



BURP NEWS

The Official Newsletter of the
BREWERS UNITED FOR REAL POTABLES

In Vino Veritas, In Cervesio Felicitas.
-- Anonymous



Beth Madden, Editor
madfox@comcast.net

October 2007

4305 Vermont Ave
Alexandria, VA 22304



HOT COMPETITION / COLD BEER

By Kathy Koch, Fearless Leader

October Meeting - BURP Battle of the Sexes
IPA Competition
Arlington, VA
13 October, 2007
1:00-6:00 PM

November Meeting – Real Ale Festival
Real Ale Competition
Rockville, MD
17 November, 2007
12:00-6:00 PM

**December Meeting - Holiday Banquet
and Holiday Beer Competition**
Arlington, VA
11 December, 2007
6:00-10:00 PM

As we move into the middle of October, we must reluctantly say goodbye to the Oktoberfest season. We enjoyed a *wunderbar* celebration of the festival at **Jim and Linda Rorick's**. They roasted chickens to perfection for us. Others brought yummy sausages and tasty side dishes. All of this was accompanied by a large number of homebrew kegs filled with your entries in the popular contest of German style beers. *Das hat gut geschmecht!*

Nest stop on our meeting tour is the lovely Arlington yard of **Bud and Helen Hengen**. They promise to have the trees popping with fall color. Since it's right on the bike trail, you have the option of riding in on two wheels if you are so inclined. The October 13 meeting will feature our Battle of the Sexes, with same gender teams vying for the bragging rights. Competition promises to be heated, but we can always cool down with plenty of chilled homebrew.

I hope the IPA categories of the October competition got you thinking about your real ale entries for our annual November real ale

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.

competition. Also, with the weather beginning to cool down, you should be thinking about your recipes for holiday beers.

Speaking of holidays, get your gift shopping rolling with our BURP products: shirts, pins and titanium openers. They're quality items that are great fun to give and get.

See you in Arlington on the 13th.

EIN PROSIT!

*By Jamie Langlie and Jeanie Osburn,
Co-Ministers of Culture*

The purpose of BURP's monthly competitions is to further the art and science of homebrewing by providing thoughtful feedback to Club brewers and by developing a cadre of well-qualified, educated judges.

Oktoberfest Competition Results: Mel & Ed Maintain BOTY Frontrunner Positions

Danke to all for a wonderful time at our September Oktoberfest meeting at Turtle Creek Farm! The results of our two German-themed competitions were:

Category #5, Bock Beers:

We had several entries for the Bock Competition, which counted towards BOTY.

1st Place -- Mel Thompson and Ed Bielaus --> **Traditional Bock (No Name)**

2nd Place -- Rick Garvin and Christine Johnbrier --> **Maibock/Helles (Augustus Schmecht)**

3rd Place -- Mike Neith --> **Doppelbock (Initiator)**

As co-brewers of the winning Traditional Bock, **Ed and Mel**, maintain their dead-heat lead in BURP's 2007 BOTY competition.

Popular Vote Competition -- All German Beers:

1st Place -- The Dickheads + One [Tom & Colleen Cannon, Pat & Janet Crowe, Steve Marler] --> **Keller Pils (Schtoppers Hoppocket Pool Pils)**

2nd Place -- Rick Garvin and Christine Johnbrier --> **Traditional Bock (Propfen)**

3rd Place -- Ed Bielaus and Mel Thompson --> **Dusseldorf Alt (Infusion Alt)**

Thanks, as well, to our judges: **Andy Anderson, Terri Fisher** (new member from Oregon Brew Crew), **Bud Hensgen**, and **Mac McEwen**. Other helpers and vote counters included: **Rod Rydlun, Alison Skeel**, and **Anna Garvin**.

