

## Serving the San Diego Craft Beer Community



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Plates & Pints - Chef Nate Soroko	2
Beer and Now - Fall Beers	4
Brews in the News	6
Q&A with Pat McIlhenney of Alpine	7
Belgian Beer Ladies	8-9
Into the Brew - Oktoberfest	10
The Nameless Beermaid	11
September Craft Beer Event Highlights	t 14
Craft Beer Directory and Map	15



### Japanese Beer Night Stone Green Tea IPA on tap with bottles of Baird and Ishii.

# First Look: Suds County USA Unreleased documentary chronicles SD beer growth

By Mike Shess

For over a year, a film crew led by director and producer Sheldon Kaplan quietly made its way through the San Diego brewing industry. Now, the film *Suds County USA* is in post production and I was among the lucky few to get a sneak peak at the MCA-I Mixer event held late August at Mission Brewery.

Kaplan, a native South African and self-described Hollywood burnout, found himself (and future wife) in San Diego at a friend's wedding during the mid 90s and hasn't left since. Opting to work at Seau's cigar room as a change of pace from the Los Angeles lifestyle, he says his interest in local beer started when he met Skip Virgilio, who was delivering an AleSmith keg to Seau's back in 1996.

With excited eyes, Kaplan describes the luck of timing with his movie. "We started filming at a time of rapid expansion in the local industry," he explains. "As we got deeper into this, we realized that there was a real chance of losing some of this San Diegan history if someone didn't start documenting. I felt a strong sense of responsibility." After months of dedicated research, Kaplan considers himself a historian on San Diego Beer. We'll just have to wait and see. Also by chance, Kaplan met

Also by chance, Kapian met was time for the presentation to Commute on 1 age 12

Mission Brewery owner Dan Selis just as he was picking up the keys for the then-undeveloped, L St. brewery that opened in spring, 2011. Kaplan saw this as the perfect opportunity to chronicle the evolution of East Village's first brewery, and we can't wait to see the time-lapsed photos that document the construction.

I had a chance to ask Mike Mellow, Mission's Director of Sales and Marketing, and Kaplan one big question at the sneakpreview event. So what's the essence of a San Diegan craft brewery? "Homebrewers are the key to craft brewing in general," according to Mellow. "It's much easier to be creative and perfect a recipe with five gallon batches." He continues, "when you homebrew for fun, you can try anything." Indeed, many professional San Diego brewers have ties to local homebrew clubs. For example, AleSmith's Peter Zien is the former president of QUAFF; North County Homebrewers Association's founder Rob Esposito is now helping revive the historic Aztec Brewing Company; and CHUG, a new homebrew club, now fields Derek Freese as brewer at the very new Monkey Paw brewpub in Downtown.

After some discussion, it was time for the presentation to

**Festival Failure** Organizers of the doomed America's Finest Beer Festival speak to West Coaster



Sheldon Kaplan talks with craft beer fans at Mission Brewery

begin. Seats were arranged to the East of Mission's brewhouse, between palates of kegs and boxes of Mission beer on one side, and fermentation tanks on the other. A projector was aimed at a screen, and in front of it Sheldon took his place after a brief introduction by MCA-I. In roughly half an hour, Sheldon explained San Diego's brewing history from the late 1800s to modern times. Then, the dimming of the lights announced what we all came for: the first look at Suds.

Continued on Page 12





### SAT. 9/17, 4P-Close Belgian Beer Bonanza Flights + cheap refills of Duvel, La Chouffe, Ommegang and more!

TUES. 9/20, 4P-Close Barrel-Aged Beer Night 12 big beers from Great Divide, Sierra Nevada, and more!

SAT. 9/24, 12-5P Rogue BeerBQ 40 Rogue beers on tap + fresh Oregon seafood sent same-day air!

About KnB Wine Cellars 32 awesome taps, outdoor patio, massive bottle selection, and delicious food to match! 6380 Del Cerro Blvd, San Diego, Ca 92120 (619)286-0321 knbwinecellars.com By Mike Sness

merica's Finest Beer Festival (AFBF) never was — the three Aday long music and craft beer celebration was suddenly canceled just one day before its July 22nd start date at Qualcomm Stadium's practice field with event organizers citing "unforeseen financial shortfall" as the culprit. Angry ticket holders, a slew of negative press from local media and roughly \$100,000 dollars in unpaid advertising fees (\$750 of which, our own) prompted West Coaster to investigate. After several failed phone and email attempts to contact the Rancho San Diego Jamul Chamber of Commerce and its then CEO Valerie Harrison, we decided to take a drive out to Jamul and pay the chamber a visit in person. What we found was an eviction notice on the chamber's door, and just days later



Steve Schmidt of the *Union-Tribune* confirmed that in fact, the cancellation of the beer festival led to the chamber's financial meltdown, and closure.

Continued on Page 12

from Washington, Oregon and Idaho, our local climate is definitely suitable for growing hops, as long as the farm isn't too close to the ocean. In fact, San Diego is warm enough that most varieties get a head start on the growing season, and the harvest isn't likely to last through the end of September. So, if you hurry, you may still have the chance to pick your own hops at one of two local hop farms. Call Phil at Hopportunity Farm in Julian (858-734-2977) or Eric at Star B Buffalo Ranch and Hop Farm in Ramona (760-789-8155) to inquire about availabilities. Post-season, call up your local homebrew shop to see what varieties of fresh hops they have in stock. Fresh (un-dried) hops are great for home-

brewers that want to add flavor and aroma additions later in the boil. To let these "wet" hops take center stage, use a neutral bittering hop like Magnum to get your desired IBUs for the style of beer you're brewing.

To read the rest of this article about fresh hops and tips for homebrewers, visit westcoastersd.com and search "hops"

## **PLATES & PINTS**



Photo: Kristina Blake

Brandon Hernández hated beer and had never even heard the term "craft beer" until his first trip to O'Brien's Pub in 1999. There. in a dark yet friendly space rife with the foreign smell of cascade and centennial hops. he fell into line with the new school of brew enthusiasts courtesy of a pint-sized one-two punch of Sierra Nevada Bigfoot and Stone Arrogant Bastard Ale. Those quaffs changed his perception of all beer could and should be and he's spent the past decade-plus immersing himself in the local beer culture -- living, learning, loving and, of course, drinking craft suds. He's since taken up homebrewing and specializes in the creation of beer-centric cuisine. A native San Diegan, Brandon is proud to be contributing to a publication that serves a positive purpose for his hometown and its beer loving inhabitants. In addition to West Coaster, he is the San Diego correspondent for Celebrator Beer News and contributes articles on beer, food, restaurants and other such killer topics to national publications including The Beer Connoisseur, Beer Magazine and Wine Enthusiast as well as local outlets including The San Diego Union-Tribune, San Diego Magazine, The Reader, Riviera Magazine, Pacific San Diego, Edible San Diego, Dining Out San Diego, Rancho Magazine, North County Times and SanDiego.com.

# Pair and Share Alike Local epicure Nate Soroko brings beer, food and like-minded gourmands together

By Brandon Hernández

then it comes to the local craft brewing community, its members often talk about how a rising tide floats all boats. Camaraderie has been a key contributor to San Diego's success on the craft beer front. Brewing contemporaries in America's Finest go to great lengths to make sure the local industry excels by offering beer fans not only the experience, but the utmost in quality. Often it comes at zero profit or even a nominal expense, and one recent example of for-the-greatergood sacrifice comes courtesy of Pizza Port co-owner, Gina Marsaglia.

Marsaglia handed over her kitchen and its reins to Nate Soroko, a cook who's logged time at Liar's Club, the Del Mar Racetrack Turf Club, Soleil at K and now splits time between Pizza Port Ocean Beach and Toronado in North Park. Soroko's mission is to celebrate the endless pairing possibilities that exist between beer and food, and he's doing that through pairing events at Pizza Port OB (as well as Toronado). Already, he's opening minds, enlivening palates and becoming a cult hero of sorts in the San Diego suds scene.

