

QUAFF

Quality Ale and Fermentation Fraternity

April 1998

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, April 21

7:00 PM Sharp

Callahan's Pub & Brewery

MEETING TOPICS

- **Cooking with Beer**, by Randy Barnes
- **Temecula Plans**
- **BJCP Exam Update**
- **Bring Your Homebrew!**

Future AHA Club-Only Competitions

Contest	Due to QUAFF	Contest Date
Classic Pilsener	May 5	May 18
Weiss is Nice	TBD	August TBD
Best of Fest	TBD	October TBD
If It's Not Scottish	TBD	December TBD

Bring four 10-14 oz bottles (brown or green only) to the regular meeting or to the Board meeting. The bottle should have no labels, raised glass lettering or symbols, embossing, or lettering on the cap. No Grolsch bottles either. Include a filled-out AHA entry form with your entry. Due dates are either the Board meetings (first Tuesday in each month), or the regular monthly meetings (third Tuesday in each month). Entries may be turned in to any Board member, or brought to the meeting. (Check to make sure the Board member will be attending the meeting.)

CALENDAR

- April
21 April QUAFF Meeting (location to be determined) (7:00)
- May
2 National Homebrew Day and Southern California Homebrewers Festival in Temecula
5 QUAFF Board Meeting at San Diego Brewing (6:00)
16 BJCP Exam at AleSmith Brewing (12:00 tentative)
19 May QUAFF Meeting at Callahan's (7:00)
- June
2 QUAFF Board Meeting at San Diego Brewing (6:00)
12 Del Mar Fair Home Brew Contest entry forms due in
16 June QUAFF Meeting at Callahan's (7:00)
28 Del Mar Fair Home Brew Contest (entries due by noon)
- July
7 QUAFF Board Meeting at San Diego Brewing (6:00)
21 July QUAFF Meeting at Callahan's (7:00)

Strong Ales

The American Homebrewers Association includes two styles of beer in the English- and Scottish-Style Strong Ale category. The first is the rather verbose *English-Style Old Ale/English-Style Strong Ale*, and the second is *Strong Scotch Ale*.

The English Old Ale/Strong Ale is a varied collection of beers. In general, old ales are weaker versions of a barley wine, the strongest of all English-style beers. However, there is some disagreement as to whether some classic English ales are barley wines or old ales. Michael Jackson lists the following beers as old ales: Theakston's Old Peculier, Thomas Hardy's Ale, and the ever-popular Old Jock. Old Peculier is frequently regarded as the quintessential old ale. Other beer connoisseurs consider Thomas Hardy's ale as a barley wine. Perhaps the most interesting old ale is Robinwood Brewery's Old Fart. The AHA allows a very wide range for starting gravity for old ales, ranging from 1.055 to 1.125. Finishing gravities may range from 1.010 to 1.040, also extremely wide.

While the boundary between old ale and barley wines is fuzzy on the English side of the border, on the Scottish side there is a big gap between *Scotch* ales and *Scottish* ales. Scotch ales are substantially stronger than Scottish ales, at least according to the AHA style guidelines. Michael Jackson doesn't use the Scotch ale distinction, but instead considers all as Scottish ales. In his descriptions, the four Scottish ale categories are 60/-, 70/-, 80/-. And 90/- (where /- means "shilling"). The 60/-, 70/-, and 80/- designations correspond to the AHA's Scottish ales (gravities ranging from 1.030 to 1.043), while the 90/- ale has a gravity ranging from 1.050 to 1.080 (according to Jackson). The AHA looks for a higher starting gravity (1.072 to 1.085).

Both English old ale and Scotch ale malty and full-bodied. There is only low hop bitterness and little if any hop flavor and aroma. As traditional English ales, there is a definite fruity, estery character associated with the ale fermentation temperatures. The colors range from deep copper to brown.

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SPENT GRAINS

Notes from the March Meeting

recorded by Greg Lorton

President Tod Fitzsimmons called the meeting to order some time around 7:15 in the Back Area Callahan's Pub and Brewery in Mira Mesa. The meeting drew one of the largest crowds in recent history, much to the surprise of our new host, Callahan's, and us. Unfortunately, the attendance exceeded the capacity of our designated area. (We hope to avoid this problem in the future.) Guests included Greg DiStefano, Tyce Heldenbrand, Tom Muehl, Dirk Niemeyer, David (?), Terry (Johnes, I think!), and Tony (?).

The medals for the Fifth America's Finest City Homebrew Competition were handed out to the QUAFF members in attendance. In total, we walked away with 28 of the competitions 77 medals. This is very impressive in that we won 36% of the medals with 27% of the total entries. A number of award-winning guests joined the meeting.

