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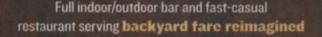
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ON THE COVER:

A pint of Mike Hess Brewing beer. For Solis Batch #100 details, see page 13. Cover photo by Juan Martinez

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LOCAL WINNERS: California Craft Brewers Cup

REPORTING BY BRANDON HERNÁNDEZ

The fifth annual California Craft Beer Summit by the California Craft Brewers Association (CCBA) took place in Long Beach in mid-September. An industry conference for Golden State brewers, it is likened to a localized version of the national Craft Brewers Conference. The latter is an event by the trade organization representing independent U.S. breweries, the Brewers Association (BA), which is also known for putting on the largest annual beer festival and competition in the country, the Great American Beer Festival (GABF).

For this year's summit, the CCBA worked with brewers guilds throughout the state to put on a California version of GABF. Winners of the inaugural running of the California Craft Brewers Cup were announced September 12. San Diego breweries racked up 37 medals—16 gold, 11 silver, and 10 bronze.

Rip Current Brewing took home two golds and a bronze, including a Best of Show for its Breakline Bock. That beer is one of San Diego County's most award-winning beers, having won at GABF and its international BA-produced counterpart, the World Beer Cup. AleSmith Brewing won the most medals, with a gold and four silvers. Resident Brewing took two golds and a silver, while Duck Foot Brewing and Burning Beard Brewing both walked away with two golds. Rup (ven

Rip Current's Paul Sangster with the Best of Show trophy

BREWE

The Guild of the Year award, given to the regional guild whose members won the most medals, went to the Sacramento Area Brewers Guild. Brewery of the Year, awarded to the brewing company that nabbed the most wins overall, went to Crooked Lane Brewing out of Auburn.

The following is a list of every local winner:

BEST OF SHOW

 Rip Current (San Marcos): Traditional German-Style Bock—Breakline Bock

GOLD MEDALS:

- AleSmith Brewing (Miramar): American Pale Ale—AleSmith San Diego Palé Ale .394
- Belching Beaver Brewery (Oceanside): Chocolate Beer—Viva la Beaver
- Burning Beard Brewing (El Cajon): British Mild & Bitters—Banksy
- Burning Beard Brewing (El Cajon): Rye Beer-Roggen the Lightning
- Duck Foot Brewing (Miramar): Chili Beer-Slow Burn

- Duck Foot Brewing (Miramar): Wood (Wine)-Sour Blonde
- Karl Strauss Brewing (Pacific Beach): Irish/Scottish Ales—Red
 Trolley Ale
- Pizza Port (Ocean Beach): Session Beer—Guillaume
- Resident Brewing (Downtown): Classic Saison—Golden Kiss
- Resident Brewing (Downtown): New England-style India Pale Ale—Chasing Mosaic
- Rip Current Brewing (San Marcos): Bock—Breakline Bock
- Rip Current Brewing (San Marcos): Imperial Stouts—Rescue
 Buoy Imperial Stout
- Rock Bottom (La Jolla): American Porter & Stout-Padfoot Porter
- Second Chance Beer Co. (Carmel Mountain Ranch): Belgian Strong Ale—Glorious
- · South Park Brewing (South Park): Smoked Beer-Bread & Smoke
- Thorn Brewing (Barrio Logan): Belgian-style Lambic—Framboise d'Tatas



SILVER MEDALS:

- AleSmith Brewing (Miramar): Belgian Strong Ale-AleSmith Grand Cru
- · AleSmith Brewing (Miramar): Belgian Sour Ale-AleSmith OBK
- · AleSmith Brewing (Miramar): British Strong Ales-AleSmith Private Stock Ale 2017
- · AleSmith Brewing (Miramar): Gose-AleSmith Gose
- Burgeon Beer Co. (Carlsbad): Experimental Beer-Bird's Milk
- Dos Desperados Brewery (San Marcos): Blonde or Golden Ale— Surfeza Blonde Ale
- Eppig Brewing (North Park): Session Beer—Natural Bridge: Vienna Lager
- North Park Beer Co. (North Park): New England-style India Pale Ale-Art Is Hard
- · Resident Brewing (Downtown): Belgian & French-style Ale-Industrial Gris
- Rouleur Brewing (Carlsbad): Imperial Stouts—NITERIDEUR Imperial Stout
- · Thorn Brewing (Barrio Logan): British Mild & Bitters-West Kensington

