



The Official Newsletter
of the
Kuykendahl Gran Brewers
Homebrew Club

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DIXIE CUP XXV



OCTOBER 17-18

Crown Plaza Hotel
12810 Northwest Fwy

For more information, see
www.crunchyfrog.net/DixieCup

Table of Contents

Edicts From The Czar	1
Ruble Collector's Report	1
From the Brewski Cellars	2
War Room Briefing	3

Edicts From The Czar

Bill King — Czar@TheKGB.org

This has been an interesting month for all the members of the KGB! The September meeting and Belgium Blowout were held this last weekend due to being held up due to Ike. The event went great with the best selection of quality Beers I have seen for years. The great thing now we have a slate of officers ready to be voted on during the meeting in November at MOW Don's house.

There are a lot of things going on during October, November and December. So go to the website and get involved.

Chris and I have bottled the winning barleywine for several future events and it is bottle conditioning now at both our houses. It is now time for us to make the Oatmeal Stout that got delayed because of Ike and my travels.

On my travels last month (I missed Ike and now catching up at home) it seems that Danish beer is the style in Malaysia. It is 37USD a case for Beer in Kuala Lumpur,

Malaysia. Carlsberg stout, Lagers and Dark Pilsners are the favorite of the locals. When in Indonesia the beers were Anker Lager, Bintang Pilsner and Heineken! So finding good big beers was a real challenge. Good thing there was an International Beverage Market (Kem Cheks) that had some good beers from Philippines and Thailand. The Danish Royal Stout was a good choice from the beer rack and Tiger Lager was a good choice. Lager pints are only 2USD in Indonesia and 6USD in Malaysia in the early evening before dinner.

Let's all get out and support the Dixie Cup! There is judging and the main event on October 17 and 18th. There will be great beer, fantastic beer talk and delightful talks on Saturday morning on how to make great beer. I am staying the whole weekend and now trying to figure how to get a room near the heated spa.....



Ruble Collector's Report

Phillip Kaufman — RubleCollector@TheKGB.org

Comrades: Just seems like last month and I struggle to keep your attention as I write this extraordinary piece of work! But type I must.

First and foremost, I want to extend my appreciations to Mark and Karen Rogerson for opening their lovely abode for the now famous Belgian Blowout (BBO). I arrived exactly on time as I try to do with my everyday approach at work, newsletter, and play. Now for those who were late (Czar and Czar-ette), as promised I opened some very unique Belgian beers. Wished I had brought some MORE back from Belgium. Anyhow what we opened was Michael Jackson's preferred beer of the Westvleteren 12. Here's some insight to the brewing process: Open fermenters are used for primary fermentation. There are six of them, with two having a 68-hectoliter capacity and four having a 34-hectoliter capacity. One monk is in charge of the fermentation and manually adds the yeast, which is from Westmalle (used since the new brewhouse was installed at Saint-Sixtus in

1989). These open fermenters limit Westvleteren's brewing capacity.

Concerning the 8 and the 12: These classic strong ales are among the most coveted and talked about in the world of beer, partly due to their high quality and also due to their rarity. Westvleteren



RC Phil's partner in crime, **Rhonda Davis**, hates to have her picture taken, so the MOT take plenty. Here's one where she isn't flinching from the camera. Nya nya!

sells its beer at the abbey gates only by the case (though one can buy individual bottles

(Continued on page 3)

From the Brewski Cellars

Jeff Scheerhorn — CommissarBrewski@TheKGB.org

Comrades! How's life? Are you ready to shake off the slump most of us in the Houston area have been having due to the hurricane and whatever else? Are you ready to firmly plant your beer flag into the amber waves of grain? Are you ready to stake your claim on the home-spun brew that is your birth right? Finally, are you ready to proverbially chew off your own piece of liquid bread and proclaim "it is here that I make my stand for all beer that is good and just, and together with my KGB comrades, I profess my undying thirst for a better beer world and now that we gather at this Dixie Cup.... on this year.... at this time of need (hey, I could do this all day; somebody really should have stopped me before I got this far).

I think the point is..... be confidently passionate about what it is you love and seek out others that help feed that frenzy. Isn't that what we're all really saying deep down?

