



THE FOAM RANGERS Newsletter Urquell

Twenty Four For Twenty Four!

December 2012 - Volume 31 Pints - Issue 12

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The December "Meeting"

Homebrewer's Christmas Party



Sunday, Dec. 4th
 Odd Fellows Lodge
 115 E. 14th St.
 Noon - 5 p.m.

Brewsletter Outsourced!

By *Bebida Negromadera*

Be prepared for changes in the Brewsletter January, Grand Wazoo - Elect Jaime Robles says. "Bev just pissing money in these hard copies and you really can not afford that," he says. "Now that has become secondary Brewsletter can finally get done much cheaper."

While the articles will remain written by officers, the entire layout and editing will be in charge of a maquiladora in Juarez who specializes in the publication. (This article is his first effort.) "Nothing can be easier," United Robles. "I send pictures and articles, and they send us back the electronic files and a system to turn to DeFalco. My cousin Jorge gave us the hook and has about ten to twenty employees who can turn around in one day." the Wazoo smiles, "No more 'Two weeks of the closing date' e-mails! " Former editor and Secondary Fermenter



Mexican publishing facility awaits our Brewsletter!

Brewsletter elected Bev Blackwood is not so sure. "Are we really sure that contractors are concerned about our Brewletter? What if I get something wrong? All we can end up Coronitas instead of Bigfoot!" He shakes his head, "There's really no reason not to maintain this publication in the house." "No hay problema." states Brewsletter publisher Jorge Robles. "Todo sera bien. Haremos que su Brewsletter tan comprensible como Google Translate nos permite."

Out (of) The Wazoo

By *Kyle Jones*
 Grand Wazoo



What Would Jesus Brew?

What if the 3 wise men had brought baby Jesus a homebrewing kit instead of the gold, frankincense, and myhrr that they ended up going with? Now

the gold is fine, but what is someone going to do with frankincense and myhrr? But give the Savior of Mankind some malt extract, a few ounces of Centennial, and some dry yeast, and watch the magic happen. A little bit of homebrewing would have saved Him some serious headaches (and

maybe caused a few as well). Busting His ass turning water into wine? A non-issue if He's packing a few cornies. A couple weeks in the desert? No sweat, just pack a few beers for the trip. And it's no wonder Judas was pissed at the Last Supper - no one brought the barleywine.

I know what you're thinking. How would the original King of Beers have had time to bottle all that beer after a full day of working miracles? Easy. When's the last time you had 12 friends just waiting to help you bottle your latest batch of homebrew? And with all those guys' thirsts to slake, He had the perfect excuse to upgrade to all grain and a half-barrel brewing system.

Temperature control would have been a bitch in the Middle East, but swaddling the fermenter with a wet blanket would certainly

(Continued on Page 6)

The Brewsletter Urquell

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The Brewsletter Urquell is published by the Foam Rangers Homebrew Club, 8715 Stella Link, Houston, Texas 77025

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The Brewsletter is a labor of love. If you don't love it, it's just laborious. It combines the best of the club, our sense of fun and quirkiness, with its biggest frustration, a dependence on volunteers to get everything done and stepping up to do it yourself when they fall short. I take pride in it, I take joy from the enjoyment you get from it, it's a job I enjoy doing for the club. However, variety is the spice of life, so I'm stepping into a different role for a while. Be good to Alex & Abisha and help them keep the Brewsletter entertaining and full!



By
**Jaime Ortiz,
Scrivener**

The meeting day started early as the Karbach happy hour tour became the setting for our pre-election officer's meeting. We

discussed several important issues such as a reduction in dues and finalizing things before the election. Several Foamies took part of the brewery tour and enjoyed getting to learn about the inner workings of Karbach in addition to meeting head brewer Eric Warner. We enjoyed Karbach's beers while we waited for the Foam Ranger meeting to start at 7 pm.

Of course, we had to wait for the non-Foam Rangers to leave before starting our party. A couple of them stuck around a little longer once they noticed we brought more beer. Tonight we tasted several IPAs and a bunch of homebrew along with Karbach's beers. Too bad we didn't get a chance to taste their Double IPA. It would have been tasty. As IPAs are very close to our hearts, we all enjoyed trying several varieties that Jaime brought for us. And man, we really brought a lot of food this time. The selections were delicious.

