

Washoe Zephyr Zymurgists



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VALENTINE'S DAY



BECAUSE LOVE ISN'T QUITE
COMPLICATED ENOUGH AS IT IS.

*The Homebrew Club for the Greater Reno,
Washoe Valley, Truckee Meadows Region*

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Caribbean Dreamin'

The warm tropical breeze swept in off the shimmering ocean, the faint scent of brine carried upon it. Gulls drifted in lazy circles above the palm trees as they swayed beneath the blazing sun, the alabaster sand of the beach just slightly too hot for our bare feet. The beating of the waves as they rolled in was mixed with the distant sound of steel drums and congas.

Well, these were the images that were hopefully engendered in the minds of those who attended the Caribbean Dreams meeting on a frosty Reno evening last month. The heat in the house had been raised to a balmy 70 degrees to help create the illusion of being in the subtropics, and several of the guests followed suit with the hosts and were sporting Hawaiian shirts. Alas, none of the ladies in attendance followed up on the suggestion to wear a bikini, but rumor has it that Tom was clad in a thong beneath his shorts!

As usual Mac had made a big pot of Gumbo for the occasion, which seemed to be popular since it was somewhat less volcanic than last year's batch. In addition there was some Jamaican pulled pork, a couple of different meatball dishes and a variety of breads, chips, dips and sides.

For liquid refreshments there was a hard cider of Mac's that seemed to be well received, a few of Tom's homebrews, some tasty meads from Joe Herman and a selection of home made and commercial beers.

Football fans enjoyed the contest between the San Francisco 49ers and the Green Bay Packers early in the evening. A bit later the guitars came out and WZZers were treated to some live tunes. Tom Baldwin's son Chris was in the crowd and showed off his considerable talent in that arena. Jon Anderson's horn was sadly missing, as he was at a Packers fan's gathering that night which didn't end well for Green Bay supporters.

Editor's note: I was using an unfamiliar camera that night and failed to choose the best settings, so I apologize for the poor quality of the photos in this newsletter.



Getting cozy on the couch.



A good looking crowd.



A nice group shot.



Host Mac O'Brien sporting his newly grown beard.



One highlight of the evening was watching the 49ers beat the Packers on this 51" plasma TV, brought in just for the game



