

HEART ^{OF} THE VALLEY HOMEBREWERS



CORVALLIS/ALBANY OREGON
WILLAMETTE VALLEY

Hello HOTV!

Please enjoy this edition of the August 2015 HOTV Newsletter.

Presidents Corner



Karen here...

I am not sending the newsletter to Carrie because I want to publish ASAP. Besides, I know what Carrie would say in her President's Corner message:

Volunteer for September Fest!

Secretary's Corner



September Fest is almost upon us and we still need volunteers for the later beer serving shifts. You do NOT need a server's license, but only need to read and sign a simple form. This is our big event of the year and a major fund raiser for HOTV, the Linn Benton Food Share, and the OSU Fermentation Science Scholarship Fund.

Signing up is easy; you won't need to make up a password, or answer any secret questions. Just go to:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c054ba4ad23a4f58-septemberfest2>

September Fest 2015

BLOCK 15 BREWING CO. PRESENTS



Enjoy Willamette Valley's best craft beer & cider among the trees of Avery Park with live music, food and friends at the Heart of the Valley Homebrewers' 8th Annual Septemberfest!

Benefitting Linn Benton Food Share

Sat, Sept 12th
1:00pm – 9:00pm
Avery Park, Corvallis

\$15 = Pint Glass + 4 Beer Tokens
Additional tokens 4 for \$5

New location... Avery Park!!!

- Live music with Beaver Country Hot Air Band, Parish Gap & more •
- Why drive when you can walk, bike, ride CTS or use our free shuttle? •
- Designated Drivers \$3 & the root beer is on us •
- No minors over the age of 10 years, please •
- Sorry, no furry friends •

More information + free shuttle map available at Septemberfest.org



Heart of the Valley Homebrewers

SEPTEMBERFEST 2015

Volunteering for the 8th Annual Septemberfest

Thank you for taking the time to consider volunteering for the Heart of Valley Homebrewers Septemberfest.

On September 12th, 2015 the Heart of Valley Homebrewers Septemberfest will mark its 8th anniversary. This fall festival has grown steadily since its inception and has become an expected tradition of the Corvallis beer scene as we endeavor to highlight the best and most interesting beers, ciders, and meads produced regionally and beyond. This year Septemberfest is in a new location, among the trees of Avery Park, and serves as the showcase event and kickoff of Corvallis Beer Week.

Last year marked a fantastic Septemberfest with record attendance of over 3,200 participants. We boasted an awesome beer, cider and mead selection (72 varieties on 50+ taps), great music and food. Most importantly, we raised over \$27,500 for Linn-Benton Food Share, the Heart of the Valley Homebrewers' Endowment at Oregon State University supporting scholarships in Fermentation Science, and the Glen Hay Falconer Foundation. Since 2006 Heart of the Valley Homebrewers, a non-profit organization, has donated over \$87,000 to support a number of worthy local charities and organizations.

It is with your help that allows Septemberfest be a fun-filled community celebration of the local homebrewers and craft beer industry as well as a successful fundraiser. We have many different opportunities available depending on your skill set and availability. Although a majority of the volunteer shifts are on the day of the festival we have other volunteer opportunities on different days as part of our setup, teardown and cleanup.

You say you're interested...well that's great! To become a Septemberfest volunteer we simply ask you to sign up for at least one Volunteer Shift (more is okay!) attend packet pickup and attend your shift in its duration. Educate yourself about

For a full list of all the upcoming competitions in the known Universe see:

http://www.bjcp.org/apps/comp_schedule/competition_schedule.php

Upcoming and on Going Beer Events

Corvallis Beer Week!!! September 11th to 19th

This year, September Fest will kick off Corvallis Beer Week.

<http://www.corvalliscraftbeer.com/awesome-things-to-do/2015/9/11/corvallis-beer-week-2015>

CBW2015 Pre-March Kickoff @ Les Caves

- Friday, September 11, 2015
- 3:00pm 5:00pm
- Les Caves Bier & Kitchen

Come get your Beer Week started in proper style with the Les Caves crew! They'll be pouring some awesome brews from all over the world AND Corvallis to celebrate all that is craft beer. So... grab a friend or 3 and head on down to Les Caves Bier & Kitchen on the 11th @ 3PM and get your beer week on!!!!!!

Annual Beer Week Kickoff Parade (Starts @ Les Caves at 5:30PM SHARP)

- Friday, September 11, 2015
- 5:00pm 7:00pm
- Les Caves Bier & Kitchen

Yup!!! We are doing it again!!! This is where the Corvallis Craft Beer industry struts its stuff throughout town and let's everyone know that Corvallis Beer Week is beginning. We hoot and holler our way through downtown Corvallis with pitstops at all the local favorite spots! Don't miss this fun and unique way of celebrating the Corvallis' kickass Craft Beer industry!!!

Official Parade Pitstop @ Squirrel's Tavern with Calapooia

- Friday, September 11, 2015
- 6:00pm 6:30pm
- Squirrels Tavern

Our parade will be taking an official pitstop at Squirrel's Tavern with Calapooia brews and other fine beverages!! All work and no play makes brewers go crazy!!

[Corvallis Beer Week Kickoff Party @ Flat Tail Brewing](#)

- Friday, September 11, 2015
- 7:00pm 11:00pm
- Flat Tail Brewing

Flat Tail Brewing will be opening up their brewery for a kickass party with delicious brews, bomb snacks and awesome people!! They are also celebrating their 5th Anniversary so come on down and show Flat Tail some Corvallis love and kick off Corvallis Beer Week with friends!!

