



BURP NEWS

The Official Newsletter of
BREWERS UNITED FOR REAL POTABLES

"Life begins at 60 – 1.060, that is."

- Denny Conn



Rich Sampson, Editor
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January, 2014

www.burp.org



January Meeting
David vs Goliath Competition
January 18, 2014
Arlington, VA

FeBREWary Meeting – JamBEERee!
(Joint Meeting with [DC Homebrewers](#),
[WorthHogs](#), [GRIST](#) and [NoVA Homebrewers](#))
Belgian & French Ale Competition
February 8, 2014
Arlington, VA

Cannon's Canon

By Tom Cannon, Fearless Leader



Happy New Beer (or New Year, or whatever)!

But before we start talking about 2014, let's do a quick revisit to 2013 and the BURP Holiday Party, also known as the December BURP meeting. What a fine time was had! A good crowd for a weekday meeting, lots of holiday beers around and a magnificent spread of food

made this one of the best BURP December meetings I've ever attended. As usual, thanks to all of those who helped set up and take down, thanks to those who provided food and beer, and thanks to everyone for attending. I hope you all had as fine a time as I did.

We also managed to pull off another election, and there are actually a couple of new officers on board! Congratulations to the new slate of officers for BURP this year, and I look forward to working with them as we start to put together the BURP calendar for 2014.

There was one person at the meeting that I did not recognize that certainly deserved recognition. **Bob King** has stepped up this year and did a lot of stuff that didn't get much notice. He ran the raffles at the monthly meetings, and he did most of the work getting the prizes for Spirit of Free Beer. This club owes Bob a bunch, so, Bob,

Please submit all articles for publication in either plain text or Microsoft Word format to the e-mail address above. Deadline for articles is 2 weeks before each scheduled BURP meeting unless otherwise indicated. Changes to membership records should be sent to membership@burp.org.

thanks much for your help last year. We all owe Bob a beer!

And speaking of officers and doing stuff for your homebrew club, let me say we need you, the members, to help keep BURP the preeminent homebrew club in the area. There are a bunch of new homebrew clubs around, and while I don't really understand why you would join a very small, somewhat limited homebrew club over one of the best homebrew clubs in the country, I guess it's just different strokes for different folks, and I don't have a problem with it. I know when we first started homebrewing, we joined the now defunct BANOVA club, a strictly (and I mean strict!) Northern Virginia club. Not only was it for people who lived in Northern Virginia only, but they limited the number of members, and if you wanted to join, you went on a waiting list until a spot opened up. We got in, and I remember when one member suggested we get rid of the waiting list, the club president, an interesting person some of you remember, said, "You don't want us to become BURP, do you?" Well, not long after, we joined BURP and stopped going to BANOVA events.

But, I do think some of the new clubs are putting a bit of a strain on our membership, and I have heard that one of the reasons they use to get members is that they refer to BURP as the "Old Persons Club." Well, being an Old Person (yes I'm retired and proud of it!), I take a bit of offense, but it's hard to counter when most of our officers, and certainly recent past Fearless Leaders, are hardly "Spring Chickens"! Now I won't argue if this is good or bad, but one thing I do know is we're not going to change these perceptions until some of our younger, new members start stepping up and become leaders in this club.

And let me say something about becoming an officer or helping out with some of our regular BURP events like Spirit of Free Beer, Mash Out, and even some of our better meetings like the Chili Meeting in May or our Oktoberfest meeting in September. It's not that hard! You get to meet a lot of fun people and get to drink a lot of good beer, and it really doesn't take too much time out of your regular life. I've been an officer in almost every position in BURP, and I've taken an active role in SOFB and the Real Ale Competition and subsequent meeting.

It's all been a lot of fun, and hasn't really been all that hard and it's doing stuff I like to do. So, let me please encourage you, as members, to seriously consider standing up to do stuff for this club. We got our officers this year, but it was a bit of a struggle, and as of right now, we don't have people for some Spirit of Free Beer positions, including overall organizer. Folks, if we can't get people to volunteer to help, it may not happen.

BURP stands out amongst the other clubs in the area because we encompass the entire DC Metropolitan Area, we have a substantial membership, we have close to 50 certified BJCP beer judges, we run one of the biggest homebrew competitions in the country, and we do things to help our club homebrewers, such as a yearly hop buy. We hold monthly meetings all over the region including a big Oktoberfest, a big Chili competition, and a Real Ale event. For all of this, the cost of yearly membership is nearly laughable. But, and this is important, we don't have the new blood in a lot of our leadership positions, and we need this to keep our club viable and relevant.

