



BURP NEWS

The Official Newsletter of the
BREWERS UNITED FOR REAL POTABLES

"Do not cease to drink beer, to eat, to intoxicate thyself, to
make love, and to celebrate the good days"
Ancient Egyptian Credo



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December 2005

15 Harvard Court
Rockville, MD 20850



December Meeting
BURP Holiday Banquet,
Holiday Beer Competition,
& 2006 Officer Elections
At Lyon Park Community Center
Arlington, VA
Tuesday, Dec 6, 2005
6:00 - 10:00 PM

January Meeting
1st Annual BURP Beer Dinner
& Brewer Appreciation Awards
At Old Dominion Brewpub
Ashburn, VA
Sunday, Jan 22, 2006
Starting at 3:00 PM

February Meeting
Barley Wine Competition
Ijamsville, MD
Saturday, Feb 25, 2006
1:00 - 6:00 PM

Cannon's Canons

By Colleen Cannon, Fearless Leader

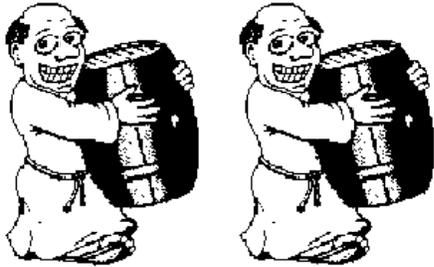
Dear Santa,

I'd just like to remind you, as you're making your list and checking it twice, that BURP has been a very good homebrew club this year. Please make sure that you bring plenty of Belgian beers along on your rounds, as you've seen what a positive influence BURP can be on the brewing community when Belgian beer provides the inspiration. Among the good boys and girls of BURP, we've had an outstanding cadre of officers, aided by an always reliable corps of willing volunteers. And don't forget to stuff the stockings of the following brewers who have really made BURP shine in some prominent competitions this year: **Jay Adams**, for his Spirit of Belgium Best of Show (BOS), **Mel Thompson** for his Spirit of Free Beer BOS, **Dave and Becky Pyle** for their American Homebrewers Association National Competition BOS, **Ed Bielaus** for being the most decorated brewer at the Masters Championship of Amateur Brewing, and **Andy Anderson** for the Real Ale Competition BOS, which also clinched for him the BURP Brewer of the Year honor.

BURP has been very successful this year, proving once again that we are second to none. This success is due to the quality brewing, the generosity of our hosts and volunteers, and responsibility towards one another to make our meetings and events fun and safe for all. On my

wish list for the coming year, I'd like BURP to have a full slate of meeting hosts lined up for our next president, education and competition events that will inspire new brewers and stoke the competitive fires of all our brewers, and a Silver Anniversary year that commemorates the great traditions of BURP.

Hoppy Holidays to all, and to all a Grand Cru!



Cellar Notes From The Two Drunk Monks

*By Bud Hensgen & Mark Hogenmiller,
Co-Ministers of Culture*

2005 BURP Brewer of the Year Competition

As predicted, the Brewer of the Year was decided with the last two BOY events of Baltic Porter and Real Ale. After **Mel Thompson** tied **Andy Anderson** with his 2nd and 3rd place wins in Baltic Porter, it all came down to the Real Ale Competition. Who knew that these two brewers would be the only two brewers on the award podium on Saturday? Congratulations to **Andy Anderson** for another strong showing in winning his Seventh Brewer of the Year Title.

Andy Anderson	31
Mel Thompson	27
Ed Bielaus	14
Becky Pyle	13
Dave Pyle	12
Bud Hensgen	12
Mark Hogenmiller	12
Jay Adams	11
Tom Cannon	10
Keith Chamberlin	10

Baltic Porter Competition

Congratulations to all of the brewers who participated in the Baltic Porter Competition held October 23, 2005. A BIG Thank You to **Tom Cannon, Bruce Bennett, Wendy Schmidt** and **Rob Hanson** for judging the 9 Entries. Brewers included **Keith Chamberlin, Andy Anderson, Mel Thompson, Bud Hensgen** and **Mark Hogenmiller, Chris Cave, and Jaime & Paul Langlie**. The winners were:

- 1st - **Two Drunk Monks - Bud Hensgen and Mark Hogenmiller**
- 2nd - **Mel Thompson**
- 3rd - **Mel Thompson**

Competition Schedule

December – Holidays Beers (not for Brewer of the Year) – See the July newsletter for details on the range of the theme. Kegs and bottles (must check in minimum of 6 bottles) accepted. This Competition will be by popular choice. No Beer, No Votes.

