



**THE
NEWSLETTER
OF
THE
KUYKENDAHL
GRAN
BREWERS**

**BIG BATCH
BREW BASH**
St. Arnold
Brewery
Sunday
June 2nd
Judging begins
at 10 am
See Page 7



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Edicts From the Czar

by Eric Hendrix (Czar@TheKGB.org)

The 2nd Annual Steak Out was a success. I think we had 40+ comrades in attendance. Thanks for the great attendance. We may have to move this function, or one similar to it, to a park or some other suitable venue in the coming years. Some comrades have offered their homes (and acreage) as a site. We could turn the event into a picnic type atmosphere. Maybe do a little fishing, toss a Frisbee, let the kids have some space, engage in some friendly competitions (win prizes), relax under some trees. It's an idea, think about it.

The Brew Stop is an excellent location for general meetings, but there has been discussion over the last several months about setting up a function that is similar in some ways to the Lunar Rendezbrew. Another venue might be more suitable for this type of function. I personally think it is a good idea, but something that may have to be put off until next year or perhaps in October.

Bruce Ross made the technical presentation this month. He discussed a subject near and dear to all of us, HOPS! We were provided with a history of hops and their uses, from flowering vine to one of the principle ingredients in the heavenly elixir we call beer. This feature will be opening shortly at The KGB Cinema located in The Brew Stop. Thank you Bruce.

(Continued on page 2)

Notes From The General Secretary

by Al Jurica (GeneralSecretary@TheKGB.org)

It couldn't have been any better if I had planned it. The 2nd Annual Steak out was terrific. When was the last time Houston had a mid May day with less than an 80 degree temperature? I'm not real sure if I remember one in my 45 yrs. of daily sampling of our heat & humidity. Thanks to Eric, Mark, and Chuck, for bringing the grills and pit, as well as manning them. I also want to thank everyone that brought a side dish. We had more than enough to go around and it was all so tasty. Mark Rogerson had the K O M, a tasty keg of BUD squeezins (yummy stuff). Yes, the Commissar did have another great presentation for the BOM. It included Woodstock, Sierra Nevada, Celebration, Red Seal, and many others. (It's o.k. you can now kick yourself for missing out.) If you signed up for the Double Agent brew off, contact Brian Ellis and he can tell you who your partner will be. The style is Bock. Each team can pick their favorite. Club judging will be at the Sept. meeting, and all contestants will be entered into the Dixie Cup.

June 2nd, Sunday is the Big Batch. I hope everyone got their brew in on time. Since we don't have an official meeting in June, were going to try for an unofficial meeting (AKA a KGB invasion) at Two Rows on June 22nd, Sat. afternoon about 3ish.

(Continued on page 3)



Edicts From The Czar

(Continued from page 1)

Several items were discussed during the business meeting. The most important thing coming up is the 7th Annual Big Batch Brew Bash. Since the web site forms have been repaired, the commitments for judging and stewarding are pouring in. Keep it up. There can never be too many volunteers. Thanks to all of you for your dedication. Comrade Commissar Brewski Don Sajda and volunteers will be taking and logging entries at St. Arnold Brewery this Saturday. I won't be there because my daughter is graduating from high school that morning. Currently, the times have not been finalized with Brock. I will know something by Thursday and get it out to everyone at that time. If you can't make it to St. Arnold, drop off your entries at The Brew Stop by 4pm on Friday the 23rd. Late entries will be accepted at The Brew Stop until Wednesday. After that, you will need to bring your entry to St. Arnold by 9am on the morning of the competition. Comrade John, founder of the Big Batch, beseeched everyone in attendance at the meeting to be at the competition. This is our big event of the year. We need to show our strength in both number of entries and numbers of Comrades.

The upcoming election was another of the topics of discussion. Nominations will be made in September this year. Everyone needs to be thinking about who they want to lead them into 2003. Also, in an effort to get as many Comrades to vote as possible, there will be voting by proxy either in writing or through the web site. I believe Comrade Ron sent his proxy with Comrade John last year. Minister of War AC will be organizing this new endeavor. More details will be

made available as they are finalized. Newly elected officers will assume office at the December Christmas Party.

