



THE FOAM RANGERS Newsletter Urquell

You Can't Win If You Don't Enter!

September 2005 - Volume 25 Pints - Issue 9

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September

Meeting:

Friday,

September 16

8:00 p.m.

at DeFalco's

Two New Orleans Liquor Stores Safeguarded by Foam Rangers

By "Titanic" Bob Daugherty

In the wake of the terrible aftermath of Hurricane Katrina there has been at least one shining moment—a moment that presents many beer lovers with some hope: a self appointed elite squad of five Foam Rangers braved chest high deep water to rescue over ten cases of rare beers from two famous New Orleans area liquor stores. Welcomed as heroes, the Foam Rangers, or Foam Rescuers as they prefer to now be called, returned to Houston on Labor Day with much of the succored beer intact.

The story began to unfold Sunday August 28th when news about the Category 5 storm bearing down on the beloved Crescent City reached Houston. Immediately, five Foam (Continued on Page 11)



The "Foam Rescuers" keep a sharp eye out for a helicopter to airlift them and their precious cargo to safety.

Out (of) The Wazoo



By Ed Moore,
Grand Wazoo

We had a tremendous turn out for the August meeting. Our fellow brewers from the KGB and BAM showed up and we showed them a good time. The raffle went well and there was significant contributions from

Mark Muckleroy's brewing equipment. The Austin Pub Crawl was a success with stops at Live Oak and Independence breweries being the highlight of the trip. Chip from Live Oak and Amy from Independence were very happy to see people who appreciate good beer. We even got to spend some time at the B side of Bitter End. After

downtown, the forty or so beer dorks headed up to the Draught House and then finished at North by Northwest. Of course, there were many beers tried on the way up to Austin and then there were even more on the way back to Houston. Unfortunately, it was raining, I mean **storming**, when we got back to Houston. Fortunately, everyone made it home safely.

The Dixie Cup is only five weeks away so finish up your entries. I have at least 5 cases to get ready. The evil empires surrounding us (North Texas and Florida) are sure to be trying to steal our precious Dixie Cup (sorry wrong movie) from us. So, get your entries ready for the Dixie Cup and we can get the Dixie Cup to retake the lead as the largest single site homebrew contest in the world.

Make your room reservations soon as the hotel may not have a wide selection of rooms if you wait too long and there is no telling how long people from Louisiana will (Continued on Page 10)

The Brewsletter Urquell
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The tragedy unfolding on the Central Gulf Coast is undeniable and I hope everyone realizes that there's hardly a single Foam Ranger who doesn't have a friend or family member who has been affected by Katrina's savage blow. Many of our members have cooked, lifted, organized and contributed time and money during the relief effort.

I agonized over two things this month: T-Bob's timely and carefully written New Orleans piece and Sandy West's derriere. If you have found either offensive, I apologize. The Brewsletter (and the Rangers) like living on the edge, but sometimes we fall off. I try very hard not to lose that balance, but my judgement, like a levee, can fail at an inopportune moment.

It's Two, Two, Two Tastings For the Price of One!



By
Bob "Titanic-Bob"
Daugherty

Thank goodness it's getting near the end of my term as Scrivener because my meeting notes are getting worse and worse! At least I was AT the meeting this time and could find my

notes or what little there was of them and could be deciphered. Pale Ales have never been my favorite beer, but heck, they beat Pilsners! What they miss most I think are the words "Imperial India" in front of their names and alcohol and hops in their contents

Beer List:

Okay, there is none. I know I normally provide readers with a list of beers consumed at meetings but when I asked our Secondary Fermenter if he had a list, his words were: "F--- no! I bought them like an hour and half ago!" Unfortunately, I did not remember to ask him this until late in the meeting when I remembered I was supposed to be keeping track of them so I did not write them down either.

Announcements

Grand Wazoo Ed Moore made several announcements which I'm sure you can read on the front page of this issue. Among them were a request to get Rangers to sign up for the Austin Pub Crawl (which has already taken place, sorry if you missed it) and folks to sign up for the various duties at the Dixie Cup (still necessary-- it's coming very soon) Also we had two of our fellow area beer clubs on hand—the KGB and the Mashtronauts who made some announcements for their future events. The KGB reminded people of their Belgian Blow Out on September 3rd (which has also already taken place: It was fantastic!) and the Mashtronauts of their November 12th Brew-In (still ahead). The style is Stout and the Clear Lake guys are shooting at making two hundred gallons. Gee, if we just get Jeff Reilly down there he can almost make that much himself! The Brew-in will be held at the re-opened Outpost Pub and Bloody

Marys will be served for those not drinking barleywine.