[Pilot Plant Brewery Tours @ OSU's Fermentation Science Dept.](#)

- Saturday, September 12, 2015
- 12:00pm 2:00pm
- OSU's Fermentation Science Dept.

[Septemberfest 2015 @ Avery Park](#)

- Saturday, September 12, 2015
- 1:00pm 9:00pm
- Avery Park

Join Heart of the Valley Homebrewers among the trees of Avery Park as we celebrate the 8th annual Septemberfest. With over 60 beers on tap, there's something for everyone!

Admission is \$15 and includes a pint glass and 4 drink tokens, additional drink tokens are 4 for \$5. Septemberfest is a family friendly event, children under the age of 10 admitted free with paid adult, ALL others must be 21 or older. Please no furry friends.

More information and free shuttle map is available at Septemberfest.org.

Want to volunteer at Septemberfest? Follow this

link... <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c054ba4ad23a4f58-septemberfest2>

[Septemberfest After Party with DJ Cloudy Dee @ Cloud & Kelly's](#)

- Sat, Sep 12, 2015 10:00pm Sun, Sep 13, 2015 1:00am
- Cloud & Kelly's Public House

Boom!! The unofficial official after party of Septemberfest is happening on Saturday, September 12th from 10PM to late band features none other than DJ Cloudy Deem rockin' the 1's and 2's!!! So...grab a friend or 3 and head on down and dance the night away!! Nuff said.

[Brewery Open House & Yard Games @ Block 15 Brewery & Tap Room](#)

- Sunday, September 13, 2015
- 12:00pm 4:00pm
- Block 15 Brewery & Tap Room

Stop by Block 15's new Production brewery and Tap Room for happy hour priced beers and to see the new brewing facility. Brewers will be on hand to answer questions and allow you to take an up close look at the new equipment. Yard games including cornhole and Bocce Ball will be available on the lawn.

[Trivia, Tasting & Merrymaking @ Beer:30](#)

- Sunday, September 13, 2015
- 3:00pm 7:00pm
- Beer:30

Beer:30 Tasting Room and Growler Fill is teaming up again this year with Bigfoot Beverages and two of their outstanding Oregon Breweries, Pelican Brewing in Pacific City and GoodLife Brewing in Bend, to sponsor our popular Craft Beer Trivia Fun. This year we are adding a few new twists. There will be beer related trivia questions, beer tasting challenges to test your palate, and some higher energy games for those so inclined. We will feature great beers from the two breweries and reward your skills with swag. Did we mention that happy hour prices apply all day Sunday? So grab your friends and join us for the fun at Beer:30!

[State of the Industry Brewer's Dinner & Ferm Science Scholarhsip Fundraiser @ OSU Alumni Center](#)

- Sunday, September 13, 2015
- 5:00pm 8:00pm
- Oregon State University Alumni Center

OSUAA has partnered with [Corvallis Beer Week](#) to bring you an informative, entertaining and charitable event. Our State of the Industry Brewers' Dinner will feature five locally-owned breweries that are operated by OSU alumni and [OSU Food Science & Technology](#) brewing students. Each beer will be paired with a course prepared by [Forks and Corks Catering](#); our brew masters provided input

on the pairings to ensure that you have the best dining experience possible.

Not only will you indulge in a great meal, you will also learn about how OSU's entrepreneurial alumni are shaping the local brewing industry. Best of all, a portion of the proceeds will benefit the [Food Science & Technology's Alumni Scholarship Endowment](#).

Sunday, September 13, 2015

5 - 8 p.m.

CH2M HILL Alumni Center

725 SW 26th Street

Corvallis, OR97331

(Located just across the street from Reser Stadium)

Cost:

\$50 OSUAA members / students

\$65 nonmembers

Attendees must be at least 21.

Includes: Beaver Classic Cheese aperitif, various appetizers, fresh beet and summer greens salad, farmer's lamb stew and a chocolate stout cake for dessert. (Dinner is preset and no dietary accommodations can be made.)

Each course is paired with a six-ounce beer and includes a palate cleanser between the main and dessert from [2 Towns Cider House](#).

This event is open to the public.

Catering by [Forks and Corks](#) and will include [Beaver Classic Cheese](#)

Participating OSU student/alumni owned establishments:

[2 Towns Cider House](#)

[Block 15 Brewery](#)

[Calapooia Brewing](#)

[Deluxe Brewing](#)

[OSU's Creamery - Beaver Classic Cheese Program](#)

[OSU's Food Science & Technology Brewing Students](#)

[Sky High Brewing](#)

Can't make it, or would like to make an additional gift to the Food Science & Technologies Alumni Scholarship Endowment Fund? Go [HERE](#) to make a donate online.

Seating for this event will fill up fast so sign up today and come support the current and future Craft Beer industry in Corvallis! Signup at www.osualum.com/brewersdinner

[GrowlerFest @ 5th Street Growlers](#)

- Monday, September 14, 2015
- 4:00pm 8:00pm
- 5th Street Growlers

Growlerfest is here!!! Stupid awesome deals on growlers from 4-8PM!! Swing by the shop and see what's to offer. Really though.....the prices are good all day but 4-8 sounded awesome to us! So.....plan a BBQ invite yours friends and fill those growlers at GrowlerFest 2015!!

[99 Bottles of Beer on the Wall @ Corvallis Brewing Supply - Limit 75 Tickets](#)

- Monday, September 14, 2015
- 4:30pm 7:30pm
- Corvallis Brewing Supply

99 Bottles is a phenomenal opportunity to try an amazing array of different beers from around the Willamette Valley all the way to the other edge of the World! We are prepared to open up 99 different beers with no repeats from any brewery! Some of the beers will be current releases and many will be pulled from the vintage cellar. There will be unlimited 2 oz. pours, of each beer, and food prepared by Jacob Oliver of Kalimata Olive. A raffle with cool sh*t mixed in!

