



BOSMOPOLITAN

February 2006

*I fell asleep at the campout and
woke up as a Bloatarian
~Tim McPartlin*

The Official Newsletter of the
Bloatarian Brewing League
Greater Cincinnati's Oldest and
Largest Homebrew Club

What's Happening

March 3
BockFest

March 15
Samuel Adams Homebrew
Contest Deadline

April 1
SODZ British Beerfest
Competition

April 14
National Homebrew
Competition Deadline

May 6
National Homebrew Day

May 20
Bloatarian Open

INSIDE

Name That Beer	1
The Bosmopolitan needs YOU! ...	3
Bloatarian Calendar	4
Sophomore Year	5
Bloatarian Bus Bypass	5
Bloatarian Belgian Bourbon Barrel	5
The Iron Brewer 2006	6
Gadgetronic	7
Financial Report	8

Name That Beer

If it's February, it must be time to Name That Beer! Join us at Mecklenburg's, as we return to what is probably our most popular meeting topic. All true beer geeks cannot resist the challenge of identifying unknown beers (before the guy next to you does). Last year's new format was very popular, so we're going to use it again (with a tweak on the scoring). You'll be given an unknown commercial beer. Your task is, first, decide whether it's an ale or a lager (1 point). Then, what general style is it? (Example: pale ale, another point.) Now, can you name the correct sub-style? (American pale ale, a third point). Finally, can you name the exact beer? (In this example, maybe Sierra Nevada pale ale, another two points.) The most points after five beers will be crowned the Chief Bloatarian Geek of the Month! To make things a little easier, for each beer we'll recruit a victim... er, expert, who will taste the beer and give his impressions and guesses to the group. This gives you a chance to compare your tasting skills with some of our more experienced members, and maybe improve your overall palate. Several of last year's "experts" accused me of volunteering as host solely to avoid the potential embarrassment of saying something totally off about a beer. To put that to rest, I'll do the



first tasting. I won't know what the beer is, I promise! Roxanne will get one for me, and, since she'd enjoy seeing me screw up, it could prove to be interesting! I'll recruit the other experts from the attendees before the meeting starts, so you're warned - if you see me coming you have a chance to run. One final twist for this year: last year nobody got any of the exact beers right, so this year it will be a little easier. All of the samples chosen will be from beers listed as "Commercial Examples" in the BJCP style guide. If you choose, you now have a chance to study the style guide ahead of time. (However, you may not use a copy of the style guide during the meeting.) So brush up your knowledge base, and join us on the 17th for a roaring good time!

~ Rob Westendorf

Bosmopolitan is the official newsletter of the Bloatarian Brewing league (BBL), the original homebrew club of the Greater Cincinnati area. Annual dues are \$15, and include an electronic subscription to this newsletter. (A paper subscription is \$5 extra)

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Speed Bump / by Dave Coverly



Meeting Policy

All members and guests are required to abide by the following rules at all club meetings and events: Learn something new, teach something you know, bring something good to share (bring more than you drink), taste small samples, give other brewers lots of comments (good or bad) on their beers, and don't drive if you feel even slightly affected.

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Advertising Rates

Advertising is accepted, subject to space availability. The rates are as follows:

Full page: 1 issue: \$32, 3 issues: \$75

Half Page: 1 issue: \$17, 3 issues: \$40

Quarter Page: 1 issue: \$10, 3 issues: \$25

Contact the editor for more information, including submission requirements. Back issues are available at no cost on the BBL website at www.hbd.org/bloat.

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BBL Membership Application

Yes, I want to become the best homebrewer I can be, learn more about the art and science of brewing, and especially participate in the secret Bloatarian ceremonies!

I certify that I am of legal age to consume alcoholic beverages, with a sincere interest in homebrewing, and am willing to abide by the club by-laws and other reasonable decisions of the club officers. I promise to behave responsibly around alcoholic beverages.

By joining and/or attending BBL activities, I agree to take full responsibility for my own actions and waive any and all claims against club officers, members, or their designates.

I also have \$15 to spare, so sign me up!

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

Check this box if you prefer to receive your newsletter by regular mail (\$5 per year additional fee):

Signature (required) _____

Return this form along with check (payable to the Bloatarian Brewing League) to:

Kevin Spatz, 9557 Main, Cincinnati, OH 45242



The Bosmopolitan needs YOU!

Just imagine being the Minister of Propaganda for a minute. While PageMaker is a bit challenging and not very user friendly, figuring out how to actually run it is not the toughest part of Darryl's job. Each month it is his responsibility to come up with new articles to share, to be creative and to keep our club tied together. It takes both time and effort to come up with new ideas to fill in the blanks while both reporting news and events effectively and imaginatively. While it takes hours and hours

to come up with a complete newsletter, one article can take minutes to write. I, myself, as President, am obligated to come up with at least one article, or else I am cut off from the Colt 45 stash. And while it does take some inspiration, I can usually write one in under an hour...of course, I usually wait until the last minute, but I really have all the time in the world in between the Bloated Boards to come up with one. Everyone does. And now you will have your chance! I do want to give you fair notice though. This is not meant to be challenging or intimidating; it is merely a way to get everyone excited about speaking out as a brewer or aficionado of BEER! Which is why we are

gathered together, isn't it? So, you must have something to say.

