



# BREWSLETTER

# URQUELL

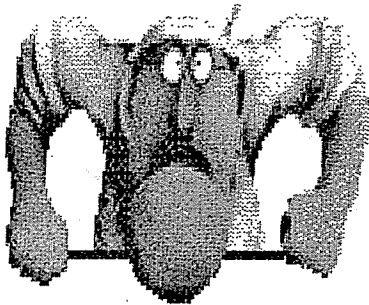
FEBRUARY 2000

The newsletter of Houston's Foam Rangers

VOLUME: 32 PINTS

## Out of the WAZOO

By David Cato, Grand Wazoo



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Please bear with me this month as I have lately been traumatized by a bat and as a

result have trouble with the letter B. Despite my best efforts to spell words like bolor with a K, I just can't quite manage it. True, I do seem to pull it off every now and then, and it seems to be easier after a Bigfoot or two, or perhaps that's just my perbeption. After a bouple of Bigfoots (or is that Bigfeet?) things do start to get hazy. Anyway, the doptor said that my speech diffibulties should subside, and I'll probably be back to normal in a week or two. Or maybe three, but most definitely four or five.

The big question for everyone this month is, naturally, have you gotten your Bigfoot yet? If you haven't, you'd better hurry up before it's all gone. After my purchase at Spec's on Memorial, they were down to 5 bases of Bigfoot, from an original 17.

Hmm, how much space do I need to fill? More than I've just written? Well, since it's late (gotta get this to the editor today), and I ban't think of anything really stupid or pointless to write about,

I'll just subbumb to the sensible (not even slightly silly) thing and mention some of the things that are happening in the Foam Rangers.

By the time you read this, our first monthly Foam Rangers pub gathering will be history. We plan to visit a brewpub or good beer bar once a month, separate from the usual monthly meetings. Our first visit is (or was) to Bradley's. Sort of a quality bontrol operation as we need to make sure that the Redneck is brewing up to standards in his new job. On Sunday March 5 at 3pm, we will pay a visit to the Bank Draft.

Remember that the Bluebonnet bompertition in Dallas is coming up next month, and the pack-n-ship date happens to be the same day as the February meeting. Bring your entries early so they ban be packed before the meeting. Believe me, you don't want your entries packed up after the Barleywines have made the rounds. We had a good showing at last year's Bluebonnet (50-60 entries, if I remember right) and I would like to see us follow up this year with even more. In addition to the traditional Gulf Boast Homebrewer of the Year, a new award, the Gulf Boast Homebrew Klub of the Year is up for grabs. Along the lines of the Homebrewer award, the Klub award goes to the klub that garner the most points in each of the 4 Gulf Boast bompertitions. The Foam Rangers have a chance to win

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# January Meeting Minutes

By Kehn Bacon, Scrivener

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Hey!!&nbsp; Hey!!!&nbsp; Listen up!!!!&nbsp; Thus began another tug o' war meeting led by the great and powerful Waz.&nbsp; A new year means that it's time to renew our memberships and pay our dues.&nbsp; If you have not received your 2000 membership card see da Waz or Jimmy Paige at the next meeting, or send them an e-mail.&nbsp; Three new members were present at the meeting.&nbsp; A big welcome is extended to Robert Cham, Mike Lennox, and Ron Solis.&nbsp; Ron is also a member of the KGB.&nbsp; He and I became friends over the last year through our mutual involvement in our respective club's premier events, the Dixie Cup and the Big Bash Brew Bash.&nbsp; We decided to join each other's club and do our little part to contribute to the cohesion of the Greater Houston Homebrew Community.&nbsp; So why not round up a friend and prod him or her into joining the Longest and Hardest Homebrew Club in Houston?!&nbsp; Ok, that's not the official slogan....

The brew-in schedule is filling up with only July and&nbsp; December still available.&nbsp; The schedule will be published in the Brewsletter and is also posted at DeFalco's. It's the second Saturday of each month (except Oktoberfest).&nbsp; Please consider signing up for the brew-in.&nbsp; Remember, the ingredients are free courtesy of&nbsp; DeFalco's, and you can brew anything from extract to all-grain.&nbsp; The idea is to draw some attention to our hobby and the club and have a good time.&nbsp; And don't forget to come on by the shop and hang out with the brewer and see what's on hand&nbsp; to "evaluate".

It looks like the Jennings Trip is going to

happen this year.&nbsp; Billed in the past as the Louisiana Beer Olympics, the "festival" dates back to 1991.&nbsp; It's set for the weekend of June 3rd.&nbsp; A sign-up sheet was circulated at the meeting.&nbsp; We hope to generate enough interest among all the Houston Clubs to warrant a bus rental.&nbsp; For more information contact Ed Moore, or come to the Febrewary 18th meeting.