Aptly enough, Soroko's beerand-food pairing journey started off in the company of brewers. "We did a dinner for brewers and Pizza Port employees and followed that up with a brunch. Both of them went really well," said Soroko. So well, in fact, that the events have gone prime time in the form of dinners that take place on Pizza Port OB's rooftop dining area. Another sign of growth: Soroko's getting plenty of help in the kitchen. Fitting for this industry, he's collaborating with fellow chefs like Kyle The team's work was on display at Soroko's latest event on August 27th (visit westcoastersd.com for event coverage). The menu was varied and included fried green tomatoes, grilled beets and citrus whipped cream paired with Pizza Port Flying Hawaiian Hefeweizen; grilled octopus and shell beans in tomato broth paired with Alpine Ale; finished with a raspberry and Nutella trifle paired with Ballast Point Sea Monster Stout.

When preparing for an event, Soroko asks brewers for the beers they'd like to spotlight, then builds his dishes around them. "It's easier to start with beer and move to food. Beer is a set flavor, but you can change a recipe; omit an ingredient and throw something else in to change the flavor profile," said Soroko. Each possess unique characteristics depending on the hops, malts and flavor enhancers used in the brewing process. "You can have four different stouts, but different flavors like vanilla, chocolate and chipotle will play off of them all differently. But that's the fun of it."

To that end, an all-stout dinner is on Soroko's list of upcoming events, including an all IPA dinner, and a six-course Alpine Beer Company dinner (dates announced on westcoastersd.com as they come). A list of future guest cooks, including Marsaglia's husband and Pizza Port's co-owner, cooking fanatic Vince Marsaglia, and many others are in the work. Perhaps Peter Zien, AleSmith owner and cheesemaker will bring his CheeseSmith creations to Pizza Port soon? "Every person I've met in craft

Every person I ve met in craft beer is a foodie," says Soroko. "It just goes hand-in-hand."

Despite a respect for classic technique and exotic ingredients, Nate



Chef Nate Soroko puts together some devilishly delicious dishes for Pizza Port's 2nd Annual Brewbies Festival back in February

can recognize, but adding an element so it's like, 'oh, that's different.' That's one of the coolest elements of cooking."

Stay in the Pizza Port beer-and-food pairing loop by checking out their website (www.pizzaport.com). In the meantime, try your hand at the recipes Soroko provided for brined pork chops with Swiss chard & Yukon Gold potato confit. This dish pairs well with a Flanders sour or a hoppy red ale, according to Soroko.

Swiss Chard				
olive oil	1 bunch Swiss chard, stems			
1½ cups pancetta,	removed and cut into			
small dice	1/2-inch lengths and			
1/4 cup white wine	leaves cut into 11/2-			
1/3 cup chicken stock	inch lengths			
juice of 1 lemon	salt to taste			

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Bergman from The Lodge at Torrey Pines, friend and associate Felix Contreras, and fellow Pizza Porter, John Hooper. likes to keep things simple and approachable. "I'm a big proponent in only using five or six ingredients per dish. I like stuff people Lightly coat a large saute pan over medium-high heat with olive oil. Add the pancetta and sauté until brown and crispy. Remove it, leaving the rendered fat in the pan. Add the wine, stock and lemon juice. Bring to a boil and reduce by a third. Add the chard and sauté until the leaves are wilted, about 7 minutes. Season with salt and serve.



4-5 large Yukon Gold potatoes, cut into 2-inch cubes4 stems fresh rosemary 5 cloves garlic olive oil salt to taste 1 bunch parsley, minced

Place the potatoes, rosemary and garlic in a large pot or Dutch oven over medium heat and submerge in olive oil. Bring the oil to the point where it shimmers, but does not begin to boil. Cook until a toothpick inserted into the potatoes goes in easily, 15 to 20 minutes. Remove from the heat and leave the potatoes in the oil until cooled.

When cooled, remove the potatoes from the oil. Coat a large sauté pan over medium-high heat with oil. Add the potatoes, season with salt and sauté until browned, about 8 minutes. Garnish with parsley and serve.

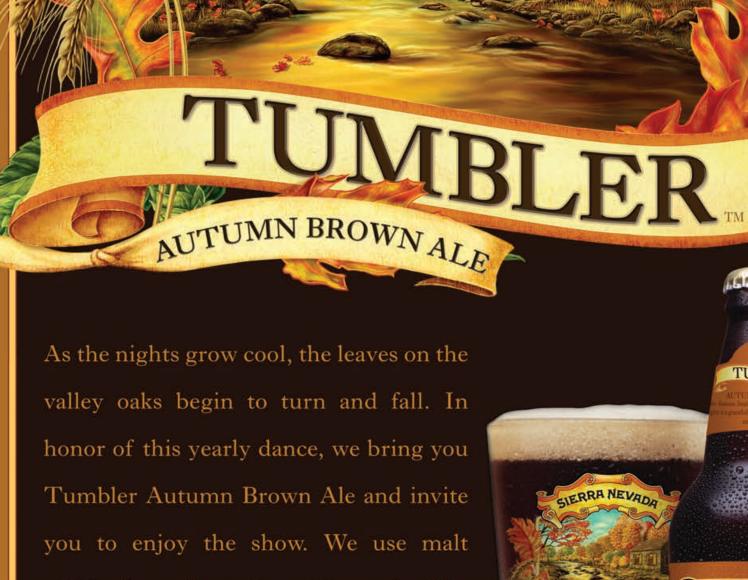
2 cups sherry vinegar1¾ cup kosher salt12/3 cup brown sugar½1/3 cup honey1/2

Yield: 4 servings

**Brined Pork Chops** 

Heat the vinegar in a large saucepan over medium-high heat. When the vinegar is warm, mix all of the remaining ingredients together except for the ice cubes and stir into the vinegar until the honey dissolves completely. Add the ice cubes and allow to cool. When cooled, transfer the mixture to a deep container and add the pork chops, making sure that they are completely submerged. Refrigerate for 2 hours.

Prepare the grill. Remove the pork chops from the brine, pat dry and grill until they reach medium doneness (145 F), 13 to 15 minutes. Let rest for 5 minutes and serve with Swiss chard and potatoes.



Turest

Ingredients

within days of roasting at the peak of its flavor to give Tumbler a gracefully smooth malt character. So pour a glass, and grab a window seat to watch as the leaves come tumbling down.

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## **BEER AND NOW**



Jeff Hammett first noticed craft beer early in college when a friend introduced him to Stone Brewing Co.'s Pale Ale. After graduating from UCSD with a degree in Philosophy, he moved to Santa Cruz where he frequented Santa Cruz Mountain Brewing and Seabright Brewery. Jeff would journey up to San Francisco to visit Magnolia and Toronado every chance he got. He started blogging about beer in early 2009 while living in Durango, Colorado. For a town of only 20,000 people, Durango boasts an impressive four breweries. Jeff quickly became a part of the brewing scene, and in January 2010 was invited to work with Ska Brewing Co.'s Head Brewer Thomas Larsen to formulate a recipe and brew on Ska's pilot system. In addition to his love of craft beer, Mr. Hammett is an avid cyclist and can be seen riding on the road or trails most weekends.

# In Favor of Fall Flavor Five CA beer picks for autumn's arrival

By Jeff Hammett

A summer comes to an end, its crisp and refreshing beers give way to the sweeter, maltier, and often higher in alcohol fall seasonals. From pumpkin ales to Oktoberfest lagers, there's many flavorful beers to satisfy autumn tastes; enjoy these five fall choices, all brewed in California and available in San Diego as soon as this month.

Manzanita Brewing Co., Santee's (just over) one year old brewery, is brewing their Witches Hair Pumpkin Ale again this fall. At 9.5% ABV this is more of an imperial pumpkin pie ale that packs quite the spiced punch. Canned pumpkin pie mix, along with cinnamon, nutmeg, allspice, cloves and ginger give this beer its slightly sweet, well-spiced character. All these spices make for an easy drinking beer; it's hard to believe this one is close to 10% ABV. Manzanita predicts Witches Hair will hit the shelves in 22oz bottles and on draft in early October. Also look out for 2010 Witches Hair, which has been aging in bottles for the past year.

If pumpkin beers aren't your thing, don't fret, for Orange County's The Bruery has you covered with a beer brewed with yet another ubiquitous orange-colored fall fare: yams. Autumn Maple is brewed with over 17 pounds of yams per barrel, and many of the same spices found in pumpkin beers including cinnamon, nutmeg, allspice, vanilla, molasses, and maple syrup. Finished off with Belgian yeast that adds even more spice, Autumn Maple comes in at 10% ABV, 25 IBU and is available on draft and in 750mL bottles now.

