



THE KGB FILES

The Official Newsletter Of The Kuykendahl Gran Brewers Homebrew Club

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Edicts From The Czar</i>	1
<i>Ruble Collector's Report</i>	1
<i>Beer Of The Month</i>	4
<i>Overheard In The War</i>	5
<i>KGB Meeting Schedule</i>	7

EDICTS FROM THE CZAR

BY ED CONDON (CZAR@THEKGB.ORG)

It is hard to believe that it has been a whole year as being Czar of the KGB. It did go by very quickly, seems like there is always something going on concerning the KGB. Between the meetings, First Sundays, Brewlms, and all the other extra curricular activities like volunteering at the St. Arnold Saturday tours (Great Beer). Does seem beer takes a lot of time out of my life, but it does seem to be worth it though. At many of the activities it I always meet new people that have an interest in home brewing. When I talk to them I tell them about the KGB and how in our club there are some of the best brewers in Houston or maybe Texas, oh hell in the whole world. A lot of them have become members just to learn how to brew. I am not sure of the



The Three Brewcateers brew it up in style at the White House brewing a heavenly brew.

numbers but membership is up at least 15-20% this year, 146 comrades as of this writing. Way to go KGB.

Another KGB Smorgasbeerd

(Continued on page 2)

Christmas Party



Sunday,
December 11th
@ 4:00 PM

St Arnolds Brewery
2522 Fairway Park
Dr.
See map at
www.thekgb.org

RUBLE COLLECTOR'S REPORT

BY TIM WHITE (RUBLECOLLECTOR@THEKGB.ORG)

Ruble Collector
November KGB File
Article

The Ruble Collector (RC) is proud to accept the unprecedented nomination and election to serve the club for a third consecutive year in this role. In the past two and a half years of my membership in the KGB (and home/craft brewing), I've been able to see and experience some tremendous growth and excitement for our club and I'm very excited to serve with the other elected and appointed officials. It is my pleasure.

Faithful readers of the RC's monthly article will remember my brewing with the pastor of Christ the Redeemer, Rev/Comrade Sean Horrigan (shown here with the Czar and RC on brew day at The White House). The sermon one Sunday morning in November recently started with "I need you to help me finish this statement... if you want something done right...". Well, the response was overwhelming DO IT YOURSELF! Fr/Comrade Sean went on to talk about some people insisting on

doing things themselves like oil changes for the car, special dressing/deserts for the holiday meal "and I see my friend Tim White who brews his own beer... He doesn't trust Mr. Miller or Mr. Busch, he does it himself and he does an excellent job!" And then he ended the comment with... "Oh and Tim, please remember the pastor at Christmas time". A shameless plea for great beer, and he will have all he wants!! Comrades, we have a tremendous opportunity here. What you may ask is our opportunity?? Well, simply stated, the facilities at CTR

(Continued on page 3)

EDICTS FROM THE CZAR

(Continued from page 1)

is in the history books. Has Been Czar Don and Has Been Czarina Roberta put on one fine meeting. HBC Don had some very good kegs of big beers and cooked some great red cabbage. Thanks to GS Peter for standing over the grill and cooking the brats, Brian Ellis for bringing the German potato salad and everyone else that brought food for the comrades. We needed that food to be able to withstand all those big beers. Speaking of big beers, CB Jonathan completed his

term as Commissar Brewski in very fine fashion. Although the Red Dawwg didn't make it to the meeting I think he more

Christmas Ale. I will also have to put the Victory Twelve on my Christmas list this year, mighty fine beer. Thanks CB

Rogerson for capturing first place for the 4th year out of 5 in the label competition. Looking forward to putting that label on the BBBB giveaway beer next June. One other order of business at the meeting was the election of the 2006 officers. Congratulations to all, most of the races were runaway except for Czar where a recount was needed between myself and HBC Don's dog Tasha. Guess I squeaked it out but I am going to demand another recount before the Christmas party at St. Arnold Brewery.

Got to get going now, I am up in Iowa (cold as all get out) there are people to see and beer to drink up here. I do want to remind you to come to the annual Houston area home brew club Christmas party on Sunday December 11th starting at noon at St. Arnold Brewery. Remember we will be collecting money, toys and nonperishable food items to give to charity at the Christmas party, it tis the season. Until then have a Merry Christmas.



