

WORTHog



REVIEW

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 5

JULY 16, 1994

HEAD HOG'S WALLOW

By Charley Baird

Summer is here, and it is perfect beer drinking weather here in the San Joaquin Valley. As I sit at the keyboard, it's a balmy 103 degrees. We all like to excuse these temperatures with the old "but there's no humidity" line as we are sprinting to the nearest air conditioned building. No matter how you cut it though, there is no denying that it gets *some* kind of hot in this part of the world.

But why excuse away the heat? Your pint can be either half full or half empty. Being the optimist I am, I always choose half full. 100+ degrees is just right out by the pool or at the lake, even though it might be slightly warm for a softball game. You can ride around all night with the top down in your vintage GTO ragtop, even if you'd get fried during the day in that mode (that's why the top goes up). Of greater concern to all you Hogs is that you have a perfect excuse to sample all those award winning beers you brewed during our outstanding spring just past, even though it may be a bit warm to brew a new batch. So you see, you've got to look at the bright side of any situation. Of course, its easier to look on that side if you worked hard last spring at provisioning yourself for the upcoming summer.

Herd of Hogs to Get to Getz'

The upcoming meeting will be held, as announced at last meeting, **Saturday, July 23, 1994** at **Bob and Catherine Getz'** home, 12217 E. Shields Ave, Sanger (see map). The meeting will run from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Plans are to take full advantage of this beautiful weather. Bob tells me there is a swimming pool for any hogs who can perform in water instead of mud, and lots of grass and trees, so bring your suit and sunscreen for that occasional cooling dip. Also, by pure chance (nothing happens by chance!), the beer style of the meeting is that most refreshing of beers, wheat beer.

Both American wheat and all styles of German wheats are appropriate for the meeting.

A Worthog club competition will be held during the meeting for all styles of wheat beer. If the number of entries warrant, we will split the competition into American and German styles. In any case, the best of the Hogs' gets the traditional Gold Star and chorus of admiring hog snorts from the assembled throng. The highest placing German Style beer will go on to represent the Worthogs in the "*Wiess is Nice*" AHA Club-only competition.

Perhaps the most important activity at the meeting will be the final nominations for officers for the 94-95 year. The election of officers will take place at the following meeting. All members present at that meeting are eligible to vote once (no proxies).

Bob says he will make a big pot of beans or the equivalent. You should bring some munchies, and your potential award winning homebrew. If you don't have any homebrew in stock, a bit of commercial wheat beer would be appropriate. Be there. or be square!

Brew at Baird's

The Worthogs' September meeting and election will be held at my home, 166 W. Quincy, Fresno, on September 24, 1994. During the meeting we will brew an all grain beer, the style of which will be determined at least 30 minutes before mash-in. While the meeting will begin at the normal 1:00 pm hour, mash-in will most likely be around 11:30 am. Anyone who is interested in watching the pot is welcome to arrive at that time. Entries for a Worthog competition to determine our entry to the *Best of Fest* AHA Club-only competition (won last year by our own Darren Cousineu) will be accepted until 1:30, with judging to immediately follow. Elections will be held at 3:00.

First Annual Clovis Beer Fest

The Clovis Chamber of Commerce, who produce Clovis Big Hat Day and other events in the Clovis area, has contacted the Worthogs and requested our assistance

with their first micro brewers' festival, to be held on September 3, 1994, at the Sierra Vista Mall. Their other events are huge in terms of the number of people attending (Big Hat Day drew over 130,000 people). Nothing that gigantic is expected for this event, to be held in conjunction with a chili cook-off. Besides beer and chili, they are planning live entertainment and some crafts booths to keep it a family type affair. The most likely scenario is something between 5,000 and 10,000 people. In any case, it is a chance for the Worthogs to present homebrewing in a good light to a huge number of unknowingly potential homebrewers.

At this month's meeting we will have a sign up sheet for anyone interested in manning the booth they have offered us, or possibly helping serve beers from the various micros attending the event. It looks to be an enjoyable afternoon. If you are unable to attend the meeting and still wish to participate please call me at 435-1472 to get on the list.

Meeting at Kevin's Spa

The last meeting was held May 14th at Kevin Lester's home. Kevin and Linda outdid themselves for the Worthogs. I thought I must have rung the wrong doorbell after sighting the huge, cloth covered table laden with every imaginable munchy and crowned with a gorgeous bouquet. Add to that a beautiful yard bounded by the San Joaquin River and you have a near perfect grazing ground for the thundering herd that invaded. Thanks Kevin and Linda for all your efforts!

Charley

Competition news

AHA National Homebrew Competition '94

The results of this year's National Homebrew Competition are in, and while the Worthogs aren't the homebrew club of the year, we do have some things of which to be proud. Two Worthogs had award winning entries this year. This is in a competition where just getting to the final round is considered an honor.

Dave Bunnell has boasting rights for the highest placing Worthog brew. His "Converter Porter," a robust porter, took **second place** in the porter category. Porter was the third most popular style in the first round competition we put on in Fresno, with double the number of entries of many other categories. That undoubtedly was true nation wide, so Dave should be extremely proud of this award.