Competition Coordinator, Dave Slamen, outlined the pack and ship dates for the Boston Homebrew Competition, MCAB III, and the Bluebonnet.&nbsp; The dates for the first two competitions have passed, but its not too late to enter the Bluebonnet.&nbsp; Bring your entries to the Febrewary meeting and Brother Dave will pack 'em for shipment.&nbsp; It would help to arrive about 30 minutes before the start of the meeting.&nbsp; This year we have agreed not to name our beers "Dallas Sucks" as we are trying to build a new bridge of goodwill between us.&nbsp; Dave will also pack and ship for the Reg-gale and Dreadhop contest in Denver which was brought to my attention after the meeting.&nbsp; This is an MCAB qualifier that I understand offers a good chance of placing because it's rumored to be a low entry contest.

The Waz took to the stairs once again and proclaimed that we are going to have an gathering on the first Sunday of each month at a local brewpub or beer establishment to demonstrate our clout in, and support for, the professional brewing community&nbsp; We chose to go to Bradley's for our first outing on Febrewary 6th at 3:00 pm.&nbsp; March 5th will be at the Bank Draft.&nbsp; Future gathering places will be decided at

# Beer of the Month

By Bev Blackwood, Secondary Frementer

The darkest months of winter often produce some of the most interesting brews. Christmas puts everyone into a celebratory mood, as does the winter solstice, since days start lengthening, bringing a promise of spring's return. However, the winter beers produced are often warming on their own, with higher alcohol content. Winter warmers are the brewers answer to the frigid blast and a chance to do something special in celebration of the holidays. The beers I selected for this month reflect that tradition in a big way. I bet many of you never thought you'd see a Coors product served at a Rangers meeting, but the Coors Winterfest is actually a more sturdy version of the Rocky Mountain classic. I also succumbed to the call (Cheap! Cheap!) of the malty and often underestimated Shiner Winter Ale, which claims to be a Bavarian style dunkelweizen. Representing the "oddball" Christmas beers is North Coast's Wintertime Ale. Known for their hop-juiced Red Seal and the intense Old Rasputin the North Coast Wintertime Ale is a surprising dark Belgian ale, with hints of spice under the Orval/Trappist character. Fuller's Winter Ale should make an interesting comparison with our own Saint Arnold Christmas Ale, since the yeast strains (and alcohol content) are similar. Similar in character, but far removed in distance is the rich Snow Cap ale from Pyramid, brewed and a "strong ale" with an OG of 1.070. Of course, it just wouldn't be "holiday beers" without some of Anchor's Our Special Ale. This is a beer most people either love or hate. It is notable for the interesting tradition of changing the ingredients from year to year. This

year's edition has a distinctly vanilla note to go with the usual sprucy note. I also have 2 bottles of the 1998 and 1 bottle of 1997 for those of you eager to compare. What everyone around here is always eager to get their hands on is the hopheads delight, Sierra Nevada Celebration ale. It's a bigger, hoppier and maltier version of the classic Pale Ale and an outstanding Christmas tradition. We'll be sampling some 1998 and 1999 editions. It is interesting to note how the hops get muted by the passage of time, rendering the older version more caramel flavored, but still wonderfully hoppy. But wait! There's more! There's a reason most barleywines come out in January... it's because January usually sucks ass and you need to drink heavily to survive it. I love these big-assed beers! And they don't get any bigger assed than barleywine. These babies got some **serious** back! But just going out and flinging barley and hops in until you hit original gravity Nirvana isn't the real key to brewing these gluteus maxed-outimus beers. It's a matter of having the control to get high starting gravities with sufficient hop levels to balance the massive sweetness while not sending your yeast into a coma with all the alcohol you produce. There are (of course) finer points to producing a drinkable barleywine, such as creating a fair amount of unfermentable sugars to ensure you don't dry out to extreme levels, trying to avoid the creation of fusel alcohols and of course, carbonating if you bottle-condition. Unfortunately these beers are a good bit harder to come by, so we often end up with a limited number of them at this tasting. English

## BEER OF THE MONTH

**January**  
Porter and Stout

**February**  
Barleywine and  
Holiday Beers

**March**  
Belgian and Fruit  
Beers

**April**  
Brown Ale & Old Ale  
(+Scotch Ale)

**May**  
Bock

**June**  
Wheat Beers

**July**  
Pilsner (+Kolsch)

**August**  
Pale Ales and Bitters

**September**  
Oktoberfest

**October**  
Dixie Cup

**November**  
Amber Ale and IPA

**December**  
Homebrewer's  
Christmas Party

**DEFALCO  
BREW-IN**

**January 8**  
Joe Lindsey

**February 12**  
Dave Slamen

**March 11**  
Dave Cato

**April 8**

**May 13**

**June 10**

**July 8**

**August 12**  
Kehn Bacon

**September 9**  
Bev Blackwood

**October 14**  
Dixie Cup

**November 11**

**December 9**  
Christmas Party

# Competition Corner

By the Brothers Slamen

Please remember that the pack and ship date for Blue Bonnet, and Reggale and Dredhop will be Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> before the meeting starts. If you have entries please bring a box and some packing. Try to have all of your paper work done before hand to help speed up the process. Also the MCAB webpage as been updated regarding QE's and beer styles. Check it out at: <http://hbd.org/mcab3/contact.html>

