

April

2014  
Volume 23  
Number 4

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## Next Meeting

Tuesday, April 8  
at 7 pm. At

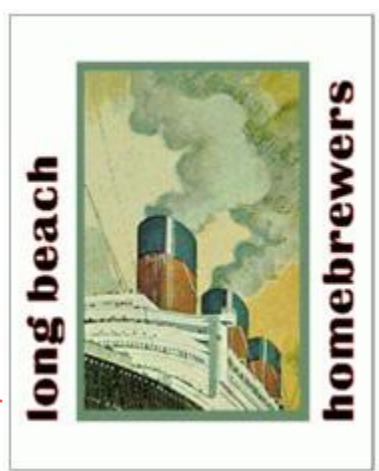
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# The Brews Telegram

The Newsletter of the  
Long Beach Homebrewers



## President's Message

**My fellow Long Beach Homebrewers,**

Spring usually signals the start of outdoor activities for most families. A home brewer's family is not an exception, as we usually look forward to the Southern California Homebrewer Festival on the first Saturday in May. While this year's event has been canceled, we can help ensure that next year's event will not. I encourage everyone to write to the California Congress and let the home brewer's voice be heard. If you would like a sample letter, please let me know and I would be happy to forward the email from AHA to you.

Although we have had one event canceled, doesn't mean it won't be a great spring. Our LBHB leadership board is planning a lot of great events in the next few months, including bus trips and big brews. Come to the meeting on Tuesday to find out more about what's coming up.

Lastly, don't forget your American Wheat or Rye beer to this month's meeting. This is our next competition for the homebrewer of the year award. Please sign up online (<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/ccc?key=0ApigjDwfFjoQdF93QTBMRGtyY3ZRblpmTzRxMFIheEE&usp=sharing>) before the meeting or you can see me before the meeting starts.

As always, Happy Brewing!

Josh

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## 2014 Monthly Style Schedule

Here are the styles for each month.

**April:** American Wheat or Rye (cat. 6d)\*\*  
**May:** Blonde Ale (cat. 6b, 18a)  
**June:** Saison (cat. 16c)\*\*  
**July:** California Common (cat. 7b)  
**August:** IPA (cat. 14)\*\*  
**September:** Belgian Triple (cat. 18c)  
**October:** Scottish & Irish (cat. 9)  
**November:** Barleywine (cat. 19B-c)  
**December:** Winter Specialty (cat. 21b)

\*\* Home Brewer of the Year Competition

## Tastings at the March meeting

Calvin N. - Honey Saison (BBC Big Brew)

Dan E. - Dry Stout

Rene T. - Oatmeal Stout

Josh S. - Chocolate Brown Porter

Tom H. - Chocolate Porter, IPA

Dick E. - Robust Porter

Jackson - Foreign Exchange Stout

Terrence M. - All Simcoe IPA

Joshua P. - Rum Raisin Oatmeal Stout

Alex C. - Milk Chocolate Stout

Adam W. - Lager

Steve F. - Oatmeal Stout

Ron H. - Saison-Rosemary

## Gathering of the Girls of Long Beach Home Brewers, #2 Belmont Shore

By Jennifer Sallee

March 15, 2014 was the second semiannual Girls Gathering of the Long Beach Home Brewers.

The idea for the Girls Gatherings came to me while showering... as many great ideas usually do ;) and after mentioning the idea to others it sounded like it would be a hit. The goal of these events is to get to know more females that love beer, brewing and to inspire others to enjoy beer, learn more about beer, and eventually brew their own, if they haven't already. An additional goal of mine is to at one point have so many ladies show up to these events we eventually need to rent a hotel ball room ;)

The first annual gathering was a fantastic success with seventeen LBHBer ladies showing up to celebrate in August last year at Beachwood BBQ and Brewing in downtown Long Beach. Do to scheduling conflicts this girls outing was about half that size but the fun was by no means half the amount. This Girls outing was celebrated at Second Street in Belmont Shores, Long Beach. March 15<sup>th</sup> also happened to be Saint Patrick's Day weekend this year which means it was a very busy weekend. The streets were packed with people in green wondering around and standing in line to enter the many bars and Irish pubs. However, let me just say the timing was perfect! Imagine having the ability to walk into any craft beer pub on a busy weekend and sit down immediately to the most attentive staff to help you with all your craft beer desires... This was a great weekend to have the craft beer outing.



