

# THE CRAB POT

October 2004



The Eccentric Publication of the Mid-Atlantic's Most Eclectic Motorcycle Organization

***NOTES FROM THE BENEVOLENT DICTATOR:  
COURTHOUSE CHALLENGE***

Phil Ager and Elsie Smith, fellow CRABS from Fort Washington, MD are doing a challenge: their goal is to hit as many county courthouses as possible before the end of the year. They have every courthouse in WV except Berkeley Springs (there are 55 counties in WV). During the RA rally, they went all the way to the Ohio River in the pouring rain to get Pt. Pleasant. I think they have all of VA, most of PA and only lack Leonardtown in MD. Phil is editor of the BMWBMW newsletter, Between the Spokes.

***GET WELL JEAN***

Last month's guest columnist, Jean Copas, just had knee surgery so she can recuperate in the "off season" up in Ontario. Best wishes!

***T-SHIRTS ON ORDER***

A T-shirt order is in the works. Larger sizes available this time!

***CLUB BANNER***

Molly's Signs in Leonardtown is to make us a banner to hang at rallies and dinners so folks can find us. At the request of Lou Church, stickers are inbound as well.

***NEW BIKE SYNDROME***

A couple CRABS are sporting new bikes, including a BMW K1200LT and an R1200GS. Santa came early this year!

***OCTOBER RIDE-N-EAT***

On Saturday, 23 October 2004, join us at Courtney's in Ridge, MD at 5 PM for dinner at the place Betsy and I believe has the best fried Rockfish we've ever had. My Dad says the oyster stew is the best. Captain Tommy catches his fish, oysters, and crabs fresh daily and it shows. At the very end of Wynn Road, Ridge, MD.

***STILL LOOKING FOR INPUT!***

I'm still open to input from you, the constituency, on rides, restaurants, and stories.

THE DIRECTIONS I GAVE IN AN EMAIL TO FLYING CIRCUS ARE IN ERROR: CHECK THIS ISSUE FOR THE CORRECT ONES!!

Your dictator,  
*He So Po*

### ***LATEST ON GUY ALLEGEDLY DOING 205 MPH***

There has been a lot of discussion on the ticket written to the motorcyclist allegedly going 205 MPH on a liter-class Honda sportbike (web site featured in September). The Honda runs out of steam at 170-180 MPH. Aerodynamic drag increases with the square of velocity, so the motorcycling community agrees this knucklehead was probably not doing anywhere near 205: lots of folks go to Bonneville with hopped-up rigs and still don't make the 200 MPH club. Even if the cop was in error by 25% in clicking his watch (165 MPH or so), that's still 100 MPH in excess of the posted limit, however. Maybe he should ride on Indian Head Highway...

### ***OUR PREVIOUS EAT-N-RIDE***

Six CRABS enjoyed the Eat-N-Ride at Tim's Riverhouse II off Routes 218 and 696 near Fairview Beach, Virginia. Tim's is a classic crab and seafood house. The day we were there I counted 70 boats anchored in the Potomac and a couple dozen bikes ranging from Harleys to rice rockets anchored in the lot. Tim's parking lot is in Virginia, but the restaurant is in Maryland thanks to the fact that Maryland claims the Potomac.

Tim's has a Jimmy Buffet flavor (they host the "Rappahannock Parrothead Club Party" in the spring). There are plenty of outdoor tables to complement the ones inside and an outdoor bar as well. If you arrive by boat, Tim's has a water taxi to pick you up. Some folks jump overboard and wade ashore. Whether you arrive wet or dry, by land or sea, you're welcome at Tim's.

The food is pretty good. Two of our CRABS shared a table full of steamed crabs and found them to be very tasty. I had a piece of rockfish and others in our party had scallops and crab cakes, all of which were excellent. The beer service, while a little slow because of the late summer crowd, was good as well. Tim's "Best of the Bay" rankings were 4<sup>th</sup> best family restaurant, 6<sup>th</sup> best steamed crabs, and 5<sup>th</sup> best crab cakes according to "Chesapeake Bay Magazine" and they pledge to do even better in the future.

