

THE REBEL YELL

Volume I, Issue II

ACE Mid-Atlantic Region's Official Newsletter

Fall, 2006

Virginia · Maryland · Delaware · Washington D.C.

Fall Thrillfest

October 22, 2006
Paramount's Kings
Dominion

Jeepers It's Winter!

February 25, 2006
Jeepers - Baltimore, MD

FLYERS INSIDE!!!

WHAT'S INSIDE?

NEW COASTER AT BGE!

PKD MEDIA DAY - PAGE 2

CEDAR FAIR PURCHASE -
PAGE 2

AFTER THE CON - PAGE 4

A POEM - PAGE 7

LE MANN'S RACEWAY -
PAGE 8

PKD'S MATH AND SCIENCE
DAY - PAGE 10



Photo courtesy of Busch Gardens Europe



AT BUSCH GARDENS EUROPE

In late Spring 2007, Busch Gardens Europe will debut the **world's first floorless diving coaster!** I had the honor of listening to Donnie Mills, executive vice-president and general manager for Busch Gardens Europe and Water Country USA sharing the details of their new ride for 2007 – Griffon.



Photo by Elizabeth Ringas

The coaster will be situated in the France section of the park, incorporating the theming of a French village that tells the story of a mythical creature – the Griffon, a beast that is half lion and half eagle. Incorporating this dramatic theming with a record breaking coaster, Busch Gardens Europe strives to bring a broader range of riders into the park to ride the best coaster. Riders will enter the station via a bridge from France, a bridge that traverses Griffon! Griffon will be the tallest dive coaster in the world at 205 feet, manufactured by Bollinger & Mabillard of Monthey, Switzerland. The trains will consist of three rows

of 10 riders each featuring floorless stadium-style seating, staggering the seats, so everyone has a perfect view down. Riders will enjoy the 45 degree lift hill diving them next to the sky ride (what a view from the sky ride!) After 3 seconds of looking down from the lift hill, riders will dive at 75 mph under the entrance bridge 20 feet below the surface and through one of two Immelmann loops. An Immelmann diving loop is an inverse diving loop
continued on page 11



Photo courtesy of Busch Gardens Europe

CHECK OUT OUR REGIONAL WEBSITE!

Thanks to Ken Moore the region now has its own website:

www.acemidatlantic.org

I will be posting any information I receive about events in and around our area.

So remember to check back often!

You can also find links to our event flyers and electronic copies of the newsletter.

Media Day at PKD!

Italian Job Turbo Coaster opened with a blast on May 25, 2006. ACers were there to enjoy the grand opening moment when Richard Zimmerman, general manager of Paramount's Kings Dominion barreled in riding in a Mini Cooper driven by one of two stunt drivers present from *The Italian Job* movie.



Photo by Elizabeth Ringas

As exciting as the stunt driving was, ACers from across the region had already had their thrill – having ridden until their heart was content, enjoyed a continental breakfast, and rode some more. Many members provided live feed television interviews, radio interviews, and appeared in newspapers across the mid-atlantic. After a quick break and lunch, the coaster was open and everyone flocked to ride. We then departed, driven through the park in what else, but a Mini Cooper.

As fantastic as Thursday was, a small group of ACE members were invited to return on Friday for a few more rides and some interviews. The best part of Friday, as I have heard over and over was “we got to drive our own car in the park!”



Photo by Elizabeth Ringas

Thank you to Paramount's Kings Dominion and Susan Storey, public relations manager for Paramount's Kings Dominion for inviting ACE to join the Grand Opening of Italian Job Turbo Coaster. Thanks to the ACE members who came out at such an early hour!

I hope this is the first of many events we can assist with in the region!

What was going on behind that new fence at Busch Gardens on July 21, 2006?



Photo by Elizabeth Ringas

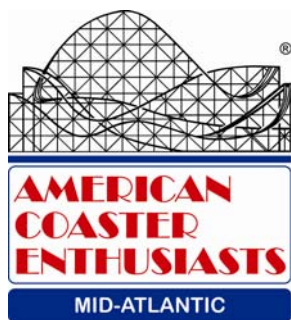


Photo by Elizabeth Ringas

CEDAR FAIR TO BUY PARAMOUNT PARKS

Cedar Fair has purchased the five Paramount parks for \$1.2 billion dollars. The five Paramount parks include Canada's Wonderland near Toronto, Canada, King's Island near Cincinnati, OH, King's Dominion near Richmond, Virginia, Carowinds near Charlotte, NC, and Great America in Santa Clara, CA. The management of Bonfante Gardens in Gillroy, CA and Star Trek: The Experience in Las Vegas is included in the purchase. This acquisition will bring Cedar Fair to the third largest theme-park operator in North America. Walt Disney Co. and Six Flags, Inc are the two largest. According to Dick Kinzel, Cedar Fair's chairman, president, and CEO, “This transaction offers a unique opportunity for us to acquire a world-class asset portfolio. It is not every day that we have the chance to purchase five great family-oriented parks that fit extremely well with our existing parks. This acquisition will provide exciting new growth