OCTOBER COMPETITION = BURP BATTLE OF THE SEXES → IPA

Looking forward to a spirited competition when our exceptional field of same-sex teams takes to the field for this year's **BURP Battle of the Sexes: IPA!**

The style is **India Pale Ale, #14A – English; #14B – American; #14C -- Imperial**
<http://www.bjcp.org/styles04/Category14.html>

Rules:

- Teams will be composed of 2 - 4 same-sex brewers.
- Winning will count toward BoTY, with all members of the prize-winning brewing teams awarded BoTY points.
- To determine whether the women's or the men's teams claim overall victory, 4 points will accrue to the 1st place team, 3 points to the 2nd, and 2 point to the 3rd. The sex with the highest point total will be declared the overall winner.
- **Beers will be judged from bottled entries by standard procedures and will count toward BOTY.** [1 entry per team, 2 plain, brown, 12-oz bottles with plain caps; a removable paper label identifying the brewers' names, beer style and category number, and the beer name.]

THE BRITISH ARE COMING!

Like most BURPers, **Jeanie** and **I** eagerly await the arrival of our unique, annual Real Ale competition and Club festival in November. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to **Andy Anderson** (Competition Organizer) and **Rick Garvin** (Judge Coordinator) for spearheading this year's event. See their article in this newsletter for more details. And fire up your kettles – let's make this BURP's biggest Real Ale year yet!

Always Seeking Judges

BURP has large number of BJCP-qualified judges, and we need your help at the monthly competitions. If you'd like to volunteer at any time, please contact your Ministers of Culture. We also encourage novices to judge with our BJCP judges. It's a great learning experience.

Enlightenment Corner

Wendy Aaronson, Co-Minister of Enlightenment

ALL GRAIN BREWING SESSION – OCTOBER 13 BURP MEETING AT 11:00 AM

The Ministers of Enlightenment always welcome ideas from members on what we can do to enlighten folks at meetings. The idea for this month's session came from **Art Diem**. He wanted to make the plunge into all grain brewing and had questions about equipment and the process. Rather than just talk about it, **Tom Cannon** and **I** decided to demonstrate the entire process. So, join **Tom** and **me** in brewing an all grain beer that will be entered into the Real Ale Competition in November.

Grains will be crushed ahead of time and water will be filtered and heated, but everything else will be done on site. We will have several mashtun/lautertuns on display to show you that equipment can be as simple as a grain bag in a pail with a spigot or as complex as a converted keg. During the mash and sparge periods, **Tom** and **I** will discuss crushing grains, the chemical reactions that occur during the mash, and different sparging techniques. By the time the meeting starts at 1:00 p.m., the wort should be boiling and the hop aroma

will be in the air. I can't think of a better way to start a meeting. We look forward to seeing you.

Recipe Corner

By Tom Cannon, Co-Minister of Enlightenment

Sorry for not having recipes for the last newsletter. To make it up, we have two recipes this month representing the two competitions at the September, BURP Oktoberfest, meeting.

The first competition was for Bocks only. It was won by the brewing team of **Mel Thompson and Ed Bielaus**. I didn't get to taste it, but I know these guys know how to brew beer, and one of the judges said it was very true to style. Note that it was entered as a Bock but has the gravity of a Doppelbock. Here's the recipe.

Bock recipe for 5.5 gallons

Grain Bill:

Munich - 8 lb
 German Pils - 6 lb
 Cara Pils - 8 oz
 Chocolate malt - 2 oz
 Belgian Special B - 4 oz
 Cara Munich - 8 oz
 Cara Vienne - 8 oz

Hops:

Perle 8.5% AA - 0.6 oz 60 min.
 Mt. Hood 3.8% AA - 0.75 oz 30 min

Yeast:

White Labs WLP 830 German Lager Yeast - 1000 ml starter/slurry (billions and billions of yeast cells)

OG: 1.078
 FG: 1.020
 SRM: 22
 IBU's: 25

Mash at 154F for 90 min.
 Ferment in primary at 48F for 2 weeks
 Lager in secondary after diacetyl rest at 34F for 2

months

Lager in corny keg for 8 months at 34F

Finings: Irish moss in boil and gelatin in keg

The second recipe is for the winner of the Beauty Contest, with all German styles eligible. The beer that won was a Keller Pils brewed by the Jackalope Chili Team, **Pat and Janet Crowe, Steve Marler, Colleen Cannon, and myself**. This beer finished second to **Rick and Christie's** Keller Pils at the Chili Competition, but finished first in the specialty beer category at The Spirit of Free Beer.

