

# Happy Brew Year!

The Birmingham Brewmasters

Officers:

Ray Statam, President

Kim Thompson, Vice President

Bob Nelson, Treasurer

Julie Boll (?), Member at Large

Dennis Johnson - web presence

Tracy Hamilton - incompetent secretary

As a member of the Brewmasters, you may be interested in signing up for the listbot, AKA mail exploder, remailer, whatever.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/brewmasters>

Web page [www.hbd.org/bbm](http://www.hbd.org/bbm)

Styles for the year:

January	Beginning Brewers
February	Iron Brewer - Porter
March	?
April	?
May	?
June	?
July	?
August	?
September	?
October	?
November	?
December	?

Birmingham Brewmasters

C/o Tracy P. Hamilton

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Posted on Thu, Dec. 05, 2002

## **Streets are paved with -- beer**

**Associated Press**

**DAVENPORT, Iowa** - Ice-cold beer was flowing in a Davenport neighborhood, but it was on a city street and heading for the city's storm sewers, police said. A beer delivery truck driver was ticketed after his trailer smacked into a low-clearance bridge Tuesday. The accident ripped off the top of the Budweiser truck's trailer, collapsing the trailer and spilling beer onto the street. The driver, from Dubuque, was ticketed for disobeying a traffic sign that warns of the 11-foot bridge, police said. It's the ninth time a truck has struck the bridge since Jan. 2001, authorities said. Crews spent most of the day cleaning up the accident that left beer trickling toward a storm sewer and frozen on the city street, police said.

## **Elephants Can't Hold Their Liquor**

sky.com

A herd of drunken elephants have trampled to death six people during a stampede in India. The beasts raided a store of alcohol in a small village while searching for food. After helping themselves to gallons of the home-brewed liqueur, the intoxicated herd went "berserk" and attacked villagers. "The elephants, after consuming huge quantity of country-made liquor, went berserk, killing six people on the spot," a police spokesman said. The elephants had emerged from the jungle in the northeastern state of Assam to raid food stores and granaries. Environmentalists blame the destruction of the elephants' natural habitat. But in recent years the animals have developed a taste for rice beer and liqueur. Around 200 people have been killed in the region this year in elephant attacks.

## **Beer shortage could drive Germans to drink**

20 December 2002

### **BERLIN: German drinkers could be about to face their worst nightmare - a beer shortage.**

The potential trickle in the supply of the nation's favourite tippie is due to new government regulations restricting deposits of disposable cans and bottles which takes effect in January. Retailers say it may mean there may not be enough beer in shops.

The government is imposing charges on non-reusable containers because it says the percentage of recycled cans and bottles has fallen below a 72 percent minimum target set in 1997.

"We may not have enough beer available to meet the demand in January," Jan Holzweissig, spokesman for the German retailers' association, told Reuters. "A lot of stores are planning to remove beer and other drinks in disposable containers off their shelves next month because of the new rules."

Shops don't have any room to store the empty cans and bottles, he added.

The government is introducing a deposit of 25 cents in January for small non-refillable cans and bottles, and 50 cents for larger containers.

Deposits will be returned when the bottles and cans are returned. The measure is designed to counter a growing trend towards non-reusable containers.

"Will there be enough beer?" asked Germany's best-selling daily in bold letters on its front page on Thursday.

"Large retailers are planning to stop selling canned drinks altogether. It could mean that beer in returnable bottles will be in short supply."

It's a scary thought for Germans.

Germany is the world's leading producer of beer with some 1,200 breweries nationwide churning out 53 million hectolitres each year. Germans drink a per capita average of about 123 litres of beer annually, ranking them only just behind the Czech Republic and Ireland.

Beer is among the most important drinks in Germany, accounting for as much as half of the daily intake of fluids for some people. It is not uncommon for workers to sip an ale during mid-morning breaks or at lunch. Vending machines often have beer and the drink can be ordered at fast-food restaurants.

The Aldi supermarket chain, a market leader in the discount sector, said they were planning to stop selling non-reusable bottles and cans altogether.

"Until a reasonable solution to this problem is found, we're not going to sell any more drinks in non-returnable cans or bottles," an Aldi spokeswoman said.

Environmental bodies say the measures support their campaign to clear three billion cans and bottles from Germany's streets.

## **Bosco's to Open Brewpub in Little Rock This Spring - review to follow (I hope)**

### **Notes from Julie Boll from Planning Meeting**

Greetings,

Just an update about the upcoming meeting:

**First**, the date will be January 8th at the usual time and place.

**Second**, since we are not optimistic about a plethora of new newcomers for the "new brewer" agenda, it has been decided not to have a targeted agenda for a new brewer (as always, interested visitors are always welcome). Instead it has been suggested that we bring commercial examples of porters, and we will try once more to pin down how the upcoming Iron Brewer contest will be judged.

**Third**, Jon would like for the club to start entering AHA club only competitions. The January/February theme is apparently English bitters and pale ales. So if you have any of these you would like to have considered for submission please bring them to the meeting, where we select the best example to send. The March/April theme is brown ales and May is English and Scottish strong ales. Sorry for the short notice-but please bring something, because as of now, we have only one known example to submit.

