

Southern Maryland DIRT RIDERS Club, Inc.

P.O. Box 1602, Waldorf, MD 20604

301-782-7633



February 2003 P.O. Box 1602

Waldorf, MD. 20604

Volume 2 Issue 2003 Ride Line 301.782.7633

From The Presidents Desk

“Get Ready To RIDE!”

By Griff Drew

It is the end of January, and we are already planning to hop on the bike. The Francis Marion ride is only a couple of weeks away, and it seems like I haven't managed to accomplish one thing to get the bike ready.

Fair weather riders often store their bikes in winter, but why wait until a sunny day to get it ready to go when there's time during the winter months to prepare for riding season, no matter what day or month it is. Here are seven tips to help prepare for those first great riding days ahead of time, instead of waiting until the last minute...or until it's too late.

1. Maintenance: The more you take care of now, the better off you'll be. Having your bike all set to go before the start of the season is a beautiful thing.

Carburetor Cleanup Time – If you had your bike sitting inside most of winter, it's a good idea to remove the

carburetor and clean it out. Over time, fuel will turn to a turpentine residue and can gunk up the carburetion. If you neglect to do this you may end up fouling your fuel system and plugs.

Bearings – Take the time to remove your wheels and swing arm. Clean everything up and pack the bearings full of grease. If you search for aftermarket parts, you can even replace the bearings now at a reasonable price instead of waiting for them to wear out. Make sure to inspect the seals as well. There is no sense in spending money on bearings if the seals just let in water.

Tires – If you foresee needing new tires this season, why not now? Instead of waiting until later, beat the rush and scoop up the available inventory.

Clean It Up – If you are like me, you probably have one or two bikes

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Activities Schedule for February & March

Feb. 12- Club Meeting at SMECO “Specialty Tools” Members can bring tools to show/share or just see what is out there.

Feb. 14-17- Francis Marion Na-

tional Forest: Away Ride

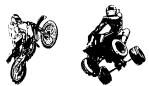
March 1- DeMarr Rd, MX and Trail

March 9- Budds Creek Mx and Trail SMDR Only

March 15- DeMarr Rd, MX and Trail

Note: Please call the Rideline for the latest information

Next Meeting: February 12, 2003 - SMECO, Topic: “Specialty Tools”



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that have not had a good disassemble for cleaning for a long time. Heck, I have two bikes in the garage that are covered in mud! Now is the best time to take off that tank and plastic to do a good cleaning.

Upgrade your Wardrobe: If you only have one set of riding gear and it is looking a little past its prime, take the time to visit the local dealers or major vendors on the web. The off-season is the best time to get great deals. The new 2003 gear is out, and vendors are looking to sell off the 2002 lines as quickly as they can. Most of our local dealers always have a rack of clearance clothing. Try to find some new gear now, not when you have destroyed that last jersey.

3. Finish Up Off-Season Projects: Were you thinking of taking care of a few things during your off-season riding time? Now's a great time to finish them up. A few that come to mind are:

Top End Rebuild – Yep, you have to do this on a four-stroke too.

Fork and Shock Maintenance – You can at least change the oil in the forks, but an evaluation of your riding skills and weight is also a good idea for selecting new springs.

New Chain and Sprockets – This one is obvious to see, but often overlooked.

New Clutch Plates – The most

abused item on a dirt bike; they wear slowly, but you will be surprised what a difference new friction plates will make.

New Control Cables – Do you want the easiest way to a lighter clutch pull? Try a new cable. You can even splurge for a Teflon coated cable.

4. Plan The Big One: Will it be an away ride to Hatfield and McCoy in WV, or a trip to Baja? Start looking at your options now and find out more about your destination of choice. Chances are, someone in SMDR has been there before. If not, there will be a whole list of people that will want to go along!

5. Review the Calendar: The SMDR calendar is in this newsletter. Use it to plan your weekend rides or know when club meetings are. Use it to select your workday NOW. That will save the entire club a bunch of hassle. If you have a question about an event that you have never been to, ask another member about it. You may want to try it this year.

