



THE KGB FILES

The Official Newsletter Of The Kuykendahl Gran Brewers Homebrew Club

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EDICTS FROM THE CZAR

BY ED CONDON (CZAR@THEKGB.ORG)

First I would like to congratulate the winners of the Double Agent Altbier competition. Third place went to Scott and Sandy Teeter, second place to Ed Moore and Brian Pickett, and first place to Andrew Elliot and Jeff Hilland. Thanks to all the Double Agents who entered and to all the judges, stewards and everyone who volunteered their services to make this a success. A special thanks goes to Comrade John Donaldson for hosting this meeting and making sure we all had everything we needed. We had twenty entries, and I am sure a lot of knowledge about all grain brewing was exchanged. By the way I did hear a rumor that there was one beer in the



New shirt "I survived Rita's aftermath at Saint Arnold's Brewery."

bunch that the judges wanted to score over 50. They discussed it and decided that only the Czar could brew such a good beer and it would look bad if the Czar won so they didn't pass that beer. OK so maybe I started that rumor.

Several comrades from the KGB took part in the Foam Rangers pub-crawl to Austin. A good time was had by all. It started about 8:30AM in the parking lot of St. Arnold Brewery with none other than several glasses of Barleywine,

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Smorgasbeerd & Label Contestz



Saturday,
November 12th
@ 7:00 PM

Don Sajda
25106 Bovington Dr.

See map at
www.thekgb.org

RUBLE COLLECTOR'S REPORT

BY TIM WHITE (RUBLECOLLECTOR@THEKGB.ORG)

Last month while writing my Ruble Collector (RC) article, the forecasters were only vaguely discussing a tropical depression that had been named Katrina. We now know that Category 5 Hurricane Katrina brought

death and destruction to Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama. Lives were lost, but not the 10,000 initially feared, and that's a good thing. The country now has a new Director of FEMA, and that too is a good thing. For the entire month we were bombarded with news stories, some were heart warming like a blind man, separated from his seeing-eye dog, reunited with the tears of joy and happiness streaming down his face. Other stories were the darkest side, rape of a fellow human while

seeking refuge in the New Orleans Superdome... looting non-essential, material items

(Continued on page 3)



Former Czar Dean Doba and Czar Ed with Comrade Lori Guettermann.



Comrade Lynn unable to control herself and her untamed desire to suck the nectar from Comrade Joe. Additional movie footage is available on the KGB website, search "I never thought it would happen to me".

EDICTS FROM THE CZAR

(Continued from page 1)

what a way to start a 15-hour tour. Lots of beer was shared all the way to our first stop, Live Oak Brewery. Chip McElroy gave an excellent tour and shared all the beers that they make there with everyone. My favorite had to be their Liberation Ale, lots of hops. We then loaded up and headed to the Independence Brewing Company. Amy Cartwright gave us another great tour. Amy and her husband are the only ones that work there; this is amazing when looking at the size of the brewery. At this time they have Independence Pale Ale, Bootlegger Brown

Ale, and Freestyle Wheat all of which are very good beers. If you are ever over there make sure and try some. From there we hit downtown Austin, for further details of the trip please ask Czarina Merry, it has been so long ago it is getting a little foggy.

Also this past month the KGB held the third annual Belgian Blowout. We sampled 94 different Belgian beers most of which were excellent. It

only took a little over eight hours to complete the sampling. I want to thank Scott and Sandy Teeter for hosting this event. A special thanks to Sandy for taking care of all the food for the crowd, we sure did need that food with the 94 beers.

At the last meeting nominations for officers were held. Robb Wahlstrom was



So delicately RC Tim peels a grape for HBC Don. Don't they look cute together?

held at the Smorgesbeerd and Label Competition meeting a HBC Don Sajda's on

November 12th at 7:00. Get your labels made and be there to vote for the officers and your favorite labels, have some great food and a huge assortment of big beers.

I hope everyone made it through hurricane Rita. Czarina Merry must have seen it coming because she took off for Ohio before it ever hit Florida. I did my job of kegging up some IPA for the neighborhood just in case things got bad. I signed up to volunteer for the St.

Arnold tour that Saturday. When I arrived about noon the other volunteers were already there. Brock arrived a few minutes later and greeted us something like, "what are you idiots doing here?" Well the tour was a go. Bev Blackwood treated the guests to a special old style tour where he walked them all the way through the brewery. That is the way it used to be before the crowds of 300-400 started showing up. I think there were a total of 32 people at the tour and nine of them were volunteers that showed up just in case. Check out the group picture, that was everybody.

