

Next LCB Meeting  
Dec 18th  
7:00 PM  
Lancaster Brewing  
Company



Treasury Report  
\$ 1009.05



## In This Issue

Water Lou ?

Beer Break

Real Beer Page

Upcoming Events and  
Club Calendar

## Water Lou ?

Merry Christmas and Happy  
New Year to all.

Take note our meeting has  
been moved up a week this  
month. This is the meeting that  
several people bring home  
made treats to share with the  
group. We again will have a  
fine selection of brews for the  
beer raffle.

Members of the club attended  
both of the State Line Holiday  
beer tasting's. These are  
always well run and full of  
good brews. By the way there  
is another one Jan.18th 7pm to  
9pm. This one is just "Belgian  
Beers" and again I plan on  
going. Anyone that wants to go  
along please get in touch and  
we can work out a plan.

Thanks to all that came to the  
last meeting even though it  
was the day before  
Thanksgiving. Had some good



beers and two deserving  
beer raffle winners.

We are working on when  
and where to have the  
club's chili cook off. The  
plan is to pick our winner  
and then enter the  
contest at Kclinger's in  
Hanover. Over the  
Holidays would be a good  
time to refine your recipe.

Plan on seeing you  
Wednesday the 18<sup>th</sup> at  
Lancaster Brewing.

"From man's sweat and  
God's love, beer came into  
the world." .... Saint  
Arnoldus



## Beer Break

In this issue:

- \* The beer that changed it all?
- \* What's a vertical tasting?
- \* Tasting Notes
- Sierra Nevada Celebration
- Bitfrost Winter Ale
- \* Good reading

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### THE BEER THAT CHANGED HOW YOU THINK ABOUT BEER

We've added a new discussions area at Realbeer.com that's easier to use than the Forums we've used occasionally. We threw the doors open to the public this week after a little testing on the weekend. You might think the Internet doesn't need another beer discussion board (did you know there's even one pretty well hidden at [www.epicurious.com](http://www.epicurious.com)?), but we hope it will be a community where users of varying beer experiences and interests will feel comfortable hanging out.

Readers will start most discussions, but the boards also give us a chance to ask for your opinion about news stories, beer and food pairings, breweries and brewpubs, and other beer related subjects.

An interesting thread opened yesterday where a user asked: "What was the beer that changed it all for you?" The responses should make good reading. Here's an early one:

"For me, growing up in a household that drinks, I never really cared for beer. I would drink it when I was out but most beers left something to be desired. In 1991 I was 18 and attending my first ever Grateful Dead show. It was great. We were there for the parking lot festivities with all the madness that goes on at these things, when two guys pull a wagon up to me with beer in it. 2 bucks a piece for beers that they were willing to sell to a minor. In this wagon were Anchor Steam and Anchor Liberty, one brand and two different styles that I had never heard of before. What the hell, 'I'll take one of each.' Never before had I tasted beer so

wonderful. It seriously changed my life forever. I could never find beers that satisfied me locally so I started to homebrew. Following my father's good advice of doing what you love led me to a great job at Firestone Brewing Co. Best fun I ever had at work. "Beer is my life, Billy"

You can browse the boards without registering, but to post you must sign in. Just go to <http://realbeer.com/discussions> get started. If you want to suggest forum additions, write [editor@realbeer.com](mailto:editor@realbeer.com). You'll find the discussion about "the beer that changed it all" at:

<http://realbeer.com/discussions/showthread.php?s=9eb2c3017856456312dce67891bbf10f&threadid=35>

Not the easiest URL, we admit. You also get there by looking in "Pull up a stool" in the Public House.

We look forward to seeing you on the boards, but if you won't want to sign up for discussions and you do want to tell us about a beer that changed how you look at beer, then send your email to [editor@realbeer.com](mailto:editor@realbeer.com).

### WHAT'S A VERTICAL TASTING?

A poster at another discussion board recently asked the question: What's a vertical tasting? We suspect the terminology comes from the wine where, where "vertical" and "horizontal" have nothing to do with the position of the taster or the glass. The terms offer a way to explain the selection of wines chosen for a structured tasting:

A horizontal tasting features a number of related wines all chosen from the same vintage. A selection of 1985 Bordeaux, for example, or a group of 1999 French Shirahs, allowing the taster to compare and contrast similar wines grown in the same year.

