Bacon Beer Cheese Soup with Chicken

Makes 6 servings

1/2 pound BLOOMING GLEN bacon, diced

1 pound boneless skinless chicken breast halves

1/4 cup butter

1/4 cup flour

2 teaspoons garlic powder

2 teaspoons cayenne pepper

1 teaspoon paprika

3/4 teaspoon salt

1 teaspoon black pepper

1 cup Belgian style wheat beer (Blue Moon)

1 cup chicken broth

2 cups half and half

8 ounces shredded cheddar cheese

1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce

Chives

Croutons

Warm a stock pot over high heat. Cook bacon until lightly crisp, stirring occasionally.

Meanwhile, cut chicken into bite size pieces.

Remove bacon from pan and place on a plate. Add chicken into bacon grease to cook. Stir occasionally until chicken is cooked through. Remove chicken onto plate with bacon.

Cut butter into 1 tablespoon pieces and add to pan drippings. Whisk in flour and spices. Add beer, broth and half & half. Whisk to combine and bring to a bubble. Add cheese whisk to combine, stir until you have a smooth mixture. Add Worcestershire sauce, chicken and bacon. Stir to combine.

Allow to simmer until ready to serve, stirring occasionally.

Garnish with chives and croutons. Enjoy!