



## Best Of 2014 – The People’s Choice..... Part 2

December 30, 2014

Brewpublic

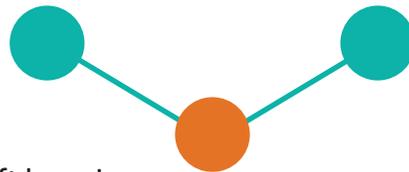
By: D.J.

Yesterday we brought you the first installment of our Best of 2014 – The People’s Choice where we ask members of the craft beer industry their top picks of the past year along with what they see as industry trends for the coming year. We featured a wide array of individuals, some were professional brewers, others were craft beer oriented business owners, while others were professional beer writers that were all thrown in together to come up with their top picks.

Yes, this being individual picks from over 3,000 possible craft breweries, there were no right or wrong answers, just opinions. However, from looking over the results from yesterday there were a few beers and breweries that kept popping up across the choices from the industry folk.

Today we bring you the 2nd and final installment in the Best of 2014 – The People’s Choice. Will we still see the same trends as yesterday?





Well here are well over 20 additional picks from the craft beer industry. Let see how these compare with yesterday's choices.

**Name:** Larry Sidor

**Position/Company:** Brewmaster / Founder Crux Fermentation Project

**Website:** [www.cruxfermentation.com](http://www.cruxfermentation.com)

**What do you most look forward to in 2015?**

First, the next great beer  
Second, beer drinkers purchasing local

**Name 5 of your favorite craft beers of 2014 (for brewers, feel free to include your own if you like).**

Deschutes Fresh Squeezed  
Hair of the Dog Matt  
Cantillon Gueuze  
New Glarus Raspberry Tart  
Crux Better off Red

**What was your go-to beer of 2014?**

Crux Parkway Pilsner

**What were your favorite craft beer events of 2014 (name up to 5)?**

Winterfest – Bend  
Cheers to Belgian  
Cruxaplooza

**What are trends or defining moments in craft beer that have emerged or stood out to you in 2014?**

Support of local Brewmaster owned breweries. Sellout of breweries owned by non-brewers.

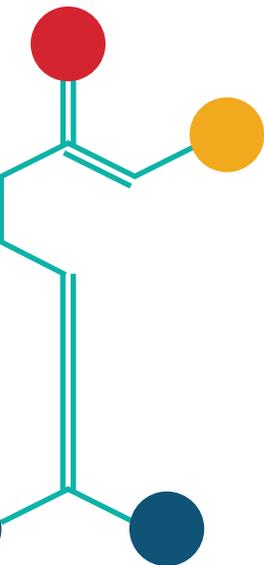
**Name:** Sarah Pederson

**Position/Company:** Owner, Saraveza

**Website:** [www.saraveza.com](http://www.saraveza.com)

**Name 5 of your favorite craft beers of 2014.**

Stone Xocoveza Mocha Stout



Ale Apothecary The Beer Formerly Known as La Tache  
Ninkasi Sleigher  
Breakside Passionfruit Sour Ale  
Agrarian Ales Blazin' Wild Fire Smoked Chipotle Porter Aged in Rye  
Whiskey Barrels

**What was your go-to beer of 2014?**

HUB 7 Grain Stout  
Unita Duhbe Imp Black IPA

**What are trends or defining moments in craft beer that have emerged or stood out to you in 2014?**

increased event admission pricing  
increased distribution allocation

**Name:** Bolt Minister

**Position/Company:** Brewmaster – Clark County, WA

**Website:** Twitter @vivalagoldens

**What do you most look forward to in 2015?**

I'm most looking forward to starting my own project in 2015. I'm also excited for the Commons production facility and CBC.

**Name 5 of your favorite craft beers of 2014.**

Boulder Beer Shake  
Rock Bottom Portland Tart Wheat  
Gigantic Pipewrench  
Hanger 24 Helles  
Pro-Am Collabo from 10 Barrel Brewing and Lee Hedgmon

**What was your go-to beer of 2014?**

Full Sail Session  
Hamms  
My (Old Town Brewing) Pilsner and Kolsch.

**What were your favorite craft beer events of 2014 (name up to 5)?**

Zwickelmania  
Cheers to Belgian Beers  
Willamette Week Pro-Am

**What are trends or defining moments in craft beer that have emerged or stood out to you in 2014?**



The best trend of 2014 was the continued growth of more sessionable beers.

**Name: Erika Huston**

**Position/Company:** GM & Beer Buyer for Saraveza Bottle Shop & Pasty Tavern

**Website:** [www.saraveza.com](http://www.saraveza.com)

**What do you most look forward to in 2015?**

I think that having the Craft Brewer's Conference in Portland is going to be huge. My only regret is that I'll be working events of my own that week, so probably won't be able to attend any at my favorite places and I'm sure they're all going to be great. I need a clone that can share sensory experiences with me!

**Name 5 of your favorite craft beers of 2014.**

Agrarian Ales 'Blazin' Wildfire' Smoked Chipotle Porter Aged in Rye Whiskey Barrels  
Barley Brown's/Trinity "Pallet Stapler" Wild IPA  
Block 15 "100% Gangster" Brett IPA  
Oakshire "Prestidigitation" White Chocolate Milk Stout  
Logsdon "Fresh Hop Seizoen Bretta"

**What was your go-to beer of 2014?**

This was my toughest question to answer, as I don't necessarily have a 'go to'. I am constantly switching things up at work and I don't drink at home unless I'm having people over, so there's rarely a six-pack of anything in my fridge. My guess is that I probably drank more Evil Twin "Ryan & The Beaster Bunny" – Saison, than anything else this year.