HB Czar Don says, to many hands on the hips, not enough beer in the glass. What is the problem here???

than made up for that with the other 19 beers including some of our local favorites like the St. Arnold Devine Reserve #1 and the

Jonathan for a full years worth of good beer, a lot of education on beer, and some great entertainment. Also congratulations to Mark



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RUBLE COLLECTOR'S REPORT

(Continued from page 1)

are being expanded and I am lobbying for a brewery within the new \$25MM project. Fr Sean recently visited some of the monasteries in Europe known for the beers they brew

sample at KGB meetings. From the RC's perspective, the Brew Crew at St. Arnold made a wonderful "limited edition" barley wine; but, the distribution to the faithful followers, the St. Arnold's Army, can be improved in the future. Some ideas heard over the brew kettle include:

- a special dinner of foods and St. Arnold beers with the party favor of a six-pack of Devine for those paying to attend the function;
- combine two or three bottles of Devine in a 12-pack sample box with other St. Arnold beers;
- offer an exchange of Devine for six-pack carriers for the faithful, environmentally conscious aficionados; or bequeath all future Devine issues to the KGB (hail the Has-Been Czar! great idea Don!).

creativity! Remember, we're talking about the iron first of the RC for the KGB coffers!! Oh, and the financial picture of the club is bright. A report will be issued in the January 2006 issue showing our expenses for 2005 as well as the comparison against 2004. Bottom line... we're spending our rubles to the benefit and enjoyment of the Comrades of the KGB.

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



Presentation of Stone Brewing's version of barley wine to get the day started... Comrade John shows the proper technique for holding the KGB mug.



so he knows the potential!! Join me at the next White House brew session to help me get the project in Comrade Sean's expansion budget.

And speaking of "do it yourself", the RC is requesting that you take some time to check out the great improvements made to the KGB website by the Minister of Propaganda. The website allows Comrades to make changes to their personal settings (address, e-mail and phone contact numbers) as well as a feature to update your membership using a PayPal feature. Of course the RC is very happy to take cash or check at any meeting or delivered to the Ruble Collector brown bag maintained at The Brew Stop.

So the big rush to buy St. Arnold Brewing's Devine Reserve 1 is over and the beer is now available to

The annual KGB label contest is over and the second place label created by the RC with technical help from Comrade Mark Gerding is shown in the article... not very unique, but then what do you expect from the RC... certainly NOT



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BEER OF THE MONTH

BY JONATHAN GOUDY (COMMISSARBREWSKI@THEKGB.ORG)

Hello again, Comrades!

Well, this is my official farewell article as your Commissar Brewski for 2005. This has been a great year for me, and all of you have made it so. I have learned a whole lot by putting together the presentations for the BOM's. I hope that during all my rambling, you have picked up something useful to help you make better beer. If so, great! That was the whole reason I put so much time into them.

Speaking of the presentations, if you look them over on the website (www.TheKGB.org>Club>Brewski Cellars) you will notice a trend. There are three easy, but essential, things you can do to help improve your beer:

1. Thoroughly wash and sanitize all of your equipment that touches the beer once the temperature gets below boiling (especially before you pitch)
2. Pitch a healthy amount of yeast (make a starter)
Aerate your wort very well
These steps are applicable to

any style you are making. I hope that those notes are useful to you even after my reign as CB.

So what am I to do with all of this free time? I am planning

brewing community though, so fear not my Comrades. I still plan on brewing heavily, but I am not making more exotic styles anymore. In three or four years, I may be able to find out what kind of

Going forward, you have one heck of a core of officers! Man, all of these guys are top notch! I am sure that we have quite a ride in store for next year! I am a little afraid though...Robb has much the

same taste in beer as

HBC Don! Anything below 9%ABV is just an appetizer. I guess that is a good thing, because then Robb won't acknowledge that Red Dawwg is a beer. It takes "a lot of balls" to serve Red Dawwg so many times at the BOM's. I'll have you know that we all suffered through an entire 12-pack of the stuff! Can you believe that? It took us an entire year to drink a 12-pack of "beer"!

Again, it has been a pleasure to serve such a fine bunch of Comrades!