January 2006- American Ale and India Pale Ale - Cat 10 and 14 – 2 bottles

February 2006 - Barley wines – Cat 19B and 19C – 2 bottles

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RYDler

Q. Beer as an antidote?

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Join Your Fellow BURPers for the Annual Potluck Holiday Banquet Tuesday, December 6!

The December BURP meeting will be our Annual Potluck Holiday Banquet. This fabulous feast will be held at the Lyon Park Community Center in Arlington, VA on Tuesday, Dec 6. Doors will open at 4:30 PM for those who wish to help set up and decorate. Festivities will begin at 6:00 PM, and we ask that everyone be out of the facility by 10:00 PM. As always, volunteers are needed to help with decorating, setup, and cleanup following the banquet. If you would like to assist, please contact

Holiday Banquet Coordinator **Steve Marler** at marler.stephen@dol.gov.

As with previous banquets, everyone should plan to bring a dish of their choice. In past years, there have been a wide variety of appetizers, soups, salads, main courses, and desserts. We hope this tradition carries on. It has also been a longstanding tradition to use beer in dishes if at all possible, so be creative. Try to provide enough food for at least 6-8 people. All dishes should be prepared ahead of time as much as possible. However, there are full kitchen facilities available for our use at the Center, so if you need to finish or bake something onsite, you will have that capability. Electrical outlets and power strips will also be available for crockpots and hot plates.

In addition to great food, the holiday banquet is always a showplace for homebrewed holiday beers. This year will feature a Holiday Beer competition. All in attendance will have a chance to vote on their favorite beer, and ribbons will be awarded to the winners.

The other featured event will be the election for BURP's 2006 officer corps. Election of officers can be done online at the BURP website, but for those lacking web access, paper ballots will be available at the meeting. Officer candidate statements are printed elsewhere in this newsletter.

The holiday banquet is always one of BURP's premier events and an opportunity for you to show off both your cooking and brewing skills. Don't miss the fun. Join your fellow BURPers for a great time and a feast to remember!

Join BURP for a Special January Award Dinner

By Bud Hensgen

The January meeting will be a very special event. We are organizing a beer dinner at Old Dominion Brewing Company on Sunday, January 22, and the dinner will be offered to BURP members at a discount!

There are two reasons we are creating this special event. First, we want to recognize the contribution

that **Jerry Bailey** and our friends at Old Dominion have made to the world of craft beer by creating great beers year in and year out. In particular, we want to thank them for sponsoring the Spirit of Free Beer each year. We couldn't do it without them. Therefore, BURP will give Jerry the *BURP Brewer Appreciation Award* for 2006.

Second, with the financial success of BURP events this past year, especially the Spirit of Belgium, the Spirit of Free Beer and MASHOUT, we believe BURP members deserve something special in return for their participation and support.

That's why BURP members are invited to attend the dinner for \$25 per person, tax and tip included. Non-members are invited for \$40 per person, tax and tip included. BURP will pick up the rest. In fact, if this dinner works out well for the members, it is possible that it could become an annual affair.

The meeting will begin at 3:00 PM at the Brewpub at Old Dominion. There will be a cash bar until 4:30 when a four-course dinner will be served. A Dominion Beer will be served with each course. **Jerry and Deborah Bailey** will attend as our guests of honor.

Due to limits on the Dominion kitchen, the dinner will be limited to 60 people. In order to reserve your place, fill out the form at the end of the newsletter and send your check to Co-Minister of Culture, **Bud Hensgen**.

Since we will be drinking Dominion Beers at this meeting, there will be no need to bring beer – with one exception. The January competition is American Ale and India Pale Ale - Cat 10 and 14. Bring your entries (2 bottles) to the meeting, and they will be judged off-site during the following week.

Real Ale Competition Sets Record!