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6 packs of Karl Strauss Oktoberfest are available around town now

12oz bottles and on draft after its October 1st release.

Sierra Nevada first brewed Tumbler Autumn Brown Ale last year, and it's back again this fall. Far from what you might expect based on Sierra Nevada's more famous, hoppier offerings, in Tumbler the hops take a backseat and toasted malt flavors drive. A little nutty and a little sweet, Tumbler comes in at 5.5% ABV, 37 IBU and is available in 12 and 22oz bottles, and on draft now.

Aside from West Coaster, Jeff also writes for San Diego Beer Blog at sandiegobeerblog.com, and you can follow him on twitter @SDBeer

# **Think You Know Beer?**

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Karl Strauss Oktoberfest is one of the few Märzen style beers (often called "Oktoberfest style") brewed in San Diego. Darker than many lagers, this deep, golden beer has nutty, toasty malts backed by Perle hops imported from Germany. At 5% ABV and 20 IBU, Oktoberfest is available in 12oz bottles and on draft now.

Last year Firestone Walker changed the name of their oatmeal stout when they bottled it for the first time. Velvet Merkin is now Velvet Merlin. Grab a dictionary and look up 'merkin' if you have to (I did); while the old name has charm, the change is understandable. Velvet Merlin is rich and creamy with plenty of chocolate and coffee flavors, and just about as black as beer can get. This beer makes its way down to SD in



## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

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On the cover: unofficial Westmalle Tripel spokeswomen at Toronado in North Park. Photo: Kristina Yamamoto

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West Coaster is published monthly by West Coaster Publishing Co., and distributed free at key locations throughout Greater San Diego. For complete distribution list - westcoastersd.com/distribution. Email us if you wish to be a distribution location.

> FEEDBACK Send letters to the Editor to mike@westcoastersd.com

Letters may be edited for space. Anonymous letters are published at the discretion of the Editor. © 2011 West Coaster Publishing Co. All rights reserved. "No beer was wasted in the making of this publication.

### **Expansion Expected**

As you paw through our September issue's pages, you'll notice that once again we're bursting at the seams. We're looking to expand to 20 pages in the next few months, and with that comes the need for good copy to fill those pages. Keen eyes will recognize that we're open to suggestions; please send good ideas to mike@westcoastersd.com, with the subject line EDITORIAL SUGGESTION.

### **WC 10K**

I'm proud to report that we're now printing 10,000 issues monthly, and distributing to nearly 150 locations in San Diego County. The only way we're able to do this is because of our awesome readers and advertisers, so thank you. If you'd like West Coaster distributed to a particular location, just ask how.

### **Intern wanted!**

We're currently looking for one more intern for the fall, 2011 semester. As long as your major is relevant to our paper (journalism, marketing, communications), then there's probably a way we can put you to work for course credit. SDSU/ UCSD students get preferential treatment because we're all CSU/UC grads at West Coaster. You must be at least 21 years old. Send an email to the aforementioned address for consideration.

Sincerely,

TZASH

Mike Shess Executive Editor/ Co-Publisher West Coaster



Join us for the 3rd annual SDBW! A ten-day countywide festival promoting San Diego's craft beer culture, last year's SDBW saw nearly 500 events. In 2010, San Diegan brewers hauled in 17 medals at the Great American Beer Festival and 21 awards at the World Beer Cup in Chicago. Taste the world's best beer this November during San Diego Beer Week. NOVEMBER 4-13, 2011 SDBW.ORG

## **BREWS IN THE NEWS**

# August's Top Headlines via westcoastersd.com, facebook.com/westcoastersd, and twitter.com/westcoastersd

The first annual San Diego beer conference, properly called Beer-Con, was a great success at The Handlery in Mission Valley on August 27th. Organized by Tap Hunter and Beer For Thought, Beer-Con gathered craft beer industry members with curious craft beer drinkers in a highly-educational, yet relaxed atmosphere consisting of two separate speaking tracks and various topics. Highlights of



A live outdoor homebrew session at Beer-Con

the day included a thought-provoking keynote speech from Anat Baron, director of the documentary Beer Wars, some great food and beer pairing advice from "Dr." Bill of Stone Brewing Co., a live homebrew session from Home Brews & Gardens, and of course, the Tap Haven beer garden. Search "Beer-Con" on westcoastersd.com to read more.

In awesome nationwide craft beer news, the Brewers Association, the trade association representing the majority of U.S. brewing companies, reported strong mid-year growth for American craft brewers - defined as small, independent, and traditional. Volume of craft brewed beer sold grew 14 percent for the first six months of 2011, compared to 9 percent growth in the first half of 2010. Dollar sales since January were up 15 percent as well (excluding those brewers who left the craft segment in 2010). The craft beer industry, which currently provides an estimated 100,000 jobs for the U.S. economy, continues to grow at an astounding rate; 725 breweries are listed in the planning stages as of 6/30/11 - 336 more than a year ago. "There is a growing interest in establishing new breweries," noted Paul Gatza, director of the Brewers Association. "It seems like every day we are hearing about a brewery in planning. Will they all make it? No, but many will if they produce high-quality, interesting craft beers and can get them to market through self-distribution and beer wholesalers and beer retailers."

On August 23rd Green Flash Brewing **Co.** announced the freezing of wholesale prices of their beer in CA through the end of 2012. "We will hold prices constant for at



Green Flash brewmaster Chuck Silva (2nd from left) gives SDBG members a brewery tour least the next sixteen months, so our retailers can continue to grow their Green Flash business," said Mike Hinkley, founder and CEO.

BrewFest Encinitas, a first-time beer festival by the Encinitas Coastal Rotary Club, went off without a hitch on August 13th. Despite growing concerns with first time festivals in San Diego, the meticulous plan-

ning and dedicated volunteer staff behind the 12-brewery, 2-food truck, 500-attendee event raised raised more than \$5000 for local charities. For a complete review, visit westcoast-



Action at BrewFest Encinitas

ersd.com and search "BrewFest Encinitas".

Local brewing companies Manzanita and **Coronado** both announced big expansion plans in August. Manzanita will be moving just two-tenths of a mile down the road and expects the first keg to be tapped by Christmas. Coronado's new 30-barrel brew house off Morena Blvd. will begin supplementing the peninsular brewpub's 10-barrel system by the spring of 2012. Search "Manzanita" and "Coronado" on westcoastersd.com to read more

Although it was first reported that Aztec Brewing Company would be moving into the old Green Flash facility in Vista, news broke on their Facebook page on August 11th that an unnamed brewery would be using the space instead. Aztec held their soft opening on August 27th at the location they originally planned on setting up shop: 2330 La Mirada Drive in Vista. For coverage of the soft opening, visit westcoastersd.com and search "Aztec".

Monkey Paw Pub & Brewery opened in the East Village to a packed house on August 23rd. The fourth of the "Blair bars" (Hamilton's Tavern, Small Bar and Bar Eleven), Monkey Paw will soon feature 3-4 housebrewed beers by Derek Freese, president of local homebrew club CHUG, for a total of 30 taps. To read our post on the first hour of Monkey Paw, visit westcoastersd.com and search "Monkey Paw".



Monkey Paw, opening night

Two SD beer bars, Stadium Sports Bar & Restaurant in Encinitas and Shakespeare Pub & Grille in Mission Hills, both kicked off their cask program in the same week with Firestone Walker's award-winning Pale 31. WC staff writer/Firestone Walker brewer Sam Tierney was on hand at Stadium to answer curious beer drinkers' questions about Firestone Walker beer.



Beer, food and sports @ Stadium

## WEEKLY WEBSITE POSTS @ westcoastersd.com

In addition to the breaking news and beer commentary you've come to expect from the West Coaster website, three days out of every week will now have a theme-dedicated post. If you'd like all of our web posts simply delivered to your email inbox (we won't spam you, promise!), enter your email address in the "subscribe" box on the right sidebar of westcoastersd.com's homepage.

### Monday Brewery Spotlight

Every Monday we now spotlight a local brewery that's making news. Brewery Spotlight #1, posted on August 8th, was Lightning Brewery, who had just released their fall seasonals

## WC PRINT/ONLINE DIRECTORIES

West Coaster is always searching for craft beer-centric locations to distribute our free rag. Below is a listing of the locations that are currently in our online directory (westcoastersd.com/directory), but are still yet to be added into the next update of our print directory. If you know of a spot that's not in this list or in our directory on page 15, please let us know by emailing directory@westcoastersd.com. We are trying to build a comprehensive list of all the craft beer locations in town, and we need your help!