### First Stop...Simmzy's

Simmzy's is a fantastic GastroPub on Second Street in Belmont Shore, Long Beach that has amazing food, craft beer and environmentally friendly local kegged wine selection. I have never, ever, been disappointed visiting Simmsy's. Needless to say I am a big fan. Some of the highly acclaimed items on the menu are the Brussel Sprouts (if you like anchovy), Pork Belly Masa Cakes, Shrimp Avocado Salad and of course the wood fire oven Pizzas!! This place is pretty fantastic. The beer

selection is extensive. The favorites of the night were: Sweetgrass APA from Grand Teton for me and Delena, Smog City Porter for Linda, Ballast Point Sextant for Teela , Latitude 33 Double Hump and Borg Bruggas for Eva. I called ahead Thursday to tell them that I had about 12 people in my party and they were very accommodating. They do not take "reservations" but it is still advisable to call ahead to warn the staff. They will keep a table available.





### Second stop...Brix at the Shore

Brix at the Shore is a fantastic stop for the craft beer girl. The craft beer selections were very impressive and the food menu was deli sandwich heaven. At this stop we did not sample the amazing food. But what we did sample was amazing service, beer and ambiance. Clean, modern and stylish is the theme at Brix. Some of the highlights at Brix were the few Stouts they had on draft for our stout lovers Sylvia and Linda. As an appreciator of sours I must say the highlight of the night for Beverly and I was the bottle we enjoyed from Cascade Brewing, The Vine. It was amazing. A sour beer blend made with fresh pressed white grapes. This beer was amazing enough for Bev and I to seek it out at every local Bev Mo, Total Wine, Cal Heights and Stearn Liquor. Let's just say it was the answer to our beautiful sour desire that evening.



### Final Stop...Tavern on Second.

Tavern on Second is yet another spectacular stop for the craft beer lover. The selection on draft is great with a style for anyone. Sour, Brown to IPA and it was very pleasing to each of our individual tastes. At Tavern we had the opportunity to enjoy the food. Items off the food menu we enjoyed where the Garlic Fries and make it yourself open flame S'mores.... Yes, from the pics I would say the S'mores may have been the highlight of the night. The S'mores were interactive and pleasing for all the senses. Having a flaming ball of fire near my face was pretty exciting and fun. I recommend it. Beer favorites of the night at Tavern were Sculpin for Delana and myself, a bottle of Liefmans Cuvee Brute Cherry for Beverly, Big Bad Baptist for Sylvia and Black Market Brown for Linda.

Tavern was the final stop for the evening. We had our fill of all the fantastic craft beer that we could stand for the evening. We were lucky enough to have a designated driver come pick us up and drive us all home safely which was a perfect end to a fantastic night.

One of the many topics of conversation that night was brewing and ways that we could inspire more women to brew. One great idea was to have a woman's brewing class. I think this would be a great idea and hope that we can get some additional ladies to join our group, outings and brew classes.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Semiannual gathering is tentatively scheduled for July! Hopefully we can encourage more women to come join in on the fun. Long Beach Homebrewer's is a fantastic and supportive brewing group for both men and women and we hope to see more people coming to all our beer appreciation occasions!



# AHA Rally 2014: Lost Abbey, Stone, White Labs, Intergalactic Brewing

by: Calvin Ninh



Of my two trips to the Stone AHA Rally, this is the more memorable one. Excitement for beer grows every year with each club meeting, pub crawl, and beer fest in between rallies. A number of LBHBers packed a section of the bus as we headed to meet friends and make new ones while enjoying home brewing and beer. The bus was not even moving when the first bottles were opened. People were more anxious this year. I just grabbed a cup and joined along the fun with a growler of my homebrew. Here's a recap of most of the day.

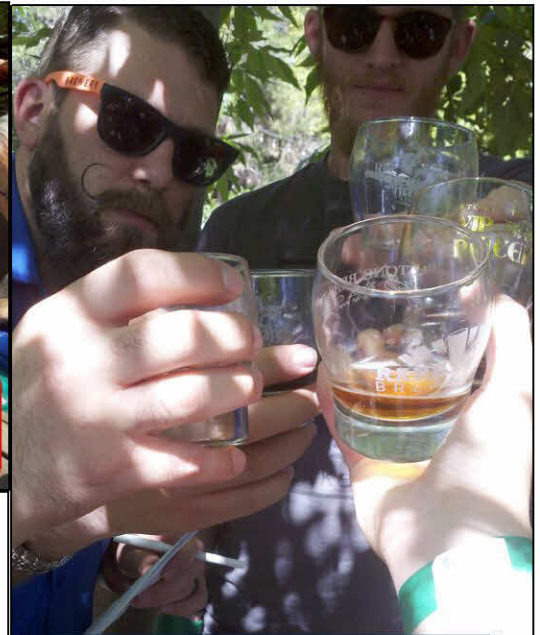
It took some effort for us to get the bus trip coordinator to visit **Lost Abbey** before the rally. Everyone rushed into the brewery since we only had 30 minutes there. Quick decisions were made on what to drink due to the haste. Inside, we stood at the bar and met around tables trading stories while sipping a beer in between sentences. It was an excellent start to visiting the San Diego beer scene.





