

# THE BLUE GRAY BREWSLETTER

Editor - Deb Lorenz

Feb 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011

## WELCOME TO the 32<sup>nd</sup> B--I--G SHOW!!

The Blue Gray Show Committee, BCCA and other hosts are excited to welcome all of you to the biggest breweriana show in the East this year. We look forward to seeing all of the same faces and the addition of many new ones to this year's show. We are happy to inform you that you will be enjoying a much dryer environment this year as the roof has been repaired. Our hosts include: Capital City Chapter, Richbrau Chapter, Rusty Bunch Chapter, BCCA, Sports Can Chapter, Microcosm Chapter and NABA. **We welcome each and every one of you to The Show!**

We are happy to say that **Brett McCrea** from 16 Mile Brewing Co. and **Dan Kopman** from The St. Louis Brewing Company (Schlafly's) will both be *guest Banquet speakers* this year.

Be sure as you walk around this year, trading, buying, conversing and just plain drinking beer, to *introduce yourself to the many micro-brewery representatives in attendance and thank them for continuing to make the Hospitality Room one of the best in the East or the West.*

Brews to you!

*Rayner Johnson*

*Room - to - Room Trading all day and all night from Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> until Sunday, February 20<sup>th</sup>! Don't miss out on that one 'item' you have to have!*

*Please remember to wear your Badge at all times as this is a private party and people that do not have their Badge on will be asked to leave. This has to do with the State Liquor Law and remember, you are responsible for your own behavior and that of your guests.*

*The Hospitality Room is open 24 hours a day, beginning on Wednesday at 12:00 noon and ending at noon on Sunday.*

### TRADE FLOOR TABLES

**On Thursday around 10 or 11 a.m., as soon as the tables arrive, we will be setting them up.** This is staffed by the Richbrau and Rusty Bunch Chapters but **ALL are invited to help.** Please do NOT just take a table to set it up for yourself. These tables will be available on Thursday and Friday so that the collectors in the other Hotels can participate in the room-to-room trading. The tables are **ONLY** for collectors **not** staying in the Ramada Inn and those in the **back building, (all odd numbered rooms from 301-341 and from 401-441).** Collectors in the main building and on the front side of the back building will have their room open for the room-to-room trading. **So check out all of the outside rooms!** On Saturday, the tables are open to **ALL** collectors **EXCEPT** those who have inside rooms (open to the Atrium of the Ramada).

### THE BREWERY TOUR IS BACK!

This year's tour is scheduled For Thursday, February 17<sup>th</sup>. The bus will depart the hotel at 9:15 a.m. and is scheduled to return by 5:30 p.m., dependent on the notorious I-95 traffic congestion. If you want to join the tour and do not have an advance ticket, there are probably still seats available. The cost is \$25.

Check with the Blue Gray registration table Wednesday or just look for Jim Plant at 9 a.m. on Thursday morning in the hotel lobby. The bus is headed to **Port City Brewing** in Alexandria first. It is a production brewery with a tasting room that just opened on Feb 1st. Lunch will be at the second stop, **Mad Fox Brewing** in Falls Church. Blue Gray veterans may be familiar with local celebrity brewer, Bill Madden, owner and brewer at **Mad Fox**. After leaving Mad Fox we'll head to **Vintage 50 Brewery** in Leesburg.

Speaking of great beers, *the Blue & Gray Brewery* is located just 9 minutes from the hotel (4.83 miles away). They offer free tastings and retail sales on Wednesdays from 2 pm-6 pm, Fridays from 3 pm-8 pm and Saturdays from 10 am – 1 pm. While you are there, you can purchase growlers and/or get them refilled! Tours are available on Saturdays from 10 am – 1 pm. They now have “**Lee’s Retreat Brew Pub**” onsite that is open for lunch and dinner. It is open Tuesday through Thursday 11 a.m. until 9:00 p.m., and Friday and Saturday from 11:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. **Get a coupon at the Registration Desk for one free pint glass with a beer purchase at the Brewery!**

### **BACK BAR DISPLAY**

The Back Bar Display is back again with another diverse round of rare, premium quality, and lighted breweriana of Pre-pro to early 1950s vintage. As always, there will be a Best of Show Contest with prizes and awards for the winners – please remember to stop by the display and cast your vote. When visiting and viewing the display, there are front-row seats where you can sit, relax and listen to many memorable tunes from the 1930s and 1940s ‘Big Band’ era while you enjoy a cold draft beer from The Blue & Gray hospitality room. The Back Bar lounge will also be up and running so you can enjoy your beer and meet the display organizer (John Bain) and other participants. In addition, there will be numerous 1930s to 1950s lighted signs for sale in the lounge. *Please note that the voting deadline has been moved to Friday evening as well as the photo op and award ceremony.*