My thanks go out to MOT Mark and his charming wife (or at least a person that could do some believable role play for the right price) for hosting the Belgian Blowout on October 4th. I had a smashing good time (if you factor in what I did to Mark's mailbox upon my vehicular departure)! RC Phil was in game shape as he took the bull by the horns (wait..... I can't even spin his grabbing my butt cheek as anything but a cheap, self-serving ass grab – there's real confusion there, Rhonda, so I think we should get together and plan out an intervention). Now then, does anyone else want a piece of me? Scratch that..... I now realize perhaps it is I who has been sending some mixed signals and, yes, I may have some culpability with this credit crisis (careful.... no one, not even the driver, really knows where any of this is headed).

I think the point is..... be open minded and don't be afraid to try new things; no, not ass grabbing, I'm talking

about tasting new beers and such.... like what folks do at the Dixie Cup this October 17th and 18th. Let's go have some fun people!

Yours truly, through good beer times and the brief spans in between,

CB Jeff Scheerhorn



KGB Membership Benefits

- **Tomball Welding**—Show your KGB ID and exchanging your CO2 tanks for a price of \$7.00 for a 5 lb. bottle. (tax included) Located on Hwy 249 across from Hughes Propane.
- **Hughes Propane**—Show your KGB ID and pay per gallon price not per tank. At this time 20 pound tank costs \$11 per gallon that is about \$9.00 at the per gallon rate. (Hughes Propane in Decker Prairie only)
- **Joe Blows**—Show your KGB ID and get case prices for import and micro brewed beer.
- **BJ's at Willowbrook**—Show your KGB ID and get Happy Hour Prices on all of BJ's Brewhouse beers any time of the day or night.

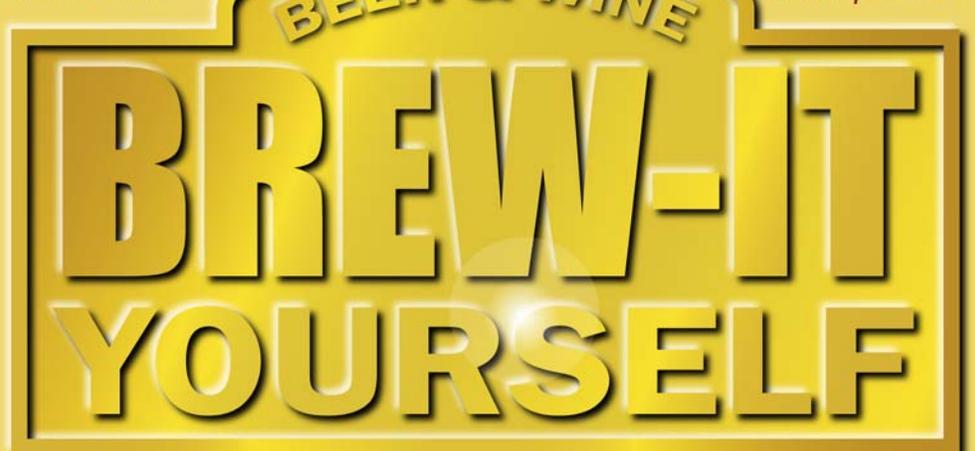
NOTE: To receive a membership card, see the Ruble Collector at any meeting or event.

Tell Us About It!

Do you have a homebrewing tip that everyone should know? Have you turned an old bait bucket into the perfect mash tun? Did you document the planning and construction of a computer-controlled brewery complete with high-temperature pumps, steam jacketed vessels and motorized stirrers? Send your story to The KGB Files and share your knowledge. Email to MinisterOfTabloid@TheKGB.org and include hi-res photos if you have them.

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There is no doubt that September 13, 2008 will be a date that many of us will long remember. Of course it is none other than the day Hurricane Ike made landfall on our beautiful coast of Texas. What does this have to do with beer? Well for the next 13 days yours truly was without electricity. When you consider that I have a 25 foot chest freezer and a 21 cubic refrigerator in the garage full of beer, such as 3 years of homebrewed Samiclaus clones, one becomes very nervous indeed. Luckily your MOW managed to pick up a 5000 watt generator the Tuesday after the storm and managed to keep the beer cool.