By Andy Anderson, Competition Organizer

Wow! What a great festival! BURP had its largest ever Real Ale Competition and Festival, with 51 entries and 31 beer engines. The expansion to the AaronRidge porch pub was fully utilized with the

extra kegs and beer engines. Plus, we had gorgeous weather in which to enjoy the day.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of the 24 judges and 8 stewards who helped make the contest on Friday a success. We had so many beers this year that we actually judged two flights in the afternoon, five flights in the evening, and then had two mini-BOS flights before the final BOS. The Best of Show judges were **Scott Bickham**, **Tom Cannon**, **Calvin Perilloux**, and **Dave Pyle**. They selected the following winning beers:

- 1st BOS - **Andy Anderson** - Ordinary Bitter
- 2nd - **Andy Anderson** - Special Bitter
- 3rd - **Mel Thompson** - Brown Porter

The "Cellarman's Choice" award is given to the best beer as chosen by the Stewards and those working on the porch serving the beer. This year's winner goes to a new BURP member, **Mike Neith**. His Brown Porter was chosen as the Cellarman's Choice, and he was awarded the coveted mash paddle.

But based upon the positive feedback from all the club members I saw drinking pint after pint on Saturday afternoon, there were a lot of winning beers on that porch. It makes me thirsty just to think about it ...

Never Fail – November Meeting is All About Real Ale!

By Jim Hanson

As always, the event held at Chez Aaronridge on a Saturday in the full realm of the crisp autumn season brings attenuation to the senses. From the fresh air to the variety of cask-conditioned ales, this is a meeting that BURPers have long relished as each year nears its conclusion. On handpump were 51 homebrewed entries which included the following styles: Mild, Oatmeal Stout, an array of Bitters (ordinary, special, and extra special), Scottish Export and Scotch Strong, as well as Brown Porters and Brown Ales. There was even an Old Ale, which possessed the pronounced characteristics one would expect from such a libation. With **Andy Anderson** coordinating the club's Real Ale and **Bill Ridgely** serving as

cellarman, the 31 handpumps made available for the session insured that only one changeover was necessary during the festival. Beside Bill and **Wendy Aaronson** hosting the event, a large number of the nearly 100 members in attendance assured the day would be as rewarding as many of the previous RAF's.

In addition to appreciating the homebrewers and lenders of cask-pouring hardware, one only had to step inside to revel in the Chez Aaronridge music parlor, where the tradition of Old Time Jazz lives on. Led by perennial musicians **Bags Howard** (trumpet, vocals) and **Chuck Popenoe** (ukulele, fiddle), other players such as **Dave "The Sheik" Littlefield** (piano), **Tom Cox** (bass), and **Don Rouse** (clarinet) rounded out the original quintet. As afternoon fell to early evening, other musicians and sound bite enthusiasts assimilated into the mix. The percussion of metal spoons and a washboard-based percussion contraption were quite lively by this time. And the band played on.

Regarding the meeting protocol, the details of the holiday banquet and the nomination of BURP officers for 2006 took place (see separate articles for details). Focusing on the raffle, Belgian candy sugar along with a variety of fresh malts were donated by Jay's Brewing, and two of the grand prizes were well suited for the holiday season. Just who was that blonde haired woman that won both the oversized Yuengling Christmas stocking and the case of Sierra Nevada Celebration Ale? With her good fortune, she must be the prophet to Santa for all wishes to come true.

As the sun sets on every Real Ale Festival at Chez Aaronridge, Bill and Wendy's hospitality is culminated by the evening fire held in the backyard. It's a place where humor is at its full banter, and we can all comfort ourselves by breathing into high tech apparatus and assuring each other of our sobriety. And that sight is pretty funny!





Stilton Cheddar Cheese Soup

By Paul & Jamie Langlie

The recipe for this soup, which was a popular item at the BURP Real Ale Festival in November, originates from the Great Lakes Brewing Co in Cleveland, OH. The original recipe is given below, with changes as follows:

1. Multiplied all quantities by four except liquid component, for which we substituted two 12-oz bottles of Oktoberfest beer, 4 cups heavy cream, and 9 cups of vegetarian stock.
2. Substituted a teaspoon of ground cayenne pepper for the hot sauce.