RRRRRRRAFFLE!

The Raffle had some surprising items. Not only did we have the always humorous items brought by Kehn ("Not Kevin") Bacon (many dealing with flatulence) but we had items donated by the late Mark Muckleroy's mother. These included several nice carboys. My personal favorite was Steve Moore's almost miraculous winning of a Full Sail Mirror. Steve's ex-wife Autumn works at the company so we are sure that he will enjoy the mirror. I managed to win one of Kehn's donations and tried almost successfully to trade it with a lady who had won a maroon Sierra Nevada cap.

Side Tasting Displaces BOM

I also noticed one additional feature that needs mentioning. Once upon a time some members (me included) brought singles of beers to share with members towards the end of the meeting or on-the sly so to speak. This side tasting has been growing and growing and is more open than ever. Our departing Dixie Cup coordinator Colby Sheridan brought many of the beers he does not want to move. As a result, this side beer tasting was at times better attended and more appreciated than the pale ales being served as part of the regular beer o' the month. Some of these I did write down! We had several Cantillons, something called Hopzilla and an EKU 28.

Next Month

The meeting concluded around midnight [Maybe for you, T-Bob... I was there until almost 3 a.m. - Ed.] and we all headed home. Let's all keep brewing or bottling for the Dixie Cup. We took home the Bluebonnet this year and the Dallas guys will be wanting to take ours in return! Next month we will be serving Viennas, Marzens and Oktoberfests. I'll take better notes and I plan to bring some homebrewed examples. If you have any homebrewed or commercial ones to share please notify Secondary Rob Kolacny so he can get it in the list that I'm sure he will have for this month. Right Rob? [Editor's note: T-Bob DID eventually get a list of the Beers of the Month, but I opted not to print it in the interest of more space for Pub Crawl photos and other sundry goodies.]

A long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away...

BREW WARS

-REDD KNECK VERSION

By Rob Kolacny, Secondary Fermenter

Episode XXI: The Austin Abduction

AS
THE NEW
DEATH TUN NEARS
COMPLETION, AND THE
DIXIE CUP DRAWS NEAR,
THERE IS LITTLE TIME LEFT FOR
THE FOAM RANGERS TO BREW. MANY
HAVE BREWED ALL THEY CAN AND HAVE
PUT AWAY THEIR GEAR. EACH MEMBER
HAS AT LEAST 20 OR MORE BEERS TO ENTER
IN AN EFFORT DESIGNED TO OUT-BREW
THE CLONE BREWERS. MEANWHILE, THE
FREDI COUNCIL HAS DEVISED A PLAN TO
DEFEAT THE FORCESHIELD GENERATOR
THAT PROTECTS THE DEATH TUN ON
PLANET AUSTIN AND HAVE DISGUISED
THE MISSION AS A PUB CRAWL...

The Foam Rangers converge on the space dock at St. Arnold's Brewery where the pub crawl shuttle waits for them to gather. After drinking their symbolic barley wine before 9 AM, they load onto the shuttle and depart for the planet, Austin.

"Where is Master Stairway?" asked Han DeWalt.

"He has chosen to stay behind and attend to other matters." Answered Redd Kneck Skywalker. "He is behind on his brewing schedule".

"Won't we need his guidance on this mission?" asked Flobey Solo.

"No," replied RK, "I think Master Heniff can guide us on this one."

At that moment, a loud voice interrupted the conversation. "Who has a bottle opener?" It is General Lindsey.

"Here you are, Sir," snapped RK. "What are we drinking, Sir?"

"Sweet Stout, Imperial Stout, Barley Wine, and Old Ales," replied Lindsey. "If it's big, we're drinking it!"

"All the way there?" whined DeWalt. "I don't think I can make it if we drink big beers all the way to Austin."

"Get out of the back of the shuttle!" demanded Lindsey. "The back of the shuttle is for real drinkers. There ain't gonna be no water drinking here!"

DeWalt submits, offering his glass which General Lindsey immediately fills.

RK sees Master Heniff sitting a few rows ahead of them and takes the opportunity to

advance his BJCP training and moves to the seat next to him.

"Master?" asked

RK. "What does the BJCP

guideline say about Oktoberfest beers and Vienna Lagers?"