Now it was time for Kyle, the soon to be Was Waz to speak. This is when things got fun. Little did Kyle know that the entire membership had planned a demonstration during his speech using the Occupy Wall Street movement as the example. A series of emails over the past two weeks had set this up and print outs of the hand signals we

Occupy Karbach!

were going to use got around to everyone but Kyle. A dazed and confused Kyle had no idea why we were all making different hand signals depending on what he said, wiggling our fingers up or down to voice our approval/disapproval of his speech. Several awesome demonstration signs were put up: "We are the 99 BAC", "We want the 9.9%", "I am not bitter, my beer is", "Are you drinking with me Jesus?", "MICROBREW, too small to fail", and "MACROBEER=MICRO flavor", among others.

With all this going on, Kyle announced the winners of the club brew competition and Jaime (the soon to be Wazoo) won the competition. Then it was time for elections. Unfortunately, it was more like appointment time. Everyone ran unopposed and the election went smoothly with lots of up finger wiggles giving the approval for all candidates.

[The following officers were elected:

Grand Wazoo – Jaime Robles

Secondary Fermeter – Bev Blackwood II

Scrivener – Jaime Ortiz

Brewsletter Editor – Alex & Abisha Cresswell

Competition Coordinator – David Rogers

Dixie Cup Coordinator – Bev Blackwood II

Purser – Sharon Hayes

Head Bozo in Charge of Special Events

– Scott Birdwell

Food God – Erik Ribeiro -Ed.]

Someone finally decided to let Kyle in on our secret and gave him our cheat sheet. Impeach!! Impeach!! Doak gave a motion to impeach the Wazoo and we all gave quick approval. Now off to find some more IPA to drink! By the way, did I just sign up for another year of Scrivener duties? Oh well... Thanks to Karbach Brewing for a great night!

Join the Foam Ranger E-mail Lists!

By **Dave Cato**
List owner

In the example that follows, LISTNAME should be one of these mailing list names:

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foam-rangers-announce

Replace LISTNAME with the *actual name* of the list when subscribing!

To subscribe to one (or more) of these lists, send the single line:

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Once your subscription is confirmed, you will receive a reply with the guidelines for the list you subscribed to, including instructions for unsubscribing in the future.

A Ghost Of Hombrewers Christmas Parties Past...

*Drunky the Snowman
was a very fucked up soul
with his barleywine
and a drunkard's
nose and his eyes
blood-shot and
closed.*



*Drunky the
Snowman
is a barroom tale
they say...
He was made of
snow but the barflies
know how he drank*

them dry one day.

*There must have been some magic
in the old barroom that day
For when they gave him
barleywine, he began to stagger
and sway*

*Drunky the Snowman
was as sloshed as he could be
And we all could see
he could puke and pee
Just the same as you and me.*

*Drunky the Snowman
knew the taps would close that*

*day, so he said: "Let's
chug!" as he slammed a mug,
"Now before I
melt away!"*

*Into the coolers,
with an opener
in his hand,
Opening
every case just
to have a taste,
saying:
"Beer me!
If you can!"*

*He drank them down round
after round right to the fi-
nal drop and he only paused
a moment when he belched a
final thought*

*Drunky the Snowman
had to hurry on his way
you could hear him hurl all
around the world but he'll be
back again someday.*

*(Reprinted from the
January 2003
Brewsletter Urquell)*

Beer of the Month Calendar

- ★
- January 20th, 2012
Porter & Stout
★
- February 17th, 2012
Barleywine & Holiday Beer
★
- March 16th, 2012
Belgian Ales & Lambics
★
- April 20th, 2012
Homebrew!
★
- May 18th, 2012
Bocks, Dark Lagers, Dunkel
★
- June 15th, 2012
Wheat, Wit, Fruit & Rye
★
- July 20th, 2012
Homebrew!
★
- August 17th, 2012
Pale Ale, Bitter & Steam
★
- September 21st, 2012
Oktoberfest & Smoked
★
- October 18th - 20th, 2012
Dixie Cup XXIX
★
- November 16th, 2012
I.P.A. & Ambers
★
- December 4th, 2011
Homebrewer's Xmas Party

Foam Ranger Foto Pages!



Great, it's one of those beers...