Sorry to turn this New Years column into a rant, but I think we're reaching a crossroads with BURP. We need new young (or relatively young) membership and we need to keep them and get them into leadership positions. This is going to be one of my goals for the coming year. I hope you all can help.

And with that, all I can say is that I will see you all at the January meeting. Feel free to come up and discuss any of this, or, at least have a beer with me!

From the Ministry of Culture

By Wendy Aaronson & Nick Griner
Co-Ministers of Culture

The purpose of BURP monthly competitions is to encourage brewers to advance their brewing skills by improving recipe formulation and/or technique based on objective feedback from score sheets or by experimenting with styles they've never brewed. Competitions promote education and the availability of great tasting homebrewed beer at meetings.



First, thank you for electing us as BURP's 2014 Ministers of Culture. We look forward to running a fun and educational club competitions that promote

participation. To be successful, we need brewers and judges. If you are not a BJCP judge, don't worry. We will pair you with a BJCP judge to get experience. If you want to talk beer, hone your palate, learn beer styles, and get practice filling out a score sheet, there is no better place than during a competition.

We have an exciting lineup of competitions to satisfy brewers who seek to perfect a specific style and brewers who are interested in creative latitude. Our goal this year is have a balance of traditional BJCP competitions with more interesting unconventional competitions. We'll be continuing with pre-registration of beers this year and ask that everyone register by the Thursday prior to a meeting — we will not be accepting unregistered entries on the day of a meeting.

Meeting	Competition
2014	
January	David vs. Goliath – Battle between Session & Imperial
February	Belgian and French Ale (Category 16)
March	Stouts (Category 13)
April	India Pale Ale (Category 14)
May	Best Beer With Chili
June	No Competition (Spirit of Free Beer leftovers...free beer!)
July	Sour Ale (Category 17)
August	Collaboration - Rules will be forthcoming
September	German Styles (Categories 1D, 1E, 2A, 3A, 3B, 4B, 4C, 5, 6C, 7A, 7C, 15, 22A)
October	SMaSH – Single Malt and Single Hop
November	Real Ale
December	Winter Warmer
2015	
January	Strong Ale (Category 19)
February	Pairing of Beer, Chocolate, and Cheese
March	Stout (Category 13)
April	Non-German Lagers (Categories 1A, 1B, 1C, 2B, 2C, 4A)

Winter Warmer Wrap-up: The last competition of 2013 was held at the December holiday party and was a popular vote contest. As always, brewers showed creativity in making fine beers to warm

the soul. There were 6 entries and the votes were almost equally spread out among the top 4. In fact, there was only a vote difference between first and second place. The first place beer was brewed by **Wendy Aaronson and Bill Ridgely**. It was a blend of their award-winning Scottish Wee Heavy and Northern English Brown Ale. **Steve Marler** took second place with his Belgian Christmas Beer called "Figgy Puddin". **Andy Anderson** took third place and **John Sikking** got an honorable mention with his Old Winter Warmer Belgian Ale. Thanks to all the brewers who entered beers and provided some holiday cheer.

January 2014 Monthly Competition

Our first competition of 2014 will be the David vs. Goliath competition when small beers will battle with big beers. This should be a fun competition. The rules are simple. You either specify the style so that judges know what specifications to use for judging or you enter in the Specialty category, which means anything goes. If you enter as a Specialty, you will need to provide the ABV and a brief description that includes what you wanted to achieve, e.g., Belgian Ale at the strength of an Ordinary, Schwarzwizen, etc. Include specialty ingredients, if any, in your description. To qualify for being a David, the beer must be 4.5% or lower. To qualify for being a Goliath, the beer must be 6.5% or higher. All beers will be judged according to BJCP guidelines, and scoresheets will be provided. But that's just the first part of the competition. Now the fun part of the competition begins. The top 2 winners in the David and Goliath categories will battle each other in gladiator style. Don't think this is a slam-dunk for Goliath. This is where the competition gets interesting. Samples will be distributed to a small random sample of meeting attendees for the final taste-off and selection of winners. Audience participation and togas are encouraged.

2 bottles are needed for the judging part of the competition. If you are going to the gladiator round, you will need 2 extra bottles or a growler. Pre-registration is required by sending an e-mail with your entry info to culture@burp.org. Entry deadline is Thursday, January 16.