6. Buy a New or Used Bike, or Sell One of Yours: The off-season is a great time to buy a new or used bike. The demand is low and there are many good deals. Remember to look at the SMDR classifieds and see what is available.

7. Get Your Docs All In A Row: There is a certain amount of paperwork that should be in order whenever you ride.

Health Insurance – Have this handy and available in case you get

hurt. Make sure you can keep a copy on you for long rides. Know what your insurance covers BEFORE you get hurt. You can't change your coverage after you need to make a claim, so do it now.

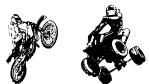
Power of Attorney or Guardianship – With many families coming together in a variety of ways, it is important to ensure you have the ability to care for the children in your care. It is not enough to have them living in the same household if you don't have legal custody. Make sure you know what rights you have. Create a Guardianship document and have it notarized with the signature of the child's custodian. Keep a copy in all cars, in your wallet, and in your riding gear. This is mandatory for all SMDR rides.

Insurance – This is a topic that we constantly talk about. Your homeowner's will NOT cover your bikes if they are stolen. Insurance is not expensive and worth having if your bikes are taken.

Well, I am still working on the Schedule, but we have the dates for Budd's Creek and a new track and trail system, Tomahawk.

Hope to see you on the trail soon!

Griff



SMDR's Meeting Schedule

Our monthly general meeting will be back at the SMECO building in White Plains, Maryland (across from Atlantic Cycle) from 7:00 PM to 9:30 PM. Please remember, no food or drinks are allowed in the meeting hall at SMECO.

1. February 12, 2003-SMECO
Topic: Specialty Tools.
2. March 12, 2003-SMECO
Workday Sign Up
3. April 9, 2003-SMECO
4. May 14, 2003-SMECO
5. June 11, 2003-SMECO

January 8, 2003 Meeting Minutes

By John Andrews

Our meeting for the month of January was held at SMECO and began promptly at seven o'clock. Our new vice president, **Mark Adams**, began by speaking about all of the past month's events the club was involved in. He spoke of the Christmas party, that was a success and he thanked all the members who attended to make it a great club function. All of the charitable functions the club was involved in were also a great success, such as Toys-For-Tots, and the two other Santa escorted functions, one at Chaney's and the other at the Blue Dog.

In the past month the District 7 Planning Meeting was held.

Griff Drew, our President, and **Mark**, our Vice President, were in attendance at the meeting. This allowed them to get the dates set for running this year's point race at Budds Creek. Mark mentioned that the owner of Seaford was not in attendance to schedule any District 7 races. Hopefully we can keep a relationship with him for rides, because when he needs workers we will be ready and willing to work for the use of such a fine track.

A Hare Scrambles race was mentioned at the meeting on a newly laid out course in King George, VA. The race is to be held in August on the 31st. Anyone wanting information contact fellow club member **Ray Gamache**.

Our next meeting will be held at the SMECO building in Waldorf on February the 12th at seven o'clock. A reminder Demarr Rd will be closed the month of January for trail remarking. Also, the waiting list is currently closed until further notice due to renewal process.

Francis Marion

Feb 14th thru Feb 17th

The annual Francis Marion trip over the President's Day weekend in February is on again. Last year was a great success and had a huge turn-out. There were over 20 dirt bikes in camp. If you have never gone on an Away Ride, this is the trip. The temperatures will be in the 50s and there is plenty to talk about around the campfire. All you need is a tent and some camping gear to come on down. There are several old pros at the camp that will help you get comfortable.

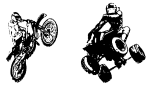
While the whoops last year were much larger than I have seen in the past, this year promises to be excellent. The trail maintenance crew just groomed the trails last fall, so hopefully the sand trails will be smooth. The plan is to leave on Thursday night or Friday morning Feb 14th and return on Presidents' Day the 17th. But anytime you can make it that weekend will guarantee a good time.

We will be staying at the Honey Hill campground, as usual. There is a trail that links the campground to the riding area, so you can ride straight out of the camp to the trails. We did have some people that ventured off the designated trail last year only to end up with \$100 fines for riding in restricted areas. Therefore, it is recommended that everyone stay on trails that are marked trails. Directions and more information are on the web site, or contact Griff Drew at 301-627-1608.