The road to Tim's, Route 218 from Dahlgren to Falmouth, Virginia, is a favorite of area motorcyclists for it's horizontal and vertical twists and scenery. Tim's has quite a few special events. Check out their web site at [www.tims2.com](http://www.tims2.com) for the variety of activities: fireworks, Parrothead parties, poker runs, a Halloween bash, wine fest, "Queen of the Creek" contest, and something called the "Roar at the Shore."

## ***BACKROADS RALLY AT ROCKY GAP STATE PARK, MD***

There's still time to join Betsy and I in celebrating our second anniversary at this rally put on by the folks who publish BACKROADS magazine. We're departing Friday 8 October and returning Monday 11 October, but you can do your own thing.

There will be some great rides, including the opportunity to go North into PA for some great roads and foliage and to sample the somber Flight 93 Memorial in Shanksville (about 35 miles Northwest of Rocky Gap). Central PA has great riding (and great people) around the Johnstown and Altoona areas. Ride the incline in Johnstown and/or check out the flood museum. In Altoona, check out Horseshoe Curve and Tunnel Hill. In nearby Hollidaysburg, check out the Slinky factory.

If you go South, the highlands of West Virginia beckon. Go to Mount Storm, Thomas, Davis, Canaan Valley and other great points. Return to Rocky Gap for some outstanding fellowship with Brian Rathjen and Shira Kamil, publishers of BACKROADS and their assorted band of pals.

Sunday do it all again, kick back, or play a round of golf on the Jack Nicklaus Signature Golf Course.

Rocky Gap Resort, 301-784-8400 or [www.rockygapresort.com](http://www.rockygapresort.com)

## ***WINGS AND WHEELS, BIKE AND AIRSHOW, 10 OCT***

<http://www.flyingcircusairshow.com/> "Wings and Wheels" button.

Betsy and I attended an airshow at Flying Circus last year and it was great! I recommend it for kids: they put on a family-oriented show the kids appear to love. Take a picnic lunch or get food there. The biplanes and wing walkers and mock bombing runs will make you smile. Biplane rides are available.

To get there from MD, cross the 301 bridge into Virginia. Turn RIGHT at the light in Dahlgren on Rte 206, then RIGHT again on Rte 218. Stay on 218 until it becomes 212. It will intersect with US 1 and US 17 in Falmouth. Go STRAIGHT on US 17 North and it will take you to Bealeton, VA. There's a sign on the right just past the Giant Roller Skate that shows you the right turn to the Flying Circus Airport.

- 1. Vehicle registration from 11 am to 2 pm. Airshow from 2:30 to 4:30 pm.**
- 2. Voting from People's Choice ballots, Winners announced at 4:30 pm.**
- 3. Grand prize winner receives the Flying Circus Trophy.**
- 4. A "Ritz Camera Kodak Moment" photo opportunity for you to pose with your wheels and a biplane.**

## ***CRABS Fall Foliage Campout, 16&17 October 2004***

We have 6 campsites (numbers 181-186) reserved at the Wapocoma campground off South Branch River Road, just West of Romney. <http://www.romneywv.com/> If you're camping, it's \$16 per night including tax. There are more campsites available if required. The limit is one tent and two adults per site. Please let me know if you're claiming a campsite: I'm on the hook for ones we don't use.

Some have rooms at the Kool-Wink Motel on US 50 just East of Romney. It's a nice, clean, place. <http://www.koolwinkmotel.com/> A big double room away from the highway is \$63.00 a night. If you stay in the motel, stop at the campground office on your way in to see us and pick up a visitor pass: just tell them you're with the Byers' party or the CRABS.

Canoe rentals are available for Saturday from the Trough General Store. They're \$50 for the day for two people, paddles, life jackets, and most importantly, shuttle service to the put-in point for the 12-mile trip. That's about right at \$25 per person. Trough General Store: (304)822-7601 or <http://www.wvcanoerentals.com/> Their site has a great aerial shot of the gorge on the "who we are" page. I will be leading at least two other canoes down river. **If you want me to call to reserve you a canoe, you have to tell me by Wednesday, 6 October.** After that, it's up to you.

If you're a choo-choo person, the Potomac Eagle Railroad runs down the gorge twice a day. See their web site at <http://www.potomaceagle.info/> for more details. They're running two trains, one at 10 AM and one at 2 PM both Saturday and Sunday. The cost is \$24 per adult and \$10 for kids 6-16. Lots of cool photos on their site too.

