

Bare-assed for Peace

Morning Glory employees get naked for a calendar and a cause.

Going buff for a good cause is nothing new. Lady Godiva (as myth has it) rode through the streets of Coventry, England, naked on horseback in support of the arts. In 2002, Zambian women bared breasts to protest political corruption. Locally, The Men of the Long Tom Grange made headlines when they dropped their drawers to raise money for local schools.

Now the employees of Morning Glory Café at 450 Willamette are joining this famous and infamous set with their new 2005 calendar "Power to the Peaceful," a fund raiser for Eugene PeaceWorks. All 14 employees and café owner Gail Brown pose nude in the 12 artsy, black and white photos. The calendar is marked with politically relevant dates such as "800,000 rally for disarmament in New York City (June 12, 1982)," and "Earth First! Activist Judi Bari born (Nov. 6, 1941)."

Each employee had complete artistic freedom to pick his or her pose and the images reflect the humor and diversity of the Morning Glory Café staff. The shots range from tastefully vanilla to a few that are sure to raise some eyebrows.

For example, the February calendar "girls" stand naked in a pose that could be construed as sexually suggestive. October features a man dressed in little more than a few leather straps, a dog collar and stockings straddling a motorcycle in a scene reminiscent

of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*. But the shot most likely to stir up some debate and commentary is June's calendar girl, an image of a woman standing with her wrists bound above her head and two of those spoon-like tea holders clamped to her nipples.

Was Harmony, the staff member who posed for that shot, worried it might offend some people?

"I would definitely consider myself a feminist," she said. "My response is that I'm portraying an aspect of playing with power and domination which very much has to do with my own personal choice. The ability to work with dominant and submissive roles in a sexual context is really empowering and healing for me, especially since our culture has systems of oppression built into it. This is a way for me of processing that."

But really, the employees *EW* spoke to don't want any of the pictures to be misconstrued as a political or social statement. The only thing political about this calendar, they said, is that it exists to support an organization dedicated to working for peace.

"I also want to say that my photo is just for fun," Harmony said. "I wasn't thinking about being political, I was just feeling kind of feisty that day and wanted to do something that reflected my personality."

Sahara, who works as a cook and a server, poses in another eye-catching photo where

she and another woman stand facing each other across a table, both holding very large knives.

She said figuring out what to do for the photo was "nerve-racking." Now that the calendar is out, she said it's also a little weird to have customers flipping through it, picking out the different servers working that day.

Was she worried about people's reactions to her cutting edge image?

"Everyone's going to have their own opinion about what's the right thing to do," she said. "I say, to each their own. People don't have to buy it. There's a fine line between art and sensuality and porn and that line is different for everyone. I feel that this calendar is

more on the artistic side."

Most of the money for the project was donated and local photographer Kurt Jensen donated his time shooting the images and got some free meals for his time. He also has a personal reason for getting involved: A month ago his brother shipped off to Iraq. They printed 500 copies of the calendar. It sells for \$12 at the café, which is open from 7:30 am to 3:30 pm. The proceeds from the calendar will be donated to Eugene PeaceWorks.

"I think it's hilarious," said Eugene PeaceWorks Board member Phil Weaver. "I thought it was very gutsy and that the pictures are very funny. Leave it to Eugene and the Morning Glory to take it a step further." **EW**



KURT JENSEN

WIDMER  BROTHERS

CREATING AN EVEN BETTER BEER
THROUGH FIELD RESEARCH

TEST SUBJECT: Jason Gearhart

WIDMER BEER OF CHOICE: Hefeweizen

CHOICE OF MUSTARD: Spicy Brown

— DAY 22 —

Today we tested the ideal "kindling mix" for proper brat grilling. The combination of chicory, half an abandoned hornet's nest and an old bra found underneath the subject's deck was deemed ideal. Next, we measured the effects of lemon on our Hefeweizen. Results proved to be delicious, with the flavor consistently scoring above 9.5 on the Rheinmann/Gruber Pleasure Scale.

Smoke caused only minimal hair loss.

Kurt and Rob put out small chemical fire before lunchtime.




The brat tested positive for Hefeweizen compatibility — and trace amounts of Actinium-238.



©2004 Widmer Brothers Brewing, Portland, OR

widmer.com