A Special Thanks

The Club would like to give a special thanks to GENE VETERE. Since around 1995 Gene has been an integral part of the club Newsletter process. Every month he has donated his time to fold, tape and attach the mailing label to the newsletter. With the new mailing process we have with the post office we can upload the newsletter file and address list via the Internet and it is automatically printed and mailed. I'm sure Gene won't mind "not" doing this every

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month but we want him to know we really appreciated all the work he has done over the years to keep the newsletter coming out every month.

Thanks again Gene!!!

Membership Renewal

The renewals for this year are currently being processed. The next newsletter should show an updated dues date if you have sent in your money and renewal form. Any renewal forms that have insufficient funds or sign up for the wrong chapter (SDMR instead of LPC) will be returned.

Classified Ads

1996 Kawasaki KX 60, excellent condition, well maintained, ridden very little, \$1095, contact Steve @ (301) 498-8920 or Hestjo@aol.com.

1998 Kawasaki kx 100. Brand new factory effex graphics, twin air filter, brand new front and back tires, Renthal bars and sprockets, and Moose muffler packing. \$1,900 OBO 301-464-9535. or shweet13@hotmail.com.

1999 Kawasaki KX 250 senior rider, excellent condition, new graphics, new rings, new rear pivot bearings, o-ring chain, Uni air filter, extra parts \$2795, contact Steve (301) 498-8920 or Hestjo@aol.com

1999 Yamaha YZ400F, Excellent condition, aluminum subframe, new pegs, Tag triple clamp and aluminum bars, new brakes, gripper seat cover, extra plastic, shock and forks recently

serviced, all bearings and linkages kept well lubed, new front tire, nice graphics, senior ridden, \$3100 obo, ask for Gery, 301-934-0202.

1999 KTM 65 SX Very Fast Lot Of New Parts Well Maintained \$1600 Or Best Offer David Russell 301-638-2233 or hogrus@olg.com

2000 TTR225L Yamaha--VERY CLEAN, great condition \$1,800.00. Contact Nancy or Billy at (301) 399-1930 or (301) 934-3234

2001 Yamaha TTR 250, 1100 miles, well maintained, Yamaha extended warranty until March 2004, White Brothers Exhaust, K&N Air Filter, Works Connection Skid Plate \$3450.00 OBO. Contact Ronnie H-301-292-0663 W-301-839-8453 or rcopeland@nrifcu.org

PRE>2001 CR 125 very clean, well maintained, new top end and tires, Hinson clutch basket, Pro circuit pipe and silencer, V-force reeds, Renthal bars, skid plate, alum. throttle tube, extra air filters and plastic, Bumpsticks suspension and motor work, lots of extra parts, giving up the sport, nice bike! \$3200 obo 240-417-4995 or e-mail blkdg6@aol.com

2001 Raptor black and white with skid plates, shock guards, and a new aftermarket exhaust (never used). Ridden 10 times. \$4800 Scott @ **301-814-0120** or scott.stafford@andrews.af.mil

2002 Yamaha WR 250F, excellent condition, Uni air filter, DR. D exhaust, works connection skid plate and other misc. items. Well maintained \$4600.00 OBO. Contact Ronnie H-301-292-0663 W-301-839-8453 or rcopeland@nrifcu.org

2002 CRF 450 Honda--VERY CLEAN, great condition \$5,200.00. Contact Nancy or Billy at (301) 399-

1930 or (301) 934-3234

O'Neil Boots Size 7- great condition \$75.00. Contact Nancy or Billy at (301) 399-1930 or (301) 934-3234

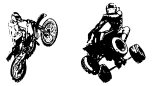
Fork Seals for 89-90 CR500, might also fit other years. I have three OEM "kits", each contain one dust seal and one oil seal. Best off. Rob Gallant 301-227-4906.

