

CALIFORNIA HOMEBREW CLUB OF THE YEAR

QUAFF

Quality Ale and Fermentation Fraternity

November 2000

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, November 21

7:00 PM at Callahan's

MEETING TOPICS

- **Brewing for the AFCHBC and the AHA National Homebrew Competition**
- **California Homebrew Club of the Year**
- **Bring Your Homebrew**

Future AHA Club-Only Competitions

Categories	Due to QUAFF	Due at Contest
Historical Beers	November 21	early December
Dunkel/Schwarzbier	TBD	early February
Stout	TBD	late March
Bockanalia	TBD	late May

Bring three 10-14 oz bottles (brown or green only) to the regular meeting or to the Board meeting. The bottle should have no distinctive marks on the bottle or cap that might identify the entry as yours. No Grolsch bottles either. Include a filled-out AHA entry form with your entry. Due dates are either the Board meetings (usually the 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

November

21 Monthly Meeting at Callahan's (7:30)

December

5 Board Meeting at San Diego Brewing (6:30)

9 Annual Holiday Party at AleSmith Brewing

January

2 Board Meeting at San Diego Brewing (6:30)

16 Monthly Meeting at Callahan's (7:30)

20 January QUAFF Community Brew and Party (tentative)

February

6 Board Meeting at San Diego Brewing (6:30)

10 CalHBCotY Party at Anchor Brewing (San Francisco)

20 Monthly Meeting at Callahan's (7:30)

March

2,3 8th Annual America's Finest City Homebrew Competition

In this Issue

California Homebrew Club of the Year	1
Spent Grains, Club-Only	2
QUAFF News, CalHBCotY Essay	3
Local Beer News	4
San Diego Scene	5

QUAFF

is named

California Homebrew Club of the Year

In an absolutely stunning development, QUAFF was notified on November 6 that it had been declared the winner of the California Homebrew Club of the Year competition. The news rivaled in importance that of the national elections which occurred the next day (and the day after, and the day after that, etc.). The announcement was made on November 4 at the awards ceremony of the California State Homebrew Competition in San Francisco, but we found out by way of a phone call from Bruce Joseph of Anchor Brewing to Greg Lorton two days later.

Anchor Brewing Company of San Francisco sponsors the California Homebrew Club of the Year competition. The winner is determined by a combination of the results of three homebrew competitions (the Maltose Falcons' Mayfaire in LA, the California State Fair Homebrew Competition in Sacramento, and the California State Homebrew Competition in San Francisco), and an essay entry. The essay is essentially a description of why the club thinks it's the best in California, listing activities, accomplishments, and anything that might impress the selection committee. The competition results and the essay are equally weighted. (To qualify for consideration, both the essay entry must be submitted and members must win awards that are credited to the club.

The reward for winning the competition is that we will be honored at special dinner, tasting, and tour of Anchor Brewing in San Francisco on Saturday, February 10. All QUAFF members are invited to attend. Two members of the other entering clubs will also be invited to the dinner.

More details on the award, including contest winners and the entry essay are included on pages 3 and 4.

SPENT GRAINS

Notes from the October Meeting

by Greg Lorton

President Peter Zien called the meeting to order promptly at 7:31 PM. Several guests attended, including Mark Denzel, Tom DeWitt, Bill Hodge, and Tate ____ (*I can't guarantee the proper spelling of names! - GL*).

Antoinette Hodges gave a recap of the San Diego Festival of Beers, held on Friday, September 29 in downtown San Diego. She also recounted her marathon pub crawl to northern California. Her stops included Bear Republic (Healdsburg), Russian River, Mendocino (Hopland), North Coast (Fort Bragg), Eel River (Fortuna), Lost Coast (Eureka), Six Rivers (McKinleyville), Anderson Valley (Boonville), and Powerhouse (Sebastopol).

Peter Zien held a discussion of historical brewing styles. It was the most expansive discussion in QUAFF history, trying to wrap beer styles from four millennia into a 45-minute discussion. ☺ It ranged from bappir beer and rustic Scandinavian styles to indigenous beers from around the world.

