



# DREGS FROM THE KEG

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## Foam at the Top

[Ryan Penrod](#), Strand President

Thanks to Chris and Alexis Remensperger for hosting a really fun Day of the Dead Party. Lloyd Brown, the Craft Beer Guy, was there taking [pictures](#) and there was a strong showing of Strand Brewers. The club bar was set up. We had 13 kegs of beer in addition to growlers, commercial beer, and a few cases of leftovers from the Pacific Brewer's Cup.

Almost all the tasks from the Pacific Brewer's Cup are complete. Steve Fafard did a great job getting awards put together and we have put the Best of Show winners in contact with the breweries that sponsored Pro-Am brews. The last task left is to deliver t-shirts and a thank you to our many sponsors. There were many volunteers on competition day that told me Strand always hosts the best competitions, and I think we did a great job maintaining that reputation.

I also would like to recognize that every medal that went to a winner was personalized with the category, rank and brewers name on the medal. Other competitions award ribbons or medals that are more generic and only include a sticker with the place and category. Special thanks to Steve for taking the time to proof all the medals and make the awards special.



Medals from other competitions.

## Strand Brewers Club Meeting November 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm



1311 Post Avenue, Torrance, CA 90501



The beautiful 2015 Pacific Brewer's Cup medals won by Jon Silvertooth, including High Point Homebrewer.

Please attend the next club meeting on November 11<sup>th</sup>. This is an important meeting because we have officer elections for the 2016 calendar year. We are also going to vote on the budget for the holiday parties, discuss and vote on a club branded popup, and plan for the Strand Brewers 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.



I also want to thank everyone who has offered me help, guidance, and support while I have been president over the last two years. Specifically, I want to thank Jim Wilson, Jim Hilbing, Rives Borland, Jeff Sanders, Nate Federman, Michelle Neumann, Jill Updyke, and Dan Teruya for all the help, guidance, and motivation you have offered over the last two years even though you are not officers. When I went to the November 2013 meeting I had no aspirations to be an officer in Strand and I was honestly shocked when I was nominated. But I can say being president has been rewarding and fun. I have gotten to know many of the club members better than I ever would otherwise, I believe I have developed leadership skills that translate to my job, and I have interfaced with and gotten to know many of the owners and brewers at the breweries in the South Bay. I have been treated to more free beer and knowledge from the commercial breweries in the area than I can believe, and I have made some great friends in the craft beer community. When people ask me about being an officer I tend to focus on the work aspect too much. I won't deny that being an officer takes time, but most things do, and much of the time I took was really because I am bad at delegating. As we approach the November meeting please consider running for office in our club, and remember there are so many people in our club that are willing to help you.

## What's On Tap

[Bob Wilson](#), Strand Activities Director

### COMPETITIONS

#### [Napa Homebrewers Classic](#)

**Entries due January 30<sup>th</sup> 2016**

Judging: February 20<sup>th</sup>, Napa, CA

Entry fee: \$TBD

Contact: [Michael Riddle](#)

Phone: 707-337-8088

#### [El Dorado County Fair](#)

**Entries due February 5<sup>th</sup> 2016**

Judging: February 20<sup>th</sup>, Placerville, CA

Entry fee: \$TBD

Contact: [Jim Price](#)

Phone: 916-608-7031

#### [Romancing the Beer](#)

**Entries due February 12<sup>th</sup> 2016**

Judging: February 27<sup>th</sup>, Thousand Oaks, CA

Entry fee: \$7

Contact: [Courtney Castellino](#)

Phone: 805-870-5109

### BEER EVENTS

#### **November 7<sup>th</sup> – Savor the Flavor**



#### [Soroptimist International of Manhattan Beach](#)

will be hosting a special fundraiser, Savor the Flavor, on Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, at the Hermosa Beach Kiwanis Club from 5:30–10:00 pm. There will be **tastings of local craft brews** and tequila, food, live music by the Dietz Brothers Band, games and a raffle. Participating breweries include **Strand, El Segundo, King Harbor, Angel City, Dude's and more**. Tickets are \$50 at the door, \$45 in advance at <http://www.simanhattanbeach.org/savor-the-flavor-2015/>. This fundraiser supports SIMB, an organization of business and professional women who work to improve the lives of women and girls through programs that educate and empower.

## STRAND BREWERS CLUB EVENTS

### December 12<sup>th</sup> – Club Holiday Party

The Fafard's are once again hosting the club holiday party on December 12<sup>th</sup>. The club bar will be set up so bring a keg and a dish to pass. More details to come.