Event/date	Entry deadline	Pack & Ship date	Webpage/email	Style Guide-lines
Blue Bonnet 03/24-25	early 02/25 late 03/01	Friday 02/18 meeting night	welcome.to/bluebonnet	AHA/ BJCP
Reggale and Dredhop 03/24	02/25	Friday 02/18 meeting night	Mknutson@qdas.com	BJCP MCAB
World Cup of Beer 04/01	03/18	03/09	bayareamashers.org	BJCP MCAB
Crescent City 04/15	03/31	03/23	<a href="http://members.xoom.com/wacjr/the1.htm">http://mem- bers.xoom.com/wacjr/ the1.htm</a>	AHA/ BJCP
Sunshine Chal- lenge 05/19-21	05/08	04/27	chfb.org/	BJCP MCAB
KGB Big Brew 05/21	?	N/A	thekgb.org	APA
Spirit of Free Beer ?	?	?	<a href="http://www.burp.org/sofb99/">http://www.burp.org/ sofb99/</a>	BJCP MCAB
Edmunton ?	?	?	?	BJCP MCAB
Buzz-Off ?	?	?	?	BJCP MCAB
Dixie Cup October	?	N/A	foamrangers.com	BJCP MCAB
Chicago Beer October	?	?	?	BJCP MCAB
Brew Brothers November	?	?	?	BJCP MCAB
St. Louis Brews December	?	?	?	BJCP MCAB



# WATCH THIS SPACE

By Bev Blackwood

Our homebrewing community is a good one. We get along well, we cooperate on events and we make great beer. In a way, the sheer size of Houston has been a blessing as it has spawned clubs on the outskirts of town, bringing people who might otherwise not join a central city club into the fold. However, this geographic sprawl also has a dangerous side effect; we have to drive home. I have great respect for the general level of alcohol awareness of our membership. I haven't heard of a single DUI among us. (Not that I'd expect anyone to advertise it, though!) However, the spectre of arrest, injury or even death lingers in the background of every event. I can honestly say that I've made the mistake of driving home when I shouldn't have and allowed others to do the same. Texas law states that you'll spend a minimum of 72 hours in confinement if you're convicted of DWI. Personally, the closest I ever want to come to ANY Texas jail is driving past it. Knowing that alcohol not only impairs my ability to drive, but also my judgement about whether or not I should drive, I have decided to carry a breath tester with me whenever I am headed out for a day (or night) of drinking. It is surprisingly inexpensive, less than a batch or two of homebrew for an electronic breathalyzer and even less for a 10 pack of chemical detectors. It isn't just buying a gadget, it is investing in peace of mind. Peace of mind for my wife, peace of mind for the drive home and peace of mind in knowing I am not endangering anyone else. I'd strongly recommend to all homebrewers who have ever questioned whether they should have driven home (or had that judgement questioned) to spend a few dollars and buy a definitive answer to that question. We all have a great time together and we always want our group activities to be about celebrating our enjoyment of beer and brewing, not mourning the loss of a good friend.

Resource for breathalyzers: Columbia Lab Services at <http://www.columbialab.com/>

Club meetings and news:

Bay Area Mashtronauts  
Next meeting: 6:30 p.m. Feb 8<sup>th</sup>, at Bradley's in Webster. The Mashtronauts have new officers for 2000. Watch for Iain Ross in his role as Mission Commander Guy Munster is the new v.p., Skip Moore is still the treasurer, Joachim Beek remains as secretary, John Schmalz takes over as PR flack and the amazing Mike Wiley is (and will always be) "The Force." Apparently the Mashtronauts have been holding out on us, they have women, not only that, they are responsible for next month's style, "Chick brew." Mars may need women, but we ALL need brewing women!

Beaumont Brewing Club (I apologize for not having the right name, but just added them into the mix this issue) Next meeting: Feb 10<sup>th</sup>, in Beaumont... somewhere.

Brew Bayou:  
Next meeting: 7:00 p.m. Feb 16<sup>th</sup>, at Smithhart's Country Grill in Clute.

Deja Brew:  
Next meeting: 7:00 p.m. Mar 2<sup>nd</sup>, at The Beer Essentials. Deja-Brew announced their new officers for 2000.

