

ULLAGE AND SPILLAGE

by J.Random

- July 2002 1st Monthly cask Saturday at DIX
- Nov 2002 CAMRA BC OKs Vancouver chapter
- Jan. 2003 1st meeting of CAMRA Vancouver
- July 2003 1st Caskival at DIX
- Aug. 2003 1st Weekly cask Thursday at DIX
- Dec. 2004 1st Winter Cask festival at DIX
- May 2006 J. Random calls for casks at The Whip
- Nov. 2006 1st R&B Cask Sunday at The Whip !
- July 2007 J. Random calls for casks 7days/week
- Aug. 2007 1st Monthly cask at Big Ridge
- Sept. 2007 1st Monthly cask at Taylor's Crossing
- Jan. 2008 1st Feast of 5 Firkins at The Whip
- July 2008 1st Summer Cask Fest at Central City
1st cask 7 days/week at Irish Heather !
- Jan. 2009 J. Random calls for casks 7 days/week
at all brewpubs within 2 years
- Feb. 2009 1st cask 7 days/week at Alibi Room !
- April 2009 2 more handpumps at Alibi Room !!!
- July 2009 1st Weekly cask at Yaletown
- Aug. 2009 1st Casks for parties from R&B
- Sept. 2009 1st Weekly cask at St Augustine's
- Jan. 2010 1st Monthly cask at Amber Jacks
6 casks available in one week

! Denotes beer engines. The rest are cask on the bar

The need to document the chronology of cask-conditioned beer in Vancouver became obvious after conversations among the founder members of the Vancouver branch revealed we all had different recollection of what happened when. To avoid this turning into a book, I have not attempted to document every cask ever produced for a special occasion. Rather, I have focused on the initiation of regular events focused on cask beer. I know Spinnakers was doing weekly casks since 1984, but popping out for a swift pint at Spinnakers was not really an option for those of us from the big city. Where possible I have gone back to the people that served or brewed the beer for definitive dates. Thanks in particular to Alyson Thomlin of R&B who was a fount of information on documentation for the locations where they helped to initiate cask beer: The Whip, The Irish Heather and Alibi Room. Special thanks to Mark Andrews of the Mark James Group, who was right there at the beginning, for digging into DIX archives and confirming he started serving cask beer monthly at DIX when Stephan Aranson was the brewer. It started with regular guest beers from the likes of R&B, Mission Springs, Yaletown and Storm with rotating with casks from the house brewer. DIX was cask central but the nearest branch of CAMRA was based in Steveston and rarely ventured downtown. The revival of a Vancouver branch was proposed to CAMRA BC at the GCBF in November 2002 and the first official meeting was on January 18, 2003 with three casks at DIX. While CAMRA UK has been dogmatic about supporting cask over keg beer, CAMRA BC has not been in a position to be choosy, hence the general support for craft beer. However it was simply a matter of time before the R in CAMRA BC became a reality. The brewers stepped up with the supply and we supplied the demand. (Note the power of this publication: 6 months✓, 1 year✓, 2 years TBD) Progress was slow at first, but the growth of real ale in Vancouver has recently become almost exponential. It doesn't seem like eight years.

Doesn't time fly when you're having beer? §