

Oregon Reaffirms Position as America's Beervana *Oregon Wins Eleven Gold Medals at the 2008 Great American Beer Festival*

PORTLAND, Ore. (October 17, 2008) – Twelve Oregon breweries claimed a total of 21 medals at the 2008 Great American Beer Festival (GABF) held October 9-11 in Denver, CO. Eleven of the 21 medals awarded to Oregon were gold. The 11 gold medals awarded to beers made in Oregon were more than any other state.

The GABF is the largest national beer competition and recognizes the most outstanding beers produced in the United States today. The top three medalists in each of the competition's 75 beer-style categories were announced October 11th at the 27th Great American Beer Festival Awards Ceremony held at the Colorado Convention Center.

Along with the 11 gold medals, Oregon Breweries brought home 3 silver medals and 7 bronzes. Deschutes Brewery, Pyramid Breweries and Rogue Ales led the way by capturing three medals each. Full Sail Brewing Co., Pelican Pub & Brewery and Widmer Brothers Brewing Co. each claimed two medals. Alameda Brewhouse, Bend Brewing Co, Cascade Lakes Brewing Co., Hopworks Urban Brewery and Laurelwood Brewing Co. were awarded one medal each from the festival.

“To win more gold medals than any other state is huge for the Oregon beer industry,” says Oregon Brewers Guild Executive Director Brian Butenschoen. “We know that Oregon breweries make great beer, but to win more gold medals than any other state shows just how excellent Oregon brewed beer is.”

The 2008 Great American Beer Festival Competition winners were selected by an international panel of 127 brewing experts from an impressive field of 2,902 entries received from 472 U.S. breweries.

For a list of medals won by Oregon Breweries, go to <http://oregonbeer.org/2008-gabf-medalists/>.

For full 2008 Great American Beer Festival info, go to <http://www.beertown.org/events/gabf/index.htm>.

The Oregon Brewers Guild is Oregon's non-profit trade association for the state's independent breweries. The Guild comprises 60 brewing companies, 30 associate or supplier members and more than 2,175 enthusiast members or S.N.O.B.s (Supporters of Native Oregon Beer). For more information, see www.oregonbeer.org.