#### Beer Bars & Restaurants w/ Craft Beer Beaumont's Eatery - Bird Rock, 5662 La Jolla Blvd., 858-459-0474, beaumontseatery.com

Bergie's Pub - Old Town, 2244 San Diego Ave., -3337, bergiespub.com

St., 619-226-6100, thepearlsd.com The Range Kitchen & Cocktails – Hillcrest, 1263 University Ave., 619-269-1222, therangesd.com The Ruby Room - Hillcrest, 1271 University Ave., 7372 ruhvroomsd.com 619

Electrostatic Ale and Ionizer Lager. Then we spotlighted Stone Brewing Co., who celebrated their 15th Anniversary with a new beer release and several events around town the week of the 15th. Coronado Brewing Company, fresh off the announcement of their expansion plans, was Brewery Spotlight #3 on August 22nd. Monday August 29th we featured Aztec Brewing Company after their August 27th soft opening. So who will we talk about each Monday in September? You'll have to log on to westcoastersd.com to find out!

### Weekly Wednesday Event Post

Every Wednesday we cherry-pick the best of the best from our constantly-updated online event calendar (westcoastersd.com/event-calendar) to guide you in the right beer direction over the course of the next week.

## **The Friday Five**

We are kicking off a new weekly web series starting Friday, September 2nd. Every Friday we will ask a local craft beer industry member 5 questions. Here's a list of the people we'll be interviewing in September. Got a question for them? Send it to ryan@westcoastersd.com. Want to be featured in The Friday Five? Just ask!

- •Sept 2<sup>nd</sup> 5Q with Melani Gordon of TapHunter.com re: Beer-Con, SDBW 2011
- •Sept 9<sup>th</sup> 5Q with Jeff Gordon of TapHunter.com re: Updates to the SDBW website
- •Sept 16th 5Q with Ivan Derezin of Churchill's Pub & Grille re: Churchill's Sour Fest, GABF
- •Sept 23rd 5Q with Peter Zien of AleSmith re: New bottling line, GABF
- •Sept 30th 5Q with Jav Porter of The Linkerv/El Take It Easv re: North & South Park's monthly "30th on 30th" event

Bareback Grill - Pacific Beach, 4640 Mission Blvd., 858-274-7117 / Downtown, 624 E St., 619-237-9990, barebackgrill.com Craft & Commerce – Little Italy, 675 W. Beech St., 619-269-2202, craft-commerce.com Leroy's Kitchen + Lounge - Coronado, 1015 Orange Avenue, 619-437-6087, leroysluckylounge.com Little Piggy's Bar-B-Q - Coronado, 1201 First St.,

619-522-0217, nadolife.com/lilpiggys OB Noodle House - Ocean Beach, 2218 Cable Street, 619-450-6868, obnoodlehouse.com Oggi's Pizza - Santee, 9828 Mission Gorge Rd., 619-449-6441, oggis.com PCH Sports Bar & Grill - Oceanside,

1835 S. Coast Highway, 760-721-3955, pchsportsbarandgrill.com Phileas Foggs Bar & Restaurant - Poway, 11385 Poway Rd # 100, 858-486-4442,

phileasfoggs.com

R-Gang Eatery - Hillcrest, 3683 5th Ave., 619-677-2845, rgangeatery.com

Shakespeare Pub & Grille - Mission Hills, 3701 India St., 619-299-0230, shakespearepub.com The Bailey BBQ - Julian, 2307 Main St., 760-

- 765-3757, baileybbq.com
- The Field Downtown, 544 5th Ave., 619-232-9840, thefield.com

The Pearl Hotel - Point Loma, 1410 Rosecrans

Searsucker – Downtown, 611 5th Ave., 619-233-7327, searsucker.com

Village Pizzeria - Coronado, 1206 Orange Ave., 619-522-0449. nadolife.com/villagepizzeria

Home Brew Supply All About Brewing – El Cajon, 700 North Johnson Ave. Suite G, 619-447-2739, allaboutbrewing. com

### **Bottle Shops**

Fuller Liquor - Loma Portal, 3896 Rosecrans St., 619-296-KEGS, kegguys.com/beer Keg N Bottle - SDSU, 6060 El Cajon Blvd., 619-265-0482 / Clairemont, 3566 Mt. Acadia Blvd., 858-278-8955 / Lemon Grove, 1827 Lemon Grove Ave., 619-463-7172, kegnbottle.com Palm Springs Liquor - La Mesa, 4301 Palm Ave., 619-698-6887, palmspringsliquorlamesa.com Texas Wine and Spirits – Carlsbad, 945 Carlsbad Village Dr., 760-729-1836, texaswinespirits.com The Boulevard Wine & Spirits - City Heights, 4245 El Cajon Blvd., 619-281-0551

### Brewpubs

Monkey Paw Pub & Brewery - East Village, 805 16th St., 619-358-9901

#### **Breweries**

Aztec Brewing Company/Seven Nations - Vista, 2330 La Mirada Dr. Suite 300, aztecbrewery.com



We couldn't have said it better ourselves! We lend out Guest Tap to someone involved in the local industry with an interesting perspective or story to tell. If you fit the bill, send an email to mike@westcoastersd.com with what's on your mind and we'll run it (may be edited for

size, content). -Ed

# An Interview with Pat McIlhenney of Alpine Beer Company

By Viktor Sjöberg

n investigative mind, tons of perseverance and a carefully maintained, intimate relationship with his hop oils. Pat McIlhenney, owner and brew master of Alpine Beer Company, has made his tiny hometown a top destination among beer lovers from all over the world.

### You started Alpine Beer Company by contract brewing at AleSmith, and the first beer was McIlhenney's Irish **Red.** What was the initial response?

I couldn't make enough of it. It was based on one of my award-winning homebrewing recipes. All of my homebrewing recipes were designed to be replicated commercially, by only using ingredients that were easy to come by on a larger scale. The production batch of McIlhenney's Irish Red won a gold medal at the World Beer Cup. That showed me that it was a pretty good recipe!

### The first IPA that you released was Pure Hoppiness. Released in 2000, it is one of the original double IPAs. What's the story behind that beer?

My wife has a really good sense of taste and I would rely on her heavily to judge my homebrews. Her taste helped me refine some of the recipes and get them a little closer to where they are today. She likes hops, so Pure Hoppiness came out of an attempt to make a beer that was too hoppy for my wife.

### I think you make the best IPAs in the world. How do you feel about a statement like that?

That's quite an honor, but there's a lot of good IPA brewers around here...well, I would have to stick to the west coast, because the people that say that a beer needs to be balanced...they just drive me nuts. An IPA is not a balanced

beer. It is not intended to be a balanced beer. If you've got a nice, malty backbone for an IPA, it's not an IPA in my opinion, it's something else.

### You want the west coast IPA to be just that.

Hoppy. Light colored, as light colored as you can get it. No caramel malts at all, let your boiling take care of the caramelizing. Try to stick to an acceptable bittering level, not one that makes you pucker and makes it hard to drink. Try to get as much floral attributes as you can accomplish.

That's what a good IPA or Double IPA should be.

There's another facet to that, and that's the oil compounds that result in the aromas that you smell. A good hop analysis breaks down the oil compounds into percentages. The different hop oils all have their own flavor and aroma contribution and they all vary in degrees with each hop variety. And each hop variety varies a little bit from year to year, so our recipes are adjusted on a yearly basis, to keep up with what the years' crop delivers.

### You're working on expanding Alpine Beer Company. What can you tell us about that at this point?

I have a building picked out here in Alpine. It's quite an expensive process and I need to get a lot of things in a row to make it all come together. I'm working on a business plan and it's extensive, so it's taking a long time.

### A lot of San Diego breweries are growing rapidly, and in the past some of the beer has suffered due to substituting ingredients, like hops, for instance. Are you worried about these kinds of things?

I'm constantly worried about that kind of thing and I've been dealing with the hop suppliers now for that expan-

MAIN TAP TAVERN

CORONADO STUPID STOUT SEPTEMBER 7TH

sion because they are a minimum of two years out for order increases. So I started warning them about a year ago and it seems that they didn't think I was being serious up until a few weeks ago. Yes, I've been serious! Let's go!

