

# WORTHOG REVIEW



December 2002

## President's Message:

This may seem out of sequence, but I want to echo some of what Donna says below in her column. I believe that this past year was indeed a fine year for our club. I was fortunate to inherit a financially solvent club thanks in large part to Dave Hensley. I am proud to say that after a year of expanded activities and benefits to our members, my successor will find us to be even more solvent. A large measure of credit for this goes to our Treasurer for these past two years, Russ Pipo. With Russ' help and support, we greatly expanded our fundraising activities during the past two years, and we have carefully managed the pennies we have to ensure we remain solvent. On behalf of the club, I want to thank Russ for all of his hard work and support.

This next meeting will see us electing a new board of officers to take over the reins. I have some suggestions to make regarding the operational structure for the club, which were outlined and discussed at our last meeting. In general, my suggestion is that the elected officers form a board or steering committee that has three or four meetings per year outside of normal club meetings to make decisions and conduct business. We all agree that the club meetings are not conducive for this. I believe that some type of (sober) public discussion is necessary once and awhile, however. My proposal is that any paid member can attend these meetings, raise and discuss issues, and have an equal vote in decision-making.

I also recommend that we make a special effort every year to divide up the effort required to run the club. When too much falls on the shoulders of a few people, then service to the club becomes a dreaded task, and those tasks are seldom done properly. It doesn't need to be that way.

My experience this past year points out the need for segregating some of the necessary tasks. First, the President should be focused on the overall club program and the functioning of the rest of the club leadership. He or she should be developing ideas for new activities or programs, and making sure that everyone's wishes are heard. The treasurer should be concerned with accounting for our income and expenses, not membership records or fundraising. We need a Secretary who can properly capture membership data, and keep the mail and E-mail lists current. This task has fallen to Russ and myself this past year, and yes, we suck at it! The newsletter chairman should be concerned about developing content and seeing that the letter is published in a regular and timely manner. All of these jobs, if handled separately, would require no more than 2-3 hours per month to do an effective job.

We also need to recruit more help for special events. Robert Toman is a godsend for spearheading the pub crawl, and Ron McIlroy for championing the August camping trip. We should have someone coordinate the Body In the Bog event. For Hogtoberfest, we need a food chairman and a ticket chairman. These jobs require 12-15 hours of total work, but the work is only over a few weeks time.

Everyone in the club should be participating in one way or another. There is something that will fit even the busiest schedule. If everyone did pitch in, we would have a smooth running club and nobody has to do very much.

Speaking from first hand experience, it's not fun to go around begging for help. Don't make your club officers come to you. Ask how you can help.

If you have ideas or suggestions for how the club should be run, speak up! (But if you don't want to help, shut up!) See what you can do to help, and volunteer for something. I plan to continue my support by hosting a meeting and helping with a special event each year.

I want to close by saying that it has been an honor to serve as President this past year. Thank you all for your support. I have said it many times before: This is a fun club because we don't waste a lot of time with speeches and formalities (I get way too much of that at work). We focus on fun, and sharing our hobby. I sure would like to see it stay that way!

### **2003 –A Fine Year to be a Worthog**

*by Donna Daniels*

The final newsletter of the year brings opportunity to reflect on all the stuff we had a chance to do as Worthogs that we might not have otherwise done. We survived another memorable pub crawl, raised our steins at another Hogtoberfest, camped and brewed in the Sierra, made new friends at Body in the Bog and got to watch other people do it (brew beer that is). We sampled beer and helped staff Suds in the City and ventured to the Exeter Brew Fest just to sample (research is important). Those of us who were more serious about our craft had the opportunity to take a beer judging class from Jim Lopes, take the Beer Judge Certificate Exam, judge and assist with the beer judging at the Fresno Fair, and compete with other home brewers for top honors and cash (only to be defeated by our own Randy Miller). We also had several club competitions, which were very helpful for brewers wanting to improve as well as reaffirming greatness for those who crafted the winning brews. Additionally we welcomed 13 new members to our group.

