

THE CRAB POT

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Irregular Motorcycling Organization

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FALL CHILI FEED

Saturday 14 November we had quite a few folks at the fall chili feed. We were blessed with good weather too. Several folks used my 30-year-old Honda TL125 to tackle a little trials section Randy Black was kind enough to set up in the back yard. After a single trip around the yard under Joe's tutelage, Jen Seidel took off on her own on the TL for a few laps. She left as a new motorcyclist with a big smile! Thanks also to Jill Black, who provided her white chili again. Look for another edition in the spring, this time with more trials bikes and a few more little playgrounds in the woods. Maybe in Calvert County?

CHRISTMAHANNUKWANZAKUH PARTY

We had our second annual holiday party on 19 December. It was great to see CRABS from all over: Steve Coburn and Kandy Dunn from Charlottesville, Larry and Sue Segelon from Virginia Beach, Stefan and Janet Yenchu from Sykesville, and Kevin and Valerie Long from Fredericksburg!

Weather was a little sketchy, with some sprinkly rain, but it abated later in the day and we had a whole bunch of folks trying their hand at trials in the woods. Tanner Black rode his TY80 and Danny Bishop brought over a Honda Reflex and a Yamaha for folks to try. I supplied the TL125 Honda again. At one point, Mark Murphy and Danny Bishop went bushwacking and we didn't think we'd see them until spring, but they returned, probably for the food.

The food? Thanks to Jill Black we had some "Old Settler's Beans" and thanks to Emily's Oriental Express, we had six dozen lumpia (Phillipino egg rolls). Bear Creek provided the pulled pork and beef and Chaptico Market the pies. I baked a few pepperoni rolls. Yum! In the spirit of the season, all the leftover barbecue and buns and a few other items went to the soup kitchen in Lexington Park, where it was served for lunch the Thursday before Christmas.

We put out a couple stockings for Darren and Audrey, the children of Betsy's aide (who was tragically killed just before Thanksgiving). We had several nice and touching additions to their stockings, including an autographed copy of a children's book authored and illustrated by Jen Seidel! They were delivered before Christmas and I'm sure were well received. Thanks to the big-hearted CRABS!

Finally, Santa got Steve Whetstone a TL125: maybe an all-CRABS beginner team will be at the Budd's Creek Trials this spring?

SHIRT/STICKER/BANNER UPDATE

I have gotten exactly NOWHERE with this, but not for lack of trying. Back in September, Jen got a quote for an order of 95 T-shirts, but they elected not to save the screens from last time, return phone calls, or return emails regarding long sleeve shirts or sweatshirts, so we've not gone forward and I will seek another vendor.

As for the club banner and the stickers, I met with a person in Leonardtown on two occasions, but after repeated promises to have the banner done, she did not deliver. She broke three appointments, leaving me staring at a locked door at her shop twice and conversing with her sister once. Needless to say, I phoned her to say "forget it" and didn't pursue getting stickers from her either. SO, please bear with me while I seek reputable businesses for these tasks. If anyone has a recommendation, please let me know.

DC MOTORCYCLE SHOW

Washington Convention Center, Halls D and E

Friday 14 January 4-9PM

Saturday 15 January 10Am-9 PM

Sunday 16 January 10AM-5PM

I will probably be at the Ride to Work booth on Friday from 4PM until ?. My recommendation is to park at the Branch Avenue Metro station (free on weekends) and ride the train to the convention center. Let me know if you want more info.

VINTAGE SWAP MEET, YORK, PA

Potomac Vintage Riders is having a swap meet on Sunday 16 January at the York Fairgrounds in York, PA. Several folks are attending. Contact the CRABITATOR if you want to go.

NEW YEAR'S WISHES FOR MOTORCYCLISTS

- 1) A device that causes a four-wheeled vehicle's engine to stop should a cell phone call be answered or placed from within the vehicle.
- 2) The following mandatory classes for drivers:
 - a) Mirror usage 101: They're Not Just for Makeup Any More
 - b) Turn Signals 101: It's NOT just the Cruise Control Support Post
 - c) Following Distance 101: An Inch is Not Enough
 - d) The Social Perils of Left Lane Lingering (Sociology 600)
 - e) Defensive Driving Does Not Mean Screaming at Your Kids

- f) Motorcyclists Matter (and Some Are Really Big Mean People With Weapons) 101
- g) Highway Hysteria: How Not to Drive Like Every OTHER A**hole Out There (Prereq to Psych 202, Anger Management)
- 3) An accurate weather channel.
- 4) A motorcycle with enough power sockets for the stuff we use.
- 5) A non-German dealer with 1/10th the customer service of BMW.
- 6) Free tolls for motorcyclists.
- 7) Year-round riding gear that isn't: too hot, too cold, too stiff, too hard to put on, too much like a spacesuit, too much like Marlon Brando's jacket in "The Wild Ones" etc etc
- 8) An accident-free year in which you and your loved ones participate in motorcycling with the greatest enjoyment.

HAPPY 2005!

PICTURE OF THE MONTH



CHARLES DARWIN, WHERE ARE YOU WHEN WE NEED YOU?