## Beer Break (continued)

A vertical tasting, on the other hand, offers a selection of wines from the same winery or region, all grown in different years. This is one of the most educational tasting formats because it offers the opportunity to taste the effects on wine caused by weather, growing conditions and changes in wine-making style over time, as well as demonstrating how wines change as they mature.

A beer horizontal is much like a wine. We could round up the current crop of Czech pilseners or Oregon-produced American Pale Ales.

A beer vertical is different than wine. One goal of brewers is to overcome the yearly differences in barley and hop crops to produce a beer that tastes as it always has. Unlike wine, most beer begins going downhill the moment it leaves the brewery and will never be better than when it is fresh. It's pretty silly to save those beers for a vertical tasting.

But some strong beers, some with spices -- and particularly those that are bottle conditioned -- can be laid down and later served as part of a vertical. The late and beloved Thomas Hardy Ale is a classic example, but Sierra Nevada Big Foot, Bell's Expedition Stout, Chimay Grand Reserve and many others are worth cellaring. We've written before about "When older is better":

<http://realbeer.com/library/beerbreak/archives/beerbreak20010208.html>

### TASTING NOTES

From the Celebrator Beer News Blind Tasting Panel

### CELEBRATION ALE

Brewed by the Sierra Nevada Brewing in California Starts with a citrusy, floral nose with great hop character. Amber-copper color. Big hop character, but very well balanced with good conditioning. Zippy Hop notes, smooth mouthfeel and a rich finish make this one of the must have beers of the season!

### BITFROST WINTER ALE

Brewed by Elysian Brewing Co. in Washington Hop aromas with hints of pine and citrus. Golden-orange color. Nice citrusy flavors with big hop character and a long, lingering finish. Hard to find but worth the effort.

### GOOD READING

Satisfaction guaranteed: Serving beer better in Britain

<http://protzonbeer.com/documents/27660-001803.html>

'80s trivia part of underage drinking crackdown  
<http://www.activedayton.com/ddn/local/daily/1207underage.html>

AMA wants to ban beer advertising that reaches those under age

<http://www.realbeer.com/library/beerlog/2002/12/09.html>

Drinking buddy killed for last cold beer

<http://www.realbeer.com/library/beerlog/2002/12/09.html>

You have received this newsletter because you signed up for Beer Break at the Real Beer Page. You may manage your Real Beer newsletters at:

<http://realbeer.com/shared/subscribe>

Send your comments about the newsletter to [editor@realbeer.com](mailto:editor@realbeer.com) and make sure to stop by <http://www.realbeer.com> for the latest beer news and more about tasting and appreciating beer.

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## Real Beer Page

### In this issue:

- \* Wyoming considers boosting beer tax 400%
- \* Boddingtons stays in Manchester
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- \* Germans work on cancer-fighting beer
- \* Brewers have doubts about vitamin B beer
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- Become a Real Beer volunteer
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- \* Drink a beer, buy a diamond ring
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- \* Florida city makes Budweiser its official beer
- \* 'Bitter & Twisted' wins best beer in Scotland
- \* California meadery has Chicago buzzing

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#### WYOMING CONSIDERS BOOSTING BEER TAX 400%

Wyoming legislators have proposed boosting the state's beer tax 400% without raising taxes on wine or distilled spirits. Members of the Labor, Health and Social Service Committee voted to send a proposal to the Legislature that increases the tax on beer from 2 cents per gallon to 8 cents per gallon. Wyoming has the lowest beer tax in the nation and has not raised the rate since the end of Prohibition. Rep. Tony Ross, R-Cheyenne, voted against the proposal because he felt the committee was singling beer out. "If we need the money, why not increase the tax on wine and distilled spirits?" he said. Dave Clements, president of Cheyenne Beverage, called the measure was unfair. "It will put more tax on the common man, Joe Six-Pack," he said.