Discussions were also held about a tentative pub crawl in February, a new BJCP class and exam possibly starting next summer, and plans for the America's Finest City Homebrew Competition on March 2 and 3. Also, Tod Fitzsimmons' decision to step down from the QUAFF Board was announced.

September Beverage List

Loren Miraglia	Hefeweizen
Bob MacKay	American Pale Ale
Peter Zien	Altbier
Jeff Majors	Belgian Dubbel
Mark Alfaro	Belgian Tripel

Preview of the AFCHBC and the AHA National Homebrew Competition at November Meeting

Earlier this year, QUAFF stormed through the AHA National Homebrew Competition first and second rounds to post a third place finish in the AHA Homebrew Club of the Year competition. We won 25 ribbons in the first round, and four medals in the final round, including Harold Gulbransen's gold medal in the German wheat beer category. This year, we plan to make a concerted effort to win it all, making sure that our entries cover most if not all of the AHA categories. This effort should also support a strong showing in the America's Finest City Homebrew Competition next March. Get there early to enjoy dinner and a pint of one of AleSmith or Callahan's beers (or any of the other dozens of beers available on tap).

Beginning with the November meeting, the new meeting time is 7:00 PM.

Brewing To-Do List

- Now is time to think about brewing for the 8th Annual America's Finest City Homebrew Competition. The competition is scheduled for March 2 and 3, 2001.
- We plan to make a serious run at the AHA Homebrew Club of the Year in 2001. To do this means we need to get a lot of QUAFF brewers to enter in the First Round of the AHA National Homebrew Competition. Now is the time to brew your big beers for the competition. We'll talk more about this (and describe our strategy) in the November meeting.
- While we're at it, the Maltose Falcon's Mayfaire is usually held in April. Let's make an effort to win the California Homebrew Club of the Year twice in a row.

FUTURE MEETING TOPICS

November	Plans for AFCHBC and AHA NHC Brewing
December	Holiday Party
January	History of QUAFF
February	Organizing and Stewarding Contests
March	Open Forum/AFC Recap

QUAFF Picnic Recap

by Greg Lorton

In my exuberance to get all of the details about the picnic in last month's issue, I forgot to include the winners of the People's Choice contest, held for beers brought in keg for everyone to enjoy at the picnic. The winners in the popular vote were:

- 1st "Fresh Hop Ale" by Harold Gulbransen
- 2nd "This doesn't suck Hefeweizen" by Randy Barnes
- 3rd "Red Ale" by Erol Kilki

Congratulations to the winners, and thanks to everyone who brought beer to share.

Club-Only Contests

Historical Beers

The next AHA Club-Only competition will be Historical Beers in early December, hosted by the High Plains Draughters (Oklahoma). This contest will cover on the historical beers of the Specialty/Experimental/Historical Beer category. ***Entries must be turned into AleSmith Brewing by Friday, November 17.***

2001 Club-Only Competition Standings

	Total Points	Points from last contest	Total Beers Entered
1. Dana Edgell	7	7	1
2. Peter Zien	4	4	2
3. Harold Gulbransen	2	2	1
4. Jon Peterson	1	1	1
5. Jim Howard	1	1	1
6. Roger Wammack	1	1	1
7. Bob Whritner	1	1	1

QUAFF News

**The November Meeting starts at
7:00 PM (a half hour earlier)!**

Camping Trip Report

by Greg Lorton

The QUAFF campout was held from November 3 through 5 at Anza Borrego Palm Canyon Campground and had one of the biggest turnouts ever. Campers included Randy Barnes, Peter Zien, Antoinette Hodges, Tyce Heldenbrand (for a day!) Richard McLaughlin, and a handful of Ackermans, Buchans, Kellys, Boros, Bixbys, MacKays, Majors, and Lortons (*Did I forget anyone?! - GL*).

The dinner theme on Saturday was Mexican, highlighted by Randy's carnitas as well as a selection of chili, burritos, other assorted dishes, and Linda MacKay's popular cherry chocolate cake. A wide variety of beers were sampled (many award winners), as well as the final bottle of Greg and Liz Lorton's Olde Nipplehead barley wine, 2092 days old on the date of its demise (5 years and 8 months).

