



The Official Newsletter  
of the  
Kuykendahl Gran Brewers  
Homebrew Club

Volume 15 — Issue 12  
December 2009  
Saturday

## Happy Holidays

December 6  
Noon — 3pm  
St. Arnold Oldery  
(the old brewery)  
2522 Fairway Park Dr

(see web site for map)

### Edicts From The Czar

Herb Baker — Czar@TheKGB.org

**G**reetings Comrades. It is December already? Time to look ahead to the holidays and the Homebrewer's Christmas Party. But more on that later.

Our November Smörgåsbeerd meeting was well attended as Don had some great brats and beer and we elected officers for 2010. Either the current officers are doing a fantastic job, or the comrades just don't give a damn, not sure which, but all the current officers were re-elected to another term. For those of you living under a rock, the elected officers are: Herb Baker, Czar; Phil Kaufman, Ruble Collector; Chris Landis, General Secretary; Don Sajda, Commissar Brewski. There are three appointed positions and they are Minister of Tabloid, Mark Rogerson, Minister of Propaganda, Andy Dyer, and Minister of War, Don Sajda.

Now behind the scenes, MOT Mark is laboring on a new website as he works to relieve MOP Andy, after many years of loyal, unpaid devotion to his duties. This transition is not complete, but I just want to take this opportunity to thank Andy for all his work over the years. *[If I may paraphrase CB Don: All hail the MOP, the real power of the KGB!—MOT]*

Now, on to the December activities. December 5<sup>th</sup> will be Samichlaus brewing day at Don Sajda's house as CB Don and Czar Herb brew up a fine batch of Samichlaus. Others will be joining us so stop by and join the festivities.

Also, Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> is the date of the Homebrewers Christmas Party. Now, due to the ongoing paperwork snafu between the City of Houston and Saint Arnold, the homebrewers Christmas Party will be held at the OLD location on Fairway Park Drive from 12 noon until 3pm. We will be having a Pot Luck Lunch, so bring something good. Please remember to bring your donation for the Toys for Tots drive. Also remember that there will be an after

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### Ruble Collector's Report

Phillip Kaufman — RubleCollector@TheKGB.org

**N**ovember...what a month. When one says November, elections come to mind. And yours truly is at it for another year as the greatest Ruble Collector since Tim White....Who? you remember Tim right? For God's sake. Somebody step up and take over next year! Not even Scruffy the Cat—who, mind you, lost by a slim three votes—did not enter into the fray this time. I guess I am just doing too good of a job.....Yeah. That's the ticket.

New and Renewing Members: (if you don't see your name AND you paid, e-mail me). It was a crazy November meeting! And don't try to cheat; I know who you are...

**Dec 5** is the KGB's annual Samichlaus brew in at Don and Roberta's house. Get there early to enjoy the experience. You wanted to learn about all-grain brewing, now is the time. Oh there WILL be beer.

Thanks to Don for hosting the November meeting. A lot of left over beers were had and the heavy hitters keg was downed. Wow!

**Dec 6** will be the homebrewer's Christmas Party at the Old Brewery of St. Arnold's on Fairway. NOT the new brewery. And there will be an after party party. Read the Czar's edict.

Remember to brew your English barley wine for 2010 BBBB. I have made three batches already. Competition will again be fierce, so perfect your recipe. This big beer needs time to age! And I have made another batch. Three of the four are pretty darn good. One I'll bring to a meeting just to get rid of it. LOL.

The February meeting appears to be in my garage. Be there or be square. Details will be provided later.

#### Renewing Comrades

Peter Rosales

#### New Comrades

Todd B. & Corey Hayden

Robert Chan

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## Edicts From The Czar

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party at the Petrol Station starting at 3pm. We are allowed to bring our homebrew to their patio as well as a few, rare commercial Christmas/Winter beers. Please, no Miller Lite or Bud Light allowed and no hard liquor.

Well, this is late and MOT Mark has been on my ass [trust me folks, that is not a place you want to be—MOT] to finish this, so I better go. See ya at the Christmas Party!

Cheers.

Czar Herb



## Commissar Brewski's World

(Continued from page 1)

Since I did not have an article in last month's excellent journal here's my remembrance of the Great American Beer Festival...

GABF—Great American Beer Festival, as promised, sold out at least a month ahead of time. The Czar, Ruble Collector, and Commissar Brewski arrived and drank our share. Also there—although I did not witness, but I did see him on the plane—Pierre Morow. So we had a few members there.

This was my first time and would STRONGLY suggest going. Get your tickets early, though.

Rhonda and I arrived Thursday September 24 and went directly to Great Divide, where the crowd was huge for 1 PM. There was all the free beer you wanted. Excellent. Then, off to the festival where more beer was had. Friday, Rhonda and I met up with former Czar Ed Moore and traveled to Boulder, CO for more beer. Saturday was the announcement of the

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## Commissar Brewski's World

winners of the competition. Unfortunately my Divine Reserve 8 did not win; there were 72 entries this year, up 25% over last. Maybe next year. What won was an IPA.

Comrades, my glass is empty and time to for bed..... AND be careful out there. There are a lot of X-mas parties and New Year's Eve parties taking place soon. Most people are NOT as experienced as us.