### April 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> Southern California Homebrewers Festival

The [California Homebrewers Association](#) has announced that the 25<sup>th</sup> Southern California Homebrewers Festival will be held at the Vail Lake Resort, Temecula, CA on April 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016. This will be an extraordinary event. Thus far, 37 homebrewers' clubs have signed up to serve homebrew to an expected 2,000 festival attendees. The Strand Homebrewers Club will be setting up our bar at the festival and serving "the best damn beer." The festival features commercial beer tastings, educational speakers, music, a raffle with great prizes, a "Bragging Rights Only" competition, and homebrew, lots of homebrew.



The Strand Brewers Club bar at the 2015 Southern California Homebrewers Festival.

In order to attend the SCHF you must be a member of the California Homebrewers Association. CHA memberships go on sale December 1<sup>st</sup> for \$10. Membership benefits include discounts to Southern California breweries and home brew shops.

Registration for the SCHF begins on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016. The initial cost will be \$35, but

increases to \$40 on February 1<sup>st</sup>, and then increases again to \$45 on March 1<sup>st</sup>. Registration closes on April 24<sup>th</sup>. If you volunteer to help out the CHA during the festival, you can earn free admission.

We will be reserving campsites for club members on November 5<sup>th</sup>. So if you want a campsite with the club, please contact [Rick Wirsing](#) by November 4<sup>th</sup>.



Yes, Rich Thornton won the Iron Brewer Challenge, again. This time the ingredients were Palisade Hops, Crystal Malt, and Ginger.

## Spent Grains

[Chris Remensperger](#), Strand Treasurer

Strand Brewers Club relies on dues and raffle entries for the majority of our income. You may pay your dues on the club website [www.strandbrewersclub.org/membership](http://www.strandbrewersclub.org/membership), or you can pay by cash, check, or credit card at a club meeting.



## Congratulations Jim Hilbing!

Jim Hilbing won an astounding eight medals at the 28th Annual Southern California Homebrew Championship. His entries placed as follows.

Place	Entry Name	Category
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Dortmund Export #2	5 – Pale Bitter European Beer
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Doppelbock #6	9 – Strong European Beer
2 <sup>nd</sup> *	Dunkelweizen	10 – German Wheat Beer
1 <sup>st</sup>	Foreign Extra Stout #2	16 – Dark British Beer
2 <sup>nd</sup>	English Barleywine	17 – Strong British Ale
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Spillikin Stock Ale #4	19 – Amber and Brown American Ale
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Saison #6	25– Strong Belgian Ale
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Oaked Old Ale	33 – Wood Beer

\*Co-brewer – Kurt Rump

Way to go Jim!

## 2015 Strand Brewer of the Year

[Ryan Penrod](#), Strand President

The current standings for the 2015 Strand Brewer of the Year are as follows. Be sure to let [Ryan Penrod](#) know if you did anything that would earn you points. Please note that these standings do not include any points earned at the October club meeting.

Member Name	Points
Rives Borland	70
Ryan Penrod	62
Jeff Sanders	46

Member Name	Points
Chris Remensperger	44
Jim Hilbing	42
Rick Wirsing	37
Rich Thornton	33
Dan Parker	24
Bob Wilson Jim Wilson	22
Jeff Hoy	17
Anthony Brownstone Nate Federman	12
Jay Ankeney Edgar Cuevas	11
Steve Fafard Jill Updyke	10
Steve Gardner	9
Hunter Thacker	7
Greg Foster	6
Rick Pearce Chris Sousa-Wynn	5
Kevin Leung Rob Proffitt	4
Jason Light Rob Palahniuk	3
Ken Bones Todd Harding Brian Pheiffer Alex Schlee Trey Penny Wirsing	2
Ron Cooper Jimmy Gallenbach Zack Wapole	1

## Brewery Safety

Rick Wirsing, Dregs Editor

I use a small chest freezer with a temperature controller as a fermentation chamber. I noticed

that lifting a carboy full of wort in and out of the chest freezer, even with the carboy in a Brew Hauler harness, was hard on my back. Of course I didn't do anything about it until I strained my back. Man you can't do much of anything with a back injury. So while I healed I figured out a method of lifting that would not put so much stress on my back. I purchased a "Hang 'Em High Hoist" from the [Brew In A Bag website](#). I installed an eye hook above the fermentation chamber and voilà!, I can now lift carboys in and out of the chamber without straining my back.



Getting ready to hoist a carboy full of wort into the fermentation chamber.