The event is limited to 75 people and the \$33 dollar tickets can only be purchased at Corvallis Brewing Supply.

PS - 99 bottles is only a bench mark and we will go past if needed!!

[Ladies Night Out @ Mazama Brewing](#)

- Monday, September 14, 2015
- 6:00pm 8:00pm
- Mazama Brewing

Celebrate Corvallis Beer Week with a night out at Mazama Brewing Co – You deserve it! The night will include a barre3 class in the brewery from 6-7. Shopping and drinking to follow in the taproom until 8! \$15 covers the cost of the barre3 class and includes a complimentary beverage afterwards. Class space is limited – Sign up online: www.signupgenius.com/go/20f044eafa92ba2f85-mazamas

Can't make the class? Drop by to shop from some wonderful, local vendors until 8. Brewery tours will be available 7-8pm.

Participating vendors:

Fawn Paper Co.

Peach Company

doTerra

India Hicks

stella & dot

[A Sky High Oakshire Rooftop Bingo Night @ Sky High Brewing Roof Top](#)

- Monday, September 14, 2015
- 7:00pm 9:00pm
- Sky High Brewing Rooftop

[Epic 80's Dance Party w/ Nectar Creek & 2 Towns @ Downward Dog](#)

- Mon, Sep 14, 2015 10:00pm Tue, Sep 15, 2015 12:30am

[Tiki Mead Tuesday with Nectar Creek @ Red Fox Cafe](#)

- Tuesday, September 15, 2015
- 4:00pm 8:00pm
- Red Fox Cafe

[Craft Beer Spelling Bee with Jimbo Ivy @ Cloud & Kelly's](#)

- Tuesday, September 15, 2015
- 8:00pm 11:00pm
- Cloud & Kelly's Public House

Yup. It's exactly what it sounds like. Come ready to spell!

So, how does it work?

We're going by a modified Scripp's National Spelling Bee format.

- We will allow a maximum of 30 contestants so get there early to sign up beginning at 7pm.
- We will allow you two misspelled words. On the third, you're out.
- We will start with the 1st grade words, and work our way up to the 8th grade words (trust me, it's harder than it sounds).
- Spelling is according to the official Scripp's Pronunciation guide.
- You may ask for definition, part of speech and a sentence demonstrating usage.
- Lastly, you must have an alcoholic drink in your hand when spelling.

That's it! The bee starts buzzing at 8 o'clock prompt.

[Craft Beer Run \(not the jogging kind\) @ City Limits Store](#)

- Wednesday, September 16, 2015
- 3:00pm 7:00pm
- City Limits Store

[Albany's Deluxe Brewing hosts Game Night!!!!](#)

- Wednesday, September 16, 2015
- 4:00pm 9:00pm
- Deluxe Brewing

Deluxe Brewing Company will be hosting a fun and entertaining game night Wednesday, September 16th, 2015 as a part of celebrating Corvallis Beer Week. Join us from 4pm-9pm for shuffleboard, ping pong, card games, and board games. Patrons are also welcome to bring in their own favorite games to play with family and friends.

The Sinister-Deluxe tasting room will be open for guests 21 years and older. Minors are welcome outside on the patio and in the brewery's main area. Patrons may bring in their own food or order from a number of local area restaurants that deliver. Deluxe Brewing is located in the Borden Building, 635 NE Water Ave., Albany.

[4th Annual Beer Week Doubles Cribbage Tournament @ Downward Dog](#)

- Wednesday, September 16, 2015
- 5:00pm 9:00pm
- Downward Dog

Registration opens @ 4PM - Only one team member needs to be present for registration.

Both teammates must be seated at 5PM.

Tournament starts @ 5:15PM SHARP.

[Cider Education Experience with Dave Takush @ 2 Towns Ciderhouse Tasting Room - Limit 35 Tickets](#)

- Wednesday, September 16, 2015
- 6:00pm 8:00pm
- 2 Towns Ciderhouse Tap Room

A Cider education course: history, producing at home, and tasting of styles from around the world with 2 Towns Ciderhouse head cidemaker.

Explore cider with Dave Takush, Head Cidemaker, of 2 Towns Ciderhouse. Learn about the heyday, rise and fall of cider making in the new world and how to make cider at home. Taste an array of ciders from around the world, including 2 Towns ciders from the Cider Master Reserve Series & local collaborations, while enjoying delicious hors d'oeuvres and a tour of the 2 Towns barrel aging program.

Tickets to this event will sell out fast so signup right away
at<http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2019337>

[Fried Chicken & Outdoor Movie Night with Ninkasi @ Greenberry Tavern](#)

- Wednesday, September 16, 2015
- 6:00pm 10:00pm
- Greenberry Tavern

[4th Annual IPA Tap Takeover @ Crowbar & downtown American Dream Pizza](#)

- Wednesday, September 16, 2015
- 6:00pm 9:00pm

- Crowbar

Shuffleboard & Billiards Tournament @ McMenamins on Monroe

- Thursday, September 17, 2015
- 5:00pm 9:00pm
- McMenamins on Monroe

5th Annual Super Loco Local Promo @ Suds & Suds

- Thursday, September 17, 2015
- 6:00pm 9:00pm
- Suds & Suds

Hop Valley Tap Takeover @ 5th Street Growlers

- Thursday, September 17, 2015
- 6:00pm 9:00pm
- 5th Street Growlers

Join us for a great night of awesome beers, raffle prizes, and fun with Hop Valley Brewing!

