



Brewer's League Journal

Monthly Newsletter of the Greater Everett Brewer's League

Hot Time In The Old Town That Night!

Proximity to Beer a Real Plus!

If you missed out on the August meeting and potluck, you should drink a *Bud*, as punishment. For those who showed, a fun time was had by all.

Yes, it was one of those warm summer nights that we've enjoyed this year and everyone grabbed a chair, a brew, and a plate (not necessarily in that order) and headed for the cool of the garage. The fact that the 5 taps were within reaching distance may have had some bearing on the decision to vacate the house also.

To those of you who brought a guest, "Thanks!," and to those who brought a female guest, our scribe was especially grateful.

We had an abundance of good food, from salads to casseroles to chips and barbeque sausage to desserts. It seems the *GEBL* knows how to have a good time. Amidst

the scenic setting of the Hartline garage, there was a lot of laughter, tips, and stories exchanged, and an equal amount of homebrew consumed.

We were delighted to have *Ann Marie Crawford, Barbara Dokka, Carolyn Jensen, Terri Roberts* and *Carl Williams* join us as first-timers. Is it true that Carolyn came all the way from Colorado just to try a few homebrews or did Jim start that rumor?

Don Roberts donated a one pound bag of hops for the evening raffle, raising \$28 in the process. Some of us were a bit suspicious when the winning ticket happened to belong to John Hartline but Terri Roberts (wife of Don) insisted that the drawing was on the up and up. There was much discussion about repeating the idea of a potluck at some member's house since it was so relaxed and fun plus saves us \$10 for the monthly banquet permit. Seems we all want to do it again so look for upcoming meetings to be held in this style and location.

Someone's In The Kitchen with Dinah

This could be the theme song for anyone who shares quarters with a homebrewer. You might expand it to *Someone's in the Laundry Room (or Garage) with Dinah*.

If there is a homebrewer in your quarters, you're bound to rub shoulders in several rooms of the house that have been temporarily converted to Brew City. Homebrewing means you never have to say "May I borrow?" You just hope your roomie will understand the need for the additional space and will reschedule use of those areas accordingly. Homebrewing presents many unique and new opportunities for sharing.

Others may have given me chocolate-covered cherries or chocolate kisses but my brewer is the only man who ever covered himself with Chocolate Cherry

Stout and offered me the chance to kiss him in that condition!

Some people are clever and do cute little things with sponges and paint to create a "faux marble" but I don't need to master the technique.

My brewmeister recently created a unusual (and pungent) splatter procedure that can be used to finish a 10x6 room-- ceilings, floors and walls, even cabinetry!--in well under 30 minutes. Upon viewing, the earthtones and aromatic fumes simultaneously relax and cause laughter to burst forth while making ones taste buds crave a nice stout. I don't think we'll send the idea into *Women's Day* or *Family Circle* but if you see it mentioned in some future edition of *Brewing Techniques* or *Zymurgy*, remember you heard about it here first.

We have found innovative ways to spend time together and do things together that previously were unknown to our relationship. You can't say you've bonded as a couple until you shovel out the spent grain together, label 60 bottles together, or beg your friends for all their non-twist off bottles to take home after a party. Now that's love as defined by your A.H.B.(average home brewer) (I think I resent being called average — John).

You know your significant other trusts you when they let you use their capper or allow you to "borrow back" one of the many mason jars that are tightly capped in tinfoil. My A.H.B. really cut loose when he allowed me to help tear the tinfoil for caps, trusting that I would show the same finesse and quality control that he did.

Watch this column for upcoming ideas on how you can add to your relationship with that happy little homebrewer. *Hops #5* drives them wild, or perhaps a little something in gold(ing that is) to catch their eye!

September Meeting

Don't forget the September meeting is at *Snohomish Brewing Company*. They are the makers of *Scrappies* and hard cider. See you on **September 12 at 7 p.m.** in Snohomish. They are near the Snohomish Airport, across the street from Harvey's and pretty easy to find.

The style for the meeting is Porters and Stouts.

Fame & Fortune?

We are still looking for aspiring writers to join the volunteer staff of the newsletter. If you have an idea, a recipe, an announcement, an article, some news, an anecdote or what-have-you, please let us know.

