



The Official Newsletter  
of the  
Kuykendahl Gran Brewers  
Homebrew Club

Volume 15 — Issue 1  
January 2009



Sunday, January 21  
Noon-4

Southern Star Brewery  
1207 N FM 3083 Rd E  
Conroe, TX 77303

### \*\*\* Notice \*\*\*

At press time, there is some question about the actual meeting location. Please watch the web site and your email inbox for further details.

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## Edicts From The Czar

Herb Baker — [Czar@TheKGB.org](mailto:Czar@TheKGB.org)

**G**reetings, Comrades. This is the first article from your new Czar, who is here to serve the faithful. And faithful, and brave, you will have to be once you get a look at the BOM line-up for 2009 from our new Commissar Brewski. [See page 5—MOT] But, enough of that, don't want to steal his thunder.

For those of you who missed it, we had the Homebrewer's Christmas party the day after the Samichlaus brew-in. We got lots of toys for donating to the US Marines and their Toys for Tots drive, as well as over \$80 for the Conroe YMCA. Thanks to ex-Czar Bill for delivering the cash to the YMCA. The Saint Arnold Brewery was the site of the Homebrewer's party and we wholeheartedly thank Brock and all the crew at Saint Arnold for their support and generosity during the past year. The KGB provided a Christmas basket and a ham to Saint Arnold as a token of our appreciation. We also provided Ray with a ham and a Christmas basket, lovingly put together by Roberta Sajda.

Our thanks go to Roberta for her help. I

guess I should also thank Don for delivering the items to Ray. Thanks, Don.

Our next meeting will be Sunday, January 18th at the Southern Star Brewery in Conroe, starting at noon. This is our Spudfest, so everyone plan on attending. We will have lots of Pine Belt Ale and whatever else is brewing up there. Plus Commissar Brewski will have his first BOM. [Or is it his hundredth?—MOT] Not for the weak and not to be missed!

For 2009, we are planning increased activities and brew-ins at Ray's Brew It Yourself to help promote Ray and also to promote the KGB. Since this is his busy time of the year, we have not met with Ray, but stay tuned for more information. Also, keep in mind that the BBBB is coming in May and get those Strong Scotch Ales going. I brewed one batch already, but I am planning on another batch that will have everyone else battling for second place.

Now, it's time for a beer. Good night and good beer!

Czar Herb



## Ruble Collector's Report

Phillip Kaufman — [RubleCollector@TheKGB.org](mailto:RubleCollector@TheKGB.org)

**C**omrades: Time for another famous article from the RC. I do know some of you read this dribble. Do me a favor, when I collect your rubles at Southern Star, tell me you read it. Or just say, you hate this SHIT. [Or both!—MOT]

As I write this piece of work, I am recovering from the flu. So if I go adrift, please excuse me.....I think I am over the flu. Body aching, head hurts. Wait. That's normal. I'm cured.

I hope your Christmas and New Beer went well. Hoppy Brew Year! With the new year starts a new Czar-ship. New blood. Herb Baker. He ran a tough campaign similar to Obama's: Change. So Herb wants change and so shall he have it! Mind you he is only a puppet. The real power is with the Ruble Collector. [We'll see about that!—MOT] Sure, the CB (Commissioner Brewski) thinks he holds the power. Not at all. It is I, RC (Ruble

Collector) and dispenser that tells the masses what beer they shall drink!

With the new power comes change indeed. Rest assured my comrades, we have always run a tight ship and clean tasty brew. Many of us have earned our Beer Judging Certification from the BJCP (Beer Judging Certification Program) and worked hard at achieving our ranks. However, as you can see from the article below, powers MUST be separated. Note that the President and the Treasurer (same as ruble collector) were sentenced. This does not discredit those of us who took and passed the very difficult exam. Just means that the President was a crook.

### Former BJCP President and Treasurer Sentenced

Former BJCP President and Treasurer William R. Slack of Nashua,

(Continued on page 2)

## Ruble Collector's Report

NH was sentenced on December 16, 2008 in U.S. District Court in Concord, NH. Mr. Slack admitted his guilt as part of a plea bargain. During his allocution, Mr. Slack admitted that he misappropriated BJCP funds steadily during this tenure as BJCP Treasurer. Mr. Slack was sentenced to (1) restitution of approximately \$43K, (2) five years probation, and (3) incarceration of one week per month for twelve months.

At first glance the sentence was NOT harsh enough. However, what I liked was the incarceration for one week a month for a year. Can you imagine going to your boss and saying that three weeks vacation is not enough. Here's how I perceive it. Slack: "Boss, I need some time off". Boss: "Sure how much?" Slack: "Oh... one week per month." Boss: "Why so much?" Slack: "Oh, nothing big, I just stole money from the BJCP and have to go to jail one week a month." Boss: "Slacker...you're fired!" Ahhh, sweet revenge.

See, boys and girls, it does not pay to steal from your homebrew clubs. Good thing you have trust in the Ruble Collector.

