



Volume 2, Number 6 June, 1984

REVIEW of the MAY MEETING

The May 17 meeting of the Foam Rangers consisted of the standard drunken orgy (makes you wonder where I was). The theme beer for the month was German light lagers. Unfortunately, no score sheets were available. Instead of the respectable process of sampling and judging these beers, the FR's regressed into pure revelry. Sorry I missed that! At any rate, several people actually volunteered to ensure that score sheets would be available in June (and for all meetings during the remainder of the century). Imagine - a "volunteer" volunteer!

There was much discussion about the possibility of a Foam Rangers' Home Brew Beach Party! Hot dog!! Jacques Foster (688-1956) has agreed to chair a committee to work on this project. How about some help?

At any rate, the May meeting was a vital warm up exercise for the infamous Second Annual Foam Rangers' Pub Crawl which occurred a mere two days later. It is because of this event, that few details of the May meeting are available. Perhaps a good hypnotist could help revive some of the missing details!

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PREVIEW of the JUNE MEETING

The theme beer for the June 21 meeting of the Foam Rangers will be Continental (non-germanic) light lagers. It was decided several eons ago that there should be a distinction made between the German lagers and those of the other European nations. This could be because of the great quality of German

beers. More likely, however, it was in the interest of sanity of the FR's; can you imagine what would happen if the FR's drank all of these beers (German lagers and non-germanic) all in one sitting? I shudder at the thought!

Several individuals have volunteered to bring various beers to the June meeting, as follows:

Heineken	- Marilyn "Friend-of-John-Adams"
Grolsch	- Larry I-Hate-Grolsch Bristol
Giraffe Malt Liquor	- Chad Alexander
Elephant Malt Liquor	- Mike Bartol
Carlsberg	- John Stone
Pilsner Urquell	- Ted Grover (bring a case!!!)
Amstel	- Jack Foster
Ringnes	- Tom Bakewell
LaBelle Starasbourgeois	- Mitch Wilkens
Stella Artois	- "TNT" Carsten

If your name does not appear above, you need not feel left out! We desperately need someone to bring some of the following beers:

Brand (Holland), Skol (Holland), Raffo (Italy), Movetti (Italy), Lowenbrau (Swiss, not Fort Worth), Hurlimen (Swiss), Krakos (Poland), Old Oslo (Norway), Kalback (Sweden), Kronenbourg (Alsace)*, Harp (Britain)**, Fix (Greece), and others...

Incidentally, John Adams has promised to bring mass quantities of clear plastic cups for use in the judging of these beers, and for all home brews (remember those?) which are brought to the meeting.

* Kronenbourg is made in Alsace (France), and not a German lager. It was mistakenly brought to the May meeting by a FR who shall remain nameless!

** Close enough!

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SNEAK PREVIEW of the JULY MEETING

The theme beer for the July 20 meeting of the Foam Rangers will be Continental dark lagers (both German and otherwise). In addition, there will be a short business meeting to discuss the use of the excess funds available to the Foam Rangers. This excess is due partly because of the recent Pub Crawl, but mostly because of the fine Newsletter published by the club (cough).

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Subscription Reminder

This is your last warning! Most subscriptions to this outstanding literary masterpiece have expired!! Can you live without it?

Take a close look at the outside cover of this issue. If you see an ominous "dot" sticker, then you should renew your subscription at once. If you don't you will miss all of the fabulous fun and fascinating facts which come with each issue. Incidentally, it has been decided that a former subscriber to the Newsletter should become next year's publisher!

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CCU Brown Ale

--- by Chad Alexander

OK - I admit it. I, a domestic zymurgist, a home brewer, am vain. Ugh! The pain of admitting a foible shared by mere mortals. Not even a well aged stout (brewed by the expensive Croisoning [sic] process) can totally remove the foul taste of such a confession... guess I'll have to have another one.

Now then what, do you ask (pretend you did) would provoke such a statement? Simply that on the weekend just passed, a weekend much devoted to the pursuit of Bacchanal, yours truly brewed the third batch of CCU Brown (see recipe below), and why not? It has proven its mettle by winning first place in its category twice locally and a second at Wyandotte. But I loath the damn stuff! It is under hopped, too sweet, too strong in alcohol (flavor wise), metallic tasting, and worst of all, an extract! (No offense to you folk who insist on brewing from cans - I will even drink instant coffee and eat TV dinners on occasion. Well, maybe not TV dinners).

But back to the issue at hand - vanity. The only reason I brew CCU is for public consumption and adoration by the masses. Almost everyone, including the uninitiated ("Oh wow! So THIS is home brew!") like it. But spend four hours duplicating my favorite pale ale (only the finest English malts and European hops, thank you) and what happens? "Well, it's not bad." ... or worse ... "Drinkable, very drinkable" ... or ... "Yeah, this reminds me of one of the first batches I made." Suddenly, I understand what has driven the American brewing industry in its head long dash for mediocrity!