"You should really know this stuff by now," chastised Heniff. "The Vienna Lager was developed by Anton Dreher shortly after the isolation of lager yeast. It has a moderately rich German malt aroma (of Vienna and/or Munich malt) and sometimes, a light toasted malt aroma too. It has a clean lager character, with no fruity esters or diacetyl. Caramel aroma is inappropriate. The Oktoberfest has a similar aroma, but less intense. There should be no hop aroma in the Oktoberfest, but the Vienna Lager can have a touch.

The flavor of the Vienna Lager starts with a soft, elegant malt complexity in the forefront, with a firm enough hop bitterness to provide a balanced finish and some toasted character from the use of Vienna malt. There is no roasted or caramel flavor and the finish is fairly dry with both malt and hop bitterness present in the aftertaste. Noble hop flavor may be low to none.

The flavor of the Oktoberfest has an initial malty sweetness, but the finish is moderately dry. It has a distinctive and complex maltiness that often includes a toasted aspect. Hop bitterness is moderate, and noble hop flavor is low to none. The balance is definitely toward the malt, though the finish is not sweet. Again, a noticeable caramel or roasted flavor is inappropriate and it has to have a clean lager character with no diacetyl or fruity esters.

Overall, the Vienna Lager is characterized by a soft, elegant maltiness that dries out in the finish to avoid becoming sweet and the Oktoberfest is smooth, clean, and rather rich, with a depth of malt character. It is one

(Continued on Page 10)



Beer of the Month Calendar



January 20th, 2006

Porter & Stout



February 17th, 2006

Barleywine & Holiday



March 10th, 2006

Belgian & Fruit Beers



April 21st, 2006

Brown, Old & Scotch



May 19th, 2006

Bock



June 16th, 2006

Wheat Beers



July 21st, 2006

Pilsner & Kolsch



August 18th, 2006

Pale Ale & Bitter



September 16th

Oktoberfest / Marzen



October 20th - 22nd

Dixie Cup XXII



November 18th

India Pale Ale



December 11th

Homebrewer's Xmas Party

Foam Ranger Events

September 16
September Meeting
DeFalco's

October

October 1
Brew-in by Someone
(Maybe **You?**)
DeFalco's

October 2
DC/Officer's Mtg (3:00)
First Sunday (4:00)
Kelvin Arms

October 8
Dixie Cup Check-In
Saint Arnold

October 12
BJCP Exam
DeFalco's

October 15
Dixie Cup Check-In
Saint Arnold

October 16
Dixie Cup
1st Round Judging
Saint Arnold

October 18
Dixie Cup
1st Round Judging
Saint Arnold

October 20
Dixie Cup
Welcoming Reception
The Orange Show

October 21-22
The 22nd Dixie Cup
Comfort Inn SW Fwy.

November

November 6
Light Rail Pub Crawl
Red Line

Beer in the White (Wit) House

By Jimmy Paige
BU Washington Correspondent

Ever wondered what the leaders of our country imbibe? Our cracker staff of researchers hunted high and low, and exhausted all resources in bringing this blockbuster article to the pages of the Brewsletter Urquell (BU).

George Washington and Thomas Jefferson, were both homebrewers. Rumor has it the fine details of the Declaration of Independence were hammered out at the local pub in Philadelphia back in 1776. President George Washington long held the philosophy that we needed to have a national brewery. But, although Jim Koch of Sam Adams fame might want to self appoint himself as our nation's beer Czar, it has, unfortunately, not come to fruition. If we could only establish that long sought after Secretary of Beer cabinet position.

As many of you recall recently, President Bush, who, at the time of his inauguration, accomplished "today what was before denied his father", was sworn in for a second term. He remarked during the delivery of his inaugural address, "My fellow Americans, if I have offended you in any way, I sincerely apologize, and here, have a Bigfoot!"

2005 Inaugural gala organizers cheered and later added, you won't find any swill beer at any of the post inauguration parties around this town. Sure, you might find a Texas Shiner or two, but the President secretly prefers American microbrews and occasional Belgian ale. Unnamed sources close to the President remarked, off the record, the President has said those barleywines and Belgians really get him "f'ed up malt liquor style. It ain't like those wussy beers I used to pound in college." We also learned that First Lady Laura Bush's favorite beverage is Lindeman's Framboise. She says it aptly fits the definition of a "chick beer", describing it as possessing "Lots of fruity raspberry aromas, with a sweet tart flavor that goes down easy, with an alcohol surge that kicks in before you know what hit you, like a Red Bull for those caffeine crankers."

