

The Brewer's Bugle

Newsletter of the Underground Brewers Club of Connecticut

YAHOOOS (Yankee Association of Homebrewers Objecting to Organized Societies)

October 2007

(Ain't no mean-spirited people here)

Volume 20, No. 10

Oktober Meeting - Oktoberfest Beers

Wednesday, Oktober 17, 7:30 pm

Mickey D's

37 Shadduck Road, Middlebury, 203-598-0550

It's possible, although not certain, that Middlebury is somewhere in the middle of somewhere in the middle of Connecticut.

DIRECTIONS FROM THE EAST: Take 84 to exit 17. Stay straight on the exit ramp until you come to the traffic light. Turn left at this light onto Rt. 63 South. Follow Rte. 63 South to the third light (just past the Mobil station on your left). At the light take a right on Country Club Rd (Maples restaurant will be up on the right before you make the turn). Follow this over the hill, and at the bottom you will turn right on Rte. 188 (you can only go left or right there) You are now on Rte 188 (Whittemore Road). Take 188 to the first left (past the split rail fence), Shadduck Rd, and make a left. Ours is the second house on the right. The corner of Shadduck & Lawson. The driveway entrance is on Lawson. It's a little Sage Cape with a White Mailbox.

DIRECTIONS FROM THE WEST: Take 84 E to exit 17. The exit ramp splits in two. Stay to the right. At the end of the exit ramp (yield/stop) you will merge onto Rte. 63 South. Follow Rte. 63 South to the first light (200-300 yards). At the light take a right on Country Club Rd (Maples restaurant will be up on the right before you make the turn). Follow this over the hill, and at the bottom you will turn right on Rte. 188 (you can only go left or right there) You are now on Rte 188 (Whittemore Road). Take 188 to the first left (past the split rail fence), Shadduck Rd, and make a left. Ours is the second house on the right. The corner of Shadduck & Lawson. The driveway entrance is on Lawson. It's a little Sage Cape with a White Mailbox.



Nemo even dumps the dump bucket

Darvon's Rackings

POETRY CORNER

Time to Give it Up

Writing these poems tends to tire me.

The YAHOOOS no longer inspire me.

The poetry's stale,

As Nurse's best Ale,

I wish someone would just fire me.

PUGSLEY STRIKES AGAIN

In a recent case, a man was diagnosed with a puzzling lung ailment. The doctors checked and found the man had no history of working in coal mines or in environments involving dust or asbestos. The doctors were puzzled, but then one remembered that workers in micro-wave popcorn factories were often found to develop similar lung symptoms. Studies had shown that the ailments had been caused by exposure to the diacetyl that is added to popcorn to impart a buttery taste. The doctor asked the man if he ever ate micro-wave popcorn. He replied that he loved it and ate a packet at least twice a day, popping it open right out of the micro-wave and inhaling the buttery fumes. The problem was almost solved, except that the amount of diacetyl involved would take the man to the brink of dangerous exposure, but not past the limit. The doctor asked the man if he

drank anything with the popcorn. It turns out he always accompanied the popcorn with a couple of bottles of beer from a local Pugsley microbrewery. Problem solved.

MY NEW BREW CO-HEROES

Of course I was pissed that the know-nothing, category-exceeding, hop-head judges of the National Homebrew Competition had passed on the sure winners I sent them, but I was curious enough to check out the results in *Zymurgy*. I now have new brew co-heroes in Rodney Kibzey and Liz Lerch of Lombard, Illinois. I will probably never meet these two, since I plan never to have the misfortune of being in Lombard, Illinois, but they are still my co-heroes. In the recipe for their gold-medal winning Weizenbock they list their original specific gravity as "unknown" and their final specific gravity also as "unknown." While the rest of us are over-analyzing our beers to death, emphasizing the "anal" in "analyze," these two are just throwing a beer together, confident of their skill and the results. My new co-heroes.

Beer as Metaphor

ALE AND ETERNAL YOUTH

(excerpt from a poem by E.E. Cummings, "i was sitting at mcsorley's,")

"and I was sitting in the din thinking drinking the ale, which never lets you grow old blinking at the low ceiling my being pleasantly was punctuated by the always retchings of a worth-less lamp."

The Hangover

SIXTY-PINT BEER BINGE LEADS TO FOUR-WEEK HANGOVER

It may be the longest hangover in the history of binge beer drinking. When a 37-year-old man walked into a hospital emergency room in Glasgow, Scotland last October complaining of "wavy" vision and a non-stop headache that had lasted four weeks, doctors were at first stumped, the British journal The Lancet reported Friday.