Newly Elected Ruble Collector Phillip



Nobody is more surprised than comrade **Kay Pickett** (left) to learn that all the incumbent KGB officers were reelected to their posts. As the votes were tallied, she yelled, "Mix 'em up!" Comrade **Nadine Krebs** (far right) has a wry smile, knowing that her campaign contribution was a smart investment.



La Fin du Monde is The End of the World, folks, and comrades were lining up to get a little bit of that action in last month's year-end Rafflepalooza.

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

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**D**rove back from the cabin late Friday night and when I awoke this Saturday I still had a quest for more beer during this Thanksgiving holiday. What was this CB going to do? Ah, yes, there was going to be a tour today at Southern Star Brewery. I grabbed Roberta and said, "Times a wasting, let's haul ass up to Conroe for a few brews!" It's a fun time to see Dave and Brian, the two owners of Southern Star, while downing a few *Bury the Hatchet Stouts*. Had a great talk with both, and they told me production went from 700 barrels last year and they predict 1500 barrels by end of this year. Very impressive growth for sure. With this growth, they recently purchased three new 50 barrel fermenters. Our best wishes go to their continued success.

While there, Dave reinforced his love of radical home brewing by brewing a small 5 gallon batch of Smoked Pumpkin Ale. Being a VIP, Dave invited me to taste this unique beer, which started out as a 1.060 ale and was boiled with six pumpkins. Then a pumpkin was coated with brown sugar on the inside and smoked for 6 hours. It was then added to the secondary for the last 5 days of fermentation. I told Dave that I thought he might have a smoked beer fetish. Nevertheless, the beer was extremely pleasant. A nice malty favor with just the right amount of smoke. I doubt that we shall ever see a

beer like this commercially, but if it were to happen, I would strongly recommend it.

Later, Brain asked me to sample a beer that was brewed by a new brewery in town that was going to brew a traditional African beer. He said the brewery had a infection problem and wanted some feedback. Now, to be honest, when Brian mentioned African beer my hopes for a good beer were not high. The aroma was sweet being made with sorghum, but the flavor was full of vinegar and thin-bodied...yuk!!!! I thanked Brian for being asked to sample it and deduce that there was an obvious infection in the beer.

Roberta and I ate a few brats and washed them down with a few more tasty Southern Star Beers before we headed home.

Hopefully, you will get a chance to read this newsletter before our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Samichlaus Brew In this Saturday December 5<sup>th</sup>. Due to the Home Brewers Christmas Party being the following Sunday, we needed to break tradition and brew our Samichlaus batches a day early. Come out to sample 4 years of homebrewed Samichlaus plus 9 years of the commercial example.

As your elected CB I am looking forward to serving you next years BOMs. I will promise you a number of new takes when it comes to BOM beers at our KGB meetings.

See you soon.

CB Don



*"The flavor was full of vinegar and thin-bodied...yuk!!!!"*

— Donald Sajda

## Maple Brown

Donald Sajda & Herb Baker

Batch size: 8 gallons      Boil time: 90 minutes  
Original Grav: 1.090

### Grain

22 lb      Pale (2 Row)  
3 lb      Munich Malt  
1.5 lb      CaraVienne  
2 lb      Crystal 40L  
14 oz.      Chocolate Malt  
20 oz.      Maple Sugar

### Hops

4.0 oz      Willamette (2.8% AA)—90 Mins.

### Yeast

White Labs California Ale (WLP #001)

BREW

ONE

YOURSELF

# KGB Calendar

(Updated 24-Nov-2009)

Event	Date <small>(Article due date)</small>	Location	Style or Region of the Month	KOM
<b>Samichlaus Day</b> (Eve)	Sat Dec 5	Don Sajda 25106 Bovington Dr.	NA	NA
<b>December Meeting</b> Christmas Party	Sun Dec 6	St Arnold Brewery <i>The old place!</i>	Holiday Beers Duh	Saint Arnold Everything

...all very tentative, folks... **The KGB in 2010** ...it's grain of salt time...

<b>January Meeting</b> Spudfest	Sun Jan 24 Noon-4 <small>(Jan 8)</small>	Southern Star Brewery Conroe, TX	TBA	TBA
<b>February Meeting</b> Fish Fry	Sun Feb 20 1PM <small>(Feb 5)</small>	Phillip Kaufman's 15435 Dobbin Dr Conroe, TX 77384	TBA	TBA
<b>March Meeting</b> Chili Cook Off	Sat Mar 20 7PM <small>(Mar 5)</small>	Jeff Scheerhorn 5919 Bayonne Drive	TBA	TBA
<b>April Meeting</b> Crawfish Festival	Sat Apr 17 5PM <small>(Apr 2)</small>	Carl Scott's?	TBA	TBA

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# Enlist!

in the

# KGB

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

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Club Officers:

Czar	Herb Baker
General Secretary	Chris Landis
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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The Kuykendahl Gran Brewers (KGB) Newsletter is a monthly publication of the Kuykendahl Gran Brewers Homebrew Club. The subscription rate is \$20.00 / yr. or \$35.00 / 2 yrs., which includes full club membership for one person. The family subscription rate is \$35 / yr. or \$60 / 2 yrs.

Correspondence and inquiries can be sent to the KGB via email to the Czar at [Czar@TheKGB.org](mailto:Czar@TheKGB.org), or the newsletter editor at [MinisterOfTabloid@TheKGB.org](mailto:MinisterOfTabloid@TheKGB.org).

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