New member Dirk Niemeyer brought a gift. He has collected a wide variety of brewing software, computer files, and other assorted computer tools available in the public domain. He handed out 30 disks for eager members. This will play well into the May meeting (recipe formulation).

Dion Hollenbeck brought in his impressive arsenal of homebrewing gadgets. (This caused Skip Virgilio to comment two weeks later that "Dion has gadgets to solve problems that I never realized I had!") Randy Barnes followed with his collection of gadgets, most of which were different than Dion's. Randy's presentation might have been "99 Exciting Uses for Bilge Pumps in Homebrewing."

The February Beverage List

Due to the packed conditions at Callahan's, the extended length of the meeting, and the collection of AFCHBC beers brought in, we didn't have a formal tasting of homebrews in March. Hopefully we'll get back to this in April.

Brewing To-Do List

- Your entry in the **Classic Pilsener** Club-Only Competition should be aging right now. Entries should be turned in either at the next meeting on April 21 at Callahan's or at the Board meeting on May 5 at San Diego Brewing. This category includes German-Style Pilsener, Bohemian-Style Pilsener, and American-Style Pilsener.
- We want plenty of beer to take to the **Temecula** festival on May 2 at Lake Skinner. Now is the time to brew for Temecula.
- The **Del Mar Fair** Homemade Beer contest should be sometime around the end of June or early July. Be sure to have some entries so that QUAFF can have another good showing.

Club-Only Contests

Classic Pilsener

Classic Pilsener is the May Club-Only competition. Entries will be judged at the May 5 Board meeting. Bring your entries to the upcoming QUAFF meeting on April 21 at Callahan's or to the May 5 Board meeting no later than 6:30! The eligible styles for this contest are Bohemian-Style Pilsener, German-Style Pilsener, and American (Pre-Prohibition) Pilsener.

Weiss is Nice

The August Club-Only Competition is Weiss is Nice. This contest covers German-Style Wheat Beers, including Berliner Weisse, Weizen, Dunkelweizen, and Weizenbock. The timing is ideal, since wheat beers are the classic summer style. Now is the time to start brewing your entries. Be industrious and brew all four styles.

This is the final event for the first annual QUAFF Club-Only Competition. First, second, and third-place ribbons will be awarded to the top three point finishers. Also, honorable mentions will be bestowed on brewers (and brewing teams) who earn 8 points or more through all six competitions. Even if you haven't entered yet, it's still possible to get an honorable mention with a single entry that is chosen as QUAFF's representative to the Weiss is Nice, and ends up placing in the top three in the Club-Only Competition. (Remember that David Adkins took first place last year in the Extract Extravaganza with his IPA that was really supposed to be an amber ale.)

You can be sure that with Harold Gulbransen, Greg and Liz Lorton, Peter Zien, and Tod Fitzsimmons all within reach of the coveted QUAFF title, that the competition will be intense, and perhaps even cutthroat. Don't leave your fermenters unguarded.

The official standings through four of the six internal competitions are listed below.

Current Club-Only Competition Standings (as of April 10, 1998)

	Points from last contest	Total Points
1. Harold Gulbransen	3	15
2. Greg and Liz Lorton	6	15
3. Peter Zien	4	12
4. Tod Fitzsimmons	1	9
5. Bob MacKay	1	2
6. Jon Peterson	-	1
7. Charles Hudak	-	1
8. Garth Jones	1	1

The last competition was "Stout Bout". No news on national results.

Club-Only Contests (continued)

Points are awarded for each Club-Only contest as follows:

- Each entrant receives 1 point per entry.
- For finishing third, the entrant receives 1 additional point.
- For finishing second, the entrant receives 2 additional points.
- For finishing first, the entrant receives 3 additional points.
- The first place entrant also receives 1 point for advancing to the national Club-Only competition.
- For third place in the national Club-Only competition, the entrant receives 3 additional points.
- For second place in the national Club-Only competition, the entrant receives 4 additional points.
- For first place in the national Club-Only competition, the entrant receives 5 additional points.

Based on this system, an entrant who beer is selected to represent QUAFF in a competition will earn 5 points. If that beer wins the Club-Only competition, he or she will earn a total of 10 points. This system encourages multiple entries. An entrant may only one enter one beer per subcategory, however.

