

The Brewer's Bugle

Newsletter of the Underground Brewers Club of Connecticut

YAHOOOS (Yankee Association of Homebrewers Objecting to Organized Societies)

August 2007

(Ain't no mean-spirited people here)

Volume 20, No. 8

YAHOOOS August Annual Summer Picnic

Saturday, August 18, 1:00 pm

Haystack's

73 Seaview Ave, Branford

Bring significant others, children, homebrew, a dish to share and a folding chair or two. Also bring anything you need for swimming and fishing - the beach is two blocks away; the fishing pier is even closer. We'll provide a kayak and a canoe; feel free to bring your own (sorry, nothing requiring a boat ramp).

RSVPs are not required but would be helpful. You can email me at hayslett@cowbay.com or call 203-481-4981.

Directions: Take I-95 North to Exit 54, Cedar St. Turn right onto Cedar and follow it to the end. Turn left onto Main, then immediately bear right onto Rt 146. Follow Rt 146 for 2.5 miles (be sure to bear left at the Indian Neck Liquor Store). Turn right onto Seventh Ave. Stop to unload at the 3rd house on the right, newly tricked out in stunning red and gray. Parking is limited. I'll help you find a spot or be your valet. Try to carpool if possible.

Darvon's Rackings

POETRY CORNER

Summer Blues

It's tough when it's so hot and hazy,

The heat will wilt even the daisy.

That is the weak reason,

To not brew this season.

The truth is you're just too damn lazy

NOT SO GRAND LARCENY

Everyone knows that the BJCP is taking its former Treasurer, Bill Slack, to court, accusing him of misappropriating organizational funds. Hard to imagine that there is any money to steal, since the BJCP collects no dues and has no magazines or products to sell. Actually, BJCP does have income, mostly from judge exam and competition fees. In 2006, BJCP's total income was \$21,500. Expenses for the same year were \$14,500, leaving \$7,000 to steal. It is still hard to imagine funds of that amount being worth the risk of serving hard time. Of course, everyone steals. Who has not walked off with company pencils or printed club newsletters on the copier? Or if you are Halliburton in Iraq, with unsupervised contracts amounting to billions, stealing a million here and there is no big deal. But \$7,000 from an organization with 4,500 interested (albeit marginally so) members? The yield does not exceed the risk well enough to warrant larceny. Of course, things have to be put in individual perspective. In the same situation, I might be tempted, since \$7,000 is several times larger than my annual income, whereas for Krapper, that amount is roughly equal to his fee for unplugging a toilet. He could be trusted. Just don't ask me to produce the \$423 balance from past SNERHCs.

Picnic Warning

The Nurse is usually 98% naked at the picnics.

CENSORED

Heroic Undertakings

SCHNEIDER-BROOKLYNER - BROOKLYNER-SCHNEIDER

Brewers Hans-Peter Drexler of Schneider Brauerei, Kelheim, Germany, and Garrett Oliver of Brooklyn Brewery, presented the U.S. launch of Schneider-Brooklyner Hopfen-Weisse at Zum Schneider on the Lower East Side of New York City. This strong (8.2% abv) Bavarian weissbier (wheat beer) was brewed by the two at the Schneider Brauerei last May. On July 18th they co-brewed a similar beer, to be named Brooklyner-Schneider Hopfen-Weisse, at Brooklyn Brewery, which will be released as part of the Brooklyn micro's Brewmaster's Reserve series in bottles and on draft. The brewmasters recommend pairing their creations with strong and spicy food.



Garrett Oliver, Hans-Peter Drexler

BEER IS AMERICA'S BEVERAGE OF CHOICE

A recent Gallup Poll revealed that of the 64 percent of Americans who consume alcohol, beer continues to be their beverage of choice, with 40 percent choosing it over wine and spirits. Beer came out on top in the last two similar Gallup polls. Beer was also found to represent the largest segment in the alcohol beverage category in both volume and dollar sales, accounting for 56 percent of all alcohol beverage servings.

For two years, Anheuser-Busch has led a campaign to elevate the image of beer called "Here's To Beer." Bob Lachky, executive vice president, Global Industry Development at Anheuser-Busch, said: "We're encouraged by the consumer data such as today's Gallup poll and this year's ACNielsen global trend report that reinforce beer's supremacy as a driver of food and beverage growth worldwide." The "Here's To Beer" campaign's next initiative is "The Beer Connoisseur" website, an online beer university in which adults can enroll to learn about beer's ingredients, brewing process, styles and the fundamentals of food-pairing: www.herestobeer.com

U.S. CRAFT BEER GOES TO CHINA

The Chinese seem to like U.S. craft beer. The Brewers Association sent a mixed container of beer to China last February that included beers from Brooklyn Brewery (NY), North Coast Brewing (CA) and Rogue Ales (OR). This was followed by a second container in May with beers from Kona Brewing (HI) and Gordon Biersch Brewing (CA).