#### BODDINGTONS STAYS IN MANCHESTER

Boddingtons beer -- once advertised and still well known as "The Cream of Manchester" - will continue to be brewed at the Strangeways Brewery in Manchester, England, after Interbrew scuttled its plans to move production out of the city. Transport & General Workers Union and local officials had waged a campaign to save the brewery, attracting international attention. Interbrew agreed to continue all brewing of Boddingtons in Manchester, saving about 17 jobs. Stewart Gilliland, chief executive of Interbrew UK, said: "In the past few weeks, the people of Manchester and Boddingtons drinkers have clearly demonstrated how passionately they care about the brewery and the brand."

#### COLORADO MICRO TURNS TO CANS

Oskar Blues Brewery has begun shipping a new beer in a container unique for a Rocky Mountain craft brewery. Dale's Pale Ale, a substantial beer at 6.5% alcohol by volume, will be sold along Colorado's front range in aluminum cans. Specialty brewers in other parts of the United States and around the world already sell specialty beers in cans, but Oskar Blues -- located in the small town of Lyons -- is the first from Colorado. "We like pushing the envelope and stretching the boundaries," said Dale Katechis, founder of Oskar Blues. "We like hearing something can't or shouldn't be done and then doing it. That's what craft brewing is supposed to be about." <http://www.realbeer.com/news/articles/news-001790.html>

#### GERMANS WORK ON CANCER-FIGHTING BEER

German scientists say they have developed a beer that could help fight cancer. It contains high levels of a potent antioxidant called xanthohumol, which is found in hops and has been shown in previous laboratory studies to stem the growth of tumor cells. Achim Zuercher, a scientist involved in the study, said an as-yet-unnamed brewery in Bavaria would sell the beer early in 2003. He also expects it to be sold outside Germany. Tests on the effects of xanthohumol have only been carried out in the laboratory, he said, but were promising. He stressed it would not be possible to say conclusively that the beer will fight cancer in humans until tests are completed several years down the line.

<http://www.realbeer.com/news/articles/news-001802.html>

#### BREWERS HAVE DOUBTS ABOUT VITAMIN B BEER

Officials in Scotland continue to investigate the benefits of vitamin-laced beer, but British brewers aren't excited about adding artificial ingredients to their beer. As reported in February, Scottish ministers are impressed with research by Australian scientists that shows thiamin - Vitamin B1 - can help counter Wenicke's Encephalopathy, an alcohol-related disease found in the heaviest drinkers. They are considering asking brewers to introduce the vitamin into their products. The British Beer and Pub Association said adding the vitamin could change the taste and style of beers. "This particular additive would be designed to help people who consume far too much alcohol," said Mark Hastings. "They are extreme alcoholics. They should be discouraged from drinking at all."

#### LABATT RECALLS 6 MILLION BOTTLES OF BEER

Labatt Breweries has pulled more than 6 million bottles of beer before they reached the public because chips were found in the necks of some bottles. Saying only a few hundred bottles in those cases actually have chips -- and no glass got into any bottles -- the brewery withdrew 252,000 cases as a precaution before they got to market, said spokesperson Bob Chant. Affected brands included Budweiser, Labatt Blue, Blue Light, Labatt Ice and Labatt Classic for domestic sale and Blue, Blue Light and Ice intended for export to the U.S.

\*\*\*\*\*WEB WATCH\*\*\*\*\*

#### BEER FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Snow is on the ground in many parts of the country, holiday beers are on the shelves, and experience tells us that the lines are shorter at our favorite beer stores and homebrew shops than in the malls. Better yet, there's no line if you order through the Internet. Grab a beer and enjoy the season.

<http://www.realbeer.com/spotlight/2002holidays>

#### SANTA POLL

What would Santa would rather see by the fireplace? Cookies and milk, beer and chips? Something else? Cast your vote.

<http://www.realbeer.com/spotlight>

#### LONG LIVE THE BRITISH PUB

Reports of the 'death of British pubs' are premature, writes Roger Protz. Being sensible people, the Brits still have more pubs than either petrol stations or doctors' surgeries.

<http://www.protzonbeer.com/documents/27660-001792.html>

#### BECOME A REAL BEER VOLUNTEER

Whether you consider yourself a beer missionary or just want to share information about your drinking preferences, you may be able to help us. We're looking for volunteers to participate in consumer panels.