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday and I will leave you with something we found at the York Brewery tavern.

The Lads Prayer

Our Beer

Art in barrels

hallowed be thy drink

I will be drunk

At home as it is in the local

Forgive us this day our daily spillage

As we forgive those who Spillest against us

And lead us not into the practice

of poncy wine tasting

and deliver us from "Alco-Pops"

For mine is the bitter

The Ale and the Lager

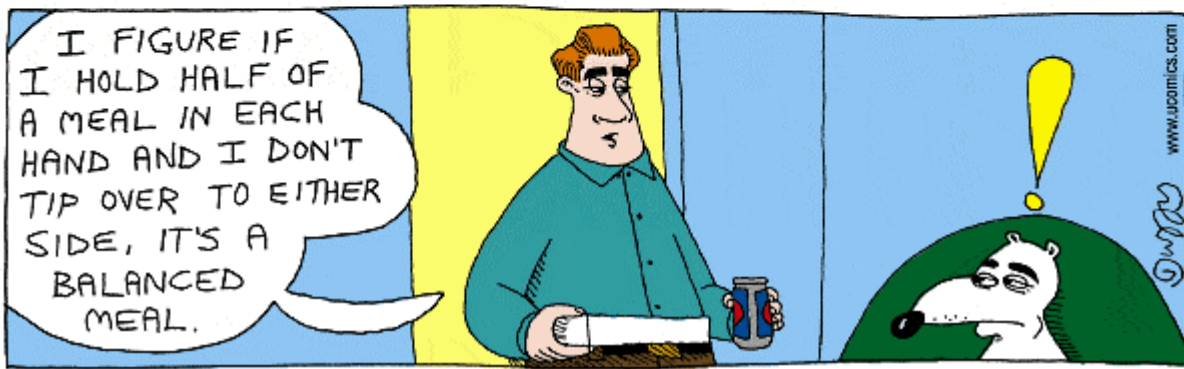
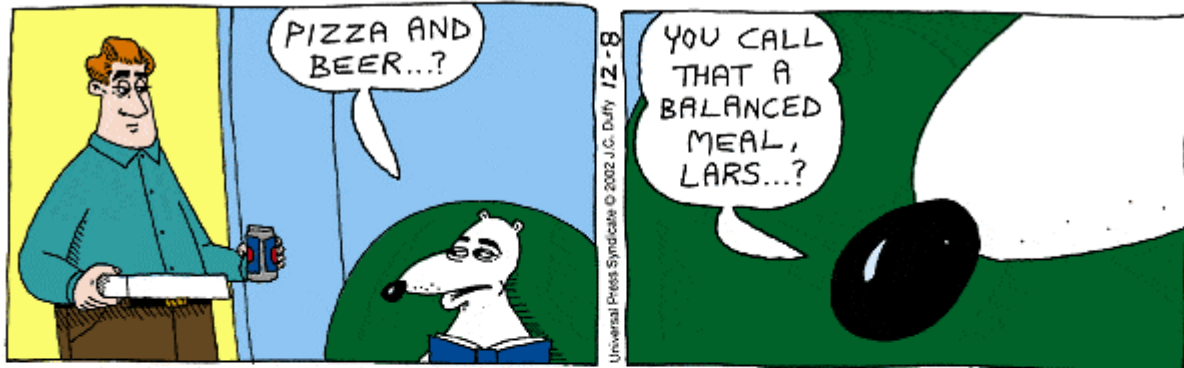
Forever and ever

Barmen



**THE FUSCO BROTHERS**

**BY J.C. DUFFY**

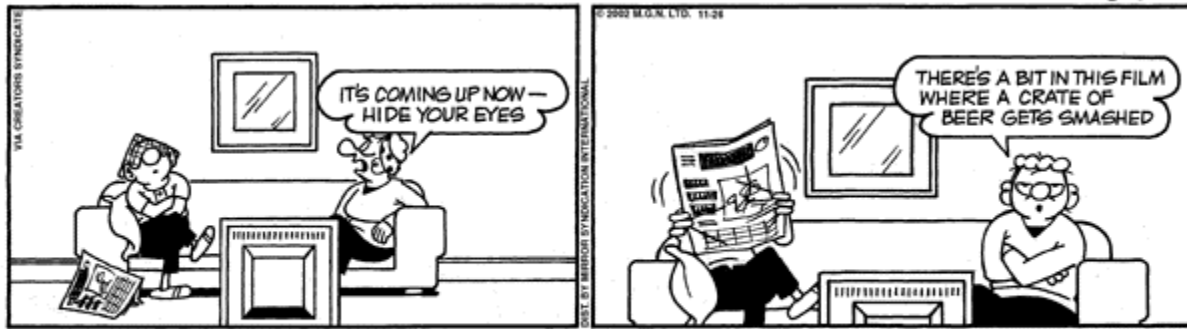




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## Website on the history of beer:

[http://www.eat-online.net/english/habits/history\\_of\\_beer\\_main.htm](http://www.eat-online.net/english/habits/history_of_beer_main.htm)