But I'm learning. Admitting a problem is half way to beating it. With patience, I'll overcome vanity, and with time I'll get even. I might even get a chance to judge one of your brews...

Recipe for CCU Brown (to make 5 gallons)

7.0 lbs Edme SFX malt extract (2 cans)
0.5 lbs Dark crystal malt (crushed)
1 oz Tettnanger hops (pellets)
1 oz Cascades hops (flowers)
2 pkgs Edme ale yeast

Boil SFX extract and crystal malt in about 2 gallons of water for 50 minutes. Add Tettnanger pellets and continue boil for 10 minutes. Remove from heat, add Cascades, cover, and let steep for 10-15 minutes.

Filter wort into primary, add water to make 5 gallons, and (when appropriately cool) inoculate with the Edme yeast.

After 7 days, rack into secondary. Bottle after 7 more.

Relax! Don't worry!! Have a homebrew!!!

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God, help us! You know who has gotten some more of that strange infection in his latest brew. It had predictable results. And so, under great pain (some of which is attributable to flatulence) we reluctantly present...

SON OF UP YOUR BBQ !!

--- by Larry Bristol (groan)

* BBQ - Beer Brewing Quotient

In the April issue of this outstanding periodical (rag), you were presented with a list of questions, designed (?) to help you up your BBQ. The wise among you promptly skipped to the next article. The more fool hearty read the questions, but were wise enough to not answer. Then, there were those sick minds that decided that they could outwit the nitwit!

Just to prove you wrong, the following text [sic] provides you with the official [sic] answers, and a scoring guide [sic]; this exercise is just to see who is really [sic].

1. The principle difference between home brew and imported beer is:
 - a) price.
Sounds good, but refer to question number 7.
 - b) quality.
Also sounds good; everyone knows home brew is vastly superior to imports.
 - c) availability.
Have you checked your local package store lately? They are likely to have a better stock than you do!
 - d) What do you mean - Canadian imports or European imports?
Of course.
 - e) flatulence.
Sounds (and smells) terrible!

The right answer which scores 1 point is (d), of course.

2. The principle difference between home brew and domestic beer is:
 - a) price.
Still sounds good, but refer to question number 7.
 - b) quality.
Also sounds good; but then, who cares?
 - c) availability.
Who cares?
 - d) What do you mean - Bud or Miller Lite?
Read the question! It specifically asks about domestic beer. Neither of these actually fit into that category.
 - e) I don't know. I've never been drunk enough to actually try a domestic beer.
A man (or woman) after my own heart!

The right answer which scores 1 point is (e), of course. Score minus 1 point for answers (b), (c), and (d).

3. You walk into a neighborhood bar and order a swallow of Samuel Smith's Old Brewery Pale Ale. Which of the following best describes the conversation which ensues:

a) BT (bar tender): "What's that?"

You: "An English beer."

BT: "We don't serve none of that sissy foreign stuff!"

To be true to be funny, so this, of course, is not the right answer!

b) BT: "Sorry, but I just served my very last one to that truck driver at the end of the bar."

The one driving the Coors truck parked outside?

c) BT: "Where do you get that?"

You: "I find it in a lot of places."

BT: "Isn't that a foreign beer?"

You: "Yes. It's British."

BT: "Why would you think we would have it here?"

You: "Why not?"

BT: "This is America!"

You: "Yes, but do not the Canadian goose and the swallow fly south for the winter, and yet these are not strangers to our land?"

BT: "Are you suggesting that beer migrates?"

You: "Not at all; but it could be carried."

BT: "What? By a swallow? That's impossible!"

You: "For heaven's sake... It could grab it by the cap!"

BT: "It's not a question of how it grasps it, it a question of aerodynamics. An 8 ounce bird cannot carry a 2 pound bottle of beer!"

You: "Yes..."

BT: "Look, a swallow has to beat its wings 42 times a second in order to maintain air speed velocity. Right?"

You: "I really don't..."

BT: "AM I RIGHT?"

You: "Yes, yes. I see..."

BT: "So you see, it is aerodynamically impossible."

Cowboy at pin ball machine: "Perhaps two swallows could carry it together."

BT: "Are you kidding? How could they tie themselves together?"

Trucker at end of bar: "It could be carried by an African Swallow."

BT: "Yes, but African Swallows are non-migratory!"

Trucker: "Oh, sure, but it could do it. That's my point."

BT: "Oh, yes. I agree with that."

This happens to me all the time.

d) BT: "What do you mean - an African or a European swallow?"

Great answer; wrong question!

e) BT: "Bottled or draught?"

Can I have the name of your neighborhood!?!?

The right answer, of course, is (c) which scores 1 point. Score minus 1 point for answer (d), since you are obviously trying to score an unfair advantage.

4) The best example of "moxie" is:

a) to walk into a truck stop bar and order a draught Guinness at room temperature.

No, but this is a great example of stupidity!

b) to travel to London (at your own expense) so that you can order an imported American beer.