SCHWELMER BEER RE-LAUNCHED

Schwelmer Beer, brewed by the Schwelmer Brauerei in Schwelm, Westphalia, Germany, since 1830, held a launch party to re-introduce its beers at a German-themed beer bar, Lederhosen, in New York City's Greenwich Village. The four Schwelmer beers available in the U.S. are Pils, Alt, Bernstein and Hefe Weizen. These Schwelmer beers are bottled in 330-ml and 500-ml swing-top bottles.



L-R: Laura Herder, Lars Dalhaus, Jessica Page of Schwelmer Beer Imports

UTOPIAS REAPPEARS

Jim Koch of Boston Beer Co. hosted a beer and food pairing at davidburke & donatella, a New York City restaurant, pairing several of his seasonal beers with foods prepared by Chef David Burke. A special treat of the night was a side-by-side nosing and tasting of Frapin VIP XO Grand Champagne cognac and 1994 Fonseca Vintage Port with 2007 Utopias, the strongest beer in the world (25.6% abv), led by Brandy Library Spirits Sommelier Ethan Kelley.



Chef David Burke of davidburke&donatella, Jim Koch of Boston Beer Co., Ethan Kelley of The Brandy Library

BEER & BBQ

For the seventh year, Harpoon Brewery (with breweries in Boston and Windsor, VT) hosted the Harpoon Championships of New England Barbecue on the grounds of its Vermont brewery. Forty-two BBQ teams, mostly from New England but some teams came from as far away as Florida and St Louis, competed in the categories of smoke-barbequed chicken, pork ribs, pork shoulder and brisket on day one, with rules set by the Kansas City BBQ Society. On day two, New England BBQ Society rules were in effect for the Summer Sizzler (a grilling competition) with the categories of chef's choice (a Harpoon beer-based sauce was a required ingredient), chicken wings, sausage and pork chops. Over 42 certified BBQ judges tasted it all and rendered their judgments after filling out their score sheets with points awarded for appearance, tenderness/texture and taste.

The Purple Turtle, a BBQ team and a catering company from

Norwalk, won several awards at the competition.



Harpoon BBQ University

BOSTON BEER CO. MAY PURCHASE DIAGEO BREWERY IN PENNSYLVANIA

The Boston Beer Co. has signed an agreement with Diageo North America (Diageo is the largest alcohol drinks group in the world) to buy a brewery located 60 miles outside Philadelphia. If the deal goes through, Boston Beer Co., the country's largest craft brewer, could begin brewing at this brewery in 2008. Boston Beer Co. currently brews under contract at breweries around the U.S., as well as at its small brewery in Boston and a larger brewery it owns in Cincinnati.

2007 NATIONAL HOMEBREW COMPETITION AWARDS MEDALS

There were over 5,000 entries in the world's largest beer competition this year, the 2007 National Homebrew Competition, held in Denver. The top winners from 28 style categories were awarded bronze, silver and gold medals. In total there were 5,052 entries from 1,172 homebrewers. The full list of winners is posted at www.beertown.org/events/nhc/2007_winners.html.

In the top five awards categories the winners are:

Ninkasi Award (Winningest Brewer) sponsored by Boston Beer Co. - Jamil Zainasheff, Elk Grove, CA, QUAFF (homebrew club)

Homebrewer of the Year (Best-of-Show Beer) sponsored by Muntons P.L.C. - Richard Skains, Rocky River, OH

Meadmaker of the Year (Best-of-Show Mead) sponsored by Redstone Meadery - Steve Fletty, Falcon Heights, MN, Saint Paul Homebrewers Club

Cidermaker of the Year (Best-of-Show Cider) - sponsored by Woodchuck Draft Cider - Joseph Franconi, Red Hook, NY, Hudson Valley Homebrewers

Homebrew Club of the Year sponsored by Coopers Brew Products - Saint Paul Homebrewers Club, Saint Paul, MN

PLAYBOY.COM'S "AMERICA'S SEXIEST BARTENDER 2007"

Stefaney Lewis of Palm Beach, FL, won the contest as the "country's comeliest cocktail shaker," according to Playboy.com. The website named the 25-year-old Lewis "America's Sexiest Bartender 2007" in its annual search.

Stef will be pouring beers on the beach at the YAHOO'S Summer Picnic this year.