Prost!
Now HBCB Jonathan



Two time Best of Show (BOS) John Donaldson, shows off his stand that has brewed him proudly.

on spending a lot more time with my family and my guitar. As well, I am planning on padding my resume by learning some new techie-geek stuff. I am not planning on dropping out of the

brewer I am today. Though I may be more elusive, I may still be sighted at brew-ins about town. I still have to keep a Bock or Helles on tap at home.



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½ page	12 issues	\$ 190

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OVERHEARD IN THE WAR ROOM

BY SCOTT TEETER (MINISTEROFWAR@THEKGB.ORG)

We hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving. We had a great week building up to Turkey Day. Tuesday we were at our doctor's appointment and found out that Rosario & Jeff Sheerhorn were in labor. We were lucky enough to be in our birthing class when the not so little guy arrived. Lucas Maximo was 9 lbs. 8 oz. and 22 ¼ inches long. We congratulate Rosario and Jeff on a job well done. He is beautiful and should make an excellent future brewer.

We are still waiting for our little bundle. We will be sure

to post something once the little guy gets here. While we are sitting around the house... we decided we needed some Alaskan Brewing Co. Winter Ale. After much research we found a store that ships beer to Texas. Liquid Solutions, at www.liquidsolutions.we has a great variety of beer from all over the world not just Alaska! You should check it out.

The 5th annual Big Beers, Belgians & Barley wines Festival in Vail, Co will be January 6 & 7, 2006. Entries are due by 12/31/2005. This competition is limited to specific BJCP categories including (but not limited to) Belgians, Strong Ales and Barley wines. Check out

www.BigBeersFestival.com for more details. What a great way to start off the New Year!

Mark your calendars now for the Bluebonnet. It will be March 17 & 18, 2006. Visit www.bluebonnetbrewoff.com for more details.

The World Beer Cup 2006 will be in Seattle, Washington April 11-14. This international "Olympics" of commercial beer is only held every two years and awards gold, silver and bronze medals in 81 categories. In 2004 they had 1,566 beer entries from 393 breweries representing

40 countries.

As we approach the end of the year and all the different Holidays, we hope everyone remembers to stock their fridge with their favorite beer. You never know when you will be stuck at home wrapping presents or hanging lights and you will need some refreshment after a job well done. Seriously, we hope everyone has a great Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanza or whatever you call your way of celebrating the end of another year. Cheers to all!



JOIN THE PARTY!

Single one year membership \$20 Family \$35

Single two year membership \$35 Family \$60

Payable in cash or personal check (made payable to KGB). Give completed form to a club officer along with your dues, or mail to The KGB Homebrew Club, c/o The Brew Stop, 16460 Kuykendahl Suite 140, Houston, TX 77068 (DO NOT SEND CASH). Paid membership entitles you to full club benefits, including a monthly newsletter, 5% discount on equipment and 10% discount on supplies at the **Brew Stop**, discounts at other local establishments and much more.

_____ Single one year (\$20) _____ Family one year (\$35) _____ Renewal

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Name: _____ Significant Other: _____

Address: _____

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Home Phone: _____ Alt. Phone: _____

E-mail: _____ Birth Month: _____



A successful brew day at Comrade John Donaldson's with Comrades Ron Solis and Brian Ellis.



General Secretary Pete takes a breather during yet another one of CB Jonathan's BOM. He is having trouble learning and drinking at the same time.



2X BOS John Donaldson finally reveals the secret to getting your own Best of Show. This could be you next year.

Super Bowl "Brew-In" III

Noon on Saturday, February 4, 2006



The third annual Super Bowl Brew-In will be held at:

THE BREW STOP

16460 KUYKENDAHL ROAD, #140, HOUSTON, TX

Beer will be brewed, fermented and sampled!!

(Oh, and on Sunday the NFL will play a game to commemorate Super Bowl Brew-In III!!)

Door prizes will be given away! Come and meet KGB Officers, Comrades and good-ole beer aficionados!!

Call the KGB for more details (281) 397-9411



Merry Christmas to you all from the MOT and brewing assistants Micki (left) and Milli (right).

