

THE RUBBER CHICKEN



Vol. I, No. 3
May 7, 1992



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

In the last newsletter I mentioned the advantages of joining A.H.A. Not only do you get a great magazine, but you also add your name and voice to other homebrewers in stopping attempts of legislating against beer and homebrewing (I wish these guys would get real jobs). People in PTB know and encourage the responsible use of beer. In this I would encourage you to write to your representative in Lansing to vote for brewpubs in Michigan. Please spend the \$.87 and five minutes to drop them a note.

If you have any friends or acquaintances who are looking for a basic primer in homebrewing, be sure to have them attend the next meeting, as Keith and Mike will give a seminar on basic homebrewing skills. Happy Homebrewing.

Jim Rathbun

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NOTES OF LAST MEETING

Jim recounted last month's Porter. He noted that our homebrews were superior to the sample "Ringer" - Bell's Porter. All around applause to our brewers on excellent and consistent brews!

We welcomed four new members to the club: Jim Foley, Eric Furlan, Bruce Brandt, and Joe Bruining. Welcome aboard guys!

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SUPPORT OUR LOCAL RETAILERS

Remember, patronize our local retailers: Ogie's, The Wine Basket, The Barrel Shop and The Dry Dock in Holland. They are all members in good standing.

Special thanks to Rick Norman of the Barrel Shop in Rockford. Rick donated one six pack of Bell's Batch 1000 beer to the club for our drinking pleasure. Thanks Rick! We enjoyed it during our April meeting.

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REMEMBER . . .

May is English Style Bitter Month. A Bitter in English terms is a pale brew, with a dryness derived from the hop emphasis, and the aroma being secondary. Dry hopping will add more character and is acceptable for this style. Aromatic or not, a truly memorable bitter always has a depth of hop taste, with acidity prevalent due to use of hard water. Our target beer will be Watneys Red Barrel, which will be provided by the Club.



June -- Relax! Have a homebrew and start off the summer right! There is no meeting during June.

July -- American Light Ale/Lager; Summer Picnic.

August -- No meeting

September -- Octoberfest

October -- Stout

November -- Barley Wine

December -- Christmas (spice/herb) beers



Use this list to plan your brewing activities. Remember, if you don't have any homebrew to share at the meeting, just bring a commercial example of that month's feature brew.

We would like to make our taste testing as exciting and educational as possible, so if everyone could bring a small note card with brewing specifics on their English Style Bitter, then we can give a much more comprehensive presentation during our taste testing in May.

UPCOMING EVENTS

*We are in the process of setting up a tour of Kalamazoo Brewing Company. Date and details to be announced.

*We will be having a summer party on July 25th. More details can be found in the "Reminder Notes" section of this newsletter. Any questions, please contact Jim Rathbun.

*Third Annual 1992 Midwest Regional Homebrewers Conference and Competition. Conference site is Zehnder's Family Restaurant in Frankenmuth, Michigan. Saturday, November 7, 1992.

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RECIPE

HEISSE BIERSUPPE - HOT BEER SOUP

Ingredients:

3 12 oz bottles beer
1/2 cup sugar
4 egg yolks
1/3 cup sour cream
1/2 tsp ground cinnamon
1/4 tsp salt
Fresh ground black pepper

Pour beer and sugar into heavy 4-5 quart pan. Bring to boil over high heat, stirring constantly until sugar is dissolved, then remove the pan from the heat. In a small bowl beat the egg yolks with a wire whisk or fork to break them up, and beat in the sour cream a little at a time. Stir about 1/4 cup of the hot beer into the mixture, and then whisk it into the beer. Add the cinnamon, salt and a few grindings of pepper. Return the pan to low heat and cook, stirring constantly, until the soup thickens slightly. Do not let it boil or it may curdle. Taste for seasoning and serve at once from a heated tureen or soup bowl.

Ski Skrycui

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MONTHLY MEETINGS

Our meetings are held on the third Thursday of every month, at 7:00 p.m., at the home of Keith Schutter. His address is located at the bottom of this newsletter. When attending the monthly meeting, please enter the house by using the side entrance. It is located on the other side of the wooden fence in the driveway.

HB5407

Voice your support of House Bill HB5407, which was introduced to legalize brew pubs. We would encourage everyone to write your legislator in support of its passing. According to Tom Mathieu's office, he has no opinion on this Bill. Let's give him one! His address is:



Representative Tom Mathieu
Room 228
Roosevelt Building
Lansing, MI 48909

You may also write to the State Senators. Here are two locals:

Senator Vern Ehlers1
806 Farnum Building
Lansing, MI 48909

Senator Dick Posthumas
804 Farnum Building
Lansing, MI 48909

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MISCELLANEOUS

Special thanks to Ski Skrycui for submitting his recipe for "Hot Beer Soup" for everyone's enjoyment.

Next month we will be giving a homebrew lesson. If you know of anyone who is interested in homebrewing, please invite them to attend.

Please remember to start your Octoberfest brew now, like the Germans. September is just around the corner, brewery speaking so just do it! (September is Octoberfest).

Plan on our summer party to be held on July 25, 1992. Bring your families and homebrew to camp overnight.

Please don't forget to write to your congressman in support of HB5407.

We would like to encourage everyone to prepare an article of interest for publishing in the next edition of The Rubber Chicken.

We want to thank all of you for your participation and enthusiasm. We look forward to our May meeting. Keep brewing and we'll see you on the 21st!

Prime Time Brewers