Just scant years before, who could forget President William Jefferson Clinton, whooping it up in the Oval Office. "Hey, this is my party, my White House, that people, my voters mandated we got to get down and

hoist a few here. Heck, my lovely wife Hillary is a wine snob, she will not throw down one of my "FO-TEES", she says does not like getting f'ed up malt liquor style. You know, Monica, she liked the "BULL". She said it was more pleasing to her; she liked the mouthfeel of that beverage. (Not to mention a few other things while she was an intern under (literally) Clinton) To translate for all you beer novices, that is the Schlitz Malt Liquor Bull. Clinton reminisced saying his uncle taught him how to drink. "He used to take me down to the corner store, and then we would sit on the sidewalk, drinking our Colt 45's out of a paper bag. Those were some good old days. When I was President, I recall some good people in Houston hosting a homebrew contest, and part of the judging process was drinking the entries out of a paper bag out behind a dumpster. [This actually took place at the 1996 Dixie Cup - Ed.] "How realistic is that," Clinton stated. "Heck, I almost had my Secret Service guys bring me over to that contest. I just happened to be in Houston meeting with Sheila Jackson Lee, she was a malt liquor guzzling legislator, that woman. She was I'm telling you; she could even hang with me. Once, she was visiting, she was staying in the Lincoln bedroom, and we had had a few malt liquors that night and then...and then...aw, shucks, that's another story, for later folks..."

Before Clinton, we had the dull years with Ronald Reagan. Although we found many Washington insiders with extremely fond memories of the "Gipper", the cerveza conservatives reflected Reagan did not drink beer, only wine. It seems it had something to do with those California wine lobbyists always bringing free samples and all sorts of swag to the White House when they visited Ron and Nancy. It was like a beer desert during the reign of Reaganomics. But our favorite President was Jimmy Carter. This guy was a legend for homebrewers. In 1979, he was instrumental in signing into law the legislation (see US Code Title 26, Subtitle E, Chapter 51, Subchapter A, Part 1, Subpart D, subsection 5053) that paved the way for thousands in our hobby to brew up to 200 gallons of beer for every household. Carter stated, hey, it's time we caught up with those Brits, they have been homebrewing legally since 1965." It seems Jimmy's older brother Billy may have played a key important role

(Continued on Page 10)



This Month in Foam Ranger History

By Sean Lamb, Club
Historian (Sorta)

20 Years Ago:

In the Newsletter (Called the Newsletter):
Brad Kraus writes about "Beer and Loathing in Plano": "We were somewhere around Homestead when the beer began to take hold..." recounting his trip to Reinheitsgebot Brewery.

At the Meeting:

Held at the "Gingerman's Alegarden". Beer of the Month was "American Micro Beers".

Other Events:

Labor Day brew-in and bar-b-que was held Monday September 2nd at DeFalco's on Morningside and the Gingerman. The following beers were made in anticipation of the Dixie Cup: Dixie De-Lite a mostly all-grain light lager with Hallertauer Hops by Scott Birdwell, Erotic Eroica Pale Ale by Keith Laird, Atomic Oktoberfest by Mervin "Brad" Kraus. Thunder Thighs Brown Ale by Andy Bradley, Labor Brau Continental Dark by J. R. Wasson. Five O'Clock Shadow Porter by Bob Capshaw. Don and Mary Wilson provided the smoker and the brisket. A homebrew baby shower was held for Scott and Janet Birdwell by Don and Mary Wilson.

15 Years Ago:

In the Newsletter:

Grand Wazoo Chris Todd apologizes for whatever it was that was printed in the Newsletter that upset someone. No copies of that issue are known to exist, so ask and old timer if you want to know. Club member Steve Daniel is interviewed. Fred Eckhardt's "A Tasting Of Beer and Chocolate?" is reprinted from American Brewer magazine. Scott Birdwell replies to the article "Up The AHA" that was critical of the American Homebrewers Association that printed earlier in the Newsletter. Dixie Cup beer categories are printed.

At the Meeting:

Held at Steve and Bonnie Robert's place in

Alvin. Not much known due to extremely brief minutes of the meeting.

Other Events:

Nothing noted

10 Years Ago:

In the Newsletter:

Grand Wazoo Autumn Woods-Moore encourages everyone to pitch in and make the Dixie Cup happen. Beto Zuniga, brewsletter editor, announces the birth of the Foam Page. Fred Eckhardt's article "Pie In The Eye- Homebrewers is Der Kwaziest People" recounting the Jennings homebrewers gathering is reprinted from All About Beer magazine.