Shame on you for using a word like that about one of *my* beers!



Geeks get all the chicks...



I think the kid likes it!



Oh man... Not *again!*



David and Jaime keep the beer flowing at the bar...



No, seriously... When are all of you leaving?



Abisha either needs glasses or a bigger camera...



No, I don't think ya'll caused any permanent damage..



You *know* you want what's in the cooler!



Woops, forgot our tents!



Hopadillo don't give a shit...

I left my drink *where*?



What's up with the hands?



**#OCCUPY
KARBACH!**



The Waz "strikes a pose."



Just a drop of I.P.A. behind the ears, drives the women crazy!



We need to impeach this guy!



Wonder twins power... Activate!



By **Bev Blackwood II, Competition Coordinator**

A few house-keeping notes before I leave this column for a while... First, if you took a

first place ribbon at Bluebonnet or Dixie Cup for anything in Categories 1-19 or 22, you are an MCAB Qualifier! Sadly, that's a pretty short list for us this year. The JAWZ team, J&J Brew Crew, David Rogers & Melissa Borup and yours truly are the only folks who'll be entering.

Entries are 3 bottles, plain brown, longneck, plain cap. You can have an exception to that rule **if** you get permission. (Unlike Dixie Cup where we try to accomodate our entrants, the MCAB folks have a stick up their butt about bottles.) Entries cost \$10.00 and are due by January 18th, so if you're re-brewing anything, you better get a move on!

Our incoming Competition Coordinator, David Rogers, will be hosting the club pack & ship at DeFalco's on January 5th. You are encouraged to pack your own entries. We may have a limited amount of packing materials available, but do **not** count on it! As with all shipments to competition, two things are critical: Pack the bottles

Time To Get Brewing!

so they cannot contact the sides of your box or one another during transit. (Short of armor plating, there's not much you can do about being run over by the UPS truck.) Line your box with a sealed, waterproof liner (like a heavy-duty trash bag) to ensure that if something breaks, no leakage occurs. Scott is very gracious in letting us ship from his store, but that privilege will rapidly disappear if it causes any problems with his shippers.

Congratulations to our MCAB Qualifiers and best of luck in San Diego! In the year ahead, we will be looking to win back the Dixie Cup and remind the rest of Texas that the Foam Rangers aren't just rowdy homebrewers with a taste for barleywine, we're pretty darn serious brewers as well!

There is no better way to get serious feedback on your beer than by entering competitions. You can get very good feedback by bringing your homebrew to meetings (so be sure you bring **lots** of homebrew to our meetings) but for a good written evaluation, nothing beats a competition!

The first event of 2012 will be the Bluebonnet Brew-Off. They start accepting entries on January 20th and the deadline is February 24th. The Bluebonnet Cup, like the Dixie Cup, resides in Austin. We need to fix that problem... We've had them both before and they looked damn pretty on the shelf at DeFalco's!

So get brewing, get feedback and let's kick some Zealot butt!



The Waz draws a crowd for his brew day (or maybe for the beer...)

The Grand Wazoo...



No Cliff, it's step, ball change... then the jazz hands!

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2012 EVENTS

- BLUEBONNET BREW OFF
- ALAMO CITY CERVEZA FEST
- CELTIC BREW OFF
- BIG BATCH BREW BASH
- LUNAR RENDEZBREW
- LIMBO CHALLENGE
- CACTUS CHALLENGE
- DIXIE CUP



WWW.LONESTARCIRCUIT.COM

(Continued from page 1)

have helped. Going back and forth to the well for water gets old really quick, but He met some interesting people along the way.

Ever think you were the first person to experience the miracle of the keg that never seems to run dry? How do you think thousands of people kept eating and drinking when all they had were a few fishes, a couple of loaves, and one half-full keg of a decent pale ale? I'm careful about sanitation, and I often ask people to wash their hands if they are going to help me bottle or keg. But would I ever wash their feet in iodophor? No way. But some Homebrewers are a bit paranoid about sanitation. Maybe that's why He never had an infected batch...



A beautiful brew day outside DeFalco's!