**What were your favorite craft beer events of 2014 (name up to 5)?**

Oakshire Hellshire Day & Barrel-Aged Beer Fest  
Portland Farmhouse & Wild Ale Festival  
Anderson Valley Booneville Beer Festival  
Belmont Station Pucker Fest  
Sierra Nevada Beer Camp Across America Festival

**What are trends or defining moments in craft beer that have emerged or stood out to you in 2014?**



I am mainly blown away by the sheer number of new breweries opening in Oregon and across the nation. According to recent numbers from the Brewer's Association, there are an average of 1.5 new breweries opening per day in the U.S., which is amazing and mind-boggling! I also find it very exciting that craft beer sales have surpassed those of the traditional domestics. I feel very lucky to be alive and working in the craft beer industry at this time. We've all been working hard to raise the bar and put focus and energy into supporting breweries that are making beers that are creative, artistic and flavorful, using the highest quality ingredients available and it's starting to pay off.

**Name:** Ritch Marvin

**Position/Company:** Behind the Pint & Marvin Estates  
Peppers-Founder, The New School-photo & video contributor

**Website:** [www.BehindthePint.com](http://www.BehindthePint.com), [www.newschoolbeer.com](http://www.newschoolbeer.com),  
Twitter @SnobRitch

**What do you most look forward to in 2015?**

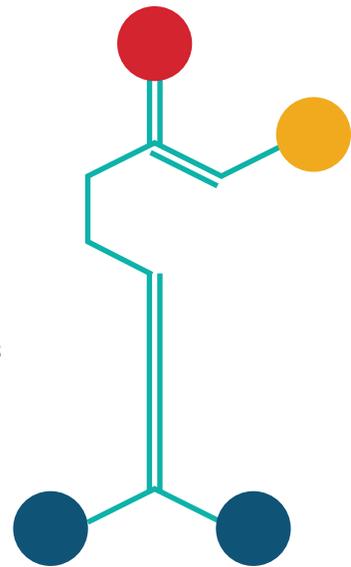
Being a super beer nerd, in 2015 I would like to see more beer "science experiments". For example, brew two batches of the same beer, except ferment each with a different yeast strain, then offer them side by side for comparison. Also single hop beers are a good way to highlight the characteristics of a hop, even single malt beers would be interesting. I think the best experiment in 2014 was when Upright and The Commons breweries exchanged recipes and brewed each others beers, I would love to see more of that in 2015.

**Name 5 of your favorite craft beers of 2014.**

Breakside Bourbon Barrel Aztec  
Hopworks Motherland Imperial Stout  
Upright Fatali Four (I think its the best year yet)  
Ninkasi Lux  
The Commons Aji Citron Reserve & Breakside PortmunderX (I had to put both of these in one spot because I helped brew these beers, so they are my babies, and I love them equally.)

**What was your go-to beer of 2014?**

Ninkasi Lux was my go-to beer. I mean every time I fired up the



BBQ, mowed the lawn, or worked in the garden, I had one of these...and it was a long summer.

**What were your favorite craft beer events of 2014 (name up to 5)?**

GABF  
Willamette Week Pro-Am  
Fruit Beer Fest Home Brewers Dinner  
Cheers to Belgian Beers  
Holiday Ale Fest

**What are trends or defining moments in craft beer that have emerged or stood out to you in 2014?**

The trend I feel like I can mention every year, but maybe more so this year, is new breweries. It feels like every month there are one or two opening in Portland. I don't worry so much about over saturation of breweries, but maybe more about over saturation of mediocre to bad beer!

Also, 2014 seems to be the year of the growler fill station. These places are popping up everywhere like corner stores, strip malls, gas stations, and grocery stores. What's next, 7- Eleven installing a growler station next to the Slurpee machine? Maybe.

Finally, session beers were more abundant. It seems that every brewery offered up a lager and/or session ale this year, which is a trend I hope continues.

**Name:** Don Scheidt

**Position/Company:** Washington state correspondent, Celebrator Beer News; Content wrangler, SeattleBeerGuide.com

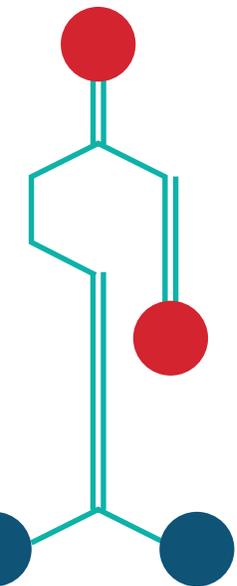
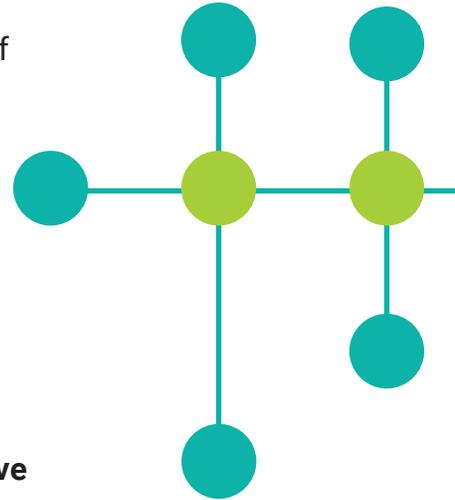
**Website:** SeattleBeerGuide.com

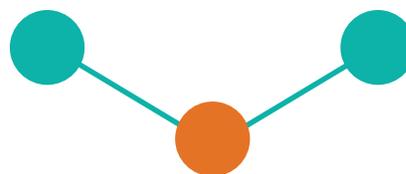
**What do you most look forward to in 2015?**

Brewers will continue to push boundaries of creativity and (re) discovery. I plan to indulge in as many of the delicious results as is practical.

More choice and variety than ever, as brewers create their own niches in the craft brewing 'verse

**Name 5 of your favorite craft beers of 2014 (for brewers, feel free to include your own if you like)?**





De Garde The Boysen  
Cascade Cranberry  
Reuben's Alt  
Wild Earth Tamarack Belgian-style Pale Ale  
Stoup Porter (Silver medal winner at World Beer Cup 2014)

**What was your go-to beer of 2014?**

Bayreuther Bierbrauerei Zwick'l at my local German beer bar on warm, sunny beer garden days; otherwise, no one beer dominated my go-to A-list.

