



THE FOAM RANGERS Brewsletter Urquell

It Ain't Very Thick, But It Sure Is Short!

December 2003 - Volume 23 - Issue 11

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**It's Time To
Renew Your
Membership!**

**Homebrewers
Xmas Party:**

**Sunday,
December 14
Noon to 4 p.m.
at Saint Arnold!
Bring Food!**

Jimmy Paige to Run Foam Rangers

By
Bev Blackwood

Jimmy Paige, fresh from his year as "Was Waz" was nominated and elected to reprise his role as Grand Wazoo. The club, in a fit of apathy, also elected Jimmy to be Secondary Fermenter, Scrivener, Purser and Competition Coordinator. Production of the Brewsletter Urquell will also be handed over to him, since he will be responsible for nearly all of its content.

"Jeez, how am I going to explain this to my wife?" sighed Jimmy. In a rare moment of advance planning, the club voted to set aside funds to cover Jimmy's probable divorce proceedings. His supporters, Joe Lindsey and Ron Solis, both vowed to "take care" of Jimmy in the months ahead.



Wazoo, Secondary, Scrivener, Purser, Competition Coordinator & Editor-Elect Jimmy Paige

Out of the Wazoo

By
Kuyler Doyle
Grand Wazoo



Well, it's been another great year for the Foam Rangers. The Dixie Cup is done and the cup itself is still resting on the shelf at DeFalco's where it belongs. Next

to that spot of honor lies the trophy for the Gulf Coast Homebrewing Club of the Year. Only the second time it's been there. Second year in a row at that. Adjacent to that is a bronze brassiere, a C-cup to be specific. First time we've seen one of those up close. Indeed it has been another banner year for competitions. Not that competitions are the only part of this club, but we indubitably kicked butt. Thanks and congratulations go out to all of you that did

so well in competitions and made these awards possible. Next year, Sunshine! One thing that is great about this club is that it is in a constant state of flux. You never know who's going to walk through the doors on the third Friday of each month. We have the old timers who are always willing to offer an opinion, whether you want it or not. You got the new guys who are excited to learn about the hobby but are still trying to figure out what this wacky club is all about. And you have a core group that are willing to bust their asses to make sure everything gets done and continues on track. It all blends well into an interesting dynamic that somehow is in disarray and harmony at the same time. Kooky. It is the very eccentric nature of the club that made me want to be a part of that. I am grateful for the opportunity to bear the Fez for a year and to steer the club as I saw fit. Of course there are many volunteers that make for a successful year. Secondary Mike Heniff served us an

(Continued on Page 5)

The Brewsletter Urquell
Official Organ of the
Foam Rangers Homebrew Club.

Was-Waz Elect:
 Dr. Kuyler Doyle
 wazoo@foamrangers.com

Grand Wazoo Elect:
 Mike Heniff
 secondary@foamrangers.com

Brewsletter Editor In-Waiting:
 David Capolarello
 scrivener@foamrangers.com

Soon to be Ex-Purser:
 Bill Widger
 purser@foamrangers.com

Ex-Competition Coordinator:
 Joe Lindsey
 competitions@foamrangers.com

Bozo Head of Special Events:
 Scott Birdwell
 stupidtoad@foamrangers.com

Was Was Waz to be:
 Jimmy Paige
 waswaz@foamrangers.com

Brewsletter Staff

Soon to be Ex-Editor:
 Bev Blackwood
 editor@foamrangers.com

Secondary Fermenter Elect:
 Steve Moore
 swm@houston.rr.com

Webmaster:
 Beto Zuniga
 webmaster@foamrangers.com

Mail Guru and Unix Geek:
 David Cato
 dcato@crunchyfrog.net

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And now, the end is near,
 So I pen my final issue.
 My brews won me gold,
 Much unlike my prose,
 Which as usual, is hurtin'

My photos captured you
 Captions ridiculed
 each and every member
 and didn't bore or make you snore,
 I did it Steve's way.

(Well, actually I did it MY way
 and I browbeat Steve into doing
 his gig for another year. Thanks
 Steve and thanks Sean for helping
 me make it through my year as
 Brewsletter editor.)

Meeting Minutes



By David
Capolarello,
Scrivener

The end is nigh!
 My term as your
 illustrious scrivener
 is over. I enjoyed my
 tenure as your
 humble scribe
 and will be going
 on to bigger and
 much scarier

things next year. That's right, folks, I will be the Brewsletter editor for '04. You really should consider that email delivery of your Brewsletter Urquell. I am bound to do something really stupid and become the most infamous editor in Foam Ranger history. Like spilling a batch of imperial stout on 300 brewsletters or something equally disastrous.