Ten Gallon Batch, Brewed March 24, 2007

Beer Name: Schtuppers Hop Pocket Pool Pils

Grain Bill:

Carafoam - 1 lbs
Pils Malt - 18 lbs
Vienna Malt - 3 lbs

Hops:

Spalter Spalt Pellet 4% AA - 2 oz First Wort Hopped
Spalter Spalt Pellet 4% AA - 2 oz 60 min
Spalter Spalt Pellet 4% AA - 2 oz 30 min
Spalter Spalt Pellet 4% AA - 1 oz Knock Out

Yeast:

1 pint slurry of lager yeast from Gordon Biersch in DC

Single infusion Mash for 60 minutes at 150 deg F

Boil for a total of 90 minutes.

OG: 1.052
FG: 1.012
IBUs: 41
SRM: 6

Fermented for two weeks at 48 deg F and then lagered for six weeks at 34 deg F. Kegged and

force carbonated. This keg had been in the refrigerator for four months.

Note that First Wort Hopping is a German brewing tradition of taking one half of your planned bittering hops and adding them to the brew pot during lautering. The purpose is to add hop character to the beer. The result here was that the beer seemed a bit sweeter than some of our Keller Pils but did have a very nice hop flavor.

BURP 2007 Real Ale Competition

Announcing the 11th BURP Real Ale Competition to be held in conjunction with the November 17 BURP meeting at **Bill and Wendy's** house in Rockville. Thanks to our brewers, this competition has become (likely) the largest Real Ale Competition in the US!

For those who have not participated in the past, this is a keg-only competition with entries accepted in the following British ale categories: Mild, Ordinary Bitter, Best Bitter, Strong Bitter (ESB), Golden Ale, Strong Mild, Old Ale, Scottish Light 60/-, Heavy 70/-, Export 80/-, Scottish Strong/Wee Heavy, Northern English Brown Ale, Southern English Brown Ale, Brown Porter, Classic Dry Stout, Sweet Stout, and Oatmeal Stout. (See <http://burp.burp.org/Default.aspx?tabid=390> for more style details.) But it should be noted that since this is a contest based upon a process (Real Ale) rather than a specific style, the judges will be instructed to focus more on the beer's Real Ale qualities rather than just its adherence to any specific style sub-set. All entries must be naturally conditioned (no forced carbonation, please), and will be served by hand pump without the assistance of any extraneous gas. A beer engine will not be required for entry as the club has plenty amongst our members.

This year's contest will be a little different than in previous years, as **Tom Cannon** is taking a one-year hiatus from organization duties this year. **Andy Anderson** will be responsible for the overall organization of the contest including Steward Selection, while **Rick Garvin** will be the Judge Coordinator.

Entries will be accepted at Bill and Wendy's house beginning Sunday, 11 November. A minimum of two gallons of beer is required in the keg for each entry. Three or Five gallon Cornelius kegs with standard pin or ball lock fittings are the most readily used form of keg, but if you wish to submit a Sanke or a Hogshead of Real Ale, please be our guest :-). It is recommended that all entrants submit their kegs a few days before the competition in order to allow the beer to settle and clear, but entries will be accepted right up until the time of the competition. Our crack team of BURP cellermen/women will adhere to any conditioning directions given them, but in the event that no directions are given, we will do whatever we believe to be best for the beer. We are asking entrants to please provide only the gas-in fitting for their keg entry (2-Pin fitting for Pin Lock kegs, or "G" fitting for Ball Lock kegs). Use a piece of string to tie the fitting onto the top of the keg. In addition, it is advised that you put your name or initials (or any other identifying symbol) on the fitting to facilitate its return in case it is separated from the keg. We will do our best to insure that fittings are returned to their owners after the competition. The competition will be held Friday, 16 November during a closed-judging session, but all of the remaining beer will be available for tasting at the BURP meeting on Saturday the 17th. Because of the quantity of Real Ale available for Saturday's meeting, the November meeting will not require members to bring beer.