Another example of stupidity. At least this one is not likely to get you killed!

c) to soak the labels off bottles of Samuel Smith's Old Brewery Pale Ale, enter them into a home brew competition, and swear that you made it by following the directions on a can of Edme malt extract.

Do you really think we are that stupid? Now we are getting somewhere, however, as this at least is an example of "moxie".

d) What do you mean - Oriental moxie or South Pacific moxie?

Keep trying; answer (d) is bound to be right sooner or later!

e) to soak the labels off bottles of Miller High Life, enter them into a home brew competition, and swear that you made it by following the directions on a can of Ajax.

Entering Miller High Life into a home brew competition under any circumstances is a fine example of "moxie".

Score 1 point for answer (e). Honorable mention for (c); that and fifty cents will buy you a cup of coffee anywhere.

5) When you see a picture of the majestic moose, it immediately makes you think about:

a) taking a vacation in Sweden this year.

Wasn't that a fantastic movie?

b) a hoppy Canadian export lager.

You are definitely trying too hard.

c) the time a moose bit your sister.

A moose once bit my sister! No, really, she was carving her initials on it with a laser toothbrush she had gotten from Svenge, the director of several documentaries when ... (I'm sorry)

d) What do you mean - a Canadian moose or a European moose?

Eventually answer (d) should be correct.

e) Boris and Natasha.

Simon and Garfunkle would have been a slightly better answer, but more obvious. Don't you think?

Score 1 point for (e), and minus 1 for (b). Answers (a) and (c) were my personal favorite answers, but what do I know!

6) Renes Descartes:

a) was a real pissant.

Close but no cigar. Emmanual Kantt was the pissant!

b) is famous for the quote, "I drink. Therefore, I am."

He did say this, of course, but is almost always misquoted.

c) was the second president of the Republic of Mexico.

Are you serious?

d) What do you mean - the politician or the philosopher?

Not yet!

e) was a drunken fart.

So obvious; everybody got it right, I bet.

Score 1 of course point for (e), and minus 1 for (d). You will eventually quit trying this ridiculous answer.

7) Home brewers make:

a) a mess in the kitchen.

b) \$246.75 an hour.

c) better lovers.

d) What do you mean - American or European home brewers?

e) all of the above.

How could anyone miss this? Score 1 point for (e), and minus 1 for anything else. At least answer (d) was finally correct!

8) The Official beer of the 1984 Olympics:

a) is bleeding Watney's Red Barrel.

Not a chance! Everything "red" is boycotting! (You might ask how I knew this two months ago when these questions were devised!)

b) is Olympia.

Tastes as good as "LA", but at a better price?

c) now costs \$1.00 more per bottle than last year.

Obviously.

d) What do you mean - the Los Angeles or Yugoslavian olympics?

Are you finally convinced to quit trying (d)?

e) tastes as good as Budwieser, but at a better price.

Who cares?

You should have kept trying (d), which finally scores 1 point!

9) The best use for "light" beer is:

a) to lower unemployment by giving former athletes lucrative commercial contracts.

b) to prevent unemployment increases by keeping aluminum can companies solvent.

c) to lower unemployment by hiring thousands of former steel workers, airplane pilots, and computer experts to pick up empty cans along the side of the road.

d) What do you mean - American light or European light?

e) flatulence.

How many times must I tell you? There is no good use for light beer! Minus 10 points if you answered this question at all.

- 10) When you've had too much home brew, and you take that long painful walk to the little house (which sits off away from the big house) to make room for more home brew, does your (hmm...) "organ" burn?
- a) I don't know. I leave the organ in the big house.
An interesting idea...
 - b) We don't have an organ, so we just throw a quilt over the piano.
Fascinating answer, but this is the punch line for a different joke.
 - c) Only if I've had too much "Stingo" to go along with the home brew.
Stingo only burns going down.
 - d) What do you mean - my chord organ or my pipe organ?
Are you stuck on answer (d) again?
 - e) I don't know. I've never been so drunk on home brew that I've actually tried to light it!
What more can be said?

Score 1 point for answer (a) because answer (a) has not been used before. For those of you who complain that answer (e) is correct, score minus 1 point; I know several people who have tried this. I, myself, have singed the varnish on a grand piano!

What does it all mean? If you scored between 1 and 10 points, you are obviously a good home brewer. Anything less and you have this problem concerning light beer that has to be resolved; anything more ~~than~~ 10 shows that you need a refresher course in arithmetic.

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From the Editor

Four down and eight to go!

Believe it or not, I will actually get to join into the festivities of the June meeting, and am looking forward to seeing each of you again. This only shows how sick your mind can get when forced to spend several weeks in Yankee land.

There will indeed be a review of the Pub Crawl in a future issue as soon as someone decides to write it. If a volunteer volunteer is not forthcoming, then I will select a volunteer who, of course, cannot refuse. Remember, those who fail to answer the call are guaranteed to become the next editor!

Relax! Don't worry!! Have a home brew!!!