OK, on to the minutes. November's meeting was extremely lively, probably due to the fact that there was a one-month hiatus due to the Dixie Cup. I arrived at Defalco's with my own little souvenir from Oregon - a few bottles of Rogue IP2A. It seemed to go down well, as did all the other fabbo beers. Mostly IPA's, although I noticed a couple interlopers in Secondary Heniff's cooler array! What was missing though, was homebrew. Yeah, I know I have been guilty of not bringing very much of mine to the meetings. Mostly because I have not been brewing a lot lately. My New Year resolution is to definitely to brew more often! The meeting proper was started a bit later than usual. Probably because everyone was talking so loud and fast we forgot what we were there for. Eventually the Waz stepped up and told us all about the magnificent

performance of the Foamrangers in the Dcup. We won the competition outright, as well as the Gulfcoast Homebrew Club of the Year trophy. After hearty congratulations all round, the serious business of choosing next year's officers began. Well this took all of 1.5 minutes (because we are diligent and well-informed voters don't ya know). Here are the results:

Waz - Mike Heniff with a landslide victory.
 Secondary Fermenter - Steve Moore, with a couple hanging chaps... er, I mean chads!
 But still an overwhelming result.
 Scrivener - George "Stuart" "Storge" "Geoart" West.

Purser - Janet Widger was a total shoo-in!
 Bozo Head of Special Ed (Events) - Scott Birdwell, face it; no one is a better bozo!
 Pity the local and national elections are not as quick and easy. Imagine a Foam Ranger election involving mudslinging TV ads and total media overexposure of all the wrong issues. Actually that sounds like fun, but I digress. After the election we launched into the last raffle of the year. And would you believe it, I did not win again! This losing streak is starting to concern me. Will I have to take drastic and unnecessary action against those responsible? Possibly, but I'll at least get sober first! After the raffle as with most meetings, things start to become a bit blurry. In fact I don't remember anything until noticing a distinct reduction in the crowd. I looked at the clock at it was nearly 2 a.m. for heaven's sake! Flippin' hell, I thought, I wouldn't be going to have a nightcap a bit closer to home tonight. So, that's it for the year-end minutes according to English Dave. Have a brilliant holiday season and don't forget next meeting is the Xmas party, with enormous amounts of food (as long as plenty of us contribute some) so get there hungry and I'll see ya there.



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Secondary Fermenter's Year in Review



**By Mike Heniff,
Secondary Fermenter
& Wazoo-Elect**

I want to first off thanks to all of you for having the confidence in me to be your Grand Wazoo for the next year. Myself and the rest of the officer crew will do the best that we can to have another great year for all of us.

This last year has been a heck of a year. It has been a ton of fun for all Foam Rangers. We had a lot of great times, we kept the Dixie Cup, we won a lot of awards, and we enjoyed a lot of great beer at the meetings. I'm sure Kuyler has already covered all of the details in his article.

This year we enjoyed 246 different beers (246 "official" ones, I bet we had at least another 100+ beers "on the side" not to mention a ton of great homebrew). 80 of the 246 were beers not available in our local beer market. Of the 246 beers, 127 different breweries across 16 countries were represented with the most being from Sierra Nevada (ten beers) and Saint Arnold (nine beers). The biggest meeting was the March Belgian meeting with 39 official beers and a total of 52 different beers. The strongest month was Barleywine Febrewary with 13 different barleywines (not counting Joe Lindsey's Ooby Doobie) but the May Bock meeting was a close runner up with selections such as Samuel Adams Tripel Bock 1995, Samiclaus 2001, Kulbacher Eku 28, and Eggenberg Urbock 23, not to mention the "normal" doppelbocks of Salvator, Celebrator, Optimator, and Bajuvator.

Two "official" beers were repeated throughout the year. The first Foam Ranger that can remember which two beers these were will get none other than these two beers (for a third time! – by the way – the four year vertical tasting of Bigfoot does not count). Good luck.

Foam Ranger contributors helped a ton

bringing back beers from out of town. Members such as Ed Moore, Cliff Peery, Jimmy Paige, Stuart West, English Dave, Bob Daugherty, Bob Kochman, and Jim Goldsmith were among the tops of the beer gatherers.

