

Colorado Bratfest Folks -

<http://www.bratfest.net>

This info site will still evolve with more detail and hints.

It has been dropping out intermittently today, so try later if no response. We are having some problem w/ GoDaddy.

Announcing the FIRST GLOBAL BRATFEST ... ONLINE

AKA BRATFEST COLORADO 2020 (13th annual)

BratfEast 16 (Maryland)

Bratfest 41b (Arizona)

FEST IN PLACE

When: Saturday, September 26, 2020

Times 14:00-22:00 MDT; website shows other times zones.

In this event, we will join with the two other active Fest sites, in Tucson and Maryland, as well as interested celebrants everywhere.

This is a preliminary announcement. More info will be showing up on the website as we get time:

www.bratfest.net

This includes instructions for how to use the connect tool, and we expect to have up some info on foods & sources, cooking methods, recipes, techniques, and equipment, and other hints to allow you to have your own Fest.

Links to our local sources for food items will be posted to the website at some point.

T-shirt and other swag is available now:

<https://www.cafepress.com/valsshop1>

This is a single shirt design for all sites.

Prepare your own food & drink at home and join in. We have an audio/video-link tool to bring everyone together in a virtual beer garden.

The site can be tested below. We highly encourage you to do that. It is easy to navigate. More detailed instructions are on bratfest.net. The site is currently password-free. Indicate your interest (for planning how many participants) below.

Generalized invite:

Dear Everyone!

You are invited to the Brat Heard 'Round the World, the One Fest to Rule Them All, the Answer to Life, the Universe, and your Pandemic Malaise: BratfEast 16 / Bratfest 41b / Bratfest Colorado 13!

Fest-in-Place with your own bratwurst (or hotdogs or other sausages), corn, cheesecake, and a beverage. Then tune in online to share it with LPL alumni and science friends around the world.

When: Saturday, September 26, 16:00 to midnight EDT

Where: Online, of course. At Gather.town - you can take a free tour and BratTest the interface at your own pace:

<https://gather.town/BfldcmFmRvZzigx4/BratTest>

Attendance is free but we need a rough head count to plan, so please indicate your interest here:

<https://forms.gle/otXnBDPsf314uWLo9>

BE AWARE: The site will ask you to allow audio and video feeds from your computer. So take care when activating because you can be seen/heard. The "log off" does not work, so you need to kill the window. Just don't leave it running without your knowledge. So far, we don't think this will work from a phone.

A few simple instructions to get you going:

- you will show up in a general area
- move yourself around by using your arrow keys
- moving close to someone else allows you to see/hear their video/audio and vice versa
- there is a toolbar on the bottom:
 - the wavy "map" shows you a map of the site layout
 - the concentric circles control your range of interaction
 - the leftmost icon allows you to change your avatar
- you can find others by clicking on the name of participant on right side and following the trail to them
- you can sit at beer tables or visit private rooms or stages and interact with everyone at that location
- if you see a box with a green outline, it is an information kiosk. Hit 'x' to enter and read, 'x' to exit.

For grilling, be aware of the Colo state fire ban and check your local restrictions. For us, Gilpin County has been under Stage 2 fire ban since April, prohibiting charcoal fires. We've had to invest in the following unit from Johnsonville (better to try Farm & Fleet online):

<https://www.sizzlingsausagegrill.com/sizzling-sausage-grill/>

There may be short musical performances scheduled, tributes to some people we've lost, and a chance to visit with long-time-no-see friends and colleagues.