

The Brewer's Bugle

Newsletter of the Underground Brewers Club of Connecticut
Y.A.H.O.O.S. (Yankee Association of Homebrewers Objecting to Organized Societies)

May 2004

(Ain't no mean-spirited people here)

Volume 18, No. 5

Alts, Dark Lagers & Bocks

Wednesday, May 19, 7:30 pm
Double Cock's

46 Starrs Ridge Rd, West Redding, 203-431-9930

Directions: In Danbury - I-84 to Exit 3 (Route 7 South). Take second left onto West Starrs Plain Rd. At the end, take right onto Starrs Plain Rd. This will become Starrs Ridge Rd. in Redding. Mik is #46 on the left -- a Cape-style house set back about 300' from the road. Watch out for deer, possum, skunk, raccoon, bobwhite, pheasants, cats, dogs, rats and other misc. wildlife.

From the South: Route 7 North into Redding. Turn right onto Pickets Ridge Rd. (at the golf center). Go about one mile and turn left onto Starrs Ridge Rd. Mik's is about 1/2 mile down on the right.



The Host pours

Darvon's Rackings

BODY DOUBLE

Okay, I have to confess - that was not my body in the April *BUGLE* centerfold. Tom Conti did a magnificent job of grafting my head onto another torso. Although I would love to possess such muscular development, the choice of body double was not well considered. After one look at the penile underdevelopment, Tracy decided that she is no longer interested in me. Please be assured that my endowments are superior to those shown in the centerfold image. This can be attested to by dozens of women - well, a few, anyway - okay, a couple or three. But penile underdevelopment should not be taken lightly; after all, the whole human race sprang from Adam's seem-

ingly insignificant organ. By the way, a lot of people say that Michelangelo was gay. The painting of God creating Adam refutes these claims, because no gay male would be impressed by what is displayed. The artist obviously had no interest in such things.

GERIATRIC HEALTH

Lots of people look at me and assume that my excellent physical condition is typical of the golden years. Gregg Glaser is proof that I am not the norm. The Hero has just turned fifty, but has, or soon will have, endured surgical repair of a shoulder, two bunions, and a hernia. None of these things have been required for me, even though I am a few years older than Gregg. Trust me and be forewarned, he is more typical of geriatric health than I am. The Hero and all other YAHOOOS should also consider drinking no more beer, according to an article in the *NY Times*. Drinking two or more 12-ounce bottles of beer daily increases the odds of developing gout by a factor of 2.5 times. Consuming two drinks with shots of liquor increases the risk by 1.6 times, and two to four glasses of wine carry no increased risk. Tess wants you all to know that Maltose has plenty of wine presses for sale.

Ramblings of the Naughty Nurse

YAHOOOS CALENDAR

With the two recent *Brewer's Bugle* centerfolds, some of you (and more likely your spouses) are eagerly awaiting the next. Obviously you've gathered that it won't be of you, because you're too slothful (or busy brewing) to do one yourself. I hear that the next was supposed to be of Hero. I do know that the foto shoot took place and Caroline was there. Then the trouble started. With just a feather duster between Hero and the lens, he apparently started to over-enjoy the role he had set himself up for. A squabble broke out with Hero refusing to give up the duster even long after the pictures had been taken. I have it on good authority that Caroline came home from work the next day and there he was naked, apart from the feather duster. "Just practicing!" said Hero. This has clearly got completely out of



Crapper never has an opinion

hand and Darvon has suggested a moratorium on Hero role-playing unless fully dressed. Hence, no centerfold this month.

DARVON'S CENTERFOLD

All those years we've joked about Darvon having had one of his nuts fried by radar when he was in the Navy. And so we all laugh about this with nary a thought about how it must feel for him. The last centerfold served to illustrate how tragic it must be to be under-endowed -- to have a 'meat and one veg' or 'twig and one berry.' It's been all shits and giggles for us, but the centerfold reveals a man who is disinclined to look in the mirror and when he leaves home says: "Spectacles, testicle, wallet and watch." So let's cut Darvon some slack and at least be thankful that he has his seminal vesicles ready to roll at any minute.