Next year, I'm sure the Putz (aka Steve Moore) will do a great job securing beers for the meetings (this isn't his first rodeo, his other official title is Was was was was was was was Waz). Be sure to look for the upcoming styles while you're out on your travels (the schedule doesn't usually change). All you need is 4-6 beers, a little communication with the Secondary, and a receipt - and it will be very painless (keep in mind that beer packs very well in dirty laundry!).

On this spot, in 1863, nothing at all happened to Karel Chaloupka, mostly because he wasn't born yet... and there was much rejoicing. We aren't as lucky, although we do have indoor plumbing.

c.r. goodman
craft beer - dist. by thing

**Amber Ale
Kristall Weizen
Brown Ale**

**Thanks to all
the Foam Rangers
for your support!**

Come tour the brewery!
Saturdays at 1:00 PM
<http://www.saintarnold.com/saintarnold>

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Beer of the Month

Calendar

- ★
- January 16th, 2004
Porter & Stout
★
- Febrewary 20th, 2004
Barleywine & Holiday
★
- March 12th, 2004
Belgian & Fruit Beers
★
- April 16th, 2004
Brown, Old & Scotch
★
- May 21st, 2004
Bock
★
- June 18th, 2004
Wheat Beers
★
- July 16th, 2004
Pilsner & Kolsch
★
- August 20th, 2004
Pale Ale & Bitter
★
- September 17th, 2004
Oktoberfest / Marzen
★
- October 15th - 16th, 2004
Dixie Cup XXI
★
- November 19th, 2004
India Pale Ale
★
- December 14th
Homebrewer's Xmas Party

Foam Ranger Foto Pages!



**Misbehaved?
Boy, I'll say!**



**Somebody needs more
hands!**



**Um, I dunno. There may
have been barleywine.**



**So is she a goer? Nudge,
Nudge, Say No More!**



**Hopheads on I.P.A.
night... Gimme, gimme!**



**Whadda ya mean,
did my tattoo hurt?
F#&@ yeah, it hurt!**



**The Dixie Cup and I, we
have a "special" bond.**



**You know
Jimmy, you
just don't
look the
same without
the Fez.**

**I think I'll let
YOU be Waz!**



Bev sure do like de ladies!



Come on baby, say it...
"I love ewe Andrewe!"



Apparently, this is
Colby's idea of a
"Romantic Getaway."



Bev gets artsy...



Good News George!
You're not alone.



Bev gets too close for
comfort...



Whoops!



Never trust your camera
to the Sly Bastards!

Foam Rangers Foto Pages!

Foam Ranger Events



December

December 14

Homebrewer's
Christmas Party
Saint Arnold Brewery
Noon - 4:00 p.m.

January

January 4

First Sunday
Two Rows

January 10

Brew-in by Someone
DeFalco's

January 15

Pack & Ship - Boston
DeFalco's

January 16

January Meeting
DeFalco's

February

February 1

First Sunday
The Gingerman

February 5

Pack & Ship - K.C.
DeFalco's

February 12

Pack & Ship - S.D.
DeFalco's

February 14

Brew-in by Mike Heniff
DeFalco's

February 19

Pack & Ship - Reggale
DeFalco's

February 20

February Meeting &
Bluebonnet drop-off
DeFalco's

Out of the Wazoo (From Page 1)

served us an abundance and an amazing array of beers over the course of the year. He also did an excellent job as coordinator of the Dixie Cup and will hopefully be using those skills in his role as next year's Waz. Bev Blackwood did a great job as editor of the Brewsletter, keeping it interesting to read. Thanks go out to Steve Moore for his continued contributions to the humor of the Brewsletter. English Dave did a great job in taking my purposefully concise announcements at the meetings and padding it so that it sounded like a Monty Python episode. Joe Lindsey led the battle call to get the entries in the mail so that we could bring home all those trophies. Bill and Janet Widger made sure the books were in order and that everyone was properly reimbursed for money well spent. Dave Cato helped set up a calendar on the foampage and kept things up to date. I did my best this year to run the club like a democracy using the elected officials to help get policy done, but sometimes those officials are busy or don't have much of an opinion and thus didn't show up to vote. I thank Was Waz Jimmy Paige for offering advice on the decision making whenever I needed it. As always, I thank the Bozo Head of Special Events Scott Birdwell for his infinite wisdom when we really needed it. I've got to thank my wife for letting me put so much time into the club and for coming along for the ride. Lastly, I thank everyone in the club for your brewing, for bringing