We always need volunteers to judge. The team style judging of ranked BJCP judge and novice

judge has been very effective, and really gives the aspiring judge some hands on practice with an experienced judge.

February Competition: The February competition is Belgian and French Ale (Category 16). For style guidelines, see <http://www.bjcp.org/2008styles/style16.php>. You will need 2 bottles for the BURP competition. Remember that the BURP library is an excellent resource of books and articles. Contact **Bob Sholtes** if you are interested in checking out something.

March Competition: What better way to celebrate than with stouts! Anything in Category 13 is fair game—Dry Stout, Sweet Stout, Oatmeal Stout, Foreign Extra Stout, American Stout, and Russian Imperial Stout. Style guidelines can be found at <http://www.bjcp.org/2008styles/style13.php>.

For recipe ideas, there are several books in the BURP library. Contact **Bob Sholtes**, and he will bring these to the January meeting.

From the Ministry of Enlightenment

By Mike Reinitz and Thomas Sords
Co-Ministers of Enlightenment



Happy New Beer, BURP! As your Ministers of Enlightenment, we're working on a suds-filled year of beerducatation for you. At this month's meeting, we'll be continuing the Brewers Corner discussions where you can get constructive feedback on your beers. We'll also be kicking off a monthly equipment discussion where we talk about how to properly use a

unique piece of brewing equipment. This month, we'll be looking at (or rather through!) refractometers. If you have requests or suggestions for future pieces of equipment to discuss, please email us at Enlightenment@BURP.org.

We'll have more details on future events in next month's newsletter, as we haven't been able to

meet yet to plan out the year – holidays and our homebrew-induced comas have gotten in the way! As a sneak preview though, we'll be working on different educational events to prepare you for the monthly competitions. We'll be doing a dry-hopping experiment, single malt mini-mashes, and BURP's own **A.J. deLange** is working on a water treatment class for us. We also have plans to discuss the special considerations you need to take when brewing with wheat or rye and are working on some other events that will be more beer focused vs. homebrew focused (e.g. proper glassware, beer & food pairing, etc.). We're always open to suggestions, so send them along if you have any.

In March, **Ron Pattinson** is coming to the US to promote his new book, *The Home Brewer's Guide to Vintage Beers*, and on March 15th, **Jamie Langlie** has arranged a book release and book signing party for Ron at 3 Stars Brewing Company. In order to have some of Ron's Vintage beers to taste at the release party, several BURP members have agreed to brew Ron's recipes. They will be brewing in late January and would enjoy having other brewers join them to brew these vintage beers. So if you are interested in brewing a 1933 Whitbread (a brown), an 1867 Barclay (a porter), a 1910 Fullers pale ale, or an 1899 Barclay Perkins XLK (pale ale) please let us know at Enlightenment@BURP.org.

Finally, to throw some actual education into the mix, there was an interesting article in *Brew Your Own* back in October regarding Crystal Malt versus Caramel Malt. I (Mike) shared these highlights with the homebrew shop staff at 3 Stars, but I think BURPers will find it interesting as well! The actual article is 7 pages long, but here's a bulleted summary:

1. For all intents and purposes, Crystal and Caramel Malt mean the same thing.
2. Crystal Malt is specifically the English version where the malt is Roasted at low temperatures in the presence of moisture.
3. Caramel Malt can be either Roasted *or* Kilned. Roasting and Kilning are not the same thing, though. Therefore, all Crystal Malt is Caramel Malt, but not all Caramel Malt is Crystal Malt.
4. Briess, one of the major U.S. malt houses, does in fact Roast their Caramel Malts, so

those are interchangeable when a recipe specifically calls for Crystal Malt (matching for color of course).

5. When Roasting, 90%+ of the grain is crystallized. When Kilning, only about 50% is, and the remaining portion is more like a traditional highly kilned malt (such as Munich or Vienna).
6. Weyermann, for example, makes CaraMunich and CaraVienna malt by creating Kilned Caramel Malts--half ends up being Crystal Malt and the other half is Munich or Vienna (depending on temperatures).
7. Briess doesn't do any Kilning for their Caramel varieties. Their CaraMunich 60L, for example, is actually just a blend of Caramel 60L and regular Munich Malt. Likewise, their CaraVienna 20L is a blend of Caramel 20L and Vienna Malt.
8. Based on all that, if you're looking for a Lovibond rating of CaraMunich or CaraVienna that you can't find, just do a 50/50 blend of Caramel Malt and Munich/Vienna. For example, CaraMunich 40L = 50% Caramel 40L + 50% Munich. CaraVienna 80L = 50% Caramel 80L + 50% Vienna