**What were your favorite craft beer events of 2014 (name up to 5)?**

Elliot Bay Brewing's Invitational Barrel-Aged Beer Festival, Seattle  
BelgianFest, Seattle  
Portland Fruit Beer Festival @ Burnside Brewing, Portland  
Cask Ale Fest, Seattle  
FredFest, Hair of the Dog, Portland

**What are trends or defining moments in craft beer that have emerged or stood out to you in 2014?**

The sheer abundance, penetration, and growth of craft brewing  
More rediscovery and interpretations of old styles (Gose, Kuyt, Gruit, etc)  
Brewers using more variety in barrel-aging programs (it's not just about bourbon any more)  
Sours/wilds growing from accepted to eagerly sought after, and getting increasingly sophisticated  
General increase in quality and variety of beers across the board

**Name:** Kerry Fins

**Position/Company:** Founder of Taplister

**Website:** [www.taplister.com](http://www.taplister.com)

**What do you most look forward to in 2015?**

The continued growth of the craft beer industry, specifically new craft brewery growth in the US and beyond.

**Name 5 of your favorite craft beers of 2014.**

This was hard, but hear out some of my standouts.  
Half Acre Heyoka IPA  
Three Floyds Permanent Funeral  
Prairie Artisan Ales / Evil Twin Bible Belt



Barley Brown's Tank Slapper Imperial IPA  
Sierra Nevada / Ninkasi Beer Camp Double Latte

**What was your go-to beer of 2014?**

Barley Brown's Pallet Jack

**What were your favorite craft beer events of 2014  
(name up to 5)?**

Brad Chmielewski, Kerry Finsand and Ken Hunnemedder at FOBAB  
Portland Beer & Cheese Fest  
Rye Beer Fest  
Hellshire Day  
Festival of Barrel Aged Beers  
Elysian Brewing's 10th Annual Great Pumpkin Beer Festival

**What are trends or defining moments in craft beer that have  
emerged or stood out to you in 2014?**

New hop varieties.  
Craft beer outselling Budweiser in the US.  
InBev acquiring 10 Barrel.

**Name:** Chad Kennedy

**Position/Company:** Brewmaster, Worthy Brewing Co.

**Website:** worthybrewing.com

**What do you most look forward to in 2015?**

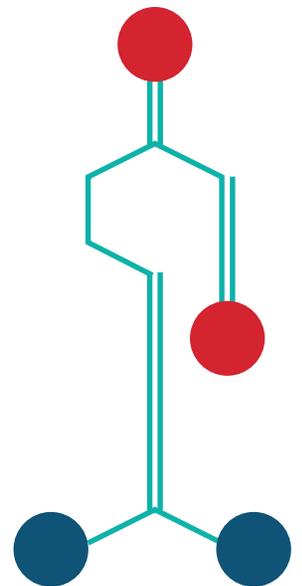
The further proliferation of "experimental" beers brewed with non-traditional ingredients- aka beers brewed with a culinary mind.

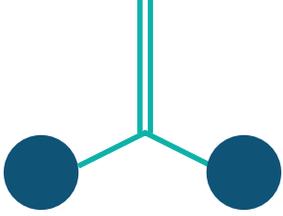
**Name 5 of your favorite craft beers of 2014 (for brewers, feel free to include your own if you like).**

5. Stone, Cervezeria Insurgente & Chris Banker – Xocoveza Mocha Stout
4. Worthy – Walk on the Wild Side
3. Double Mountain – Lulu
2. Breakside – Salted Caramel Stout
1. Commons Brewery – Myrtle

**What was your go-to beer of 2014?**

Worthy Pale Ale





**What were your favorite craft beer events of 2014  
(name up to 5)?**

Feast Portland  
Oregon Craft Beer Month  
Zwickelmania  
Bend Brewfest

**What are trends or defining moments in craft beer that have  
emerged or stood out to you in 2014?**

The march on of sours, wild ales, fruit beers and combinations of multiple non-traditional ingredients.

**Name: Sean Campbell**

**Position/Company:** Owner The BeerMongers

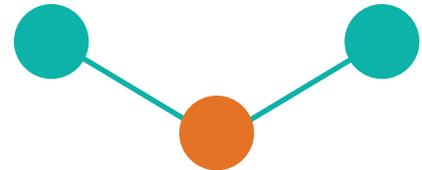
**Website:** [www.thebeermongers.com](http://www.thebeermongers.com)

**What do you most look forward to in 2015?**

The Fresh Hop Beer Festival in Amsterdam

**Name 5 of your favorite craft beers of 2014.**

Anderson Valley Gose  
Upright Urban Farmhouse  
Woodland Empire Rosemary Saison  
Propolis Beltane  
10 Barrel Cucumber Crush



**What was your go-to beer of 2014?**

Breakside Post-Time Kolsch

**What were your favorite craft beer events of 2014  
(name up to 5)?**

Foyston Fest during Killer Beer Week  
The Commons Farm to Farmhouse Zenger Farm Fundraiser  
Pucker Fest at Belmont Station

**Name: Chris Tappan**

**Position/Company:** Buyer/BeerMongers

**Website:** [www.thebeermongers.com](http://www.thebeermongers.com)



**What do you most look forward to in 2015?**

Well made lagers  
CBC

**Name 5 of your favorite craft beers of 2014 (for brewers, feel free to include your own if you like).**

Anderson Valley The Kimmie, The Yink and The Holy Gose  
Stone Xocoveza  
Rare Barrel Cosmic Dust  
Tie...Barley Browns Fresh Hop Pallet Jack/Comrade Superdamp  
IPA

**What was your go-to beer of 2014?**

IPA. Duh.

