

Texas Beer!

by Mike Prero

Of course, Texas beer! What other kind is there? I know what you're thinking, but let me put to rest once and for all the spurious rumor that beer is anything but a Texas invention. If you look up "beer" in the encyclopedia, you'll see references to it being present as far back as Ancient Egypt...but that wasn't *real* beer. Ya'll know that down here in this neck of the woods beer was invented by D. Stillery in San Antonio, during the annual cotton festival on October 1st, 1811....and that, by the way, is where those Germans got the idea for their *Oktoberfest* from. Anhauser-Busch, Coors, Olympia, Schlitz, and all those other "foreign" beers—all johnny-come-latelies. **TEXAS** is where it all began!

Look in your Beer collection, and you'll see a number of brands that are true Texas beers. My own particular collection is by no means extensive, but I was still easily able to find at least six brands brewed and bottled right here in the Lone Star state, especially our own namesake—Lone Star Beer. Here is a short list of the Texas beers I found (most of which are shown here):

- Harry Mitchell's Beer (Harry Mitchell Brewing Co., El Paso, TX)
- Lone Star Beer (Lone Star Brewery, San Antonio, TX)
- Mitchell's Beer (Harry Mitchell Brewing Co., El Paso, TX)
- Pearl Beer (?, San Antonio?, TX)
- Pearl Light Beer (?, San Antonio, TX)

- Shiner Beer (Spoetzl Brewery, Shiner, TX)
- Shiner Texas Special Beer (Spoetzl Brewery, TX)
- White Rose Beer (Dallas Brewery, Dallas, TX)

Of course, there are more—older, major brands that I don't happen to have in my collection, but also newer, smaller brands that have appeared with the fairly recent advent of the popular micro-breweries across the country.

You're probably not going to want to break out your Texas beers into a separate collection, but it's noteworthy, especially to all you non-Texans, that there *are* Texas beers and breweries...*Ya'll take care now!*