Longtime brewer **Jim Lopes**, between rounds of golf, brewed a batch of his world famous Turnberry Bock that brought home third place as a Traditional German Bock. Word is he lost points only for the flavor of the grass left on the 9 iron used to stir his wort.

Congrat's to Dave and Jim, and to all the other Worthogs that entered NHC '94. The Worthogs had a great turnout of entries, and soon the Beerocrats will be shaking in their boots.

What's brewing

Worthogs' Contributions

Mining Liquid Gold in Murphys

by Lowell Hart

As part of a trip to the town of Murphys in the Gold Country this last June 25, I was able to stop off at Murphys Gulch Brewing for a taste and a look around. Besides the beautiful location that one expects in the rugged hills beyond Sonora, this micro brewery looks well planned and is obviously set up for future expansion.

The building is a simple industrial structure with high ceilings. As it is a micro brewery only, and supports no restaurant, there is an actual beer tasting room, where the local draught can be sampled for FREE. Sales of cubes, 22 oz. bottles, kegs and paraphernalia are also supported. The tasting room is comfortable, and the help knowledgeable and polite.

The beers presented were a Summer Wheat (very tasty), a red (served both filtered and unfiltered), a Black Gold Stout (also tasty but not too big) and a Spring Bock, which was good and had an interesting brown-but-not-red color to it. This is difficult to describe but easy to drink.

The operation is run by Micah Millspaw, the brewer, and Dan Ayala, the business end. I struck up a conversation with Dan, and he offered to show us the brewery. The plant is spacious and clean, and is well laid out for the addition of more equipment. A very interesting practice that they have is reworking various brewing vessels for larger capacity. A couple of local guys have successfully added rolled sheet stainless extensions to the numerous Grundy 7-barrel fermenters and the boil kettle to create an 11-barrel system. Dan said that after buying new tanks from Mueller they decided that adding on to their current equipment made more sense. The local welders apparently do excellent work and have even rolled a custom 11-barrel fermenter out of stock, incorporating gates and fittings provided by the brewery. The mash tun is broad and square, and I have heard that Millspaw does work with underletting

his sparge water, but as he was not there I was unable to ask him about this. There is a bottling line, but it was not in the part of the brewery that we saw.

Dan said that their beer was available in Santa Clara county, but that their Valley distributor out of Modesto had not performed the way they wanted, so they were looking for another one. Many of the brewpubs that carry their beer simply come up and pick up the beer themselves. The brewery also has a number of taps in taverns and restaurants around the immediate area, and apparently gets good support from the local populace. When the product might be available in the Fresno area is unknown at this time. Most of the brew is shipped unfiltered in 22 oz. bottles. I thoroughly enjoyed my visit to Murphys Creek Brewing, and would heartily suggest a stop by if you are in the area. As their motto on the label says, "Tis Hoppin' Good." Lowell

trub news
News That Settled Out

Oktoberfest

The traditional Worthog Oktoberfest Picnic and Turbo Nerf Football game **will** be held this October. The date will be announced at this week's meeting. Our plans are for it to be located at either Kearney Park, as in the past, or Kevin Lester's home. Kevin's schedule is still in flux, We will finalize both variables before the September meeting.

Check the Calendar!

Please keep your eye on the calendar following this section. Competition deadlines, upcoming events, and other beery interesting items not mentioned elsewhere can be found.

Worthog By-Laws Proposed

Hog **Tom Pope** has been giving beery much thought to the future of the San Joaquin Worthogs, and has put together a starting point for a set of Worthog by-laws. Tom has been involved in various other organizations of this size, and has picked up a good feel for what is needed to structure them. Until this year, the Worthogs were just a small fledgling organization. To say the club has been run autocratically is an understatement. That is the way it is with many new groups like ours.

We have reached a level of membership this year, however, that requires more structure and universal involvement. That was the reason behind the steering committee begun last year. My hat is off to Tom for taking the bull by the horns and putting something down on paper.

As he would be the first to tell you, his proposal is just a starting point, subject to change. Tom's experience and thoughtfulness show through in the proposal. I have included a copy of the proposed by-laws in lieu of a brewer's update. Please check them over, make notes, and submit them to a club officer. My feeling is that a steering committee meeting should be held after the next election to rewrite the by-laws to include your considered suggestions. The by-laws would then be submitted for the approval of the general membership this fall.

