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Anchorage, Alaska – Jan 12.2012 – Winter in Alaska. It’s cold. It’s dark. But the beer here rocks.

2012 marks the 16th Anniversary for Aurora Productions’ Great Beer and Barley Wine Festival in Anchorage. Over the years, these show producers have become experts in putting on one of the best beer festivals in the world. Held on the third weekend in January each year, this festival has experienced extraordinary growth in terms beer and brewer representation and fest-goer attendance. Tickets for the three sessions usually sell out before the first session begins. This year’s sessions are FRI JAN 20 6–10 PM; SAT JAN 21 2–5 PM; and SAT JAN 21 6–10 PM. While the first and last sessions offer over 200 amazing beers from about 70 brewers, Saturday’s afternoon Connoisseurs Session also gives aficionados more face-to-face time with brewers, brewery owners and sales representatives. The higher Connoisseurs ticket price – \$45 as opposed to \$35 for the other two sessions – is additionally justified by the pouring of extra special and rare beers, the announcement of winners of the barley wine competition, and the enjoyment of the Celebrator Beer News’ Tom Dalldorf’s Rolling Boil Blues Band. The Connoisseurs Session definitely creates the complete “beer geek” experience.

For info on GABBF, please contact Annie Chavez at 907.562.9911 or auroraproductions.net.

For info on Celebrator Beer News and/or the Rolling Boil Blues Band, contact Tom Dalldorf at tdalldorf@celebrator.com.

Many cities now host “beer weeks”—Denver, Seattle, Portland, Boston and San Francisco to name a few. In 2011 it became evident that Alaska—not just Anchorage, due to logistics as well as brewer community spirit—designate a 10-day beer week to celebrate CRAFT BEER. With Alaskans and Outsiders coming to Anchorage for Great Alaska Beer and Barley Wine Festival every January, in 2011 AK Beer Week was created around this anchor event. From traditional beer dinners to yoga to special keg tappings to beer+cupcake pairings to gluten-free beer tastings to Rage City RollerGirl bouts, the ways to experience craft beer in Alaska is radically growing.

Newly launched akbeerweek.com is a magnet for all craft beer-related events during this 10-day period, which in 2012 runs FRI JAN 13 through SUN JAN 22. Social networking hubs at AK Beer Week on Facebook and [akbeerweek](https://twitter.com/akbeerweek) on Twitter provide means for folks to “share” their of-the-moment experiences. Event info and photos will be posted throughout AK Beer Week...and beyond. AK Beer Week 2012 logo ware will be available at Midnight Sun Brewing Company and GABBF.

For more info on AK Beer Week, please contact La Femme de Beer (Barb Miller) at 907.230-4161 or barb@akbeerweek.com.