beer from out of town, and for just showing up. We had a fun year. The meetings, pub visits, Austin bus, and Dixie Cup were all very well attended and enormous amounts of good beverages were imbibed. The last few years the club has made a real attempt to garner national notoriety (spearheaded largely by Bev) and it's clearly paying off. We can officially say that we host the largest single site homebrew competition in the world. Wear the badge proudly. That's why we had all those shirts and hats made. Again I must emphasize how this club is constantly changing. Those who have put in years of work for the club eventually reach the time where they are ready to have more limited roles in the club. I've reached that time myself. For those of you who don't know, Kari and I are expecting a little Wazito of our own. He's destined to be a beer enthusiast and homebrewer some day. The club always needs enthusiastic people to come in and step up to the responsibility. Thus, it's wise to make sure you welcome the newcomers. They just might be your Waz some day. At this point I have no hesitation to pass the fez to Mike. His enthusiasm for the hobby is evident in his continued attempt to taste and record every commercial beer ever made and to teach others how to properly judge a homebrew. I look forward to seeing what he has planned for the club. And now let us raise our glasses and toast to the exciting new year:
To the Foam Rangers!



Beer & "Bad Santa" at the Alamo Draft House on First Sunday. A good time was had by all, especially Bat Boy.

This Month in Ranger History



By Sean Lamb, Club Historian (Sorta)

15 Years Ago...

In The Newsletter:

No copy available.

At The Club Meeting:

Held at the house of Chris Golemboski. Leroy Gibbins provided some mead, Secondary Mike Seidensticker provided Anchor's "Our Special Ale", SN Celebration Ale, and Old Nick.

10 Years Ago...

In The Newsletter:

Grand Wazoo Andy Thomas writes a missive about changing the club meeting place permanently to the Oddfellows lodge on Saturdays from the usual format of members houses on Fridays. Secondary Sean Lamb covers holiday brews.

At The Club Meeting:

Held at the Oddfellows lodge in the Heights on Saturday, Dec. 11th. Plenty of holiday cheer and beer was had by all.

5 years Ago...

In The Newsletter
Grand Wazoo Steve Capo writes his farewell address. Mike Gans wrote a follow-up to his letter earlier in the year deriding the club for the "our beer sucks" attitude. He

attended a meeting and had a good time and was welcomed by all. An article by Al Kinchen recounting his experience at the 1998 Dixie Cup was reprinted from the NTHBA newsletter. He explained how well things went and what a good time he had an how gracious the Foam Rangers were as hosts even though the NTHBA didn't enter any beers.

At The Club Meeting:

The Christmas Party was held at Saint Arnold brewery along with the other homebrew clubs. There were 16 homebrews and 2 casks of St. Arnold's fare served. Randy Veazy and friends provided seasonal music.

Brewers Assistance Program

Need help brewing?

Contact one of the following Foam Ranger members:

Bev Blackwood
713.432.1248 (H)
713.927.4832 (C)
Before 11:00 p.m.

Kuyler Doyle
713.523.8379 (H)
832.566.1197 (C)
Before 10:00 p.m.

Mike Heniff
281.489.3762 (H)
281.474.1537 (W)
Before 9:00 p.m.

Joe Lindsey
409.925.4664 (H)
409.763.2366 (W)
Joe Never Sleeps

Jimmy Paige
281.894.0307 (H)
832.576.6191 (C)
Before 10:00 p.m.

Ron Solis
281.324.7157 (H)
Before 9:30 p.m.

Jim Youngmeyer
713.667.0455 (H)
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Mark Muckleroy
Sales Associate

**The Foam Rangers Homebrew Club
Houston, Texas**

Brewsletter office
8715 Stella Link
Houston, Texas 77025



**Homebrewers
Christmas Party:
December 14th
@ Saint Arnold
Noon to 4 p.m.**

Bring FOOD!

*I want to be somebody!
Sign me up to become a member of the Foam Rangers*

Name _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____
E-mail Address _____ E-mail my Brewsletter
Amount Paid _____ New Renewal Change of Address

Membership Fees: (per year) \$20.00 Individual / \$30.00 Family

Paid between December 1 & December 31	\$18.00 / \$27.00 (Pay early and save!)
Paid between January 1 & March 31	\$20.00 / \$30.00
Paid between April 1 & June 30	\$17.50 / \$26.25
Paid between July 1 & September 30	\$15.00 / \$22.50
Paid between October 1 & November 30	\$20.00 / \$30.00 (Includes the next year!)

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:
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