BRONZE MEDALS:

- · Eppig Brewing (North Park): Baltic-style Porter-Natural Bridge: Baltic Porter
- · Ketch Brewing (Kearny Mesa): Kölsch-Ketch Kölsch
- Original 40 Brewing (North Park): Munichstyle Helles-Crispy Boi
- Pizza Port Bressi Ranch (Carlsbad): Coffee Beer—Bacon & Eggs
- · Port Brewing/The Lost Abbey (San Marcos): Belgian Sour Ale-Red Poppy
- · Rip Current (San Marcos): Bohemian-style Pilsner-Choppy Surf Czech-style Pilsner
- · Societe Brewing (Kearny Mesa): Classic Irish-style Dry Stout-The Pugilist
- · Societe Brewing (Kearny Mesa): American Pale Ale-The Publican
- · Societe Brewing (Kearny Mesa): Trappist-style Ale-The Debutante
- · South Park Brewing (South Park): American-style Cream Ale-Jenny



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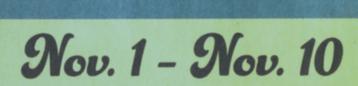
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Photos by Tim Stahl



with Scot Blair (South Park Brewing and Hamilton's Tavern).



MHB brewer Reed Miller.

Beverage Briefs

> SOLIS #100

It's been nearly a decade since the first batch of Solis IPA was brewed by Mike Hess Brewing (MHB), known then as Hess Brewing, in Miramar. That beer was a collaboration with this magazine, with the original full title Solis Occasus (meaning "sunset" in Latin) referencing the West Coast. Solis #1 was the first MHB beer sold outside the tasting room, debuting at the West Coaster launch party held at The South Park Abbey in early 2011.

Since then, by design, each batch has varied slightly in hop and grain content, with several iterations winning awards at large competitions. Along the way, MHB has used the changing nature of the beer to invite input from collaborators. Recognizing that the landmark batch was coming up, Scot Blair of Hamilton's Tavern and South Park Brewing reached out to MHB to help with Solis #100.

The following are the beer specifications. Malts: 2-row barley, Simpsons Golden Promise, and a splash of Simpsons Crystal Light; kettle hops: Columbus, Cascade, and Centennial; whirlpool hops: Chinook and Citra; hopback: Centennial whole cone; dry hops: Chinook and Citra. ABV: 7.5% with 65 IBUs.

The size of the batches has significantly increased over the years, from Miramar's 1.6-barrel system to North Park's 30-barrel setup. In total, 90 barrels were brewed over the course of two days in late September; that output will be divided betweens cans and kegs in early October. On Friday, October 11 the local MHB tasting rooms (North Park, Ocean Beach, Imperial Beach, and Miramar) will tap Solis #100, with a specialty party happening at the North Park location.

One week later, on October 18, Hamilton's in South Park hosts a MHB night, including a firkin of Solis #100 with Columbus dry hopping. Beers on tap will include Solis #100, Claritas Kölsch, OktoberHess, Hop Cloud Hazy IPA, Umbrix Rye Imperial Stout with cherry and coconut, and Into the Sunset Blood Orange IPA.

NEW COO AT SOL-TI

Miramar's cold-pressed organic juice maker Sol-ti has a new chief operating officer. James Murray joins the company after more than a decade at Ballast Point as VP of brewing operations (you can watch him brew up a batch of Sculpin IPA in 2014 at YouTube.com/ WestCoasterVideos).

Murray was an early investor in Sol-ti in 2016, and his current goals are to "drive scalable operational excellence, strengthen our supply chain, expand plant & equipment while maintaining great gross margins on our portfolio of products." One of Sol-ti's latest product lines includes 20mg of organic hempseed oil per glass bottle.