At the Meeting:

Held at the Oddfellows Lodge in the Heights. Beer of the Month was Oktoberfests, with Spaten Ur-Marzen, Paulaner, Hacker-Pschorr and Samuel Adams Oktoberfest was presented, along with others. A club Oktoberfest competition was held, with Steve Daniel and Buck Wyckoff judging. Todd Kellenbenz won, with Larry Mayhew taking 2nd place.

Other Events:

Homebrewers Hopping Happy Hour was held at Valhalla on September 27th

5 Years Ago:

In the Newsletter:

Grand Wazoo David Cato talks Dixie Cup, and more Dixie Cup and a little bit about the GABF and how it conflicts with Dixie Cup activities. Secondary Bev Blackwood lists off the Oktoberfests to be consumed in an unusually short article. He's far more verbose in bemoaning the demise of Bank Draft, whose closing took everyone by surprise. Joe Lindsey provides a winner's list from Rendezbrew, with Jimmy Paige, Jim "Youngermeyer," Kehn Bacon, David Cato and Bev Blackwood all bringing home some awards. We sent a huge 11 entries to Cactus Challenge. Scrivener Kehn lauds a fun summer and pretty much says all the same things listed above and exhorts everyone to work on making the Dixie Cup successful.

At the Meeting:

Since there wasn't an October Newsletter, due to Dixie Cup, this meeting was lost to the mists of time and alcohol, but I'm sure we had a good time.

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.

Mike Heniff
281.204.4617 (W)
281.723.6357 (C)
Before 9:00 p.m.

Rob Kolacny
979.532.8056 (H)
979.532.1932 (W)
979.533.1173 (C)
Before 10:00 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
281.799.8427 (C)
Before 9:30 p.m.

Please respect their stated time preferences when calling!

DeFalco's
713.668.9440
Business Hours only

Everyone's favorite part of the meeting: Storytime.



And then the littlest homebrewer said: "Someone's been brewing in MY mash tun and there he IS!"

"No, will NOT be posing for a poster of my own, but thanks for asking."

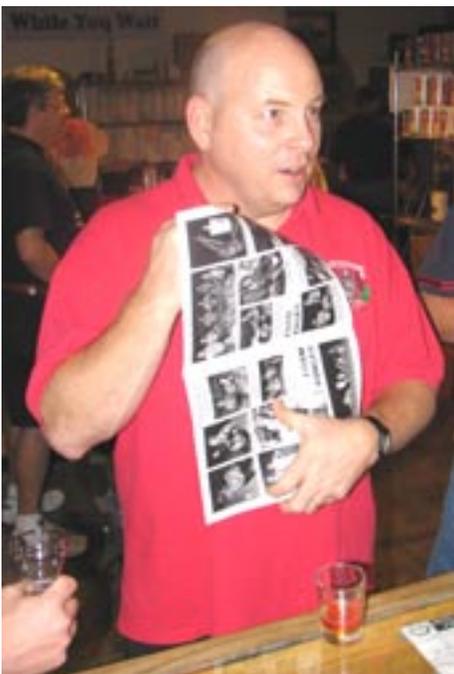


Steve shows off his new "dartboard."



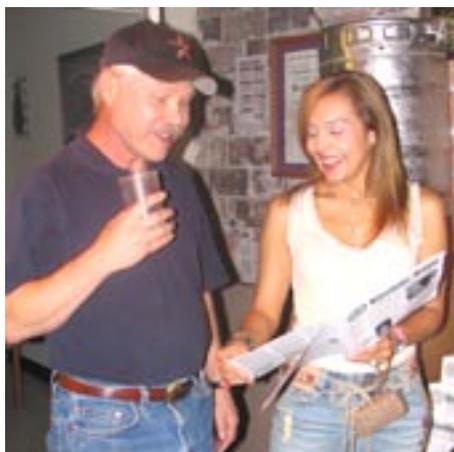
"You saw how much beer he drank, YOU burp him!"

FOAM RANGER



"I thought Bev said there was going to be a centerfold?"

"I thought Bev said / was going to be a centerfold!"



"Thank God I'm not Bev's centerfold!"

“Dude, if you call us the Three Stooges, he’s Larry.”



Your visual guide to Foam Ranger meetings: #3: If Doak looks like this, it’s time to go home!



Jason perfects his two handed pouring.



Damn, Wiley... What IS that smell?!?

Hey you bastard, don’t you have enough pictures of Hazel?