Also to be announced at the Christmas Party are the special recognition awards earned through hard work and a commitment to the KGB over the last year. KGB Member of the Year will be announced as well as recipients of other "Awards of Recognition" for service to The KGB that, over time, has gone beyond the call of duty.

Another issue discussed was the upcoming Double Agent Brew Off. Comrade Brian gave us an update on the numbers of folks signed up as inexperienced all-grain brewers ... 12 to 14 I believe he said. Comrade Keith was not in attendance, however, I later found out that there are only about 10 comrades who have signed up to mentor the less experienced brewers. 10 doesn't sound like many, but I think it is almost 1/3 of the very experienced brewers we have in the club. It would be great if we could get more. Let's share some of that knowledge that has been gained over the years. Contact Comrades Brian Ellis and Keith Ervin for details. Please do it ASAP. Contact information, if you don't have it, can be found on the web site.

Finally, the site of the September meeting was changed. This occurred last month, but I don't think it was officially announced. This meeting will be held at Comrade John Donaldson's house. It is also the date of the judging for the Double Agent Brew-Off. A suitable map will be included in an upcoming newsletter.

That pretty much wraps it up for the time being. Don't forget about the June 22nd invasion of Two Rows. It will commence at 3pm. Be there or be volunteered for something.

Thank you for your time and dedication to the craft.

Czar Eric

PS – So far, Comrade AC has gotten no response from folks wanting to help him organize a "Competition Committee." Comrades, some of you have been quite critical of The KGB for the general lack of entries in competitions. Now is your chance to get your ideas to the forefront. Please contact Comrade AC if you are interested.



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Notes From The General Secretary

(Continued from page 1)

July brings the Lunar Rendezbrew down in Seabrook. It's all happening on the 21th of July. Come out and help support the B.A.M. big event. Food and beer abound. And competition is fierce in the construction and flying of paper airplanes, as well as darts. I expect the washer toss to be more competitive this year also. In its first year the KGB took both 1st and 2nd in the event (is a repeat possible?). Washers is played as a team event where 3 inch holes are placed 21 feet apart. The object is to throw a 2 3/4 inch washer into or as close to the hole as possible to score points. This is always a fun day so c'mon down. Tickets will probably be available at 4B 02. If not, they will be shortly thereafter at the Brew Stop.

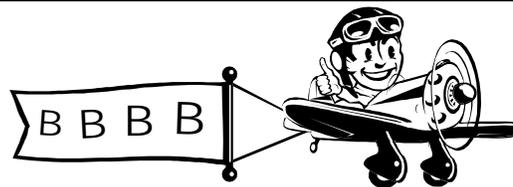
I'll give you a break this month and cut my ramblings short. Mainly because as of this writing I'm tired and have had a snoot full today (imagine that).

Enough said, its Pivo time.



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½ page	3 issues	\$ 65
½ page	12 issues	\$ 190

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Ruble Collector's Report

by Andy Dyer (RubleCollector@TheKGB.org)

Steaks. Beer. Nice weather. Beer. More beer. I'm a little worn out from the great time I had at the "Steak-out" this afternoon. The APAs were wonderful and my steak was grilled to perfection (or something like that). The month of May seems to have just flown by. As I find the lawn needs mowing more often, the mosquitoes more friendly, and hints of the scorching heat to come, I find myself seeking out a nice hoppy IPA more often than any other time of the year. Speaking of IPAs, I can't wait until my ~50 IBU IPA is ready. Mmmmm...

Okay, enough rambling. I guess I need to talk about Ruble Collector stuff in here somewhere. First, membaers. New members include Barbara Coleman, Cassandra Coleman, John O'Brien, and Steve South. Kevin Fraley also renewed his membership. If my calculations are correct, this puts us at 119 members!

After the May meeting, the KGB coffers are weighing in at \$1,196.99 Expenditures for May included work done by our comrades at Avatar to fix the form of the website and then the May BOM (by the way, good job once again Commissar!).