This worked so well that I looked for other places that lifting put a strain on my back. I realized that when I filled kettles with water in the sink next to the fermentation chamber, I

was putting stress on my back lifting the kettles out of the sink. I installed another eye hook above the sink so that I can use the hoist there too.

I have come to the conclusion that pain is the mother of all invention.



Here's what to do with all that Halloween candy.

## Starting a Hop Farm

Rick Wirsing, Dregs Editor

Penny and I have friends, Linda and Ken Reed, that retired and settled in the Paso Robles area. While they were still working for a living, they bought and began developing a property located somewhere near San Miguel, CA. First they planted grape vines and later built a house. They have had some success making wine out of their grapes, having won medals in local competitions. As you can imagine, the competition is pretty stiff around Paso Robles.



There are now more than 200 commercial wineries in the area.

Having an interest in beer and a little experience in homebrewing, Linda and Ken decided to begin growing hops. So, in 2011 they established [Paso Hops](#) and the Skip Hop Farm to bring “organic, sustainable principles to the art of hop growing” and “to help home brewers enhance their craft.” They chose to plant cascade hop rizomes. Because they do everything by hand, they needed a structure to support the hop bines, but that would also lower the bines so as to make it easy to harvest the hops. They built a prototype structure that is comprised of a vertical post that supports lines upon which the bines grow. The lines can be raised and lowered with the use of a winch.



Linda and Ken Reed, owners of Paso Hops.

Ken and Linda are learning the art and business of producing hops. For example, they have made design changes to the hop growing structure... And they've learned that many homebrewers only want cheap hops.



The hop growing structure at the Skip Hop Farm.



The winch used to raise and lower the bines.



Thank you to Chris and Alexis Remensperger for hosting the Dia de los Muertos party.

## Tell Us What You Are Doing

Come on you'all! Don't get all self conscious! We need and want your stories for The Dregs. Upgrade your brewery? Fine tune your brewing? Take a road trip? Do well in a competition? Have recipes to share? Read a good beer book? Write it up! Have club related pictures? Send all that, and anything else you think would be interesting, to [Rick Wirsing](#). Everybody will thank you!

## What We Stand For

The objectives of the Strand Brewers Club are to brew beer and share information about the

brewing, presentation, consumption, judging, and history of beer. We promote and encourage homebrewing competition and hope to foster general goodwill through the making and consuming of this noble and most excellent beverage. We aim to brew the best damn beer.

It is our policy to brew and consume beer strictly for fun. Under no circumstances does the Strand Brewers Club support or condone, in any manner, the violation of any law, including the sale or barter of homebrewed beer, the operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol by a member or a participant in any club event, or the provision of alcohol to minors.

### 2015 Club Officers

President	Ryan Penrod	310-971-6757	<a href="mailto:president@strandbrewersclub.org">president@strandbrewersclub.org</a>
Vice-President	Rich Thornton	310-376-5751	<a href="mailto:rich.one@earthlink.net">rich.one@earthlink.net</a>
Treasurer	Chris Remensperger	310-863-6222	<a href="mailto:remensperger@icloud.com">remensperger@icloud.com</a>
Activities	Bob Wilson	310-849-8154	<a href="mailto:millstadt@gmail.com">millstadt@gmail.com</a>
Administrator	David Eaves	310-806-2772	<a href="mailto:david.eaves@yahoo.com">david.eaves@yahoo.com</a>
Dregs Editor	Rick Wirsing	310-872-9915	<a href="mailto:dregseditor@strandbrewersclub.org">dregseditor@strandbrewersclub.org</a>

### Mentors

The following members have volunteered to answer your brewing questions and to help beginning brewers learn the craft. You should take advantage of their expertise.

Jay Ankeney	310-545-3983	<a href="mailto:jayankeney@mac.com">jayankeney@mac.com</a>	Manhattan Beach
Jim Hilbing	310-798-0911	<a href="mailto:james@hilbing.us">james@hilbing.us</a>	Redondo Beach
Jim Wilson	310-316-2374	<a href="mailto:jim7258@gmail.com">jim7258@gmail.com</a>	Redondo Beach
Steve Fafard	310-373-1724	<a href="mailto:sfafard@cox.net">sfafard@cox.net</a>	Rolling Hills Estates



# TRUB

THIS IS THE MILKY WAY GALAXY. THERE ARE BILLIONS AND BILLIONS OF STARS AND PLANETS. SURELY SOMEWHERE OUT THERE ARE A FEW BRAVE SOULS WILLING TO BE . . .



. . . THE STRAND BREWERS CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2016.