**What were your favorite craft beer events of 2014 (name up to 5)?**

PIB  
GABF  
Boneyard/Barley Browns/Melvin tap takeover at Sassy's  
Festival of Dark Arts

**What are trends or defining moments in craft beer that have emerged or stood out to you in 2014?**

Experimental Hop usage  
Fresh hop beers are out of control!  
Two new small craft beer distributors

**Name:** BrewDad

**Position/Company:** BrewDad.com Founder

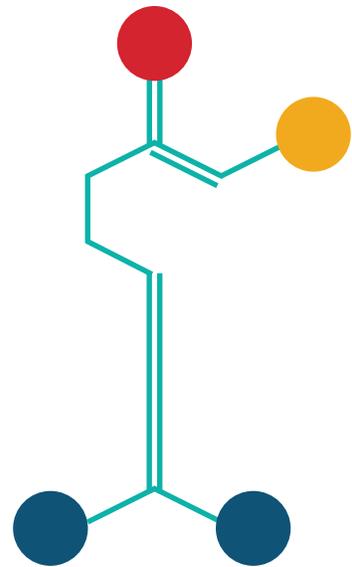
**Website:** www.brewdad.com

**What do you most look forward to in 2015?**

What crazy new styles will come to the forefront of the brewing industry. Wondering will the blonde stout be a passing fancy? Will smoked beer come back or will it be a extra strong blonde barrel aged cream style. What new hop will be the new driving force behind the IPA. This year Mosaic was Alpha

**Name 5 of your favorite craft beers of 2014.**

Georgetown Brewing – Eddie (IPL)  
Breakside Brewing – Alan from the Wood  
Sixpoint Brewing – Hi-Res (Imperial IPA)



Reuben's Brews – Blimey That's Biter (Imperial IPA)  
Rainy Daze Brewing – Mind Funk Oatmeal Pale Ale

**What was your go-to beer of 2014?**

Georgetown Brewing Lucille  
Top Rung Brewing – IPA and CDA

**What were your favorite craft beer events of 2014  
(name up to 5)?**

Beer Bloggers Conference (San Diego)  
Washington Brewers Festival  
Bremerton Summer Beerfest (90 degree plus day scorching sun  
baked day)  
Fred Fest  
Olympia Brewfest

**What are trends or defining moments in craft beer that have  
emerged or stood out to you in 2014?**

There seems to be a nervous feeling amongst the smaller craft  
brewers with the bottom falling out in the craft brewing world.  
When will we see a slowdown of new brewers starting up?

**Name:** Ginger Johnson

**Position/Company:** CEO & Founder, Women Enjoying Beer

**Website:** WomenEnjoyingBeer.com

**What do you most look forward to in 2015?**

Times with friends – both planned and unscripted – enjoying  
conversation, food & beverage. Opening more minds and changing  
culture for the better through our work. Travels coming up, working  
with client partners, speaking & writing all over, and being invited  
to do so more and more.

**Name 5 of your favorite craft beers of 2014.**

The one in front of me.

The next one.

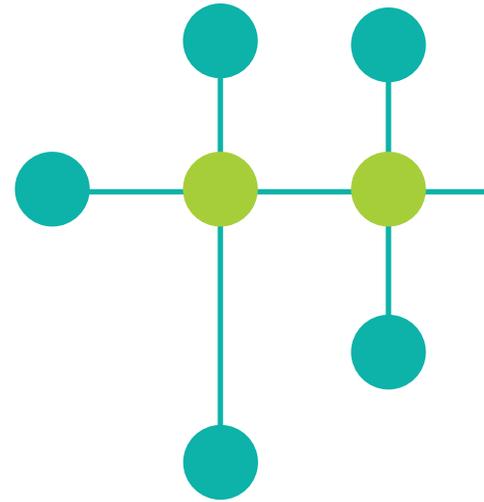
The one you're pouring for me.

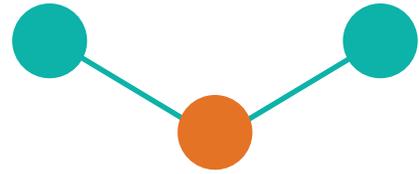
The one fresh on draft in my travels.

The one in my fridge I'll enjoy at dinner with my family.

Use go-to instead of favorite – favorite eliminates the discovery.

Go-to's are goodies we look forward to returning to and counting  
on when we want them.





### **What was your go-to beer of 2014?**

Women Enjoying Beer

Standing Stone Brewing Company's Freestone (sour) Peach AND pFriem's Tiny – yum yum yum.....

### **What were your favorite craft beer events of 2014 (name up to 5)?**

All Beer Events are fair game – including beer dinners at home as well as abroad: Toronto's Festival of Beer/Toronto ONT CA; KLCC Brew Fest – a winter snow storm amped up the fun!; Gorge Blues & Brews, Stevenson WA – sipping on the majestic shores of the Columbia River....some highlights.

### **What are trends or defining moments in craft beer that have emerged or stood out to you in 2014?**

Flavor is trumping 'style' talk – we should absolutely start with flavor first; style is irrelevant to those who are unknowing as well as beginning. Using flavor talk first will get a lot more people into a lot more beer.

There is no such things as a definition of the word 'craft' for anything – it's too dynamic, changing, personal and contextual. If it's what you like and want, engage. If not, be a diplomat and walk away.

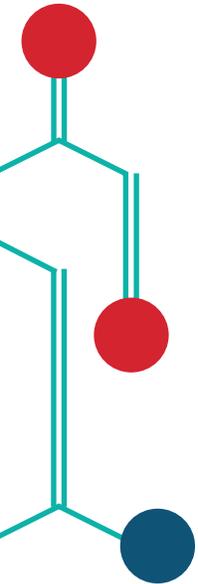
Bigger conversations about women + beer. Women have always been involved in beer, beer making, beer drinking, and the beer community. It's ludicrous to think that it's novel and new for women to be involved in beer – no way!! The fact that so many beer brands, of all sizes, still use sexism is flabbergasting. If your products aren't focused on quality then get out of the field. Period.

Beer is for everyone, benefits our communities and households the globe over. Moving the gender equity conversation forward means we all include women and men in all facets of beer.

