

# Notes on Spokes

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John Gott, landowner of Bull Creek Ranch, gets chased by Bob Fuerst (me) on the single track at the Hillbilly GP at Bull Creek Ranch.

Now, if we added up the age of both riders, with the numbers of years of dirt biking, well my calculator does handle number that big!

# TID BITS

It's the start of the new year. It's hard to believe this begins the eleventh year of the newsletter. Randy Presthus started the newsletter and put it out for the first three years. I've done it ever since.

I want to thank all the advertisers: without them this newsletter would not be possible. So support them. I especially want to thank the folks that advertise here that don't sell things for dirt bikes. They advertise here because they like dirt bikes.

As far as my plans for this year go, they will be about the same as the past few years. I plan on hitting a few Enduros, a few Missouri Hare Scramble Championship races. *I've got to be at the OMTRA race at Bull Creek on April 23rd and 24th. I'm the trail boss!* My friend Elston plans on racing some of the Arkansas Hare Scrambles. I might just have to follow him down and race a couple of those. Plus, I've got two trips to Colorado planned. There is an OMTRA family-based trip the week of July 16th and the Colorado 500 the week of August 21st.

It's also time to think about the new year. If you race, cross country / hare scramble circuits are about to start in every state and the Black Jack Enduro circuit kicks off in March for those of you that want to ride enduros.

The Hillbilly GP circuit is about to wind up. It's neat that south-

west Missouri has its very own series. It's a great way to get out of the house during the winter. I'm surprised other areas don't have something like this. I know folks travel from Oklahoma, Arkansas and Kansas to ride it. I even remember the time a family drove from Indiana to ride one. The power of the Internet. Speaking of the Hillbilly GP series, it's got one of the best Internet forums anywhere.

Off to a different subject, did you read the article in the Springfield newspaper about Donna Moore winning the Women's class in the MHSC series? If you haven't, there is a link to it on the Hillbilly GP website. It is so neat to read about dirt bike stuff in the mainstream press. Good Job, Donna.

New subject: my wife, Linda, is one tough lady. She spent 12 days in the hospital. It included surgery and six days with a tube up her nose, down her throat and into her stomach. I want to thank all the folks that helped out, visited, sent cards, or flowers or balloons. Oh yeah, Linda is going to be OK. It's gonna be a few more weeks before she's ready to hop on her TTR.

I'll see you on the trail.

Bob

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# HBGP Bull Creek Ranch

The fourth race of the Hillbilly GP season was held on December 12, at Bull Creek Ranch. About 120 riders participated in the motorcycle classes. The course used some of the trails used in October's Hardwood enduro. At six miles in length, it was one of the longest of the Hillbilly series.

Much of the ATV and motorcycle courses were separate. The course started out with approximately half a mile of grass track before the trail hit the woods. The first time around, the motorcycle trail would follow the ATV trail to avoid a bottleneck. On subsequent laps, the motorcycles would turn right and go up an off-camber trail.

About half way around the loop, the trails split and the bikes followed the first half of the first special test used in the Hardwood Enduro. Then, the course split off the enduro trail. Spud and Chili cut some new trail leading to the grass track to finish up the loop.

In fact, due to the length of the course and the fact that December 12<sup>th</sup> is almost the shortest day of the year, the Pee Wee race held after the second ATV race finished at dark and trophy presentation was held after dark.

In the Pro class, it was Caleb Wohletz winning both motos. Steve Leivan kept Caleb honest. Steve was only 5 seconds behind at the end of the first moto.

Allen Haynes won the A Class with two first place finishes. Not only did Allen win, but he was sponsored for the day. He was riding Terry Brumley's KTM with a Reclus auto-clutch. He like the auto-clutch so much, he had one in his own bike a week later. Kreg Simons and Bart Williams fought for second place with each getting a second and a third. Kreg got second for the day by beating Bart in the second tie-breaking moto.

