



DREGS FROM THE KEG



In This Issue

Foam at the Top.....	1
Spent Grains.....	1
Competition Results.....	1
Improve Your Beer Judging.....	1
Jeff Sanders Memorial Homebrew Competition.....	2
Strand Brewer Club Events.....	3
Competitions.....	4
BackPage.....	5

Foam at the Top

By Chris Remensperger

It's May and time for this year's California Homebrew Festival. If you have never been, this is the one event of the year to make sure to put on your calendar. For the past two years this event has taken place at the Vail Lake RV Resort in Temecula, and this year's no different. Featuring booths from at least 50 clubs, thousands of people, live music, and fun in the sun, this has to be one of the best events to take your beer loving friends to.

Just in time for CHF we will have 25th anniversary Strand Brewers Club t-shirts! Jeff and Christy Hoy did an amazing job arranging for an anniversary logo to go on this shirt. If you have not reserved yours we will be placing a second order after the May meeting. I will have my shirt on to model, and Christy will be available to help purchase. I will also make sure to have a link up on our website to purchase if you are unable to make it to the next meeting.

Three times a year Strand Brewers Club hosts a brewers take on Iron Chef with our own Iron Brewer Challenge. We randomly choose a hop, specialty grain and adjunct which must be creatively used. Some very interesting, and great beers have come out of these events. This year's 2017 Iron Brewers Ingredients are as follows.

Upcoming

July - Cascade Hops, Chocolate Malt, and Rosemary
October - Simcoe Hops, Malted Wheat, and Pumpkin Spices

Past

March Winners : Jeff & Christy Hoy with Iron Mango IPA (Wakatu Hops, Golden Promise Malt and Mango)

July is approaching fast, better get brewing!

Reminder, if you submit beers to any competitions this year you are entitled to Homebrewer of the Year points! So that you do not miss out on these points, please send me an email

(president@strandbrewersclub.org) with your entries and I will make sure to record them.

Spent Grains

Christy Hoy, Treasurer

If you haven't paid 2017 club dues you may pay your dues on the club website www.strandbrewersclub.org/membership, or you can pay by cash, check, or credit card at the next club meeting. Contact Christy Hoy, Strand Treasurer, if you have any questions about paying your dues.

Competition Results

Strand Brewers have been raking in medals at competitions recently. Jim Hilbing, Dan Parker Rich Wirsing, Chad Hazen, and Ryan Penrod all earned medals at the Jeff Sanders Memorial Homebrew Competition. Jim Hilbing, Jill Updyke and Ryan Penrod all placed in the Maltose Falcons Mayfaire competition. These competitions are a great way to get feedback on your beer and earn points toward homebrewer of the year.

Improve your Beer Judging, Part 3 A Few Closing Thoughts

By Jim Wilson, BJCP Grand Master III Beer Judge

Motivation

Why judge? Your answer can be inspiring. Brewing better beer was mine. It provided a reason to [actively study](#) the [complete reading list](#) for Carl Townsend's legacy exam prep class. That was a big project but the subject was beer and it didn't feel like work. Few students went that far. Later, my goal morphed into just getting better. I did what I could to improve and help others. Be comfortable with your answer, whatever it is.

Resources

Life moves fast these days. Michael Jackson's and Morten Meilgaard's seminal works survive but not many others prior to 1995 do. Newer editions of books, such as Mosher's *Tasting Beer 2nd edition*, Noonan's *New Brewing Lager Beer* and Jackson's *Great Beers of Belgium 6th edition* are better than their predecessors.

I've been a library and used book junkie forever. Libraries do a great job of connecting with one another which expands your chances of reading good stuff without exceeding your beer budget. [Google Books](#) offers previews of more recent publications than libraries can manage and sometimes that's all you need.

I'm suspicious of any writing that has expert, ultimate or quick in its title. I am a sucker for Zen or master though.

BJCP's current website is tough to navigate. You can keyword search it from the "Search This Website" box on the lower right of the first screen. A site do over is in progress now; hopefully the new one will be more user friendly than the last one. The new site has the search box in the traditional upper right of the first page.

Writing

Perk up your writing with [vivid descriptions](#). Make an effort to express yourself clearly. Learn from good examples and [practice](#) writing simply and concisely. Avoid nonspecific ("some") or circular ("Pilsner" instead of your perception of Pils malt) descriptors. Critique your work to improve it.

If you want to learn, teach...

Only about 10% of BJCP judges are ranked National and above. When you get there, seize the opportunity and volunteer to grade exams. As a grader, you get to

1. Assess scoresheets written by many different judges.
2. Read proctor's scoresheets that are longer and more complete than their contest cousins.

Grading exams is judging grad school and is the single best thing you can do to improve your skills.

Customize your learning tactics

Judging beer is fun. Use my learning scheme or take the parts that fit and fill in the rest on your own. You can also invent a unique approach from scratch. If you do, the journey is its own reward. As you progress, play whack-a-mole at your weaknesses by incorporating new tools and knowledge.

Happy judging!

Jeff Sanders Memorial Homebrew Competition

By Ryan Penrod

On Saturday April 8th judging for the second annual Jeff Sanders Memorial Homebrew Competition took place. Judging was again held at the Odd Fellows Public Lodge in South Redondo. The lodge was again a great location for our competition and Jill Updyke as competition coordinator ran a first rate competition. Beer was kept at a near ideal temperature for judging, not too cold or too warm, the competition on schedule, and there were enough judges that many categories were judged by three BJCP judges.

