



Continuing the seemingly endless and endlessly seamy saga of beer in the wild west.

And So...

.....The annual Mead Madness event at the home of Yen, David and Ron Badley happened.

Many meads and much revellry ensued. The food was great and the company greater, with some 40 odd WZZers and friends in attendance.

Return next month to the seemingly endless and endlessly seamy saga of the WZZ Kids!!

Coming Up!

...OK, OK, OK.....it's finally here; the much heralded and often imitated but never duplicated mid-winter chili cookoff at the spacious and well-ventilated (but warm) chili barn of Scotty and PJ.

Those of you who attended last years event will want to remind those who didn't that they missed out!

Prizes will be awarded for the first place and second place chili-enterers. Shameless solicitation is expected and flamboyant displays are encouraged (no butt cracks, please....).

The Calendar:

January 10th
the Flaming Asshole Chili Contest
at PJ and Scotty's

February 21st
the 4th (5th?) Annual
Gourmet Food and Beer Fest
at the Whitbeck's

March 13th
the March Meeting and tasting
at Dave and Barb's house

April 10th
the Annual Firefest
at Karen and Jeff's house

May 15th?

June 12th
the Annual Tubesteak Meeting
At Cindy and Tom Baldwin's

<<Help Wanted!>>

SOMEONE WITH A CALIFORNIA ADDRESS
TO RECEIVE THE BELGIAN BEER OF THE MONTH
CLUB DELIVERY, AND BRING IT INTO RENO
ONCE A MONTH.

PLEASE CONTACT DAN AT:
homebrewingman@yahoo.com
or 775-359-3369 TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS.

Thanks, Dan



BJCP Study Grope, er, Group!

Tom Baldwin and John Tull will once again (and probably for the last time for at least a few years) be leading a Beer Judge Certification Exam study group. Our objective is to focus less on styles and more on technical matters this year. We will still have style-based discussion with relevant sampling. A syllabus is provided below detailing the 7-week course. Meeting times will be Mondays from 6:00 pm to 8:30-9:00 beginning on 5 January.

Anyone who plans to attend the course will need to contact either Tom or John as enrollment is limited. Costs for beers, copies, or other materials will need to be covered on a weekly basis (typically \$5-10).

We expect all attendees to take the BJCP Exam on Saturday 28 February, and hope that you will participate as a volunteer at the WZZ Homebrew Competition on 29 February 2004.

Syllabus: BJCP Study Group

Note: Weekly costs will incur to cover beers sampled and any additional costs. Please bring some cash, preferably in small bills. Costs will usually be \$5-10, or less.

5 January
Introduction
Intro to BJCP: definitions & Judge levels
Boil purpose (5 reasons why we boil)/sanitation (beyond boil)
Brew class (basic brewing techniques -- conversion, sparging, boil, hopping)
Discuss American Lager, European Pale Lager
Sample CAP, Northern German Pils, Munich helles

12 January
Intro to Ingredients: malt, hops, water, yeast, adjuncts
Discuss off-flavors/How & why they occur/Good versus bad/Appropriate or not (esters, phenols, diacetyl, fusel/alcohol, DMS, vegetal, etc.)
Discuss Light Ale, Bitter/English Pale Ale, Scottish Ales (NOT SCOTCH!)
Sample cream, bitter, EPA

19 January
Adjuncts (appropriateness to various styles), sample grains.
Yeast (variations both major and minor); Discuss the 5 stages of yeast (handout)
Krausening/gyle (Noonan pp. 168-169)
Bacteria (bad versus good)
Discuss Brown Ales, India Pale Ales, American Pale Ales
Sample brown ale, IPA, APA

26 January
Beer faults (discuss and sample)

2 February
Process: Decoction, infusion, step-infusion, turbid mash. Enzymes in the mash (handout)
Brew class (advanced brewing techniques -- enzymes/temperatures, methods)
Discuss Kölsch/Altbier, German Amber Lager, Bock
Sample Kölsch, German amber, bock

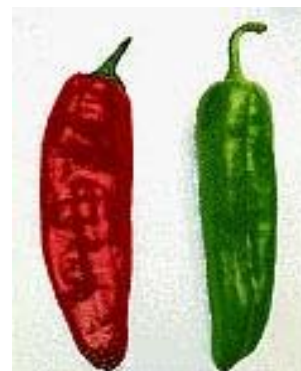
9 February
Discuss Malt (malting)
Discuss Hops
Discuss Water
Discuss Stout, Porter
Sample stout, porter

16 February
Famous beers and the towns they live in (Why are these unique -- water, ingredients, etc.)
Beer style commercial examples (handout)
Strategies for taking the exam.



Map to Scotty & PJ's
1250 High Chaparral Dr.
Reno, 6:00 P.M. Saturday, January 10th!!!!
853-0101

Provocative Pictures below.....



Washoe Zephyr Zymurgists
2335 Dickerson Rd. Unit A
Reno, NV 89503-4905
329-ALES

Coming up.....!
the 3rd Annual2004
WZZ Homebrew Competition!
This February.....

Enter your beer in what we envision as the premier homebrew competition in the western United States. Our focus is on quality of judging with regard to both evaluation and feedback. You will receive input on your beers promptly and well in advance of the National Homebrew Competition first round entry deadline. Last year, over 100 entries were evaluated

The WZZHBC is both BJCP certified and AHA sanctioned. All style categories (including cider and mead categories) will be accepted for entry.

Entries are accepted from 7 through 21 February 2004. The entry fee is \$6 for your first beer and \$4 for each additional beer entered. All beers need to be dropped off or shipped to the Reno Homebrewer.

The Competition is open only to judges, stewards, and other volunteers with a great lunch provided by Great Basin Brewing. Judging will be held at the Great Basin Brewing Co. in Sparks, NV on 29 February, 2004. For those interested, a BJCP exam will be administered on 28 February 2004 at a location TBD.

For entry details and Judge/steward registration, visit <http://134.197.55.114/wzz> or email John Tull at: johnctull@fastmail.fm if you have questions.