

Business



photo submitted

CANNERY BREWING staff proudly display their Canadian Brewing Awards and the Naramata Nut Brown Ale that took silver and Squire Scotch Ale that took gold in the competition.

Brewers and vinters taste success

Western News Staff

Quenching palates across the country, the Okanagan vinters and brewers continue to impress.

Cannery Brewing, based in Penticton, returned last month from the eighth annual Canadian Brewing Awards with a few medals for their crafted beers. While wines from B.C. dominated the competition at the 10th annual Canadian Wine Awards, held in Penticton.

"This was a great day for Cannery Brewing and a great day for the other craft brewers who did so well in the awards. It is an honour to be recognized alongside other colleagues who are so committed to the brewing of hand-crafted ales and lagers," said Cannery Brewing co-owner Patt Dyck. "We are fortunate in this province and in this country to have brewers who work hard to offer a wide range of beer styles to meet the demands of beer drinkers who want a choice."

Dyck returned with a gold medal for the recently released Squire Scotch Ale in one hand and a silver medal for the Cannery Brewing's flagship beer, Naramata Nut Brown Ale, in the other. The Squire Scotch Ale was first brewed by Cannery Brewing earlier this year and was named in recognition of The Country Squire Restaurant in Naramata, which was owned and operated by Dyck and her husband Ron for 23 years. The pair joined brewer Terry Schoffer in 2000 to form the ownership of Cannery Brewing.

The Canadian Brewing Awards have emerged as the premiere competition for judging the quality of Canadian brewed beer. The national competition invites

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breweries of all sizes from across the country to compete in a blind-tasting to see who brews the best beer in 31 style categories. This year, 390 entries were submitted for judging, with 76 Canadian breweries participating, making the 2010 edition the largest brewing competition ever held in Canada.

All of the judging was completed over a two-day period by a panel of approximately 20 certified beer judges who consider aroma, appearance, flavour, mouth-feel and overall impression when scoring the beer.

The competition also serves as an important vehicle for informing the Canadian beer-drinking public about the variety and quality of commercially available beers in the country. Every year the competition attracts new entries from small start-up breweries, to the largest. All are dedicated to crafting their product.

B.C. vinters are also soaking in the recognition they are receiving for creating world-class, award-winning wines. Wines from B.C. were awarded 362 medals this year, up from 233 last year, at the 10th annual Canadian Wine Awards. Within the category of gold medal winners were 22 South Okanagan produced wines from Nk'Mip

Cellars, Road 13 Vineyards, Jackson-Triggs Okanagan Estate and Cassini Cellars.

Penticton's own Howling Bluff was awarded gold for its 2008 Summa Quies Vineyard Pinot Noir.

"We would like to offer our sincerest congratulations to the many Okanagan wineries that will be celebrating their wins in the coming weeks and months," said Jessie Campbell, tourism marketing manager for Penticton and Wine Country Tourism. "We were already so thrilled to be able to host this prestigious competition. Now we get to celebrate the staggering results, which are a testament to the consistently high calibre of wine that is being produced in the Okanagan Valley."

Judges tasted almost 1,000 Canadian grown, fermented and bottled wines in 30 different categories.

For more information on Cannery Brewing visit www.cannerybrewing.com or for more on the Canadian Brewing Awards visit www.canadianbrewing-awards.com. The results of the 2010 Canadian Wine Awards will be published in December/January issue of *Wine Access* as well as the *Wine Access Canadian Wine Annual*.