### Any new beers coming out in the foreseeable future?

The return of our Belgian kriek, Chez Monieux. I can't give you a release date yet, it could be months away, but now is the time that we need to work on it. We're also working on a very limited amount of Barrel Aged Odin, and our big release that is happening September 2nd is Barrel Aged Token. We took our award-winning Imperial Porter and put it in bourbon barrels for about nine months and then blended some fresh Token back in. We're really happy with the way it turned out.

GASK EVENTS:



Alpine's tasting room, two doors down from the pub, offers tasters and growler fills



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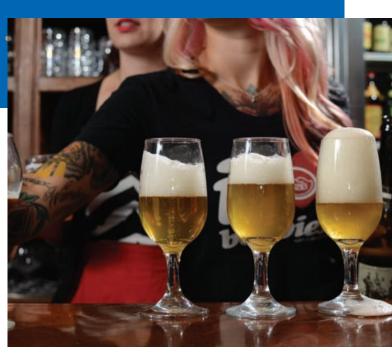
# l'll have what she's having.

by WC Staff photos by Kristina Yamamoto

## t takes more than a pretty face

to serve beer at our local beer bars. You have to know your stuff, too. So, because we've got a lot to learn about the wide world of beer styles and glassware brands, we headed over to Toronado to share a few pints (or chalices and champagne flutes, as it were) with local 'tenders Brandy, Brianne, Chandra, Jenna and Melanie.

Westmalle Tripel quickly became the beer of choice for the morning (fitting for the Belgianinspired bar) and we rattled off a few questions everyone answered well. Can you think of something you'd like to ask the ladies about beer? You'll have your chance on Thursday nights, as members of this all-star, all-lady bar staff sling suds and smiles in North Park.



Don't be afraid of a little bit of carbonation



The ladies, left to right: Brandy Brown, Brianne McLaughlin, Jenna Gillespie, Chandra Mosh, Melanie Pierce

**Favorite local** brewery of the moment?

Brandy - Green Flash Brianne – Alpine Chandra – Alpine Jenna – Alpine Melanie – Ballast Point

Your strandedon-a-desertedisland beer?

Brandy - Elysian Jas Brianne – Alpine Due Chandra - Alpine Ne Jenna – Bear Republ Melanie – Pizza Port

Most cherished piece of glassware? Brandy – Brewbies Festival glass

Brianne - Duvel tulip glass with the blue cartoon Chandra – Beer mug that says "Happy F\*\*\*\*\* Bi Jenna – Hitachino glass Melanie – Brewbies Festival glass



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Summer is winding down. But great craft brew is ramping up. Come by and try an honest pint or two. We have styles ranging from our heavenly honey wheat (Jucundus) to our muscular porter (Brunus)-in short, something to brighten both your palate and your day. And don't miss our next FAC (Friday Afternoon Club), with live music and great food, September 16.



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**LH** 



mine IPA t Ison ic Racer 5 Party Pants Pilsener

s rthday!"

# **Beer Spotlight: Westmalle Tripel**

Westmalle Tripel is one of those beers that got it so right from the beginning, the brewing world has raced to match it ever since. "XXX" and "Tripel" were used for centuries to describe stronger Belgian beers, but Westmalle's decision in 1934 to brew a strong golden beer and label it "Tripel" was the defining moment of the style we know it today.

Boasting a generous hop bitterness and aroma for a Belgian beer, this 9.5% ABV brew is a powerhouse among the Trappist and abbey ales. Brewed using a mix of pale malts and Belgian candi sugar to achieve a high gravity, hops are then added three times during the boil before the wort is cooled and undergoes primary fermentation before maturing in horizontal tanks. The monks let the beer mature for around five weeks before bottling it with fresh yeast and sugar, causing a secondary fermentation in the bottle that gives the beer its signature lively carbonation and thick, large, white head. The aroma greets you with spicy alcohol notes and fruitiness from both hops and fermentation; the flavor has a modest sweetness from the malt before a bitter and drying finish. This is a strong beer meant to be sipped and contemplated.

The signature glass for Westmalle Tripel, and all of the Trappist ales, is the chalice. Each Trappist brewery has their own take on the theme, but all are stemmed and wide-mouthed, allowing for a big head, generous release of aroma and a stately appearance. Westmalle's glass is thick and heavy-ready for any serious beer that you want to throw at it. The brewery recommends that you pour the beer with the glass at an angle until it's almost empty. At this point, turn the glass upright while still pouring to form a large head. You should also keep the last centimeter of beer in the bottle, which will retain the yeast and give you a clear beer in the glass. Be sure to drink the yeast shot though; it's rich in B vitamins.

Looking for local beers in the Tripel style? Karl Strauss' newest special release going on tap at the brewpubs for September is a Belgian Trippel, bombers (22 oz bottles) of Green Flash Trippel can be found around town, and PB Ale House makes a house trippel that's served in either a 14 oz or the more dangerous 22 oz mug.



As Brandy demonstrates, a good pour is all about concentration





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## **INTO THE BREW**



Photo: Kayla Coleman Sam Tierney began his love affair with great beer while studying and traveling abroad in Europe during his junior year at UC Santa Barbara. He began homebrewing shortly after, and has since won multiple awards. Sam is a graduate of the Siebel Institute, a professional brewing school in Chicago, and he is now a brewer at Firestone Walker in Paso Robles, California.



# Bavarian Bonanza

Oktoberfest remains one of the world's strongest beer traditions By Sam Tierney

Rall is just around the corner, and with it comes one of the most traditional and storied beer styles: Oktoberfest. I know, I know, fall isn't exactly a big deal in coastal California where you'd never guess the season by looking outside, but this strong tradition knows no climate.

Part of what separates good beer from generic swill is its story, and Oktoberfestbier, along with the festival that lends its name, has one of the best in the biz. My first experience with Oktoberfest came a few years ago when I visited Munich with some college buddies. What really struck me was how the beer defined the event; thousands of people peacefully enjoyed giant mugs of lager along with traditional Bavarian food and brass band music. A simple weekend trip turned into a life changing experience.

There are six breweries in Munich that pour beer at the festival, which was first held in 1810 to commemorate the wedding of the prince of Bavaria: Spaten, Hacker-Pschorr, Augustiner, Paulaner, Lowenbräu, and Hofbräu. The festival grounds are now named the Theresienwiese in honor of the bride, Therese. The wedding celebration turned into an annual event and has developed into one of the largest festivals in the world, hosting 14 giant beer tents that hold thousands of drinkers at a time, outside beer gardens that hold even more, and a host of carnival rides and attractions to keep you busy in between drinking beer and eating roasted chicken and sausages. Despite its name, Oktoberfest starts on September 17th and goes through October 3rd this year. Years ago, the festival was moved to an earlier date in order to take advantage of the typically better Munich September weather.

The original style of beer served at e festival was Märzen, which was a strong malty lager brewed in March (März is March in German) and stored in cool caves through the summer when temperatures would get too high for brewing. It was traditional to serve the remaining beer in the beginning of fall to deplete the old stock and welcome the harvest and the return of brewing season. Modern examples of the beers served at the festival have shifted to a more pale, dry style of beer, which is now often called Wiesenbier to differentiate it from the traditional Märzen style. Color ranges from deep gold to amber, and the malt character is moderate, and reminiscent of lightly toasted bread. Hops are used primarily to balance malt character but also lend a spicy, noble hop flavor and aroma. As with most lagers, these tend to be clean and crisp in the finish, with minimal fruitiness in



Weisswurst (Bavarian veal and bacon sausage) and bier inside the Hippodrome Oktoberfest tent

comparison to most ales.

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My personal favorite of the beers at the festival is Hofbräu's version, which is one of the paler, hoppier examples. My favorite beer in all of Munich, however, requires a trip to the city's center and the Ayingers Speis und Trank restaurant, located across the street from the famous Hofbräuhaus. The deeply malty, amber-colored märzen brewed for the season is a fantastic example of the style, whether on tap at the restaurant, or bottled stateside.

Most of the Oktoberfest beers from the Munich brewers that we get here are actually different versions than those served at the festival, and are usually the Märzen style. Augustiner, Lowenbräu and Hofbräu make the paler version, but only Hofbräu exports theirs to the U.S. Paulaner recently started exporting their paler Wiezenbier version as well as their amber Märzen, so keep an eye out for that at your favorite bottle shop.

