



The **KGB** Files

The Official Newsletter
of the
Kuykendahl Gran Brewers
Homebrew Club

Volume 15 — Issue 8
August 2009



Saturday, August 15
6 PM

Chris Landis'
3807 Cypresswood

(see map at www.TheKGB.org)

Edicts From The Czar

Herb Baker — Czar@TheKGB.org

Comrades, greetings again from your Czar! Well, the July meeting, held at Ray's Brew It Yourself, is history. A great time was had by all. The meeting was very well attended by both the KGB and at least 10 members of the Barley Coherents. We may end up with a few new members. Pizza was provided by Double Dave's and it gave our hard working GS Chris a break, he could actually enjoy the meeting.

RC Phil, never one to brag, brought a small keg of his award winning Scotch Ale along with t-shirts proclaiming his victory at the BBBB. Have to say Rhonda looked better in her t-shirt than Phil, sorry buddy.

The KOM was an Imperial Pilsner, brewed by Jonathan and the BOM was handled by none other than your Czar. I know, it's hard filling Don's shoes, by the way they stink, but that's another story. The BOM was Pilsners and we managed to find about 17 different beers to try. Some were very tasty and some were just Pilsners.

Our next meeting will be at GS Chris's house on Saturday, August 15, from 6pm until 10:30pm. This is our annual Salsa contest, make a lot and make it hot. So, make your plans now to attend.

Well, that's all for now. Cheers!

Czar Herb



Ruble Collector's Report

Phillip Kaufman — RubleCollector@TheKGB.org

Comrades, I had a great time and Ray's place Brew It Yourself, July 18. If you missed it. Shame. I say shame! I brought **the keg of the winning brew from the BBBB, but just to sample.** Well...as I expected things got out of hand and the keg got kicked. Not to fear I saved 3 bottles...to compare my brew to what I brewed at St. Arnold July 6. Want to judge it against St. Arnolds Divine Reserve 8. It will be available in stores in Texas in September. Exact date; Don't know. But will let you know when I know. Guaranteed to last on the shelves no more than two weeks. So buy early and often.. And will be entered in the Great American Beer Festival Sept 24-26 in Denver, CO...I will be there.

The most important news; renewing and new members:

Congrats, and as part of your membership you can use the equipment at Brew It Yourself (BIY). Very nice setup indeed. And a 10% discount at Brew It Yourself...need I say more?

It is truly amazing the number of people who commented to me both by e-mails and by reading the article in the Houston Chronicle. Truly an experience that I wish that every member of the KGB can experience. Really start brewing the English Barley wine so it can reach perfection in time for the competition in May 2010.

Gulf Brew: The weekend of July 25 Rhonda and I went to Lafayette, LA to attend Gulf Brew. It's an annual beer tasting where tickets cost \$25 each and you can sample beers from 4 to 8 PM. All the beers...as many as you want that is. It was a sold out event of about 5,000 people in two air conditioned tents. The distributors gave free beer and this year they added microbrews and even let the Dead Yeast Society, Lafayette's Homebrew Club gave free homebrew away. I served as President of the Dead Yeast Society from 2002 to 2004, and was treated with respect. I got to taste the 'special' brew, etc. Overall, it was a good trip and there were a lot of people. Question: Why doesn't Houston or North Houston do a similar event? This

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Renewing Comrades

Michael Crumley

Jonathon Goudy

David Harmon & Family

New Comrades

Brian Wood & Family

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Ruble Collector's Report

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would raise beer awareness, right?

August Meeting: Looking for the annual event at Chris Landis'. Remember to make your salsa to enter for bragging rights. And there will be some good bocks to wash it down. Bring your swim suit. Please.

Dixie Cup: Don't forget to get your hotel room for the Dixie Cup Oct16-17 at the Crowne Plaza. Amazingly the hotel is letting us back this year. I guess they are going to re-model after the competition!

Comrades, my glass is empty and time to for bed.....
RC Phillip



Commissar Brewski's World

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the whole state, but they have 14 brewpubs/breweries. Hell, Houston Metro has a larger population then that, and you know how many brewpubs/breweries we have in Houston and the state. Something doesn't make sense here.

Anyhow, on my second day we headed to Charma River Brewpub which won the "New Mexico IPA Challenge" bragging rights in 2008. Again, I decided to start with a fruit beer. The name and specs sounded good. A 5.9% ABV Blackberry Wheat beer. Well is came no where close to the Boysenberry Wheat I had the day before. Wasn't a bad beer, just was so-so. Then a 8.6% Belgian Golden, ah, much better. Now it was time for one of their special seasonal beers, an 8.9% ABV 120 IBU Imperial IPA!!!! WOW!!!! This beer was OUTSTANDING!!!! I can say that this Commissar Brewski drank his fill of this beer. Luckily Roberta showed self control and drove me home that day. I was a happy man.

Looking forward to the August meeting at RC Chris Landis's home. Plan on some fine bocks and doppelbocks to enjoy while swimming in his pool.