Ingredients:

½ cup Celery (minced)
 ½ cup Carrots (minced)
 ½ cup Onion (minced)
 1 tsp Garlic (minced)
 2 tbsp Butter
 2 tbsp Flour
 1/3 cup Dortmunder Lager
 1 cup Heavy Cream
 2 ½ cups Chicken Stock
 1 ¾ cups Stilton Cheese
 2 cups Cheddar Cheese (shredded)
 ¼ tsp Ground Black Pepper
 1 Whole Bay Leaf
 ¼ tsp Hot Sauce
 2 tbsp Water
 2 tbsp Corn Starch

Preparation (4-6 Servings):

1. Place vegetables & garlic in blender, puree until smooth.
2. Simmer the puree with the butter & flour in a large saucepan for 15 min.
3. Add beer, cream, & stock, simmer 15 min.
4. Add cheeses, pepper, bay leaf & hot sauce, simmer 30 min.
5. Thicken with mixture of corn starch & water.
6. Serve with croutons or warm bread.

Trivial Beer-Suits

By Charlie Pavitt

Those of us who work with statistics are well aware of the t-test, which allows researchers to determine their level of confidence that any difference between the means of two data distributions are real differences rather than random fluctuations. Not all of us are aware that we have one of the world's classic beers to thank for the development of this test. Back about 1893, Cecil Guinness, Chairman of the Board of you-can-guess-which-brewery, and Managing Director Christopher Digges La Touche decided to buck tradition and try to make brewing scientific. Starting that year, they hired many of the best chemistry students graduating Oxford and Cambridge, taught them the basics, and gave them the resources to start studying the characteristics of barley and hops. Part of their research was a seven-year effort dedicated to analysis of yield and quality of barley grown under different conditions. Unfortunately, in studying, for example, the impact of different fertilizers, they had no idea how to distinguish that effect independently of that for rainfall, bird damage, soil chemistry, and temperature, among other sources of experimental "error."

The best mathematician among the researchers was W. S. Gosset, who was hired by Guinness in 1899. He began working on the problem in 1903, and spent the entire academic year 1906-1907 studying under the greatest statistician of the period, Karl Pearson. During that year, Gosset developed the basis for the t-test, just in time for analyzing the results of the seven-year experiment. The researchers determined that Archer was the best barley variety in Ireland, and Guinness used that variety in their brewing for the next decade.

In 1908, Gosset wrote his findings into an academic paper, and Guinness allowed its publication under the condition that his name not appear in the paper. Gosset took the pseudonym "Student"; for this reason, the result of his work is often referred to as "Student's t." Working in his spare time over the next thirty years, Gosset published more than 20 contributions to statistics. He also became head brewer at a newly-established brewery in London in 1935, but died two years later.

Most of this was summarized from Joan Fisher Box, "Guinness, Gosset, Fisher, and Small Samples, *Statistical Science*, 1987, Volume 2 Number 1, pages 45-52.



BURP Elections to be Held This Month

The time has come to elect new officers to serve as leaders of BURP for 2006. Position descriptions and candidate statements are below. Voting may be done online or by paper ballot at the December meeting. The web address for online voting is:

<http://www.burp.org/elections/2006/>.

The BURP Officer positions are:

Fearless Leader (President)

Duties: Coordinates BURP activities with other officers. Makes announcements at meetings. Represents BURP to the public. (Which means that you can send articles to your relatives, who will do almost anything to avoid telling their neighbors what you do for fun). Initiates and coordinates major BURP activities (conferences, festival participation, etc).

Candidate: Steve Marler

Candidate Statement: BURP turns 25 this upcoming year. During those years, BURP has, and continues, to play an important role in the lives of its members. Significant others have met and dear friends have been made through BURP. BURP members have been on the forefront of the craft beer revolution and have significantly contributed to it. For many, BURP has kept them brewing and contributed to the improvement of their beer. BURP's Silver Jubilee is a momentous occasion and should be celebrated as such. I accept the nomination for Fearless Leader with this purpose as my guide.

A vote for Steve Marler on December 6th is a commitment that you will, to the best of your ability, contribute to making this year long celebration a success. Those on this election slate are not and should not be responsible for doing everything. They are being elected to coordinate

the participation of the members. The participation of the membership will be required to make BURP's Silver Jubilee a memorable one.

Some of the ideas that I have for next year are:

- To win the AHA Club of the Year. To do this, I propose that we move the Spirit of Free Beer to an earlier date and encourage all BURP Members to enter four bottles for each entry instead of three. One bottle will then be sent to the first round of AHA.
- A bus trip to breweries or a good beer town.
- A road trip to Miami for the AHA Conference.
- A possible event at the Bricks or RFD to celebrate 25 years of brewing in the metro DC area.