Continued Page 9



FALL THRILLFEST

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2006

As the fall air arrives in the Mid-Atlantic Region so will the thrills! What a great year at Paramount's Kings Dominion with the addition of **ITALIAN JOB TURBO COASTER** and for our first annual regional event. We hope you bring lots of screams with an awesome **ERT** and a chance to check out the new **GO-KARTS** at a significant discount! Want to catch a ride on the **Taxi Cab Jam**? No child required today!!! **STILL WANT MORE?**

What do the next few months hold for Paramount's Kings Dominion? What will 2007 bring? Hopefully we will have lots of answers by ride time, but for now we are still thinking of lots more fun!

TENTATIVE ITINERARY

9:00-10:00 CHECK-IN

10:00 ERT ON **ITALIAN JOB TURBO COASTER**

10:30-9:00 **PARAMOUNT'S KINGS DOMINION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

10:45 **GREAT ACE SHOOT-OUT (SCOOPY DOO AND THE HAUNTED MANSION)**

11:30 **PICNIC AND Q&A WITH SUSAN STOREY**

TBD - EXCLUSIVE HAUNT TIME IN FEARFEST ATTRACTION

All this fun (ERT, buffet, and the park) is \$36 for ACE members and \$16 for those possessing a Paramount's Season Pass.

Guests may join the fun for an additional \$5.

The payment of registration fees by, for, or on behalf of participants releases and hold harmless the American Coaster Enthusiasts and its representatives from any and all liabilities related to those activities. Members of ACE are expected to abide by the club's code of conduct at all times during the event and members are responsible for the behavior of their guests.

NOTE: ADVANCE REGISTRATION ONLY – THERE WILL BE NO ON-SITE REGISTRATION.

VOLUNTEER TO HELP WITH CHECK-IN? ☐ YES

YOU MUST REGISTER BY TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10 TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS EVENT!

Name	Address, City, State, Zip	Email address for registration confirmation	ACE # or 'Guest'	\$36 ACE \$41 Guest
Season Pass Discount			# of Passes x \$20=	
			TOTAL FEE:	

NO REFUNDS · NO EXCHANGES · NO RAIN CHECKS

To register, cut out or photocopy this form. Advance registrations must be post-marked by **October 10, 2006**. Personal checks **ONLY** please. **DO NOT SEND CASH**. Make check payable to **Elizabeth Ringas** and send with a completed registration form to:

Elizabeth Ringas ACE Regional Representative 12024 Ivy Hollow Ct Glen Allen, VA 23059

Inclement weather, equipment problems, or other unforeseen circumstances may affect this schedule. However the park will endeavor to provide ride times and the rides listed.

There is no on-site registration, so mark your calendar and send in your form today.

After the Con... By Danny Barnes

For those of you who attended Coaster Con but left Saturday or Sunday, the weather turned sour right after you left! Sunday afternoon was stormy (more than the usual daily 2:30-3:00 thunderstorm in Orlando), and Monday and Tuesday were worse. You're all going to read a lot about Coaster Con in *ACE News* and *Rollercoaster!*, so rather than reinvent the wheel I thought I'd describe the day *after* Coaster Con ended... and how it's possible to visit three Disney parks in 12 hours. With one day left on my Disney Park Hopper ticket, I decided to go back and hit the major attractions one more time, plus a few things I missed. Since check-out time is 11am, that's when this story begins...

11:00am: I left the hotel with the general idea of trying to do as much as possible in the next 12 hours, but with no real plan or schedule. I just made it up as I went along. The FastPass times dictated much of what happened. I headed over to Animal Kingdom and made a bee-line to the Kilimanjaro Safari to get my first FastPass of the day. The return time was 12:30-1:30, and I could get another one at 12:40, so after some lunch I took the Wildlife Express Train to Rafiki's Planet Watch, one of the attractions I had missed earlier. During the train ride you get a backstage glimpse of the animals that are not out in the habitat areas, similar to seeing "off-duty" Clydesdales in the Festa Italia pasture at Busch Gardens.