Finally, the riding in the area is spectacular. Route 50 alone is well worth the trip. You can take a right out of the campground and head to Moorefield on River Road, then wend your way back or just keep on going to Seneca Rocks, Thomas, Davis, Blackwater Falls, et al. Any paved road you take in the Eastern mountains of West Virginia is goodness. We'll be available with a map Friday night.

The schedule is this: Betsy and I will arrive at the campground Friday 15 October around 6 or 7 PM to set up camp. I recommend you get dinner on the way. We'll get the fire started and the malt beverages flowing. Feel free to start without us if you get there early: we have sites 181 to 186. Or you can choose to arrive Saturday morning. (Continued next page)

## ***FALL FOLIAGE CAMPOUT, CONTINUED***

Saturday will be ride, canoe, train, or kick back and relax. Do your own thing for breakfast and lunch: cook your own, eat at the truck stop in Romney, or whatever. Pack a lunch if you're going on the canoe trip. Saturday night we'll try to have a grill going or go to a restaurant in Romney. There's a store on US 50 just East of town, so you can pick up food and not have to pack it far on the moto.

If the crowd is relatively small, I will cook pancakes and breakfast meats Sunday morning on the Coleman stove. We'll have hot coffee and tea and some pastries. You can take the 10 AM train ride if you like and be back in time for the campground's 2 PM checkout time.

We're outta there by around noon to meet some CRABS from Cleveland in Winchester for lunch, but you're welcome to do your own thing.

That's about it. Let me know if you're interested. The campground isn't very full, so there's a good chance you can make a last-minute decision, but I'd like to know how many want to canoe as soon as possible.

**DIRECTIONS:** Romney is on US 50 West of Winchester, VA

From DC, take 66 West to 17 North (toward Paris, VA).

At Paris, take a **LEFT** on US 50 West at the light (toward Winchester).

At Winchester, take a **RIGHT** at the light to get on I-81 North ramp.

Take the exit for 37 South (only a few miles on I-81 North).

**LEFT** at the bottom of the exit ramp to get on 37 South.

Take the exit off 37 for US 50 West.

**RIGHT** at the bottom of the ramp for US 50 West.

US 50 West will take you into Romney, WV. As you come into Romney, the Kool-Wink Motel is on your **RIGHT**.

For the campground, continue through town (watch your speed: there's a school for deaf and blind kids in Romney).

On the West side of Romney, at the bottom of the hill and before you get to the iron bridge crossing the river, take a **LEFT** on South Branch River Road (or River Road).

In a few miles, look for the sign for Wapocoma Campground on your **RIGHT**. Stop at the office, register, and ask for the CRABS or the Byers' sites, 181-186. That's it.

## OCTOBER 2004

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 Backroads Rally, Rocky Gap	9 Backroads Rally, Rocky Gap
10 Rally and Airshow (Note 1)	11 Columbus Day Holiday	12	13	14	15 Fall Campout, Romney, WV	16 Fall Campout, Romney, WV
17 Fall Campout, Romney, WV	18	19	20	21	22	23 Ride-n-Eat, 5 PM @ Courtney's
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 Daylight Savings Ends :-)						

**Note: (1) The Flying Circus Airshow is on the same Sunday as the Backroads Rally.**

### ***FUTURE CRABS EVENTS??????***

Feel free to email me at [cornersquid@aol.com](mailto:cornersquid@aol.com) with your proposed event. Please don't let me be the only one posting stuff up here!

Fall swap meet/chili feed 14 November, 1 PM until... Stay tuned.

We will be doing a CRABS Christmas Party on 18 December. Put it on your calendar. Pepperoni rolls, lumpia, and malted beverages among other goodies: yum!

This isn't motorcycle-related, but the award-winning musical "Movin' Out" based on the songs of Billy Joel will be at the National Theatre in DC from 19 Nov to 19 Dec. They have shows daily from Tuesday through Sunday at 8 PM and matinees Saturday and Sunday at 2 PM. Betsy and I have tickets for 11 December's matinee. See the National Theatre web site for details. Sponsored by visa: gotta have a Visa card to get tickets.