SEAN AND DANIKA AT IT AGAIN

Why is it that it took some of you known great brewers a decade to hone your skills and yet these two are turning out world class beers in their first year? The *Sticke* they produced at the last meeting was just super. They even managed this with the impediment of having a brewhouse white carpet and a fireman with handiwipes in every pocket. However there is a down side, of course. Just when we have this pair where they can't do without our fawning praises for their beer ... we'll make them run the club. Aha!

I love you all y'all, NNN



Sean contemplates how many handiwipes it will take to clean-up the YAHOO'S

Heroic Undertakings

CRAFT BEER SALES UP IN 2003

According to annual statistics released by the Association of Brewers (AOB), the domestic craft beer industry saw a 3.4 percent growth in production for 2003. The largest gains were achieved in the regional brewing category, which posted a 10.9 percent increase. All three of the other categories -- contract, brewpub and micro -- were down 10.5, 6.0 and 8.4 percent respectively. Craft beer also outperformed imported beer for the first time in eight years.



Danika thinks the idea of her running the club is hilarious.

"2003 was a difficult year for the beer industry, but it was another solid year for craft breweries," commented Paul Gatzka, director of the Association of Brewers. "Overall consumption was down, and imports' growth rate of 1.9 percent was the lowest figure for import growth in 12 years. What this means is that craft beers are increasingly making headway in the areas of market share and consumer enjoyment."

The AOB reported that there were more brewery openings (81) than closings (73) last year and that several microbreweries became regional in size. Other trends underway included brewpubs starting bottling or canning lines, brewpub operators opening second and third locations, a shift in sales toward off-premise locations and a 10 percent growth among regional specialty brewers.

In 2003, the craft beer industry produced 6,653,461 million barrels of craft beer in the United States. This 3.4 percent growth from 2002 means the net volume increase for 2003 was 220,714 barrels. This is the equivalent to over 3 million cases of new craft beer sales. The total U.S. craft beer industry annual retail sales value for 2003 was over \$3.5 billion.

The AOB also reported 1,426 craft breweries operated in the United States in 2003: 986 brewpubs, 385 microbreweries and 55 regional specialty breweries.

BASS CELEBRATES 1.5 BILLIONTH PINT POURED

Bass Ale, brewed for more than 225 years, celebrated the pouring of its 1.5 billionth pint in the U.S. last spring. First on sale in the U.S. in 1799, there are now more than 23,000 Bass tap handles in bars and restaurants across the country.

GUINNESS TO CLOSE LONDON BREWERY

Brewing of Guinness Stout will cease at Guinness's London, England, Park Royal Brewery after the summer of 2005. Production of the famous stout for the U.K. market will be transferred to the St. James's Gate brewery in Dublin, Ireland. The Park Royal Brewery has been in use since 1936. Sales of Guinness Stout fell in both the U.K. and Ireland last year.

ALCOHOLIC BREWER WINS \$2 MILLION

Master Brewer Bernd Naveke, 49, retired from the Brahma Brewery near Rio de Janeiro, won a compensation of \$2 mil-

lion from a brewery after 20 years of beer drinking made him an alcoholic. While on the job, Naveke drank nearly eight liters of beer every day. He was forced to leave his job after becoming a registered alcoholic and hasn't worked since.



Missing Link is so happy we all came to his house.

BEER JAM

In March Deutsche Presse-Agentur reported that a family brewer in Chodova Plana, in the western Czech Republic, had developed a "beer jam." Chodavar Brewery co-owner Jiri Plevka said the amber-colored jam was made from byproducts of the brewing process and that the jam contained a "residual" amount of alcohol.

BEER HATS

Pete and Cyndy Montana, owners of an upstate New York company named beer-hats.com, make cowboy hats out of cardboard beer boxes. At a price of about \$25.00, the company makes hats out of different brewery's boxes.

BEER FERMENTED WITH CHAMPAGNE YEAST

Asia Pacific Breweries (APB), based in Singapore, a Heineken affiliate, has developed Touché, a beer fermented with champagne yeast taken from the must of Chardonnay grapes. Selling for about \$3.55 a bottle in Singapore, Touché, 5.5% abv, is packaged in French-made, 330-ml frosted, long-neck bottles with five-color artwork.