Brewsletter  
Urquell  
Ad Rates

## 1/4 Page

1 Issue \$35  
3 Issues \$70  
1 Year \$150

## 1/2 Page

1 Issue \$50  
3 Issues \$100  
1 year \$300

## Full Page

1 Issue \$75  
3 Issues \$150  
1 Year \$300

## Brewsletter

Articles for the March  
issue are due by  
March 3, 2000

### Watch This Space, cont:

Congratulations to: Chancellor Stuart Strack, Keeper of the FUNds, Gary Luckett, Calamity Commander, Rob Summers and Amanuensis (whatever that is) Luanne Luckett. This year DeJa-Brew will have its usual Pub-Crawls, Brew-Ins and will be making appearances at other clubs' competitions. Their event will be something they've been doing two years in a row, an all Home-Brew Club Invitational Golf Tournament. Sounds like a blast!

### Foam Rangers:

Next meeting: 8:00 p.m. Feb 18<sup>th</sup>, at DeFalco's Central. The Foam Rangers have scheduled the 17th annual Dixie Cup for Oct 20-21. This year's "oddball" beer category is Imperial Beer. The style description, as well as all other Dixie Cup information, as it becomes available, can be found on the Foam Rangers web site ([www.foamrangers.com](http://www.foamrangers.com)).

The Rangers are reviving the annual trip to Jennings, which did not happen last year. Mark your calendars for Saturday, Jun 3 and plan to join your fellow homebrewers from East Texas and Louisiana for a weekend of fun, beer, and crawfish. Contact the Foam Rangers to sign up.

### KGB:

Next meeting: 12:00 noon, Feb 19<sup>th</sup>, at DeFalco's North, probably. The KGB has announced the dates for the Big Batch Brew Bash. The entry deadline is May 7th with the actual competition on May 21st. The style is American Pale Ale. (No doubt attracting a huge number of entries this year.)

### M\*A\*S\*H:

Next meeting: 7:00 p.m. Feb 12<sup>th</sup>, at Angel's Homebrew Supply

### Competitions:

Feb 14 - 16, 2000 - Anchorage, AK - Fur Rendezvous Homebrew Competition  
Entry deadline: Feb 10-13, 2000. Entry fee: \$4.00 per entry. Contact: Steve Schmitt (907) 243-0777 E-mail: [sschmitt@alaska.com](mailto:sschmitt@alaska.com) Web: <http://www.corecom.net/~homebrew/home.html>

Feb 18-19, 2000 - Olathe, KS - Kansas City Bier Meisters 17th Annual Regional Homebrew Competition (MCAB) Entry deadline: Feb 5, 2000 Entry fee: \$6.00 each for first 6 entries; \$5.00 each for seven or more entries; Contact: Steven Ford (913) 432-6109 E-mail: [sparepart@kcbiermeisters.org](mailto:sparepart@kcbiermeisters.org) Web: <http://www.kcbiermeisters.org>

Feb 19, 2000 - Libertyville, IL - Febfest 2000 Homebrew Competition  
Entry deadline: Jan 31 - Feb 11, 2000  
Entry Fee: \$5.00 per entry, \$4.00 for 4 or more entries. Contact: Roger Grum (847) 234-5809(home) or (847)295-6000(work) E-mail: [roger@iconnect.net](mailto:roger@iconnect.net) Web: <http://www.clubbob.org>

Feb 19, 2000 - Tampa, FL - Florida State Fair Homebrew Competition Entry deadline: Feb 12, 2000 Entry fee: \$5.00 per entry. Contact: Jeff Gladish (813) 238-0403 or (813)874-0937 E-mail: [JeffNGladish@ij.net](mailto:JeffNGladish@ij.net) Web: <http://tampabaybeers.org>

Feb 19, 2000 - Boston, MA - Sixth Annual Boston Homebrew Competition (MCAB)  
Entry deadline: Feb 12, 2000 Contact: Tim Holland (781) 442-2022 (Work) or (508) 835-2686 (Home) E-mail: [tim.holland@east.sun.com](mailto:tim.holland@east.sun.com) Web: <http://www.wort.org>

Feb 26, 2000 - Brooklyn, NY - Best of

**Watch This Space, cont:**

Brooklyn 2000

Entry deadline: Feb 7-18, 2000. Entry fee: \$5.00 per entry, first five entries, \$4.00 per entry 6 and up. Contact: Andrew Henckler (718) 626-3978 or (917) 452-0717 E-mail: [henckler@my-deja.com](mailto:henckler@my-deja.com) Web: <http://www.hbd.org/mbas/bob2000.html>

Mar 4, 2000 - Boulder, CO - 11th Annual Regale and Dredhop Homebrew Competition (MCAB) Entry deadline: February 18, 2000 Entry fee: \$5.00 per entry. Contact: Mike Knutson (303) 466-2447 E-mail: [mknutson@qadas.com](mailto:mknutson@qadas.com) Web: <http://www.members.xoom.com/hbaweb/>