Waiting for the taps to start pouring, the only not-so-fun time there. Painful. I know, I was waiting right there.

The LBHBers took over a corner of the garden at the **AHA Rally at Stone**. It was an afternoon of enjoying the camaraderie of people in a crowded field. But honestly, it was mostly getting a beer and walking back in line for the next one on the list. A few hours were spent sampling new, inventive, and weird beers. After the rally, we waited in the parking lot for the bus to arrive. Taking some initiative, I offered to pour my growler and ran back in to get another fill. After the bus arrived, we went on to pick up others who visited Offbeat Brewing. Then it was straight to White Labs.



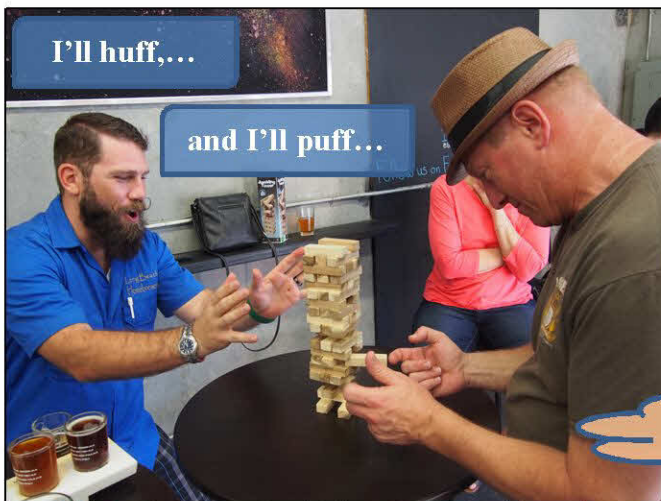
This is a typical point of view at the AHA Rally: a beer (or two... somehow I had 2 glasses...) in hand with lots of fellow beer enthusiasts around.



**Yeah White Labs. Yeah Science!**

Last up in the day was **White Labs**. There, people can sample a beer recipe with only the yeast changed. It is a perfect place to learn what flavors those critters add to finished beer and see where all those little tubes were filled with yeast.

Most of the bus group stayed to sample the beers there for an educating experience. Since some of us have been at White Labs before, a mini-group decided to seek out a nearby brewery, Intergalactic Brewing.



I'll huff,...

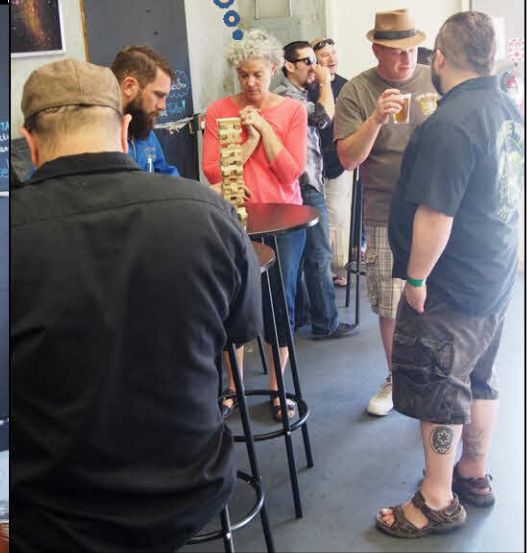
and I'll puff...

**Intergalactic Brewing** is tucked inside a small office complex a few minutes away from White Labs. The brewery crafted unique brews with a small amount of beers available (the Thin Mint Stout was something that I remember). We played rounds of Jenga while sampling the beers there. It's much harder after some beers

So intense. Must concentrate.



I spy, with my eye....



After gathering on the bus on the trip home, everyone was feeling spent as we shuffled towards our seats. However, it did not take long for someone to open a growler of beer to continue the trip's spirit. The trip back marked an end of the day with the remaining beers along with a futile chant for a visit to Pizza Port (bummer, we didn't convince the trip coordinator to go). But, there is always next year and it'll be better!