There will be the word "ARTICLE" attached to one of the raffle prizes starting at next month's meeting. If you win the prize with this attachment, you get to write an article. There are absolutely no guidelines about what to write about or how you want to approach this. You can tell the club about your brewery set-up or a great beer that you've enjoyed recently, or

write a comic strip. How about that fantastic pub you've been to? What about the foreign country you've visited lately? Hey! How about voicing your opinion on one of the many topics of beer!! The choice is yours! You'll have 3 weeks to come up with your masterpiece. Don't worry, I will remind you :). So, relax and have a homebrew or two.

Your Lovely and Devoted President

~Jennifer



See You At Mecklenburg's

Friday February 17th

All board meetings are held on the first Monday of the month at Listermann Brewery Supply, 1621 Dana Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45212, 513-731-1130. Meetings begin at 7:30 with a toast to cenosillicaphobia. All members are welcome to attend. It's a good forum to discuss club business, new topics, and a good excuse to get out of the house and enjoy a few good beers!





Bloatarian Calendar

When you hear something your fellow homebrewers would be interested in, tell us about it so we can spread the word.

Events

FEBRUARY

- 17 .. **Monthly Meeting**
Mecklenburg Gardens, 7:30
Name that Beer

MARCH

- 6 **Officer's Meeting**
Listermann's, 7:30
- 17 .. **Monthly Meeting**
Listermann's, 7:30
St. Patricks Day Party/March Beer Madness!

APRIL

- 3 **Officer's Meeting**
Listermann's, 7:30
- 21 .. **Monthly Meeting**
Mecklenburg Gardens, 7:30
Barley Wines and Other Lawnmower Beers

MAY

- 1 **Officer's Meeting**
Listermann's, 7:30
- 6 **Big Brew - National Homebrew Day**
Listermann's, 12:00
- 20 .. **Bloatarian Open and Monthly Meeting**
Listermann's, 5:00
NOTE: This is a SATURDAY
- 27 .. **Westendorf Group Brew**

JUNE

- 5 **Officer's Meeting**
Listermann's, 7:30
- 16 .. **Monthly Meeting**
Mecklenburg Gardens, 7:30
TBD
- 22-24 **AHA Conference**
Orlando, Florida

JULY

- 5 **Officer's Meeting**
Listermann's, 7:30
- 21 .. **Monthly Meeting**
Listermann's, 7:30
Iron Brewer Judging
- 22 .. **Ewing Annual Bash**
The Ewing Plantation
Bring a tent!

Hoppus Leftoverus 2006 Winners

British/Irish/Brown Ales Flight:
1st: Glenn Wolf Jr and Sr
Ordinary Bitter

"Hoppy" Beer Flight:
1st: Rob Westendorf
Imperial IPA
2nd: Brian St. Clair
Imperial IPA

"Other" Flight:
3rd: Glenn Wolf Jr. and Sr.
American Barleywine

AUGUST

- 7 **Officer's Meeting**
Listermann's, 7:30
- 18 .. **Monthly Meeting**
TBD, 7:30
Beer and Sweat Setup
- 19 .. **Beer and Sweat**
TBD

Competitions

FEBRUARY

- 18 .. **Boston Homebrew Competition**
Boston, MA
<http://bhc.wort.org/>
- 25 .. **Babble Brew Off**
Lincolnshire, Illinois
www.babblehomebrewers.com
Entry Deadline February 18

MARCH

- 15 .. **Samuel Adams Homebrew Competition**
Entry deadline March 15
www.samueladams.com

APRIL

- 1 **3rd Annual SODZ British Beer Competition**
Columbus, OH
Entry Deadline March 21
Frank Barickman
(fbarickm@columbus.rr.com)
- 21 .. **National Homebrew Competition**
Entry Deadline April 14
<http://www.beertown.org/events/nhc/index.html>

MAY

- 20 .. **Bloatarian Open**
Listermann's, 5:00

JULY

- 16 .. **Ohio State Fair Homebrew Competition**
Entry Deadline somewhere around June 20

AUGUST

- 19 .. **Beer and Sweat**

I've gotten a number of requests for a more permanent location for the listing from the December newsletter. I've passed the list along to our esteemed webmaster, so look for it on the Bloatarian web page. (There's a couple of changes, too.) Also, several people requested I provide a similar list for dry yeasts. Unfortunately, that's easier said than done. I'll keep trying, but so far most of those yeasts have defeated my efforts. If I'm successful, I'll let you know. ~ Rob Westendorf



Sophomore Year

As my bine reaches to touch the sweet sun I wallow in the warm sensation of life. Round and round I go in respect of the proper path for northern hemispheroids. Week by week I grow foot upon foot as my girth has taken over this fibrous resting post. The hottest heat of all is almost upon us and people have been checking out my goods as of recent. I know soon enough that the rough hands of families looking for a break from city life will be upon my body. The end of my growth will mean the beginning of my true path. Here they come now, what will I become?