#### **Schedule:**

Thursday: 8:00 p.m. – midnight - Back Bar Display  
Friday: 10:00 a.m. – midnight - Back Bar Display  
Friday: 8:30 p.m. - Deadline for submitting Best of Show Contest votes  
Friday: 9:00 p.m. - Group photo and award ceremony  
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - ? - Back Bar Display

### **MARGARITA MADNESS**

**Hey anyone out there who loves Margaritas**, meet Deb Lorenz on Friday afternoon in the lobby at 1:00 p.m. and we’ll walk or ride down to Pancho Villas Mexican Restaurant for margaritas and chips

### **HEY WILL, CAN YOU REPAIR MY CAN!?**

Will Hartlep is 99% sure he brought along his can repair and lidding equipment this year. So you might want to bring your can projects to him in room 114.

### **FRIDAY NIGHT PIZZA PARTY**

Friday night, be sure to get in line for the Pizza Party! Tom Chegash will be there to ensure the line is orderly and that you each get a share of great pizza. Be nice, or the *Pizza Dude* might make you go to the end of the line and wear a “dunce” cap or make a “citizen’s” arrest! The line forms on the second floor of the Ramada outside the Hospitality Room at the Registration desk at 8:00, 9:00 p.m. and at 10:00 p.m. ***Don’t forget to grab your pizza and head down at 9:00 for the Photos and Award Ceremony at the Back Bar!***

### **MICROBREW FULL BOTTLE/CAN EXCHANGE**

The annual Full Bottle Trade takes place Saturday morning 8:45-9:45 a.m. in the meeting room down the hall from the hotel restaurant. Bring 6 to 24 bottles of bottles or cans of fresh micro-brewed beer to trade. You **MUST** be in the room and ready to trade at 9 a.m. sharp. Latecomers always miss the good stuff. Learn more about this event at the Blue Gray registration table or see Jim Plant in room 226. Last year there were over 40 participants who traded just over 500 bottles.

### **WINE GODDESS WINE TASTING**

Debbie Eib will be holding her annual Saturday Afternoon Wine Tasting at 1:00 p.m. in the Garden Terrace Restaurant. All ladies are invited to attend. Just bring a bottle of wine and an appetizer to share.

### **BANQUET INFORMATION**

Be sure and stop by the Blue Gray Registration Desk if you have not signed up for the Banquet on Saturday night yet. The food will be delicious, the conversations will be great, and the drinks will be cold. Brett McCrea from 16 Mile Brewing Company and Dan Kopman from The St. Louis Brewing Company (Schlafly’s) will be our guest speakers.

### **BLUE GRAY WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK**

If you are looking for show information, go to [www.bluegrayshow.com](http://www.bluegrayshow.com). The Blue Gray show website is updated on a regular basis by web master, Mark Benbow. Also, did you know we are also on **Facebook?**

### **BCCA SUPPLY TABLE**

Although Doug Groth will not be here this year, BCCA Supplies will be available for purchase near the Registration table. Be sure and stop by the table!

## MERRY BOCKSTERS SUPER RAFFLE #3

Third Time's the Charm!



Hello Fellow Bocksters and Collectors! As you are well aware, the Merry Bocksters Chapter of the BCCA has previously held 2 quality raffles. This is the 3rd Super Raffle and once again they have 3 quality cans being raffled!

The ticket draw will take place at the Blue/Gray show. Last year, they sold out the remaining tickets on the Thursday before the raffle! They've already sold a lot and the remaining tickets will sell fast! So get yours NOW!

Tickets are \$10 each. Remember, there are only 700 tickets, so your odds of winning one of the three prizes are sweet! Plus you get 3 chances to win on your \$10!!

Thanks to the generous help of the Rogalski Brothers the prizes are as follows:

- First prize is an Instructional Trommer's Bock!
- Second Prize is a beautiful brown Meister Brau Bock
- Third Prize is a spanking clean Valley Brew Bock

Last year's First prize can was an A1 Bock won by Dave McCaslin, Second prize went to Dave Larravolo who won a Gold Krueger Bock and third prize went to Marty Schrock who won the 3<sup>rd</sup> place Frankenmuth Bock.

### CAPITOL ALE HOUSE

The Ale House is located in Historic downtown Fredericksburg at 917 Caroline Street. It is an upscale-casual dinner house that features 62 craft and import beers on draught and over 300 selections of bottled beer. It is a 10 minute drive (5.12 miles) from the Ramada. **A Special this week is that the Ale House will have on tap, Schaffly Beer, a different beer every**

night!

### HUNGRY?

**Check out the Garden Terrace Restaurant** at the Ramada Inn to see what they have available while we are there. In addition, there is a **great** Breakfast available at the **Waffle House** a short distance from the hotel.

There will be a **Hotdog Stand** available on Thursday, Friday and Saturday from noon to 3:00 p.m., near the Back Bar displays..