In order to allow each entry to be on long enough for club members to try all of the beers, the November meeting will begin at 12:00. There will be an educational session starting at noon primarily focused on tasting beer with some typical **Tom & Andy** Real Ale Rants (TARAR) included. **Tom and Andy** will also be available to answer any questions about real ale after the education session is over. However at 2 PM we will ask that all people leave the porch so that we can switch all the kegs and get new beers on tap as soon as possible.

The purpose of the competition is to celebrate British-style Cask Conditioned Real Ale. The beers will be judged according to their quality as well as their adherence to the British styles. We will endeavor to recruit the most knowledgeable Real Ale judges from within BURP and the professional

brewing community. There will be no cost to enter the competition and each entry will receive feedback. Ribbons will be awarded for first, second and third place and the winner will also receive the coveted 2007 BURP Real Ale Competition Cup. Also, we will continue the tradition of awarding a special "Cellarman's Choice" award for the beer, deemed by the crack team of BURP cellermen/women to be of special merit! This beer may not necessarily be one of the ribbon winners from the competition. Another reason to get a Real Ale into RAC 2007!

Style guidelines and complete competition rules are available on the BURP webpage. If you can't access the BURP page, contact **Andy Anderson** (Andy@Burp.org) for more information. If you plan on entering beer for the RAC, please let us know as soon as possible for planning purposes.

The BURP Real Ale Competition is registered with the BJCP, and participating BJCP judges will be awarded experience points. This is a very popular event, and we expect more BJCP judges to be interested in participating than we have space to accommodate. Preference will be given to senior BJCP judges who have experienced Real Ale in the UK, have entered beer into the competition and have provided a beer engine. Junior BJCP judges are encouraged to participate and should not feel slighted if they miss a year. **Rick Garvin** is the Real Ale Competition Judge Coordinator; BJCP judges interested in judging should contact Rick at rgarvin@garvin.us. **Rick** will acknowledge receipt of your email; if you do not receive an acknowledgement then please resend the request. In addition, we have formed an experienced team of stewards who have participated in this competition consistently over the past few years. Given that the competition is a busy one in a small space, with very little time to train up new people, it is unlikely we will be asking for additional steward volunteers. But if space becomes available, we will definitely let you know.

Calling All Beer Engines

As part of the 2007 BURP Real Ale Competition, we will once again be calling on all BURP members for their beer engines for use in the competition and

the tasting at the November meeting. If you are a BURPer, and you have a beer engine (there are lots of you), we hope you will let us use your pump for the biggest Real Ale tasting on the East Coast! RAC organizers will be contacting you, but if you think we will forget you, please contact **Andy, Rick, or Tom** (thomas.cannon@navy.mil).

Thanks!

Beer and Wine Making Silent Auction at October Meeting

By Steve Marler

Bring your check book or lots of cash to the next meeting for a beer and wine making silent auction.

BURP member **Lynn Ashley** is leaving the area and has decided to give up brewing and wine making. For those of you who do not know **Lynn**, he was a very active member of the club and also the club's first webmaster. He was noted for pushing the envelope by making some interesting beers such as 100% rye beer and acorn beer. The club will miss **Lynn**, but he gave us the opportunity to carry on his brewing legacy through his equipment.

Here is some of the stuff that will be up for auction:

- Counter flow chiller
- Counter pressure filler
- Bench top bottle capper
- Lots of cornie kegs
- Bruheat mash tun
- Bottle drying rack
- Lots of miscellaneous beer and wine making supplies

So bring your checkbook or lots of cash and get in on the auction.

Photos From the September Meeting

Courtesy of Paul Langlie



Christine Johnbrier sporting the ribbons she and Rick Garvin won for 2nd place in both the Bock Competition and the Popular Vote.