I wait patiently in my sack and take in the soothing smells of wort bubbling away. The smell of soaked grain still lingers, but cannot outweigh the fruity aroma of me. As I'm plucked from the bag I see a stew of amber colored water bursting with air and heat. I've got 45 minutes to do my worst until the replacements take over my task. The fiery bath sucks every last bit of joyous flavor from my cone-shaped body. I pour every ounce of sweat into the concoction. I expel the last bit of taste left in the furthest depths of my loins so as to please the wizard with the paddle. I know he is only happy when I have given every last ounce of resin.

My work is done for now, but the work is never over. The shitheap is soon to be my lonely grave. However I know the spirit of my life lives in the bottles and kegs of a wise bunch of monks. There I will fester and stew until a time expulsion which allows my life to become one with the gullet of a fine brewer.

~ Marc Beechuk

February 2006

Bloatarian Bus Bypass

Who wants to take a bus trip and drink some beer along the way with your fellow Bloats? YOU NEED TO SHOW UP TO THE BLOATED BOARD'S AT LISTERMANN'S ON MONDAY, MARCH 6TH TO CAST YOUR VOTE! We have a nice little fund that we need to spend and we'll be deciding where to go at the next Board meeting. Of course, every member is invited on the trip, the more the merrier! All members are invited to vote on the destination! I strongly encourage you to attend and voice your opinion! The Bloated VP will be contacting bus service organizations that are willing to take on the feat of transporting our lively group and obtaining the cost for trip for various destinations within 0-5 hours from here. Of course, most of us want to take the bus trip to Belgium, but I don't think that they have built the bridge yet. (Although flying and camping and drinking is not out of the question...at least for me and Darryl.) We have been discussing this for some time and the time is NOW! Many have been to Pittsburgh and have loved it! I've heard that Detroit has many brewpubs on the outskirts of town. I saw the menu of one with over 50 of their OWN BEERS on tap! Never been to Nashville, but here that it's a great place to find beer...and can you imagine if we went there later this spring? It would be a gorgeous drive! Lots of folks have been to Indianapolis, so the choices there would be easy to narrow down. And, of course, "Cleveland Rocks! (in tempo...Cleveland Rocks! Cleveland Rocks! Cleveland Rocks!" And, there is a fantastic beer bar and a wonderful, newly fashioned wine bar nearby...in Kent that would love to make our acquaintance. :) There are so many possibilities from Cincinnati. Please come next month and vote! Don't worry, I'll remind you. In the meantime, "relax and have a homebrew."

There will be out of pocket expense for most of these trips as we may be spending the entire evening descending upon these cities, but there will be a significant reduction in cost due to the budget that is burning a hole in the Treasurer's pocket :)

Bloatarian Belgian Bourbon Barrel

The Belgian Bourbon Barrel beer was entered in the QUAFF (Quality Ale & Fermentation Fraternity of San Diego) AFCHBC (14th Annual: America's Finest City Homebrew Competition) which will take place on February 17th. The beer was entered as Bourbon Barrel Belgian Strong Dark Ale in the 22c Wood-Aged Beer category. Members of the team are: Marc Beechuk, Chuck Boyce, David Collins, Darryl Dieckman, Chris Dorn, Ken Ewing, Mike Feiertag, Jim Foster, David Harsh, Jennifer Hermann, Nathan Kerr, David Kreimer, Ray Snyder, Brian St. Clair, Quinn Wojcik, and John Zeller.



Page 5

The Iron Brewer 2006

The Iron Brewer will test your recipe and brewing skills to the max!