Mar 4, 2000 - Warrenville, IL - Drunk Monk Challenge Entry deadline: Feb 19-26, 2000 Entry fee: \$5.00 Contact: Steve McKenna (630) 305-0554 or (630) 961-7846 E-mail: [stmckenna@compuserve.com](mailto:stmckenna@compuserve.com) Web: <http://www.synsysinc.com/srcoombs/ukgdmc/ukgdmc2k.htm>

Mar 4, 2000 - San Diego, CA - Seventh Annual America's Finest City Homebrew Competition Entry deadline: ? Entry fee: \$6.00 entry fee (2 bottles per entry) Contact: Peter Zien E-mail: [PZ.JDZINC@worldnet.att.net](mailto:PZ.JDZINC@worldnet.att.net) Web: <http://softbrew.com/AFCHBC/>

Mar 11- 25, 2000 - Irving, TX - Bluebonnet Brew-Off Entry deadline: Feb 11 - Mar 3, 2000 Entry fee: \$6.00 per entry for AHA members, \$7.00 per entry for non-members, \$10.00 per late entry. Contact: Rett Blankenship (972) 353-3116 or (214) 670-6295 E-mail: [Firebrew20@aol.com](mailto:Firebrew20@aol.com) Web: <http://www.welcome.to/bluebonnet>

Mar 12, 2000 - Des Moines, IA - Hearlant Homebrew Competition Entry deadline: Feb 1 - Mar 11, 2000. Entry fee: \$5.00 for first entry, \$3.00 for each additional entry. Contact: Bill Van Zante - Heartland HBS (515) 270-5958 or (515) 252-0979 E-mail: [vanzantewm@phibred.com](mailto:vanzantewm@phibred.com) Web: <http://IowHomebrew.com>

Mar 12, 2000 - Willimantic, CT - Third Annual Eastern Connecticut Homebrew Competition Entry deadline: Feb 27 - Mar 8, 2000 Entry Fee \$6.00 Contact: Paul T. Zocco (860) 742-7879 (Home) or (860) 666-6951 (Work) E-mail: [ptzocco@snet.net](mailto:ptzocco@snet.net) Web: <http://www.geocities.com/southbeach/coast/1609>

Mar 18, 2000 - Kona, HI - 5th Annual Kona Brewers Fest Entry deadline: Mar 6 -10, 2000 Entry fee \$5.00 per entry Contact: Rocket Road Romanek (808) 325-7449 E-mail: [rocketsuds@prodigy.net](mailto:rocketsuds@prodigy.net)

Mar 18, 2000 - Raleigh, NC - Shamrock 2000 Entry deadline: Mar 15, 2000 Entry fee \$6.00 for first entry, \$5.00 for each additional entry. Contact: Larry Matthews (919) 362-9407 E-mail: [lmatt@ipass.net](mailto:lmatt@ipass.net) Web: <http://www.hbd.org/carboy>

Mar 18-19, 2000 - Woodinville, WA - St. Patrick's Cascadia Cup Homebrew Competition Entry deadline: Mar 10, 2000 entry fee \$6.00 per entry. Contact: Marc Milrod (206) 632-5832 E-mail: [milrod@aol.com](mailto:milrod@aol.com) Web: <http://www.cascadebrewersguild.org>

Mar 24-25, 2000 - St Louis, MO - Masters Championship of Amateur Brewing II Competition Contact: Louis Bonham E-mail: [ikbonham@hbd.org](mailto:ikbonham@hbd.org) Web: <http://hbd.org/mcab/>

Mar 24-25, 2000 - Hamilton, MT - 1st Annual Bitter Root Valley Homebrew Competition Entry deadline: Mar 17-23, 2000 Entry fee \$4.00 per entry. Contact: Tony Wickham (406) 363-0457 or (406) 363-7468

Mar 25, 2000 - Hyde Park, NY - Hudson Valley Homebrew Club 10th Annual Competition Entry deadline: Mar 4 - 18, 2000 Entry fee \$5.00 per entry for 1 to 4 entries, \$4.00 per entry for 5 or more entries. Contact: Steven Thomas (914) 430-3758 E-mail: [drstrangebrew@mail.com](mailto:drstrangebrew@mail.com) Web: <http://hbd.org/hvhb>

Mar 25, 2000 - Pittsburgh, PA - TRASH X Entry deadline: Mar 25, 2000 Contact: Ralph Colaizzi (412) 331-8087 E-mail: [rwc@pair.com](mailto:rwc@pair.com)

Mar 31 - Apr 1, 2000 - West Palm Beach, Florida - 5th Annual Hurrigan Blowoff Entry deadline: Mar 13-Mar 25, 2000 Entry fee \$6.00 per entry Contact: Dan Oliver (561)533-5317 (Home) or (561)686-4019(Work)

## Watch This Space, cont:

E-mail: [olds442@gate.net](mailto:olds442@gate.net) Web: <http://www.fortunecity.com/littleitaly/giotto/175>