These are just some of my ideas, and other ideas are needed. Although I am good at coming up with ideas, I am not that good at implementing them. Implementers (Czars) will be needed. We will need a bus trip Czar, a Club of the Year Czar, a road trip Czar, etc.

I am excited over the possibilities for this 25-year celebration and look forward to working with you to make it happen.

Minister of Enlightenment (Education)

Duties: Organizes educational sessions about brewing techniques or particular styles. Sets up yearly preparation courses for the BJCP exams. Holds pre-meeting commercial beer tastings to assist club members in honing style recognition skills.

Co-Candidates: Wendy Aaronson (Incumbent) and Tom Cannon

Candidate Statement: So much to do; so little time. To ensure that BURP has a solid program for educating its members and the community, it is time to make this a team effort. There are no individuals more qualified than Wendy Aaronson, Minister of Enlightenment over the past several years, and Tom Cannon, Grand Master BJCP judge. We will strive to enlighten our membership in creative ways by conducting short educational programs at meetings, enlisting apprentice judges at monthly competitions, and facilitating buddy brewing sessions. We are also committed to providing a training environment for potential new BJCP judges and current BJCP judges who want to

increase their scores on the exam. To meet this goal, we will implement the new BJCP Continuing Education Program so that participants can benefit from a structured course with very specific learning objectives and instructors can receive BJCP points for their effort.

We are excited to be a team so that we can provide programs to meet the needs of our diverse membership.

Minister of Culture (Competitions)

Duties: Runs monthly club competitions and writes articles about styles for the BURP News. Orders awards for contests. Recruits the competition organizer for the Spirit of Free Beer or does it himself/herself. May organize trouble-shooting corner at meetings.

Co-Candidates: Bud Hensgen (Incumbent) & Jamie Langlie

Candidate Statement: (Bud) - Mark Hogenmiller, who did such a terrific job this past year as the leader of the "Two Drunk Monks" team, has told me that I need another year in office to make up for all the screw ups I was responsible for in 2005. Jamie has said that she will take up where Mark left off and try to finish my training. So, I hereby accept the challenge of another term as Co-Minister of Culture.

(Jamie) - With Bud as my trusty mentor, I promise to uphold the high standards set by my Drunk Monk predecessors in the Minister of Culture job. Looking forward to a year of tasty beer and fair, rigorous competitions. BURP is first, and foremost, a homebrew club. Our 25-year tradition of quality, hand-crafted beer is built on constructive feedback and nurturing our members as they develop their brewing expertise. Our monthly and special event competitions have played an integral role in making us one of the most prestigious homebrew clubs in the country -- but let us not rest on our laurels. We have a large number of BJCP judges in BURP, and as Minister of Culture, I will work closely with our officers and members to encourage judges' skill building and participation in monthly contests. We're planning some special events to commemorate the club's 25th anniversary -- tentatively on tap is an historic "Dark Beer" contest, in honor of the first BURP competition in 1981. Ein Prosit! (and thanks for your votes.)

Minister of Truth (Newsletter)

Duties: Edits the BURP News and gets it to you in time for you to know when and where the next meeting is. Solicits articles and people to be meeting reporters. Serves as BURP's Secretary for its official functions.

Candidate: Bill Ridgely (Incumbent)

Candidate Statement: I ask for your support in my effort to continue as BURP Minister of Truth for another year. To be honest, I'd like to transition this post to a new individual with fresh ideas and a fresh viewpoint, but with nobody stepping up to the plate, I'll agree to continue in the role for another year. The newsletter is critical to keeping club members informed. It's not a terribly difficult job as long as club members contribute articles. I've been very fortunate to have great contributors over the last two years, in particular from the Ministers of Culture, who write not only a regular column but also a steady series of articles on beer styles for upcoming competitions. The other officers also contribute regularly. This makes my job much easier.

I promise to publish the newsletter at least a week prior to every meeting. There will be occasional two-month issues when meetings are scheduled close together, but I'll try to keep these at a minimum. I'll also continue to ask all of you to contribute as often as you can, especially articles on homebrewing (since we are, well, a homebrew club) and beer travels.

Please honor me with your vote, and also consider how much fun it would be to take over this job next year!