**Name:** Josiah Kelley

**Position/Company:** Co-owner/ Head brewer at Seven Brides Brewing

**Website:** [www.sevenbridesbrewing.com](http://www.sevenbridesbrewing.com)



**What do you most look forward to in 2015?**

Expanded distribution into CA.

**Name 5 of your favorite craft beers of 2014 (for brewers, feel free to include your own if you like).**

pFriem Belgian Dark Strong  
Crooked Finger IPA  
Monki Love  
Lurisia Blonde  
Sierra Nevada Beer Camp Series

**What was your go-to beer of 2014?**

Drama Princess English style pale ale

**What were your favorite craft beer events of 2014 (name up to 5)?**

Holiday Ale fest  
Killer Beer Week  
KLCC  
Septoberfest

**What are trends or defining moments in craft beer that have emerged or stood out to you in 2014?**

The more the beer industry develops in Oregon, the more the world is attracted to how great it is here.

**Name:** Morgan Miller

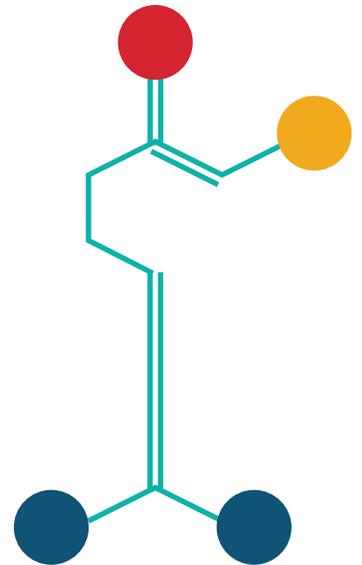
**Position/Company:** Beer Guy at BEER (the bar on Stark). Ronin. Urban myth.

**What do you most look forward to in 2015?**

Craft Brewers Conference in April in Portland is going to be huge, 13,000 people expected from around the world. Step up your game PDX beer folks. Time to shine.

**Name 5 of your favorite craft beers of 2014.**

Gigantic Pipewrench Gin Barrel IPA – Ransom Gin and an Gigantic IPA something to treasure. Stocked up on bottles.?  
13 Virtues Jean Claude Van Damn – Pinot aged Belgian Strong. Fun watching the look of bliss on folks' faces when drinking.  
Hogshead Brewing – I've been living in Denver part time. I'm lucky this English style brewery is my Denver local. Cask brewery that reminds you that English beers can be great.  
Hair of the Dog Single Malt Adam – I've always recommended



Adam is probably the best/most important beers to come from Oregon. Single Malt upped that estimation. Sublime. ?  
Commons. Just duh.

**What was your go-to beer of 2014?**

DENVER: Wild Beers from UK. Great example of American brewing styles being picked up across the Atlantic. My lawnmower beer in CO.

PDX: Coalition specialty beers. Elan and the new brewer, Mike have really stepped up Coalitions' game. Sours, barrel aged, etc available at the tasting room in the brewery. Solid, well made, interesting beers always in my growler.

**What were your favorite craft beer events of 2014 (name up to 5)?**

Closing time at Belmont Station. Great group of people, all beer lovers, friends.

Roscoe's summits. Quyen and Jeremy have turned a local dive bar into one of the great American beer bars without stopping being a local dive bar. Probably the best curated beer selection I've ever seen.

Cask Beer Fest at Denver's Hogshead Brewing during Craft Brewers Conference.?

**What are trends or defining moments in craft beer that have emerged or stood out to you in 2014?**

Explosion of breweries and beers. Just watching the growth in the industry and wondering where it will all go.

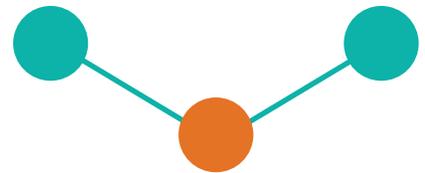
**Name:** Jason Yester

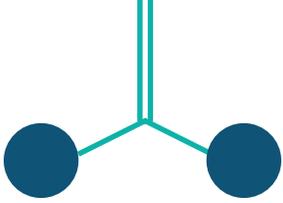
**Position/Company:** Capitaine of the Pirate Ship

**Website):** [www.trinitybrew.com](http://www.trinitybrew.com)

**What do you most look forward to in 2015?**

We've been slowly but sincerely expanding the territories we're shipping Trinity beer to. Indirectly I have the opportunity to travel a lot because of this, and become very immersed in new beer/ culinary cultures. It's always a personal goal to make connections with the local scene and have a good grasp of the people receiving our beers outside of town. It's really quite the treat though as there's quite a bit of unbelievable regional beer and food I get to try ! We're starting small bottle allocations in Seattle, Columbus, and





New York City in 2015 and I can't wait to fully explore all those new cities. I'm also looking forward to several trips back to Oregon this year, including the Craft Brewer's Conference in March.

**Name 5 of your favorite craft beers of 2014 (for brewers, feel free to include your own if you like).**

Barley Brown's Forklift  
7th Sun Under Pressure  
Wild Apple Saison (Collab we did with Epic Brewing)  
Agrarian Dandelion Porter  
Off Color Brewing I Brewed This Myself Død Yuzu

**What was your go-to beer of 2014?**

Pivo Pils !

**What were your favorite craft beer events of 2014 (name up to 5)?**

Festival of Barrel Aged Beer  
Hellshire Day  
Farmhouse & Wild Ale Festival (Saraveza)  
Saison Festival (Trinity)

**What are trends or defining moments in craft beer that have emerged or stood out to you in 2014?**

Culinary influence alongside and within beer recipes. In Colorado, the threads between artisanal beers and creative culinary designs are becoming continually more interwoven. I'm not only speaking towards the growing number of elegant food pairings/dinners, I'm also referring to brewers making new beer designs that have been inspired by dishes from great chefs.