**...does a
brew!**

Soon to be WasWaz Kyle Jones spent a beautiful November afternoon brewing in front of DeFalco's. He was joined by several onlookers and Ronnie Crocker from the Houston Chronicle, who wrote about the brew day in his blog, *Beer, TX* (<http://blog.chron.com/beertx/2011/11/for-houston-homebrewers-every-week-is-beer-week/>) Great publicity for the club and a fun day for all who were present.

I can see my house!



One Waz in, another one out... Way out!



The "Club within the Club" at Karbach (L to R): Wayne Smith, 1999 - Sean Lamb, 1994 - Steve Moore, 1997 - Bev Blackwood, 2001 - Steve Capo, 1998 - Jaime Robles, Wazoo-elect - Kyle Jones, 2011 - Doak Procter, 2010

We wish WasWaz¹³ Andy Thomas and his family a safe journey and lots of fun in Perth, Australia for the next four years! Were we really so bad that you had to go to the other side of the planet?



Andy & Sally peruse one of their farewell beers.



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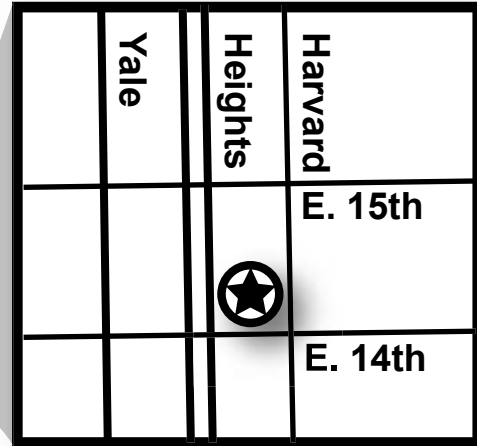
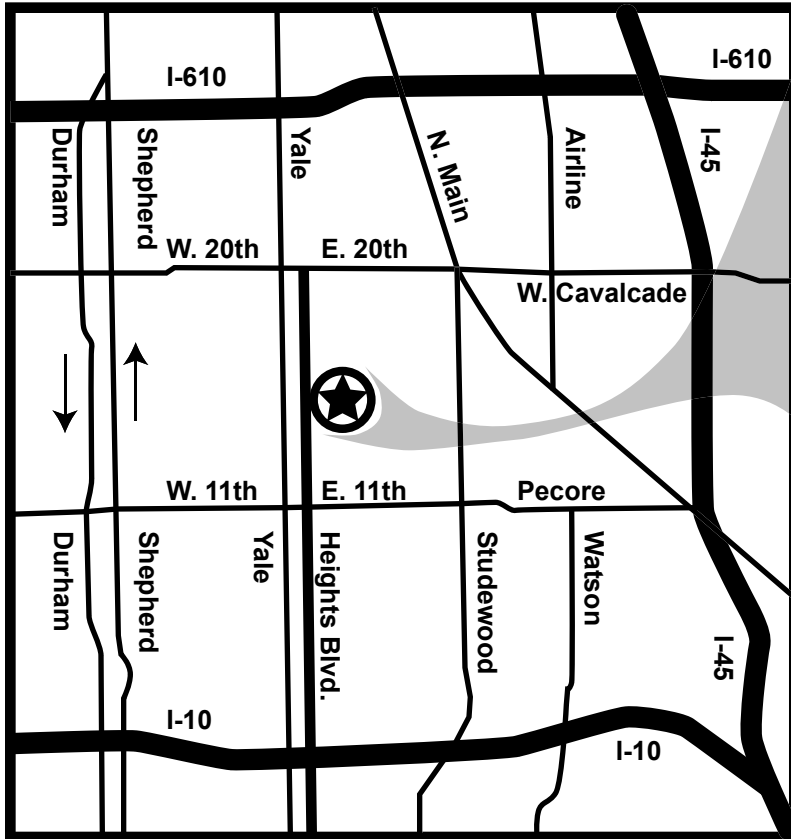
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Where's The Homebrewer's Christmas Party?



The Odd Fellows Lodge
 115 East 14th Street
 The Heights, Houston

Sunday, December 4th
 from Noon to 5 p.m.

Bring a new, unwrapped toy.
 Bring a potluck lunch item.
 Bring Homebrew!



**I WANT TO BE SOMEBODY IN PARTICULAR!
 SIGN ME UP TO BECOME A MEMBER OF
 THE FOAM RANGERS HOMEBREW CLUB!**



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