Minister of Propaganda (Membership)

Duties: Serves as BURP'S point of contact with folks who are interested in joining. Maintains the club membership database and electronic newsletter notification e-mail list. Prints the membership cards. Sends out renewal notices.

Candidates: Jim & Linda Rorick (Incumbents)

Candidate Statement: We humbly ask for your support in seeking re-election for the position of Ministers of Propaganda. During our two years in this position, we have strived to provide timely membership services to BURP members. And -- since we are finally getting the hang of it -- membership services just may improve. We have

been BURPers for 10 years and have enjoyed the many benefits of membership, including education, camaraderie, and the tasting of many a fine ale and lager from BURP brewers. We believe that all beer brewers can benefit from association with fellow brewers and that BURP is the best organization of brewers. Our goals are to (1) maintain and grow the BURP membership by providing information and support to current members, and (2) preach the ways of BURP and St. Arnold to those worthy of membership. If re-elected, we will strive to fulfill the duties of Ministers of Propaganda to the best of our abilities and the bottom of our mugs.

Minister of Finance (Treasurer)

Duties: Knows where the money comes from and where it goes. Maintains the BURP bank account. Participates heavily in financial forecasting issues, such as "can we afford to front the money for club memorabilia". Makes reimbursements when presented with appropriate receipts.

Candidate: Larry Koch

Candidate Statement: I ask you to elect me to be our next Minister of Prosperity. In the past, I oversaw our club treasury's growth from several hundred dollars to several thousand dollars. We now have a treasury holding tens of thousands of dollars. I fully recognize the seriousness of this club office. I pledge to provide monthly reports, coordination with financial institutions, and efficient service to our club officers and members. I look forward to your support and to serving our club.

Minister of the Web (Web Page)

Duties: Administers burp.org. Maintains the web site. Creates new pages for upcoming BURP events and updates the web pages. Keeps the BURP Calendar current. Custodian for BurpList and BURP's administrative internet mailing lists. Maintains the @burp.org email aliases.

Candidate: Paul Langlie (Incumbent)

Candidate Statement: Thank you for your support this year! I look forward to serving you again in 2006. With the support of "Team Langlie," including Stein and Kai (Jamie is moving on to Minister of Culture), we have the technical and artistic capabilities needed to keep the site running smoothly. We will continue to upgrade the site, to be responsive to the Club's needs, and to collaborate with officers and special events

committees to publicize BURP activities. Your ideas are always welcome!

Minister of History (Libeerian)

Duties: Maintains the BURP Libeery, a great resource, which is underutilized. Receives newsletters from clubs all over the country, which is pretty interesting. Sends the BURP goon squad after people who have not returned Libeery material. Writes interesting articles based on libeery resources for BURP newsletter.

Candidate: Mel Thompson

Candidate Statement: I would be extremely pleased to have your vote for BURP Minister of History - Libeerian for 2006. If I am elected, it will be a pleasure to continue with the work of the former Libeerians in organizing the libeery and making it available to all BURP members in the hopes of promoting more beer and brewing knowledge, resulting in substantially more FREE BEER!

You might say, "How tough can it be to replace a dog?" Well this was one exceptional dog. Cerveza will go down in history as the BURP "Libeerian extraordinaire". It will be an honor for this mere human to replace such an esteemed canine.

We have been given a most remarkable gift with our ability to read and assimilate information from the written page and apply it to the greatest gift of all – brewing delicious homebrew! Imagine if you hadn't read Papazian, Miller, Fix or Noonan. Would you be brewing and/or drinking the quality beer that is available at each and every BURP meeting? I think not!

If elected, my goals will be as follows:

- * Inventory the multiple boxes of books, newsletters, etc. and purge outdated or unwanted material.
- * Publish a selected list of available books in the newsletter each month.
- * Write a book review, with the help of other BURP brewers, for the monthly newsletter.
- * Bring featured books to each meeting for members to check out and return at the following meeting.
- * Update the Libeery with new relevant publications.

* Share other published data on beer and brewing techniques through BURPlist and the BURP newsletter.

* And my ultimate goal will be to increase Libeery use by all BURP members.

If these are things that you would like to see happen with the extensive BURP Libeery, please cast your vote for Mel, Son of Thomp, for BURP Minister of History - Libeerian.