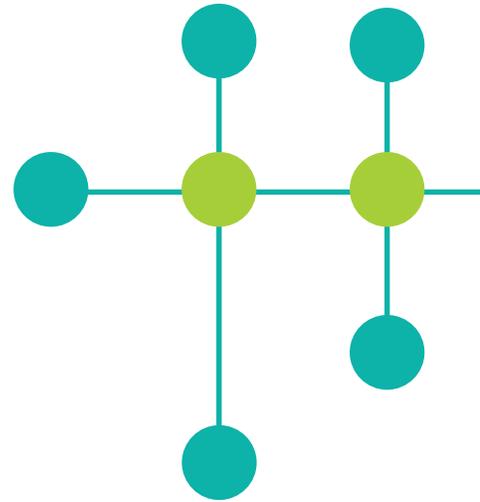
**Name:** Spencer Raymond

**Position/Company:** Co-Owner The Civic Taproom & Bottle Shop

**Website:** [www.thecivictaproom.com](http://www.thecivictaproom.com)

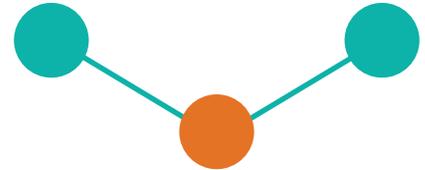
**What do you most look forward to in 2015?**

The Craft Brewers Conference and BrewExpo America coming to Portland. I can't wait to show everyone what this city has to offer!



**Name 5 of your favorite craft beers of 2014.**

Buoy Helles  
Feckin IRA  
HUB Abdominal  
Base Camp S'more Stout  
Deschutes Mirror Pond Pale Ale



**What was your go-to beer of 2014?**

Cider! Anthem Pear all summer long.

**What were your favorite craft beer events of 2014 (name up to 5)?**

I went to the Oregon Brew Fest on Wednesday with almost zero crowd and it was glorious.

**What are trends or defining moments in craft beer that have emerged or stood out to you in 2014?**

Where'd all this cider come from? It went from zero to everywhere in just a year, it feels like.

**Name:** Rik Hall

**Position/Company:** Owner/Brewer/Baerlic Brewing Company

**Website:** baerlicbrewing.com

**What do you most look forward to in 2015?**

For beers, I look forward to our Pinot Barrel Aged Belgian Golden Strong. Non beer related.....some time off.

**Name 5 of your favorite craft beers of 2014 (for brewers, feel free to include your own if you like).**

Baerlic Brewing The East Side Oatmeal Pilsner  
Breakside Wanderlust  
Gigantic IPA  
Laurelwood TreeHugger Porter  
The Commons Anniversary Beer

**What was your go-to beer of 2014?**

Whatever my wife brings home

**What were your favorite craft beer events of 2014 (name up to 5)?**

Benfest



**What are trends or defining moments in craft beer that have emerged or stood out to you in 2014?**

Sour beers and Saisons were very popular. Let's see how they do in 2015. Also, so many people keep talking about the craft beer bubble and the IPA bubble.

**Name:** Alethea Smartt LaRowe

**Position/Company:** Freelance Writer/Oregon Beer Growler

**Website:** oregonbeergrowler.com

**What do you most look forward to in 2015?**

Visiting breweries; trying new beers; traveling to visit breweries outside of Oregon

**Name 5 of your favorite craft beers of 2014.**

The Commons Urban Farmhouse Ale  
Breakside Safe Word  
Rogue Double Chocolate Stout  
Fat Head's Bumbleberry  
Boneyard Notorious

**What was your go-to beer of 2014?**

The Commons Urban Farmhouse Ale

**What were your favorite craft beer events of 2014 (name up to 5)?**

OBF Brewers Dinner  
Concordia Cup  
Crosby Hop Farm Harvest Party

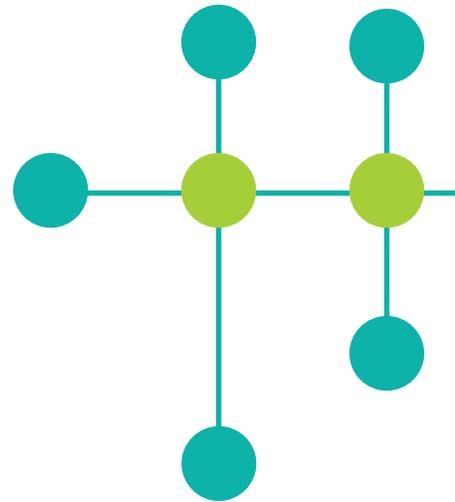
**What are trends or defining moments in craft beer that have emerged or stood out to you in 2014?**

Barrel aging; continued growth in the industry (more breweries opening than closing); 10 Barrel sale

**Name:** Drew Worden

**Position/Company:** Beer Manager / the Hop & Vine

**Website:** www.thehopandvine.com

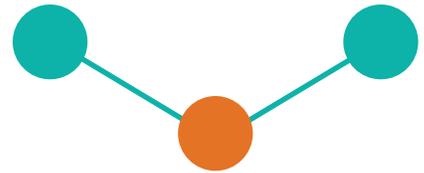


**What do you most look forward to in 2015?**

Aside from CBC, I most look forward to even more collaboration in the brewing community, more pushing the envelope, and more and more consumers making the decision to drink better beer on a daily basis.