And that's this month's installment of the Ruble Collector's report. Be sure to tune in next month when we'll have... You mean you need a reason to read this?

Anyway, that's all for now. Till next time, remember... Truth is in a tall beer.



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 e-mail: brewery@saintarnold.com



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From The Brewski Cellars

by Donald Sajda (CommissarBrewski@TheKGB.org)

What a weekend! Thursday night my brother Kurt flew in from Buffalo. Needless to say we managed to down a few brews that night. Friday evening was Roberta's retirement party, Saturday was the St. Arnold's tour, Saturday night Two Rows and Gingerman. Then we woke up Sunday and we finished the weekend with the KGB steakout meeting. Of course there was an abundance of APA's to wet our palates. I don't think I want to see another beer for the rest of my life.

Here it is Monday and I am sitting at my laptop in the back yard. My head is aching, and I'm sweating out a three day supply of beer. How is the world does the MOP expect me to rise to the occasion and put together newsletter a article that will be due in a few hours.

A strong breeze has blown in from the west. My nose quickly detects a faint smell of malt. "Dang" I think to myself "that aroma sure smells good, but there's something different about it". Another gust of wind follows and this time my sniffer detects a healthy amount of rye in the air. I begin to scratch my head in confusion. Granted my senses have taken a big hit this weekend so there's a chance that my nose might be not correctly processing the data it receives. But I think to myself that I've known that rye aroma that is in the background of that strong malt smell. There is only one brewery in Texas that uses a healthy amount of rye. That is the Blanco Brewery, they make the famous Rye Ale.

Still confused I pick up the phone and call Brad at the Blanco Brewery. "Brad" I say "I'm a little lost for words, but I detect an aroma in the air full of rye and plenty of malt. I know you make the **Full Moon Rye Ale** but the smell I detect is a bit different". Brad replies with "Damn, you must have one hell of a sniffer, about three hours ago I dropped a bottle of our new barley wine and the aroma must have traveled thru the air to Spring. That's what you smelled. Our limited edition **Sysiphus!** We created a tasty beverage using our rye recipe as the base for the barleywine. Only 400 gallons were fermented this fall. We used 300 pounds of rye in our mash. **Sysiphus** weighs in at 10.6 abv., has 90 IBU's of hop flavor and will be primarily available in Austin. Only eight kegs were produced, the rest will be bottled in 12 ounce bottles."

"Sadly the Fed's still have our label tied up, so here it sits waiting for distribution. I'm not sure but you may be able to find it soon in Houston at the Flying Saucer and the Hops House. Hopefully the Fed's will approve the label in the next few weeks." I told Brad that I would be in touch with him to find out when it will be released. After hearing the news a twinkle appeared in my eye. My head stopped aching. The word barleywine has this calming effect on me. I walked to my beer refrigerator and proceeded to take out and open a bottle of **Old Foghorn**. I then made a promise to myself. As your Commissar Brewski I will go to any lengths for the betterment of my KGB Comrades. I shall drive to Austin when **Blanco Sysiphus** is released and will bring back as much as I possibly could for us to enjoy. All we have to do now is wait for Federal label approval.



Snail Mail Delivery Is Expensive!

Last month I pulled a number out of my hat (or perhaps a more unsavory place) and told y'all that the KGB newsletter, when delivered to your mailbox, costs us a whopping half-buck. Well, it turns out that I erred by more than half. Last month's newsletter cost us \$1.10 each to deliver by pony express, and I mailed out 60 of them. That's not counting the extra copies that go to the Brew Stop, either.

Help us save valuable resources by opting out of snail mail delivery and get your newsletter online. Simply update your membership info at <http://www.thekgb.org/memberapp.html> or tell an officer that you'd like to get your newsletter from the KGB web site. You'll get the newsletter sooner because the Minister of Propaganda will send you an e-mail the moment the newsletter's available for download. It's also possible for you to print a much higher quality copy of the newsletter than the one you get in the mail.

The money you save might very well buy your next beer (or several).



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The KGB's 2002 Schedule of Events (subject to revision)

(last revised 21 May, 2002)

Next meeting!