American brewers have also jumped in the game. At Firestone Walker, we recently

we call Oaktoberfest as a nod to our oak barrel union fermentation system, and the annual Oaktoberfest party that we hold. It's a bit of a mash-up of styles; we use German pils, Vienna, and Munich malts to get a deep amber color, but the alcohol is slightly lower than normal and the finish is dryer and hoppier than the original.

We made new friends with every table we shared, from locals to travelers from around the world just like us. As with beer in general, tastes have shifted to lighter beers for easier drinking; these festbiers are meant for a special, one-liter "Maß" mug, so drinkability has been a primary concern for Munich brewers. One could easily be fooled by the lighter color of these beers, but they do pack a punch. Oktoberfestbiers are typically in the 6% ABV range, higher than the standard, roughly 5% helles beers that are standard in Munich beer halls the rest of the year.

## NAMELESS BEERMAID

# More like Boozapalooza Mammoth Bluesapalooza does the trick

Picture your life over the past year. Have you stopped to enjoy the simple pleasures it has to offer? Have you had the opportunity to view a perfect sunset or really feel the breeze? Have you done this amidst a couple acres of pine, dirt, laughter, the mouthwatering scent of grilled food, and music? If you have, now add beer to the scene. Welcome to Bluesapalooza in Mammoth Lakes, California.

With every wonderful vacation comes the "getting there is half the fun" part. The drive to Mammoth is fantastically scenic. About an hour or two outside of Mammoth is this super high-tech beef jerky store cleverly named "Really Good Fresh Jerky." Despite its shady appearance, the name does it justice. However, the jerky was just an appetizer to the copious amounts of beers that wereconsumed over the course of the weekend.

We pulled up to the hotel circle on Friday and Pops opened the tailgate; out came the growlers to relieve the stress of an extended car ride and numbbutt-from-sitting-so-long syndrome. Thankfully, no matter how many times I've been repeatedly asked for ranch dressing at work, no matter how many awesomely rude customers I encounter, and no matter how many times a keg blows, shooting some fantastic color all over my sweet white shirt, five minutes of silence, sunlight, and a pick-me-up beverage really does have an instant resetting effect.

We couldn't wait to get into the festival Saturday as swarms of fellow beer aficionados piled into the designated area. Mom laughed as my Pops and I were running around like kids in a candy store. Do I spy Green Flash? Russian River? Pizza Port? Hess? Kern River? Lost Abbey? All in one place? So many booths, so small a glass, but more than enough time. As I discovered, five hours was more than plenty to taste to my heart's desire. Next year, I plan on trying out that new thing... I think it's called pacing yourself?

As the day went by, the real effects of beer set in. I made more and more friends, had some really intellectual thoughts, and I'm sure my voice's volume went up a couple notches. Sure, the music that played during this festival was groovy and dance-worthy, but for me it was really nothing more than background noise.



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Background noise at Mammoth Bluesapalooza

Instead, I was up to my ears in Russian River's Supplication, Kern River's Just Outstanding IPA, or maybe it was Hess' Double IPA? Perhaps it was all 3. That said, I can honestly tell you that Ballast Point's beautifully-crafted Victory At Sea Bourbon Barrel Aged Porter completed my day. All in all, hats off/thumbs up/chest bump to all the local San Diego breweries that attended. Way to represent the local community!

The ride back home, complete with more jerky, gave me ample time to reflect on the weekend's shenanigans, and I thought to myself how Ghandi is rumored to have once said, "One must take time to sit amongst the trees with a cold adult beverage at least 34 times in their life." I may have exceeded his standards, all in one weekend.

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Documentary focuses on SD beer *Continued from Page 1* 

I was impressed with what I saw. The production quality was top notch, and the clip was a preview-style montage of interviews and moments captured by Sheldon and his team. Things moved quickly, but I saw Chuck Silva, Skip Virgilio, Dan Selis, Chris Cramer, Greg Koch, Tom Nickel, Vince Marsaglia, Vinnie Cilurzo, and more. The narrative, weaved together by interviews, was

strictly San Diegan. To say the 90 second or so preview left me wanting more is an understatement. Suds will be released to DVD late 2011. We'll keep you posted as we hear more.

So with all this beer and a tight production schedule, was Kaplan ever overwhelmed? "Never," he says. " I'm a tenacious mother\*\*\*\*er."



The screen awaits curious beer drinkers

## America's Finest Beer Festival Continued from Page 1

Over a month later there has been little resolution between AFBF organizers, non-refunded ticket holders, vendors and media outlets, like ourselves, that took a weighty loss. Harrison and her husband/event co-organizer Jeff Harrison finally sat down with *West Coaster* to tell their side of the story, including how a festival of this scale was canceled at the last minute due to lacking funds.

According to the couple, AFBF started as another installation of the Summer Music and Culture festival at the Water Conservation Garden at Cuyamaca College. Jeff claims a policy change regarding the blockage of county roads earlier this year forced the festival homeless; instead of scratching the event, the chamber searched for possible locations outside of Rancho San Diego/Jamul and entered an agreement with Qualcomm Stadium to use its sprawling practice fields instead. Now with a bigger, more central location, the chamber's board of directors decided to throw a larger-scale event, and AFBF was born. *West Coaster* requested the minutes from this particular meeting, but according to Valerie, the chamber has since "lost" the person responsible for the records.





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Harrison, who has, by her account, thrown "hundreds" of successful events large and small, recognized the need for more manpower given the increased size and scale of AFBF. Organizers for AFBF consisted of eight people, who were either volunteers or independent contractors. Valerie was in charge of obtaining sponsors, marketing, and management, while Jeff reported his duties of graphic design, web design and developing the map and layout for vendor placement. The chamber also hired MoWalla. Inc. for event/concert production, and additional independent contractors to secure breweries, sign bands, and provide supplementary marketing. The chamber chose the USO non-profit charity to benefit from ticket sales to round out the event

The Harrisons say that selling 7,500 tickets would cover the cost for the 3-day festival, with a donation to the USO totalling no less than a \$1 of every ticket sale. Headlining bands including Blues Traveler, Grey Boy Allstars, and Pinback plus over 120 breweries gave high hopes to event organizers, but Jeff went on to say that 2,500 tickets were sold at the time of cancellation.

"The first time I think that I truly started worrying about this, is when the stadium went into the ticket sales, into our account and got a report," Valerie said in our interview. Originally, the chamber planned on using BrownPaper-Tickets.com because of their weekly payout option on ticket sales. Instead, they were forced to use TicketWeb.com due to stadium policy. Because TicketWeb pays out after an event, AFBF organizers were forced to take any money they already had from vendors and VIP ticket holders, and spend it on necessary expenses for AFBF. Vendors and ticket holders are still at loss for the festival that never happened. The Harrisons claim that if they were allowed to sell tickets on their own, outside of TicketWeb, that things would have worked out.

But the fatal blow, according to Valerie, was when Qualcomm Stadium management contacted her and demanded a certified check in the amount of \$8,900 just days before the event's start. Valerie stated that demanding the money upfront was not part of AFBF's agreement with the stadium. Jeff Harrison added, "I can honestly see why the stadium cannot rent the facility out on a regular basis." *West Coaster* requested a copy of the contract between the chamber and Qualcomm Stadium, but at the time of press, hadn't received it.

Both Harrisons claim that some money has been refunded, including any ticket through TicketWeb or Paypal. The couple stands by their claim that they were unaware of the TicketWebonly policy of Qualcomm. As a result, some tickets were purchased through the chamber with credit cards and cash, as the organizers of the festival sold tickets by any means possible prior to being told by stadium management to do otherwise. Now, credit card-paying ticket holders are been instructed to contest or reverse the charge, which isn't a sure solution, and vendors, cash-paying ticket holders, and advertisers shouldn't expect refunds or payment from the chamber for AFBF, according to the Harrisons.

So how much exactly does the chamber owe in outstanding debts to vendors, ticket holders, advertisers, and contractors hired for the event? Valerie explains, "I can't even give you a figure, and it's a lot. That's all I can say." Up until *West Coaster's* interview, Valerie and Jeff had remained mostly quiet, and Valerie said that aside from being devastated from AFBF's failure, she had been sick with pneumonia for nearly a month. "In retrospect, we thought, 'Oh my god this looks like we're bad people and that we're taking people's money.""

