

# Notes on Spokes



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AUGUST 2002

This would be Bart Williams at the OMTRA Party. Actually, Bart was one of the first to go to bed Saturday night. It's good Bart's getting a bike. I need the material.

# TID BITS

## HILL BILLY GRAND PRIX SERIES

### ROUND 1

September 15, 2002, Lu's Place, Bolivar

Sponsored by Havens Motorsports

### ROUND 2

October 6, 2002, Hillbilly Highways, Highlandville

Sponsored by Action Cycle

### ROUND 3

November 10, 2002, Dunfee's, Cassville

Sponsored by Pro Cycle

### ROUND 4

December 8, Red Hawk, Aurora

Sponsored by Surdyke Motorsports

### ROUND 5

January 12, 2003, Powell Ranch, Marshfield

Sponsored by Lebanon Suzuki

### ROUND 6

February 9, 2003, Keltner's Place, Spokane

Sponsored by Farmers Cycle

All races count toward series awards. Approximately 30% of class will be awarded plaques.

October 27<sup>th</sup>. This is a bikes only race.

## ISDE Benefit Hare Scramble

Lost Creek Park, Amity Arkansas, August 10 & 11, 2002. All proceeds from this race will go to help send 2002 USA ISDE Team Member Carrol Dickerson to the Czech Republic to compete in the 77<sup>th</sup> Annual International Six Days Enduro. For more information call 870-489-1555.

## OMTRA

The August meeting will be at Buffalo MX Park Saturday August 24. Gates open 4 pm, Ride approximately 6 pm Paramedics & concession stand....Based on 30 riders \$10 donation. This is a private deal for club members and their guests. It is not an open practice to the public. *I sent an e-mail to the new social committee, Mel Gere and Jerry Sharp, to see how things were going with the August meeting. I got a reply saying they were having a lunch meeting to discuss it. It looks like we have a social committee that is not only well on top of our schedule, but is also going to be well fed.*

## MHSC

The Missouri Hare Scramble Championship race scheduled for May 19 at Warrensburg, MO has been re-scheduled for

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# OMTRA 2002

Elsewhere in this newsletter, you will find the official minutes of the July 2002 O M T R A meeting. So I'm not going to cover the same stuff again, too much. On Saturday folks met for the meeting and camping



Overall winners Brian Sharp, left and Dale Willis



Anyway, all riders were split into two groups, putting the faster riders with the slower riders. Not that riding ability helped a whole lot. Here were the rules: riders alternated laps. Between riders

at Steve Underwood's farm. Saturday night after the meeting, conversations went on until well after mid-night. So when Jerry Sharp arrived at 6:30 am and found everyone still asleep, he figured he better find a way to awaken us all and get things rolling. His 6-shooter did the trick. At least he brought donuts.

had to draw a card. They put Aces through Threes in the deck. If you drew an Ace, you had to wait a minute. If you drew a two, you had to wait two minutes. And a three had you waiting three minutes. Unless you drew clubs, then you got to take off immediately and time was subtracted from your overall time.



Nick Stine draws a card at the end of his lap. Robin Beindorf, left, runs the clock while Judy Willis deals the cards.

The laps were 4.2 miles long. About 1.5 miles of that was grass track and the rest is a tight gnarly single track. There aren't any elevation changes to speak of. And just a few weeks before the race the trail was very overgrown. A few of us met at the farm with clippers and Wayne Beindorf's 3-foot walk-behind sickle mower. So the trail was in good shape with a few new sections thrown in.

The race went well, though a few of us had problems. For example, my 280 lb. DRZ managed to pin me between a tree and the bike. I lost two positions before I could free myself. And Tom

*(Continued on page 4)*

(Continued from page 3)



**Contrary to popular belief, Wayne Beindorf does still own a motorcycle. According to Wayne's wife Robin, they had to knock the cobwebs off of it.**

Huber, a St. Louis visitor, was on a borrowed 4-stroke (without the button), stalled the bike and took over ten minutes to restart. By the way, Tom was in town visiting Steve. Both he and Steve are going to the Czech Republic for the ISDE. Tom also suggested a little competition between his club, the Missouri

Mudders, and the Ozark Mountain Trail Riders.