BREWERY IGNITER: OCEANSIDE

It's been nearly four years since developer H.G. Fenton debuted the first of its lease-to-brew Brewery Igniter facilities on Kenamar Drive in Miramar. Bolstered by tenants such as Pure Project Brewing, Rouleur Brewing and Eppig Brewing (which will become the first tenant to successfully vacate its leased starter brewery when it opens in Vista this month), the company constructed two more Brewery Igniter campuses in North Park and Carlsbad. And now, H.G. Fenton is in the early stages of constructing a fourth set of facilities in Oceanside.

"Brewery Igniter will accommodate two new businesses and activate a vacant space, providing a great community benefit and accommodating growth to the Oceanside brew scene," says Bill Hooper, commercial portfolio manager for H.G. Fenton. "South Oceanside is a community that has been identified as a commercially viable area for growth. The new Brewery Igniter location will be positioned at the western boundary of North County's Hops Highway."

The new Brewery Igniter will be sited at 1575 South Coast Highway, a mile from the western terminus of the aforementioned State Route 78. The former home to the Oceanside College of Beauty will be split into two 3,500-square-foot turnkey brewery facilities, including customizable tasting rooms, offices and restrooms.

The public areas of the spaces will account for just over 30% of the total area of each suite. On the production side, each suite will include a 10-barrel stainless steel brewhouse, five 20-barrel fermenters, a glycol chiller, mill and 26-by-18-foot cold box.

ARVEST SEASON

Late summer and early fall signal the time for grape harvest in San Diego. Pictured to the right are efforts by 2Plank Vineyards, whose tasting room is open Thursday through Sunday at 2379 La Mirada Drive in Vista (their estate vineyard is located in Fallbrook). PaintNites on Saturdays resume November 15 after harvest winds down.

GOLD FOR MANZANITA

Manzanita Roasting Company, situated on the Bernardo Winery property, recently won a gold medal at the 2019 Golden Bean Awards, the largest roasters competition and conference in the world. Their El Salvador Loma La Gloria with Anny Ruth won in the North American-grown category. The company has been roasting for almost five years, and their shop has been open for about a year at 13330 Paseo del Verano Norte.

SOUTHNORTE'S INITIATIVE

International operation SouthNorte Brewing is changing lives through beer with its Dos Californias Brewsters initiative. Founded in 2018 in conjunction with the U.S. Consulate in Tijuana, the program brings together female brewers and beer industry members from San Diego and Tijuana to brew collaboration beers. Those beers, in turn, raise money that later funds scholarships for women to attend the Institute of Technology in Tijuana. This year's fundraising beer—a hoppy pale ale brewed in Tijuana with donated ingredients from Yakima Chief Hops and White Labs—earned enough to provide eight students with scholarships. Planning for the next DCB collaboration beer will begin in early 2020.

> NEW SOUTH PARK KITCHEN

In early September, newly installed Mediterranean concept South Park Kitchen debuted inside South Park Brewing. Operated by Angela Catania and Lorenzo Romagnoli, the brewery's new in-house food partners present a menu featuring salads and composed appetizers (smoked sausages, pork belly sliders, steamed mussels, cured meat and cheese board). A variety of choose-your-protein skewers and stews make up the main-dish options. This concept is the third in-house food partnership for South Park Brewing, which originally opened with a seafood concept that included a to-go fish counter.

A EMBARCADERO BREWING

Embarcadero Brewing, National City's only craft brewery (though Hannegan's House Beer Co. is coming to the southerly municipality), closed its tasting room in August to focus on production. It turns out that change will be long-term, as the draft system has been removed from the facility following the building being sold and rent being increased. Those factors have ownership actively searching for a new place to call home. This is the second recently reported case of rising rent impacting a brewing business, following 2kids Brewing's closure in Miramar.