In the B Class, Toby Atkins and Steve Drewlo duled for the  
*(Continued on page 4)*



**Team KTM made a showing at Bull Creek. They brought the truck and demo rides. It was best to show up on Saturday to ride a demo. Karl Harris was ate up with the 125SX.**

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**D.A. Spickard about half way around the loop.**

*(Continued from page 3)*

overall in class. In the first moto, it was Toby and Steve. It reversed in the second moto, giving Steve the win for the day. Shane Martin finished third in both motos for third in class.

Chris Thomas and David Ross swapped finishing positions in



**The pee wee races are a lot of fun as the motorcycles take off.**

the C Class. With David winning the second moto, he got the win for the day. Kale Chronister finished third with a fifth and a third.

Derrick Porter won both motos to take the win in the over 30

class. Matt Ellerman finished second in both motos for second overall. Greg Simkins with a third and fifth got third overall.

In the 40+, riders were very consistent with Mike Herbert, Kevin Henslee and Malcolm Wood finishing first, second and third in both motos.

Thomas Siler won both motos to win the Trailrider Class. Ryan Hodge with a second and third picked up second place. Michael Cannon, fourth in the first moto and second in the second moto, wrapped up third.

Kole Henslee, Austin Butler and Sam Davis finished one, two three in both motos to finish in the same order for the day.



**Here's Kevin Henslee. Considering how clean Kevin is, I think this is the first lap of the first moto. Kevin was lucky to finish the moto: about half way around on his last lap, he got a rock caught in his chain and lost a couple of teeth on his counter shaft sprocket. Which led to more teeth lost. By the end of the lap, all the teeth were gone and the chain and sprocket were making a horrible noise.**

**A big thanks to Shawn Hall for taking the pictures. That's his wife Kim in the background. Are you awake, Kim?**


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# HBGP Cassville

By Bob Fuerst

The fifth Hillbilly Gran Prix of 2004-2005 was held at the Dunfee Ranch outside Cassville, MO. There was so much rain leading up to the race, everyone was concerned that the race would be a swamp. But, no, Chili Roberts, Spud's number one trail bitch, assured everyone that the place drained like a toilet. In this case, Chili was right. The only place it got a little sloppy was the parking area. It was nice to have a 4WD truck getting in and out of there.

Not only did the trail hold up well, but the weather was again perfect for the race. It was January 9<sup>th</sup>. It was sunny and 60 degrees.

The start area is a little short for this race. The pro class only had about 10 yards before they had to make a 180 degree right hand turn around a cedar tree, and with all those exposed roots, you didn't take the inside line. It was sure to take out your front tire.

The all 62 ATVs and 93 motorcycles shared the same course for this race, but not at the same time. As usual, the bikes ran a 45 minute moto, then the ATVs ran a 45 minute moto and then they repeated. The pee wees followed. There was a big pee wee turn out, about a dozen bikes and another dozen ATVs.

The course consisted of lots of rocks, creeks with rocks, creeks with ledges (big rocks), rocky uphill, rocky downhill, rocky off-camber hills with roots (for a little variety) and there was a section with whoops and jumps. All in all, it was a pretty fast course, about 4 miles in length.

Turnout for the Pro class was a little light for this race. Only five riders signed up for the class. All of the prior races have had more than 10 riders in class. Aaron Shaw won both motos to take the overall. Shane Roberts and Zack Bryant swapped the next two positions with Shane winning the final tie-breaking moto for second for the day.

Eight riders entered the A Class. Bart Williams and Travis Pilant would swap positions in the two motos with Bart winning the second moto, he won the class for the day. Bart had a good

second moto coming in almost two minutes ahead of Travis. Steve Underwood with two third place finishes got third in class.

Zack Neill took both motos to win the overall in the B Class. Shane Martin finished second in both motos, finishing second for the day. Chris Goodall, in his second race since coming out of retirement, finished fourth and third for a third in the B Class.

12 riders entered the 30+ class. Matt Ellerman took the win with a first in the first moto and a second in the second moto. Todd Mallow won the second moto and took fourth in the first moto, good enough for second overall. Scott Gragg used a second and fourth to get third overall.