Brian Sharp and Dale Willis won overall that day. The race was over before noon and the bar-b-que was fired up again to cook up some hamburgers. Everyone was packed up and gone pretty early in the afternoon.



**Scott Hall shows us that he can ride a bike.**



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# Racers for Research

By: Frank Leivan  
Park Hills, MO; June 30

The Racers for Research hosted the eighth round of the Missouri Hare Scrambles Championship, the "Flat River Grand Prix", which donated the proceeds from the event to the March of Dimes. Over the course of the weekend, two ATV events, a Poker Run, a vintage motorcycle race, a pee-wee hare scramble, and Sunday's two hour main event helped raise in excess of \$25,000 to help fight birth defects.

Factory Connection/Devol/IMS/Moose/J&W Cycles rider Brandon Forrester made the short, two-mile trip from his home to claim the overall victory, his third of 2002. Forrester got off to a good start and hung around the top few positions all day, ultimately capitalizing on a late race stumble by leader Doug Stone to take over the lead and sprint to the finish.

"I was close enough that I ran into Stone when he killed his bike. I got around him and then I really turned it on," explained Forrester.

A very high-speed 12.6 mile course that consisted of fast sand

whoops, fire roads, two track woods sections, and some virgin single track saw the leaders turning laps in just over 30 minutes, meaning a four-lap race and an average speed of 25.2 mph. Included on the trail was an extremely long, hard-packed, wide-open straightaway that allowed everyone to check for headshake.

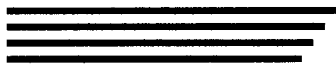
Stone took his fourth consecutive holeshot aboard his Dell's Honda CR250 and held the lead until reaching the "straightaway" just prior to the end of the lap. Local rider Ken Yount and Forrester both went past the former motocrosser to hold down the top two spots while Stone stopped for goggles and slipped back into the pack.

After a back of the pack start, SCR/Yamaha-backed Steve Leivan had ridden his YZ426 into third, just behind the Yount/Forrester duo, at the start of lap two. But the winner of round seven encountered trouble.

"Since the course was so fast, I decided to ride a 426 today. The bike was new and I didn't have it jetted properly, but I was dealing with it all right until I fell over and couldn't get it started. The whole class went by me," a disappointed Leivan explained. Despite losing nearly a minute and half, Leivan fought all the way to the end to finish fourth.

After holding the lead for the first two laps, Yount started to  
(Continued on page 6)

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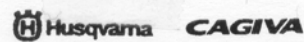
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*(Continued from page 5)*

slip backward during lap three. Forrester took over the lead with Stone 10 seconds behind by lap's end with Chris Nesbitt hot on his heels. Stone was the rider on the move and when he caught Nesbitt, the Kawasaki Team Green rider hitched a ride.

"Stone was really going when he caught me. We reeled in Forrester pretty fast and then it seemed like we slowed down and settled into a pace," Nesbitt said.

While Forrester and Nesbitt opted to stop for fuel going into what turned out to be the last lap, Stone rolled on and into the lead. Forrester got out of the pits close behind with Nesbitt fighting problems with his dry break, but holding third. Another Kawasaki ridden by Ryan Wuebbeling was in fourth with Yount rounding out the top five.

Stone was hard on the gas during the last lap but couldn't shake Forrester. The 17-year-old rider answered Stone's every move and waited for an opportunity. That opportunity came with just a couple of miles left in the race when Stone stalled his engine. From there on Forrester kept the throttle pinned and headed for home. Stone had nothing left for him.

"I was kind of fighting it all day and when he got around me there at the end, I was done. I really let myself down," Stone said.

Although not finishing in the position he had hoped for, Stone still finished second, 16 seconds behind Forrester. Nesbitt took

the final podium position in third, the fifth time he has finished in that spot this season.

Dunlop/Answer/Silkolene/Clarke/UFO-backed Leivan turned the fastest lap of the day on his final trip through the woods moving past Chris Thiele, Yount, and then overtaking Wuebbeling on the "straightaway" to finish fourth. Wuebbeling, who has been running the Saturday ATV event at the GNCC rounds and then driving through the night to participate in the MHSC events, claimed fifth.