We need your assistance and talent. You don't have to spell well, write well, type or have access to a computer. We will correct, edit, type or do whatever is necessary to get it into the newsletter if you will provide us something legible to work from.

We are really seeking some help in this arena. Willing to trade homebrew for articles! After all, Ernest Hemingway and Edgar Alan

Poe did some of their best work while imbibing.

Contact John or Anne Hartline at 206-334-2656 or fax us at 206-334-3651. Thanks!

Newbies Listen-up!

If you're new to the brewing craze or just want to learn a little bit more, there are a lot of resources within the GEBL to access. Don Roberts and Ralph Bacon at *The Homebrewery* are a wealth of information and they have many good books on the various aspects of brewing.

You might want to start with something in-depth like a brewer's manual (perhaps one of Charlie Papazian's books).

Are you interested in just a certain style of beer, i.e., *ales*, *lagers*, *stouts*, etc.? Then pick up a book on just that style at *The Homebrewery* or grab one of a half dozen magazines they stock. Many of the larger bookstores and news stands stock the trade journals and brew books, also.

Your most valuable resources are the veteran brewers, themselves. Some brew routinely and invite other fans to come and brew with them or just observe and learn. All of the members LOVE to tell you what they have already experienced and get your input or observations.

The way you learn is to ask questions and do some "hands-on" brewing. All the brewers are used to "dumb" questions (I ask them all the time) and delight in being able to help you learn, so just ask and avail yourself of whatever info

August

you're ready for--as much or as little as you want.

Many of the vets also subscribe to several publications and will loan out back issues (return them and in good condition if you need all of your limbs, 'cause they are very serious about those mags and books) or share info downloaded off the Internet. There is lots of info on the World Wide Web just waiting for a printer to spit it out! Check it out under "The Real Beer Page" or recreational brewing.

Evergreen State Fair

By the time you read this, we may have a few champs in our midst. It was just a kick to see so many of our members turning in their bottles and filling out the required reams of paperwork!

The Evergreen State Fair at Monroe opened on Aug. 22 and has a category for beers and wines brewed by individuals.

At least four of our own group made last minute entries and got writer's cramp in the process.

We'll know by the next meeting who the winners are. FYI--they are looking for judges and sign-up clerks for next year and people to serve as hosts/hostesses for the brewing exhibit. It's not too late to call and check out where you might fill in! Good show, gang!.



Style Calendar

Two-thirds of the way home for this year, but still some interesting styles left to brew. Better brew those Christmas beers now so they will have aged properly by the time we are ready for them.

Sept: Porter and Stouts
Oct: Fest Beers (Oktoberfest, Marzen etc.)
Nov: Belgian and Fruit Beers
Dec: Christmas beers.

Calendar of Events:

26-28 September 1996: Great American Beer Festival XV, Denver, Colorado.

Contact: American Homebrewers Association, P.O. Box 1679, Boulder, CO 80306-1679, tel. 303/447-0816.

11-13 October 1996: Newport Microbrew Festival, Newport, Oregon

Contact: Esther Pinto, tel. 503/265-8578 or Rogue Ales/ Oregon Brewing Company, 2320 OSU Drive, Newport, OR 97365, tel. 503/867-3660.

19 October 1996: Second Annual Great Northwest Homebrew Competition, final round of judging.

Contact: Andrea Gennotti, Northwest Brewers Supply Co., tel. 1-800-728-ALES, e-mail: brewdog@wolffenet.com
Sponsored by Portland Brewing Co. & Northwest Brewers Supply Co. AHA sanctioned competition. Entry deadline is October 4, 1996.



Oktoberfest

Don swears it is going to happen. I believe he has a credibility issue at stake here (as our social coordinator) so I feel pretty confident he will "make it so." Don will fill us in on the details at the September meeting.

Standing Invitation

John Hartline

I would like to offer a standing invitation to those of you who might be interested in all-grain brewing. I brew every Sunday beginning at about 8 AM. I would certainly welcome any guests who may wish to come and view the entire process or any part of it. All I ask is that you call in advance so I know who will be coming. You can reach me at (206) 334-2656.

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6709 44th Street N.E.
Marysville, WA 98270-6900

Standing Invitation

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Jim & Ann Jensen
6101 - 76th Drive S.E.
Snohomish, WA 98290

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