**Name 5 of your favorite craft beers of 2014.**

Stillwater Gose  
Gone Wild  
Trinity Red  
Swingline  
Breakside India  
Golden Ale  
Elysian Dayglow  
IPA  
De Garde Imperial  
Raspberry Bu



**What was your go-to beer of 2014?**

Heater Allen Pils

**What were your favorite craft beer events of 2014 (name up to 5)?**

Int'l Beer Festival  
Portland Fruit Beer Fest  
Peche Fest  
Portland Farmhouse Fest  
Fire & Brimstone

**What are trends or defining moments in craft beer that have emerged or stood out to you in 2014?**

Gose/Berlinerweisse multi-packs (cans!!)  
The explosion of the Session IPA  
Craft Pilsner  
Rapid decline of the CDA  
Mobile Packaging enables anyone to come to the table on shelves

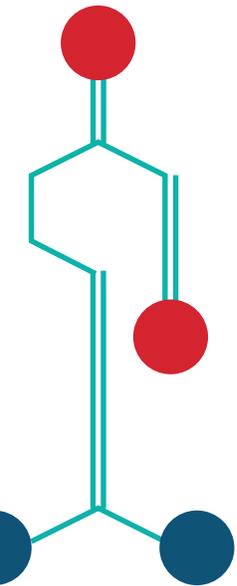
**Name:** Alex Ganum

**Position/Company:** Upright Brewing owner/lead brewer

**Website:** [www.uprightbrewing.com](http://www.uprightbrewing.com)

**What do you most look forward to in 2015?**

Producing more beers with fresh fruit, like nectarines or different wine grapes



**Name 5 of your favorite craft beers of 2014 (for brewers, feel free to include your own if you like).**

Occidental Hefe  
Breakside Matcha Milk Stout  
Sierra Nevada Estate  
Commons Fleur de Ferme  
Stormbreaker Pale Ale

**What was your go-to beer of 2014?**

Engelberg Pils

**What were your favorite craft beer events of 2014 (name up to 5)?**

Vancouver Beer Week (BC)

**What are trends or defining moments in craft beer that have emerged or stood out to you in 2014?**

Finally a decent amount of lagers being produced locally!

**Name: Theo Skourtis**

**Position/Company:** Brewpublic Fanboy

**Website:** [twitter.com/@lawTheo](https://twitter.com/@lawTheo)

**What do you most look forward to in 2015?**

Experiencing craft beer events locally as well as across the US.

**Name 5 of your favorite craft beers of 2014.**

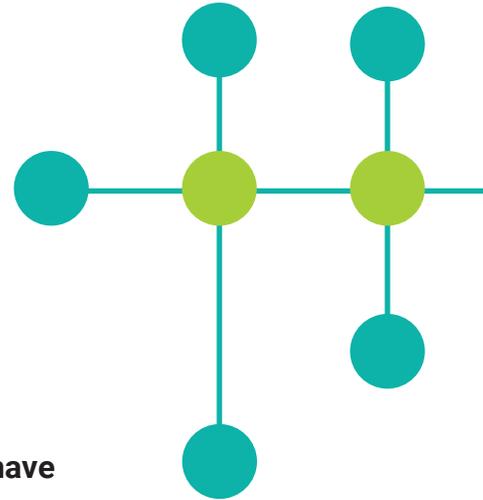
Perennial Artisan Ales – Abraxas  
Sierra Nevada / Ninkasi Beer Camp – Double Latte  
Fort George / Block 15 / Boneyard – 3-Way IPA  
10 Barrel/AB – Black Currant Crush  
Haymarket Brewing – Clare’s Thirsty Ale

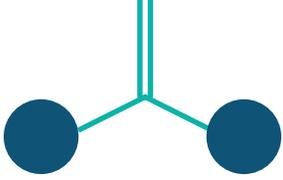
**What was your go-to beer of 2014?**

3-Way IPA from Boneyard / Block 15 / Fort George

**What were your favorite craft beer events of 2014 (name up to 5)?**

Hellshire Day & Barrel Aged Beer Fest  
Single, Fresh, Wet & Wild Harvest Festival  
The Firestone Walker Invitational Beer Fest  
Bend Brewfest  
Brouwers Big Wood





**What are trends or defining moments in craft beer that have emerged or stood out to you in 2014?**

The emergence of IPLs and ISAs in the Portland Market  
Motueka Hops explosion in California  
(they will explode here soon)

**Name: Geoff Phillips**

**Position/Company:** Owner/Bailey's Taproom

**Website:** baileystaproom.com

**What do you most look forward to in 2015?**

Craft Brewers Conference

**Name 5 of your favorite craft beers of 2014.**

Gigantic Pipe Wrench  
Ale Apothecary Be Still  
Fort George/Boneyard/Block 15 3-Way IPA  
10 Barrel Cucumber Crush  
The Commons Rauch Helles

**What was your go-to beer of 2014?**

Breakside Post Time Kolsch was probably in the fridge the most.

**What were your favorite craft beer events of 2014  
(name up to 5)?**

OBF  
Holiday Ale Fest

**What are trends or defining moments in craft beer that have emerged or stood out to you in 2014?**

Kettle souring, session beers, single hop beers, new hop varieties.

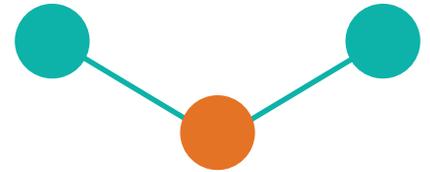
**Name: Niki Ganong**

**Position/Company:** author of The Field Guide to Drinking in America

**Website:** Twitter @SudsSister & www.goodreads.com

**What do you most look forward to in 2015?**

New bottle club memberships at the Ale Apothecary and Wolves & People  
Small group bottle shares  
More travel, seeking out the best that the country has to offer



**Name 5 of your favorite craft beers of 2014.**

Ale Apothecary Sahalie  
New Glarus Raspberry Tart  
Gigantic Massive Bourbon Barrel (2013)  
Breakside Salted Caramel Stout  
Octogose from Flat 12 Bierworks (J's fave)

**What was your go-to beer of 2014?**

That's a hard one to nail down, but you will always find Fred in my fridge.