Don't forget to get your beers turned in and make reservations for the Dixie Cup. Details can be found at <http://www.crunchyfrog.net/dixiecup/>. Hope to see you there and then at the Mead Tasting on December. 3rd (details forthcoming), and then at the big Smorgesbeerd Label Competition meeting on Nov. 12th. Until then happy brewing, maybe the weather will cool off a little and make for more pleasant brewing.



Once again, the Belgium Blow Out was a an event that was very memorable (at least the first half of the night.)

nominated for Commissar Brewski, RC Tim White for Ruble Collector, Peter Rosales for General Secretary, and yours truly for Czar. It will be a hard month and a half out on the campaign trail now making promises that can't be kept, lying and throwing dirt on the opponents. Well maybe not a lot of it since as far as I know everyone is running unopposed. Elections will be



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RUBLE COLLECTOR'S REPORT

causing issuance of a "shoot to kill" order.

I recall the highs and the lows of the past month as I type this month's article while evacuating from the greater Houston area in an effort to avoid the wrath of Rita. By the time the KGB News is published, the devastating impact will have been felt and recovery will be underway. The White House extends our

hosted the third annual Belgian Blow-Out on September 3. Twenty-four aficionados of beers with an origin in Belgium were there to participate in sampling over 90 selections. Some memories are indelibly etched in my mind and thankfully no photo documentation exists... some pictures will never be seen; others would keep comrades out of "main-stream America" political office galvanizing their role for

improvement, but I don't want to take up bowling..

Later this week for the second year in a row, your RC will be in Denver on a business trip that coincides with the Great American Beer Festival. I will write more about this event in next month's article.

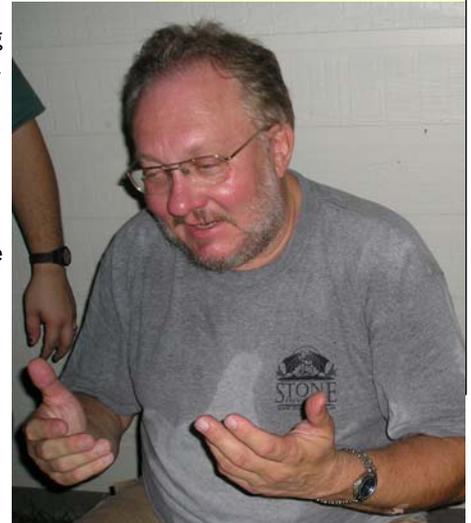


Although the MOT came away with the peeled grape, I'm not sure who was happier... the MOT or the RC who filmed the event.

A closing reminder... as a Comrade in good standing of the KGB, you are entitled to brew a "free" batch of beer at the Brew Stop on a monthly basis (talk with Ken for details

www.brewstop.com and remember to bring propane). You also get cash discounts at BJ's Brewhouse, Flying Saucer and several other places. We have an incredible supply of shirts, glasses (pint and really cool 3 ounce Obreal sampling) and pottery mugs. Check out the website www.thekgb.org for prices and pictures!

Hail the Czar!! Ruble Collector Tim



and HBC Don can only look dismayed at having run out of grapes to peel.



CENSORED

Ministress of Tabloid Jamie Knapick and Comrade Lori Guettermann do battle for a grape that was peeled by Has-Been Czar (HBC) Don Sajda.

future officership in the KGB!! Another year of the Double Agent competition is in the books and congratulations to the winners. This competition marks the low point in scores received for the RC. I scored a record-low 15 (out of 50 possible points for the perfect beer) and was informed by the judge of record that he was the only one willing to choke down a swallow. The score sheet offered some insight for

thoughts and prayers for all those affected by Hurricane Rita.

Minister of War Scott Teeter and his lovely wife Sandi

for the perfect beer) and was informed by the judge of record that he was the only one willing to choke down a swallow. The score sheet offered some insight for

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BEER OF THE MONTH

BY JONATHAN GOUDY (COMMISSAR BREWSKI@THEKGB.ORG)

Hello again, Comrades! I normally go off on some tangent having nothing to do with a recap of the past events, but this month I think that I'll make an exception. So much has happened recently, that I hardly know where to begin. (Cue harp sound as I reminisce...)

I guess I'll start with the Belgian Blow-Out 3. If there was ever a spectacle of beer, that would be it. We managed to survive 94 Belgian beers this year, and I think that I probably walked five miles before the event concluded, serving everyone. I couldn't complain because the weather was excellent, the Fortress of the Minister Of War is a spectacular venue, and Scott's lovely wife Sandi made sure that we all stayed fed and in top shape for the onslaught to our palates. Lastly, a hearty "Thank You" to HBC Don Sajda for everything he did to make this event possible! The camaraderie was high, and so was the ABV% by the end of the night.