Mel Thompson receives a blue ribbon from Jamie Langlie for his and Ed Bielaus' winning Bock beer.



(L-R) Colleen Cannon, Steve Marler, Patrick and Janet Crowe, Tom Cannon collectively known as the "The Dickheads + One" show their first place ribbon for the Popular Vote.



Beck Competition Judging.



BURP Lapel Pins and Titanium Bottle Openers Available

The club recently received a new order of 200 beautiful BURP lapel pins, suitable for wear at all beer functions (and, they make great gifts for beer travelers). The pins are 1" in diameter, gold plated,

and have a butterfly clutch on the back. Each comes in its own poly bag. The final pin design is reproduced above. Pins are being sold for \$3.00 each.

In addition to the lapel pins, a new order of 100 BURP titanium bottle openers arrived just before MASHOUT. Some were sold at that event, but there are plenty left. The openers are the small "claw" style, designed for easy attachment to a key ring. We guarantee this opener will last a lifetime. The price of \$8.50 per opener is very reasonable considering the cost of titanium has skyrocketed over the last year.

Just bring cash or a check payable to BURP to the next BURP meeting for the pins and openers you would like to purchase.

BURP 10 and 20 Years Ago

Compiled By Bill Ridgely

20 Years Ago, Oct 1987

In last month's column, I noted that there was no September 1987 BURP meeting held due to host **Bill McLaren's** last minute cancellation. So I wrote instead about BURP's special tour of the Heileman Brewery in Arbutus, MD. What I failed (okay, forgot) to mention was that the Heileman tour actually took place in October. The September meeting was simply cancelled. So, I'm afraid there's nothing new to report here, folks. Our special tour was fully and adequately covered in last month's column. Instead, I'll provide two tidbits of info given out by **Peter Sowa**, the Heileman master brewer:

1) A 200 lb bail of whole hops yields approximately 44 lbs of hop pellets, a roughly 4.5 to 1 ratio.

2) The 6-roller grain mill used at the Heileman brewery yielded a crush with 95% efficiency, necessary for the economics of brewing on a large scale. Peter estimated that the best 2-roller mills used by homebrewers at the time yielded an approximately 80% efficiency. The lesson for homebrewers - use more malt.

The October-November double issue of the BURP News contained **John Gardiner's** excellent review of the brewery tour followed by his list of 10 "Peter Principles", including those reproduced above. Activity reviews of other brew clubs included reports on BURP North (later FOAM), BANOVA (N. VA Brewers Assn), and CRABS (Baltimore's homebrew club). The most recent BANOVA meeting was co-hosted by **Rick Garvin & Hugh Barnes**. It was noted that Rick had just passed the AHA/HWBTA beer judging exam and was now a recognized judge. The "Recipe of the Month" was *Cherry Smash*, a tart cherry ale brewed by **Jim Dorsch**. In the travelogue dept, **Steward Vance** wrote about his beer hunting adventures in Manila. Finally, the first BURP Questionnaire was provided at the end of the newsletter. Members were asked to respond to some timely questions including "Should commercial beer be allowed at meetings?" and "Should the club participate in a bulk purchase of brewing supplies?".

10 Years Ago, Oct 1997

A very special, long anticipated event took place at the home of **Andy Anderson** on Oct 4, 1997. BURP's First Real Ale Festival featured 9 kegs of cask conditioned ale brewed by club members, all served from nearly a dozen traditional English beer engines set up behind Andy's bar. The protocol for the event (still followed to this day) was judging of the beers to select the Real Ale Champion on Friday night followed by the festival/BURP meeting on Saturday to finish the remaining beer. Fearless Leader **Tom Cannon** began the Saturday festivities with an educational session on cask ale, its history and the techniques used to brew it. Following the session, the 60 or so BURPers in attendance descended on the hand pumps to enjoy the various ales, which included a Dark Mild, 3 Ordinary Bitters, 1 Best Bitter, and 4 Extra Special Bitters. As with all BURP meetings, an abundance and incredible variety of food was shared to accompany the beer (although, for some reason, Mexican style food seemed to predominate at this event). Soon, it was time to announce the winners. **Steve Marler** took 3rd place with his Dark Mild, and **Mark Post** took 2nd with his ESB. The 1997 Champion Beer was declared to be **Andy Anderson's** Best Bitter. Andy took away the coveted championship pewter mug, and his beer

was soon on its way to Chicago as BURP's representative in the homebrewed real competition held as part of the 1997 Chicago Real Ale Festival.

