



On Tap Lancaster Liederkrantz Beer News March 6, 2019

The quality beers keep arriving at the Liederkrantz Club taps. Try some!

Victory Brewing Company owners Ron Barchet and Bill Covaleski met in 1973 and, while they didn't start planning a brewery in grade school, they stayed fast friends. Homebrewing together since 1985, Ron apprenticed at well-remembered Baltimore Brewing Company (BBC), working under a Dutch-born and German-trained brewer named Theo DeGroen. While Ron then trained at Wehenstephan. Bill backfilled Ron at BBC where he brewed multiple Great American Beer Festival award winners. Since opening their Downingtown brewery in 1996, Victory has developed into a regional beer powerhouse that makes a well-regarded spectrum of lagers and ales. **Victory Prima Pils** was one of their first beers and is likely the most recognized. A multiple award winner, the Prima offers aromas of fine Pilsner malts and whole flower Hallertau, Tettnang, Saaz, Spalt Select hops. Well balanced and full of flavor, this is one of the great local beers.

South County Sound Machine Extra Pale Ale is brewed with wheat, oats and lactose sugar, providing a complex blend of flavors. Whirlpool dry-hopping with Cascade, Eldorado, and Bravo hops provides aromatic citrus, floral and tropical notes; yet with low bitterness (15 IBUs!). Brewed with over 50% wheat, flaked oats, and a touch of lactose sugar, its 6.8% ABV is well hidden in this refreshing "orange creamsicle" of an ale.

Klosterbrauerei Ettal is one of the very last remaining authentic German monastic breweries still operated and managed by its "true" owners, the monks of the Holy Rule of St. Benedict. Since 1330 the monks have lived and worked the monastic life in the Bavarian Alps. Since 1609, the monastery's own businesses - its brewery & distillery, and farming - have provided the funds to sustain its centuries-old buildings, art treasures and educational facilities. In addition, they operate a publishing business, a hotel and bookstore, as well as a distillery that produces unique and well-known liquors. The award winning **Kloster Ettal Abbey Dunkel** is an easy going 5% ABV Bavarian dark lager as developed in the Bavarian monastic brewing tradition. Characterized by their smooth malty flavor and rich brown tint, Dunkels are a winter treat.

The town of Cologne, the namesake for Koelsch, has a federal law protecting its right to brew this pale, top-fermenting ale. Koelsch is typically lighter even than Pilsner in color and is often around 5% ABV with a slightly malty, fairly soft palate. The finish is decidedly dry due to its high attenuation and firm hop character. The clean flavors result from a fairly long, cold maturation of two to six weeks. Another tradition unique to this beer style is its method of serving in narrow, 20 cl cylindrical glasses called "Stangen", often stacked in a pyramid on a round tray. Heinrich Reissdorf founded the Obergärige Brauerei Reissdorf, the predecessor of the present Privat-Brauerei Heinrich Reissdorf GmbH & Co. KG. In 1901, his wife became sole Managing Director, to be succeeded by her sons in 1908. **Reissdorf Koelsch** is brewed to be pale of color, soft on the palate, restrained on fruitiness, and with a delicate dryness in the finish. At 4.8% ABV, the original Gravity of 1047 and 12.0 Plato provides decent body for this quintessential session beer. This exceptional brew is one of the finest of its style.

Korbinian was the name of an 8th-century Frankish saint who was sent by Pope Gregory II to evangelize in Bavaria and is credited with establishing the monastery on Weihenstephan hill near Freising. Brewing has been occurring at the Weihenstephan site for well over one thousand years. The world's oldest brewery is also one of the world's most modern; since 1930, the Technical University of Munich has operated a world-famous brewing academy on the site which is now a global leader in brewing technology. The superb **Weihenstephaner Original Lager** is brewed according to their centuries-old traditions on the Weihenstephan hill. Light Noble hopping of 21 IBUs is balanced by wonderful malt flavors. This delicate tension extends through a lingering finish. At 5.1 % ABV, this is the perfect session beer or accompaniment to a fine meal.

Brauerei Aying has a long-standing reputation for excellence in beer and hospitality. This picturesque village 25 kilometers southeast of Munich has had famous restaurants for more than 500 years. Privatbrauerei Franz Inselkammer KG / Brauerei Aying produces 12 different styles of beers, more than most of the larger breweries. Founder Johann Liebhard had no male heirs so he passed the business on to August Zehentmair who married his eldest daughter and heiress Maria in 1904. August and Maria Zehentmair built up the brewery but then he died in 1936 in the age of 56, also without male heirs. The eldest daughter Maria and her husband, inn and inn owner Franz Inselkammer succeeded him, and the brewery and associated pubs and inns are still in the Inselkammer family. World renowned with many international awards, Aying excels in all the Bavarian styles.

Ayinger Brauweisse is inviting and perhaps a bit tart in flavor; this is "brut" beer with a delicious, smooth body from a malt bill of about 60% wheat. When well poured, this is a beautiful draft beer. Full-bodied, very soft and mild from the beginning, it has a lively, champagne-like sparkle over a typical wheat beer taste. It finishes with a subtle spicy,

fruity note that comes from a traditional Bavarian top fermenting weissebier yeast strain which reminds some of cloves or ripe banana.

Ayinger Bavarian Pils Introduced to the US for the first time in 2017. Originally inspired by Czech Pilsner beers, German pils beers were the original inspiration for golden lagers in the US. Ayinger's version shows the masterful perfection of four classic ingredients melded by a family's generations of brewing skill: local barley malt; noble Hallertau hops; water from an Ice Age aquifer via the brewery's well; and lager yeast. The Bairisch Pils evokes the flavor of the barley harvest augmented by the scents of nearby gardens. The solid pils flavors are enhanced by a zesty mouthfeel and the moderate 5.3% ABV keeps this beer light and refreshing.

Lancaster Liederkrantz beer drinkers enjoy quality regular beers and an array of rotating items. If one of the beers has gone off tap, ask your bartender to suggest a similar, tasty replacement.

Enjoy!

Lancaster Liederkrantz Beer Guy - Jim Weber

The LLK beer staff tries to satisfy customer interests at all times by providing a range of beers for disparate tastes, alcoholic content, and budgets. We know beer drinkers at the Liederkrantz take their beer seriously! If you have concerns, suggestions, comments, or just wish to send ramblings on the subject, please send to Jim Weber at jimweber.lancaster@gmail.com or Greg Buckwalter at gregbuckwalter@hotmail.com. Enjoy and see you at the club!