



THE FOAM RANGERS

Brewsletter Urquell

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Out (of) The Wazoo

Hank Keller, Grand Wazoo

As the heat of the season continues, things are heating up on the Lone Star Circuit with all the competitions, and the oldest one on the circuit right around the corner... the 36th Annual Dixie Cup!! This is the granddaddy of all homebrew competitions in Texas, and we, Foam Rangers must make this one unforgettable!! Paul Porter could still use volunteers for up front work and behind the scenes works... TALK TO PAUL OR ME (THE WAZ) ABOUT HOW YOU CAN HELP!!! We're going to be talking about how to enter beers and how they are evaluated in competitions – you don't want to miss this!!

On a sad note, I'm sure most of you have heard about the soon to be closing of Defalcos homebrew Supply Store. After 48 years in Houston, with Scott Birdwell at the helm for 41 of them, the end has finally come. We all owe Scott a big hug (or a cold beer) for everything he has done for this club. He, and Defalcos has been the heart and soul of the Rangers for decades. I will, for the first time in years, now be forced to buy ingredients from other suppliers. I'm going to miss coming in to talk with, or get advice from Scott or the rest of the crew of Defalcos. Personally, it's going to be like losing a family member...



Upcoming Events

- August 16 / Club Meeting
@ DeFalco's (Pale, Bitter, Steam)
- September 1 / Officers Meeting
@ Sigma Brewing
- September 14 / Brew-In
@ TBD
- September 20 / Club Meeting
@ TBD (O-Fest & Smoked)

Competitions Reminder

- August 15 / Dixie Cup Entry Period Opens
- August 24 / Limbo Challenge
- September 5 / Dixie Cup Entry Period Closes
- September 7 / Dixie Cup Entry Sorting
- September 21 / Alamo City Cervezafest
- October 17-19 / Dixie Cup

Yes, Trump Said That

"The kidney has a very special place in the heart"

We are also going to be accepting nominations for the Jeff Reilly Memorial Award. For you newer members, this award goes to the Foam Ranger who "is awarded annually to a new brewer that has demonstrated progression or skills in keeping Jeff's competitive spirit, and / or a club member who has gone 'above and beyond' in their efforts to support homebrewing and the Foam Rangers." Nominations must be sent in writing to the Waz (me) no later than September 30. This is a serious award, so please consider your nomination as such.

Change in this club is a-coming Rangers! We need to have people step up to be the officers for the 2020 year. Talk to me or any of the officers if you are interested. This club does not function without YOU and YOUR INVOLVEMENT. There are other roles that will occur throughout the year that you can do – help arrange a pub crawl, wort share, tour to a brewery, or anything that may be of interest to your fellow Rangers.

By the way, the phrase "this raffle sucks" is an inside joke. The raffle the Foam Rangers have is way better than any raffle at any other club 9I have been a member of 3 different clubs in different states). Buy tickets to support YOUR club. The money raised goes to commercial beers at meetings and other club functions.

"If I saved all the money I spent on beer, I'd spend it on beer" – Earl Dibbles Jr.

Beer of the Month: Pale Ales and Bitters

Dave Frank, Secondary

English Pale Ale. In England, the manufacture of pale ales likely began in the 1600s when brewers started drying malt in ovens fueled by coke (a leaner burning form of coal created by heating coal in the absence of oxygen, removing volatile gases and impurities). While these ales were pale only in the context of the dark porters and browns common to that era, they were quite popular. One of the centers for brewing pale ales, Burton upon Trent, included the Bass brewery founded in 1777 which made a Burton Pale Ale that was quite dark, a bit sweet, and warming. For much of the 1700s the Burton Pale Ale was exported to Russia and the surrounding Baltic states. By the mid 1800s those Burton beers with a bitter edge had gained a toehold and Burton upon Trent became one of the great brewing capitals of the world. However, this area's greatest asset was its water and, in time, a chemist named C.W. Vincent cracked the mineral code and created a process called Burtonisation, which allowed brewers anywhere to mimic the Burton pale ales by adding gypsum (calcium sulfate). Over time, many British breweries scaled back on the bitterness and created a more earthy, fruity, and malty ale with a nice hop balance.



Bitters. Originally, a bitter was a pale ale that was served on draft or as a naturally carbonated cask ale; the term pale ale referred to a bitter that was bottled. Today, bitters are both bottled and served on draft. These ales have been generally divided into three categories: Standard or Ordinary bitter, Best or Regular Bitter, and Premium or Strong Bitter. Ordinary bitter clocks in up to 4.1% ABV and is the most common bitter sold in pubs. It is so light and drinkable that you can easily drink several pints in an evening. Regular bitter spans the middle ground between 4.2 and 4.7% ABV. Strong bitter is anything 4.8% and above. It is maltier, hoppier, and also called an extra special bitter (ESB; although only in the United States, as the ESB is a trademarked brand of Fuller Smith & Turner). Recently, the ESB has become a trendy style for American brewers who want to make an English ale with extra malt and hop flavor.