Previous QUAFF Club-Only Representatives

Weiss is Nice (October)	Harold Gulbransen	Weizen
Bitter Mania (December)	Harold Gulbransen	ESB (?)
Hail to Ale (January)	Peter Zien	American IPA
Stout Bout (March)	Greg and Liz Lorton	Foreign Stout

National Club-Only Standings

Peter Zien has talked with Brian Rezac of the American Homebrewers Association. According to Brian, **QUAFF is in second place in the overall standings in the race for Homebrew Club of the Year**, largely based on David Adkins' victory in the Extract Extravaganza contest. We have a great shot at the title this year. What this requires, however, is that we make a whole-hearted effort for the National Homebrew Competition, and maybe a little luck in the remaining Club-Only contests. The entry window for the first round of the National Homebrew Competition is May 4 through May 15. First round entries (one bottle) should be shipped to:

NHC '98

Sierra Moonshine Homebrew Supply
10122 Olympic Park Road
Grass Valley, CA 95945

Although one bottle is needed for the first round, you should put three more in the refrigerator in case your entry advances to the second round. The more beers that we advance to the second round, the greater our chance of winning the Homebrew Club of the Year. See the Spring '98 *Zymurgy* for National Homebrew Competition rules and instructions, as well as rules for the Homebrew Club of the Year (page 72 of the Spring *Zymurgy*).

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

QUAFF is pleased to announce the following new members this year:

Mike Crowe	Bill Disher
Terry Johnes	Sean Murphy
Dirk Niemeyer	Rod Norsen
Paula Polentz	Chris Toth
Steve White	Judy Ann Woods

Club News

The March meeting held at Callahan's on the 24th was certainly eventful. Unfortunately, the cramped conditions, noisy neighboring tables, lack of available space for many members, and difficulty in hearing the speakers made for a less than enjoyable meeting. On the other hand, the food and beer were good, and the staff was as accommodating as could be expected under the extenuating circumstances. QUAFF management is working with Callahan's to expand our meeting area (ideally to take up all of the back area).

If you've got a special cooking with beer recipe, bring it to the April meeting!

Southern California Homebrewers Festival – Lake Skinner Update (also known as “Temecula”)

The Eighth Annual Southern California Homebrewers Festival on Saturday, May 2 is fast approaching. For the third year, the festival will be held at Lake Skinner.

Tickets are \$25 prepaid or \$40 at the door. QUAFF members are *strongly* encouraged to buy tickets from Garth Jones as soon as possible. As of April 7, half of QUAFF allotment of 60 tickets had been sold. **The last chance to buy tickets from Garth will be at the April meeting, so be sure to bring your check for \$25 per ticket to the meeting.** Friends are welcome. The ticket price includes parking and shuttle service (if you stay at one of the designated Temecula motels or camping area), commemorative beer glass, and hundreds of homebrewed beers, renowned beer authorities, live entertainment, and the famous raffle.

Each homebrew club is asked to bring 50 gallons of beer. If you are interested in bringing beer, contact Tod Fitzsimmons. As always, we want members to bring as many beers as possible. QUAFF will have a multiple tap system on hand to serve from kegs. Members with CO₂ cylinders are asked to bring one.

Tod Fitzsimmons is encouraging all QUAFFsters to wear their QUAFF T-shirts to Temecula. If you need a T-shirt (or a few more), we will have them for sale for \$10 at the April meeting.

Del Mar Fair

The mailings have gone out for the Del Mar Fair Home Brew Contest. The contest will be held on Sunday, June 28, beginning at noon in the Paddock Stage Area (where it's been held the last few years). As usual, your entries will get you into the Fair for free. Professional brewers are not allowed to enter. Entry forms are due June 12 to the Del Mar Fair Entry Department, along with a \$5.00 processing fee (\$5.00 per entrant, not per entry). To obtain a Homebrew Contest brochure with entry form, send a self-addressed, stamped legal-size envelope to Home Brew Contest, Del Mar Fair Entry Office, P.O. Box 2663, Del Mar, CA 92014.

Again this year, the entry styles sort of follow the AHA styles, but with a few big exceptions. American Pale Ale is a single category and American Wheat is a single category. There is no American Amber category. (In the AHA, these three styles are all in the American-Style Ale category.) Each of the AHA's five stout subcategories is an single category for Del Mar. So without further ado, here are the categories:

Ale Division

- 1 Barley Wine
- 2 Belgian and French Ale
- 3 Belgian-Style Lambic
- 4 Mild and Brown Ale
- 5 Classic English Pale Ale
- 6 American Pale Ale
- 7 India Pale Ale
- 8 English Bitter
- 9 Scottish Ale
- 10 Porter
- 11 English and Scottish Strong Ale

Stout Division

- 12 Classic Irish Style Dry Stout
- 13 Foreign Style Stout
- 14 Sweet Stout
- 15 Oatmeal Stout
- 16 Imperial Stout