Apr 1, 2000 - Woodland Hills, CA - Maltose Falcons Mayfaire Entry deadline: Mar 4 - 18, 2000 Entry fee \$6.00 per entry Contact: John Aitchison (818) 886-3568 E-mail: [john.aitchison@homebeer.com](mailto:john.aitchison@homebeer.com) Web: <http://www.maltosefalcons.com>

Apr 1, 2000 - Syracuse, NY - Salt City Homebrew Competition Entry deadline: Mar 17, 2000 Entry fee \$7.00 for first entry; \$4.00 each additional entry Contact: Andrew Moon (315) 656-8917 E-mail: [VAYELIRIVERA@Prodigy.net](mailto:VAYELIRIVERA@Prodigy.net) Web: <http://hbd.org/clubs/scbc>

Apr 1, 2000 - McMinnville, OR - Slurp and Burp Open Entry fee: \$6.00 for first entry, \$5.00 each additional entry Contact: Ted Hausotter (503) 538-9501 or (503) 625-2566

Apr 1, 2000 - Berkeley, CA - The Bay Area Mashers World Cup of Beer (MCAB) Entry deadline: Mar 18, 2000 Entry fee \$5.00 per entry Contact: Lee Shephard (510) 849-0400 or (510) 268-0611 E-mail: [lshepard@earthlink.net](mailto:lshepard@earthlink.net) Web: <http://www.bayareamashers.org>

Apr 7-8, 2000 - Germantown, TN - 12th Annual Homebrewer's Extravaganza Entry deadline: Mar 22 - Apr 1, 2000 Entry fee \$5.00 per entry Contact: Jay Grabowski (662) 449-0493 or (662) 562-5252 E-mail: [jgrabowski@aol.com](mailto:jgrabowski@aol.com) Web: <http://memphisbrews.com>

Apr 8, 2000 - Columbia, SC - 2nd Annual Palmetto State Brewers Open Entry deadline: Jan 31 - Apr 1, 2000. Entry fee: \$5.00 per entry Contact: Joel W. Masters (803) 739-1419 or (803) 217-7980 E-mail: [whalebrew@aol.com](mailto:whalebrew@aol.com) Web: <http://www.psbrewer.org/>

Apr 8, 2000 - Albany, NY - Knickerbocker Battle of the Brews entry deadline: Apr 1, 2000 Entry fee \$6.00 for first entry, \$4.00 for each additional en-

try. Contact: Jim Raimo (518) 884-8689 E-mail: [jraimo@nycap.rr.com](mailto:jraimo@nycap.rr.com) Web: <http://www.moonbrew.com/kbotb>

Apr 13-15, 2000 - New Orleans, LA - 2000 Crescent City Competition Entry deadline: Mar 16, 2000-Mar 31, 2000 Entry fee \$6.00 per entry Contact: Andy Hollis (504) 393-1592 or (504) 289-8505 E-mail: [honyhollis@aol.com](mailto:honyhollis@aol.com) Web: <http://members.xoom.com/wacjr/theI.htm>

Apr 14-15, 2000 - Crete, IL - 9th Annual Brewers of South Suburbia Challenge Entry deadline: Mar 30-Apr 13, 2000 entry fee \$6.00 per entry Contact: Jerry Sadowski (708) 758-5538 (Home) or (708) 758-6045 (Work) E-mail: [jsadow1@E-mail.msn.com](mailto:jsadow1@E-mail.msn.com) Web: <http://www.megsinet.net/~bethke/boss/index.html>

## Beer of the Month, cont:

style barleywine is well represented by Old Nick, a potent brew from the U.K. at 7.2 ABV, although it isn't quite as alcoholic as it's U.S. cousins. American revival of the barleywine tradition has a start with Old Foghorn from Anchor. Old Foghorn is a delight in every sense, well balanced and very potent. Across the bay and up the Imperial Valley lies Chico and Sierra Nevada. Bigfoot is a barleywine with the hops cranked up to 11, it's like, you know, one more... I've got samples of the 1998, 1999, and 2000, making a very nice vertical tasting. It is fascinating to see how the hops slowly but surely fade over time, but Bigfoot still keeps in balance. I've asked that members bring other barleywines to the meeting, since our own local supply is so constrained and with any luck we'll have a few other interesting beers to sample before we all end up on our asses from all these big-ass beers.



## Out of the Wazoo, cont:

is up for grabs. Along the lines of the Homebrewer award, the Klub award goes to the Klub that garners the most points in each of the 4 Gulf Boast competitions. The Foam Rangers have a chance to win it, but only if we enter the competitions. We also have some brewers that are capable of winning Homebrewer of the Year and give Russ Bee some competition for it, but if other folks don't enter, Russ might win Homebrewer of the Year for the fifth year in a row, without having to break a sweat. Last year was the first time he had any serious competition for the award. If he wins again, let's at least make him work for it.