1. You must use the yeast you specified when you registered and only this yeast.
2. You must use **ALL** of the grain listed below, and **only** this grain.
3. You must use **ALL** of the "special ingredient" revealed at the January meeting.
4. You can use **any** hops you choose, in any quantity.
5. You may brew **any quantity** you desire with this grain bill. In effect, you can choose your starting gravity.
6. Judging will take place at the July meeting, July 21st.
7. When you check your beer in for judging you must select a **base style**, and you must provide a **written copy of your recipe** (including brewing details).
8. Irish moss, clarifying agents, water treatments, rice hulls (for sparging) and priming sugar (for bottling ONLY, not to supplement the recipe) may be used.
9. **No additional ingredients** may be used in brewing this beer.
10. *Entry cost is \$5. Want to try even more? You can enter a second beer using the SAME yeast for an additional \$2.*

Iron Brewer 2006 Grain Bill

7 lbs. PILSNER malt

3 lb. WHEAT malt (MUST be MALTED wheat)

4 oz. TOASTED Malt – either Biscuit or Victory

Special Ingredient: Mustard Seed (any style/color)

Quantity: 1 Ounce

<u>Name</u>	<u>Yeast</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Yeast</u>
Chuck Boyce	WLP332	Roy Mastromauro	WLP010
	Northwest Ale		10 th Anniversary
Dave Collins	Budvar		Blend
Darryl Dieckman	Dry English Ale	Tim McPartlin	California Ale
Chris Dorn	1028 London Ale	Andy Melchers	1056 American Ale
Ken Ewing	Pacman	Phil Meyer	German Ale Kolsch
Dave Harsh	WLP 400 Wit	Bobby Mink	1084 Irish Ale
Jennifer Hermann	Wyeast 1087	Ray Snyder	1056 American Ale
	Ale Blend	Kevin Spatz/	California Ale
Mark Hill	1056 American Ale	Brian Becker	
Bill Lakeberg	Sierra Nevada	Brian St. Clair	Saison
Doug Lasanen	White Labs	Chuck Volle	Munton Dry
	Hefeweizen IV	Rob Westendorf	WLP575
Dan Listermann	Munton's Gold Dry		Belgian Blend
Ron Mahan	WLP007	Glenn and	Nottingham
	Dry English Ale	Glenn Wolf	
Seth Mason	WLP575	John Zeller	American
	Belgian Blend		Ale



Gadgetronic

The January gadget meeting and swap met were a tremendous success. I must admit that I've never seen so many gadgets in my life. And according to Andy these were just a sampling of the gadgets that he has back in the brewery.

There were definitely too many gadgets to list in this space, but here are the ones that I remember the most:



Use a quick disconnect for air tools and air compressors on your CO2 lines so you can switch adapters quickly.



If you use a Gott cooler for your mashtun, put another plate of plastic/steel on the bottom of your domed mash screen to prevent grains from getting through.



A water heater element on a stick connected to 110V might not be able to boil your wort, but it is an easy way to preheat water while you are busy doing other things.



Drill a hole in a two-liter cap and stick in a tire valve stem. Fill the bottle with beer and use your quick disconnect CO2 line to pressurize the bottle for the road.

You can't drink beer while you carbonate a keg if it takes both hands. Build a platform with a curved bottom and a long handle and enjoy a beer while you work.



2005 Cash Flow

Balance as of 1/1/05:	\$ 2,491.59	Better/(Worse) vs 2004
Revenue:		
B & S Revenue:	\$ 5,152.00	\$ 1,471.00
Bloat Competitions:	\$ 255.00	\$ 175.00
Dues:	\$ 875.00	\$ (100.00)
BJCP Class:	\$ 1,000.00	n/a
Tasting Glasses:	\$ 130.00	\$ (185.00)
Newsletter Ad Revenue:	\$ 25.00	n/a
Monthly Raffles:	\$ 878.00	\$ 168.00
Total Inflows:	\$ 8,315.00	\$ 1,529.00
Expenses:		
Beer & Sweat:	\$ 4,019.72	\$ (964.80)
Beer & Propane:	\$ 260.33	\$ (107.49)
Bloatarian Competitions:	\$ 542.75	\$ (224.27)
Baskets for German Day:	\$ 41.59	n/a
National Homebrew Day:	\$ 79.22	n/a
BJCP Class Expenses:	\$ 933.85	n/a
Bourbon Barrel:	\$ 20.00	\$ 18.50
Newsletter Expense/Postage:	\$ 276.84	\$ 38.17
Monthly Meeting Expenses:	\$ 657.46	
Food:	\$ 238.62	\$ (48.47)
Supplies:	\$ 181.03	\$ (145.03)
Beer:	\$ 237.81	\$ (45.48)
Total Outflows:	\$ 6,831.76	\$ (1,478.87)
Balance as of 12/31/05:	\$ 3,974.83	



New Members!
Welcome to the following
new and renewing members!



Marc Beechuk
Tim Beechuk
D.A. Fleischer
Kevin Spatz
Chuck Boyce
Rob and Roxanne Westendorf
Doug Lasanen

Remember, without YOU the club doesn't exist! Make it a point to talk to our new members and guests. Offer them some of your beer. Make them feel welcome. If you don't, there's a good chance they'll decide they're not welcome, and they won't come back, and that's not good!

Bloatarian Brewing League
9985 McKelvey Rd
Cincinnati, OH 45231-2611

The mailing label shows your membership status.
Your renewal date is shown in YY/MM format.