TRUMER PILS

The Trumer Brauerei of Obertrum, Austria and The Gambrinus Company of San Antonio, TX, have entered into an agreement to begin selling *Trumer Pils* in the U.S., starting with Charleston, SC. They also announced the formation of Trumer International, a company that will brew Trumer Pils at the newly-built Trumer Brauerei in Berkeley, CA.

TAP NY

April 24-25, 2004 - Hunter, NY

MATTHEW VASSAR BREWER'S CUP (Best Brewery in Hudson Valley): Original Saratoga Springs Brew Pub, Saratoga Springs, NY

F.X. MATT MEMORIAL CUP (Best Brewery in New York State): Chelsea Brewing Company, New York, NY

BEST BEERS IN NEW YORK STATE:

Gold Medal: Sled Dog Tripplebock Reserve, Wagner Valley Brewing, Lodi, NY

Silver Medal: Southern Tier Porter, Southern Tier Brewing, Lakewood, NY

Bronze Medal: Three Philosophers, Brewery Ommegang, Cooperstown, NY

BEST BEERS IN HUDSON VALLEY:

Gold Medal: Wee Heavy Scotch Ale, Great Adirondack Brewing Co. Lake Placid, NY

Silver Medal: Ramstein Mailbock, High Point Brewing, Butler, NJ

Bronze Medal: Ramstein Blonde Wheat, High Point Brewing, Butler, NJ

WORLD BEER CUP AWARDS

San Diego, CA - April 17, 2004

(231 awards in 81 categories; 1,566 beers entered from 393 breweries representing 40 countries)

SMALL BREWING COMPANY: Oggi's Pizza and Brewing, San Clemente, CA

SMALL BREWING COMPANY BREWMASTER: Tom Nickel

MID-SIZED BREWING COMPANY: Firestone Walker Brewing, Paso Robles, CA

MID-SIZED BREWING COMPANY BREWMASTER: Matthew Brynildson

LARGE BREWING COMPANY: Miller Brewing, Milwaukee, WI

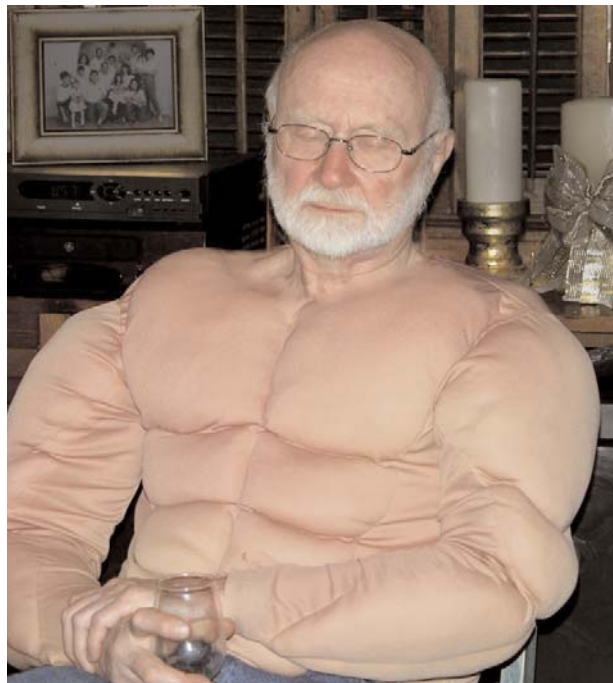
LARGE BREWING COMPANY BREWMASTER: David Ryder