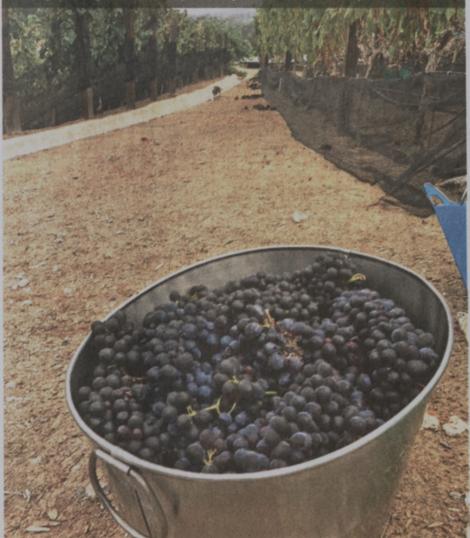
SLB CLOSES 3 LOCATIONS

Urge Gastropub and Whiskey Bank, Brother's Provisions, and Carmel Valley's The Barrel Room are all closed as of October. Restaurant group 3 Local Brothers (3LB) made the decision to focus on their Urge Common House concept, a second of which is opening in Temecula next year with interactive activities including bowling, bocce ball, and a variety of other games in a more family-friendly, cozy setup. "We are in active talks with groups to significantly grow the company but, unfortunately, it comes at the expense of streamlining and focusing," says 3LB partner Grant Tondro. "We have no intention of closing any more of our locations. In fact, we are hoping that we will actually double or triple the size of 3LB in the next couple of years. This pivot of the company has been hard but is a step backwards to get us ready for two steps forward."





Merlot grapes being harvested from a private vineyard in Encinitas (Olivenhain).







Local Grenache grapes from Paula Vista Vineyards in Valley Center.

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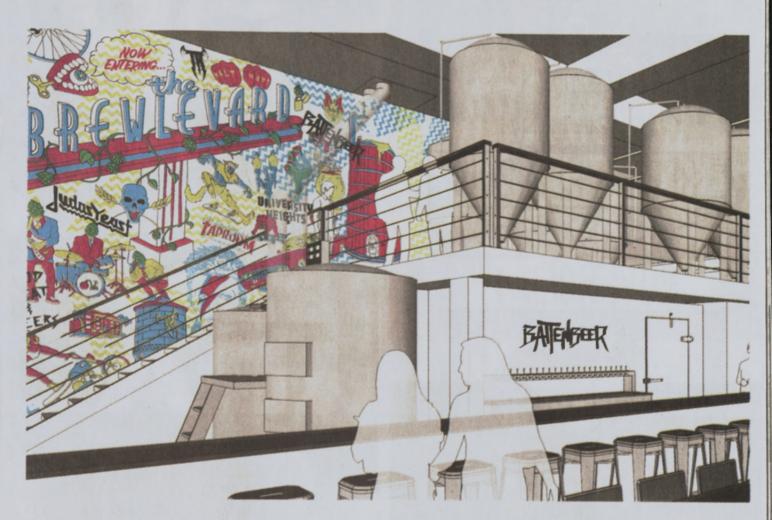
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A THIRST FOR KNOWLEDGE: Amy Spackman

From learning the basics to leading the masses, school's always in session for this San Diego native.

BY BETH DEMMON

I challenge anyone reading this to find a more infectiously positive person in #sdbeer than Amy Spackman. In the many occasions we've been in the same room, I'd categorize her lowest mood as merely "upbeat" rather than her normal "ecstatic." The only time I've seen her approach anything resembling even the slightest irritation is when she talks about her previous career as a preschool teacher. More specifically, when people make the joke that "drunk adults are the same as toddlers," inferring that's why she's such a good bartender.

"I hear that all the time. I got it!" She rolls her eyes behind her signature cat-eye glasses. But she doesn't deny her lifelong love of educating has served her well in her transition into craft beer in 2015. Despite entering a fairly mature local beer scene, Spackman has carved a niche for herself by continuing both her beer education as well as transferring her knowledge to others as a beertender at Karl Strauss, BJCP judge, and current San Diego chapter leader of the Pink Boots Society. Amy Spackman at Star B Ranch in Ramona

Her first stint in local beer was at Manzanita Brewing Company in Santee, which went through multiple iterations before closing in 2016. From there, she moved to Mission Brewery, where part of her duties included giving tours of the historic building. This provided the perfect segue to marry her two passions—beer and teaching. "It was so cool to be in a teachable role. It made me a much better bartender," Spackman says.

But her thirst for knowledge couldn't be quenched. In 2016, she enrolled in San Diego State University's Business of Craft Beer program and went to her first Pink Boots Society meeting, despite not knowing a single other person in attendance.