Brews and Tunes at Bombs Away Cafe!

- Thursday, September 17, 2015
- 6:00pm 8:00pm
- Bombs Away Cafe

Good Life Brewing will be at BAC for a tasting and swag giveaway from 6-8 pm. We'll have our typical killer food menu and some awesome Corvallis Beer Week food and drink specials, so come eat and drink! And stick around for a fantastic FREE show from San Francisco's Rin Tin Tiger (<http://www.rintintiger.com/>), starting at 9 pm.

Wild & Sour Workshop #1 with Katy Maxwell

- Friday, September 18, 2015
- 12:30pm 2:00pm
- Block 15 Gameroom

Enjoy an educational tasting session of wild and sour ales with Katy Maxwell, beer education manager at Block 15 Brewing Company. 21+.

<http://mkt.com/CBW-WildSourEducation/wild-and-sour-class-corvallis-beer-week>

[Wild & Sour Workshop #2 with Katy Maxwell @ Block 15 Gameroom](#)

- Friday, September 18, 2015
- 2:30pm 4:00pm
- Block 15 Gameroom

Enjoy an educational tasting session of wild and sour ales with Katy Maxwell, beer education manager at Block 15 Brewing Company. 21+.

<http://mkt.com/CBW-WildSourEducation/wild-and-sour-class-corvallis-beer-week>

[Face-off/Taste-off with Planktown & Block 15 @ Corvallis Brewing Supply](#)

- Friday, September 18, 2015
- 3:00pm 6:00pm
- Corvallis Brewing Supply

[Where the Wild Ales Are @ Les Caves Bier & Kitchen](#)

- Friday, September 18, 2015
- 3:00pm 7:00pm
- Les Caves Bier & Kitchen

[Tap Takeover with Mazama Brewing @ Red Fox Cafe](#)

- Friday, September 18, 2015
- 4:00pm 8:00pm
- Red Fox Cafe

[Mystery Beer Event @ Oregon Trail Brewery](#)

- Friday, September 18, 2015
- 4:00pm 6:30pm
- Oregon Trail Brewery

[Hop Valley Night @ Clodfelter's Public House](#)

- Friday, September 18, 2015
- 7:00pm 9:00pm
- Clodfelter's Public House

Come on down to Clodfelter's Public House on Friday the 18th as they bring the Hop Valley crew in house sampling some awesome brews and slinging some swag!! So...grab a friend or 3 and head on down, meet the crew, and get your last Friday of beer week off to an awesome start!!!!

[3rd Annual Dodgeball Tournament with Oakshire, Ninkasi & Playground Sports @ Corvallis Sports Park](#)

- Friday, September 18, 2015
- 7:00pm 10:00pm
- Corvallis Sports Park

Corvallis Sports Park will be hosting a dual tasting with Oakshire and Ninkasi from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.. Playground Sports will be doing check in for the 3rd Annual Dodge Ball Tournament from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. and the tournament will begin at 8:30 p.m. So....get your friends together and come dodge, duck and throw your way into finals at the Corvallis Beer Week Dodgeball Tournament!!!!

Register your team at www.playgroundsports.net under tournaments or call 541-221-2392 for questions!!

[Beer Brunch & Cellar Stash @ Block 15 Restaurant & Brewery](#)

- Saturday, September 19, 2015
- 9:00am 10:45am
- Block 15 Restaurant & Brewery

Block 15's most popular bottle release of the year returns as a part of Beer Week. Tickets are offered on a lottery basis; Sign-up at www.block15.com/brunch by Friday August 28th at 6pm.

[Visit the Farm Road Trip to Agrarian Ales \(Caravan & Carpool leaves from Mazama Brewing @ 11AM\)](#)

- Saturday, September 19, 2015
- 12:00pm 2:00pm
- Caravan Leaves from Mazama Brewing

Beer News

All 50 States in the U.S., Ranked By Their Beer

By Ben Robinson, Andy Kryza, and Matt Lynch (*No surprise which state is #1*)

It's a great time to be drinking beer in America. Not that it was ever, you know, a BAD time to be doing that necessarily, but with craft breweries multiplying like rabbits who've been drinking beer, you can literally find some serviceable (if not downright tasty) local brews in all 50 states. Which made the process of ranking them all the more difficult, but we were up to the challenge, especially since it meant drinking and thinking about beer for weeks straight.

Here they are, all 50 states in the Union, ranked according to their beer. A couple of notes about our criteria: Quantity and quality are both important, but quality's a bit MORE important. If you're a small state turning out a disproportionate amount of great beer, it did not go unrecognized. We also gave a boost to states who played a historical role in American beer as we know it today. We also argued a lot, so if you want to do that as well, please join us in the comments!

50. Mississippi

There's a reason that Mississippi's the home of the blues. It has a lot to do with the fact that the state's got fewer breweries than Blind Willie Nine Fingers has digits.

49. West Virginia

Misty taste of moonshine, teardrop in my eye. Note: the teardrop is because there isn't enough good beer to drink here.

48. Rhode Island

'Gansett. That's about all there is to say. 'Gansett!! Luckily it's really fun to say.

47. North Dakota

You'd think that two decades of enduring wood-chipper jokes would drive more North

Dakotans to drink, but noh... noh, there's not much brewing going on here, though a can of Fargo Brewing Co.'s Iron Horse Pale Ale is a mighty fine treat.

46. Nevada

Booze is a big business in the Silver State, but with respect to brewers like Great Basin, most of that silver is in Bullet form... given out for free. At the nickel slots.

