

# St. Sometimes **ThanksGiving**

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V196



Inside this issue: thanksgiving, comforts of home-overseas, jazz after 30 years,  
the most magnificent Kegerator...EVER

# Gobble Gobble, Eh!



**Rosanne** invited me over for American Thanksgiving. I gave her so much guff for not inviting me for Canadian Thanksgiving, she promised. It's difficult to name all of the people I shared Thanksgiving with, but I had so much fun and felt included in a family for the holiday.



Canadian thanksgiving has always been fun to be a part of. It comes a month before the US holiday and most Americans don't celebrate it. Since I have a lot of Canucky friends, I've usually been invited to participate.

Roseanne is also a nurse. For some reason, many of the schools I've been to overseas have Canucky nurses working. Why? There are many possible reasons: to get away from the moose, they are taking over the world with Kindness, they are all working for the Canadian secrecy agency? (is there one?) I'd spot a Canadian Spy anywhere. Just look for the Canadian flag patch.

**Thank you for including me, "PIE". Great Family, Great Day!**

# Feeling at Home



## When Overseas, Bring Some of Home with You

Game Night consists of board games and laughter. No, not foreign games. These are genuine US of A games imported from the mother land. This is just one of the many ways to keep the feeling of home alive. The plan is to get together once a week, but one of us is always busy. The holidays bring a lot of musical commitments for several of us.

The game shown above was some kind of Texas Hold'em trivia game. You could bet on all of the answers. We also broke out a game of Boggle, which I haven't played in an eon. What a great night. I'll be hosting a few of these game nights after Christmas break when things settle down.



(Top) Mike has a sick cat. There is a vet on the island and several other off camp.

Try getting a cylinder of gas through a security check point! Necessary for a gas grill. (middle)

(Bottom) Lots of people have homemade beer and ways of serving.