QUAFFsters in Other Competitions

Peter Zien entered the 4th Annual Flavor of the North competition in Duluth, Minnesota, while on his annual fishing trip with his dad. He entered four beers and took two firsts (IPA and Berliner Weisse) and a 3rd (Dusseldorf Altbier). Quaff was the only club outside of Wisconsin or Minnesota that entered or placed.

QUAFFsters in the California State Homebrew Competition

Peter Zien and Harold Gulbransen carried the banner for QUAFF at the California State Homebrew Competition in San Francisco. All of their entries won awards. Harold took a first in Belgian ales with his Trappist Ale, first in Smoked Beer, second in Barley Wine, and third in Oktoberfest. Peter took a first with a Cream Ale, first with a Berliner Weisse, second with a Trappist Ale, and third with an American Strong Ale. Their strong showing (as well as Peter's awesome showing with three firsts and a third at the Maltose Falcons' Mayfaire in April) put us in the position to qualify for the Homebrew Club of the Year honor.

**Make your plans now to attend
the Anchor Brewing Company
party in San Francisco on
February 10 honoring QUAFF.**

QUAFF's Entry –

California Homebrew Club of the Year

Here is our winning essay for the California Homebrew Club of the Year competition, submitted on October 28.

Quality Ale and Fermentation Fraternity, usually referred to as QUAFF, is the first homebrew club in San Diego County, organized in the early 1990s. Although a half dozen other clubs have sprung up (and a few have folded), QUAFF is still the pre-eminent homebrew club in the San Diego area. QUAFF is continuing to step up its activities to promote the understanding and appreciation of good beer in San Diego. In the last year, QUAFF has organized four competitions sanctioned by the AHA and/or BJCP. The QUAFF web site is located at www.softbrew.com/quaff.

America's Finest City Homebrew Competition

In March, QUAFF held the 7th Annual America's Finest City Homebrew Competition. For the third straight year, our contest saw 300 or more entries from across the country (303 this year), making it one of the largest AHA-Sanctioned competitions in California. QUAFF members ended up with 32 of the 76 medals awarded. Peter Zien organized the competition.

Planning is now underway for the 8th Annual AFCHBC in San Diego on March 2 and 3, 2000. Peter Zien will again be the organizer for this competition. Our competition website (www.softbrew.com/afchbc) currently presents previous results, and will be updated soon for the next contest.

Strong Ale Homebrew Competition

On November 27, 1999, QUAFF held the Strong Ale Homebrew Competition, held in conjunction with the Strong Ale Festival in Carlsbad. The competition was limited to seven categories representing styles with an original gravity of 1.080 or higher. 89 entries were received and judged. QUAFF won 10 of the 21 ribbons awarded. Tyce Heldenbrand organized this competition.

AHA National Homebrew Competition Regional Judging

QUAFF hosted the first round regional competition for entries from California, Nevada, Arizona, and Utah for the AHA's National Homebrew Competition. 457 entries were judged. QUAFF will host the regionals again in 2000. Tyce Heldenbrand organized this judging, with help from many in QUAFF. The majority of the judges were BJCP-registered QUAFF members.

QUAFFsters in the AHA National Homebrew Competition

QUAFF made a serious run for the AHA's Homebrew Club of the Year honors in 2000. Eight QUAFFsters won 24 first-round honors in the AHA National Homebrew Competition, including 8 firsts, 9 seconds, and 7 thirds. The first-round award winners were Peter Zien, Leonard Ackerman, Greg and Liz Lorton, Jim Weiner, Pat McIlhenney, Jon Peterson, Harold Gulbransen, and Loren Miraglia. (*Editorial note – Tyce Heldenbrand also won a ribbon in the Philadelphia regional.*) Peter Zien, Harold Gulbransen, Jim Weiner, and Jon Peterson went on to win medals in the second round, with Harold taking the gold medal for German wheat beers.

In AHA Club-Only Competitions during the last twelve months, Harold Gulbransen took third place in the Best of Big Brew competition for American Pale Ales, Peter Zien took second place in the Weiss is Nice contest, and Greg and Liz Lorton took third place in the Belgian Lambics competition.