It was Mike Herbert, Malcolm Wood and Kevin Henslee heading thing up again in the 40+ class, finishing in that order in both motos. Mike must have really been hauling to take the first moto by three minutes!

The deck got shuffled in the C Class. David Ross was the most consistent with a third and first to take the win. Dustin McLeod with a second and fourth picked up second for the day. And Jordan "Crash" Whitmer with a fifth and third finished third for the day.

Ryan Hodge, Keith Williams and J.R. Richardson finished in both motos in that order in the Trailrider class.

It was Kole Henslee winning both motos to win the Youth class. Second went to Quinten Tinsley with a fifth and second. Zac Freeman with two fourth place finishes finished third on the day.

*A person little story about the race. In the first moto, when I came through for the third time, my class was on the board, but the next class was not. I knew I was within 30 seconds of taking another lap. It turns out I needed to complete three laps 24 seconds quicker. In the second moto, I came through at the end of the third lap and my good buddies Dale Willis and Greg Lowe were laughing their butts off. I was seven seconds too quick and had to ride a fourth lap. It turned out to be the most fun lap of the day, traffic had thinned. The lines had set up with the bigger rocks kicked out of them. It was fun.*



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**Billy Johnson, Malcolm Wood and Don Herndon in front of the newly cleaned out area.**



**Here's part of the crew at work, from left to right, Judy Willis, Nick Stine, Shawn Hall, Bob Fuerst, Dale Willis (showing his best side) and Karl Harris. Look at that — t-shirts on January 1st!**

January 1, 2005  
Bull Creek Ranch

Over a dozen hardy folks showed up on New Year's Day to do some cleanup around the camping area at Bull Creek Ranch. John Gott, the owner of the ranch, thought there was a beautiful bluff hidden behind all the brush to the left of the drive as you drive onto the property.

He was right as the brush was quickly moved away to expose the moss-covered rocks. The weather cooperated again. For either cutting brush or riding motorcycles, the weather was perfect. The crew cut brush for half the day and rode the other half. The riding was great!

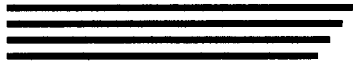
The club had purchased way too much food for the Christmas party and with the leftovers stored away in John's freezer, it was party time again. It was a pretty quiet party, actually. *Why does Karl only get crazy the night before an enduro?* Only a few of us camped; being the middle of winter, most folks were not expecting weather this mild and were not prepared to camp. However, quite a few folks showed up on Sunday for more riding.

Now, we need to schedule a couple more clean up days, as we are only about one third completed.



**Here's one of the brush piles getting started. We ended up with three big brush piles. They were too wet to burn! But that did keep Karl and Elston from trying.**

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# TOYS FOR TOTS

The weather turned cold for the annual Surdyke Motorsports - Toys for Tots race on December 19<sup>th</sup>. As usual, it was held at Possum Hollow Raceway. With only thirty riders showing up, the format was changed. Instead of running two motos for the experienced riders and one for the beginners, everyone ran one 1.5 hour race with a Pee Wee race following.

With only a two mile loop, riders circulated quickly. Of course, the real winners were the kids. Toby Atkins was moving real good to take the first place trophy.

Speaking of trophies, Jon and Lesa Simons of Possum Hollow Awards donated the trophies again this year.

Now, there were a lot more then 30 toys donated to the kids. With the race so close to Christmas, a lot folks had conflicts but still donated a toy. Plus, there were about a dozen or so wimps, er, I mean workers, at the race who also brought toys.

Here's a list of the riders who braved the cold for the kids; Aaron Williams, Garrett Essary, Austin Phillips, Mike Wells, Karl Harris, Spud, Bart Williams, Zach Neill, Zach Bryant, Nick Bryant, Michael Spickard, Albert Lee, Steve Criner, Jordan Whitmer, Elston Moore, Chris Goodall, Michael Cannon, Scott Frazier, Jordan Frazier, Brook Frazier, Shane Martin, Phillip Meckem, Mark Hunter, Derek Hunter, Toby Atkins, Steve Wilson and Kole Henslee.

Thanks again.