Stefaney Lewis, "America's Sexiest Bartender 2007"

July Meeting Results

July 18, 2007

Host: Crapper

	STYLE BREWERS BRAND	NOSE (12)	LOOKS (3)	TASTE (20)	BODY (5)	OVERALL (10)	TOTAL (50)	COMMENTS
1	Hefe Schneider Edelweiss	6	3	11	5	7	32	Clear, light; "light cereal sweetness" (Hazel), very sweet, German taste at the end, with sweet finish.
2	Saison Crapper	7	3	10	4	6	30	"Over-ripe fruits" (Hero), "fruit compote" (Mike), tart, dry finish, "composted fruit and mushrooms" (Haystack), " lacks finesse" (Mike). Dupont yeast, 80 degree ferment.
3	American Pale Ale Darvon Hop Heaven Ale	9	3	16	4	8	40	HOPS, 10 grapefruit units, touch of malt, some sweet; good hop flavor with hop dryness; "body a little full" (Hazer). 24% Rye.
4	Amber Lager Mik and Chick	7	3	11	5	6	32	Grainy, "amber waves of" (Mike), yeasty; "soapy" (Homer), not bitter, yet dry.
5	Bock Crapper & Link	7	3	13	5	7	33	"Corrugated cardboard, not the shoebox type" (Greg g); malty, sweet, Bocky, old. Tied with itself for 1 st and 2 nd runner-up BOS at SNERHC 2006.
6	Porter Didn't Write if Down Brewery	7	2	14	5	8	36	Licorice, sweet nose for a Porter, "amazing lack of aroma" (Mark); dark; dusty mild, "much too ordinary" (Coque)
7	S Amer Spiced Pils Michelob Ultra Lime Cactus	8	2	11	4	6	31	Ginger, guava, fruits of Paradise, "smells like Coca Cola" (Phil); Looks like a Pils; a little like Mr. Clean, "too fruity for a Pils" (Mike). Made with lime and cactus (Why?)
8	"Helles" Zywiec	8	3	14	4	7	36	Lagery, corny, grainy; beautiful; very corny, light finish, creamy; "appropriate for Helles, even if not declared" (Darvon)
9	German Pils Dueuce Coq (alone?)	6	3	11	4	5	29	Sweet, "biscuity" (Haze); "Lemon Pledge" (Hero). Over a year old – weak excuse.
10	Berlinerweisse Weihestephan Inst. 1809	8	3	12	3	5	31	Lactic, tart, pineapple, "not lactic enough" (Mik); Berliner lite, not dry, fruity, a bit heavy. Made with no boiling of wort. Hazlett does it that way, but better.
11	Hefe Julius Echter	8	3	11	3	6	31	Mostly cloves, tiny bananas, "J & J baby powder" (Coq ²); mild compared to most; taste follows the nose; low carb.
12	Hefe "One of 3 Miks" (?)	10	3	16	5	8	42	Clovey, bananas, bubble gum —all the Hefe stuff, "cantaloupe" (Hazel); sweet, smooth, but dr y in the back.
13	Still Cider Farnam Hill Poverty Hill Orch.	9	3	16	4	8	40	No hops, no malt, no head —oops, it's a cider; Brettanomyces, appleicious; residual sweetness, liquid apples. All Kingston Black apples. Worth Crapper's drive to New Hampshire.
14	Belgian Golden Brooklyn	9	3	16	5	8	41	Has muscles, "Styrian wet wool" (Haystack); nice and clear; super Belgian diabetic seizures, explosive hop finish. We likey.
15	Belgian Artesianal Estevalle la Rulles	6	3	9	2	4	24	Cat pee and celery, let the cat out of the bag —a very old, one-eyed incontinent European cat lacking body.
16	Strong Belgian Gold Miken and Chicken	9	3	13	4	8	37	Malty, caramelized, hoppy, fruity; malt, bitter Harry Potter finish, disjointed, incongru ent, sweet, full bodied.
17	Belgian Strong Dark Krapper	8.5	3	12	2	7	32.5	Wet wool, malt, spice, dark fruit, well -balanced nose: beautiful mahogany: phenolic, tart, bitter, thins out, very bitter finish, overattenuated?
18	Fruit Beer Dogfish Head Black & Blue	7	3	12	3	7	32	Peach? Guava? Gay Pride parade, clueless judges; pinkish; fruity and tart, but not bitter, pureed/ extract flavor, chick beer —pretty in pink, not annoying to drink. Blackberries and blueberries.
19	Jalapeno Gooseberry Darvon Sweet and Tart							Chili stands out "Jalapeno fuckin' rips right through it" (Crapper) "endorphin city" "not bad for what it is" "good cooking beer" "I warned you guys about it by e -mail" (Darvon)
20	Kriek Lambic Homer & Crapper	10	3	17	5	9	44	"Can smell the cherry pit arsenic" (Darvon); beautiful: damn sour, slaps your tongue around, lots of oak, Hero rattles off subject, complex, well balanced, snappy. BHBofE

SUMMARY: Where was our leader, Chickenman? Need a scribe who writes legibly.



Picnic at Hazy's - August 18

This has been the YAHOO'S NEWSLETTER