12:40pm: I hovered at the Expedition Everest FastPass distribution area until I was able to get my second ticket of the day (3:30 return, eligible for another ticket at 1:45) and then returned to the Kilimanjaro Safari to experience another attraction I had missed earlier. Your safari truck driver is also your tour guide through the savannah, with some scripted drama about poachers throughout the ride. You get to see a lot of animals from Africa, and one animatronic baby elephant at the end of the ride that your tour group helps rescue from the poachers.

1:30pm: I left Animal Kingdom just after 1:00 and rode the bus to Epcot, arriving at 1:30 and making my way over to The Land to check the FastPass time for Soarin'. By the time I was able to get another ticket the Soarin' return time was nearly at park closing: 8:18pm. I had 6 ½ hours to wait, so I decided I'd try the standby line for Test Track, but it started raining and they had shut the ride down for the storm. Thanks to the timing of the frequent storms (instead of the usual single afternoon shower) I would not make it on Test Track at all. Instead I went to the World of Energy (another attraction I had missed during Con, Ellen DeGeneres plays "Jeopardy!" and goes back in time with Bill Nye the Science Guy), had some ice cream and revisited a couple of the World Showcase pavilions before returning to Animal Kingdom for my Everest ride.

3:30pm: I made it back to Expedition Everest just before another storm hit, and made it on the last train out before shutdown. Actually they announced the ride had been shut down just as I boarded, but in order for the guests on the train before us to get off they had to dispatch our train, so we were the last train out. Not wanting to be a lightning target, I kept my hands down this time...

4:00pm: Splash Splash Splash through the park, got on a very wet tram and returned to my car to move it to the MGM parking lot, since by this time I had figured out that I would end the day with "Fantasmic!", MGM's nighttime outdoor show. But that's still 6 hours away... plenty to do before then. I checked the FastPass return time for Rock 'n' Roller Coaster, but it was for the same time as my Soarin' ride so I waited it out in the standby line for Tower of Terror. That line was only 15 minutes so I took 2 rides before checking the RNR time again. I got a FastPass time of 8:30-9:30 and then went to see Muppet Vision 3-D. Kermit takes you on a tour of Muppet Labs - typical Muppet chaos ensues... Miss Piggy throws people and Beaker blows something up.

6:30pm: On my way out of MGM to return to Epcot I had to hobble over to First Aid. After 8 days of walking Coaster Con-style, my left foot had had enough, but I was just getting warmed up so I got it bandaged up, shoved it into a very wet shoe (4 thunderstorms and counting) and caught the bus to Epcot. I had decided after Muppet Vision that I wanted to try something different for dinner, some exotic food I'd never had before. I decided on Mediterranean Chicken at Epcot's Morocco pavilion, but after standing in line there for a very long time behind someone who couldn't make up her mind, I had to leave before my Soarin' FastPass expired. I grabbed a quick snack at The Land before my Soarin' ride, then got one more glider flight over the California landscape before catching the bus back to MGM.

9:35pm: The bus to MGM didn't show up at Epcot for nearly 45 minutes, it seems that most of the buses only go to the resorts close to park closing time. By the time I got to MGM my Rock 'n' Roller Coaster FastPass had expired, but the standby line was nonexistent so I got 2 rides on the 101 highway before getting some ice cream and joining the herd waiting for "Fantasmic!". The rain held off for the duration of the show, but it started to rain again as I left for Kissimmee, and Monday and Tuesday would prove to be washouts.

Meet the New Assistant Regional Representatives

Due to the amount of work that these three individuals have given to ACE in our region, I decided to invite them to join Stephen Gray as my assistants. Welcome. There are now no limits to the fun this region will have!!!!

Ken Moore



My name is Ken Moore, yes like the washing machine. I am your Assistant Representative for the Mid-Atlantic region and a major coaster addict. My first coaster park was Knott's Berry Farm in California and first coaster was Motezooma's Revenge. From that time on the addiction began. While I do enjoy the speed and G's of steel, I still find myself running to the back car of the classic wooden coasters. Currently my home park is Busch Gardens Europe. While my favorite ride there was the late Drachen Fire, I find myself coming back season to season searching out the most ride times per day on all the coasters.

When not riding coasters, my other passion is Computer Networks, which not coincidentally is also my job as a Network Engineer where I work on corporate and Department of Defense (DoD) networks.

My wife, Alicia and I joined ACE in 2004 and have thoroughly enjoyed riding coasters with peers of the same interests. In fact I feel to this day fortunate that I found someone who enjoys flying around at speeds of up to 120 MPH as much as I do.

