

December
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Next Meeting

Tuesday, December 13
at 7 pm. At

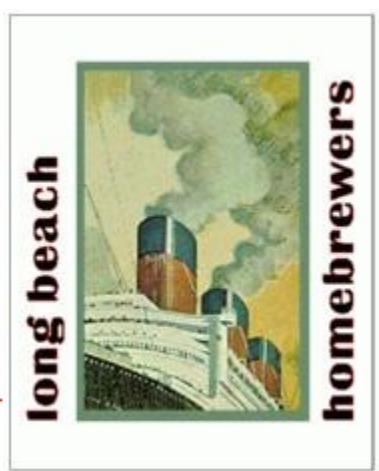
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The Brews Telegram

The Newsletter of the
Long Beach Homebrewers



President's Message

Greetings Fellow Homebrewers!

Happy December Everyone,

I guess, since its December, it's time to reflect back on the year and the club's many accomplishments. As I'm typing this on a Friday, I'm anxiously looking forward to tomorrows inaugural We Love Long Beach Homebrewer's Festival, in large part organized by our very own VP Andi. I'm sure the members of the club who are pouring their beers at the event will have represented the club very well and have brought home the Grand Prize.

Congratulations again to the clubs Homebrewer of the Year, Derek Johnstone. Thanks to everyone who shared their beers throughout the year. I look forward to tasting the beers in next year's tasting schedule and finding out who might supplant Derek.

Easily, our biggest event of the year was a very successful Pacific Brewer's Cup. Thanks to everyone who helped out and congratulations to all the medal winners especially the Best of Show Winners, Levi and Harmony. I'm also extra thankful that we don't have to think about organizing it again for two more years.

Thanks to Josh for organizing this year's two Big Brews at Brouwerij West and Timeless Pints – always a great time.

Thanks to the Smiths and the Gansens for hosting the club's holiday and Halloween parties this year, as a side note, the club Holiday party will be, once again, held at the Gansen residence on January 14th, details to follow.

This year saw another amazing time at the Southern California Homebrewer's Festival, we all had a great time consuming lots of different beers from clubs throughout all of SoCal.

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For those of you who haven't attended in the past – what's stopping you? As everyone knows campsites have been reserved for next year's Fest please pay Josh for your sites ASAP.

Finally, I'd like to thank the Board for all the amazing work they've done throughout the year helping put all these great events on, a lot of work goes on behind the scenes.

Happy Brewing and Happy Holidays

Ray

2016 Monthly Style Schedule

Here are the styles for each month.

December: Bourbon/Whiskey Barrel flavored Beers (2015 BJCP Style 33B)

2017 Monthly Style Schedule

Month	Comp Month	Style or theme
January		Beers with at least 20% rye
February	1st	Oatmeal Stout - 16B
March		Anything Imperial
April		SCHF Bragging Rights Style – Lagers of any sort
May	2nd	American Pale Ale - 18B
June		Any fermentable beverage except beer (wine, mead, cider, etc...)
July		Anything Belgian
August	3rd	Biere de Garde - 24C
September		5 minute beers (details to follow)
October		Intentionally Sour
November	Final	Marzen - 6A
December		Beers with spices / Holiday beers

Tastings at the November meeting (American Barleywine)

Jon Silvertooth	American Barleywine
Derek Johnstone	American Barleywine (2 nd) *HBOY 2016*
Dan & Jesse Sundstrom	American Barleywine (3 rd)
Andi Hakim	American Barleywine
Adam Widera	American Barleywine (1 st)
Josh Smith	American Barleywine

Other beers:

Ray Grace	Big Brew
Matthew Austin	Sweet Mead
Andrew	Pac Cup White Whiskey
Tracy Ewing	Nutty Brown Ale



THE NIGHTCAP BEFORE CHRISTMAS

by David Gansen



*Twas the night before Christmas, and in darkened cellars,
The only creatures that stirred were fermentable dwellers.
The yeasty boys, immersed in their wort making beer,
Were hoping St Nick would soon bring Christmas cheer.*

*I'd scrubbed down the brewhouse and polished it clean
Then relaxed with a porter and admired the sheen.
Exhausted and drained from brewing's regime
I was soon sawing logs and beginning to dream.*

*Suddenly a loud noise shook me awake!
But what I saw from the window must have been a mistake!
Gently cascading o'er a new fallen snow,
A full moon's light cast a prominent glow.*

*How could this be? I know I've been kind of stressed.
But snow in Long Beach? Boy do I need some rest!
Then I saw in the sky just as though he had planned
Santa's sleigh and reindeer beginning to land!*

*I had to rub my eyes. Could this really be true?
Santa on my rooftop? With his reindeer there, too?
The porter that I drank before I started to doze
Must have been much stronger than did the label disclose!*

*Fabled visions of Santa this sleigh did not invoke
For this sleigh was a huge bourbon barrel of oak!
Reindeer names began not with Dasher and Dancer,
But only to varieties of hops did they answer!*

*"Now Cascade! Now, Crystal! Now Columbus and Cluster!
On, Simcoe! On, Magnum! On Billy and Buster!
(The last two aren't hop names I know and don't care,
Trying to rhyme hop names left me flushed with despair!)"*

*So up to the house-top the coursers they flew,
Eight tiny reindeer, and St Nicholas too.
Sprigs of barley spok'd from the brim of his cap.
With swirling green hop vines fixed in a wrap.*

*He went right to his work on his oak barrel sleigh,
And opened up a small wooden hatch straight away.
He drew out a growler, his likeness fixed on the side,
And hopped to the back of the sleigh with a stride.*

*Giving the old barrel spigot a twist
Beer flooded the jug in the chilled nighttime mist.
Upon filling the vessel all the way to the top,
He shot down the chimney without spilling a drop.*

*He called it an oak aged Holiday Stout,
With notes of dark cherry and chocolate brought out.
Presented the beer, and like a proud old elf,
Said, "Merry Christmas my friend, I brewed it myself!"*

*In an instant he was up to the roof once more,
And mounted his sleigh as he had done before.
Amazed, I sipped on his roasted malt gift,
And watched him fly from the roof, light'ning swift!*

*He drove away quickly with the speed of a jet
Until against the full moon was but a small silhouette.
But loudly he exclaimed so all of Long Beach could hear,*

*Happy Christmas to all!
And to all a good cheer!!!*