Based on the points accumulated in the National Homebrew Competition and the Club-Only competitions, QUAFF finished 3rd nationally in the AHA Club-of-the-Year contest, highest of any California club. QUAFF has now set its sights for taking first in 2001, when the AHA conference is held in Los Angeles. (QUAFF

is a member of Southern California clubs sponsoring the 2001 LA conference.)

QUAFFsters in Other Competitions

QUAFF members regularly win awards at local and regional homebrew competitions. In October, Antoinette Hodges took Best of Show for her Imperial Stout at the Barley Literate Oktoberfest competition. Greg and Liz Lorton took Best of Show honors for their chocolate porter at the inaugural Flightline Competition held in Tucson, Arizona in May.

QUAFF Meetings

QUAFF meets monthly (third Tuesday of the month) at the Callahan's Pub and Brewery in the Mira Mesa community of San Diego. The meetings usually cover a beer style or a brewing process or technique (usually alternating each month between a style and a process or technique). During the last four years, QUAFF has placed greater emphasis on developing judging skills and in beer appreciation among the members

Anywhere from 30 to 50 people attend the monthly meetings. Members are urged to bring their homebrewed creations to sample and to talk about. Typically 8 to 10 homebrews are sampled during the course of a meeting. QUAFF has joined as a member of the Michael Jackson World Beer Tour. This allows members to sample classic and exotic beers from around the world.

Beer Judge Certification Program

QUAFF sponsored its third BJCP class and exam in four years. Peter Zien organized a 10-week, 30-hour study course leading up to the BJCP exam that was held on Saturday, November 20, 1999. Sixteen people took the exam, of which half were QUAFF members at the time. Of the other eight non-QUAFFsters, four of them eventually joined, including Chris White, president of White Labs. Thirteen of the sixteen people passed the exam, including eleven of the twelve QUAFFsters. Two people, both QUAFFsters, scored above 80. The majority of the 30+ BJCP judges (recognized level and higher) in San Diego County are active members of QUAFF. The large majority of the BJCP judges participated in QUAFF's BJCP classes over the last four years. All of the National-level judges in San Diego County (5 and counting) are members of QUAFF.

QUAFF is now planning the fourth BJCP class and exam, scheduled to begin next summer.

Other QUAFF Events

The two highlight events each year are the Oktoberfest picnic and the Holiday party. The Oktoberfest is held at a local park (on an island in a lake) on a Saturday during the official Oktoberfest period. The picnic features a BJCP-sanctioned homebrew competition, an extravagant raffle, lots of food and homebrewed beer, and a general good time.

The Holiday Party caps a year of fun, and takes the place of the December meeting. It is held at AleSmith Brewing Company (sponsored by AleSmith owner and long-time QUAFFster Skip Virgilio). The Holiday Party features a cache of commercial holiday beers, as well as homebrewed holiday beers, and a buffet and pot-luck dinner and a Chinese gift exchange.

QUAFF is an active participant in the Southern California Homebrewers Festivals held each May in Temecula. Long-time QUAFF members Rich and Teresa Link are on the festival's board, and Rich is now President of the Board. Rich is also a long-time contributor to the Celebrator Beer News, reporting on happenings in the San Diego area.

QUAFF also organizes periodic camping trips. The last trip was November 5-7 at Palm Canyon campground in the Anza Borrego

desert east of San Diego. The next one will take place on November 3-5 this year.

Vital Statistics

63 individuals and couples belong to QUAFF. This is a 26% increase in membership from this time last year. In October, a new Board took over. The Board typically consists of people too slow to decline a nomination by one or more other members. The Board this year is:

Peter Zien	President
Harold Gulbransen	Vice President and Treasurer
Greg Lorton	Newsletter Guy
Randy Barnes	Activities Chairman
Tyce Heldenbrand	Competition Tsar
Sandy James	Membership
Bob MacKay	Member-at-Large
Leo Barendse	Member-at-Large
Antoinette Hodges	Member-at-Large
Richard McLaughlin	Member-at-Large
Harold Gottschalk	Internet/Website Guy

Other members (and former Board members) include Rich Link (of Celebrator fame), Skip Virgilio (AleSmith brewer and National Beer Judge), Bob Whritner (Zymologist Emeritus and Ambassador to June Lake), Dr. Chris White (owner of White Labs), and Dion Hollenbeck (RIMS expert and gadget guy).