**What were your favorite craft beer events of 2014 (name up to 5)?**

The Great Taste of the Midwest  
Holiday Ale Festival  
Cheers to Belgian Beers  
Bailey's Barrel Aged Beer Fest

**What are trends or defining moments in craft beer that have emerged or stood out to you in 2014?**

Thanks to Oregon's 2013 growler legislation, fill stations popped up everywhere in 2014, from strip malls to gas stations.  
Breakside took home GABF gold for its IPA!  
American monks brewing (Oregon's Benedictine monks and the Trappists in Mass.)  
Out-of-season seasonals – summertime is now Jubelale time?  
Radlers and shandys made for a juiced-up summer

**Name:** Michael O'Connor

**Position/Company:** Beer Buyer, Bailey's Taproom

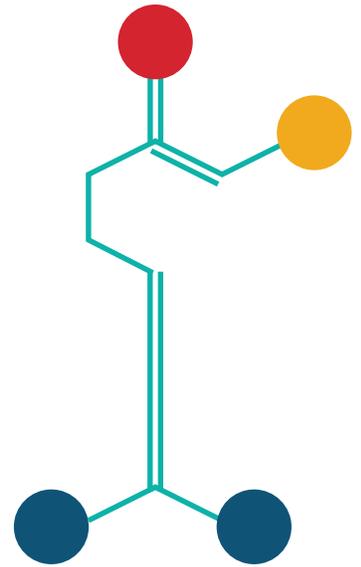
**Website:** baileystaproom.com, oconnoblog.com

**What do you most look forward to in 2015?**

Always in motion the future is. Difficult to see...

But here's what I \*hope\* to find in the new year:

- 1) The continuing ubiquity of sour beers that don't cost \$8 for a half-pour and \$30 for a bottle.
- 2) An expansion of lower ABV offerings that are still complex, nuanced and inventive.
- 3) A growing appetite among mainstream beer drinkers for more unusual or arcane beer styles.



- 4) New and experimental hops used in creative ways in non-IPA beers.
- 5) No more craft breweries bought out by grotesquely massive evil corporations.

**Name 5 of your favorite craft beers of 2014 (for brewers, feel free to include your own if you like)?**

Five beers that left my tongue simultaneously speechless and yearning for another drop were:

Oakshire Hellshire IV  
Wicked Weed Freak of Nature  
Southampton Abbot 12  
La Trappe Bockbier  
Barley Browns/Boneyard Allocation IIPA.

**What was your go-to beer of 2014?**

Michael O'Connor  
Dead-heat tie between Fort George Three-Way IPA and Pints  
Konvention Kolsch.

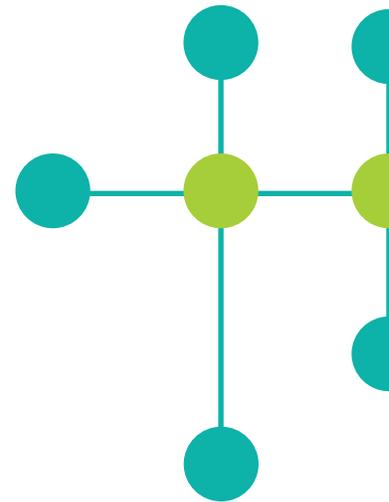
**What were your favorite craft beer events of 2014 (name up to 5)?**

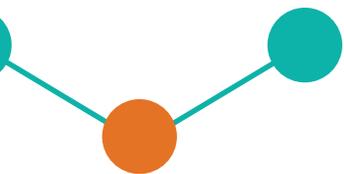
I should probably confess to something: I don't typically attend many beer events; I prefer a quiet bar and a corner table over tickets, plastic mugs, and large crowds. However, thanks to my generous co-worker, Ryan Spencer, I was able to attend a barrel aged beer seminar at Hopworks over the summer and was thoroughly impressed. All the brewers brought a special beer with them and spoke in great detail about the many tricks inherent in the barrel-aging process. They were extremely gracious with their time and the audience was interested and knowledgeable, so there was some great back-and-forth and in-depth discussion that broke out. Of course, it should also be mentioned that the beer portions were hearty and the lineup absolutely stellar.

**What are trends or defining moments in craft beer that have emerged or stood out to you in 2014?**

It was a HUGE year for craft beer in Oregon. Here are just a few of the highlights:

- 1) Hops: Just as I was starting to tire of Yet-Another-IPA, brewers figured out how to make 2014 a banner year for hopheads. What's changed most dramatically in the past twelve months are the kind of hops that brewers are getting their hands on and experimenting with. There were a number of limited single hop brews at the





beginning of this year that translated into breweries reformulating their IPAs or concocting new flagship IPAs to join their existing lineup. The dominance of the Mosaic hop in particular, and to a slightly lesser extent, New Zealand and Australian hops like Galaxy and Nelson Sauvin are completely rewriting the flavor profiles of the modern-day IPA and its ilk.

2) Collaborations: Some of the best and most interesting beers of the year were the result of brewers joining forces to concoct something insanely delicious. I love the creativity and enthusiasm that collaboration beers inspire, and obviously I'm not alone, because there are lots more on the way! Locally, we've seen breweries like Fort George, Barley Brown's, Breakside, Widmer and Ecliptic reach out to friendly breweries both near and far away, but it's obvious the collaboration fever is growing into something truly massive when a big-time brewer like Sierra Nevada teams up with breweries all over the country as they did in this summer's Beer Camp Across America.

3) Re-emergence of German beer styles: Local breweries like Heater Allen and Occidental have been churning out reliably great German-style lagers for many years now, carving out a niche in the Oregon craft beer scene, but this year, everybody jumped on the German beer wagon. Old Town, Full Sail, and Pints brewed some of my favorite lighter style beers of the year, including Kolsches and Pilsners, while Belgian-style breweries like Pfriedm and The Commons ran through an entire year of German-style brews, from light lagers to hearty bocks and fruity wheat beers, picking up where Upright left off last year when it introduced a year-long German beer program. But the best surprise of the year might be Ninkasi's swerve into German beer territory with their Prismatic Lager Series; each and every beer to come out of that program was a knockout!

So this second installment closes out our Best of 2014 – The People's Choice. We sure hope these lists helped you reflect upon the last year in craft beer. By no means are these the most definitive of top picks but it can be a great starting place when diving deeper into the many nuances of craft beer.

Thanks to all in the industry that replied to our questionnaire, we understand that it takes time from your busy schedule and families during the holidays. But in doing so please be aware that it means a lot to both Angelo and myself. And with saying goodbye to 2014 we want to wish you all a Happy New Year!