Also on the competition front is this year's Dixie Cup. Our fearless Secondary has agreed to take on the task of organizing the 17th Annual Dixie Cup. Please volunteer your assistance. There are lots (too many to list here) of ways to help out, and Bev is going to need all the help he can get if he's going to keep his sanity.

In order to allow brewers a better opportunity to win the special, some say stupid, beer category, this year's special category has been announced. Imperial Beers. That's right, we sent last year's Big & Stupid category to skool, so we're still looking for big beers, but this time we're looking for something worthy of a Russian Tsar. Sorry, Imperial Stouts don't qualify since they have their own official category. More details are available on the Foam Ranger web site.

Also on the horizon is Jennings. The date has been set for Saturday, June 3. Ed Moore has been working on the food and hotel arrangements, and should have a good idea of the cost in time for this month's meeting.

Remember the brew-ins at DeFalco's? Have you volunteered your talents? The

second Saturday of the month, one (or more) lucky Foam Ranger gives a brewing demonstration in front of DeFalco's. There are still two months available. The sign-up sheet is at DeFalco's, so if you haven't already signed up, or if you want to do more than one brew-in, add your name to the sign-up sheet.

Finally, remember to pay your dues. If you don't pay up, I'll send Dinsdale around for a visit. No, sorry, wrong threat. If you don't pay up, you'll stop receiving this fine brewletter and be forced to find another source of material to line the bird cage. For those of you who have already paid and have not received your membership card, please see me at the meeting, or anywhere else we might happen to meet, to get your very own personalized Foam Rangers membership card.

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## January Minutes, cont: our monthly meetings.

Bev Blackwood, Secondary Fermenter, presented a preliminary version of a mini-flyer to promote our club. It's similar to the wallet-sized Saint Arnold's flyer with a schedule of club meetings and a map to DeFalco's. It's a great device for luring potential members and an excellent calling card when visiting pubs and bars. I took my family to Bradley's on the Sunday after the meeting and left my flyer attached to the check. Bev provided a long list of slogans that were voted on at the meeting. Five slogans were selected based on the voting. These slogans will be printed on different versions of the flyer:

< Brew Your Grains Out

< Teach a Man to Brew - Who Needs to Fish?

< Yield to Fermentation

< Fun, Friends and Foam

< If You Brew It, We Will Come

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS

### Across

2. trappist

4. weizen

6. bitter

7. bock

8. ale

9. mild

13. sparging

14. alt

15. kolsch

17. pilsner

18. malt

19. abbey

### Down

1. krieg

3. lambic

4. wort

5. helles

10. dunkel

11. mash

12. stout

14. attenuation

16. lager

17. porter

# SAINT ARNOLD

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## January Mintues, cont:

(used in conjunction with the alternated tagline of Houston's Largest and Longest Homebrewing Club) Last year, Waz emeritus, Wayne Smith, proposed a contest for the best non-regular Brewsletter article submitted during 1999. It came down to two deserving contenders - Jimmy Paige and Randy Veazey. Each had two excellent articles. It came he membership in attendance cast their votes and waited in suspense as Dave Waz Cato displayed the numerous prizes to be awarded the winner. There was a no-expense paid trip to the Bluebonnet; a nifty ribbon; a mystery bottle of beer (Triple Bock); and a coveted DeFalco's gift certificate. The suspense quickly faded as the winner's name written on the envelope of the gift certificate. Congratulations Jimmy, and kudos to both Jimmy and Randy for their contri-

bution to our club. In his acceptance speech Mr. Paige challenged the rest of us to write something for the Brewsletter. Help us fill this space! The anxiously awaited results of the BJCP exam administered during last year's Dixie Cup are in! Last year's BJCP study group coordinated by Charles Vallhonrat and Steve Moore was not in vain! We have four new BJCP judges in the Foam Rangers!! Congratulations to Kehn Bacon, Bev Blackwood, Dave Cato, and Mike Pelter!!! Dixie Cup update: The special category beer of the 17th annual Dixie Cup is Imperial Beers. Take any style and give it a boss! This year's Dixie Cup them will likely be tied to the presidential election. Stay tuned for further details. RAFFLE!!!!!!!