<http://www.realbeer.com/shared/volunteer/>

\*\*\*\*\*ADVERTISEMENTS\*\*\*\*\*

#### BEERHEADS.COM

Your source for great beer quote merchandise and unique gifts, including our brand new Hops Hawaiian shirts for those stylish diehard beer lovers on your list. Astound your friends with words of wisdom on beer from people like Edgar Allen Poe, Winston Churchill and many more.

<http://www.beerheads.com>

#### GOLDEN PHEASANT

With access to the best hops, grains, and the softest water in the world, Slovakia is an obvious location for great lager beers. Golden Pheasant's robust, full flavored beer is true to that regional tradition. Imported by Stawski Distributing Company

<http://www.stawskidistributing.com/slovak.html#GoldenPheasant>

#### MERCHANT DU VIN

Since 1978, Merchant du Vin has imported the world's finest selection of ales and lagers. Each benchmark style of beer is brewed with only

## Real Beer Page (continued)

natural ingredients and produced by family-owned and operated craft brewers. Merchant du Vin imports the beers of Samuel Smith, Ayinger and Lindemans, among others.

<http://www.merchantduvin.com>

### NORTH COAST BREWING CO.

2002 release! Old Stock Ale is brewed with Maris Otter Pale Malt and imported Fuggles Hops. At 11.4% ABV, Old Stock Ales character is similar to fine wine. Like wine it's designed to be cellared and allowed to age. A Platinum Medal winner at the 2000 World Beer Championships our 2002 offering holds the same promise.

<http://www.northcoastbrewing.com>

### OKOCIM

Small brewery craftsmanship with a big following. Poland's export leader since 1959, Okocim Brewery is located in the town of the same name. Founded in 1845 by Jan Goetz, son of famous brewer Anthony Dreher, cofounder of the pilsner. Available in many styles. Malt Liquor, Porter, Pilsner, & Premium Zagloba to name a few.

<http://www.stawskidistributing.com/polishbeers.html#Okocim>

### PERLA

Wonderfully "Chmielowa" or "Hoppy", it's one of Poland's finest and most popular beers. It's a unique, established style of lager. Different from those of German or Czech origin. Brewed in the town of Lublin, Central-Eastern Poland. Perla is one of the most distinctive beers offered by the brewers of Poland. Imported by Stawski Distributing Company

<http://www.stawskidistributing.com/polishbeers.html#Perla>

### PIKE BREWING CO.

We brew all-natural, handcrafted beers of intense flavor and character Using only the highest quality ingredients and always adhering to the Strictest brewing standards. Award-winning beers from the heart of Seattle since 1989. <http://www.pikebrewing.com>

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### COLLEGE PAPER REFUSES TO RUN 'GOT BEER?!' AD

Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, has refused to run advertising for the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals "Got Beer?!" campaign. Michael Lindsay, president of the Queen's Alma Mater Society, said he isn't against PETA's objectives for animals, but the tone of the ad is at odds with Queen's policies on responsible drinking. Queen's refused to print PETA's spoof ad in Queen's Gazette, which is directed more at staff, faculty and alumni than students. PETA announced in late August that it intended to launch a reprise of Got...Beer?! targeting America's top 10 and Canada's top six party schools. The University of Western Ontario, the University of Waterloo and Queen's were on the Canadian list. PETA initially launched the Got Beer?! college campaign in March 2000 as a parody of the highly successful Got Milk? commercials. A month later, having enraged Mothers Against Drunk Driving in the U.S., the campaign was dropped.

### DROWN YOUR SORROWS IN A BEER BATH

Klosterbrauerei, a German monastic brewery, is promoting its dark brown beer as a bath supplement. The brewery, in Neuzelle, near Leipzig, eastern Germany, says the dark brown brew has restorative powers for both the mind and body, improving the skin as well as spirits. Klosterbrauerei showed off its "new" product to shoppers in Leipzig last month. "It opens up the pores, the yeast penetrates the skin and after 15 minutes your skin feels softer everywhere," company spokesman Dirk Vock said. "It is also a good remedy for people with skin problems."