Jim, Josh, & Gabe Cook  
Sam Robertson



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# Work Cart

By Bob Fuerst

Ok, this section reminds me of the do-it-yourself section of my dad's old Popular Mechanics magazine from when I was a kid. But 90% of the work I do on my bike uses the same tools. And they were always somewhere else. I thought there had to be a better way. I looked in the hardware section of quite a few stores, but couldn't find what I was looking for.

I finally found this cart in the housewares section of a Target. It's designed for using with your clothes washer. It's supposed to be twice as high. It came with another set of poles for the corners.

The tray shown in picture 1 was actually a slide out basket. I cut and bent all the wires to hold a board to make the tray. I drilled holes and glued dowels to hold sockets. I need a little more work to hold a few more tools in place.

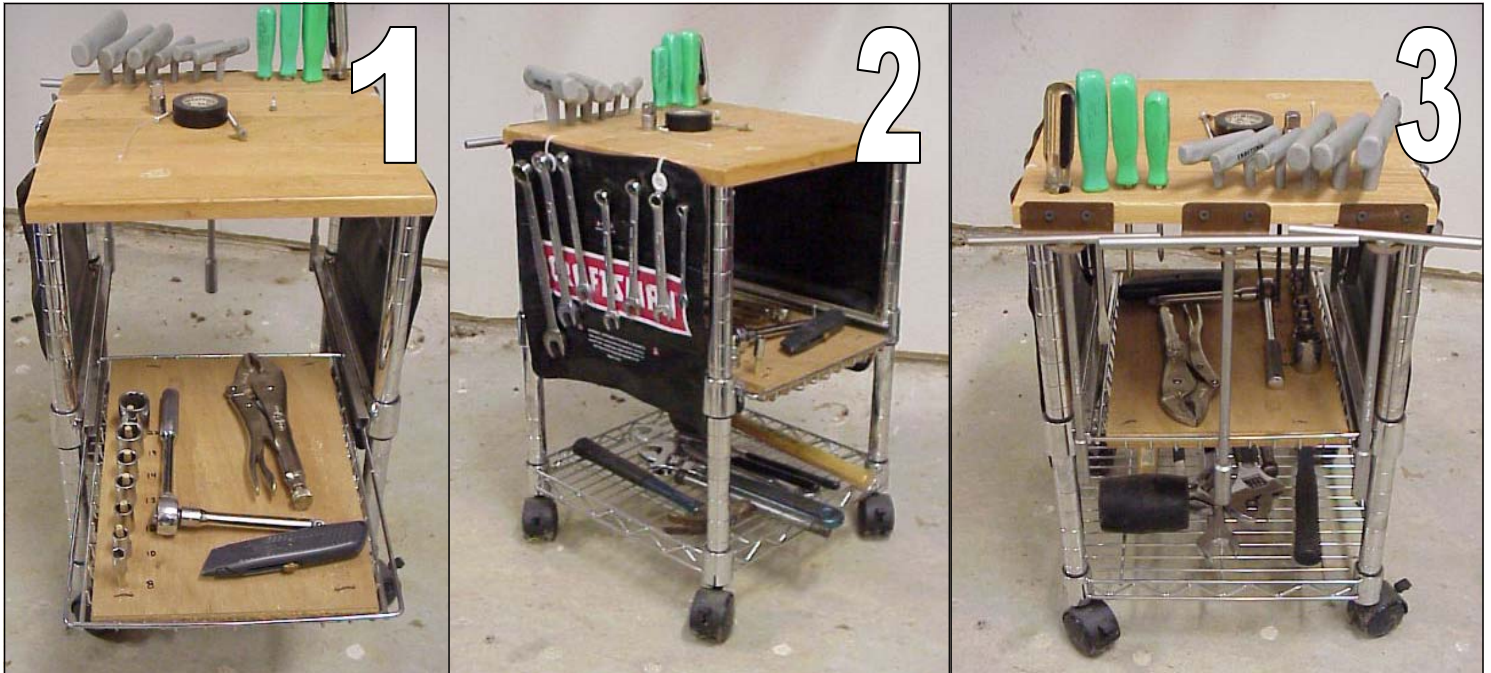
In picture 2, you can see the magnetic mat that I got from Sears. I put one on each side. On one side I put all box wrenches. On the other went the pliers and cutters.