Lager Division

- 17 Bock
- 18 German Dark Lager
- 19 German Light Lager
- 20 Classic Pilsener
- 21 American Lager
- 22 Vienna/Märzen/Oktobertfest

Mixed Style Division

- 23 American-Style Wheat Beer
- 24 German Style Ale
- 25 German Style Wheat Beer
- 26 Smoked Beer
- 27 Fruit and Vegetable Beer
- 28 Herb and Spice Beer
- 29 Specialty Beer
- 30 California Common Beer

Mead Division

- 31 Traditional Mead and Braggot
- 32 Fruit and Vegetable Mead
- 33 Herb and Spice Mead

Only one entry is allowed per category listed above. This means, for example, that you can enter only a Belgian tripel or a Belgian wit, but not both in category 2.

This year there will once again be a label contest. There will be two categories: hand-drawn and computer-generated. Entries must either be completely hand-drawn or completely computer-generated. Details about the contest are also included in the Home Brew Contest brochure.

The Fair's web address is <http://www.delmarfair.com>.

QUAFF E-Mail Directory

Tod Fitzsimmons is compiling an e-mail directory of QUAFF members. If you are connected to the world wide web, send an e-mail to Tod at quaff1@pipeline.com.

As a special note, both Dion Hollenbeck and Greg Lorton have left their previous respective employers. Since both were using the workplace e-mail addresses, these won't be working now. In Dion's case, you're e-mail will probably bounce back. In my case, someone who doesn't care much about beer will probably read it. We will let those of you on our informal e-mail network know our new addresses as soon as we get them lined up. In my case, this will probably be the week of April 13. But for this month's newsletter, we don't have them yet. — Greg Lorton

BJCP Study Group

A dozen or so dedicated beer nuts has been congregating for the past few weeks to prepare for the May 16 Beer Judge Certification Program exam, or at least to learn more about beer. The Study Group began at Callahan's for the first week, but has now moved to the Karl Strauss Brewery Gardens in Sorrento Valley. (The first meeting unfortunately fell on the night of the NCAA Men's Basketball Championship, so concentration on beer at Callahan's was difficult.) We now meet in a partitioned off area of Karl Strauss, which is much more accommodating.

The study group meetings are held on Monday, running from 6:30 to 9:30. These meetings will continue until Monday, May 11. The exam is tentatively scheduled for AleSmith Brewing at noon, on May 16. The cost to take the exam is \$50 for first-time exam takers. If you've taken it before, it costs \$30. The cost for materials for the Study Group is \$20 (including printed material) and your share of samples of beers). If you're interested in attending the Study Group, please call Peter Zien at 546-7824 (evenings). If you're interest in the exam, call Greg Lorton at (760) 635-0528 (day or evening).

Local Beer News

Rock Bottom Opens in La Jolla

The Rock Bottom national brewpub chain has entered San Diego County with their new restaurant in La Jolla. Rock Bottom replaces the Elephant Bar at the corner of Villa La Jolla Drive and La Jolla Village Drive just west of I-5. According to Garth Jones, the restaurant has been absolutely packed following its opening.

FUTURE MEETING TOPICS

April	Cooking with Beer
May	Recipe Formulation Methods
June	Wheat Beers
July	???

THE SAN DIEGO BREWING SCENE

BREW PUBS

Baja Brewing Company 203 Fifth Avenue (Gaslamp Quarter)	231-6667
Callahan's Pub and Brewery 8280A Mira Mesa Boulevard (Mira Mesa Mall)	578-7892
Coronado Brewing Company 170 Orange Avenue (Coronado)	437-4452
Del Mar Stuff Pizza Café & Restaurant 12840 Carmel Country Road (Carmel Valley)	481-7883
Dino & Luigi's Stuff Pizza 10155 Rancho Carmel Drive (Carmel Mountain Ranch)	592-7883
Hang Ten Brewing 310 5 th Avenue (Gaslamp Quarter)	232-6336
Hops! Bistro & Brewery 4353 La Jolla Village Drive (UTC)	587-6677
Karl Strauss Brewery Gardens 9675 Scranton Road (Sorrento Valley)	587-2739
Karl Strauss Old Columbia Brewery & Grill 1157 Columbia Street (Downtown)	234-2739
Karl Strauss Brewery & Grill 1044 Wall Street (La Jolla)	551-2739
La Jolla Brewing Company 7536 Fay Street (La Jolla)	456-2739
Pizza Port/Carlsbad Brewery 571 Carlsbad Village Drive (Carlsbad)	(760) 720 -7007
Pizza Port/Solana Beach Brewery 135 N. Highway 101 (Solana Beach)	481-7332
Rock Bottom Villa La Jolla and La Jolla Village Drive (La Jolla)	???-???
San Diego Brewing Company 10450 Friars Road (Mission Gorge)	284-2739
San Marcos Brewery & Grill 1080 W. San Marcos Boulevard	(760) 471-0050
Sports City Café and Brewery 8657 Villa La Jolla Drive	450-3463
Terrific Pacific Brewery & Grill 721 Grand Avenue (Pacific Beach)	270-3596