If you missed the Belgian Blowout you have no one to blame but yourself. Despite the best efforts of Hurricane Ike to thwart the event, MOT Mark Rogerson stepped up to the plate and talked his wife, Karen, into rescheduling and hosting this wild time. We had a great turnout and there were over 70 Belgian beers to sample. My special thanks goes to RC Phil for sharing many Belgian beers that he managed to fit in his suitcase on a business trip to Belgium. Does Westvleteren 12 ring a bell? No doubt he charged it off to his company. In the food department Herb Baker prepared a delicious Belgian stew and GS Chris Landis and Susan Ayling (the real brains behind the GS) made a dish of brussels sprouts that was to die for. I do hope Mark and Karen make this an annual event. The cool weather was a perfect compliment for such fine beer and food.

Well my travels once again took me back to Buffalo for a visit to see my folks. Besides chicken wings and beef on weck, Buffalo is also home to two incredible beer stores, one

of which is walking distance from my parent's. During my four day visit I managed to stop into Consumer Beverages three times. If you are ever in Buffalo this is one destination that rivals Niagara Falls. Consumer Beverages



MOW Donald Sajda has to wrestle Tasha the Brewdog for his Buffalo booty.

moved (about 100 feet to its new location) and did a major expansion on their beer inventory. Now you can bring in a growler (or buy one there for \$2) and fill it up from 12 distinct taps of craft beer. Or like me, take your shopping cart and grab 12 oz singles, 22oz bombers or 6 packs of beers that are not available in the Houston area. I will say I attempted to put a dent into their wide selection of beers. I did figure out that my check in suitcase will hold the equivalent of 24 – 12oz. beers to bring back and share with the Comrades. When you think about the “Blue collar” nature of Buffalo, it's hard

(Continued on page 4)

Ruble Collector's Report

(Continued from page 1)

or six-packs at the In de Vrede Cafe (www.indevrede.be) across the street, which the monks own).

The monks limit each car to a **maximum of five cases of beer**: no more than three cases of the Blond or five cases of the 8 or 12, or some combination of the three beers. It would be unusual to find all three beers available at the same time, or even two of the three.

The beers are in such demand that a batch can easily be gone in a day or two upon release. A single buyer could wipe out an entire day's supply, so the restrictions allow more people to have access to the brews.

Now don't you wish you had some!?! These were donated by the Ruble Collector! And this is why, my Comrades, I get re-elected as RC.

Another part of the drinking (I meant tasting) was lambics, which are Rhonda's favorites. I couldn't remember a story I was telling Mark, but I remember now. The place I couldn't remember is Mort Subit.....While in Brussels, we were a block away from Michael Jackson's recommended places to go: Mort Subit is a place I never would have noticed without his help. Mort Subit means sudden death. This brew pub is near the stock market, and the brokers

would play a card game at lunch where the pot would grow and grow until the bell rang indicating that lunch hour was over. That round became the sudden death round, and the winner would take the day's winnings and presumably pay the bill. And the lambic was great. Drink enough of it.....sudden death the next morning!

New topic: Elections! Ahhhh. Not Obama, and Not McCain. Officers of the KGB are up for re-elections. I am game to run again as Ruble Collector, unless someone else is crazy enough to do it! Then stop your bitchin'. Check out the website. “Scuffy the cat” is running for the RC position. Meow!

Next member meeting will be another blowout. I cannot imagine we drank all the Belgian beers especially all the beer that I brought. But I did leave about 10:30 PM and the party was still going strong. Next member meeting will be at Don's house Sat. Nov 15. I will be returning from Scotland Nov 13 so I hope not to have too much jetlag.

Next event is the Dixie Cup; for more info:

<http://www.crunchyfrog.net/dixiecup>

My Comrades: It is late and my glass is empty...time for bed....

RC Phillip



Paid Political Announcement

Donald Sajda — MinisterOfWar@TheKGB.org

During the Belgian Blowout, some Comrade, in a drunken cry, nominated me for the office of Commissar Brewski. I do hope that I do not get elected, but I do wish to make my political views known.

To begin with, we know that the real power of the KGB is not the Czar's to wield. The Czar is a mere social figure head. The real power lies with the man who controls the beer. This is the Commissar Brewski. When the Commissar Brewski speaks, people listen (or else they don't get any more beer). I have served this position before. I know what real power is, and I know the incredible rush that goes with it. I am starting to breathe hard. (Calm down, big boy).