Now back to business. I am the power behind the KGB. To prove this point, the first KGB member will get free admission and free food to the January meeting at Southern Star brewery Jan 18 noon to 4 PM, and will receive a free one year membership. All he/she has to do to get this free offer is to say to me "I read your crap." ~~This offer does NOT include the officers. Sorry. My game...My rules. I have the power.~~

Comrades, It is late and my head is empty and glass is full. See ya Sun. January 18. Don't forget to brew some Strong Scotch Ale for the BBBB (Big Batch Brew Bash) on May 17.

RC Phillip

**Who's powerful, now?—MOT**



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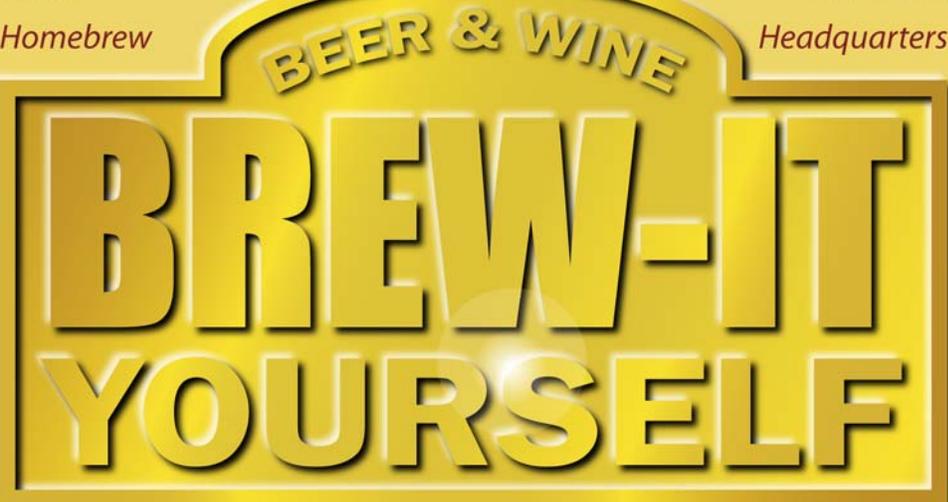
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I hope all of you welcomed in 2009 and made some New Year's resolutions that you can actually adhere to. Like you, I made many, but the one I really hope to achieve is to brew more beer and to attempt to move up a few ranks in the Lone Star Circuit. This year I have a dual responsibility to the club. Of course as Commissar Brewski I meet the needs of all members. The one and primary need is simple, to provide a quality BOM and KOM. Everyone wants that and, as promised, I will deliver!!!! To kick off the January BOM we will have Barley Wines Part One. I have put together so many barley wines that we will have not one but two Barley Wine BOMs!!!! What other homebrew club came boast that? For the KOM I have a beer that MOT Mark Rogerson and I brewed around 2 years ago. It was our attempt at an EKU 28 clone. Unfortunately it fell a bit short, but it still kicks in at around 8.9% ABV. I believe that it will taste excellent straight or blended with Southern Star Pine Belt Pale Ale, of which you should find plenty at our January meeting.

But my role as Minister of War is different. People join a beer club for many different reasons. One such reason is to compete in beer contests. Personally, I love beer contests. For me, there's no greater rush then to have your name announced in front of 300 beer lovers. On the down side, beer contests cost money for entry fees and shipping. And even though

most contests do place a BJCP judge on the panel, judging can be somewhat subjective. Nevertheless, beer contests are an important aspect of homebrew. So in this capacity I meet the needs of a smaller portion of our club. The KGB is part of the <http://www.LoneStarCircuit.com>.

The Lone Star Circuit is made up of 8 homebrew contests that take place in the state of Texas. Since its inception, I am proud to say that I placed 7th, 10th and 11th. But sadly, last year the KGB as a club dropped to 8th place. The KGB is a great homebrew club, and one way to gain recognition is to participate

in the various contests. I encourage you to consider both entering your beers, and taking part in the various contests.

The 4th Annual KGB Samichlaus Brew In was once again a big success. Thirty five gallons of beer were brewed that day plus HBC EMO brewed five gallons of this high octane nectar in a remote location near Denver, Colorado. Set your calendars for the 5th Annual Samichlaus Brew In, December 6th, 2009.

Talking about contests, the 14th Annual Big Batch Brew Bash will be here sooner then you think. This year's beer is BJCP style 9 category E, Strong Scotch Ale. MOT Mark and I brewed a 5 gallon batch of what we hope will be the winner.

In closing, I am looking forward to a very exciting year for the KGB. See you at Southern Star for the January meeting.