In addition to Real Ale, two other competitions were held at the meeting. The pre-scheduled monthly club competition was for Wheat Beers. The results of this formally judged event (all Bavarian Weizens) were: 3rd to **Bill Ridgely**, 2nd to **Mike Megown**, and 1st to **A.J. Delange**. Finally, the annual Weird Beer Competition was judged informally by all present. The winners were: 3rd to **Mike Megown** for his Honey-Banana Beer, 2nd to **Bob Kulawiec** for his Holiday Spice Beer, and 1st to **Lynn Ashley** for his 100% Rye Beer.

As mentioned in last month's column, there was no BURP News produced in October because of the short time frame between the September and October meetings. The contents of the Sep-Oct issue were covered in last month's column.

BURP Prosperity Report

By Larry Koch, Minister of Prosperity

Current Financial Position

BURP Treasury Summary

As of 15 Sept 2007	\$25,595
New receipts	\$222
New expenses	\$5,212
As of 15 Sept 2007	\$20,605

Go to BURP.org for details on the BURP Treasury including separate worksheets with details of SoFB and MASHOUT.

BURP members are reminded that all expense submissions must include details. Required details are date, exact amount, detailed description of the item, any special circumstances, and name of person to be reimbursed. Event coordinators should maintain a spreadsheet for their project.

Spreadsheets and other financial data are available on the BURP website to registered users at <http://www.burp.org>.

Mem-beer-sip Update

By Christine Johnbrier, Ministrix of Propaganda

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 I don't have your current email address! Send your contact information to membership@burp.org, and I'll see that your info is updated.

Hop Notes from the Libeery

By Mel Thompson, Minister of History

The BURP Libeery is open 24/7 for your reading and research needs. If you wish to check out a book, contact **Mel Thompson** at sonofthomp@comcast.net prior to the monthly meeting and your request, if available, will be delivered.

If you don't see what you want in the Libeery list, let me know what you are looking for and I will try to locate it for you.

Cheers, Mel

Editor's Corner

By Beth Madden, Minister of Truth

Thanks to everyone for their contributions to this month's newsletter. As always, I invite anyone interested in submitting anything from a feature or general interest articles to travelogues, recipes, etc. to do so. Please send to madfox@comcast.net. Your fellow BURPers and I are looking forward to hearing from you!

Cheers – T.I.W.

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
Aaaaaaaaaaaaa, Drink!
(Al Lowry, 1994)*

BURP 2007 OFFICERS

Office	Officer	Phone/E-mail
Fearless Leader	Kathy Koch	(703) 256-4285 kathleenkoch@verizon.net
Co-Ministers of Enlightenment	Wendy Aaronson Tom Cannon	(301) 762-6523 aaronson@burp.org (703) 204-2256 cannon@burp.org
Co-Ministers of Culture	Jamie Langlie Jeanie Osburn	(301) 933-3081 jamie@langlie.com (202) 797-0511 brewbub@verizon.net
Minister of Truth	Beth Madden	(703) 751-2380 madfox@comcast.net
Minister of Propaganda	Christine Johnbrier	(571) 274-6217 cjbrier@garvin.us
Minister of Prosperity	Larry Koch	(301) 587-5293 tlkrk@verizon.net
Ministers of the Web	Paul & Stein Langlie	(301) 933-3081 paul@langlie.com support@webarbor.com
Minister of History	Mel Thompson	(301) 330-3578 sonofthomp@comcast.net