I look forward to serving you in any capacity possible and am extremely honored to be a part of ACE and definitely enjoying the ride!
kmoore@aceonline.org.

Danny Barnes



My name is Danny Barnes, and I am pleased to be able to help as an Assistant Regional Rep. I started out working at Busch Gardens Williamsburg for four years during high school and college (1989-92), but it wasn't until 1999 that I really fell in love with coasters the first time I rode Alpengeist and Apollo's Chariot. Before joining ACE in 2002 I had been to exactly 4 parks in my entire life: Busch Gardens, Kings Dominion, Six Flags over Texas, and the Magic Kingdom.

Since my first ACE event in 2003, I have been playing catch-up and I'm having a blast discovering all the great rides out there... my park count is up to 15 in just three short years. I live in Portsmouth, VA and work as an engineer at WAVY-TV 10 & WVBTV 43. When I'm not at work you'll usually find me on Alpengeist. My current favorite coasters include Alpengeist, Montu, & Raptor... detecting a pattern here? I'm working on a continuation to the "Park Jobs" article from the spring newsletter, so if you have ever worked at an amusement park, state fair, or even a municipal park with a carousel or other ride, please email me at dbarnes@aceonline.org with your story.

Evangelos Kingas



I'm 31 years old, married to a wonderful wife – Elizabeth (your regional rep), and we have 2 little girls and a boy on the way (due Sept 9). I grew up in Newport News, VA, and I'm pretty sure my first rollercoaster I ever rode was the Glissade at Busch Gardens 'The Old Country' followed by the Loch Ness Monster. My wife and I joined ACE in 1999. We lived in Cincinnati at that time, just 3 miles from Paramount's Kings Island. I really miss those frequent cool evening rides on the Beast.

I currently work as a Project Manager in the Strategic Management group for Wachovia Securities in Richmond, VA.

I really enjoy going to amusement parks with the entire family, and I look forward to the day our entire family can hop on a roller coaster together! In addition to riding coasters, I enjoy playing basketball and watching college hoops. I also like to keep up my musical skills by playing the trombone.

I am very excited to have taken on this role in assisting Elizabeth and look forward to serving you. Please feel free to contact me anytime at ringas@yahoo.com.



PRESENTS



JEEPERS: IT'S WINTER!

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2007

**Who says the Mid-Atlantic can't ride all year?
Join the region at our winter social/riding event at
Jeepers! in Greenbelt, MD!**

ITINERARY

11:00 JEEPERS! OPENS TO THE PUBLIC
12:00 LUNCH AT BENNIGAN'S RESTAURANT OUTSIDE GREENBELT PLAZA MALL
2:00 MEET IN BIRTHDAY PARTY AREA OF JEEPERS
8:00 JEEPERS! CLOSES FOR THE EVENING

**YOUR RIDE ON THE ROLLER COASTER AT JEEPERS WILL BE FREE!!!!!!
LUNCH IS TO BE PAID BY YOU AT THE RESTAURANT (DUTCH TREAT).**

IF YOU WISH TO RIDE OTHER RIDES IN JEEPERS ALL DAY RIDE PASSES ARE AS FOLLOWS (as of 8/8/2006)

Below 36" \$11.99

Above 36" \$13.99

One adult rides free with a paying child.

Single ride tickets may also be purchased.

TO REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT:

Please email Elizabeth Ringas, Mid-Atlantic Regional Representative at eringas@aceonline.org by **February 10, 2007** with the number of people including yourself attending, along with your name, phone number, email, and ACE membership number.

Jeepers! is located at 6000 Greenbelt Rd in Greenbelt, MD inside Greenbelt Plaza Mall.

Members of ACE are expected to abide by the club's code of conduct at all times during the event and members' are responsible for the behavior of their guests. Inclement weather, equipment problems, or other unforeseen circumstances may affect this schedule. However the park will endeavor to provide ride times and the rides listed.

IN THE RAIN

A poem by Bill McElroy

The forest is primeval;
 The light approaches brown.
 The setting sun has long since passed;
 The clouds have lowered down.

The towering beams are everywhere!
 And fade into the mist.
 With giant trees whose shadows reach
 And grab you in their fist.

We crawl atop the lift hill -
 There's nothing quite so high.
 Our upturned faces split the night
 And someone starts to cry.

Our perch is tall and spindly,
 The hesitation brief.