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Answer to Dec RYDler:

A. "Raw onion with salt and a bottle of beer". Paul Lawrence Dunbar (1872-1906) believed this warded off tuberculosis, with which he was diagnosed. From the BOOK section of WP, 8/28/05

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BURP 10 and 20 Years Ago

Compiled By Bill Ridgely

20 Years Ago, Dec 1985

December 1985 was a sad month for the BURP Club. On Tuesday the 11th, while walking on a beach on the West Indies island of Antigua, BURP founding father **Dan McCoubrey** died suddenly following a massive heart attack. Dan was a very special man, but it wasn't until his untimely death at the age of 47 that many BURP members became fully aware of his extensive interests outside of the homebrewing hobby. Dan had worked as a copy editor in the Washington Post sports department since 1968, and he was well respected throughout the local and regional sports scene. In addition to editing, he also contributed articles on sports. His

favorites were golf (he covered the 1980 British Open for the Post), ice hockey, and lacrosse. He also played golf and organized the annual Dan McCoubrey Invitational Golf Tournament at the Washingtonian Country Club. Dan's collection of books was legendary, and he regularly reviewed sports books for the Post and other publications. Post outdoor columnist **Angus Phillips** wrote a touching appreciation of Dan for the Dec 14th issue of the paper. In the article, Angus related many great anecdotes about Dan and his "prodigious appetites and unfailing good spirit". One of these told of Dan regularly visiting his favorite pub, Gallagher's, sitting at the same spot at the end of the bar with a stack of books, and, after getting the bartender's eye, asking the same question every night - "Got any beer left?". After Dan's passing, BURP had a special plaque with this question inscribed on it placed on Gallagher's wall next to Dan's old stool. The plaque remained there for many years until the pub went out of business. BURPer **Mike Horkan** rescued the plaque just as it was about to be discarded, and it now resides proudly on the wall of the pubroom at the Aaronridge residence in Rockville. The only beer Dan ever brewed was stout, so every March, the plaque is brought to the BURP meeting to honor Dan at the annual "Dan McCoubrey Memorial Stout Competition". Dan may be gone, but those who knew him will always keep him in their hearts. The BURP newsletter published following his death said it best. "We will miss Dan – his leadership, his spirit, his rotundity, and above all, his friendship".

10 Years Ago, Dec 1995

The December BURP meeting featured the annual holiday banquet held at the Oxon Hill Jaycee Center in Ft Washington, MD. Unfortunately, the weather gods didn't cooperate this time, and the worst ice storm in memory blew in just as the rush hour began. Needless to say, the expected large crowd never materialized, but the 30 or so BURPpers who braved the storm and made it to the event were rewarded with complimentary raffle tickets and copious amounts of great beer and food. **Martin Morse Wooster** received the loudest applause when he arrived on foot. His tenacity resulted in his winning many great raffle prizes. **Polly Goldman**, finishing up her reign as BURP Fearless Leader, took the opportunity to award those who served

the club well during the year. Unfortunately, many of the fine beers Polly planned to present ended up going home with her, but they eventually made it to the appropriate individuals at the next meeting.

The December BURP News featured an extensive pullout section with full details on the 2nd Spirit of Belgium Homebrew Competition to be held Feb 10, 1996. Included were several 1st place recipes from the 1st competition held in 1994. Travelogues were once again the highlight of the issue, however.

Lynne Ragazzini wrote an extensive article about drinking 80 different beers in 14 days while traveling through Belgium and England. **Bruce Feist** continued his "Tasty Travels" series with an article on New York City. **Bill Ridgely** wrote about the recent trip he and **Wendy Aaronson** took through Ontario, and **Andy Anderson's** "European Beer Journal" provided a great overview of the English pub and its role in society. Finally, **Delano Dugarm** contributed two articles, a book review of Dave Miller's Homebrewing Guide and an article on Beer Hunting in the South.



BURP Buck\$ – Notes and Figures from the Minister of Prosperity

By Dan Fapp, Minister of Prosperity

Holiday Meeting Door Prize Raffle

To help say thank you for all the hard-work and effort put in this year by you, the dedicated members of BURP, we will be holding a free Door Prize Raffle at our December Holiday meeting. Prizes will include, what else, Free Beer, as well as other wonderful items purchased by the club, or graciously donated by members and sponsors over the last year. One ticket will be distributed to each adult (due to the alcoholic nature of most of the prizes) attending the meeting.