tion (for American Pale Ale) was judged in the kitchen upstairs. The election was simplified by the fact that there were no contested offices. The results were announced before meeting end: **Rick Garvin** began his 2nd term as Fearless Leader; **Wendy Aaronson** continued as Enlightenment Minister (for the 11th consecutive year); **Dave Pyle & Mel Thompson** assumed the role of Co-Culture Ministers; your humble reporter took over as Truth Minister (Newsletter); **Jim & Linda Rorick** assumed the Propaganda Ministry (Membership); **Kathy Koch** continued as Finance Minister; **Paul & Jamie Langlie** continued in their collective role as Web Ministers; and **Cerveza Crowe** (accompanied by attendants **Pat & Janet**) took over the History Ministry (Li-beery). The competition (which at this time included the sub-styles Pale Ale, Amber Ale, and California Common) was a tough one, as usual. The winners (and first Brewer of the Year Points for 2004) were announced at meeting conclusion. Style for all winning beers was American Pale Ale: 1st **Mel Thompson**; 2nd **Andy Anderson & Kathy Koch**; and 3rd **Christian Parker**.

The Jan 2004 edition of BURP News led off with "New Beers Resabrewtions" from a diverse group of BURPers. A common refrain was "to brew a style of beer not brewed before". This was followed by Part 2 of this reporter's reminiscences of the Prague-to-Vienna Tour de BURP bicycle trip held over 15 days in the Fall of 2003. The 2nd installment was a brief history of Czech beer and brewing. The issue concluded with a nice history and overview of the Pale Ale style provided by outgoing Culture Ministers **Tom Cannon & Betsy Kepler**.

15 Years Ago (Jan 1999) – The first meeting of 1999 was held at the home of **Rick and Karen Garvin** in Falls Church. While the Garvins were kind enough to offer their home for the meeting, temperatures close to 70 degrees sent everyone happily outside to enjoy the spring-like conditions. As in 1989, the first order of business was the election of club officers for the New Year. For the first time in quite awhile, the election for Fearless Leader would be an actual contest, with not two but three candidates. Joining longtime member **Rick Garvin** on the ballot were **John Dittmann** and **Steve Marler**. After a closely fought election, **Steve Marler** came out on top, taking over from two-term Fearless Leader **Tom Cannon**. Other of-

This Month in BURP History

Compiled By Bill Ridgely



10 Years Ago (Jan 2004) – By the beginning of 2004, BURP had fallen into a nice pattern of holding the first meeting of the year at the beautiful country home of **Peter & Joyce Long** in Clifton, VA. Peter was an executive at the World Bank (as well as an ex-RAF fighter pilot). The

home was magnificent and had a large pub room with a horseshoe bar and a big stone fireplace. Peter and Joyce eventually retired to Florida, but this site remained a favorite in the memory of BURPers over the years. The itinerary of this meeting was pretty well established at this point – the election of new club officers along with a homebrew competition. The election of officers took place over the course of the meeting while the homebrew compe-

ficers elected at the meeting were: **Wendy Aaronson** (Enlightenment), **Andy Anderson** (Culture), **Delano DuGarm** (Truth/Newsletter Editor), **Bill Ridgely** (Propaganda/Mem-beer-sip), **Christine Newman** (Prosperity), and **Bill Newman** (History/Li-beerian). There are lots of photos taken at this meeting, along with a full meeting report, on the BURP archival website at <http://www.burp.org/meetings/199901.htm>.

20 Years Ago (Jan 1994) – The 1994 election of BURP officers took place at the January meeting at **Bruce & Polly Goldman's** house in Alexandria. Since there was only one candidate (or candidate team) for each post, there were no losers in the election. **Tim Artz** moved up from Minister of Culture to Fearless Leader. **Wendy Aaronson** segued from Fearless Leader to Minister of Education (the first of her 15 consecutive years in this role). **Rex White** became the new Minister of Culture, and **Katy Dugarm** became the new Li-beerian. **Larry Koch**, **Bill Ridgely**, and the **Feist/Goldman** team kept their old posts as Ministers of Finance, Propaganda (Mem-beership), and Truth (Newsletter) respectively. The pale ale contest held at the meeting was won by **Robbie Zev Ludwick**.