We teeter on the brink of life -
 Then slip beyond our grief.
 We peer into the forest,
 Then plunge to the abyss
 And climb into the blinding rain -
 The screams, the howl, the hiss!

The clink and clank of aging steel,
 The shrieking, screeching train -
 Oh nothing, oh yes, nothing
 Is like Grizzly in the rain.

A moment of relief is snatched.
 A precipice draws nigh;

But just as death comes closer still,
 We float across the sky.

Another plunge into the bowels -
 The monster feasts tonight.
 We're ripped from life, yet, one more time
 We leap into the night.

We're slammed beyond endurance!
 We're tilted, rocked and slain,
 We're slapped, we're bucked! We've had enough
 Of Grizzly in the rain.

But after leaping wildly
 And careening, God knows where,
 We float and then we float again
 Through gentle quiet air...

As branches fly above us
 (You can touch them in the rain)
 We're shoved and then we're shoved some more
 And then we're shoved again.

But finally we're rescued!
 Our fright was all in vain.
 We slide into the station shouting
 "Let us go again!"

My friends think I'm quite crazy.
 They think I've gone insane.
 But nothing, oh yes, nothing
 Is like Grizzly in the rain.

Bill resides in Ashland, VA, where he owns and operates Slipped Disc, where he records, edits, mixes, and masters music for CD release. He has been a member of ACE since 2002. He is about to celebrate his 60th birthday. His son, Joe, is also an ACE member

Welcome to the Newest Members**Maryland**

John Gotshall (Crofton)
Tara Tobaygo (Odenton)
Abigail Denny (Buurtonsville)
Wesley & Patricia Friend (Germantown)

Delaware

Michael, Margaret, Natalie, & Matthew Walton (Newark)

Virginia

Sydney Shumway (Ashburn)
Calista Ringas (Glen Allen)
Kathy Ichter (Springfield)
Hunter Wright (Ashburn)
Steven Wisniewski (Richmond)
Crystal Green (Fredricksburg)
Tara Morisak (Fredricksburg)
Thomas Brown (Richmond)

GOODBYE LE MANS RACEWAY

On July 5, 2006 we bid adieu to the Le Mans Raceway. Busch Gardens Europe announced on June 27, 2006 that Le Mans Raceway's last day of operation would be July 5 to "make way for a STELLAR new attraction".

The Le Manns Raceway is an original ride installed in 1975 traveling approximately 10 million miles (or 400 trips around the Earth) in 31 years in forty-nine 1913 Stutz Bearcats replicas. They have a maximum speed of seven miles/hour. Busch Gardens Europe is unsure what will be done with the cars upon the dismantling of the ride. There are no plans to reinstall the ride for the 2007 season. I hope each of you had a chance to take a final spin around the LeManns.



Photo by Elizabeth Ringas



Photo by Elizabeth Ringas

MY FIRST COASTER

BY STEPHEN GREY

Do you remember your first time? What was the first coaster you ever rode? These questions are ones that have always seemed to be asked at some point in a coaster enthusiast's lifetime. I thought I would share my first time with you.

I love amusement parks. I live and breathe them during the operating seasons. I would spend many hours on the road often with my parents forcing them to go to all these parks for a few hours of fun. One thing had always eluded me - it was the roller coaster.

Kennywood in Pittsburgh was the closest park to my home town. It was the place where you could go and relax and not really have to worry about riding roller coasters. As the years went on and my friends got more daring they wanted to ride coasters. I however did not.

I became the celebrated bench warmer and spent hours sitting and waiting while my friends rode the god like machines I desired. I tried to ride, but fear got the best of me, and usually caused me to walk right through the car and out the exit. That was about to change.

Around the time of my senior high school prom, my date suggested that we go to Kennywood because she liked to ride the Steel Phantom. Keep in mind this is the original coaster, not the new revamped one. I agreed and we went with a bunch of friends. I knew that at some point in the day I would have to ride if I wanted to make the girl I liked happy.

We went to the entrance and I was so nervous that every step was like a mile to me. Finally we were in the car and I was petrified and with no escape.

The lift hill took forever and at the top I lost my breath. I tried to scream and nothing came out. It was indescribable. When we dove down the long second drop into the ravine and made the turn to the loops I had my revelation. I like roller coasters!

Since that day I have had the pleasure of riding many roller coasters. I seek them out and will go out of my way if it means a few seconds of steel or wood air time. I spent two summers at Cedar Point learning more about coasters as an operator of Mantis.

Send me your stories about a first time on a roller coaster. Were you scared? Were you excited? I want to hear and the best stories will be profiled in an interview each newsletter. Until next time...happy riding.