Spackman wasn't deterred; she's been a Pink Booter ever since, and has made it her mission to find women who, like she did, may feel apprehensive about entering an already tight-knit community. She's adamant about promoting inclusion and eliminating cliquishness that can seem off-putting to newbies. In her mind, it's just the decent thing to do.

"I think it's our job as a community, and as women, to help each other out," says Spackman. "You always need to learn something. No one is going to know everything." She credits people like Daniel Cady (Mikkeller San Diego) and George Thornton (Home Brewing Company) in mentoring her to find her place in San Diego beer.



Even with a slew of speaking engagements under her belt—including speaking at this year's Pink Boots Conference, moderating a panel at the California Craft Beer Summit, and giving talks in downtown San Diego and Baja—Spackman's showing no signs of slowing down. "One day, I'd love to be on the national board for Pink Boots. That's a goal I have for myself." She also plans to try for her Cicerone certification. But in the meantime, she's content to drink her beloved coffee stouts, listen to Hot Water Music with her pug Noli, and maybe even do a couple of yoga pop-ups with the hashtag #drinkbeerdoyoga. (Did I mention she's also a yoga teacher?)

"Beer education, staff education, they're all so huge to me," explains Spackman. "That's what I want to keep going. I guess the teacher never dies."

Know someone who deserves to be featured in an upcoming column? Nominate them by emailing beth@bethdemmon.com.





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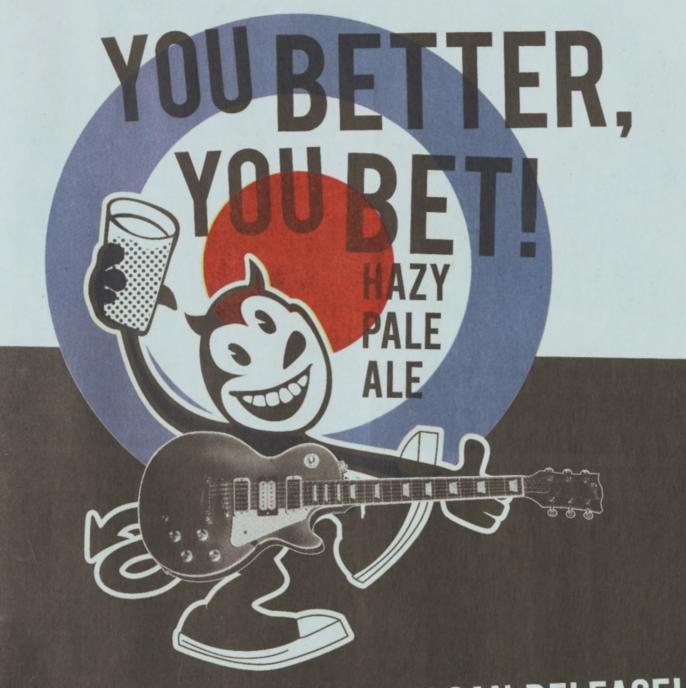
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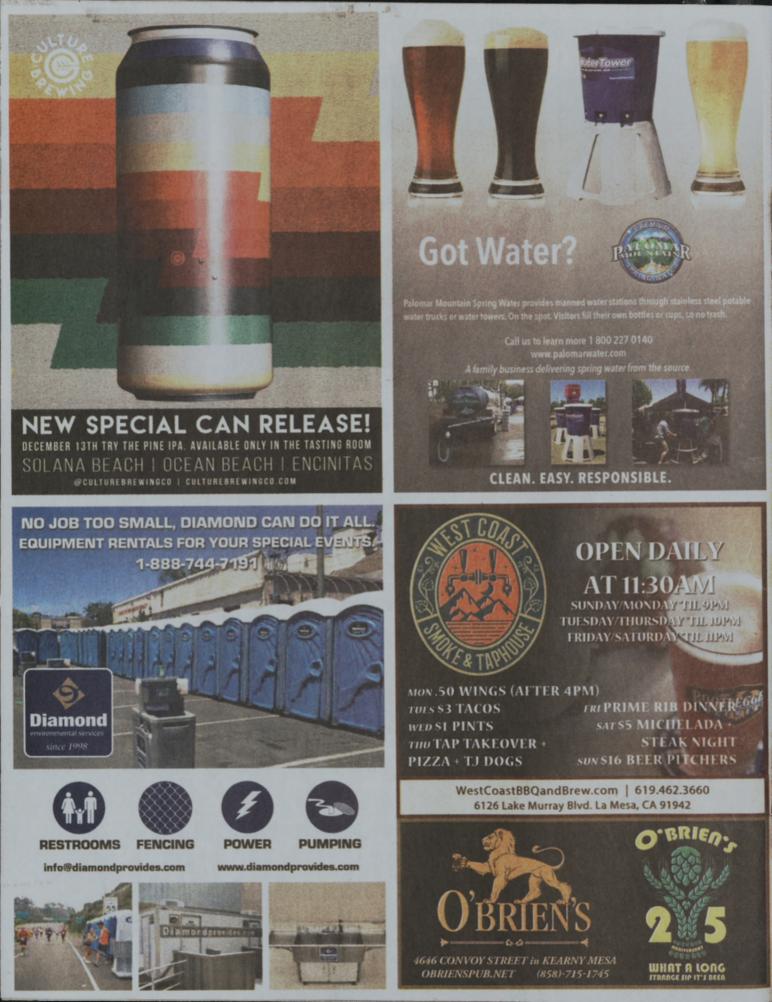
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LOCAL events