Current Financial Position

Beginning Balance	\$19,952
Plus: Raffle Proceeds	\$451
Bottle Opener Sale	\$8
Brew Your Own Magazine Subscriptions	\$237
Less: Brew Your Own Magazine Payment	(\$237)
Meeting Supplies	(\$242)
Raffle Prizes	(\$240)
Payment on Rental For Holiday Party	(\$100)
Ending Balance	\$19,829

Membership Update Dec 2005

By Jim & Linda Rorick, Ministers of Propaganda

We have a few new members of BURP to welcome this month. **Mike Neith & Winnie Huskey** from Alexandria and also **Don Rouse** of Arlington, VA.

Please keep your contact information up-to-date ... most importantly, your email address. If you are not receiving an electronic notification each month with the newsletter link, that means we don't have your current email address! Send your contact information to membership@burp.org, and we'll see that your info is updated.

CURRENT MEM-BEER-SIP STATS:

TOTAL MEMBERSHIPS: 260
 FAMILY: 75 (x2) 150
 INDIVIDUAL: 88
 HONORARY: 22



Editor's Corner

*By Bill Ridgely, AKA Johnny Inkslinger
 Minister of Truth*

In the September issue of BURP News, I announced that I was looking for someone to take over the editorship of this distinguished publication.

Well, I failed in that effort, and, unless I am beaten by a write-in candidate, I suppose I'll be continuing this job for another year. I'll give it my best shot but will ask, as always, for your help and contributions.

Thanks go out this month to several people. Once again, my friend **Jim Hanson** has stepped up by writing a nice review of the November BURP meeting. Also this month, a new BURP News column is being introduced. **Charlie Pavitt**, Professor of Communications at the University of Delaware, has graciously volunteered to contribute, hopefully on a monthly basis, his new "Trivial Beer-Suits" column. I look forward to future articles from Charlie, a long time homebrewer and fellow member of both BURP and GABS (the Gaithersburg homebrew club).

Finally, thanks to all of the BURP Officer Candidates for 2006 who were kind enough to get their candidate statements to me in time for this newsletter. You will all have two opportunities to vote for the candidates of your choice – electronically on the BURP election website and on paper at the upcoming holiday banquet. The new slate of officers will take over beginning in January. I can't wait to see what the new Fearless Leader's monthly column will be titled.

The weather is finally getting cooler, and it's time to start seriously brewing! Wendy and I are looking forward to spending some quality time behind the brew kettle over the next several months.

I hope you all have a great holiday season and a happy and healthy 2006!

Cheers, Bill



The BURP Doxology

*Praise BURP from whom beer blessings flow,
Praise BURP ye brewers here below,
Praise BURP above ye heavenly hosts,
Praise barley, hops and yeast the most
Aaaaaaaaaaaa, Drink!
(Al Lowry, 1994)*

BURP OFFICERS

Office	Officer	Phone/E-mail
Fearless Leader	Colleen Cannon	(703) 204-2256 cannon@burp.org
Minister of Enlightenment	Wendy Aaronson	(301) 762-6523 aaronson@burp.org
Co-Ministers of Culture	Bud Hensgen Mark Hogenmiller	(703) 524-7630 bhensgen1@verizon.net (703) 455-7827 mehogenmiller@cox.net
Minister of Truth	Bill Ridgely	(301) 762-6523 ridgely@burp.org
Ministers of Propaganda	Jim & Linda Rorick	(240) 271-3451 linda@turtlecreekfarm.us
Minister of Prosperity	Dan Fapp	(703) 317-4849 dlfapp@yahoo.com
Ministers of the Web	Paul & Jamie Langlie	(301) 933-3081 langlie@burp.org
Libeerians	Pat, Janet, & Cerveza Crowe	(703) 425-8931 patrick.crowe@navy.mil janet.crowe@navy.mil

Old Dominion Beer Dinner and BURP Brewer Appreciation Award for 2006

3:00 PM, Sunday, January 22, 2006 at Old Dominion Brewpub; Dinner served at 4:30 PM

Please fill out this form and send your check, together with the form, to: **Bud Hensgen**, 1327 N. Vernon St, Arlington, VA 22201-4836

Please reserve () places for me

_____ Member @ \$25.00 per member

_____ Non-member @ \$40.00 per person