2000 Utility Trailer, 8' x 5, tilt bed, railing and normal size tires, \$800.00.

Dirt Bike front wheel lock-down stand. Replaces the need for tie downs. Can be used on a fully inflated tire or one that is flat, \$50.00. **FOX boots** (tracker) size 11, great cond, \$80.00. **HJC helmet** size XXX, mainly green, great cond, \$80.00. **No Fear pants** size 36, red, excellent cond, \$50.00. Ask for Ed (gone fish'n) 301-396-3876 or ekaplin@netzero.com

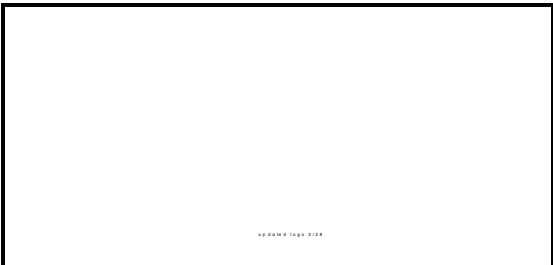
Professional Track Building and Design by Billy Schlag at (301) 399-1930 or (301) 934-3234

Please note that your ads will be published for approx 3 newsletters. Please e-mail any changes or cancellations to Barry Howard (barry383@comcast.net)



SMDR's Ride/Activities Schedule February thru July 2003

Month	Date	Location	Type	Day
February	12	SMECO Building - Specialty Tools	Meeting	Wed
	14-17	Francis Marion National Forest	Trail only	Fri - Mon
March	1	DeMarr Road	MX & Trail	Sat
	9	Budds Creek	MX & Trail	Sun
	12	SMECO Building - Workday Signup	Meeting	Wed
	15	DeMarr Road	LPC Workday	Sat
	22	Budds Creek	MX & Trail	Sat
	23	DeMarr Road	MX & Trail	Sun
	29	DeMarr Road	MX & Trail	Sat
	30	Happy Ramblers Workday	WORKDAY	Sun
April	6	DeMarr Road	MX & Trail	Sun
	6	Tomahawk MX	MX & Trail	Sun
	9	SMECO Building	Meeting	Wed
	12	Budds Creek	MX & Trail	Sat
	13	DeMarr Road	MX & Trail	Sun
	19	DeMarr Road	LPC Workday	Sat
		Christmas In April-Charity Charity		Sat
	26	DeMarr Road	MX & Trail	Sat
May	27	Tomahawk MX (Expert)	WORKDAY	Sun
	4	DeMarr Road	MX & Trail	Sun
	4	Tomahawk MX	MX & Trail	Sun
	10	DeMarr Road	MX & Trail	Sat
	14	SMECO Building	Meeting	Wed
	17	DeMarr Road	LPC Workday	Sat
	18	Budds Creek	MX & Trail	Sun
	23-26	Altoona	Trail only	Fri - Mon
	24	DeMarr Road - Picnic	MX & Trail	Sat
	24	DeMarr Road - Picnic	MX & Trail	Sun
June	1	DeMarr Road	MX & Trail	Sun
	1	Tomahawk MX	MX & Trail	Sun
	7	Budds Creek	MX & Trail	Sat
	8	DeMarr Road	MX & Trail	Sun
	11	SMECO Building	Meeting	Wed
	13-15	Budds Creek WorkDay	WORKDAY	Fri,Sat&Sun
	21	DeMarr Road	MX & Trail	Sat
	29	DeMarr Road	MX & Trail	Sun
	July	1-6	Hatfield and McCoy WV	Trail only
5		DeMarr Road	MX & Trail	Sat
9		SMECO Building	Meeting	Wed
13		DeMarr Road	MX & Trail	Sun
13		Proposed - Tomahawk MX (Divisional)	WORKDAY	Sun
20		DeMarr Road	LPC Workday	Sun
26		DeMarr Road	MX & Trail	Sat
27		Budds Creek WorkDay	WORKDAY	Sun

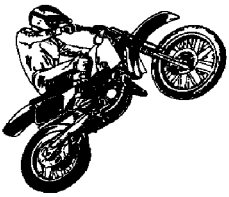


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TREAD LIGHTLY on Public & Private Land