Valerie and Jeff Harrison strongly maintain that the failure of AFBF was not their fault. When *West Coaster* inquired directly about the use of county money toward the festival costs, Valerie defends no, that funds received from the county went directly to chamber operational expenses only.

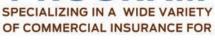
This is a developing story that West Coaster is still investigating with all involved parties. Please watch our website, westcoastersd.com for any additional updates.



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EVENTS

## Mother Earth Brew Co. Brewers Night @ Jake's on 6th

*Thursday, September 8th 6pm – 9pm* Join brewers Daniel and Kamron Love of Mother Earth and try four of their beers (\$4 pints or \$8 flights): Los 4 Amigos Saison, Deuces Wild ESB, Hop Diggity Double IPA and Roundabout Chocolate Oatmeal Stout. The first 25 attendees receive a Mother Earth pint glass and a certificate for a "Free

Beer on Jake's on your next visit!" Call to ensure

## your spot: 619-291-9463. San Diego Festival of Beer @ Columbia & B St.

Friday, September 9th 6pm – 11pm

Join more than 6,000 beer lovers at this 17th annual event benefitting local area cancer-fighting causes. \$40 gets you 10 tasters from more than 70 breweries; extra taster tickets are available for purchase. For more info visit sdbeerfest.org

## 2nd Saturday featuring Ballast Point @ Hamilton's Tavern

## Saturday, September 10th 5pm - close

What sounds better than a total tap-takeover by Ballast Point, complimentary food and Hamilton's second to none beer-bar atmosphere? Munch on spit-roasted pig and all the fixings and ponder what beer to order next: Sculpin, Habanero Sculpin, Indra Kunindra, Abandon Ship 5g, Barmy 2009, Bourbon Barrel Black Marlin, Brother Levonian Saison, Dorado Double IPA, Fathom India Pale Lager, Ginger Big Eye, Longfin Lager, BA Navigator, BA Piper Down, Reef Rye, BA Sea Monster, Sextant Stout (nitro), Sour Wench, BA Three Sheets, Tongue Buckler, BA Tongue Buckler, Tongue Monster, Victory at Sea, BA Victory at Sea (co2), Pale Ale, and Wahoo Wheat. Look forward to "dueling casks" of Reef Rye Brown Ale and Dorado Double IPA. Arrive early!

## Beer University: Double IPAs @ Stone Brewing World Bistro & Gardens

### Monday, September 12th 7pm – 9pm

Sample some of the best Double IPAs available as Stone's Beverage Supervisor and Certified Cicerone "Dr." Bill Sysak leads guests through "the history and tasty variations of this decidedly big and bold So Cal classic." Partial beer list: Russian River Pliny the Elder, Moylan's Hopsickle Imperial Ale, Marin Eldridge Grade White Knuckle IPA, Kern River Citra DIPA, Avery The Maharaja, Baird / Ishii / Stone Japanese Green Tea IPA. Tickets are \$25 at the Stone Company Store or online at brownpapertickets.com/event/193129

## Brewers Dinner with Iron Fist @ Local Habit

## Wednesday, September 14th 6:30pm – 9:30pm

Local Habit Chef Nick Brune and Iron Fist Head Brewer Brandon Siemenski host a five-course pairing dinner at the new Hillcrest hotspot. First course: beets with shaved goat cheddar, marjoram and balsamic paired with Hired Hand Saison. Second: duck breast confit with root vegetable slaw paired with Spice of Life Belgian Style Spiced Ale. Third: smoked paprika pork belly with Dubbel Fisted Caramel and bleu cheese sauce paired with Dubbel Fisted Abbey Style Dubbel. Fourth: IPA braised short ribs with pearl onions and tomato paired with The Gauntlet Imperial IPA on cask. Fifth: classic cheesecake with glazed carrot, raisin rum, and ancho chile-chocolate paired with Velvet Glove Stout with vanilla bean, allspice and nutmeg on cask. Cost: \$50. Reserve your spot by emailing info@mylocalhabit.com

## Downtown Johnny Brown's 24<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

## Friday, September 16th 5pm – close

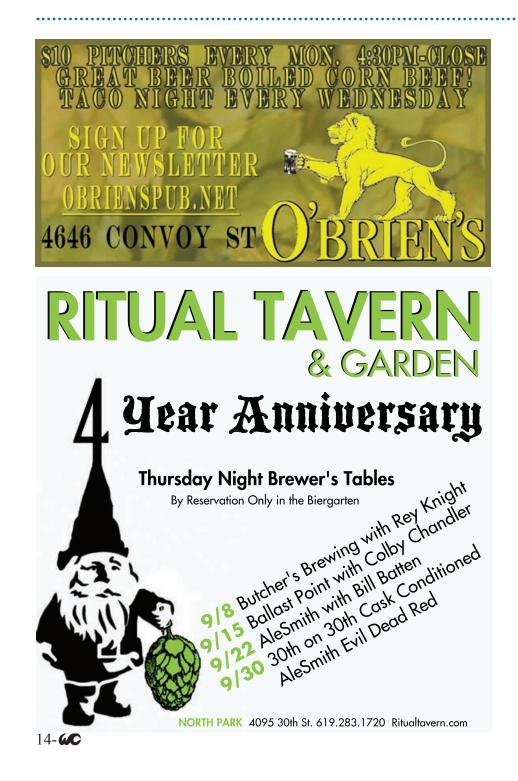
Downtown's premiere craft beer bar is celebrating another year of greatness with a birthday menu packed with rare beers, complimentary food and a big raffle. Partial tap list (at the time of press): Lost Abbey Red Poppy, Lost Abbey Deliverance, Deschutes Abyss 2010, Lost Abbey bourbon barrelaged The Angel's Share, The Bruery Cuir, Port Ad Lib, Rodenbach Grand Cru, Deschutes Black Butte XXIII, Stone 15th Anniversary, Ballast Point Barrel Aged Victory at Sea, Ballast Point Barrel Aged Piper Down, and Ballast Point Sour Wench. Check back on *WC's* event calendar for tap updates as they come.

## Churchill's Sour Fest Saturday, September 17th 11am – close

Join Churchill's for a menu of extremely rare sour beers for one day only. According to Jordan Wilson of Churchill's, "If you're a sour-head, just getting into sours, or want to try sours for the first time, then this is an event for you." All beers are available individually as 4oz tasters, or in a 10oz glass. Partial beer list: Allagash Interlude, Deschutes Dissident, Jolly Pumpkin Luciernaga, Karl Strauss bourbon barrel aged Flan-diddly-anders, Lost Abbey Red Poppy, New Belgium La Folie, New Belgium La Terroir, New Belgium/Allagash Vrienden, Ommegang Aphrodite, Rodenbach Vintage 2008, Russian River Consecration (batches 2 and 6), Russian River Sanctification, Russian River Temptation, Russian River Supplication, The Bruery Marron Acidifie.

## **REGIONAL EVENTS**

Ten San Diego breweries join the OC Brew Ha Ha lineup on September 10th from 11am - 3pm in Irvine, California. VIP ticketholders get to join a rare beer seminar by "Dr." Bill from Stone Brewing Co. For more information and tickets. visit ocbrewfest. com. Septemberfest on Saturday the 24th at the Santa Monica Pier also features five San Diego breweries; organized by the LAbased production company behind San Diego Beer Festival, this event promises to be "America's answer to Oktoberfest." More info at drinkeatplay.com/septemberfest. San Diego is well represented yet another vear at the Great American Beer Festival. September 29th - October 1st in Denver. Last year, San Diego breweries won an impressive 17, highly-coveted medals. Stay tuned to West Coaster's website the week after Labor Day as it chronicles the impending journey of SD's righteous brews across state lines.





