

The OVHA Tap

Vol 9 No. 5

May 2005

Meeting Wednesday May 25, 7:00 pm at Germania Mannerchor

Big Brew 2005

Big Brew 2005 seems to have been a success this year for the OVHA. For once, we actually managed to have a brew day!

Jack Frey and the Main Street Brewery supplied the ingredients for a Rye IPA and a Porter brew (actually, six brews), both as all grain and as partial mashes.

We got started about 8:00 am, and finished the last bit of wort chilling and cleanup at around 6 pm. Quite a day!

Mashing was a breeze in Germania's "outdoor kitchen" for the batch of Rye IPA except that the amount of grain (14 lbs) was too large for the original mash tun. No problem, it got transferred along with more water, to a boiler for the mash.

Steve Woods trailered his Marvelous Brewing Machine, recently re-christened "The Kliemannator" in honor of the builder down for the event and set it up inside. Worked out well.

Jim Kliemann came down to visit on Steve's invitation and showed us all pictures of his latest project, a very nice wooden clock.

We did have a few typical "adventures" while brewing -- ran out of propane on one burner, one of the immersion chillers sprung a leak and diluted the all grain Porter a bit (this has happened to me at home as well!), but all in all everything went well.

We got a quite a bit of rain during the morning, just in time for the first set of boils, but a tent canopy took care of that.
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Meeting Schedule 2005

May 25th Germania 7 pm

June 25th at Jack Frey's (Bring a present, it's Jack's birthday!)

July 30th at Steve's?

August 27th at Jim Dippel's

September 28th Germania 7 pm

October 26th, Germania 7 pm

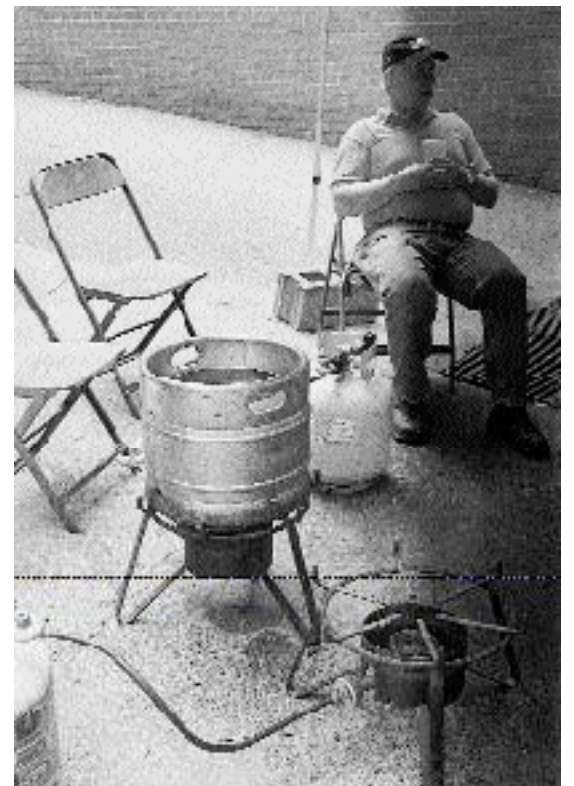
November 16th or 30th,
Germania 7 pm

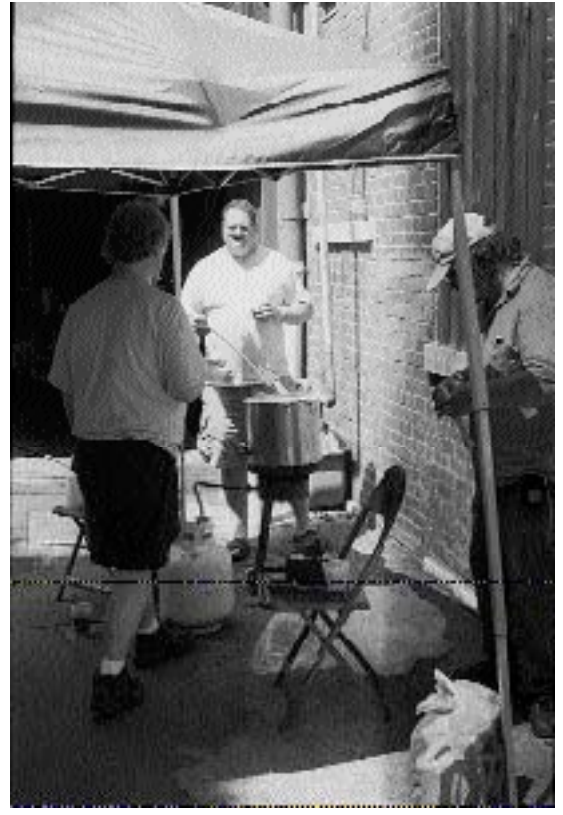
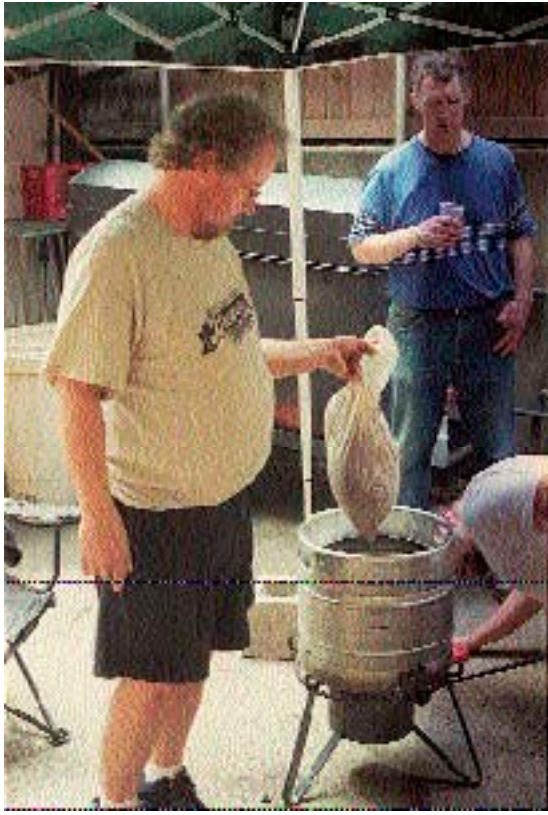
Summer Meetings

As we have been doing for several years now, we will be having our summer meetings at member's homes for potlucks during the summer. Bring a covered dish and anything you want to grill, plus, of course, beer. Kegs can easily be accommodated at all of our locations!

The June meeting will be on Sat June 25 at Jack Frey's on Second Street. We usually test Jack's 4th of July party beer in his lovely back yard. This year is special as Jack turns 50 on the day of the meeting.

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Big brew, cont

John Dippel provided us a lunch of pigg wings, bratwust, and sourkraut, highly fitting for being at Germania. The pig wings were a big hit, consisting of the small bone and a chunk of meat from the ham shank. Quite tasty, if a bit large. Expect to see them soon at a grocery near you!

The beer from Big Brew will be served at the SWIRCA Brewer's Festival, scheduled for August 20th at the Aztar Events Plaza, and the Brew-Ha-Ha at the Museum in September. Six batches should give us enough to get by.

Thanks to everyone who participated!

Summer meetings, cont

The July meeting will be at Steve Woods place in N. Vanderburg county. Call for directions. Same protocol as for Jacks. Steve has quite a brewery setup, and a large barn, so weather won't be a problem.

The August meeting will be at Jim Dippel's. Bring a bathing suit, he has a nice pool. He also has a very nice smoker, so feel free to take advantage! Lots of beer, good times, and good food.

We will return to Germania for the September meeting