

## Microbrewery & Beer Newsletter # 14 TGAC

**Hat-trick for the German brewery “Stralsunder Brauerei” – European Champion in three categories:** At Europe’s biggest beer contest, the European Beer Star 2010, the Stralsunder Brauerei won gold medals in three categories. It therefore became the “2010 European Beer Star Brewery” as the most successful brewery in Europe. In early October 2010, 955 beers (2009: 836) from 34 countries were assessed by an expert jury, which the organizers – the “Association Private Brauereien” had prudently expanded to 88 tasters. The Stralsund brewmasters scored with the following beers:

“Stoertebeker Schwarzbier” – Category “German Style Schwarzbier”

“Stralsunder Traditionsbock” – Category “German Style Dunkler Bock”

“Stoertebeker Roggen-Weizen” – Category “Top fermented beer with alternative cereals”

According to the owners, the brewery “Stralsunder Brauerei” always strives to create the beer which is the fullest of character. In addition to that they use only the best hops preferably from organic farming, selected special brew and roast malt and water from their own mineral water spring in order to achieve the unique and smooth taste.

Some of the Stralsunder brewery beers are named after the German pirate “Klaus Störtebeker” from the 14<sup>th</sup> century. He was was a leader of the “Victual Brothers”. They were originally hired during a war between Denmark and Sweden to fight the Danish and supply the besieged Swedish capital Stockholm with provisions. After the end of the war, the Victual Brothers continued to capture merchant vessels for their own account and named themselves "Likedeelers" (literally: equal sharers). A large number of myths and legends surround the few facts known about Klaus Störtebeker's life. Störtebeker is only a nickname, meaning "empty the mug with one gulp" in Old German. The moniker refers to the pirate's supposed ability to empty a four-litre mug of beer in one gulp. According to legend, in 1401, a Hamburgian fleet caught up with Störtebeker's force near the Island of Helgoland. Störtebeker and his crew were ultimately overcome and brought to Hamburg, where they were tried for piracy. Störtebeker and all of his 73 companions were sentenced to death and were beheaded. The most famous legend of Störtebeker relates to the execution itself. Störtebeker is said to have asked the mayor of Hamburg to release as many of his companions as he could walk past after being beheaded. Following the beheading, Störtebeker's body arose and walked past eleven of his men before the executioner tripped him with an out-stretched foot.

Brewery “Stralsunder Brauerei”: <http://www.stralsunder.de>

TGAC: [http://www.thegermanamericanconnection.com/German\\_Beer\\_Tours.html](http://www.thegermanamericanconnection.com/German_Beer_Tours.html)