45. South Dakota

When every biker from Portland, Ore., to Portland, Maine, comes rolling into Sturgis, they probably drink more beer than the collective frat population of the U.S. But they subsist on a diet of tallboys and Kid Rock. And while you'll find local beer on many taps throughout the state, those taps are probably gathering dust next to a fresh macro keg. I frequent SoDak, and when I do, I subsist mainly on Crow Peak's excellent 11th Hour IPA. There's a beer scene lurking in the Black Hills, but it needs some nourishment. And support.

44. Nebraska

Luckily, the Cornhuskers' 22 spot in the preseason AP poll is the only ranking this state really cares about.

43. Hawaii

People tend to vouch for the tastiness of the local beer they tried while in Hawaii, which is probably because THEY WERE IN #@\$%& Hawaii. Kona and Maui and the like make some solid beer, but it gets a bit of a perception bump from the Hawaiian mystique.

42. New Jersey

All sorts of silly laws, plus a statewide Red Bull-vodka addiction, stonewalled the development of Jersey breweries for years, but even though things have freed up a bit, they still don't make Taylor Ham beer. Someone make Taylor Ham beer! If anyone answers that ridiculous plea, it'll be gutsy up-and-comer Carton.

41. New Hampshire

Every person in New Hampshire is never more than two hours away from one of the top

six beer states in the nation (gotta keep reading to figure out which!). So while the lack of an established scene aside from venerable Smuttynose is surprising, we don't feel *that* badly for those who must choose daily between living free and dying.

40. Wyoming

The combination of locals having a lot of time to hone their crafts and the influx of tourists – skiers, dads who've been penned up in an RV with three kids who could care less about Old Faithful – has made this sparsely populated wilderness a solid beer spot, with Snake River and Black Tooth brewing some seriously delicious beers that collectively pack more IBUs than the state has residents.

39. Connecticut

Not a ton happening here, but Olde Burnside makes a uniquely sessionable Scottish Ale, and also [sells longswords on its website](#).

38. Arkansas

Last year, the *Arkansas Times* – whose research we trust, because they obviously weren't drinking 11% stouts while writing, unlike some people – reported that the number of breweries jumped from four to 19... and it's growing. That, friends, is a renaissance, with breweries like Core Brewing and Ozark Beer Co. leading a serious charge from the South. In 10 years, after the brewers get more comfortable, expect to see Arkansas as a real contender.

37. South Carolina

South Carolina has 1) many respectable brewpubs, 2) not very many breweries whose wares make it outside state lines, and, perhaps best of all, 3) a border with North Carolina.

36. Kansas

Tallgrass makes some solidly enjoyable brews for sipping out of a cold aluminum tallboy. The rest of the state's beer is kinda just... there. Much like Kansas.

35. Arizona

Stick to iced tea! What's that? Arizona Iced Tea isn't even made in Arizona? Fine. You know what is? Actually some decent beers (Four Peaks, SanTan), but, hey, things are getting competitive.

34. Iowa

If Ray Kinsella had started a hop farm instead of a corn farm, brewing in Iowa would probably be... exactly the same, since he plowed over the bulk of said farm so he could have a catch with Ray Liotta. The bright side? Toppling Goliath, which five years ago brewed a half-barrel at a time, and now has road-trippers from all over the Midwest stopping by their taproom to drink that much in a sitting.

33. Tennessee

Whiskey, yes. Country music? Yep. Connie Britton's charismatic turn as fading Nashville star Rayna Jaymes? Oh hell yes! Beer? Meh. That's not to say that there's not great beer – what up, Nashville's Yazoo and Memphis's Boscós – but the drop from great to mediocre is steeper than a Smoky Mountain cliff face. Plus, ain't nobody – not even Rayna Jaymes – ever wrote a classic country song while drinking a fancy porter.

32. Kentucky

Look, bourbon will always be Kentucky's first and greatest love, but breweries like Against the Grain are really giving it something to be proud of when it comes to certain other alcoholic beverages. Of course, those bourbon barrels have gone a long way to helping breweries all over the country make your beer more delicious. Although oddly, Kentucky Bourbon Ale (the state's most high-profile barrel-aged beer) is just okay.

31. Georgia

Georgia loses points for not requiring each and every one of its breweries to make a brew called Sweet Georgia Brown, but it really lands in the middle by a couple dozen middle-of-the-road breweries, but no truly great ones. A C+ average might be passing, but it's hardly excelling.

30. New Mexico

No, we're not going to make a *Breaking Bad* joke. But we are going to ding New Mexico

for being hot as hell, which makes drinking a thick, delicious microbrew extra difficult. Also making it difficult is the fact that, despite the efforts of great brewers like La Cumbre and Chama River, nobody thinks of beer when they think of New Mexico. Except maybe Schraderbrau. And... DAMMIT!

29. Idaho

For a state best known for potatoes and, um, potatoes, Idaho's throwing some serious clout around courtesy of ballers like Grand Teton, Sockeye, Laughing Dog, and the incredible Selkirk Abbey. But the scene isn't fully formed yet, thanks in large part to the fact that lite beer tastes better while muddin'.

28. Virginia

Virginia is for beer lovers. Or at least it's getting there fast. Another state where weird laws (these ones involving how much food you needed to sell, for some God-awful reason) held brewing back for a while, VA's got some real action going now, from entrenched favorites like Legend, Star Hill, and Devils Backbone, to new kid Smartmouth, whose canned IPA and Saison are (somewhat) specifically designed for you to drink on a boat. But they're really good on land too! And all this leads to an interesting and telling halo effect: two of its cities – Richmond and Norfolk – are among the three finalists for Stone's newest super-brewery/[blissful outdoor drinking compound](#).