I drilled holes along the top edge for t-handle allen wrenches and screw drivers. On the back edge, I made some brackets to hold my t-handle sockets.

The cart came with a non-moveable tray that I use to hold some of the bigger tools.

It's also got wheels. So I can role it around the bike with me. I put the smaller parts that come off the bike on the top tray so I don't lose them.

Ok, I know this article is pretty cheesy. But I did fill up a page.



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# OMTRA Stuff

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*I attended the meeting below. I noticed Shawn typed up the notes from the meeting. He did a good job. So, rather than typing them up myself, I thought I would borrow Shawn's. Thanks.*

To: All OMTRA Members

This is to inform you about some actions that were taken on behalf of the club. With the resignation of Karl Harris (president), Brian Sharp (vice president) and Tim Gollier (treasurer), it has become urgent that we establish new leadership in the club. The remaining Board of Directors of the club decided to create a committee to nominate a new President, Vice President and Treasurer as well as develop a short term plan for some other items of urgent need. It is our hope that the rest of the membership of the OMTRA understands that this move was needed to address some critical issues now rather than waiting the weeks until the next general meeting.

Karl, Brian and Tim all stepped down for personal reasons unrelated to the club. Each of them has served the club for a year and a half and their efforts are sincerely appreciated.

The remaining board members developed a list of other people that have been active in the club for a long period of time and are willing to step up into a position of responsibility. We asked those members to be part of this Steering Committee.

We have nominated Kevin Henslee, Shane Martin and Mike Davis to take over as President, Vice President and Treasurer. It is the hope of the board that this nomination will be confirmed at the next general meeting to be held on February 17. Location TBD. These positions are interim and will end after the annual elections in July.

The urgent items that need to be addressed are the 1. The Bull Creek riding area 2. The MHSC race on April 23rd and 24th. I have nominated myself as the Event Chairman for the MHSC event and Bob has stepped up to be Trail Boss. We will both need your help, so come to the next meeting ready to raise your hand and volunteer.

If any of you have any concerns, let me know.

Shawn Hall

OMTRA Meeting  
Check out [www.hillbillygp.com](http://www.hillbillygp.com)



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# Mark Your Calendar

**OMTRA meeting**—Check [www.hillbillygp.com](http://www.hillbillygp.com) for the date and location of the next meeting

## 2005 BJEC Schedule

[www.BlackJackEnduro.com](http://www.BlackJackEnduro.com)

- 3/20/05 – White Rock, Combs, AR
- 4/3/05 – Cajun Classic, Forest Hill, LA
- 4/16-17/05—Gruber Two Day, Braggs, OK
- 5/15/05— Cycleland Park, Nacogdoches, TX
- 5/22/05— Lead Belt National, Park Hills, MO
- 6/12/05— Train Robbers, Bismarck, AR
- 6/26/05— Golden Eagle, Stillwater, OK
- 9/25/05— Indian Nations, Scipio, OK
- 10/9/05— Crosstimbers, Oklahoma City, OK
- 10/23/05— Hardwood, Walnut Shade, MO
- 11/6/05— Red River, Bulcher, TX

## 2004-2005 Hillbilly GP

- 1/23/05 - Hickabilly Hills, Warsaw, MO
- 2/13/05 - Valentines Day Massacre, Ozark, MO

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- 2/26-27/05— Lebanon, ATVs on Sat.
- 3/12-13/05— Sedalia, ATVs on Sat.
- 4/2-3/05— Kahoka, ATVs on Sat.
- 4/23-24/05— Walnut Shade, ATVs on Sat.
- 4/30-5/1/05— Columbia, ATVs on Sat.
- 5/14-15/05 - Westphalia, ATVs on Sat.
- 6/4-5/05— Warsaw, ATVs on Sat.
- 6/18-19/05— Seymour, ATVs on Sat.
- 6/25-26/05— Park Hills, ATVs on Sat.
- 7/2-3/05— Jamestown, ATVs on Sat.
- 7/30-31/05— Florence, ATVs on Sat.
- 8/21/05— Newark, ATVs AND Bikes on SUNDAY
- 9/4/05— Eugene, Bikes Only
- 9/18/05— Bixby, Bikes Only
- 10/02/05 – Smithville, Bikes Only
- 10/15-16/05— Park Hills, ATVs on Sat.

