

WHAT: SGI Brewfest
WHEN: April 30, 2016
WHERE: Paddy's Raw Bar & Journeys of SGI
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PRESS RELEASE - SGI BREWFEST

CRAFT DRAFTS FOR CATS AND DOGS

If a dog is man's—and woman's—best friend, then a cold beer isn't far behind. And on those special occasions where you get to have both at the same time, well, isn't that what life is about? That's the idea behind the 1st Annual St. George Island Brewfest, a one-day beer tasting festival on April 30th to build appreciation for craft brewing.

All proceeds benefit the Franklin County Humane Society, which is dealing with a 10% budget cut and an even larger drop in donations. Held at Paddy's Raw Bar and Journeys of St. George Island, the SGI Brewfest will include live music from Tim Russell, a variety of food available for purchase, and a one-mile Fun Run sponsored by Sweetwater 420 with 6oz beers provided every quarter-mile. Most importantly, Brewfest includes unlimited tastings of the carefully-crafted offerings from more than two dozen brewers around the Sunshine State and across the country, with more being added daily.

Closest to home brings Apalachicola's Oyster City Brewing as well as Grayton and Idyll Hounds, both from Santa Rosa Beach. Tallahassee brewers will arrive in force, including Proof, Lake Tribe, Canopy Roads, Deep, and Grasslands Brewing. Attendees can also sample the small-batch creations of craft brewers from farther afield, including Jacksonville's Bold City and Veterans United, Gainesville's Swamp Head and First Magnitude, and a Tampa Bay-area quadruple bill from Cigar City (Tampa), 3 Daughters (St. Pete), Big Storm Brewing (Clearwater), and Darwin Brewing (Bradenton).

These will be joined by nationally-distributed craft brands like New York's Blue Point Brewing, Maine breweries Shipyard and Sea Dog, Erie (PA) Brewing, and popular California-based Lagunitas Brewing. And if you're relatively new to the craft beer scene and want to start with some familiar flavors before branching out to the more adventurous, SGI Brewfest considered that too. On hand will be standards of the mid-to-large craft beer category, with Atlanta's Sweetwater Brewing, Colorado's New Belgium, the ever-popular Sierra Nevada, and three brands recently acquired by Anheuser-Busch: Shock Top, Goose Island, and hard root beer innovator Best Damn Brewing. Chat with the folks from Brew Hub, a Lakeland-based partner-brewing operation that offers small breweries the resources of a larger operation.

Tickets went on sale in January and are moving quickly. VIP admission has already sold out, but there are still some General Admission tickets available. Important to know: you have to purchase tickets in advance, as there will be no day-of tickets or admission at the door, and of course, age to attend the SGI Brewfest is 21+.

General Admission tickets are \$30, available on the SGI Brewfest website at www.sgibrewfest.com/tickets. There are also Designated Driver tickets for \$10; these include unlimited soft drinks and water along with the entertainment. Registration for the Fun Run (beer included) is an additional \$20. Food vendors will be onsite with food for sale, too.

Come to the most beautiful beach in the country, and drink beer to help animals? Sounds like a perfect spring afternoon. See you there!

-Cutler Edwards