27. Louisiana

Louisiana's another state where the joy to be had drinking beer there outstrips the actual quality of anything produced in-state. Obviously the beer discussion here starts with Abita. Purple Haze sounds more exciting than it tastes, but some of their less widespread releases make up for their more average flagships. If you're looking for an intriguing up-and coming outfit to keep an eye on, Parish Brewing Co. merits your attention.

26. Oklahoma

Truth be told, a few years ago Oklahoma wouldn't have placed nearly this high, but the

meteoric rise of Prairie Artisan Ales as one of those “holy *&\$ have you tried this” breweries that people cover some serious distance to visit has really raised its profile.

25. Alaska

Hey, it's cold there. Often. Which leaves plenty of time to stay inside and brew. And they do, routinely rating as one of the top states in terms of barrels of craft beer produced per capita. But enough boring stuff! Get your hands on excellent brews like Midnight Sun Berserker, Alaskan Barley Wine, and Anchorage Bitter Monk.

24. Maryland

So yeah, it's a little odd that Maryland's most prominent craft outfit (Flying Dog), is a Colorado transplant, but the fact remains that the vast majority of the brewery's tasty beer comes out of the Old Line State these days. They're far from the only game in town, however. Stillwater is doing some seriously impressive work, like a damn-near-perfect Gose collab with Westbrook. Of course, old habits die hard, so the state still consumes plenty of Natty Boh, too.

23. Montana

Big Sky Brewing might be the ambassador for Montana brewing – Moose Drool being an essential brown, and Ivan the Terrible being a badass of a Russian Imperial – but with rising stars like Flathead Lake and Bozeman Brewing pouring high-quality wares, Montana's becoming formidable on the scene. Bozeman will one day be a destination for beer lovers, provided you can deal with the requisite bluegrass music that accompanies your drinking.

22. Alabama

Homebrewing, the essential root of all the damn beautiful stuff in this story, has been legal in Alabama for barely over a year. So that's crazy. Before that, a noble band of beermen toiled under the banner Free The Hops for almost a decade to get the legal ABV limit for *any* brewery raised from 6%. But after all that, the boom's finally on, with the number of breweries doubling basically every year. One of the big deals: Good People, which has really cool cans, and fills them with a splendid double IPA called Snake Handler that would've gotten them all very arrested three years ago.

21. Utah

Utah! Get me two! That's what you used to have to say when you ordered a beer in Utah, because it was mad weak. But outfits like Uinta (13.2% Labyrinth Black Ale) and Epic (11%, damn raisin-y barley wine) are saying eff that, except without cursing, because it's still Utah. Plus, the 3.2 beer legend isn't even true – for one, it's actually 3.2% by weight, which means it's in fact *a whopping 4% by volume*, and, for two, you just have to avoid the gas station and hit the government-run package store for the real stuff. Or, like, be in another state.

20. Texas

The only state to declare [its own separate national beer](#) and the home to venerable [Shiner](#), craft beer has truly been exploding in Texas in recent years. Well, that's been happening basically everywhere, but it's Texas, so the explosion FEELS bigger. The Sours and Saisons coming out of Jester King are no joke. Wordplay! But for serious, they're legit. Houston's Saint Arnold, one of the OG's of the Texas craft scene, continually turns heads with its special releases. Deep Ellum has been steadily making waves in DFW. Whether or not you're drinking a Lone Star, it's a good time to be drinking in the Lone Star State.

19. Delaware

It feels a little crazy to put a state this high basically on the strength of a single brewery, but it feels less crazy when said brewery is Dogfish Head, which has thus far managed the tricky balancing act of becoming an absolute powerhouse while maintaining serious quality and a distinct lack of the “they're too big now” cliché that beer snobs sometimes fall into. For a state with a lack of glitz and glamour that made for arguably the [best joke in Wayne's World](#), Dogfish Head gives them some cache and a top 20 ranking to boot.

18. Indiana

The NASCAR set might account for beer drinkin', but it's hard to overlook the presence of Three Floyds, whose Dark Lord Imperial Stout, Zombie Dust, and Dreadnaught IPA represent some of the Midwest's most beloved beers. Throw in Shoreline's bourbon-barrel stout and Upland's lambics, and you've got enough powerhouse brewing to make it impossible to ignore Indy.

17. Florida

When you live in Florida, you have to deal with all the [other people who live in Florida](#), not to mention the [people who visit](#). So it's nice that the rest of the normal, beer-loving folk have some excellent options to calm their nerves. Rapp and 7venth Sun represent some intriguing rising stars, and Funky Buddha's Maple Bacon Coffee Porter is rightfully an object of obsession. But the shining-est star of Florida's beer scene is Tampa's Cigar City, which can go beer-to-beer with anyone. Hunahpu's is about as flawless a rendition of the "people will line up to get this" imperial stout as you'll find anywhere.

16. Minnesota

The most famous beer-beard in Minneapolis belongs to the guy behind Dangerous Man Brewing, who, by all accounts, is a totally nice dude. And considering that he's pledged in a Hill Farmstead-y way to simply running a primo tap room and never bottling or distributing a drop, he's also the perfect one to cement the Minnesota brew movement – a quiet but supremely burly scene that most people outside the state don't even know exists. Surly's locally famed cans just made it to Chicago, but to drink many of the rest – Summit, 612Brew, Harriet, Lucid, and the next big thing, Fulton – you've gotta make a trip to the Twin Cities. Might be worth staying a few days.