CB/MOW Don

*I have put together so many  
barley wines that we will  
have not one but two Barley  
Wine BOMs!*

## Wee Heavy—BBBB#1

Donald Sajda & Mark Rogerson

Batch Size: 5 gal      Boil: 120 Minutes  
Original Gravity: 1.100

### Grains

13.0 lbs Pilsener Malt  
5.0 lbs Lager Malt  
1.0 lbs Crystal 55L  
1.0 lbs Crystal 90L  
1.0 lbs Cara-Pils Dextrine Malt  
1.0 lbs Peated Malt  
1.0 lbs Amber Dry Malt Extract  
0.25 lbs Special B

### Hops

1 oz. EK Goldings — 4.75% AA — 120 min  
1 oz. EK Goldings — 4.75% AA — 15 min  
1 oz. Fuggles — 5% AA — 0 min

### Yeast

Wyeast 1728—Scottish Ale Yeast



BREW

ONE

YOURSELF

When the weather changes from our typical Houston hot and humid to what we around here call winter, for lack of a better word, don't think of your frigid pool as just another one of your chores. Put that uninviting wintery swimming pool to good use, tovarich.

Although we could, we don't heat our pool and many times, in the colder months, the temperature of the water dips into the low 50's. The first time I dipped a toe in there while the water was that cold, my brain snapped back to an old trip we made to San Francisco. The water coming out of their taps is that cold, at least in my memory, it is. I remembered thinking back then that we could sure chill our wort a lot faster if our tap water was that cold. The next logical thing to think is obvious:

**Q:** How can I get this icy water in my wort chiller?

**A:** Pump it through there, genius!

Of course, I immediately forgot about my eureka moment and went about scooping leaves and backflushing diatomaceous earth into the cloaca. Until, that is, I was perusing a hardware store catalog and saw a submersible pump not unlike the one you see here. After putting Google to good use, I found one online at Harbor Freight (dot com) for a good price and clicked the order button.

I wanted mine to have regular garden hose connections, so I took it to the local hardware megastore and cobbled together the fittings I needed for that. Ready for business!

I bought the 1/3 horsepower model, but they come in bigger packages. If you're like me, you might want to consider stepping it up to the 1 hp version. The reason is, I brew in my driveway and my pool is, obviously, in the

back yard. I have to pump the

water through a 100' hose to the chiller and then 100' back to the pool. Add the constriction of the flow caused by the small tubing of the chiller, and that's quite a journey for that little pump to send the water. Also, believe it or not, if it's a

nice, sunny day, the water will warm a few degrees in the garden hose between the pool and the chiller, so the faster it gets there, the better off you'll be.

Nothing's stopping you from using the same nice, cool water in a counter-flow wort chiller, either. I've just gone the immersion route because it keeps a lot of the break material in the kettle instead of all of it going into the fermenter.

Now, read what's in the blue box below, bumpkins. Spread your words of wisdom. The beer you improve might be mine.

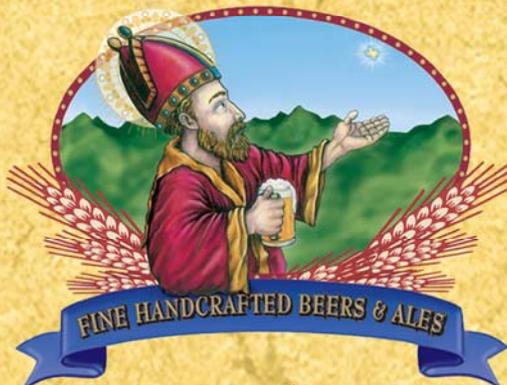


### Tell Us About It!

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](mailto:MinisterOfTabloid@TheKGB.org) and include hi-res photos if you have them.

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# KGB Calendar

(Updated 7-Jan-2009)

Event	Date <small>(Article due date)</small>	Location	Style or Region of the Month	KOM
<b>January Meeting</b> Spudfest	Sun Jan 18 Noon-4	Southern Star Brewery Conroe, TX	Barley Wines Part 1	EKU 23 Sajda/Rogerson
<b>February Meeting</b> Fish Fry	Sun Feb 15 11-4 (tentative) <small>(Jan 30)</small>	Brew It Yourself 25770 IH 45 N	Holiday Beers	Braggot/Ken Rich & St. Arnold Christmas
<b>March Meeting</b> Chili Cook Off	Sat Mar 21 7PM <small>(Mar 6)</small>	Jeff Scheerhorn 5919 Bayonne Drive	Barley Wines Part 2	Oak Aged Belgian Strong
<b>Rare Beer Tasting</b> <small>(Limited to 12 members)</small>	Sat Mar 28	Don Sajda 25106 Bovington Dr.	NA	NA
<b>April Meeting</b> Crawfish Festival	Sat Apr 18 7PM <small>(Apr 3)</small>	Carl Scott's?	Stouts	Dry Irish Stout Mark Rogerson
<b>Big Batch Brew Bash</b>	Sun May 17 <small>(May 1)</small>	St Arnold Brewery 2522 Fairway Park Dr.	NA	NA
<b>June Meeting</b> Steak-Out	Sat June 20 <small>(Jun 5)</small>	Jaime Knapick 17227 Modbury	Browns & Porters	Imperial Porter HBC Ed Condon

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General Secretary	Chris Landis (Interim)
Ruble Collector	Phillip Kaufman
Commissar Brewski	Donald Sajda
Minister of Propaganda	Andy Dyer
Minister of Tabloid	Mark Rogerson
Minister of War	Donald Sajda

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