Conference

The unnamed patient "had no history of head injury or loss of consciousness; his past medical record was unremarkable, and he was taking no medications," Zia Carrim and two other physicians from Southern General Hospital said in a case report.

Body temperature and blood pressure were both normal, and a neurological exam scanned negative.

But when an eye specialist was called in, the fog began to clear, at least for the doctors.

The patient, said the ophthalmologist, had swollen optical discs, greatly enlarged blind spots and what eye doctors call "flame hemorrhages," or bleeding nerve fibres.

"We sought a more detailed history" from the patient, noted Zia dryly.

That is when the man revealed he had consumed some 60 pints -- roughly 35 litres -- of beer over a four-day period, following a domestic crisis.

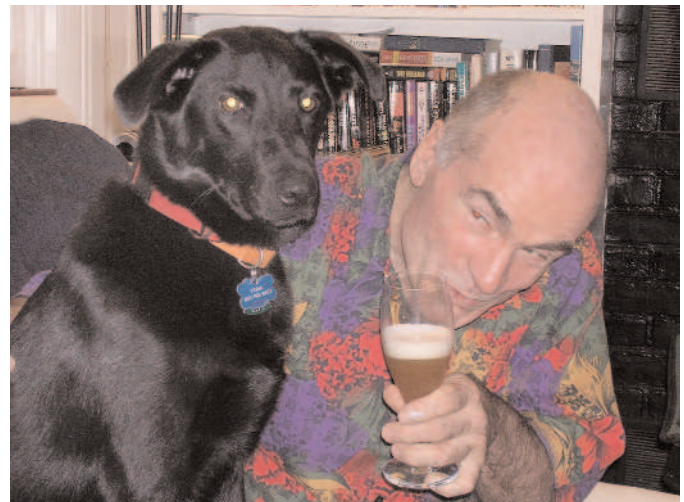
Severe dehydration caused by the alcohol, the doctors guessed, had led to a rare condition called cerebral venous sinus thrombosis (CVST). A scan of the brain's blood vessels confirmed the diagnosis.

CVST -- which can cause seizures, impaired consciousness, loss of vision and neurological damage -- strikes three or four people per million, mainly children, every year in Britain. The cause is generally unknown.

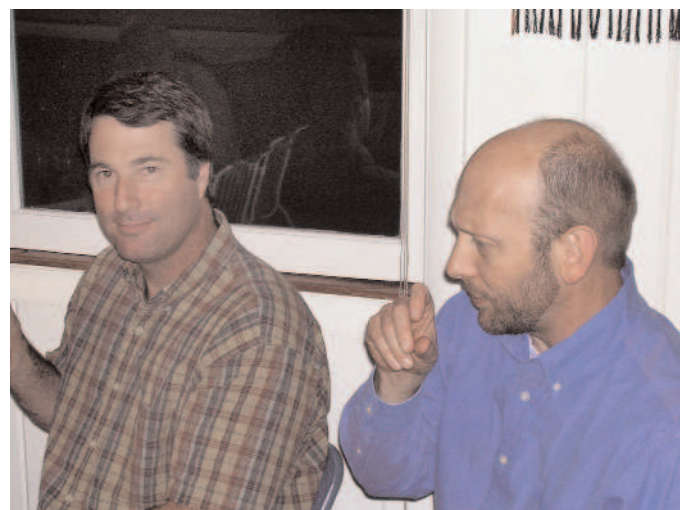
It took more than six months of long-term blood-thinning treatment to restore the man's normal vision -- and to get rid of the headache, the doctors reported.



The Host's Heroic Nose



Dogs like beer from nurses



Nothing to say?



Beer Events

October 1: Willimantic Brewing Fall Harvest Beer Dinner - four great beers with four delicious courses, 967 Main St, Willimantic, 6 pm, 860-423-6777, www.willibrew.com

October 5: Oktoberfest at the Beach - beer, chili, two live bands, cigar booth and more, Ocean Beach Park, New London, \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door; 6-9 pm, 860-447-0425, www.newlondonrotary.org

October 6: Captain Lawrence Brewing Fall Fest Beer Dinner - Hammond Museum and Japanese gardens, 28 Deveau Road, North Salem, NY, 914-669-0121, www.hammondmuseum.org

October 7-10, 14-15: Oktoberfest mit Bier und Musik - Zum Schneider, 107 Ave C at 7th Street, NYC, www.zumschneider.com

October 11: Barcade Anniversary Party - Barcade celebrates its 3rd with a big party, 388 Union Avenue, Brooklyn, NY, 718-302-6464, www.barcadebrooklyn.com

October 23: Harry's Beer School: UK Beers-Old World v New - 2094 Post Road, Fairfield, 259-4692, www.harryswine.com