If you have any questions, please call Greg Lorton or Peter Zien at (858) 546-7824. Information compiled and submitted by Greg Lorton (619) 532-0953 or (760) 943-8280.

Local Beer News

AleSmith News

AleSmith traditionally does their Cask Night on the third Tuesday of the month at Callahan's. Not surprisingly, this coincides with the QUAFF meeting night. Come and see what AleSmith has to offer in the upcoming meeting on November 21 at 7:00PM.

Strong Ale Homebrew Competition

In a late development, QUAFF bowed out of the Strong Ale Homebrew Competition (conflicting commitments for the organizer). However, the San Diego Brew Techs have decided to keep the contest going. The judging is tentatively set for the Saturday after Thanksgiving. Look for details at your local homebrew shop. For more details, call Greg DiStefano of the Brew Techs at (760) 757-0879 or contact Bernie Ashe at basheiii@home.com.

Murphy's Custom Brewing Closes

In distressing news, Murphy's Custom Brewing (in the Morena Boulevard area) closed in October. Murphy's was a brew-on-premises (BOP) store that also had done some contract brewing.

Hops! Beer Dinner

Every month on the last Monday of the month, Hops! Bistro & Brewery holds its Beer Dinner, starting at 6:30 PM. The Beer Dinner features a three-course dinner, with a beer paired with each course. For those interested, a brewery tour is also conducted following dessert. For more information or to make reservations, call Hops! at (858) 587-6677.

THE SAN DIEGO BREWING SCENE

Brewpubs

- Callahan's Pub and Brewery** (858) 578-7892
8280A Mira Mesa Boulevard (Mira Mesa Mall)
- Coronado Brewing Company** (619) 437-4452
170 Orange Avenue (Coronado)
- Del Mar Stuff Pizza Café & Restaurant** (858) 481-7883
12840 Carmel Country Road (Carmel Valley) Tom Nickel
- Dino & Luigi's Stuff Pizza** (858) 592-7883
10155 Rancho Carmel Drive (Carmel Mountain Ranch)
- Gordon Biersch** (619) 688-1120
5010 Mission Center Road (Mission Valley)
- Hops! Bistro & Brewery** (858) 587-6677
4353 La Jolla Village Drive (UTC) Chuck Silva
- Karl Strauss Brewery Gardens** (858) 587-2739
9675 Scranton Road (Sorrento Valley)
- Karl Strauss Old Columbia Brewery** (619) 234-2739
1157 Columbia Street (Downtown)
- Karl Strauss Brewery & Grill** (858) 551-2739
1044 Wall Street (La Jolla)
- Karl Strauss Carlsbad** (760) 431-2739
5801 Armada Drive
- Pizza Port/Carlsbad Brewery** (760) 720-7007
571 Carlsbad Village Drive (Carlsbad) Kirk McHale
- Pizza Port/Solana Beach Brewery** (858) 481-7332
135 N. Highway 101 (Solana Beach) Tomme Arthur
- Rock Bottom** (858) 450-9277
8980 Villa La Jolla Drive (La Jolla)
- Rock Bottom** (619) 231-7000
401 G Street (Gaslamp Quarter)
- San Diego Brewing Company** (619) 284-2739
10450 Friars Road (Mission Gorge)
- San Marcos Brewery & Grill** (760) 471-0050
1080 W. San Marcos Boulevard Dave Nutley
- Sports City Café and Brewery** (858) 450-3463
8657 Villa La Jolla Drive
- Terrific Pacific Brewery & Grill** (619) 270-3596
721 Grand Avenue (Pacific Beach)

What's new? Call Greg at (760) 635-0528 (or e-mail to glorton@cts.com) with new information on San Diego brewpubs, microbreweries, BOPs, homebrew shops, and other local beer news.