25 Years Ago (Jan 1989) – BURP's first gathering of 1989 was held at the home of **Bob & Marie Wright** in Silver Spring. Commercial beers outnumbered homebrews at this meeting, but the ones contributed were outstanding. **Craig Stuart-Paul**, owner and proprietor of Glen Burnie's *British Brewing Co.*, brought a keg of "Santa Class", the excellent winter warmer that had been popular at the club's Dec holiday banquet. A special treat at the meeting was a large cooler of oysters brought by **Bill McLaren**, the club's "Purveyor of Fine Seafood". Many longtime BURPers still have fond memories of these oyster-shucking BURP meetings. Alas, both Bill and the abundant Chesapeake Bay oysters he once provided are now but a distant memory. The main business attended to at the meeting was the election of officers for 1989. As stated by **Andy Beaulieu** in his meeting report, "This was accomplished without any shedding of tears or loss of blood". Voted into office were: **Tom McGonigle** (President), **Chuck Popenoe & Dick Roepke** (Co-Presidents of Vice), **Andy Beaulieu** (Secretary/Newsletter Editor), **Bill Ridgely** (Treas-

urer), **Jim Dorsch** (Li-Beerian), and **John Gardner** (Mem-Beer-Sip Chairman).

30 Years Ago (Jan 1984) – Election of BURP officers in the "Year of Orwell" took precedence at the Jan meeting. Following the presentation of recommendations from the Election Committee, nominations were taken from the floor, and the new officers were elected immediately afterward. **Dan McCoubrey** was elected BURP President. Other new officers included **Phil Angerhofer** (Executive VP), **Hank Rupprecht** (Secretary), **Bobby Bauer** (Treasurer), **Dan McCabe** (Activities Chair) and **Bob Klothe** (Parliamentarian). A new post was also established for BURP's longtime jester **Ernie Weissenborn**. Ernie was officially appointed as the club's "Chairman of Perverse & Perverted Humor". Outgoing treasurer **George Burgess** reported that the treasury at the beginning of the New Year consisted of \$235 and 28 BURP t-shirts. Beer for the meeting was provided by **Bobby Bauer**, who brewed a batch of his 1982 AHA-championship heavy dark beer (The style guidelines in 1982 consisted of light lager, dark lager, light ale, dark ale, and strong beer).

New Newsletter Ideas for 2014

By Rich Sampson – BURP Newsletter Editor

Don't worry, we get it: most BURPers have one primary use for BURP News – the directions to the next meeting. And that's fine. But for those of you who have a few extra minutes now and then, I'd like to use 2014 to incorporate some new ideas to this venerable publication (our [Newsletter archives](#) at www.burp.org go back more than a decade!)

I'd like to begin a monthly profile of a different BURP member to share how they first got involved in homebrewing, some of their top tips for other brewers and general background so we can all know each other a little better. Along those same lines, we'll reach out to BURPers – past and current – who have transitioned to become professional brewers.

In the meantime, I'm open to any other ideas you might have to make BURP News more valuable. Just drop me a note at newsletter@burp.org. And, as always, please engage BURP's social networking platforms on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#). Happy New Beer!

<p><i>BURP Doxology</i></p> <p><i>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</i></p>

2014 BURP OFFICERS

Office	Officer	Contact Information
Fearless Leader	Tom Cannon	FearlessLeader@BURP.org
Ministers of Enlightenment	Mike Reinitz, Thomas Sords	Enlightenment@BURP.org
Ministers of Culture	Wendy Aaronson & Nick Griner	Culture@BURP.org
Minister of Prosperity	Bob Sholtes	Prosperity@BURP.org
Minister of Membersip	Dan Rozman	Membersip@BURP.org
Ministers of Propaganda	Bill Ridgely & Howard Michelsen	propaganda@BURP.org
Newsletter Editor	Rich Sampson	Newsletter@BURP.org

<p style="text-align: center;">Designated Driver Program</p> <p>In its quest to promote the safe and responsible enjoyment of homebrewed beer, BURP is pleased to offer its Designated Driver Program. If you are a designated driver, you will receive complimentary door prize tickets. Note: Non-alcoholic beverages are not provided by the club. Please bring your own supply to club events.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Guide for New Members</p> <p>Bring more beer than you drink; bring more food than you eat. Find the nametags and put one on. Sample (i.e., drink a small quantity of) other people's beers and make constructive comments. Give other people samples of your beer. Chat freely with the first stranger you meet; that person won't be a stranger for long. Don't drive while intoxicated.</p>
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