OK, enough!!!! Since I have been nominated I want to run a clean election and not throw dirt on my opponents (not that they don't put enough dirt on themselves already). I am the only candidate with real beer experience that is needed as Commissar Brewski. Many think of me as the **Radical Maverick of Beer**. Have any of my opponents brewed a **Rausch Barley Wine** or how about a **Samichlaus clone**? My sources tell me that they subscribe to publications put out my Budweiser, like the "**The Wonderful World of American Light Lagers**." We don't need four more years of this!!! It's time

War Room Briefing

(Continued from page 3)

to imagine that Buffalo has not just one but two amazing beer stores like this.

The premier Homebrew Contest is almost here and best of all it takes place in Houston. Yes the 25th Annual Dixie Cup will take place Oct. 17-18. This will be a special Dixie Cup indeed, one of the keynote speakers, Fred Eckhardt, is retiring from doing the famous Fred Tasting after this year. So if you've never attended, this would be a memorable Dixie Cup for you to attend.

The last event that took place this month was the "Cactus Challenge". This was one of the last events in the Lone Star Circuit. I'm proud to say yours truly brought back some hardware; a third place for my Russian Imperial Stout and a second place for an experimental beer that Ed Condon and I brewed for Southern Star. A Rausch Barley Wine. Who would ever think of such a thing?

In closing it has been a wild month to say least. So much beer to drink, so little time. Take care.

MOW Don



for a change and only the **Radical Maverick of Beer** can perform that task.

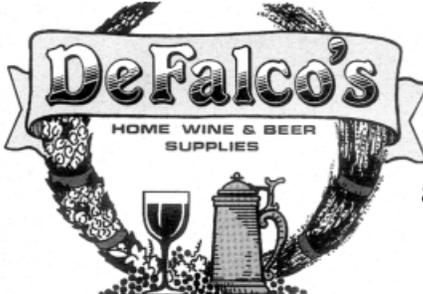
My platform is very simple, no more girly, swishy beers on the BOM. Wheat beers: yeah right! South of the boarder beers: I can tell you were to stick those. If it ain't big, it ain't gonna be on the BOM. Barley Wines, Imperial Stouts, Strong Ales, and now we're talking. Financial responsibility will not be part of my vocabulary. I plan to rape the KGB coffers. The membership wants **BIG BEERS** and the RC just better sell more raffle tickets to finance needs.

Comrades, *unite!* Come and make your vote heard at the November 15th KGB election meeting. See you then.

MOW Don



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KGB Calendar

(Updated 8-Oct-2008)

Event	Date <small>(Article due date)</small>	Location	Style or Region of the Month	KOM
October Dixie Cup XXV	Oct 17-18	Crown Plaza Brookhollow US 290 @ Pinemont	All	Hodgepodge
November Smörgåsbeerd	Sat Nov 15 <small>(Oct 31)</small>	Don Sajda 25106 Bovington Dr	Good ol' Bigguns	Oktoberfest Need Volunteer!
December Meeting Christmas Party	TBA	St Arnold Brewery 2522 Fairway Park Dr.		

It's the KGB's 2009 calendar!
It means nothing! New officers will be in charge! Anything can change!

January Meeting Spudfest	Sat Jan 17 Noon <small>(Jan 2)</small>	Southern Star Brewery Conroe, TX	TBA	TBA
February Meeting Fish Fry	Sat Feb 21 7PM <small>(Feb 6)</small>	Ed Condon 1718 Camille	TBA	TBA
March Meeting Chili Cook Off	Sat Mar 21 7PM <small>(Mar 6)</small>	Jeff Scheerhorn 5919 Bayonne Drive	TBA	TBA

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in the

KGB

Single one year KGB Membership \$20 – Family \$35

Single two year KGB 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. Paid membership entitles you to full club benefits, including a monthly newsletter, discounts on equipment and supplies at the local homebrew shops, as well as other local establishments, and much more.

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Single two years (\$35) Family two years (\$60) Update my Information

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Club Officers:

Czar	Bill King
General Secretary	Chris Landis
Ruble Collector	Phillip Kaufman/Herb Baker
Commissar Brewski	Jeff Scheerhorn
Minister of Propaganda	Andy Dyer
Minister of Tabloid	Mark Rogerson
Minister of War	Donald Sajda

Contributors:

Bill King, Phillip Kaufman, Jeff Scheerhorn, Donald Sajda

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Correspondence and inquiries can be sent to the KGB via email to the Czar at Czar@TheKGB.org, or the newsletter editor at MinisterOfTabloid@TheKGB.org.

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