11/2000

**SUPPORT YOUR
LOCAL BREWERY**
and Homebrew Supplier

Microbreweries

- AleSmith Brewing Company** (858) 549-9888
9368 Cabot Drive (Miramar) www.alesmith.com
Brewers: Skip and Tod *Anvil Ale, Gold Ale, AleSmith X and rotating specials*
- Stone Brewing Company** (760) 471-4999
155 Mata Way, Suite 104 (San Marcos)
Brewer: Steve Wagner www.stonebrew.com
Stone Pale Ale, Lee's Mild, Smoked Porter, Arrogant Bastard Ale
- Ballast Point Brewing Company** (619) 298-2337
5401 Linda Vista Road, Suite 409 www.ballastpoint.com
Brewer: Peter A'Hearn, Yuseff Cherney, and Colby Chandler
Yellowtail Pale Ale, Copper Ale, Big Eye IPA, Black Marlin Porter
- La Jolla Brewing Company** (619) 692-1009
1795 Hancock Street (Mission Brewery Plaza)
Brewer: Ben Frymark
- Murphy's Custom Brewing** (619) 274-9696
2640 Financial Court (Rose Canyon)
Brewer: Doug Murphy (contract brewing for a few restaurants)

Homebrew Ingredient Suppliers

- White Labs - Pure Brewer's Yeasts** (858) 693-3441
7564 Trade Street, San Diego 92126 www.whitelabs.com

Homebrewing Suppliers

- American Home Brewing Supply** (858) 450-9746
11404 Sorrento Valley Road, Suite 103, San Diego 92121
- Beer Crafts** (760) 591-9991
843 W. San Marcos Blvd., San Marcos 92069 www.beercrafts.com
- Beer and Wine Crafts** (619) 449-9591
9379 Mission Gorge Road, Santee 92071 www.beercrafts.com
- Home Brew Mart** (619) 295-2337
5401 Linda Vista Road, Suite 406, San Diego 92110 www.homebrewmart.com

Beer Stores

- Beverages, & more!**
8410 Center Drive (La Mesa) (619) 461-6230
212 N. El Camino Real (Encinitas) (760) 943-6631
11475 Carmel Mountain Road (858) 673-3892
- Mesa Liquor and Wine Company** (619) 279-5292
4919 Convoy Street (Kearny Mesa)
- Iowa Meat Farms** (619) 281-5766
6041 Mission Gorge Road
- Whole Foods Market** (858) ???-????
8825 Villa La Jolla Drive (La Jolla)

QUAFF – The California Homebrew Club of the Year!

QUAFF Board

President	Peter Zien	(858) 546-7824	pz.jdzinc@worldnet.att.net
VP (temporary)/Treasurer	Harold Gulbransen	(619) 589-0987	hgulbran@aol.com
Newsletter Guy	Greg Lorton	(760) 943-8280	glorton@cts.com
Competition Czar	Tyce Heldenbrand	(858) 442-3041	tyce.heldenbrand@wfinet.com
Activities	Randy Barnes	(858) 663-0305	rbarnes@sdccd.cc.ca.us
Membership	Sandy James	(858) 695-3799	sandy@elvis1.com
Member-at-large	Tod Fitzsimmons	(858) 578-5658	quaff1@pipeline.com
Member-at-large	Bob MacKay	(760) 436-7297	bmackay@cts.com
Member-at-large	Richard McLaughlin		richardmcl@home.com
Member-at-large	Antoinette Hodges	(760) 591-0088	ahodges@cts.com
Member-at-large	Leo Barendse		leo.barendse@nokia.com
Internet Guy	Harold Gottschalk	(619) 390-1753	heg@softbrew.com

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

Honorary Ex-Officio Emeritus Board Members

Mr. Richard Link Mr. Charles "Skip" Virgilio Dr. Christopher White Mr. Robert Whritner

Membership Information

Membership dues are \$20 per calendar year, due January 1 and expiring on December 31.
Make your check payable to **Harold Gulbransen**.

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 sent to glorton@cts.com or lor tonga@efds w.navy.mil.

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

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

Next Meeting

7:00 PM on Tuesday, November 21
At Callahan's Pub and Brewery
8280A Mira Mesa Boulevard (Mira Mesa Mall)
San Diego