See you soon,
CB Don



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Hey Roberta, could you throw another log on the fire? Seems a bit chilly in here. No your Commissar Brewski hasn't lost it (yet), but is enjoying a cold front that moved thru his summer getaway town of Cloudcroft, New Mexico. The temperatures dropped down to 48 last night, perfect for those Imperial Stouts that I like to drink. Sadly by the time you read this I should be back for the August KGB meeting and, like the rest of you, sweating my ass off in Houston.

I did manage to spend a weekend in Albuquerque. Now Albuquerque is hot like Houston (95) and normally has little humidity, but we managed to hit a weekend when the humidity was high and at 5000 foot elevation the sun becomes extremely intense. Luckily there were two beerpubs close by and I spent a day at each to quench my thirst. My first stop was my favorite, Il Vicino. Il Vicino is a tiny pub, seats maybe 10 people inside, that is attached to the front of the brewery. So the beer is about as fresh as you can ask for. The brewery supplies beer to 3 locations which are pizza joints. On the walls are numerous awards from both the GABF and the World Cup. My first choice was a Boysenberry Wheat Beer. Now this wasn't one of those wimpy American Wheat beers, but was full of body, clocked in at 5.6% ABV, and had a very dark, rich, maroon color. Very unusual, never had anything like it before. Would drink it again. I then moved to an 8.6% Belgian Trippel, slightly vegetal, but very drinkable.

I looked around at what the locals had and they recommended the IPA. Man that was tasty. Very well balanced,

plenty of malt, 6.7% ABV and 60 IBUs of hops. Needless to say, my type of beer. I continued to drink a few of these as I talked to the head brewer and locals. As I said earlier this was a very odd brewpub. Very small, strange hours Monday - Saturday noon - 7:00 pm, but they did have seven beers on tap. The brewery is small, but produces 1,400 barrels a year with a 7 barrel brewing system. *[Putting all of our resources to the complex task of dividing 7 into 1400, the KGB Files staff has concluded that this only comes to 200 batches per year. We think they could, and should, do better. One batch per day would come to 2,555 barrels per year. For this valuable business advice, the KGB Files staff will only require the remittance of one barrel of their finest beer and we hereby instruct our Minister of War to collect it during his next sojourn to the area and return it in its pristine state to the KGB Files offices where further dissemination will be handled as deemed appropriate.—MOT]*

Much talk was devoted to the "New Mexico IPA Challenge" which will take place at three locations across the state the weekend of July 25th. Basically there are 14 brewpubs and breweries in New Mexico and each one ships their IPA to these locations. For \$20 you get 14 - 4 oz samples, a full pint of your favorite and a commemorative glass. You then get to place your vote and one of the 14 brewpubs/breweries in New Mexico gets to win the bragging rights for the year. I've had the pleasure of attending the past 2 years and it was fun. The amazing thing to me is that New Mexico has a similar climate to Texas, yet the population is less then 2 million people for

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Divine Reserve 9

Donald Sajda & Mark Rogerson
(Presumptuous, ain't we?)

Batch size: 10 gallons Boil time: 120 minutes
Original Grav: 1.096 Final Grav: 1.023
Alc. by volume: 9.6%

Grain

38.0 lb Pale Malt
1.75 lb British Crystal Malt 55L
0.38 lb British Crystal Malt 90L
0.11 lb Chocolate Malt
1.00 lb Wheat Malt
3.50 lb Light Dry Malt Extract

Hops

2.0 oz Northern Brewer (9.5% AA) FWH
0.5 oz North Down (7.9% AA)—45 Mins.
3.0 oz Fuggles (4.6% AA)—15 Mins.
1.0 oz Golding (4.75% AA)—15 Mins.
1.0 oz Fuggles (4.6% AA)—1 Min.

Yeast

White Labs London Ale (WLP #013)

BREW

ONE

YOURSELF

KGB Calendar

(Updated 7-Aug-2009)

Event	Date <small>(Article due date)</small>	Location	Style or Region of the Month	KOM
August Meeting Salsa Party	Sat Aug 15	Chris Landis 3807 Cypresswood	Bocks	Did someone say <i>Celebrator?</i>
September Meeting	Sat Sep 19 <small>(Sep 4)</small>	Brew It Yourself 25770 IH 45 N	IPAs & APAs	IPA Chris Landis
Belgian Blow Out	Sat Oct 3	Mark Rogerson 17706 Garnercrest Dr	Belgiany Goodness	NA?
Dixie Cup <small>www.crunchyfrog.net/dixiecup</small>	Oct 16-17 <small>(Oct 2)</small>	Crown Plaza Hotel Northwest-Brookhollow	Frankenbier	Show up and see!
November Meeting Smörgåsbeerd	Sat Nov 14 <small>(Oct 30)</small>	Don Sajda 25106 Bovington Dr.	Best of 2009	2007 Oak Aged Samichlaus on Nitrogen Donald Sajda
Samichlaus Day	Sun Dec 6	Don Sajda 25106 Bovington Dr.	NA	NA
December Meeting Christmas Party	Samichlaus Day? <small>(Nov 20)</small>	St Arnold Brewery The new place?	Holiday Beers Duh	Saint Arnold Everything

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in the

KGB

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Single two year KGB Membership \$35 – Family \$60

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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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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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