



THE FOAM RANGERS Newsletter Urquell

The too damn hot issue!

Volume 23, Number 9 - Sept 2004

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**September meeting
is
Sept. 17th
at DeFalco's**

Quote of the Month:

**So laugh, lads, and
quaff, lads,
Twill make yous tout
and hale;
Through all my days,
I'll sing the praise
Of Brown October ale.**

*Source: Song from
Robin Hood, by
Reginald De Koven*

Out (of) the Wazoo



**By
Mike Heniff,
Grand Wazoo**

It September, it's damn hot AND humid, and I just got done brewing my third batch this weekend. Not to mention I bottled 6 gallons of beer and kegged 10 more gallons. This must mean one thing (other than Mike's a crazy brewing fool!): it's DIXIE CUP time.

Dixie Cup Coordinator Ed Moore is running with much of the planning for this grand event. The planning is going well, the website is up to date (thanks Dave Cato!), and we're heading towards the home stretch. But, we still need two things: your entries and your manpower. Why? Simple: the Dixie Cup defines us as a club outside of Houston, it generates a lot of the revenue that runs our club year round, and we have to enter big and work hard if we want to keep some other club from getting our trophy!

So, see Ed Moore or myself and see what you can do. Regardless, mark the first three weekends of October off your calendar - we have plenty of work to do!

Last month's meeting with some of the other local clubs was a success. Birdwell thinks we might have set an attendance record for the meeting. It was good to get to see some of our fellow homebrewers. Look for an announcement about heading down south in Mashtronaut territory late in the year (December, if I recall correctly).

On Labor Day weekend, the Foam Ranger officers brewed a batch with brewmaster Mark Duchow at BJ's Brewery in Clear Lake. The style: Baltic Porter. Mark has plans to have some in a cask as well as some aged in a Bourbon barrel. Watch for a special trip down to Clear Lake to tap the initial keg!

Wait, am I forgetting something? I think we had a pub crawl to San Antonio and I vaguely remembering it going well. Tons of barleywine was had, lots of good food and beer were partaken, and loads of fun was had. Be sorry if you missed it! Judging by the number of sleepers on the return trip, I would say it was a success. There were still a few drunks drinking barleywine at the end of the night (11:30 PM!) and I'm honored to say that I was one of them (much better than my fate was last year!). I wasn't so honored the next morning though.

Finally, I deem the necessity to repeat myself. Dixie Cup, DIXIE CUP, DIXIE CUP, DIXIE CUP!

Be sure to enter, be sure to volunteer, be sure to attend, be sure to enter, be sure to volunteer, be sure to attend, be sure to enter, be sure to volunteer, be sure to attend, be sure to enter, be sure to volunteer, be sure to attend. Dixie Cup, DIXIE CUP, DIXIE CUP, DIXIE CUP!

Honestly, we do need every bit of help anyone can give. Entries - WE MUST WIN OUR CUP! Judging - WE NEED ANY AND ALL JUDGES - NOVICES, EXPERIENCED, and BJCP JUDGES! Other help - SEE ED MOORE OR EMAIL HIM at DIXIECUP@FOAMRANGERS.COM. See you there!

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

Was-Waz:
Dr. Kuyler Doyle

Grand Wazoo:
Mike Heniff
wazoo@foamrangers.com

Secondary Fermenter:
Steve Moore
secondary@foamrangers.com

Scrivener:
George West
scrivener@foamrangers.com

Purser:
Janet Widger
purser@foamrangers.com

Competition Coordinator:
Bev Blackwood
competitions@foamrangers.com

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

Brewsletter Staff

Brewsletter Editor:
David Capolarello
editor@foamrangers.com

Ex-Editor:
Bev Blackwood
editor@foamrangers.com

Webmaster:
Beto Zuniga
webmaster@foamrangers.com

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

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Notice:
We need articles —

Please write something for your BU and submit it to me, so i don't die of boredom!!

Ed

Beer of the Month: Oktoberfest/Marzen

By the Swift Bloat Veterinarians for Brews

Editors Note: Because Secondary Fermenter Steve Moore can never meet a deadline, we are using guest writers for the BOM article until we think of something better to do.

<>Oktoberfest is widely regarded as an amber beer characterized by sweet toasty maltiness, moderate bitterness and a clean lager character. The Beer Judge Certification program alleges that Oktoberfests have original gravities ranging from 1.050 to 1.056, final gravities from 1.012 to 1.016 producing an alcohol by volume of 4.8 to 5.7%, 20 to 28 international bitterness units and a color of 7-14 SRM. Grain bills are said to include Vienna, Munich, Pilsner and perhaps some crystal malts with Vienna malt providing the bulk of the fermentables. Foam Rangers Grand Wazoo Mike Heniff recommends using Pilsner malt as the base, augmented by Munich and/or Vienna. The late Dr. George Fix recommended traditional noble hops such as Hallertauer, Tettnanger and Saaz. With great regret we must come forward to set the record straight. Oktoberfest is actually ale. We have eyewitness accounts of ale yeast being pitched into an Oktoberfest beer at a brewery in Houston, TX. Additionally, we have observed Oktoberfest beers being made with American two-row and medium crystal malt at microbreweries and brewpubs throughout the United States.