October 25: Brewhouse Restaurant Oktoberfest Tasting & Dinner - a tasting of eight Oktoberfest beers with a presentation by some guy, plus a buffet dinner of German specialties, 13 Marshall Street, South Norwalk, 7 pm, 203-853-9110, www.sono-brewhouse.com

October 25: Rosh Hashanah v Oktoberfest at Barcade - The Ultimate Beer Grudge Match at Barcade with He'Brew beer, 388 Union Avenue, Brooklyn, NY, 718-302-6464, www.barcadebrooklyn.com

October 26-27: Brewtopia! NYC Craft Beer Festival - three sessions, Pier 92 at 52nd St on the Hudson, NYC, www.brewtopiafest.com

September Meeting Results

September 19, 2007

Host: Hero

	STYLE BREWER BRAND	NOSE (12)	LOOKS (3)	TASTE (20)	BODY (5)	OVERALL (10)	TOTAL (50)	COMMENTS
1	Wit Jay	7	3	11	4	6	36	"Dusty" (Capt. Nemo), "Too much of something, but I don't know what" (Nurse) Coriander/orange ratio 8/2. Five bonus points for going all grain.
2	Wit Wolaver's Organic	7	3	10	3	6	29	Very orangey, "Soapy" (Hero); tasted very peely (anyone remember Emma Peel?) soapy taste, unbalanced. Coriander/orange ratio 2/8.
3	Wit Wittekerke Belgium	8	3	14	3	8	36	Nice citrus nose "Lemonade" (Chickenman), right balance for the style; very light in color, and also in taste, wimpy Wit Lite. Coriander/orange ratio 2/2.
4	Duplicity Newport Storm Frank	7	2	11	4	6	30	Malt, "Oranges left on the counter for two weeks" (Hero); much too clear; "Tastes terrible" (Count); "Old Ale of Wits" (Chicken); coriander/orange ratio 2/7.
5	Berliner Weisse Hazel	6	2	8	4	5	25	Nose right for style, some sweetness; too dark for Berliner Weisse; pucker factor too low, "Potsdamer Weisse – 15 minutes by subway from Berlin" (Hero). Tasty Sauvignon Blanc of beers.
6	Sorghum Wit Sprecher Wisconsin							"Funky toenails" (Nurse), "Johnson & Johnson Band-Aids" (Nemo); "Drink for the Vitamin B and nutrients" (Gregg); "Makes the wife look prettier is she drinks it" (Chicken)
7	Mateveza Ale W/ Yerba Mate							"Earl Grey Tea" (Haystack), more like tobacco than tea; spicy bitterness, wonderful experiment. Helping Hero empty his cellar of the weird beers that are sent to him.
8	Hefeweizen Nurse Hitler's Hernia	6	2	9	2	5	24	Plums, cloves, straight bananas, "Women will pay more for straight bananas" (Chickenman); light color, even for this style. "Bananale" (Hero); "Twiggy had more body" (Darvon)
9	Roggenbier Haystack	9	3	13	5	8	38	Good cloves, vanilla, "Tree nuts (as opposed to ground nuts)" (Count); nutty, grainy, sweet, but dry finish, good on vanilla ice cream. Koda hated it – what does he know? BHBofE.
10	Saison Uniballe Brewery	7	3	12	4	7	33	Grassy, "Belgian horse piss" (Chickenman), "Celery" (Hazel); Wallonian wife after sex, a little cloying, light malt, over-ripe tangerines.
11	Saison North Coast Le Merle	8	3	15	5	8	39	"Cat urinator" (Nemo), fresh, dog tail ale; farmhouse all the way, good pepper, fruit, citrus and spices in the middle, very dry finish. Comes from Ft. Bragg, CA, celebrating another Rebel general.
12	Hoppy German Wheat Schneider/Brooklyn Hopfen-Weisse	9	3	15	5	8	40	German yeast holds it own against the hops – nothing dominates, dry hopping apparent; balanced well, "Hops singing" (Nemo), "Wrong!" (Conti in the minority)
13	Braggot Magic Hat							Tart, cinnamon, spice, honey, fruit; "Paint thinner" (Nessie), chamomile tea.
14	Strong IPA Rock Art Brewery Vermontster	9	3	14	4	9	39	Wrinkled fruit, resins, perfume, licorice; very strong hop finish, roast barley, "Very young Old Ale" (Conti). A party extending beer, but it finished this one.

SUMMARY: Gregg thanks everyone for helping to reduce his weird beer inventory



Oktoberfest Beers at Mickey D's - October 19

This has been the YAHOO'S NEWSLETTER