Sixth went to Thiele, who suffered an uncharacteristic bad start and had to work his way up all day. He and Leivan got hooked up on lap three and worked their way through the pack. Amazingly, although he finished just outside the top five, Thiele was just a minute and 10 seconds from the leader at the end of two hours. It is obvious that mistakes will be costly in 2002.

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# Newark

*By: Frank Leivan*

*Newark, MO; July 7*

In the closest battle yet during the 2002 Missouri Hare Scrambles Championship, J&W Cycles/Team Green rider Brandon Forrester emerged with the overall victory after a late-race duel with defending series champion SCR/Yamaha's Steve Leivan. The two riders swapped the lead four times during the last lap and when it counted the most, Forrester was in front.

"It was a really fun race. We went back and forth a lot and I wasn't sure that I was going to make it across the creek crossing where I passed him the last time. Luckily, I did," the Moose/Factory Connection/IMS/ M2R/Devol-backed Forrester explained.

Though disappointed with the end result, Leivan realized he was fortunate to still be in contention at the end of the two-hour event. "I lost my front brakes going into the last lap, and I figured that was pretty much it for me. Somehow I was able to stay with him (Forrester), so I figured I would try to pass him near the end so he wouldn't have time to get me back. It almost worked out."

The MHSC was visiting the Newark facility for the first time, and Gary Mittelberg and crew laid out a 9.4-mile course that

featured some of the steepest uphill and downhill sections that the series has ever seen. There were virtually no rocks on the course, but several sandy creek bottoms and ditches kept the riders on their toes in the five-lap affair.

Aaron Shaw nailed the "AA" holeshot on his KTM 300 with Kawasaki riders Chris Thiele, Forrester, and Chris Nesbitt in tight formation. Doug Stone finally failed to get the holeshot, while 2002 ISDE team member Lars Valin got going in sixth. Leivan and CR450F pilot Richie Anderson both suffered two-kick starts and brought up the rear of the pack.

Stone was a casualty of the log-infested course, taking a spill less than a mile into lap one. "I thought I would just wheelie over a little log, but the front end dropped right into it and I went down." Stone toughed out a single lap before calling it a day and later finding out that he had separated his shoulder.

Shaw continued to hold onto the lead position while Leivan was the man on the move. The YZ250F pilot had threaded his way through the pack and into second place by the conclusion of lap one. That wasn't enough for the Dunlop/Answer/Scott/Arai/NGK-backed rider as he took the lead midway into the second lap.

*(Continued on page 8)*

# Buffalo MX

By Bob Fuerst

Steve Underwood, owner of Surduke Motorsports told Will Popejoy, owner of Buffalo MX, that he would be glad to sponsor a race on July 6<sup>th</sup> at Will's track, if there was an enduro class. So the word got out, and all these bikes with bark busters showed up.

It looked like it was going to be a single moto night when a thunderstorm passed south of the track, knocking out the electricity. It was OK for the first moto for all classes. In fact, all the classes had just finished and Will was about to have to make a major decision, when the lights came on!

I had never been to the Buffalo MX motocross track, but I had heard that it is a good track for non-jumpers (me). And it is a safe track, even on a 280 lb 4-stroke with a headlight. (By the way, I did ask that if the electricity didn't come on could we still run the second moto. Since there was only one other bike in the enduro class with a headlight, I might have a chance for a good result.)

The enduro class turned out to be the largest class of the night with 13 riders. Everyone seemed to have a lot of fun. In fact, the Ozark Mountain Trail Riders August meeting will be at the same track.

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*(Continued from page 7)*

Once in the lead, Leivan wasn't able to shake Shaw, so he backed off slightly. By slowing the pace, the Kawasaki contingent of Thiele, Forrester, and Nesbitt quickly worked themselves back into contention.

During the third lap, Shaw suffered a nasty neck/shoulder injury after being clotheslined by a barbed wire fence while negotiating a bottlenecked ditch crossing. The incident brought a premature end to his day.