The following weekend, Comrade Robb Wahlstrom (Soon To Be CB - [Vote for Robb!](#)) and I brewed a beer we called "Bocks of Chocolate Caramels". This beer is intended to be what the Sam Adams Chocolate Bock should taste like coming from that beautifully presented bottle. He did his with California Ale yeast, and I did mine with a mix of Lager yeasts. We are "dry cocoaing" the beer in the secondary (Thanks to Czarina Merry), so it is going to be interesting to see how it turns out. Regardless, it will be a good excuse to get together to compare the two to see what a sweet "art" beer such as this will taste like using an Ale yeast beside a Lager yeast. A fine excuse to get together

and drink beer if I do say so myself!

Proceeding chronologically, the following weekend we got together at Comrade John Donaldson's abode. There was some excellent Altbier everywhere you turned, and I'm sure that the judges had a



CB Jonathan does a great job serving beer to all of the BBO# attendees.

hard time choosing the winner. I tried to help even the odds by providing a calibration beer for each style being judged, and we got to enjoy them for the BOM also. This last BOM was special to me because all of the beers were pretty hard to get. We had Altbier, Kolsch, Dortmunders, British Pale Ales, and quite a few beers with some seriously late hop additions. All this was to go along with the discussion on Sulfur. I hope that we all learned something. I know that I learned one again that I don't know when to quit. I had a morning flight to Las Vegas, so earlier in the evening I vowed to leave no later than 10:30. This did NOT happen because we were just finishing up by that point. Time somehow slipped, and I must admit that I was with a handful of comrades as the clock struck midnight, and I was struck with the harsh reality that I still had to drive across town to my house. I have to ask, though, who noticed that the Red Dawwg was missing? So, you DID miss it! Just kidding,

"Just five more minutes, mom" I grumble as the alarm clock greets me far too early the next morning. I finally get moving. I make one last check to verify that I have left any clubs, knives, box-cutters, napalm, or anything else that is great fun at parties at home before I venture off to go "blasting through the skies in a pressurized metal tube". The ride over was pretty eventless (That's a good thing). I got into my hotel, and soon met my colleague so that we could get our booth prepared for the National Beer Wholesalers

Conference that we were to attend the following day. I knew right away that this was no ordinary conference as there was already beer EVERYWHERE! The macro's were there in force, but there were already labels that I didn't recognize. We got our job done pretty quickly, so the rest of the evening was spent discussing the show to come. The next morning we show up, and people are already walking around with beer in their hand. We resist temptation for at least an hour while it becomes apparent that my company shouldn't be there at all. With this realization, it was now a free for all! The guys in the booth beside us had samples of cider for us to try. I am sitting directly across from the Tucher booth as well as a Belgian beer Brasserie De Mallone. I am within a few paces of Carlsberg, and I am sure that I smell Belgian Tripel in the

air. Finally, I tell my coworker that I am going to go "network", and it was on! Like Bugs Bunny floating after a carrot, I ended up at the booth for D&V International. These are the guys who supply our friends CR Goodman. They had a plethora of choice beers, and I got to meet the brewer from Val-Dieu, as well as an assistant Brewmaster from Brasserie De Rocs. They were excited to meet somebody who took their beers seriously, and they just kept shoving beers in my face to try. Damn, it was tough, but I almost tried them all. When I finally staggered out of their booth, I headed off to the macro's booths because they all had buffets. I snuck up and grabbed a plate before they got a chance to shove one of those retched beers in my hand. I am glad I didn't have to suffer through some fizzy yellow water just for some sustenance. Fed and happy, I was back on my way to the Bitburger booth. I got to practice my German a bit there until I was drawn back to the Belgian offerings. (Lapse in time...more of the same...now day two.) I speak with a rep there that was talking to me about the beer, and I mention our dilemma about being the wrong vendor for the right show. He suggests that I go to the "small room". Intrigued, I

(Continued on page 6)



Comrade Joe Neal observed by Comrade Lynn Gambler admiring one of the fine Belgian ales served at the BBO III...

OVERHEARD IN THE WAR ROOM

BY SCOTT TEETER (MINISTEROFWAR@THEKGB.ORG)

This month was very busy. Sandi and I took a short trip to Sacramento, CA and Reno, NV earlier this month. We came across a great beer store and stocked up on Alaskan Amber and some other unmentionables. You can visit the store's website at www.bevmo.com. We also spent some time in Washington and Maryland visiting family. We picked up some great beer there too. Our boy said just this morning, "I know why you travel so much, to find beer!" Yes, he is correct. Sometimes you have to search the ends of the earth to find the best beer.

The Belgium Blowout III was a huge success, 95 beers were served that night. Thanks to everyone who brought beer and helped us break the record! Special thanks to HBC Don, and Johnathan for their efforts year round to ensure we have the most obscure beers available.