SMALL BREWPUB: Laurelwood Pub & Brewery, Portland OR

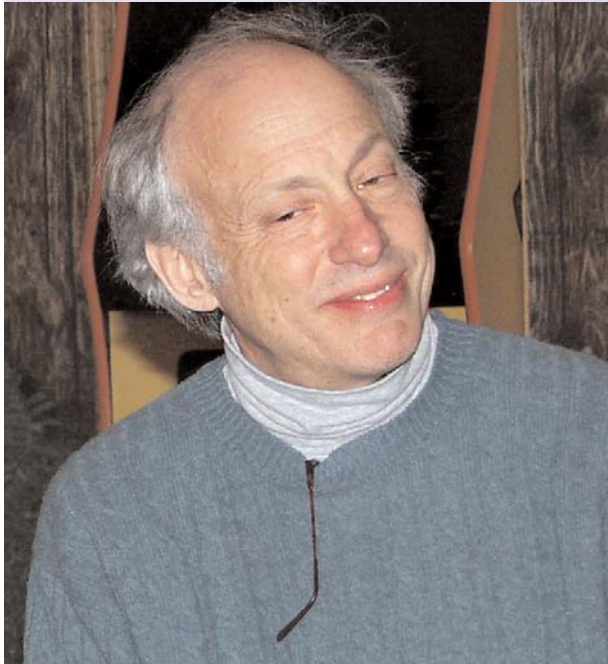
SMALL BREWPUB BREWMASTER: Christian Ettinger

LARGE BREWPUB: Russian River Brewing, Santa Rosa, CA

LARGE BREWPUB BREWMASTER: Vinnie Cilurzo



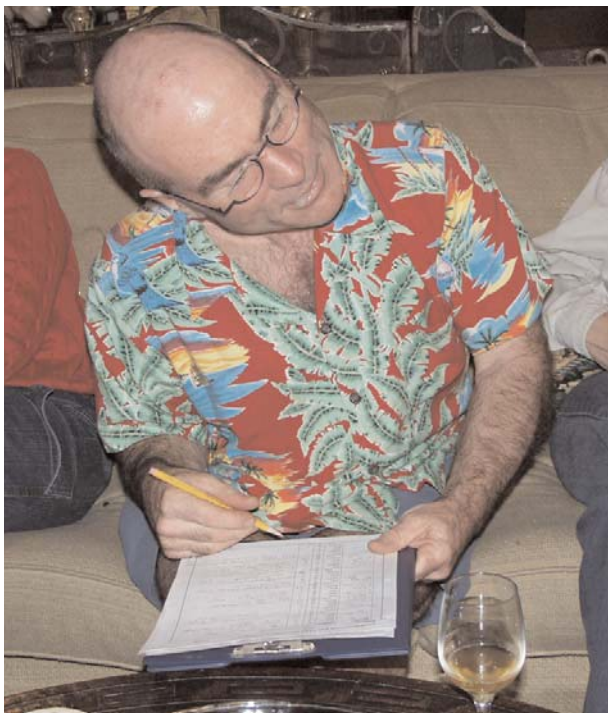
He-Man Darvon is just happy to be anywhere.



I think the pope is writing a letter to the editor complaining about last month's centerfold.



Oh, my god! I'm getting a letter from the Pope?



Dear Editor ...

Beer Events

May 8, 2004 - **Art of Beer Festival**, Boston, MA, www.beer-advocate.com

May 21, 2004 - **Springfest at the Beach**, Ocean Beach Park, New London, CT, 6-10 p.m., over 100 craft, imported & local beers, live entertainment, free brew-friendly food, \$25, winetalk177@aol.com.

May 22, 2004 - **Connecticut Craft Brewers Festival**, Jessie Camille's Restaurant, Naugatuck, CT, 5-10 p.m., over 30 breweries & more than 100 microbrews, live band, burgers/dogs, \$25 includes beer and food, all proceeds to Camille Perugini Memorial Trust Fund, 203-729-5445, TerryLBoyd@aol.com.

May 27, 2004 - **Connecticut Brew Fest**, Connecticut Historical Society Museum, Hartford, CT, 860-236-5621, www.accesshartford.org