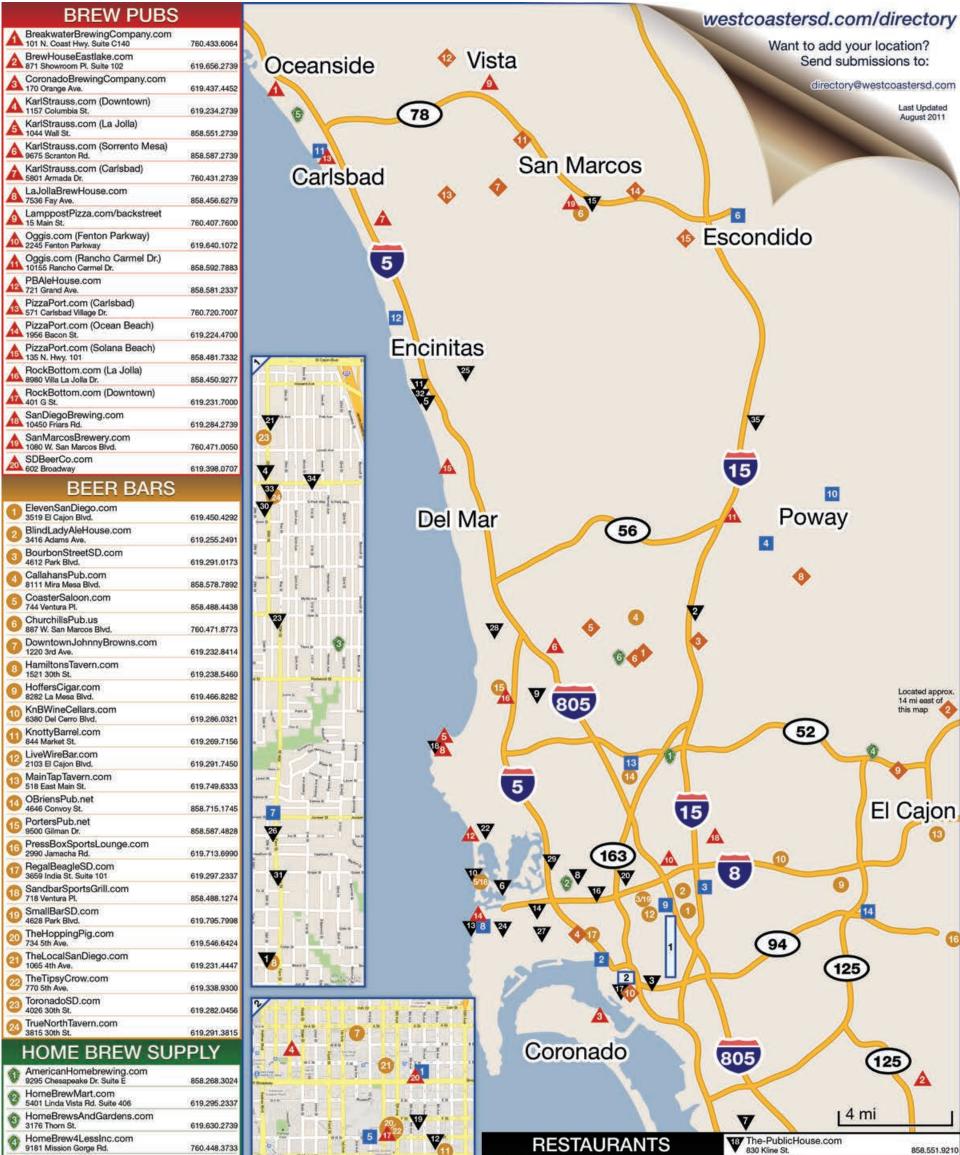
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HydroBrew.com 1319 S. Coast Hwy. 101	760.966.1885		THE REPORT	AlchemySanDiego.com	619.255.0616	QualitySocial.com 789 6th Ave.	619.501.7675
WhiteLabs.com 7564 Trade St.	858.693.3441	BREWERIES		BruskiHouse.com 9844 Hibert St. Suite G10	858.530.2739	RJGrill.com (Randy Jones Grill) 7510 Hazard Center Dr. Suite 215	619.296.9600
BOTTLE SHO	PS	AleSmith.com 9368 Cabot Dr.	858.549.9888	CounterpointSD.com 830 25th St.	619.564.6722	RitualTavern.com 4095 30th St.	619.283.1618
BestDamnBeerShop.com 1036 7th Ave.	619.232.6367	AlpineBeerCo.com 2351 Alpine Blvd.	619.445.2337	ElTakeltEasy.com 3926 30th St.		SDTapRoom.com 1269 Garnet Ave.	858.274.1010
2 BottleCraftBeer.com 2161 India St	619.487.9493	BallastPoint.com 10051 Old Grove Rd.	858.695.2739	EncinitasAleHouse.com 1044 S. Coast Hwy. 101	760.943.7180	SeaRocketBistro.com 3382 30th St.	619.255.7049
3 Clem's Bottle House 4100 Adams Ave.	619.284.2485	NewEnglishBrewing 1795 Hancock St.	619.857.8023	TheDana.com (Firefly) 1710 West Mission Bay Dr.	619.225.2125	SessionsPublic.com 4204 Voltaire St.	619.756.7715
DistillersOutlet.com 12329 Poway Rd.	858.748.4617	GreenFlashBrew.com 6550 Mira Mesa Blvd.	760.597.9012	V LaBellaPizza.com 373 3rd Ave.	619.426.8820	StadiumSanDiego.com 149 S. El Camino Real	760.944.1065
5 HenrysMarket.com 690 3rd Ave.	619.409.7630	HessBrewing.com 7955 Silverton Ave. Suite 1201	619.887.6453	sandiego.edu/dining/LaGranTerraza 5998 Acala Park	619.849.8205	StationTavern.com 2204 Fern St.	619.255.0657
6 HolidayWineCellar.com 302 West Mission Ave.	760.745.1200	IronFistBrewing.com 1305 Hot Springs Way Suite 105	760.216.6500	La Jolla Strip Club 4282 Esplanade Court	858.450.1400	TenderGreensFood.com (Liberty S 2400 Historic Decatur Rd.	Station) 619.226.6254
7 MazaraTrattoria.com 2302 30th St.	619.284.2050	LightningBrewery.com 13200 Kirkham Way Suite 105	858.513.8070	LuigisAtTheBeach.com 3210 Mission Blvd.	858.488.2818	LodgeTorreyPines.com 11480 N. Torrey Pines Rd.	858.777.6645
8 OliveTreeMarket.com 4805 Narragansett Ave.	619.224.0443	ManzanitaBrewing.com 9962 Prospect Ave, Suite D	619.334.1757	LumberyardTavernAndGrill.com 967 S. Coast Hwy 101	760.479,1657	HighDiveInc.com 1801 Morena Blvd.	619.275.0460
9 PacificLiquor.com 2931 El Cajon Blvd.	619.282.2392	MissionBrewery.com 1441 L St.	619.818.7147	NeighborhoodSD.com	619.446.0002	TheLinkery.com 3794 30th St.	619.255.8778
10 Piccadilly Marketplace 14149 Twin Peaks Rd.	858.748.2855	MotherEarthBrewCo.com 2055 Thibodo Rd. Suite H	760.599.4225	OBPizzaShop.com (Newport Pizza) 5050 Newport Ave.	619.224.4540	TheSouthParkAbbey.com 1946 Fern St.	619.696.0096
11 PizzaPort.com Bottle Shop 573 Carlsbad Village Dr.	760.720.7007	OceansideAleWorks.com	760.721.4ALE	PhilsBBQ.net (Sports Arena) 3750 Sports Arena Blvd.	619.226.6333	Union Kitchen & Tap 1108 S. Coast Hwy. 101	760.230.2337
12 Royal Liqour 1496 N. Coast Hwy, 101	760.753.4534	OTTBrew.com (On-The-Tracks Brew 5674 El Camino Real Suite G	ery)	PhilsBBQ.net (San Marcos) 579 Grand Ave.	760.759.1400	UrbanSolace.net 3823 30th St.	619.295.6464
13 SanDiegoBeerStore 4919 Convoy St.	619.463.5723	LostAbbey.com (Lost Abbey / Port B 155 Mata Way Suite 104	rewing) 760.720.7012	SD.Handlery.com (Postcards Bisto) 950 Hotel Circle N.	619.298.0511	URBNNorthPark.com 3085 University Ave.	619.255.7300
14 ValleyFarmMarkets.com 9040 Campo Rd.	619.463.5723	StoneBrew.com 1999 Citracado Parkway	760.471.4999	ProperGastropub.com 795 J St.	619.255.7520	UrgeGastropub.com 16761 Bernardo Center Dr.	858.637,8743