Forrester was on the gas and had moved up to second, just a couple of seconds behind Leivan. Nesbitt was another three seconds back and stopped for a splash of fuel after lap three, with Thiele holding fourth. These four riders had distanced themselves from the field by nearly six minutes with two laps to go.

The pace increased when Forrester made a slick downhill move on Leivan to take over the lead. Leivan stayed right with him and the two pulled away from the Nesbitt/Thiele battle. Forrester led coming in to take the white flag, but would have to stop for fuel. Leivan knew this and hoped to capitalize.

Just as Leivan was starting to sprint, he hit something in the

sandy creek bed that locked up the front wheel and sent him over the bars. Leivan was quickly up, but by the time he got going, Forrester was right with him. A few seconds later, Leivan realized the damage that had been done as a result of the crash when he was left with no front stoppers.

Forrester was quick to pounce and took over a couple miles into the last lap. A few bobbles and altercations with lapped riders allowed Leivan to stay close and with a mile and a half left in the race, Leivan made a bid for the lead.

While Leivan moved ahead yet again, Forrester hung close and chose a straighter but sketchier line across a rut-infested creek section. Forrester's line proved faster and put him in the lead with a half-mile to go. From that point on, Forrester was error-free and on his way to his fourth victory of the year.

Leivan was a close second with Thiele rounding out the podium. Nesbitt finished fourth while Anthony Meyer won the "A" class and took fifth overall on his YZ250F.





# OMTRA Stuff



The July meeting of the OMTRA was held July 20, 2002 at Steve Underwood's. The afternoon started with some of the members "marking" the course for Sunday's team race. (We know the ones who volunteered just to get an advantage for the race.) The association then provided burgers and hot dogs for dinner. The official business was pretty short and sweet. The officers for the new year are the same as last year with one exception. Sorry, Steve. The 2002 -2003 officers are as follows:

- Chairman - Kevin Henslee
- Co-Chairman - Shawn Hall
- Secretary - Jennifer Callaway
- Treasurers - Kreg and Cindy Simons
- \*Social Chairmen - Mel Gere and Jerry Sharp
- Event Chairmen - Dale Willis and Spud Simons
- Legislative Chairman - Cliff Davis
- Communicaton Chairman - Bob Fuerst.

Many of the members camped out on Saturday night so they wouldn't miss the team race on Sunday. It's easy to say that everyone had a good time. Once again, thanks Steve, for letting us use your property.

By Jennifer Callaway

**The Next OMTRA Meeting:  
Buffalo MX  
August 24  
Gates open at 4 pm.**



## Membership Application

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**Hey, OMTRA Members**  
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# Mark Your Calendar

OMTRA

8/24/02 – Play Day!, Gates Open at 4 pm,  
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- 8/25/02 – Turkey Ridge, Searcy, AR (501) 843-2836
- 9/8/02 – Frog Pond Hare Scramble, Smackover, AR (870) 725-3966, (870)-725-2328, (870) 612-8186
- 9/22/02 – Possum Trot Hare Scramble, Harrison, AR (870) 741-3131
- 10/13/02 – TO BE ANNOUNCED
- 10/27/02 – Ten Bends (888)-844-9440
- 12/1/02 – River Front Grand Prix, Fort Smith, AR (501) 648-1696

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- 9/15/02 – Indian Nations, Gruber, OK, Email: jaingram@earthlink.net
- 10/13/02 – Red River, Muenster, TX (940) 387-8123
- 10/20/02 – Hardwood, Chadwick, MO (417) 581-4046 or (417) 833-6672
- 11/03/02 – Crosstimbers, Oklahoma City, OK (405) 793-1547 or (405) 292-0633

## 2002 Missouri Hare Scramble Championship Schedule

- 8/11/02 – Old Son Racing, Polo, MO (816) 365-5585 – BIKES ONLY
- 8/25/02 – Lake Creek, Sedalia, MO (660) 668-3578
- 9/8/02 – Spare Parts, Eugene, MO (573) 395-4655, (573)348-1157, (573)392-3221 – BIKES ONLY
- 9/22/02 – Smithville Lake, Smithville, MO (913) 856-4015 – BIKES ONLY
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