BREW-ON-PREMISES

Murphy's Custom Brewing 2640 Financial Court (Rose Canyon)	274-9696
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MICROBREWERIES

AleSmith Brewing Company 9368 Cabot Drive (Miramar) Brewers: Skip and Tod	549-9888 www.softbrew.com/alesmith <i>ESB, Golden Anvil, and rotating specials</i>
Stone Brewing Company 155 Mata Way, Suite 104 (San Marcos) Brewer: Steve Wagner	(760) 471-4999 www.stonebrew.com <i>Stone Pale Ale, IPA, Smoked Porter, Arrogant Bastard Ale</i>
Ballast Point Brewing Company 5401 Linda Vista Road, Suite 409 http://www.homebrewmart.com	298-2337 Brewer: Peter A'Hearn <i>Belgian White, Copper Ale, N₂-tapped special, Barley Wine in Tasting Room</i>
Brewer's Union 5553 Kearny Villa Road Brewer: Josh Lippitt	278-2739 <i>Extra Pale Ale, Brown Ale Golden Ale</i>

HOME BREWING SUPPLIERS

American Homebrewing Supply 11404 Sorrento Valley Road, Suite 103, San Diego 92121	450-9746
Beer Crafts 843 W. San Marcos Blvd., San Marcos 92069	(760) 591-9991
Beer Crafts 2633 State Street, Carlsbad 92008	(760) 434-0435
Beer and Wine Crafts 450 Fletcher Parkway, El Cajon 92020	447-9191
Home Brew Mart 5401 Linda Vista Road, Suite 406, San Diego 92110	295-2337
Home Brew Mart 731 S. Highway 101, Suite 1B2, Solana Beach 92075	794-2739
U of Brew 9420 Activity Road, Suite A, San Diego 92126 http://keyinfo.com/beer/UofBrew/	578-9405

BEER SUPERSTORES

Beverages, & more! 8410 Center Drive (La Mesa) 212 N. El Camino Real (Encinitas) 11475 Carmel Mountain Road	461-6230 (760) 943-6631 673-3892
Mesa Liquor and Wine Company 4919 Convoy Street (Kearny Mesa)	279-5292

What's new? Call Greg or Liz Lorton at (760) 943-8280 with new information on San Diego brewpubs, microbreweries, BOPs, homebrew shops, and other local beer news.

4/98

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL BREWERY

QUAFF Board

President	Tod Fitzsimmons	536-9616	quaff1@pipeline.com
Vice President	Erol Kilki	464-1133	kilki@flash.net
Treasurer	Garth Jones	455-6853	
Newsletter Guy	Greg Lorton	(760) 943-8280	
Membership	Randy Barnes	584-6571	rbarnes@sdccd.cc.ca.us
Activities	Peter Zien	546-7824	
Activities	Tim Lucas	274-4491	
Zymologist	Bob Whritner	458-9840	whbob@arcane.ucsd.edu
Gadget Guy	Dion Hollenbeck	459-8724	
Internet Guy	Harold Gottschalk	390-1753	heg@softbrew.com

QUAFF Web Site <http://www.softbrew.com/quaff>

Membership Information

Membership dues are \$15 per calendar year, due January 1 and expiring on December 31.
Make your check payable to Garth Jones.

Contributed Articles

Articles are encouraged and gratefully accepted, and are printed at the editor's discretion. Articles must be received no later than 12 days before the next meeting date, to allow time for final editing, printing, and mailing in time for the meeting. Articles may be mailed to Greg Lorton, QUAFF Newsletter, 2602 La Duella Lane, Carlsbad, CA 92009. E-mail contributions should be held until I get a new E-mail account.

POSTMASTER - Please deliver to the address on the stamped side! Thank You!

Greg Lorton
QUAFF Newsletter
2602 La Duella Lane
Carlsbad, CA 92009

Next Meeting at
Callahan's Pub & Brewery
8280-A Mira Mesa Blvd.
(Mira Mesa Mall)
7:00 PM on
Tuesday, April 21