OCTOBER 2019

October 4 – Friday

- National Taco Day @ Cavu Brewing
- Enchilada & Beer Flight w/ Good Seed Food Co @ Savagewood Brewing
- ▶ Hops on the Harbor Beer Pairing Dinner Cruise w/ Stone Brewing

October 5 - Saturday

- AleSchimidt Oktoberfest Celebration @ AleSmith Brewing
- ▶ Intro to Homebrewing Classes @ The Homebrewer

October 6 - Sunday

▶ Paddle for Clean Water w/ Pure Project & Surfrider @ OB Pier

October 7 - Monday

▷ Beer Choir San Diego Turns Two @ Modern Times Beer

October 10 - Thursday

Axe Throwdown Thursdays @ Goodbar Point Loma

October 11 - Friday

- Solis Batch 100 Release Party @ All Mike Hess Brewing Tasting Rooms
- Year Anniversary w/ Fathom & Fall @ Station Tavern South Park
- ▷ 4 Year Anniversary @ Third Avenue Alehouse
- ▷ Hops on the Harbor Beer Pairing Dinner Cruise w/ Stone Brewing

October 12 - Saturday

- 13th Anniversary Second Saturday w/ Burgeon, Alvarado Street, and Moonraker @ Hamilton's Tavern
- Io Year Anniversary w/ Sno-Way and Keep The Glass
 @ Station Tavern South Park
- Food Pairings and Beer Dinners Class 1
 @ UC San Diego Extension
- Bluegrass Yoga @ Societe Brewing
- Horizon Beer & Music Fest feat. Chromeo @ Embarcadero Marina Park North

October 13 - Sunday

 Hamilton's 13th Anniversary Sour Social w/ Beachwood Blendery @ Hamilton's Tavern

October 14 - Monday

- National Dessert Day @ Cavu Brewing
- Suds & Science: Connected World w/ RH Fleet
 @ Wavelength Brewing

October 15 - Monday

▶ Intro to Homebrewing Classes @ The Homebrewer

October 16 – Wednesday

- Backroom Beer Pairing Fundraiser w/ Modern Times Beer
 @ All Barons Markets
- ▶ Golf Club Beer Series w/ Mike Hess Brewing @ Riverwalk

October 17 – Thursday

Axe Throwdown Thursdays @ Goodbar Point Loma

October 18 - Friday

- Solis Batch 100 Release Party & Firkin Friday w/ Mike Hess Brewing @ Hamilton's Tavern
- ▶ Hops on the Harbor Beer Pairing Dinner Cruise w/ Stone Brewing

October 19 - Saturday

- Food Pairings and Beer Dinners Class 2
 @ UC San Diego Extension
- ▶ Karl Strauss Collabapalooza @ The Observatory North Park
- ▶ Metal Swap Meet 2019 @ Setting Sun Sake Brewing Co.
- ▷ Seize the Moment to Be Creative @ Second Chance North Park

