Brewery



Aaron & Sean pretending to not be bored by your "good" questions



Damn fine looking awards



Stuart pulling off the Fred
Tasting in style (Chimay Not)



Our scrounger, Bryce, drinking for the first time (from the cup)



New blood!!!



Just because you can't dance, that doesn't mean you shouldn't



Your proud (and exhausted) Waz and Purser



There was a lot of insulting of feet going on here, but I think the rest of us are the only ones who got hurt



Celebrating the Zealots not getting the cup



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



NAME(S) _____

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AMOUNT PAID _____ **NEW** **RENEWAL** **CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

Membership Fee: \$40.00 Individual / \$60.00 Family (Member +1)

Paid between October 31, 2017 and December 31, 2017: \$35.00 / \$55.00 (Pay early and save!)

All memberships include Dixie Cup admission!

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 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:



The Foam Rangers

foam-rangers-join@foamrangers.com



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

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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.