

Volume 24, Number 1

January 2014

www.hvhomebrewers.com

Next club meeting

HVHB January 8, 2014

The Dubliner Irish Pub 796 Main St, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603 8:00 pm
(Second Wednesday of the month)

January meeting will have an *unannounced style* as the featured brew. (Bring something to share, Please!) Meeting will be held at The Dubliner Irish Pub.

Dues \$20/year are due

Club officers:

President - Eric Wassmuth
VP - Tom Folster
Treasurer – Manny Holl
Sargent at arms – Dann Gavaletz
Communications Secretary – Phil Van Itallie
Recording Secretary - Hilon Potter



Minutes of Previous club meeting by Hilon Potter

HVHB December 11, 2013

December 11th Meeting at The Derby

Call to order at 8:10PM. 15 members attended.

Next month January meeting will be at the Dubliner Irish Pub.

Beer #1 Black Ale brewed by Hilon Potter

Beer of the month is Scotch Ale (not Scottish Ale). Scotch Ale is the strongest version of a Scotch Ale. Little to no Hops, caramel flavor, first runnings in kettle cooked to enhance. Longer boil

Beer #2 Commercial Scotch Ale -- Dirty Bastard by Founders Ale. with Barley, Oats and Honey. and no hops. Roast gives the character of the beer according to Tom Folster.

Sheets were handed out to get input on what styles should be selected for 2014, and they were collected at the end of the meeting. Results will be posted to web site.

2014 members dues are due in January. There was \$720 spend on the anniversary dinner leaving \$2,353.06 in the account. This is the highest amount of money in the treasury in memory.

There was a discussion on nominating officers for 2014. The current officers agreed they would do another year, and they was a vote, all approved Eric Wassmuth (Pres.), Tom Folster (VP.), Manny Holl (Treasurer) Hilon Potter (Recording Secretary), Phil Van Itallie (Corresponding Secretary), and Dan Gavaletz (Sargent of Arms)

Beer #3 Imperial Stout brought by Josh Youngman.

Previous events:

Learn to brew day at Keegan was a success. Tom Folster reported that three brewers did two batches of beer. There were several interested bystanders who accepted Club address cards.

The 2013 Anniversary party was a success thanks to Dann Gavaletz and his wife for organizing it.

The club had a successful Cider Picking and Pressing. Approximately 125-150 gallons were produced. Four people picked apples and fifteen helped in the pressing. Comments were that the cider pressed was one of the best tasting yet.

New Events:

The 2014 competition is scheduled for March 15th. Submissions will be from Feb 22 to Mar. 17.

2014 Hudson Valley Homebrewers 24th Annual Competition and Chili Cook-Off

[Official Competition Announcement](#)

Saturday March 15, 2014

Arlington American Legion Post #1302

55 Overlook Road, Poughkeepsie, NY

More details to be posted shortly on the web site.

Dann Gavaletz is the coordinator this year. Paul Stolarski is judge coordinator. Mike Sandor is Steward coordinator, and Josh Youngman is prize coordinator, Tom Folster will coordinate the Chili contest, Eric Wassmuth will set up Registration.

Dann is looking for volunteers. A new microphone is needed and they are looking for a scanner to handle submissions. It was suggested that these items could be purchased by the club.

The meeting closed at 9:20PM

Next 2014 meetings

Date/Time

Location

Wed Feb 12th 8pm Mahoney's Irish Pub

Wed Mar 12th 8pm Mill House Brewery

Wed Apr 9th 8pm Schatzi's Pub

Peter Barmann Brewery in Kingston (1881 through 1931)

Thierry Croizer

<http://www.angelfire.com/ny5/brewerianakingston/barmann.html>



The Peter Barmann Brewery was located in the City of Kingston, New York. The brewery was on the corner of what is now Barmann Avenue and South Clinton Avenue. Small portions of the foundation can still be seen in the area. The brewery has an interesting history that includes mob involvement, secret pipelines through sewers and police raids (The police raids are what caught the author's interest and brought the author into collecting of Kingston and Rondout NY breweriana).

Peter Barmann was born in Bavaria in 1844. Peter was seven years old when his mother died in 1851. Peter and his father, Jacob came to America in 1857 and settled in Rondout New York. After Peter finished school, Peter got a job with his uncle, Balthazer Schwalbach, who conducted the Grand Central Hotel and Jacob's Valley Lager Bier Brewery (established in 1852, Jacob's Valley was a valley that ran down between what is now South Wall St and Wilbur Ave in Kingston) on Union Avenue (now Broadway) near the corner of Pine Grove Avenue.

At the Jacob's Valley Lager Bier Brewery, Peter learned the brewing business from his Uncle Balthazer. An 1871 Kingston Directory showed a brewer named B Schwalbach at Union Ave near Greenkill Ave. Balthazer died in 1881 and Peter succeeded in the management of the brewery. Peter being a savvy businessman used "est. 1852" on his logos. Peter stretched the truth a little. It was Schwalbach's brewery that was established in 1852, Barmann was established in 1881.

Adopted new technology of bottling in 1884

Peter, seeing the advantages of bottled beer, begun bottling beer by 1884. By 1885 the lager beer brewery had relocated to the foot of Clinton Avenue south of Greenkill Avenue. By 1890, the brewery was producing 5,000 to 6,000 barrels(*). The business prospered and in 1896 "Jacob's Valley Lager Beer" as well as ale and porters, were in increasing production. The brewery also produced "Thuringer Hofbrau" real German beer. In 1898 they were in the area of 8,000 to 10,000 barrels produced(*). And three years later their production was approaching 17,000 barrels(*).