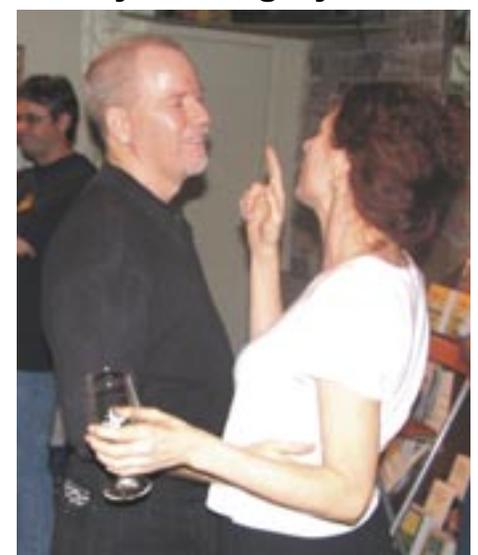
FOTO PAGES

“Hey wait... Here’s a Centerfold!”



Obviously she didn’t mean Beerbo, so it must be his “dirty” shirt!

So how many women did you get to “take it off” with that “Centerfold” line you naughty man?



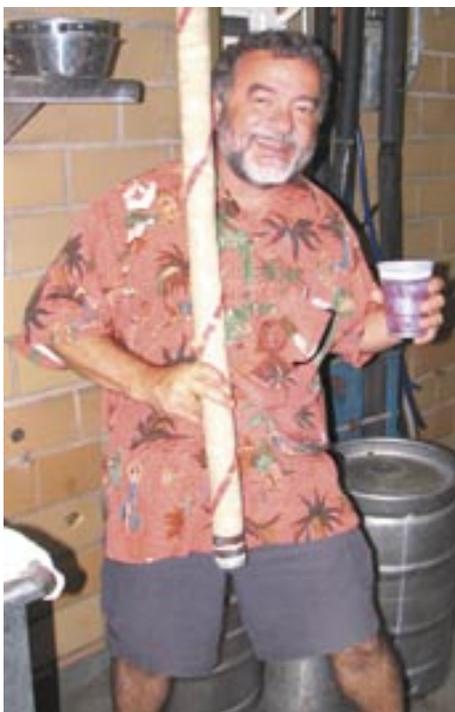
THE FOAM RANGERS



9:00 a.m. Pub Crawl departure & barleywine festival



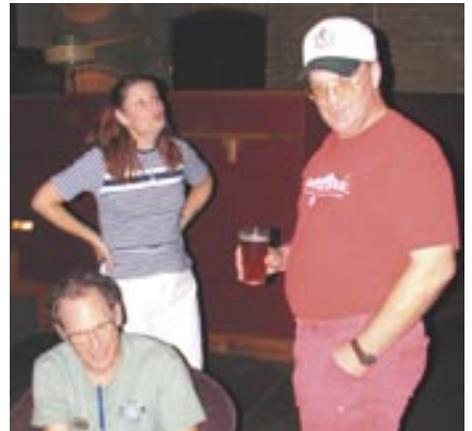
Tom gets his fill from T-Bob's "single serving" bottle of Hog Heaven.



Beerbo reminds us all that a brewer can never have too much hose.



Chip wonders what he did to deserve us dropping in to visit.



Whatever Ed said to Nannette, he'd do well to apologize or run like hell.

Just a pint?
I don't think so mate!"

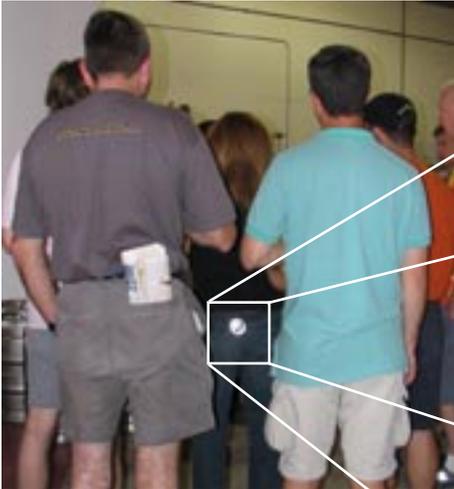


Joe tries Gina's "home remedy" for drunks.



Scott "Wifenswapper" discovers that two (or is it four?) can play THAT game!





apparently we haven't paid *enough* attention to Sandy's derriere.



Upon "reflection," it's a cry for attention...



Soon after this photo, Sean was asked to leave.



The HBC and HBCzarina cuddle at Lovejoy's

10:30 a.m. and the madness has still only just begun...



"So then I asked the B-Side bartender if it was 'hot enough' for them!"