15. North Carolina

North Carolina, raise up, do not spin your beer around like a helicopter 'cause then it'll explode everywhere, and that'd suck, since many of them are quite delicious. Foothills' Jade IPA is fantastically drinkable (which might not be the *exact* way you'd describe its superb Bourbon Barrel-Aged Sexual Chocolate Imperial Stout), while Fullsteam, Big Boss, Highland, and Mother Earth cover about as much territory as a drinker could hope. And they don't, like, make the beer, but Sam's Quik Shop in Durham is one of the coolest places to buy it in the country – don't be fooled just because it looks like a gas station convenience store that's about to get held up.

14. Maine

Last year, I spent a week in an extremely non-air-conditioned cabin in Belfast, Maine. I cooled off with Allagash Saison during the day, distracted myself from mosquitos via

Shipyard XXXX IPA come night, and, in between, sipped Summer Session Ales from Peak Organic, so I could feel healthy or whatever. It basically all comes from Portland, a beer boomlet that challenges even its West Coast namesake thanks to dozens of full-scale operations and brewpubs that ensure all those lobster rolls are properly accompanied.

13. Illinois

It marked the end of a craft beer era in Illinois when Goose Island was bought out by the big boys, but it remains a local fixture, and all the whimpers about “selling out” seem to mysteriously vanish anytime they’re releasing a special Bourbon County Stout variant as everyone scrambles to get their hands on some. That’s not to say Goose was the only game in town (which felt like the case not all that long ago). Half Acre, Revolution, and Pipeworks are all expanding their reach at an impressive clip, and Chicago has gone from a bit of a behind-the-times beer town to quickly accelerating toward the front of the pack.

12. Ohio

Great Lakes. That’s all you need to know. Except not really, since you should also be very, very aware of IBU boundary-defiers Hoppin’ Frog, the newly dominating Rust Belt, Cinci’s Christian Moerlein, rapidly expanding Fat Head’s (they’re not just life-size wall stickers of NFL players and the Jonas Brothers anymore!), and barrel-aging fiends Thirsty Dog. Yes, much of Cleveland’s economy is [based on LeBron James](#). But thanks to joints like Nano Brew and open fermentation hideaway Indigo Imp, it’s only a matter of time before beer catches up.

11. Missouri

Sure, the baseball stadium in St. Louis was named for beer before stadium naming rights really became a thing, but Missouri has plenty going for it beer-wise besides a certain iconic American brand calling it home. Boulevard is NOT made of broken dreams, but rather delicious beer, particularly their Belgian stuff. And right in Budweiser’s backyard you’ve got standout brews from the likes of Schlafly and Perennial. Have you had the latter’s Barrel-Aged Abraxas? No? You should do something about that.

10. Massachusetts

We may take them as a given today, but you can't deny Sam Adams' role in ushering in the era of SO MUCH GOOD BEER in America that even folks in Mississippi will be upset about their ranking because there are breweries everywhere (even if most of them don't have the resources to make a crazy decadent and resource-intensive brew like Utopias). Of course, plenty of other standout breweries have followed in Sam Adams' wake in the Bay State, from Harpoon and Night Shift, to Clown Shoes, Trillium, and Jack's Abby.

9. New York

Brooklyn's so huge you can drink it in Helsinki, Blue Point's recent sale to Anheuser-Busch made them somehow feel even bigger than that, and Ommegang cross-brands [delicious *Game of Thrones* stouts](#) with Hound-like abandon. But New York brewing is still about the small-scale local guys who keep outdoing themselves, from upstate's venerable Captain Lawrence, to recent scene-stealer Other Half, to Jeppe Jarnit-Bjergsø, the scraggly-bearded, Brooklyn-based, gypsy-brewing genius behind Evil Twin – praise his Even More Jesus, fear his Molotov Cocktail.

8. Pennsylvania

Tröegs, Stoudt's, Yards, Victory, Voodoo, Sly Fox, Weyerbacher: all always fantastic. Iron City: one of the world's most lovable crappy beers. Yuengling: maybe not what craft-heads crave, but it's the country's oldest brewery (wait, you haven't had someone drinking Yuengling tell you that?!?), and the very stuff that splashed out of dance-floor Solo cups all night at my cousin's wedding in a barn on a PA sheep farm. Part of William Penn's "Great Treaty" to secure his land involved giving up a barrel of beer; we all got plenty back in return.

7. Wisconsin

There was a time when Milwaukee made approximately every beer consumed by every man who came home from work with grease on his shirt. Today, those canned brands of yesteryear are dead, or sold off and made in, like, California. But the Brothers Leinenkugel are statewide icons, New Glarus' Spotted Cow is the first beer referenced by cheeseheads everywhere (even though nobody can get it outside the state), the baseball team's name is the damn Brewers, and there used to be an urban legend that Miller

Park's taps were fueled by a beer pipe that ran directly from the brewery. An urban legend we will perpetuate, right here. Miller Park's taps are fueled by a beer pipe that runs directly from the brewery!

6. Vermont

I once went into a beer store in Burlington asking for Heady Topper, and they laughed and laughed and told me to come back really early on Monday morning, so I could *maybe* score some in the half-hour before it sold out. But The Alchemist's cult cans are only part of the story in the state with the US's most breweries per-capita. See/drink Harpoon, Fiddlehead, craft harbinger Magic Hat, Long Trail, Lawson's Finest Liquids (check the maple bourbon barrel-aged Sticky), and most prominently, Hill Farmstead, which many consider the world's most currently dialed-in beer-maker, despite its tired "barn brewery to slightly larger barn brewery" origin tale.