### BEWARE OF DANCING BEER DRINKERS

The Westminster City Council in London has pub owners making a strange plea to customers: Please don't dance or even look like you are thinking about dancing. Wolverhampton & Dudley Breweries has been

fined £5,000 and ordered to pay £1,600 costs in addition to its own legal fees after Westminster Council found people "moving rhythmically" to music in two of its Pitcher and Piano pubs. The City Council has told pubs that if they don't have public entertainment licenses (PEL) they could be prosecuted if they allow customers to move in a way that could constitute dancing. "We have signs up everywhere, managers instruct customers, we turn the music down, rearrange the furniture and so on," said Derek Andrews of Wolverhampton and Dudley. "Unfortunately we can't always stop people acting spontaneously."

### DRINK A BEER, BUY A DIAMOND RING

A Wisconsin mall has found a way to combine holiday shopping, beer and the Green Bay Packers. Did we mention that the beer is free? The first Men's Shopping Night is scheduled for Dec. 17 at the Fox River Mall in Appleton, Wis. Men are invited to the Fox River Brewing Co. in the mall for free beer samples and appetizers. Models show off jewelry from mall shops and hand out catalogs while the guys register. An hour later, everyone heads over to the jewelry stores. Green Bay Packers running back Najeh Davenport is scheduled to sign autographs at the stores while the men shop.

### PRINCE CHARLES CHOSEN BEER DRINKER OF THE YEAR

Great Britain's Prince Charles has claimed his prize for being selected Beer Drinker of the Year for 2002 -- a pint of Greene King Abbot Ale. He was chosen for the title by the All-Party Parliamentary Beer Group. The group picked the Prince because of his Pub is the Hub campaign to stem the tide of village pubs closures. Since the project was launched last December, more than 40 schemes have been established to safeguard local pubs by expanding their role. Charles singled out the Craven Heifer in Stainforth, North Yorkshire, where the couple running it added a village shop and ensured the Post Office did not close.

### FLORIDA CITY MAKES BUDWEISER ITS OFFICIAL BEER

Fort Pierce mayor Eddie Enns recently signed a proclamation making Budweiser the official beer of the Florida city. The beer "has continued to show financial and service support to the city and residents of Fort Pierce, St. Lucie County and the Treasure Coast," the proclamation states. "Whereas, Budweiser, the most recognized trademark in the world, has brought refreshment and joy to the people of Fort Pierce and the world," Enns said in the proclamation dated Oct. 31.

### 'BITTER & TWISTED' WINS BEST BEER IN SCOTLAND

"Bitter & Twisted" from Harviestoun Brewery in Clackmannanshire was judged to be the best beer in Scotland at the Aberdeen & North East Beer Festival in McClymont Hall. It also won this prestigious award in 1999. The beer is described in the 2003 edition of the Campaign for Real Ale's "Good Beer Guide" as, "A refreshingly hoppy beer with fruit throughout. A bitter-sweet taste with a long dry, bitter finish. A golden session beer. The beer is 3.8% ABV." The Orkney Brewery took the silver and bronze awards with Dark Island and Red MacGregor.

### CALIFORNIA MEADERY HAS CHICAGO BUZZING

Mountain Meadows Mead from California walked away with three awards this past weekend during the first international competition of honey wines. Meads were judged during Planet Buzz! in Chicago, a celebration of mead and cider. "We were thrilled to win top awards for our most popular products," said Ron Lunder, founder and meadmaker at Mountain Meadows. "We hope that this recognition will help us with marketing and help us to secure wider distribution." Lunder added that the festival offered a great opportunity to taste some marvelous meads and ciders and to meet and shop with other meadmakers, both professional and amateur. More about Planet Buzz!, including the results: <http://www.realbeer.com/news/articles/news-001791.html>

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<b>December 18<sup>th</sup> Club Meeting Lancaster Brewing Company 7:00 pm</b>
<b>January 29<sup>th</sup> Club Meeting Lancaster Brewing Company 7:00 pm</b>

( Print this page and cut this table out to keep as a reminder of upcoming events. )

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://www.lancasterbrewers.com>

and

<http://clubs.yahoo.com/clubs/lancastercountybrewers>