Meeting <small>(Article Due Date)</small>	Location	Event	BOM	KOM
		Technical Presentation		Brewer
June 2 (May 20)	Saint Arnold Brewery	Big Batch Brew Bash		
July 21 (July 8)	The Brew Stop	Big-Ass Brew-In & Pot Luck Buffet	Pilsner & Lagers	Steam Beer
		RIMS-Garrett Martin		John Donaldson
August 17 (August 5)	Pam Wall's	Salsa Competition & Pool Party	Bocks	Honey Hopper / Maibock
		Sparging-Mark Rogerson		Jurica / Hendrix & Sajda
September 22 (September 9)	John Donaldson's	Pizza Feast	Oktoberfest	Oktoberfest
		Bottling/Kegging		Pam Wall
October 18-19 (October 7)	Courtyard by Marriott	Dixie Cup		
November 16 (November 4)	Don Sajda's	Smörgåsbeerd & Label Competition	Smörgåsbeerd	Sajdachlaus Bier
				Donald Sajda
December ?? (November 25)	Saint Arnold Brewery	Homebrewer's Christmas Party		



Join The Party!

Sign Me Up - I want to be a member of the KGB: *(please fill in the form below as completely as possible. Be sure to indicate your preferences by checking the appropriate boxes.)*

Membership cost is \$20.00 annually, or two years for \$35.00, payable in cash or by personal check *(make payable to KGB)*. Give this completed form to a club officer along with your dues,

or mail to The KGB Homebrew Club, c/o The Brew Stop, 16460 Kuykendahl Ste. 140, Houston, TX 77068 *(DO NOT send cash)*. Paid membership entitles you to full club benefits, including a monthly newsletter & 5% discount on most purchases at The Brew Stop.

One Year (\$20)
 Two Years (\$35)
 Renewal
 Update my Information

Name: _____ Significant Other: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Home phone: () _____ Work phone: () _____

E-mail Address: _____ Get newsletter via WWW*

Homebrewing Experience: _____ Birth Month: _____

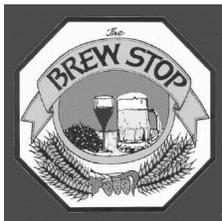
* Opt out of receiving the newsletter in the mail and save the KGB some precious money

The Kuykendahl Gran Brewers (KGB)
in association with Saint Arnold Brewing Co.,
DeFalco's Home Wine and Beer Supplies & The Brew Stop
announces the ...

7th Annual Big Batch Brew Bash

AHA/BJCP Sanctioned

Houston, Texas



Homebrewers everywhere are called upon to take the challenge!

Brew an American Barleywine

Submit it for judging by a select panel of local beer experts. If your beer is chosen as the best, Saint Arnold will offer you the opportunity to brew a **REALLY BIG BATCH** of BEER!

Awards & Prizes

The winner will be invited to Saint Arnold as *Brewer For A Day*, to assist in brewing a BIG BATCH of one of their beers. You'll get to do hands on stuff like mashing, pouring lots of hops into the kettle, cleaning-up, and sampling.

Ribbons for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place entries, courtesy of St. Arnold, along with corresponding Gift Certificates valued at \$40.00, \$20.00, and \$10.00, courtesy of DeFalco's and The Brew Stop.

3 Six-packs of Saint Arnold Beer (Amber Ale, Brown Ale, & Kristall Weizen) for 1st place, courtesy of Saint Arnold Brewing Co.

The Big Batch Heavy Hitters Award. A half-barrel keg of St. Arnold Amber Ale will go to the Homebrew Club with the most qualifying 2nd round entries, courtesy of St. Arnold Brewing Co.

Style: Barleywine

This year's style will be American Barleywine—a favorite of Big Beer & Hopheads the world over. This is the American Style so it should be decidedly hoppy in character.

Aroma

A prominent hop aroma of floral, grassy, or fruity characteristic typical. A caramel-like or toasty malt presence may also be noted, but may be at a low level. Fruitiness, either from esters or hops, may also be detected.