5. Washington

Washington has long been one of the most formidable beer states, growing the majority of the country's hops and giving hipsters something to drink with Olympia and Rainier, until those breweries sold out like so many grunge bands. We kid, of course, because Washington's home to more than 200 breweries, highlighted by greatness like Seattle's Elysian and Pike, the organic pioneers of Olympia's Fish, Stevenson's powerhouse Homo Erectus-brewing Walking Man, and Tacoma's Harmon. But Washington also achieves greatness with "micro" beers for the masses, brewers like Pyramid and Redhook that bottle inexpensive bombers that help convert the skeptics across the nation to craft beer via the allure of a lower price tag. That, of course, draws the ire of beer snobs...

something that always happens when a local company finds tremendous success. Especially in Seattle. Because popularity is soooooo lame. But lucky for them, there are enough breweries in the state to let them have a lesser-known go-to pint, and a quality one at that.

4. Michigan

The Great Lakes State may not be a prolific hops producer, or contain one brewery for every man, woman, and child (they do have about two for every 100,000 adults,

according to the Brewers Association). But mittens were meant for holding cold brews, and Michigan happens to host some of the best damned breweries in the country.

There's a reason that the annual release of Bell's Oberon is like a state holiday, and why its Two-Hearted is consistently [ranked among the best IPAs in the world](#), even as many drinkers don't realize it's an IPA. Or why Larry Bell's neighbors to the North, Grand Rapids' Founders, has become one of the nation's most respected brewers, so much so that Grand Rapids is now on the map as a destination beer city. Why, folks set up shop in the tiny lake town of Bellaire just to sip Short's, or head South to Dexter for a look at how Jolly Pumpkin is made.

Beer in Michigan is a way of life, an economic booster that's helping Detroit pull out of the apocalypse and a soul cleanser up in the UP, where long winters are made better with a growler from Ore Dock. And if that's not convincing enough, consider this: in Ann Arbor and East Lansing, when the chaos of a tailgate clears, you'll see as many empty bottles of craft beer scattered about as you will tallboys with holes punched in the side. In Michigan, beer love starts early.

3. Colorado

Everywhere you look in Colorado – literally everywhere – there is beer. There is no escaping the beer. This is a good thing. Everyone with a beard brews beer, and everyone has a beard, which, by the law of syllogism or something, means literally everyone brews beer. And, damn, do they do it well.

Oskar Blues started the craft can revolution, and if you haven't had a GUBNA, change that. Avery has an entire run of bombers called the Dictator Series. New Belgium is distributing with the big boys thanks to an amber ale and a cruiser bike. Crooked Stave is souring things that man previously assumed un-sour-able. Great Divide has proven once and for all that the Yeti exists, and he will eff you the hell up. And the whole state's in on it – even the guy who just had a frozen chocolatini with dinner can rattle off 10 upstart breweries you won't hear of for years. Beer is everywhere. Everywhere is beer.

2. California

Manifest Destiny gave us California, and it gave us back beer. Literally, the entire state

makes the stuff, from Weed Alehouse & Bistro in a city called Weed (seriously) about 40 minutes from the Oregon border, all the way down to San Diego, which we're gonna go ahead and deem the most dominating beer city in world history – thanks to Stone and Green Flash of course, but also Port, Coronado, Lost Abbey, Ballast Point, AleSmith (find their Wee Heavy), and the other 70+ operations brewing flawless beer with abandon.

God, there's just so much to talk about here. Without hoppy vanguard Sierra Nevada, 99% of the beers we're lauding (and... this story!) probably wouldn't exist. Lagunitas' commitment to growing national distribution while maintaining quality is second to none. 21st Amendment has a Watermelon Wheat to lure the beer-scared in, plus a perfectly portioned canned Lower De Boom barley wine to finish them off. Anchor's been making whatever the hell steam beer is for almost 120 years. Firestone Walker's Double Jack is probably the most deceptive 9.5-percenter you'll ever accidentally drink too much of. And then, of course, there's Pliny. Pliny, Pliny, Pliny! Pliny. And no, it's not overrated.

1. Oregon

California and Washington might have more brewers, but dammit, they've also got more people. More importantly, they don't have the density of Oregon's offerings. Or the quality. Oregon's long been at the forefront of the craft industry, with brewers like Widmer Brothers, Rogue, Full Sail, and Deschutes leading the national charge as gateway beers for people who want something more out of their pints. But they're just the OGs of what might be the epicenter of the craft beer movement.

Much ballyhoo has been made of the sheer number of breweries in the Portland metro area, which tops out at more than 70 and counting... but this isn't a case of quantity over quality. It's a case of quantity meeting quality head on. Portland houses an insurmountable number of great breweries – not good, pretty good, or wonderful, but effin' great breweries – that are changing the landscape of modern brewing. Hair of the Dog, Breakside, Cascade, Upright, Ecliptic, the Commons, Burnside, Lompoc... it just

keeps going. Even the “crappy” breweries by Portland standards would bury most of their peers based on pure deliciousness.

But that’s just one city in a state full of amazing brewers dotting the state, from the coastal Pelican to the high desert’s 10 Barrel, mid-state’s Ninkasi, Southern Oregon’s uncleverly named Southern Oregon Brewing, Mt. Hood’s Double Mountain... basically, if you enter a city or town in Oregon without a solid brewery, you’ve probably crossed into Washington or Idaho. Or maybe the capital of Salem... which sucks. But you’ll still find a great brewpub serving some of the best beer in America, made in Oregon, with Oregon hops, by a bearded Oregonian who’s probably in a band that sucks... that’s the Oregon way. Oregon beer, more than any, has helped introduce the masses to the potential of drinking great brews, and, with new breweries seemingly opening on a weekly basis, it’s the best damn place to be a beer lover in the U.S.