October 20 – Sunday

▶ SaltDog Classic 2019 @ Encinitas Community Park

October 21 – Monday

▶ Team Jigsaw Puzzling Competition @ AleSmith Brewing

October 23 – Wednesday

 Backroom Beer Pairing w/ Modern Times @ All Barons Market Locations

October 24 - Thursday

Axe Throwdown Thursdays @ Goodbar Point Loma

October 25 - Friday

- Winter Course Enrollment Opens @ UC San Diego Extension
- Hops on the Harbor Beer Pairing Dinner Cruise w/ Stone Brewing

October 26 - Saturday

- ▶ 6 Year Anniversary Party @ Barrel Harbor Brewing
- Food Pairings and Beer Dinners Class 3
 @ UC San Diego Extension
- ▷ 5 Year Anniversary Party @ 32 North Brewing
- ▶ 7 Year Anniversary Party @ Belching Beaver Oceanside
- Walkabout: Harvest Theme @ Miralani Makers District
- Rancho BEERnardo Festival @ Webb Park

October 31 - Thursday

Axe Throwdown Thursdays @ Goodbar Point Loma

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November 1-10 - Friday-Sunday

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November 1 - Friday

- Enchilada & Beer Flight w/ Good Seed Food Co
 @ Savagewood Brewing
- Limited Edition Golden Growler Release
 @ Original 40 Brewing

November 2 - Saturday

- SD Beer Week: Guild Fest 2019 @ North Embarcadero Guild Fest is back for another year! Join the San Diego Brewers Guild and more than 60 independent breweries for 2019 Guild Fest, taking place at the Embarcadero North in Downtown San Diego. This annual event celebrates SD Beer Week and the independent brewing community that makes it all possible. As the official kick-off party to San Diego Beer Week, Guild Fest will showcase new, exciting features, including delicious craft beer from San Diego and beyond, a pre-party harbor cruise and more! Buy your tickets today and help raises funds for I Love a Clean San Diego and the San Diego Brewers Guild.
- 2 Year Anniversary @ Protector Brewery
- Frankenstout (96 Yeast Strains) Release @ White Labs Tasting Room
- ▶ Beer Brunch & 1/2 Off Shirts @ Original 40 Brewing
- Pumpkulents @ Green Flash Brewing Co.
- ▶ Intro to Homebrewing Classes @ The Homebrewer
- Mikkeller Running Club #44 @ Mikkeller Brewing
- Dia de Los Muertos Art Reception & Exhibit
 @ Guadalupe Brewery

November 3 - Sunday

- ▶ Abnormal Ales w/ Venissimo @ The Cork and Craft
- ▶ . "Dunk A Brewer For Charity" Event @ Original 40 Brewing

November 4 - Monday

- ▷ Brews, Views & Chews @ Tom Ham's Lighthouse
- Industry Appreciation Night @ Original 40 Brewing
- ▶ Fishing with the Brewers VII @ Fathom Bistro Bait & Tackle

November 5 - Tuesday

- OG Yoga @ Thorn Brewing Barrio Logan
- Off Flavors Workshop @ The Homebrewer
- ▶ Wear Your Original 40 Tee, Get 50% Off @ Original 40 Brewing

November 6 - Wednesday

- ▶ Pink Boots Society Meeting @ Societe Brewing
- ▶ Keep The Pint Night @ Original 40 Brewing

November 7 - Thursday

- ▶ Beer Dinner w/ Chef Luke Johnson @ Original 40 Brewing
- ▶ Allstar Flight Contest Battle @ Longship Brewery
- Axe Throwdown Thursdays @ Goodbar Point Loma
- ▶ Pink Boots Society Arm Wrestling @ Kairoa Brewing

November 9 - Saturday

- Make Your Own Pumpkulent Workshop @ Kilowatt Brewing
- ▶ Intro to Homebrewing Classes @ The Homebrewer
- Dessert & Beer Pairing w/ Good Seed Food Co
 @ Societe Brewing

November 14 - Thursday

▷ Axe Throwdown Thursdays @ Goodbar Point Loma

November 16 - Saturday

- ▶ Bikes and Beers 2019 @ Societe Brewing
- ▷ Seize the Moment to Be Creative @ Second Chance North Park

November 18 - Monday

Introduction to Fermentation-Derived Off-Flavors
 @ White Labs Brewing Co.