Appearance

Pale and dark styles are known, and color ranges from rich gold to a very dark amber into ruby brown. It should be clear, although some haze at very cold temperatures is acceptable.

Flavor

Hop flavor is medium to high, with a high hopping rate to balance the intense maltiness and/or sweetness. American versions tend to be intensely hoppy and alcoholic. Flavor is notable for great intensity of malt and prominent hop bitterness for balance; well aged examples may also show oxidative flavors, medium to low diacetyl and medium to high esters are present.

Mouthfeel

Alcoholic, smooth, creamy and full-bodied without astringency. Generally low carbonation and a rich sweet sherry like warmth.

Vital Statistics

OG: 1.080 - 1.120 FG: 1.024 - 1.032 IBUs: 50 - 100
SRM: 14 - 22 ABV: 8.4 - 12%

Entry Requirements:

Entry Deadline is Friday, May 25, 2002 at any of three drop-off sites (see other side for more details & forms).

Each entry shall consist of 3 bottles (preferably 11 - 12 oz.) along with a completed recipe form. Anyone (21 or older) is eligible to enter, however all entries must be non-commercial, home produced beer. Up to two entries per individual accepted.

NO ENTRY FEE!

Judging, Raffle & Awards Ceremony

Judging and Awards Ceremony will be held at Saint Arnold Brewery on Sunday June 2, 2002.

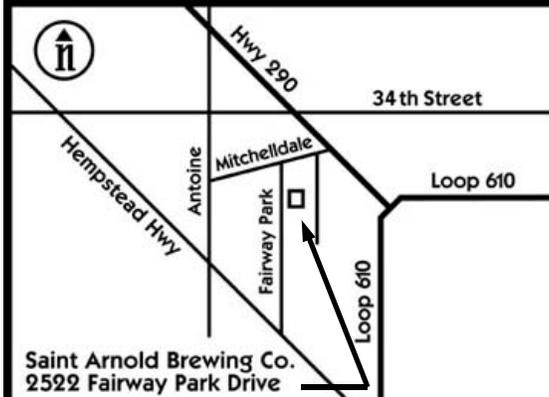
Judging will begin promptly at 10:30 AM. Open to public from 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Followed by Raffle and Awards Ceremony approximately 3:30 PM.

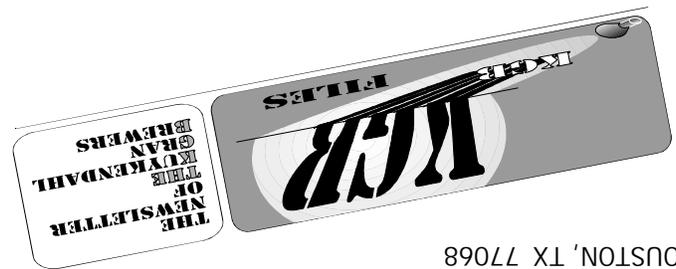
Included in the festivities will be food, raffles, fun, and plenty of really good beer!

If you're driving towards town on US 290, take the Antoine/34th Street exit onto the frontage road. Drive through the traffic signals at both Antoine and 34th streets. Hang a right on Mitchelldale. Go about two or three blocks and take a left on Fairway Park Drive. When you see the Saint Arnold logo on your left, pull in and park your car because exiting your vehicle while it's moving can be dangerous for you, your car, and things with which it might come into contact.

If you're coming from in town, take the 34th Street exit, make a U-Turn under the freeway and follow the directions in the previous paragraph as though you'd come from out of town.



Visit the KGB website at:
www.thekgb.org



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Fine Print

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Czar	Eric Hendrix
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Ruble Collector	Andy Dyer
Commissar Brewski	Donald Sajda
Minister of Propaganda	Mark Rogerson
Minister of War	Adrian "A.C." Cornelius

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The Kuykendahl Gran Brewers (KGB) Newsletter is a monthly publication of the Kuykendahl Gran Brewers Homebrew Club. The subscription rate is \$20.00 / yr. or \$35.00 / 2 yrs., which includes full club membership.

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