In our second year hosting the competition there was a nice growth in total entries and a few more categories available for entrants. Two Strand Brewers placed in the best of show. Jim Hilbing took best of show with an American Barley wine and Ryan Penrod was first runner up with an old ale.

In general the entries were of high quality with very few flawed beers. Staff had fun at both the bottle sorting hosted by Rob Proffitt and at the judging. Consider working the Jeff Sanders Memorial Competition next year. It is a great way to honor our friend, learn some of the skills required for the Pacific Brewers Cup, and have a lot of fun. Below are some pictures from the event.



Bottle Sorting



Jeff Hoy hard at work judging



Pint Glasses for Volunteers

Strand Brewers Club Events

February 8th - Club Meeting

The Last Friday of Every Month - Final Friday

Note, the schedule has been updated from the January Dregs. Strand Brewers Club monthly socials on the last Friday of every month will be at the following locations:

Month	Location
May	Strand Brewing
June	Smog City Brewing
July	King Harbor Brewing
August	Select Beer
September	Phantom Carriage
October	Dia de los Muertos Party
November	Zymurgy



Competition staff doing competition staff things

Iron Brewer Club Competition

Iron Brewer is a club competition to brew a beer using the three special ingredients (a grain, a hop, and an adjunct) and anything else. It is a great event to foster experience with recipe formulation and creativity. Check out the [website](#) for past competitions and winners.

Recipe must include the special ingredients and should all be detectable in the finished beer.

Congratulations to Jeff and Christy Hoy for their Iron Mango IPA and March Iron Brewer win!

Month	Location
March	Wakatu Hops, Golden Promise Malt and Mango
July	Cascade Hops, Chocolate Malt, and Rosemary
October	Simcoe Hops, Malted Wheat, and Pumpkin Spices



Competition staff doing competition staff things

Competitions

Strand Brewers Club Targeted Competitions

Competition	Entries Due	Judging Date(s)	Judging Location	Website
Romancing The Beer	1/27/17	2/11/17	Westlake Village, CA	http://romancingthebeer.com/
America's Finest City	1/25/17	2/3/17 and 2/4/17	San Diego, CA	http://quaff.org/AFC-2017/
Jeff Sanders Memorial Homebrew Competition	3/24/16	4/8/16	Redondo Beach, CA	http://jeffsandersmemorial.com
Mazer Cup International Home Competition (mead only)	2/24/17	3/11/17	Broomfield, CO	http://mazercup.org/
AHA National Homebrew Competition 1st round*	2/5/17 (registration)	3/31/16	San Diego, CA (additional locations available)	http://www.homebrewersassociation.org/competitions/national-homebrew-competition/competition-information/
Los Angeles Belgian Brew Challenge	3/17/17	3/26/17	Los Angeles, CA	http://belgianbrewchallenge.com/
Mayfaire	TBD (early April)	TBD (late April)	TBD (Winnetka, CA area)	http://www.maltosefalcons.com/comps
California State Fair	2/11/17	3/25/17	Sacramento, CA	http://reggiebeer.com/ReggieEntry.php?CompetitionID=GSUHIE1000219
Los Angeles County Fair	TBD (July)	TBD (July/Aug)	TBD (LA/ San Fernando Valley)	http://www.maltosefalcons.com/comps
Pacific Brewers Cup	TBD (Sept)	TBD (Sept)	TBD (LA/Long Beach)	TBD
California State Homebrew Competition	TBD	11/6/16	TBD (San Francisco, CA area)	http://www.nchfinfo.org/state-comp.html
Doug King Memorial Homebrew Competition	TBD (early Jan 2018)	TBD (late Jan 2018)	TBD (LA/ San Fernando Valley)	http://www.maltosefalcons.com/comps

*Registration lottery takes place 2/1-2/7

Tell Us What You're Doing

Your stories are welcome in the *Dregs*. Upgrade your brewery? Fine tune your practice? Take a road trip? Do well in a competition? Have recipes to share? Read a good beer book? Have club related pictures, especially for the *Dregs* cover? Send all those, or anything else you think would be interesting to the [Editor](#). The more content you provide the better each *Dregs* will be. Thanks!

What We Stand For

The objectives of the Strand Brewers Club are to brew beer and share information about 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 Strand support or condone in any manner the sale or barter of homebrewed beer, the operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol by a member or participant in any club event or the provision of alcohol to minors.

Strand Brewers 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.

Name	Location	Phone	Email
Jay Ankeney	Manhattan Beach	310-545-3983	jayankeney@mac.com
Jim Hilbing	Redondo Beach	310-798-0911	james@hilbing.us
Jim Wilson	Redondo Beach	310-316-2374	jim7258@gmail.com
Steve Fafard	Rolling Hills Estates	310-373-1724	sfafard@cox.net

2017 Club Officers

President:	Chris Remensperger	president@strandbrewersclub.org
Vice-President:	Dan Parker	vicepresident@strandbrewersclub.org
Treasurer:	Christy Hoy	treasurer@strandbrewersclub.org
Activities:	Edgar Cuevas	activities@strandbrewersclub.org
Administrator:	Jill Updyke	administrator@strandbrewersclub.org
Editor:	Ryan Penrod	dregseditor@strandbrewersclub.org