I hope the Double Agent Brew-off competition allowed some newbies the opportunity to learn something about all grain and try something new. I was sorry to miss the meeting, but Sandi called right away with news of our win! Congrats to:

- 1st Place - Andrew Elliot and Jeff Hilland

- 2nd Place - Waz Ed Moore and Brian Pickett
- 3rd Place - MOW Scott Teeter and Sandi Teeter

Also this month was the Cactus Challenge. Congrats to HBC Don Sajda for his 3rd place Belgium Buffalo Imperial Stout, and 1st place Cherry Cider.

The 22nd Annual Dixie Cup is right around the corner, October 20-22. You might want to book your room now to ensure you can partake in all the celebratory activities. You can enter beers as early as September 30th with

a \$7 entry fee. After October 7th it will be \$10 per entry, and NO entries will be accepted after October 14th. Speakers from Great Divide and Dogfish will be here. Maybe we will catch a glimpse of the elusive Oak Aged Yeti Imperial Stout. Visit www.foamrangers.com for more details.

November 6th is AHA's teach a friend to brew day! Find a friend and make them drink/brew good beer! You might even get lucky and make them do most of the clean up!



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2005 KGB MEETING SCHEDULE

Date	Location	Description	Beer Region of the Month	Discussion/Beer Flavor of the Month	KOM
Sat. Nov. 12th @ 7PM	Don Sajda 25106 Bovington Dr.	Smorgasbeerd & Label Contest	Baltic Regions / Anywhere with strong beer	Alcoholic	HBC Don - Buffalo Chip Imperial Stout
Dec. TBA	St Arnolds Brewery 2522 Fairway Park Dr.	Houston Area Homebrewers Christmas Party	N/A	N/A	N/A

BEER OF THE MONTH (CONT.)

(Continued from page 4)

inquire. He explains that there is ANOTHER room with beer folks! NO WAY! I gleefully drop my associate like a sack of potatoes and run over there to "network". I'm greeted by Stone Brewing, Sierra Nevada, Allagash, Alaskan, etc, etc, etc. I stop at the New Belgian booth and wait because I zoomed right in on the case of chilled La Folie that they had. I asked for a sample, and the guy gave me about an ounce at best. I stood there for a minute with the glass in my hand, and he must have sensed my disappointed. He asked "do you know what this beer tastes like?" to which I responded "Hell yea! It's one of the best ones at the show!" Like a reflex, he grabbed the ~10oz glass out of my hand and filled it up! I nursed this beer for the next 3+ hours, while around it, I tried all the rest I could fit in my hands. It was tough, but I think that I represented the KGB well. When the smoke cleared... there was beer everywhere to be had. Just about everybody had leftovers, and I was most distraught by the fact that I flew in. I managed to slide a couple cases of Effes lager on to our palate of stuff from the show (shhhh!) I will have to give up a bit of it to keep the receiving guys quiet in our building, but the rest I am planning on donating to the KGB.

It seemed that this conference was pretty hard to top...so I thought. It was Wednesday Sept 21st at this time, and I casually go to check out of my hotel to find a HUGE line. It takes forever. One thing leads to another, and I miss my flight with the lines at the check-in at the airport. They tag me with a \$100 fee as they slap me on the behind and send me on my way to go deal with life on standby. I miss the first flight because God and everybody decided to go to Houston. I knew there was talk about a hurricane in the Gulf, but I was apparently too caught up in this beer world to know that we had a Cat-5 bearing down on our houses. I finally catch the next flight, and we circle around I-45 a few times on our way to land. I got a good look at all of the traffic on the freeways, and that in itself gave me a new perspective of how serious this storm was.

I finally meet the Mrs. at the airport and we went off to battle the traffic to get home. We made a couple stops to get stocked for

the storm and got home. Let the homebrew begin, as hurricane preparedness mode sets in...boards on the windows, racking, kegging, sanitizing extra equipment to collect water, etc. Finally, we are ready. A coworker comes to stay with us before the storm, and we started drinking about three on Friday afternoon. By three in the morning on Saturday we were drinking the Eisbock. By that point, we made a few drunken escapades out to the front yard to see the wind before retiring back inside. Storm or no storm; after all this, it was time to go to sleep. Beer is a very effective sleep-aid, and doubles as disaster therapy.

That night we probably would have noticed the roof being blown off...but I say "probably" because we were sleeping pretty hard. Thank heavens that we didn't get hit any worse than we did. Just some minor inconvenience as our power was out for a few days, but I am pleased to report that beer tastes just as good in the dark.

I hope that all of you were as fortunate during this event. See you soon.

CB Jonathan





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