We could not have had so many good times and learning opportunities as a group without everyone who pitched in. Many thanks to our officers for their year of service. President Dave Smith kept us organized; Treasurer Russ Pipo kept us in the black by around \$1,500.00 this year. Alan Nyitray, Chairman of Style and

Club Historian kept us apprised of upcoming competitions, lined up brewers for monthly meetings and he continues to work toward collecting newsletters that chronicle the history of our club. We are also grateful to all of the members that helped make it a good year by either organizing an event, cooking, hosting a meeting or letting us watch you brew.

Together we made 2003 a great year to be a Worthog.

### **December Meeting:**

This month's meeting will be Saturday December 7 at Bencomo's Home Brew Supply, 234 W. Olive Avenue, and phone # (559) 485-3225. **Dave Morford** will start brewing at 10:00 AM. We will also be judging fruit beers and spice/herb/vegetable beers so bring your best examples and see how they stack up.

**2003 Officers Elections** will be held at the meeting so be sure and show up to help choose the new leadership (or you may be surprised with a nomination and victory in absentia).

**Dues are Due for 2003** – If you have not paid your dues for 2003 be sure to do it at the meeting so the Treasurer doesn't have to keep bugging you about it. Worthog dues are a bargain at \$24.00 (so Treasurer Russ Pipo has suggested raising dues to \$25.00). Dues cover meetings for members and family. Non-members pay \$5.00 per person per meeting. Paid members and family also get into Hogtoberfest for free. Non-members pay 15.00 per person.

**Bring Old Newsletters** – We still need copies of the club newsletters from 1998 through 2000. Come on guys dig around for old copies. That's when we changed from mailing to e-mailing so you computer hackers please did in your computers for old newsletters. Thanks, Alan Nyitray, Club Historian.

## **Calendar of Events**

*(details will be updated as available)*

### **Club Meetings**

#### **December**

December 7 Bencomo's

#### **January 2003**

TBA

#### **February 2003**

February 15

Alan Nytray's

The following is a list of all the **AHA Club-Only** competitions for 2002/2003 – plan your brewing accordingly. We will be having competitions at our monthly meetings to determine the brews selected for entry into these competitions:

| <u>Month</u> | <u>Style</u>                     | <u>BJCP Cat. #</u> |
|--------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Nov. /Dec.   | Fruits & Veggies                 | 21, 22             |
| Jan/Feb 2003 | Bitter and<br>English Pale Ale   |                    |
| March/April  | Brown Ale                        |                    |
| May          | English and Scotch<br>Strong Ale |                    |
| August       | European Pale Lager              |                    |

### **CLUB OFFICERS**

President: Dave Smith

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Treasurer: Russ Pipo

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Webmaster: Bill Stoner

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### **Alan Nytray's Style Notes:**

The winner of the December club competition at Julian's will go on AHA @ Guy Ruths and the Dukes in Albuquerque, NM. Winners of the February competition at my house will be forwarded to AHA @ Leo Vitt and the Minnesota Timberworts of Rochester MN.

Here is a list of the most common brews that you may want to brew in the fall: Brown ale, California common, Eisbock, Mild ale, Scottish ale, Smoked beer, Altbier, Bitter, Extra special bitter, Specialty stout, Doppelbock, Dortmunder, and spiced ale. You don't have to brew for competition, just brew what you love to drink, it's O.K. Just invite us over. If you would like a base recipe for any of these, call me at 268-3387 or e-mail me at [Fauxmanal@alo.com](mailto:Fauxmanal@alo.com).

It's good to report that we are such a tight group that Linda Lester's platter was quickly identified and returned. Hurrah club. Alan

### **Don't leave home without it!**

1. **Beer** – homebrew or commercial
2. **Food** if you want to eat
3. **Recipes** of that great beer you brought so you can share it or get help with it
4. **Ice Chest** – please – small or large for your bottles or kegs, and a little ice
5. **Beer Glass** – your favorite one that is a little different so when you lose it you can find it
6. **Money** or checkbook for the great things we raffle off
7. **Nametag** so we know who you are
8. **Notepad and pencil** to write down names and phone numbers and that recipe or bit of advise you know you must remember.