# Big Band Jazz Xmas

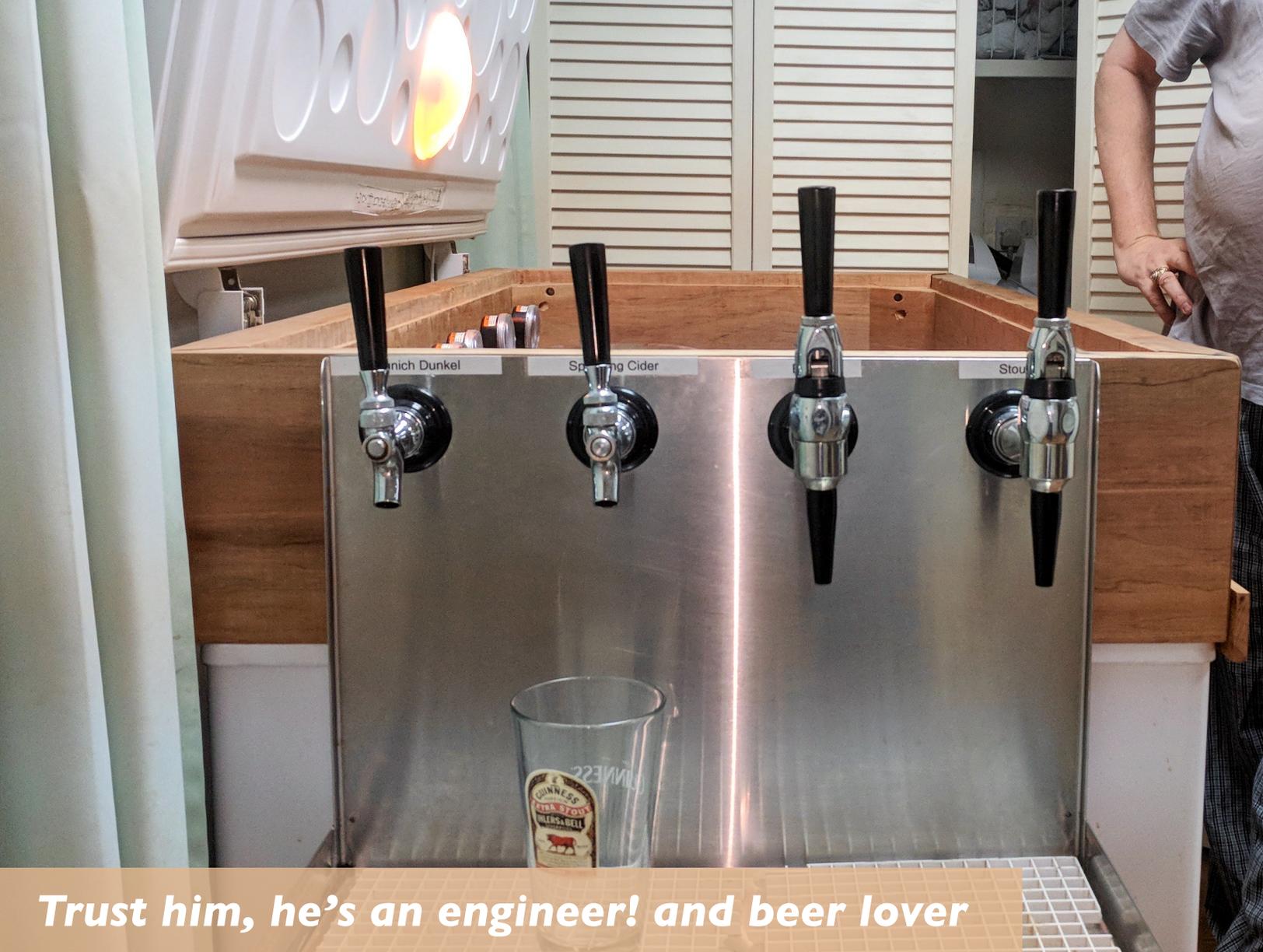
Photo by: Maria Anderson



## 30 Years Later, In a Country Far Far Away...

'Tis the Season! for Jazz. I'm not the soloist. I'm not the lead on any instrument. I feel like I've started a new instrument in 8th grade and all of the other players are 6th graders. My former musical talents better emerge soon. I'm totally having fun but my pride is hemorrhaging.

What is a double sharp? What's that new key they added to the saxophone? Where do I go for a *DS al coda*? These are all questions running through my mind as I play second alto in the Dharhan Big Band, which was founded almost six years ago by a few band teachers. The middle school band teacher gave me a beginner Yamaha and three, soft (#2) reeds. Now I'm playing in a jazz band once a week on Sunday nights, with concerts lined up throughout the year. Everything is going at such a fast pace I don't even have time to feel inadequate with being regulated to second chair - more like third chair. Would you believe me if I told you I have been practicing



## ***Trust him, he's an engineer! and beer lover***

I rarely have beer on this island. Once in a while though, I run across someone who does. There are some very elaborate contraptions that beer and alcohol lovers have installed in their homes. This particular engineer lives and works on the island on "Bachelor Status", which means his family lives in his home country while he works here. There are a lot of workers on "Bachelor Status". Like me, as a writer, they all have to find a hobby.

This guy took a deep freezer and turned it into a beer fridge. He has small kegs like restaurants use for soft drinks. Of course, he has the CO<sub>2</sub> cylinder. All of it was smuggled in as parts disguised as household items and assembled here.

His three varieties of beer are excellent. The stout was delicious and the cider was indeed sparkling. He downplayed everything in his modest way, but I have never seen anything like this before. Just look at the detail of the taps! I'd say he's part German, part engineer, but he's 100% American.

I might have to drink more beer now.





*Maria is a fan of black and white photography. In fact, her first grade classroom is totally black and white.*

*This was our selfie at the jazz concert.*

*One of my favorite parts of living overseas is travel. I'll be writing my next issue of St. SomeTimes from a dive shop in Sri Lanka. Some people may be looking forward to starting 2018. I'm not finished with 2017 yet. See you in the next issue.*