T-Bob thought he was being propositioned when asked if he wanted to "Shake my maracas."

"I'm only saying this once... Get out, you drunks."



DRINK AUSTIN DRY!

(Continued from Page 3)

of the classic malty styles, with a maltiness that is often described as soft, complex, and elegant, but never cloying.

Unfortunately, the Vienna Lager is all but gone in its native Germany and surprisingly, survives mainly in Mexico, where Santiago Graf and other Austrian immigrant brewers introduced it in the late 1800s. The modern examples are adjunct laden and therefore, not as rich and malty as they once were."

The shuttle arrived at the Live Oak Brewery where the Rangers met up with the Foam Ranger Intelligence advance scouts: Storge and Sandy West, and 'The Mighty Dave Power Ranger,' and the Sly Bastards. They were sent by the council to lead the mission to destroy the forceshield generator.

Just as the briefing begins, it is interrupted by shouts from DeWalt as he runs through the brewery.

"They took him!" shouts DeWalt. "We were peeing outside because the line at the bathroom was too long, and some guys jumped us. When I awoke, he was gone and they left this note!"

"Who was taken? What Note? Demanded Heniff.

"Flobey Solo," cried DeWalt as he handed over the note.

"Your brewer has been captured and frozen in mashtranite," the note read.

"We have sent him to the planet, Atlanta and there he will stay until you give up this Homebrew Revolution, forever. – the Emperor".

"We must find him!" cried DeWalt.

"No," replied Heniff. "That's exactly what they want us to do. They want to divide us and take our minds

(Continued from Page 1)

stay there. (only the more expensive ones may be left if you wait.) Volunteers are needed for the various duties at the Dixie Cup. Registration, sorting entries, judging, stewarding, POT LUCK, reception set up, homebrew beer for the reception and the Dixie Cup, and transporting entries to and fro around Houston. Please be willing to volunteer and help make this year's Dixie Cup the best ever. Sign up will be at the next meeting September 16th.

Speaking of volunteers, we need to be able to help those in need especially down and out brewing brethren from the New Orleans area and Mississippi. I do not think they will need beer, but knowing the New Orleans brew crew, they will certainly drink it and they are capable of draining a lot of beer. Seriously, see what you can do to donate what you can to some of the several charities in the Houston area. I will be dropping off stuff at my church and hopefully you can find the time and material to help out those in need.

Please do not drop off stuff at DeFalco's, take donations to some of the many charities in the Houston area.



away from the mission. Flobey Solo will keep until after the Dixie Cup. They know we are here now and will expect us to move. This has definitely complicated things...

(Continued from Page 4)

in getting brother Jimmy to see the light with beer. Cronies of Billy Carter we tracked down and interviewed in Plains, Georgia claimed Billy was never the same after the Iran hostage crisis. Billy was up there every day telling his brother his beer (Billy Beer which debuted in 1977) could be sent over to those Muslim extremists in Iran, to calm them down and get them drunk enough so the American prisoners could be released. Billy even told Jimmy he would guarantee a free lifetime supply of Billy Beer to the Ayatollah and his homeys. It seems Billy did not stop there; he even tried to make some deals selling Billy Beer to Libya. The Senate investigated his dealings that caused a black eye for his brother Jimmy's re-election campaign. So much for foreign policy by way of adult malt beverages. But while many Presidents and their staffs quaffed a few pints in the White House movie theater over the years, our top prize for changing the beer consumption of America goes to none other than President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Presidential historian Michael Besschlossed, a frequent contributor to Newsweek, Time, and now the Brewsletter Urquell, boldly stated, "Roosevelt, that guy had a set of stones, I mean c'mon, he took the bull by the horns and got Prohibition ended." He brought our country back to its senses, he wrested control from those Nazi prohibitionists. He then immediately made arrangements to have beer delivered April 7, 1933 to the White House, complete with a Marine escort, now that is as American as apple pie. They should have a memorial statue erected with the

Marines, a stack of beer cases and some beer kegs. It would look good next to the one for Iwo Jima.

So as you see, beer has played a prominent role in our democracy national politics and sometimes-foreign politics. Beer will continue to maintain its importance in our nation's capital. So here's a toast to keeping beer politically correct!



