

# **VIRGIN PAN-GALACTIC GARGLE BLASTER CONTEST**

**12:30-2:00 PM SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 2010**

According to *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, this drink "is like having your brain smashed out by a slice of lemon wrapped round a large gold brick" and the original recipe is given as follows:

“Take the juice from one bottle of that Ol' Janx Spirit.  
Pour into it one measure of water from the seas of Santragnus V  
Allow three cubes of Arcturan Mega-gin to melt into the mixture (it must be properly iced or the benzene is lost).  
Allow four litres of Fallian marsh gas to bubble through it (in memory of all those happy Hikers who have died of pleasure in the Marshes of Fallia).  
Over the back of a silver spoon float a measure of Qualactin Hypermint extract, redolent of all the heady odours of the dark Qualactin Zones.  
Drop in the tooth of an Algolian Suntiger. Watch it dissolve, spreading the fires of the Algolian suns deep into the heart of the drink.  
Sprinkle Zamphour.  
Add an olive.  
Drink...but *very carefully*.”

--Douglas Adams, *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*

However, Douglas Adams denied non-hitchhiking Earthlings the pleasure and pain of experiencing this unique drink for themselves by confirming in an on-line interview with Slashdot in June 2000:

“Unfortunately there are a number of environmental and weapons treaties and laws of physics which prevent one being mixed on Earth. Sorry.”

--<http://slashdot.org/interviews/00/06/21/1217242.shtml/>

But... **DON'T PANIC**

**Bubonicon 42 will be honouring Zaphod Beeblebrox**, President of the Galaxy and his famous (or is it infamous?) drink the Pan-Galactic Gargle Blaster with **your** attempts to recreate it **-without alcohol-** so far as possible on Earth, at Bubonicon 42!

## **Rules:**

1. All participants in entry must be members of Bubonicon 42.
2. Recipes must be original. We will be going on the honour system here folks and besides, what's the fun in cribbing it from the Wiki anyway?
3. All ingredients must be able to be legally and safely consumed by human beings. (You may be asked for an ingredient list to check against any judge's allergies.)

4. Due to issues surrounding the ability to make an authentic PGGB on Earth (see above quote and Rule 3), **drinks must be “virgin,” i.e., without any alcohol.** However, Alcohol flavourings are allowed. **Again, alcohol is not.**
5. Bubonicon 42 will supply access to a sink, microwave, ice and a certain amount of prep space. (Sink, microwave, and ice will be shared with the other entrants so be prepared to play nice.) Entrants will supply all other ingredients, supplies, tools and presentation paraphernalia. The use of dry ice and similar material in the presentation drinks for the judges has been approved by the hotel (but not in the greater quality for the masses).
6. Entrants will have access to prep space 30 minute prior to the beginning of the contest to complete assembly of drinks and presentations.
7. Each entrant will prepare 4 presentation servings for the 3 judges and the moderator - and at least one gallon of their drink for audience tasting. (Audience tastings will be small samples and need not include any of the presentation frou-frou.)
8. **YOU ARE NOT A MYTHBUSTER!** Drinks will not explode, violently overflow (à la Mentos), or in any other way try and “make a break for it.” If your presentation revolves around the drink fizzing over the top of the glass, overflow must be completely contained in another vessel included in the presentation. In other words, entrants and their drinks will not make a mess or do anything which may set off the hotel sprinklers!
9. **Re-read Rule 8! Failure to comply will result in disqualification and entrant will pay for clean-up and answer to the hotel, Fire Department, MIB, etc!**
10. Entries will be judged and awards given in the following categories:
  - ❖ Best Presentation
  - ❖ Best Use of Lemon
  - ❖ Best Use of Brick
  - ❖ Best Overall

Pre-registration for the contest is not mandatory, but if you intend to enter, it would be nice if you'd send off a quick e-mail to: **[gargle.blaster@hotmail.com](mailto:gargle.blaster@hotmail.com)** so we can start to plan for how much prep space will be needed.

So get cooking, pull out all your alchemical stops, and be prepared to floor the judges (literally!)