Peter Barmann died on July 20, 1908, and his son, Peter, Jr., who had been the brewmaster, assumed the ownership. The deceased Peter's wife, Susan, became the President, Vice-President and Treasurer of the corporation while Balthasser Barmann assumed the Secretary's position.

The area around the Barmann Brewery became known as the Barmann Grove. At the Barmann Grove, new buildings were added, including the "Elysium", meaning a place of festivity, where

parties, meetings and entertainments were held and enjoyed by many community groups. That area is now referred to "Barmann Park" by the old timers in Kingston. In the brewery, new and modern equipment was installed, including gleaming copper tanks used for beer making.

Source of beer to speakeasies until 1931 raid

January 20th 1920 (prohibition) set in motion the demise of the Barmann brewery. Prohibition had caused the brewery financial troubles. The brewery had to find ways to ease it's financial burdens. This is when Jack "Legs" Diamond became involved with the Barmann Brewery. John T Diamond (aka - Jack "Legs" Diamond) was a bootlegger and gangster during prohibition that made his home in the Hudson Valley. "Legs" Diamond ran the illicit operations that involved the Barmann Brewery during prohibition.

According to a June 2, 1931 Kingston newspaper, the Barmann brewery was raided by the "Flying Squadron" (an "elite" group of revenue agents). Persons with ties to Diamond were arrested during the raid. That seizure had been one of the largest of it's time, a "Million Dollar Seizure". The brewery had been brewing beer and shipping it out to other locations via a pipeline that ran through the sewers of Kingston. There was a 2 1/2 inch rubber hose was laid out through the city sewers during the late night hours when all respectable persons were inside their homes.

Pipeline not discovered until the 1970s

The pipeline had been laid out by plumbers who were hired by "employees" of the brewery. Being plumbers, their work in the sewers would not draw too much attention from passer-bys. The pipeline ran from the brewery to a warehouse several blocks away on Bruyn Avenue. At the warehouse, the beer was either bottled or kegged and then loaded onto waiting trucks to be shipped out to speakeasys in New York City and Albany/Troy.

These speakeasys were run by Jack "Legs" Diamond. (The rubber hose pipeline was only discovered during the late seventies, but it was said that everybody knew about it - they just didn't dare mention it, fearing Jack "Legs" Diamond's wrath.) There is even speculation that New York State Supreme Court Judge Joseph Force Crater, who disappeared without a trace (presumably on Jack "Legs" Diamond's orders) and was buried in the sub-basement of the brewery during that same era.

There brewery sat on a hill that is riddled with man-made caves. In March 2004, the author was lucky enough to enter one of the caves that had probably been used for ice storage, keg/case storage or for other illicit reasons. The new property owners had found an entrance while clearing the land. The entrance dropped approximately 35 feet straight down into the cave. With the assistance of a Kingston Fire Department ladder, the author explored the cave. While the explore was exciting, he was disappointed that he didn't locate some lost breweriana treasure! The author didn't find any bodies or skeletons either.

Even after the repeal of prohibition in 1933 the brewery never recovered. By 1938 the brewery had been bought by the Jacob Ruppert Brewing Company. All operations ceased shortly thereafter.

The CH Evans name was taken over by Barmann after the Evans Brewery closed in Hudson NY(*). See this C H Evans Ale label, it states "Brewed by Peter Barmann Brewery, Kingston New York".

The remaining large brick building was taken over by Pepsi-Cola Ulster Distributors in 1944. In 1945 the Supreme Beverage Co. appeared from a Kingston City directory listing to be the occupant of this brick building. In 1963 this building was vacant and was later demolished.

Barmann's U Permit number was U-236.

Sources:

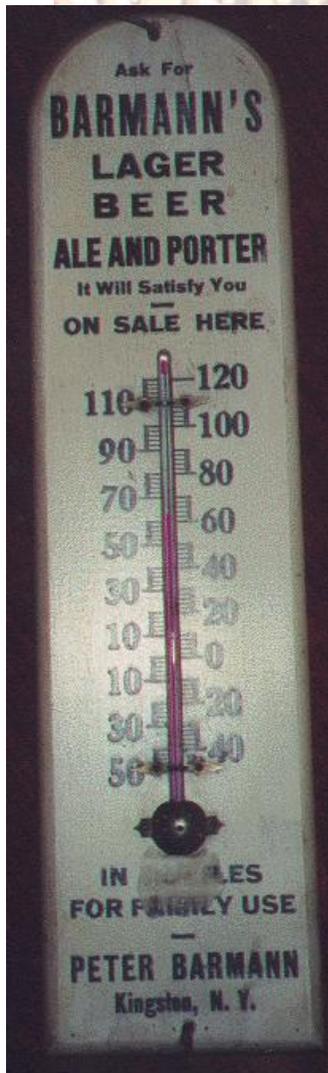
Edwin Ford (City of Kingston Historian);

City of Kingston Directories;

Jack "Legs" Diamond Anatomy of a Gangster by Gary Levine (Purple Mountain Press);

(*)Beers, Breweries and Breweriana by Will and Sonja Anderson;

Kingston Daily Freeman



Jack Diamond



NYPD mugshot of Jack Diamond

Born Jack Diamond
July 10, 1897
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA
Died December 18, 1931 (aged 34)
Albany, New York

Joseph Force Crater



Born January 5, 1889
Easton, Pennsylvania
Disappeared August 6, 1930 (aged 41)
New York City, New York