CALENDAR

July 23, 1994 1-5 pm	Meeting at Bob Getz' home, 12217 E. Shields, Sanger. Phone 875-8107 Wheat beer is the style of the meeting. Club competition at meeting. <i>Weiss is Nice</i> Club-only Competition. Attach a label with beer style and your name to each of three bottles per entry with a rubber band. If you are unable to attend the meeting leave your beers at Bencomo's Homebrew supply or Dale James at Butterfield Brewing no later than Friday am, July 21.
Sept. 3, 1994 11:00 am-5:00 pm	<i>Clovis Brew Fest</i> -Micro brewery festival at Sierra Vista Mall, Clovis.
Sept. 16-18, 1994	Entries accepted for the Big Fresno Fair homebrewing competition. Contact Bencomo's Homebrew Supply or the Fair for details.
Sept. 24, 1994	Meeting at Charley Baird's home, 166 W. Quincy, Fresno. Phone 435-1472. Vienna/Oktoberfest/Marzen is style for meeting. Worthog club competition to determine club entry to AHA <i>Best of Fest</i> Club-only Competition. See Weiss is nice for rules. Non-attendeo deadline 9/23 am.
October ?, 1994	Worthog Oktoberfest Picnic and Turbo Nerf Football game. Bring the kids!
Oct. 21-22, 1994	Great American Beer Festival XIII, Denver, CO
November 21, 1994	<i>Specialty Quest</i> Club-only Competition entry deadline. Attach a label with beer style and your name to each of three bottles per entry with a rubber band. Deliver entries to Bencomo's or Dale at Butterfield's by deadline date
ANYTIME	JUST BREW IT!

Welcome New Member!

Be sure to stop by and say hello to our newest member, **Rick Kreutz**, of Fresno, at the upcoming meeting. Rick is the 85th paid Worthog member for 1994!



PROPOSED BY-LAWS
of the
SAN JOAQUIN WORTHOGS HOMEBREWING CLUB

ARTICLE 1 - Name

This club shall be known as the "San Joaquin Worthogs Homebrewing Club."

ARTICLE II - Purposes

The purposes of this club are as follows:

- 1.) To promote interest in homebrewing in the San Joaquin Valley.
- 2.) To provide opportunities for members and their families to participate in instructional, recreational, and competitive homebrewing activities.

ARTICLE III - Membership

- 1.) Any person who wishes to join the organization is eligible to do so upon payment of the yearly dues determined by the club. Paid members are eligible for all activities and privileges made available by the club.
- 2.) Meetings shall be held every two months and shall be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order.
- 3.) A copy of these by-laws shall be provided to each new club member upon payment of their dues.

ARTICLE IV - Officers

- 1.) The club shall be governed by a Board of Directors consisting of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Parliamentarian.
 - a. Officers shall be elected at the September meeting of the general club membership, and shall assume their duties at the following meeting.
 - b. A simple majority of members present at the election meeting is necessary to elect officers.
 - c. All nominees for officers shall be active members of the club for at least one year prior to their nomination.
 - d. No officer shall serve more than two years consecutively in any office.
 - e. Vacancies occurring during a term of office shall be filled by appointment by the President. Should the President's office become vacant, the Vice President shall become President, and will appoint a new Vice President.
- 2.) Duties of the Board of Directors:
 - a. President. It shall be the duty of the President to preside over all meetings of the club and the Board of Directors. The President is empowered to appoint committees and shall be an ex-officio member of such committees.
 - b. Vice President. The Vice President shall perform all duties of the President in the President's absence. He shall assume the office of President in case of a vacancy in the President's office, and shall conduct the election of officers at the September meeting.

- c. Secretary. The Secretary shall maintain an accurate minutes of each meeting and maintain an up-to-date membership list. The Secretary shall be responsible for communication between the club members and their officers.
- d. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall be the official custodian of all the moneys of the club. The Treasurer shall collect all dues and fees and issue proper receipts for same. The Treasurer shall keep an accurate record of all transactions and make a financial report at each meeting of the club.
- e. The President who has completed his/her term of office will become a member of the Board of Directors and will advise the Board in its decisions regarding scheduling, financing, and policy changes.

ARTICLE V - Committees

- 1.) The club shall have a Steering Committee which will be composed of eight (?) volunteers from the general membership. Their term shall be one year. The Steering Committee will meet bi-monthly to discuss issues which will be discussed or voted on by the club at each general meeting. Prior to presentation of an issue to the membership a motion must be made by one committee member and another member must second the motion. The committee will appoint one member to maintain accurate notes for all meetings. If more than eight club members volunteer to serve on the Steering Committee, the committee membership shall be decided by a random draw. If a member wishes to serve consecutive terms on the Steering Committee, he/she may not do so until all volunteers who have not served on the committee the previous year are on the committee.
- 2.) The President may appoint other committees as he deems necessary. The President is an ex-officio member of all committees. The President may disband all committees, with the exception of the Steering Committee, when they are no longer needed or at his pleasure.

ARTICLE VI - Finances

- 1.) The San Joaquin Worthog Homebrewing Club is a non-profit organization supported by yearly dues and other fund raising activities related to homebrewing and club activities.
- 2.) The Treasurer is authorized to pay all bills when due without the explicit consent of the entire membership. Bills out of the ordinary operation of the club require approval of the membership. All disbursements shall be paid by check. Checks will require the signatures of two of the following officers: Treasurer, Secretary, Vice President, or President.

ARTICLE VII - Amendments

- 1.) Amendments to these by-laws may be proposed by any member at he regular meetings.
- 2.) Proposed amendments or changes to these by-laws by club officers or committees must be presented to all club members at least two weeks in advance of the voting meeting.
- 3.) No changes may be made to these by-laws unless at least 10% of the club members are present at the voting meeting.
- 4.) The by-laws may be changed or amended by a majority of the members present at the meeting at which they are being considered.