We have also observed that instead of fine noble hops, Oktoberfests are actually flavored with grass clippings from a Toro riding lawnmower.

<>Oktoberfests were alleged to have evolved from the Vienna Lager that was developed by Anton Dreher. Michael Jackson asserts in his Beer Companion that Josef Sedlmayr first brewed an amber lager in the Vienna style as a specialty beer for the Oktoberfest celebration in Munich which is alleged to commemorate the wedding of Crown Prince Ludwig. <>

We have testimony that Oktoberfest beer was actually created in the late 1980s by Jim Koch of the Boston Beer Company. And what does an entertainer and accused child molester know about brewing? We also believe that the Oktoberfest Celebration is actually in remembrance of the wedding of a man named Luxury Yacht (although it's pronounced Throatwarbler Mangrove). <>

The time has come to set the record straight.



BJ's Brew-in

by the Editor

On September 4th, the Waz, the Was-Waz and I went down to Webster for a day of brewing on a system every red-blooded home-brewer would love to own. I could not help thinking where can I park the cars, after installation of this beauty in my garage! BJ's Restaurant and Brewery was the location and Brewmaster Mark showed us what it was like to brew a batch on his 10 barrel system. We only brewed 4 barrels though, as that was the smallest batch possible due to the kettle design and we had only a small fermenter for our use. Mike Heniff concocted a recipe for Baltic Porter and about eight hours later a wort was born. I think it turned out very well with approx OG of 1.080. A house Kolsch yeast was pitched and I for one cannot wait to try the result. See ya at BJ's in three to four weeks!!!



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Beer of the Month Calendar

January 16th, 2004
Porter & Stout

Febbruary 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

August Meeting Pix





San Antonio Pub Crawl



Here are some pics from the first stop, at the Dodging Duck in Boerne. They had this marquee set up and waiting for us with extra staff and i for one had a great time! Thanks to the owner and Ray Mitteldorf, the brewer.



Many Years Ago
*by Sean Lamb,
 Closet Historian*

At the Meeting – Held at Steve and Bonnie Robert’s place on Sunday September 18. Other than that all information is lost.

Other Events – None noted.

5 years ago...

In The Brewsletter - Grand Wazoo Wayne Smith pushes participation in making the Dixie Cup happen. Secondary Charles Vallhonrat tells a story about how he discovered that the 1999 Dixie Cup would become a pivotal event in human history by using a time machine to travel into the future. Or was it really just half a case of old Bigfoot that was the inspiration for the tale?

At The Meeting – Held at DeFalco’s on Robinhood. Much in the way of Dixie Cup preparations were discussed.

Other Events - The Sly Bastards, Dave Cato, Joe Lindsey, Jim Youngmeyer, Ray Philbrook, and Jimmy Paige all won medals at the 1299 Lunar Rendezbrew.

10 years ago...

In The Brewsletter - Grand Wazette Autumn Woods-Moore regales everyone to support the Dixie Cup and notes the trip made by 18 Foam Rangers to tour the Anheuser Busch plant. Steve Daniel contributes his top ten list of why the Foam Rangers lost the Dixie Cup in 1993. Secondary Sam Zabbia touts the goodness of a 7-course meal – a large pizza and a 6-pack of Oktoberfest beer.

15 years ago...

In The Brewsletter – Lost in the mists of time – if you have a copy of the September 1989 issue, let the Waz know.

At the Meeting – Held at Buck Wyckoff’s place. The “Wortstock” t-shirts for the Dixie Cup were debuted, Beer of the month was ales from around the world, and the meeting devolved into a Dev sens-orama.

Other Events – none noted.

20 years ago...

In The Brewsletter – Mike and Dorothy Bartol review the 6th Annual AHA conference and the recent pub crawl. Materials for the homebrew competition that has been named “The Dixie Cup” are included in the issue.

At the Meeting – Held at DeFalco’s on Morningside. Beer of the month was “brown beer”. Planning for the Dixie Cup took up much of the meeting.

Other Events – Brew-in held at by 12 members at DeFalco’s produces 25 gallons of homebrew.

Foam Ranger Events



September

Sept 11

Brew-in
 Ed Moore
 DeFalco’s 10am

Sept 17

Monthly Meeting
 DeFalco’s 6-8pm

Sept 24-25

Cactus Challenge
 Homebrew Comp.
 Lubbock, TX



Oct 2

Dixie Cup Entry Sorting
 St Arnold’s Brewery
 9am-2pm

Oct 3

First Sunday
 Two Rows 4pm

Oct 9

Dixie Cup Entry Sorting
 St Arnold’s Brewery
 9am-2pm

Oct 10

Dixie Cup 1st Round
 Judging
 St Arnold’s Brewery
 10am

Oct 12

Dixie Cup 1st Round
 Judging
 St Arnold’s Brewery
 6pm

Oct 14

Dixie Cup Reception
 Orange Show 7pm

Oct 15-16

DIXIE CUP
 COMFORT INN
 US 59 & Wesleyan

The Foam Rangers Homebrew Club Houston, Texas

Brewsletter office
8715 Stella Link
Houston, Texas 77025



Monthly Meeting
September 17th
@ DeFalco's

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

Name _____

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

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Paid between July 1 & September 30 \$15.00 / \$22.50

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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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