

# Northern Nevada News



With a 15 barrel system, they're also a contract brewer for Lake Tahoe Brewing Company.

**Lake Tahoe Brewing Company** (24 Stateline Road, Crystal Bay) gets this correspondent's vote for the coldest beer at the Great Eldorado BBQ, Brews and Blues Festival. The icy *Tahoe Blonde*, a German Kölsch, tasted mighty fine while strolling around downtown Reno and listening to hot blues. Brewer Everett Charles says that coming up are their *Lake Tahoe Steamer* and *Lake Tahoe IPA*. The *Tahoe Red* and the *Tahoe Wheat* are available in six-packs at various locations around the Lake and Northern Nevada.

Trevor Wine at **Dixon's Restaurant & Brewery** (675 Emerald Bay Rd., South Lake Tahoe) advises that they have 15 beers on tap. Always available are Guinness and *Pari's Pale Ale*, brewed up by Owner/Brewer Patrick LeCocq. The other 13 taps are an ever-changing variety with the unused handles decorating the walls. Dixon's also has a newly opened second location in Round Hill Shopping Center, on the Nevada side. They have five beers on tap, starting with the Pale Ale, and have a large selection of bottled brews.

By Joan Atkinson

The Truckee River, winding its way from

Lake Tahoe to Pyramid Lake, is beginning to run low. Reno/Sparks residents are being asked to water their lawns only on certain days. The pinch is even felt at Lake Tahoe, where conservation is urged.

There's a drought in the high desert, but honest, the water saved won't go toward building more houses and keeping new golf courses green — it will be used to brew more beer. After all, that's the reason for the rationing, isn't it?

## New Brews

The elusive **Sierra Sage Brewery** (2244 Meridian) has finally been run to ground in Minden. Owner Mark Garic says they've been sharing space with G. Meister's Bar & Grill and quietly brewing for a little over a year. He says the operation was originally founded by Ted Canaran, of the Moosehead brewing family who "thought our desert had a lot of thirsty people in it." On tap at Meister's are the *Comstock Cream Ale*, *Job's Peak Pale Ale*, *Free! Peak Amber*, *Wild Mustang Stout* and *High Desert Hefeweizen*.

**Mt. Tallac Brewing Co.** is using a bunch of water to brew up *Mr. Tallac Pale Ale*, *Amber Ale* and *Summer Blonde*. Assistant Brewer Bill Pearson, conered on a loading dock in South Lake Tahoe, says their beers are being distributed all over South Shore and in Carson City

## "Too much consumption. Not enough tanks." -Manager Tom Young, Great Basin Brewing Company

### Horn Tooting

Steve Safford at **Ruby Mountain Brewing** is excited to report that they recently changed their distributor, which should help spread their fine beer around the state, particularly into Southern Nevada. Steve's *Wild West Hefeweizen* took a silver medal at the 2003 North American Beer Awards and the *Angel Creek Amber Ale* took third at the Eldorado event.

### Water, in its Many Forms

Manager Tom Young of the **Great Basin Brewing Company** (846 Victorian Avenue, Sparks), caught as he ran from one special event to another, was muttering, "Too much consumption. Not enough tanks." The Basin placed second in the People's Choice Contest at the Eldorado event, even though they had run out of beer. But Tom's got men on it and they're brewing like mad. Coming soon is more of the organic *Truckee River Red*, as well as *Wheeler Peak Wheat*, *Pogonip Pilsner* and *Black Rock ESB*. Also in the pipeline is the award-winning

*Death By Chocolate Stout*.

Brewmaster/Owner Treat Schmidt at the **Silver Peak Restaurant & Brewery** (124 Wonder St., Reno) says that he's brewing *Summer Solstice Lager*, using Hallertau hops and Munich malt. It's a "real easy drinking summer-style beer."

Another batch of the *Rasperry Ale* is in the works, as is the *Schnell Pilsener*. Also coming on are the *Dunkelweizen*, *Schmidty's Oatmeal Stout* (7 percent alcohol), and *McHiney's Wee Heavy Scotch Ale*, coming in at 8.5 percent. There's also a chance for a "Brewer's Whim," when a wild hare takes over and who knows what will come out of the tanks.

Sheila O'Connell, the goddess of the **Brewery at Lake Tahoe** (3542 Lake Tahoe Blvd., South Lake Tahoe), says that they're using their water ration to brew *The Oscar Wilde, a Great Wit*. This Belgian wit should be a refreshing beer to enjoy during the late summer

## Steve Safford of Ruby Mountain Brewing Company standing behind the namesake mountain range outside of Wells, Nevada.

PHOTO: BRIAN ALLRED

heat. The Brewery is also offering a summer barbecue every day on the grill in front along Highway 50, the main drag through Stateline, and on August 16, they will be putting in an appearance at the Tahoe Tallac Association's Reggae and Brewfest at Valhalla.

Lawns may be turning brown and lakes disappearing, but the people are staying hydrated. It's a desert out there, so drink up!