American Pale Ale. On November 15, 1980, Chico, California's Ken Grossman brewed a test batch of a complex, full-bodied pale ale that featured the unusual addition of copious amounts of the flowery, bright, and lightly spicy Cascade hop. The fragrant result was unlike anything the country had ever tasted, contrasting to the crisp lagers crowding bar taps and supermarket shelves. Confident in the beer, the following March Ken Grossman distributed debut batches of Sierra Nevada Pale Ale... you've probably heard of it. Although it has roots in British Pale Ale, the U.S. version deviates in that, instead of an emphasis on balance, the beer is crisper and hoppier, with an assertive bitterness. How does this differ from the IPA? Honestly, the dividing line between the American Pale Ale and the IPA is as murky as a beer from Ingenious Brewing Company. For example, Oskar Blues' Dale's Pale Ale is hopped to 65 IBUs and boasts a 6.5% ABV; numbers that should put it into the IPA category. However, Half Acre's Daisy Cutter Pale Ale is aromatic with a delicate bitterness, coming in at 5.2% ABV.

Now time for a recipe.

Programmer's Elbow (Strong Bitter)

Vital stats:

Batch size: 5 gal

OG: 1.056

FG: 1.015

ABV: 5.4%

IBU: 40

Malts:

12lb British Pale Ale

0.5lb Crystal 15

0.25lb Crystal 120

Hops:

2oz Kent Goldings @ 60min (40 IBUs)

1oz Kent Goldings @ 0min

Yeast:

White Labs WLP002 English Ale, Wyeast 1968 London ESB, or Fermentis Safale S-04

Foam Rangers Officer Meeting Minutes

Jon Jarvis, Scrivener

Place: Conservatory

Date & Time: (08/04/2019 @ 12:15 PM)

In Attendance: Hank Keller (Waz), Dave Frank (Secondary), Denise Whitney (Purser), Jon Jarvis (Scrivener), Luke Whitney (Brewsletter Editor), and Megan (Head Judge)

Due to a forced time-out from the Brewsletter imposed by the Waz I'm back. Apparently, he doesn't appreciate when I openly mock him, point out his narcissism, and publicly tear him down on his ability to lead. But I feel that it's not overstated, especially after his claim of being the best brewer on the planet after placing only 2nd at the National Homebrew Competition (NHC).

Sunday's occifer meeting went as follows: the Waz yelled some stuff, he basically stomped around the table where we were all sitting yelling at us, then proclaimed how amazing he is, but no one was able to hear any of this due to the acoustics of a subterranean subway bar, so all the occifers just enjoyed the all-day happy hour special. I suppose we did discuss a few items.

Dixie is just around the corner and there was a hot bed of topics discussed, mainly logistics. Entries are set to open on August 15th, so don't forget to enter! Brewers still have some time to get one or two more brews done for the entry period, especially if you are using any of those Kviek strains. The Waz clearly demonstrated this with a 1-week start to finish blonde ale, that he cannot stop boasting about. Sorting day, where we sort all the entries into their respective categories, is on Saturday September 7th at 8th Wonder Brewery. All help is greatly appreciated!

We also wanted to remind folks about the Jeff Reilly Award at Dixie. Started in 2018, this award is in honor of Jeff Reilly, a prolific homebrewer in Foam Ranger lore, and is awarded to a member of the club that best exhibits the qualities that made Jeff one of the club's most recognized brewers. The recipient should:

- 1) Demonstrate a fair-minded competitiveness that is recognized on the Lone Star Circuit and/or in national competitions.
- 2) Continually work to expand his/her brewing knowledge and improve his/her brewing performance.
- 3) Generously share his/her acquired knowledge and support the Foam Rangers 'above and beyond' through volunteerism.

Recipients must be nominated by a fellow club member during the month of September by submitting an email to wazoo@foamrangers.com with a brief explanation of why they feel the nominee meets the above requirements. The award winner will be selected by a committee consisting of the Grand Wazoo, the Member-at-Large, and the Dixie Cup Coordinator to be awarded at Dixie Cup. The recipient's name will be engraved on a plaque. Only nominations from, and nominees of, dues paid members shall be considered. Last year's inaugural award winner was Janine Weber.



Random adults contemplating the true meaning of beer



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



NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

MEMBER E-MAIL _____

2ND MEMBER E-MAIL _____ PHONE _____

AMOUNT PAID _____ NEW RENEWAL CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Membership Fee: \$40.00 Individual / \$60.00 Family (Member +1)

Paid between October 31, 2018 and December 31, 2018: \$35.00 / \$55.00 (Pay early and save!)

All memberships include Dixie Cup admission!

Please make checks payable to: The Foam Rangers

Bring this form (and your payment) to the next club meeting or drop it off at DeFalco's

Detatch & Keep!

Detatch & Keep

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Welcome to the Foam Rangers! Now get connected!

We have two E-mail lists:

The Foam Rangers Discussion List & the Foam Rangers Announce List

What's the difference?

The Foam Rangers Discussion list is where people can interact and reply to the posts of other Foam Ranger list members.

The Foam Rangers Announce list is where the Grand Wazoo posts club announcements and is not a discussion list. Anything posted to the Announce list will be posted to the Discussion list, so you don't have to subscribe to both.

To subscribe to the Discussion list, send an e-mail to:

foam-rangers-join@foamrangers.com

To subscribe to the Announce list, send an e-mail to:

foam-rangers-announce-join@foamrangers.com

You will receive a reply from the server with instructions for confirming your subscription. Follow the instructions to complete the subscription process.

Once you have successfully subscribed, you will receive a reply with the list guidelines as well as instructions for unsubscribing.



The Foam Rangers



@FoamRangers