### Puzzle Clues- Across

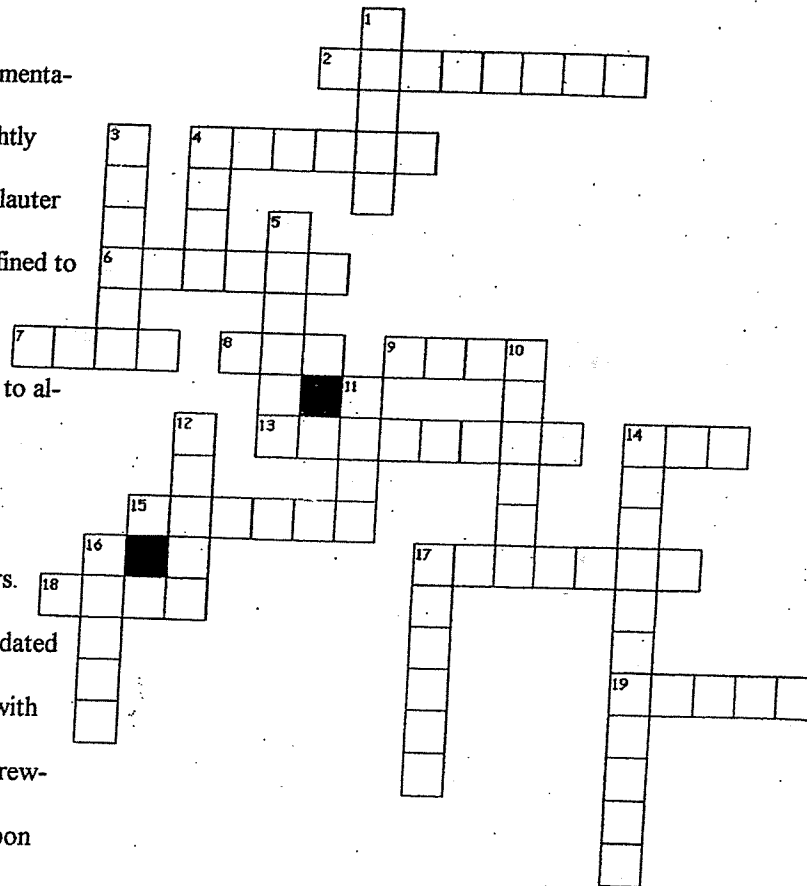
2. Ales brewed by monks of the Trappist order in Belgium and the Netherlands.
4. German term meaning wheat or white beer.
6. British term for the pale, amber or copper-colored beers that developed from the pale ales of the nineteenth century.
7. Strong beer style of Germany and the Netherlands.
8. The world's oldest beer style produced by top or warm fermentation.
9. Dark brown (occasionally pale) English and Welsh beer, lightly hopped.
13. Sprinkling or spraying the spent grains in the mash tun or lauter tun to flush out any remaining malt sugars.
14. Literally old in German, a top-fermenting beer mainly confined to the city of Dusseldorf.
15. Top-fermenting golden beer from Cologne.
17. International brand name for a light-colored lager.
18. Barley or other cereals that have been partially germinated to allow starches to be converted into fermentable sugars.
19. Commercial Belgian beers licensed by abbeys.

### Down

1. Cherry-flavored Lambic beer.
3. Belgian beer made by spontaneous fermentation.
4. Liquid resulting from the mashing process, rich in malt sugars.
5. A pale Bavarian lager beer.
10. A dark lager beer in Germany, a Bavarian specialty that predated the first pale lagers.
11. First stage of the brewing process, when the malt is mixed with pure hot water to extract the sugars.
12. Once an English generic term for the strongest beer in the brewery. Now considered an Irish style.
14. The extent to which brewing sugars turn to alcohol and carbon dioxide.
16. From the German meaning "store". The cold-conditioning of beer at around 0 degrees Cent. to produce a smooth, clean-tasting beer.
17. Dark-brown or black-beer originating in London.

## "BEER KNOWLEDGE"

by Shannon Paige



# FOAM RANGERS

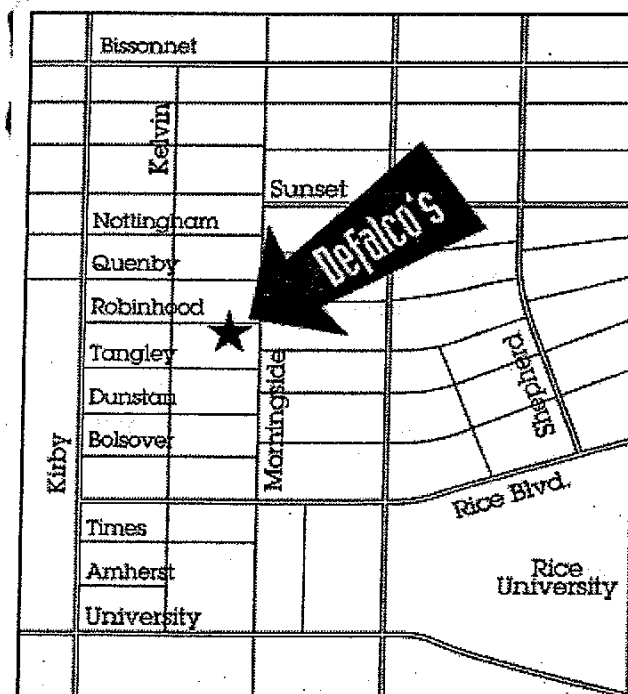
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**February  
Meeting**

**Friday  
Feb 18th**

**March  
Meeting**

**Friday  
Mar 17**



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**SEE YOU THERE !!!!!!!**