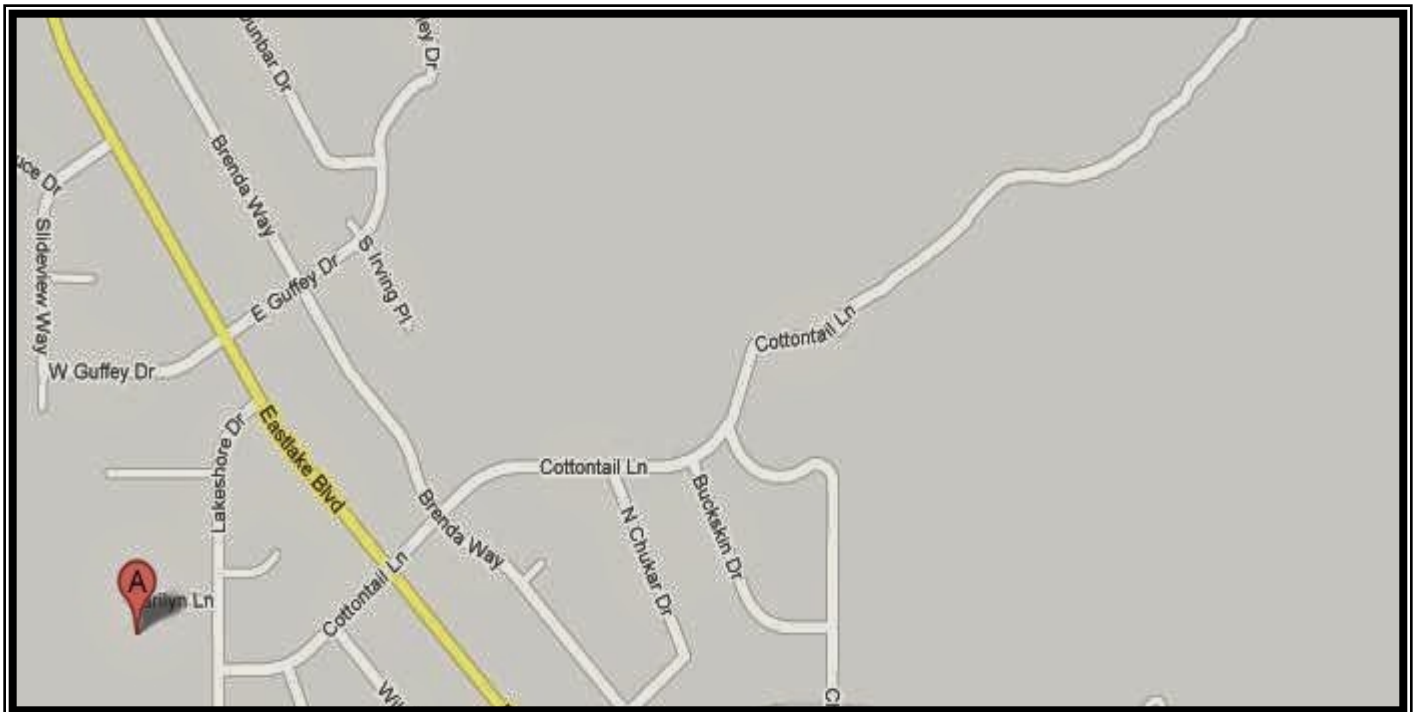
Jon Hurley laying down a riff

Great Basin Brew Off 2013

It's time once again to put together your best beer recipe in hopes of taking top honors at this year's Homegrown Homebrewing competition. The winner will have their entry brewed at Great Basin's Sparks brewery and it will be entered in the Great American Beer Festival's pro-am category. Entries are \$5 (first one free for WZZ members) and are due at the Reno Homebrewer between April 15 - 20. Judging will be at Great Basin's Taps & Tanks on April 28.

WHITBECK VERTICAL EPIC

The main event at Chris Whitbeck's WZZ meeting this month will be a "Vertical Epic Vertical" - that is, a tasting of several different vintages of Stone Brewing Company's usually potent and occasionally quirky brew of that name. The gathering will be on Saturday, February 9 at 6 PM at his place in northern Washoe Valley at 40 Darilyn Lane. The easiest way to get there is to avoid the new I-580 and stick to the old US 395 south. About 7 miles from the Mt. Rose Junction turn left onto Eastlake Blvd., then it's a right on Lakeshore Dr. and another right onto Darilyn Ln. If you need assistance you can call Chris at 849-3666. Please bring a dish and a beverage to share with all.

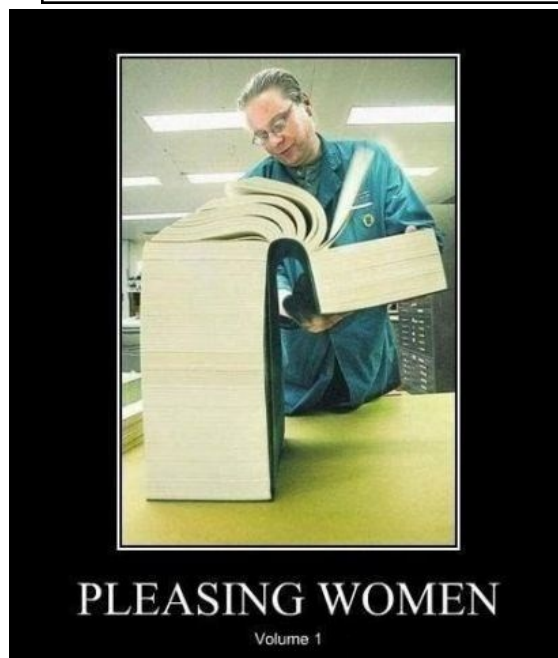


We're on the Web:
<http://washoezz.net>

Upcoming meetings:

**March 9 - Kirk & Becky Stock's
March Madness**

**April 13 - Kelly Ridgeway's first
WZZ meeting**



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2335A Dickerson Rd.

Reno, NV 89503-4905