**Hooters Restaurant, the Pancho Villas Mexican Restaurant and Ruby Tuesdays** are just a short walking distance away.

**The Blue Gray Brewery** is only 4.83 miles (9 minutes) away where you can enjoy great lunches and dinners at **Lee's Retreat Brew Pub**, including kid's meals. **Stop at the registration desk to get a coupon for "A free pint glass with any beer purchase"** at the Brewery.

### SATURDAY IS IMPORTANT

Rayner thought it was important to remind everyone that the reason we get such good rates for the hotel is because we promise them so many booked rooms every night. Therefore, it is imperative that you stay over Saturday night. If we can't deliver on Saturday nights, we may lose the rights to having just our people at the hotel. The more outside registered guests there are, the more chance that complaints will be made regarding the open drinking that goes on. It is against VA laws to drink openly but the police have not had to enforce this since we are classified as a private party and no one has complained. The Registration rules state that you must stay over Saturday night to stay at the Ramada Inn. Times are changing and enforcements need to be done. So plan on staying and attending the banquet this year and definitely plan on it in the years to come!

### NEVER UNDERESTIMATE . . . . .

**Never underestimate the importance of the Blue Gray Show:** According to Charlie Bacon, on Fox TV on February 14<sup>th</sup>, on the Simpsons Show, the episode was entitled "Blue & Gray". What could it possibly be about, you might ask. Oh my Gosh, the Simpsons are coming to the Blue Gray! They get us! Close, but no cigar. This episode was about Marge's hair. But hey, maybe next year.

## 32<sup>nd</sup> BLUE GRAY SHOW “HOPPY” HAPPENINGS!

### Wednesday - February 16<sup>th</sup>

24 Hour Hospitality Room opens at noon - *Room-to-Room Trading All Day and All Night through Sunday!*

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### Thursday - February 17<sup>th</sup>

**9:00 a.m.** Brew Pub Tour (Port City Brewing, Mad Fox Brewing, Vintage 50 Brewing)

**10-11:00 a.m.** Table Set up (Staffed by Richbrau & Rusty Bunch Chapters) but **ALL** are invited and encouraged to help!

Tables are **ONLY** for registered participants staying in other hotels as well as those staying in the ODD numbered rooms in the back section of the Ramada Inn (301-341, 401-441) **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

**8:00 p.m.** - Back Bar Display Opens!

**8:30 p.m.** - Capitol City Chapter 50/50 Drawing #1

**9:00 p.m.** - Bock Beer Tasting outside hospitality room

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### Friday - February 18<sup>th</sup>

Complimentary Donuts and coffee are available in the morning from 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

**Trade Tables** are available ONLY FOR “eligible” participants - **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

**10:00 a.m.** - Back Bar Display until midnight

**1:00 p.m.** - Margarita Madness - For you guys and gals, who are Margarita Lovers, meet *Deb Lorenz* in the lobby. We'll walk or ride to Pancho Villas Mexican Restaurant for 1 or 2 margaritas, chips and lunch!

**8:00 p.m.** - PIZZA Night with the *Pizza Dude!* Line forms at the registration desk by the hospitality room

**8:30 p.m.** - **Deadline for voting for Best of Show for the Backbar Display**

**8:30 p.m.** - Capitol City Chapter 50/50 Drawing #2

**9:00 p.m.** - Back Bar Display Group Photo and Award Ceremony

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### Saturday - February 19<sup>th</sup>

Complimentary Donuts and Coffee are available in the morning from 8 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

**7:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** - Trade Floor Open to All - **EXCEPT** - Dealer Inside Room Occupants

**8:45 a.m.** - Full Bottle Trade in the Banquet Room. Bring some fresh microbrewery beer from your area to trade. Minimum-one six pack, maximum-one case. (must be 21 or older). **Must be in room no later than 9:00 & ready to go!**

**10:00 a.m.** - ? - Back Bar Display

**1:00 p.m.** - Wine Goddess Wine Tasting - This is for the Ladies! Meet at the hotel's Garden Terrace Restaurant. Bring one bottle of wine and an appetizer to share. This awesome event is hosted by *Debbie Eib*.

**2:00 p.m.** - Capitol City Chapter 50/50 Drawing #3 and Grand Prize Drawing!

**2:00 p.m.** - Rusty bunch Raffle Drawing (time subject to change)

**3:00 p.m.** - Merry Bocksters Raffle Drawing

**7:00 p.m.** - Banquet (Guest Speakers are Brett McCrea from 16 Mile Brewing and Dan Kopman from St. Lewis Brewing (Schlafly's)

**9:30 p.m.** - Table tear-down

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### Sunday - February 20<sup>th</sup>

Complimentary Donuts and coffee are available in the morning from 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.!

Hospitality room closes at noon. *Have a Safe trip home and see you next year!*