April Meeting Notes

April 21, 2004

Host: Missing Link

	STYLE BREWER BRAND	NOSE (12)	LOOKS (3)	TASTE (20)	BODY (5)	OVERALL (10)	TOTAL (50)	COMMENTS
1	Strong Ale Samuel Smith Winter Warmer	7	3	12	3	6	31	Smells like a big ole' Heineken, noble hops?; old, bitter finish, like Darvon's marriage Even the English won't buy it.
2	Maibock Missing Link	7	2	10	3	6	28	Very delicate – too delicate, as in boring; lots of Munich malt, too much alcohol; scored 10 out of 10 for boring, but very clean. Hosts should reveal the identities of their beers before serving.
3	Belgian Enkel NNN	7	3	12	3	6	31	Appropriately enteric from Brettanomyces yeast, lactic; thin, funky, “Duval light” (Crapper). “Didn't like it the first time, either” (Darvon).
4	Hefeweizen Baltic Russia	8	2	13	3	7	33	Good balance; needs a head; needs more life, but potentially good, if the Russians would import some German brewers to give them lessons.
5	Belgian Beer L'Alsacienne Sans Culotte	6	1.5	10	2.5	5	25	DMS, lager; Stella Artois light, a generic Continental Pils. The label scored 50 out of 50, showing a young beauty from behind, with scratch-off panties. “Sans culottes” means “pantless.”
6	Lager New England Elm City Lager	9	3	15	4	9	40	Air freshener, would do well at a flower show. Pizzaman went on at length about it. Complex blend of flavors. A winner in a can. Nessie flushed with pride. Moravian malt and Hallertau hops
7	Sticke Alt Sean & Danika	9	3	16	4	8	40	Crapper would like more bitterness. Everybody raved and thought it was the one from My Place. Watch out, Krapper, these two are coming on to challenge you. Next best homebrew of the evening.
8	Dunkelweizen Edelweiss	5	2	9	3	4	23	Raunchy, “Eewww” (Count), bacon smoke, would go well with meat. “Edelweiss=alpine flower=Leontopodium Alpina” (NNN)
9	Smoked Dortmund Darvon	6	2	10	3	5	26	Driveway sealer, bandaids. “Not a bad beer” (Pizzaman), “I hate smoked beers” (Nessie), “Me, too” (NNN). 2 nd place at HVHC.
10	General Ira Eaker Ale American Pale Ale Darvon	10	2	14	4	8	38	Hopfruit cocktail; “Finally, a beer without malt” (Conti). All loved it, except for the Nurse, who persisted in keeping the score down, which cost him a six-pack of it. Amarillo and Centennial.
11	Sierra Nirvana Ale Belgian Quadruple Allagash	9	3	15	4	8	39	Accidentally scorched. Gen. Eaker scorched Dortmund in WWII. Wonderful nose, “Can't pick out the third yeast” (Count), “Not just Sherry” (Nurse); dark fruit, licorice, well done. Made with 4 malts, 4 sugars, 4 yeasts, and 4 skins.
12	Saison Southampton Publik (Phil Markowsky)	10	3	15	5	9	42	Incredibly complex and tart, spice berries, “Like Fantôme” (Krapper), “God, it smells delicious” (Pizzaman); “Too tart for my taste” (Darvon). This time, Nurse jacked up the scores.
13	Saison Dupont	10	3	15	5	8	41	Simpler than the previous one; “This one is more to my taste” (Darvon), hops, yeast, and dry finish (like Darvon having sex). Different from the previous one, but still great.
14	Tripel Westmalle	5	2	10	3	5	25	Smells like a Saison. Dry and hot, hot, hot. Not a typical Tripel, but still a good beer. Missing Link liked it.
15	Kriek De Ranke	9	3	13	4	7	36	Could be tarter. Needs more Brettanomyces. Actually, a great beer, and none went into the dump bucket.
16	Strong Dark Belgian Crapper	9	3	14	4	8	38	Sharp, metallic?, spice, cloves?, we didn't know – now, who could we ask? Raisins, Brett, Champagne yeast. Naughty judges missed the Brettanomyces.
17	Dandelion Saison Homer & Krapper	10	3	16	5	8	42	Wonderful nose and Beer. The 2003 dandelions much better than the 2002 crop. Dandelions (yellow petals only) from the sewage treatment plant. Forbidden Fruit yeast. BHBofE.

SUMMARY: Nessie brought the glassware, so Link shouldn't have used that clearly gay pitcher

THE BREWER'S BUGLE is a sometimes-monthly publication of the Underground Brewers Club of Connecticut. The contents herein are © 2003, except for the parts we stole.

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Alts, Dark Lagers & Bocks at Mik's - May 19

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