November 21 - Thursday

- ▶ Axe Throwdown Thursdays @ Goodbar Point Loma
- Craft Beer Attorney Webinar: California Legal Updates for Craft Breweries

November 28 - Thursday

Axe Throwdown Thursdays @ Goodbar Point Loma

November 30 – Saturday

▶ Walkabout: Thanksgiving Theme @ Miralani Makers District

DECEMBER 2019

December 3 - Tuesday

OG Yoga @ Thorn Brewing Barrio Logan

December 6 - Friday

Enchilada & Beer Flight w/ Good Seed Food Co
 @ Savagewood Brewing

December 7 – Saturday

- 12 Bell's of Christmas w/ Bell's Brewery
 @ Hamilton's Tavern
- Intro to Homebrewing Classes @ The Homebrewer

December 8 - Sunday

▶ Truck Pull Fundraiser @ AleSmith Brewing

December 9 - Monday

 Suds & Science: Studying Heart Disease in Men and Women w/ RH Fleet @ Stone Liberty Station

December 13 - Friday

 Try The Pine IPA Release @ Culture Brewing Tasting Rooms

December 17 - Tuesday

Intro to Homebrewing Classes @ The Homebrewer

December 21 - Saturday

 Seize the Moment to Be Creative @ Second Chance North Park

December 28 – Saturday

▶ Walkabout: Coffee Theme @ Miralani Makers District

INCLUDE YOUR EVENTS IN NEXT MONTH'S CALENDAR FOR FREE!

EMAIL: info@westcoastersd.com

IN THE HEART OF E-VIL

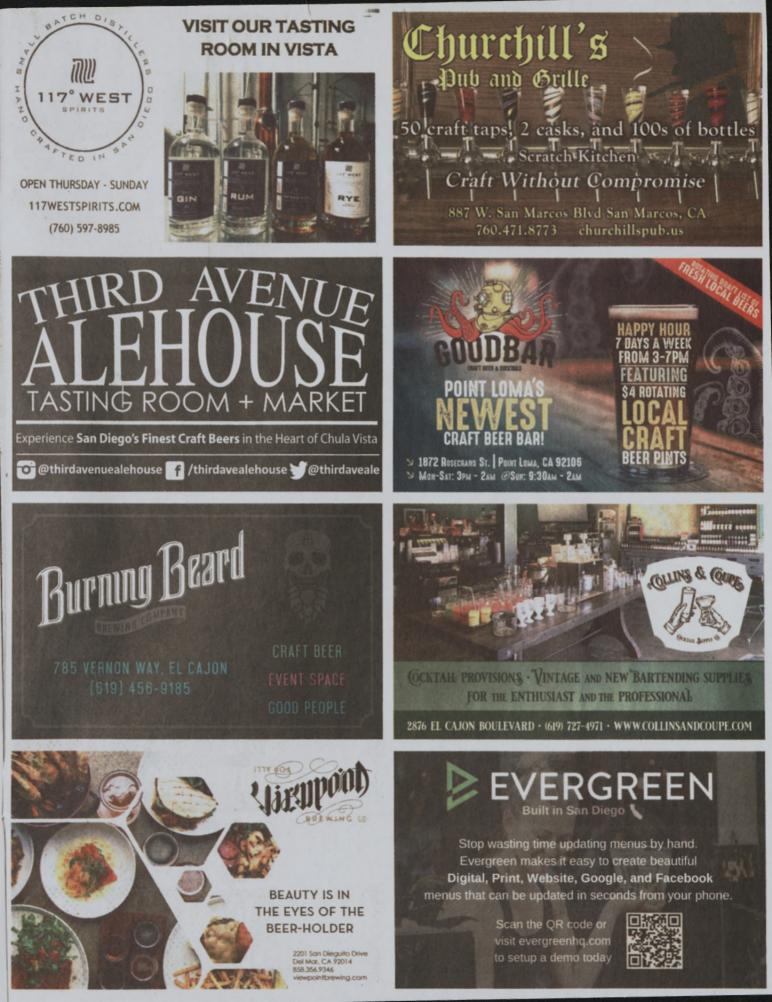
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