Est. 1971

8715 STELLA LINK
HOUSTON TX 77025

(713) 668-9440

FAX (713) 668-8856

TOLL FREE ORDER LINE:
(800) 216-BREW (2739)

**Dues Paid Foam Rangers
Members Receive
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(Continued from Page 1)

Rangers: Ed Moore, Rob Kolacny, Steve Moore, Scott DeWalt, and J. Gardner Biggs put their BEMA (Beer Emergency Management Agency) plan in action. "We had long known about the great possibility of a city built largely below sea level, surrounded by water on almost all sides and protected by long neglected levees being flooded and WE... WERE... READY!" said DeWalt, the coordinator of the rescue effort. "You would have to be a moron to not be ready for an opportunity... um, I mean disaster, like this! We hooked up the Red Kneck's [Kolacny's] flat bottomed boat to one of two SUVs and headed to what we knew would soon be a disaster area with thousands of people and cases of beer likely to be trapped." The Fantastic Five drove all night and reached the New Orleans outskirts just as the worst of Katrina passed through. Finally the first of the group's intended targets, Dorignac's Food Center at 710 Veteran's Memorial Boulevard in Metairie, was reached. Steve Moore, who is a frequent customer of the grocery store, directed the courageous Rangers to the beer aisles. J. Gardner Biggs added: "I immediately found the Lee's Harvest Ale. I was a bit disappointed that they only had 1999 and up and no 1998 but I did my duty and safeguarded it none the less! DeWalt loaded up the Duchess [de Burgundy] and the Putz [Steve Moore] got to the Cooper's Old Ale. Kolacny had to content himself with saving the Westvleteren 12." The group rescued one hundred cases of the beer into the SUVs apparently just minutes before the first understandably desperate Metairie residents reached the store. "We were only able to hand out food, water and batteries to these folks for a few minutes," said Kolachny, "because we still had the hardest part of our mission ahead: Vieux Carre's Wine and Spirits on Chartres Street." By boat and under the directions of the Grand Wazoo, the Rangers made their way to the French Quarter. "We were certain it would be, like so much of the city we saw, under water but thankfully the Quarter is up a bit higher in elevation," said E Mo. "When we got there we thought we were already

too late. The store appeared to have been looted but we were relieved to find that most of the rarer beers, with the exception of any labeled as 'Malt Liquor,' were still there. We loaded at least fifty cases into Rob's boat even though this meant we would have to wade through chest high waters. We had to put the comfort and safety of the beer first!" added Biggs. With Herculean effort, the group made their way back to Dorignac's. There they were troubled to find that their SUV's were out of gas. "Either we had terrible gas mileage or the \$5 a gallon gas had forced some folks to siphon our remaining gas!" said DeWalt. The next several days were harrowing to say the least. "We heard terrible stories of looters, rapists, and fires on the radio but more importantly we were getting hungry and worse, thirsty," said Kolacny. In their rush to reach the Big Easy as quickly as possible, the group had forgotten to bring any water and food. "All food and water had long been liberated from the store. It was only after great reflection and sacrifice that the group began consuming the beer they had in fact come to rescue. Eventually a CNN helicopter noticed the sign the Rangers had painted on some bed sheets, 'Have Beer Save Us!' and landed nearby. The film and flight crew demanded that the Rangers either leave the beer or share some with them. "That was unacceptable, said Moore. 'No beer left behind' is BEMA's motto and we were going to live up to it even if it meant weeks of only surviving only on these beers!" The CNN chopper soon abandoned them. An angry Steve Moore complained, "I can't but help but believe that if we had been rescuing Wit and light colored beers as opposed to dark beers and stouts that we would be rescued sooner!"

Finally Scott DeWalt came up with a solution: "When the Pearland club members Mike [Heniff], Stuart [Strack] and T Bob {Daugherty} get too plastered to drive home after a meeting who always picks them up?' I asked myself. Of course the answer was Gina!" Immediately the team called Gina Strack on a cell phone. "It was amazing how quickly the ex-STRACK-tion team got to us. We put the ten remaining cases of beer in the Strack's van and headed home," concluded DeWalt. "We had no idea that dozens of beer club members in the Houston area had been following our story and would be waiting for us when we arrived. We were suspicious they only wanted to take in what we had rescued!" said Kolacny. Ed Moore added, "Some people are calling us heroes. But that's wrong! The real heroes are those that risked their lives to save the people."

[Many Houston area homebrewers have been contributing time and money to the relief effort. Foam Rangers Alison Birdwell and Jessica Duke have been working tirelessly at the Astrodome, feeding New Orleans evacuees, assisted now and then by Scott Birdwell and Karel Chaloupka. Please continue to donate time and money to the Katrina relief effort! - Ed.]



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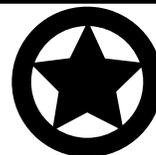


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