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#### TENTATIVE

- 3/12-13/05— Russellville
- 4/16-17/05— Mtn. Home
- 4/30-5/1/05— Hot Springs
- 5/28-29/05— Spring Rain Date
- 6/18-19/05— Durham
- 7/9-10/05— Brickleys
- 7/30-31/05— Holly Springs
- 8/13-14/05— New Race—Near Conway
- 9/3-4/05— Mayflower
- 9/17-18/05— Osage
- 10/1-2/05— Decatur
- 10/15-16/05— Fall Rain Date
- 10/22-23/05— Ozark
- 11/12-13/05— Goshen
- 11/26-27/05— Fort Smith

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- 2/27/05— WESTMORELAND KS
- 3/13/05— WESTMORELAND KS
- 4/03/05— MERWIN MO
- 4/10/05— WARRENSBURG MO
- 4/24/05— CARBONDALE KS
- 5/1/05— THUNDERHILL TEAM RACE
- 5/22/05— WARRENSBURG MO
- 6/12/05— FT SCOTT
- 6/26/05— FT SCOTT
- 7/24/05— QUENEMO KSGP
- 9/11/05— HAMILTON MO
- 9/25/05— CARBONDALE KS
- 10/9/05— WARRENSBURG MO
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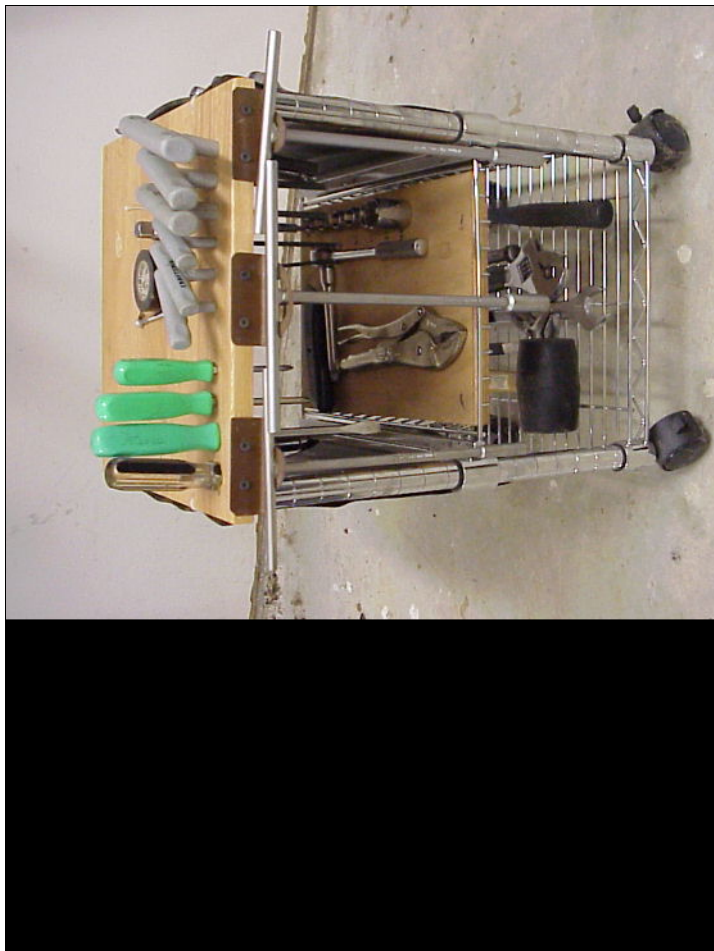
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