2005 KGB MEETING SCHEDULE

Date	Location	Description	Beer Region of the Month	Discussion/Beer Flavor of the Month	KOM
Dec. 11	St Arnolds Brewery 2522 Fairway Park Dr.	Houston Area Homebrewers Christmas Party	N/A	N/A	N/A

KGB TO DONATE Thermometers to NAM Children's Clinic

NORTHWEST ASSISTANCE MINISTRIES (NAM) is a non-profit, community-based, multi-program social service agency, established in 1983. NAM consists of an interfaith coalition of 47 congregations, 17 affiliate civic organizations and numerous Business Neighbors. NAM's work is accomplished with a small staff and nearly 2,000 volunteers who provide a variety of basic services to our neighbors in need.

During the last fiscal year, NAM helped more than 103,000 people, 50 percent of whom were children, and approximately \$.88 of every dollar went toward helping people in need. Through the Assistance Program, more than 26,800 adults and children received emergency assistance including shelter, clothing, transportation, prescriptions and medical referrals. The Back-to-School Project provided 1,186 children with school supplies and clothing, which allowed the children to start the school year feeling good about themselves and ready to learn. In November and December of 2003, the Holiday Project provided more than 2,150 families with the

items necessary for a healthy holiday dinner and food for three to five days, as well as toys and other age-appropriate gifts for more than 3,450 children. Special grants enabled the Assistance Program to provide more than 3,250 adults and children who were homeless or in danger of becoming homeless with emergency housing assistance and other supportive services.

The **Rotary Learning Center** served 785 students in English as a Second Language (ESL), General Education Development (GED), and Civics classes. Students are seeking skills to increase their wage-earning potential so they can better support their families.

The **Family Violence Center** assisted approximately 300 clients each month with a wide variety of services including crisis intervention, support groups, individual counseling, children's counseling, emergency shelter, legal advocacy and domestic violence awareness and prevention education.

The **Food Pantry**, which provides individuals with food for well-balanced meals, filled over 9,200

food orders, feeding more than 750 families each month.

The **Interfaith Hospitality Network**, which gives individuals a safe place to stay, plus food and direction, provided 52 homeless adults and children with shelter in NAM's area congregations, totaling more than 4,000 bed-nights of shelter.

Meals on Wheels, which offers hot nutritious meals to area homebound seniors, disabled individuals and those who are unable to prepare their own meals, provided more than 94,800 meals to the homebound and disabled, averaging over 375 clients a day including Saturday service.

Sixty Plus, a program for active seniors that offers opportunities for socialization, education and wellness to anyone over the age of 55, had 300 senior members come to the center for more than 9,300 visits.

The **Senior Wheels Project**, which furnishes transportation for area seniors to medical appointments, pharmacies and grocery stores, provided 177 roundtrips to seniors in

need.

The **Children's Clinic** at NAM provides a full range of services, from preventative care to acute care, for children who have Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), or who are uninsured. Physicians, nurses, medical assistants, an entire team of support staff and volunteers work together in the clinic to treat the whole family, considering the child's overall health, nutrition and home environment. The Clinic serves as a training facility for the University of Texas Medical School - Houston as well as health-care training programs at other area community colleges and universities.

During this season of giving, The KGB will donate much needed ThermoScan Thermometers and covers to the clinic. The thermometers will replace some antiquated "home" use type thermometers which were not designed for high volume clinic use. Please join the KGB Officers in saluting the fine work done by the Children's Clinic and NAM.



Visit the **KGB** website at:
www.thekgb.org

THE KUYKENDAHL GRAN BREWERS
c/o 16460 Kuykendahl #140
Houston, TX 77068



Fine Print

Club Officers:

Czar	Ed Condon
General Secretary	Peter Rosales
Ruble Collector	Tim White
Commissar Brewski	Jonathan Goudy
Minister of Propaganda	Andy Dyer
Minister of War	Scott Teeter
Ministress of Tabloid	Jamie Knapick

Newsletter Staff:

Jamie Knapick

Contributors:

Ed Condon, Peter Rosales, Scott Teeter, Tim White, Jonathan Goudy, John Donaldson

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Correspondence and inquiries can be sent to the KGB, c/o The Brew Stop, 16460 Kuykendahl Ste. 140, Houston, TX 77068. Telephone inquiries should be made to The Brew Stop at 281.397.9411, or the Czar at 281.259.9528 (H), or the editor at 281.744.3438.

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