IS IT TIME TO RENEW?

Don't let your membership run out!

If it is time to renew, please renew quickly, so that you don't miss out on the Rebel Yell and other ACE publications and all the quick email updates and fun stuff ACE has going on. If you have lost your renewal notice, no fear, go to americancoasterenthusiasts.com and renew online or use the downloadable renewal form. If you cannot access the form, please drop me an email and I will either email one as an attachment or snail mail you a copy.

continued from page 2

Cedar Fair Purchase

opportunities and the potential for meaningful incremental free cash flow as we realize \$20 – 30 million in annual case flow synergies over the next 3-5 years. It will also add significant geographic diversity to our portfolio of parks and improve our position as one of the largest regional amusement park operators in the world.”

What will this mean for Paramount's Kings Dominion and the other four parks? Well, we won't know until changes start appearing through the winter and into the spring. In July changes have begun behind the scenes, with the closing of the Paramount corporate offices and new general managers for Paramount's Carowinds, Paramount's Canada's Wonderland, and Paramount's Kings Island. Paramount's Kings Island did not have a general manager at the time of the acquisition. Good news for our region, Richard Zimmerman will be staying on as General Manager of Paramount's Kings Dominion.

The license for Nickelodeon characters within the parks is due to continue for four years with a consideration of renewal and may be extended to include other Cedar Fair parks. The Paramount branded rides and attractions future is still unknown.

**FLIGHT OF FEAR
REOPENS
AT PARAMOUNT'S
KINGS DOMINION!!!!!!**

FROM THE BACKSEAT

Well, another summer is passing us by quickly, but it has held some fantastic things for all of us. I love my position and hope that my enthusiasm for activity in our region is contagious! Please keep the emails coming, as I enjoy responding to each and every question and hearing about everyone's awesome trips and events. As this newsletter gets to you I am counting the days until you will see me on the coasters again and I truly look forward to having a chance to meet and ride with all of you.

Thank you to everyone who came out to support the grand opening of Italian Job Turbo Coaster and to all my assistants, Ken, Danny, Stephen, and Evangelos; without you there would be no regional website or newsletter.

Since I am not riding, what have I been doing? I have had my own wonderful time this summer in amusement parks and it is only August. Six Flags America was kind enough to invite my family to their VIP party where I had the time of my life! It was a wonderful party displaying the best Six Flags America has to offer and it was a joy to speak with the management team of Six Flags America including Terry Prather, the vice president and general manager. What a night it was, but off to Paramount's Kings Dominion I went the next morning. I enjoyed seeing Italian Job Turbo Coaster thrilling ACE members immediately and enjoying the festivities that Paramount's Kings Dominion offered us. Susan Storey, public relations manager, did a wonderful job of putting together a working media event that was still lots of fun for the riders. On the note of wonderful things that have come of the strong relationship ACE has established with Paramount's Kings Dominion, I want to thank Susan for the packets that made an appearance in some of our mailboxes last month. Wasn't that a great surprise!!!! Feel free to drop Susan a note thanking her for going out of her way and ensuring these packets did not go to waste.

Thank you again for all the support that I am receiving! I hope to start seeing all your registrations for our October event coming to my mailbox – come out and support our region and have a lot of fun!

Elizabeth

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

If you would prefer an electronic copy of this newsletter in lieu of a paper one, saving ACE some money, please email eringas@aceonline.org.

UPCOMING NATIONAL AND REGIONAL EVENTS

- Carolina Coaster Classic (September 16) Paramount's Carowinds
- Ridefest '06 (October 8) Lakemont Park
- Fall Thrillfest (October 22) Paramount's Kings Dominion
- Smokey Mountain Coaster Fest (November 18) Dollywood
- Jeepers It's Winter! (February 25) Baltimore, MD
- Spring Fling (March 24) Six Flags over Georgia

Check out
www.americancoasterenthusiasts.com for
 lots more regional and park sponsored
 events!

ARE YOU GETTING EMAILS FROM ME?

If you have not received an email in at least a month, email me with you email address!

Please email Elizabeth if you change your email address! Also, be sure to add her to your address book so that her emails are not rejected as spam. Emails are sent from two email addresses – eringas@aceonline.org and eringas@yahoo.com, so add them both.

Email is the best method to get information to you quickly and sometimes the only way!



Photo by Evangelos Ringas

Italian Job Turbo Coaster Opening Morning!



Photo by Elizabeth Ringas

Math and Science Day at PKD

I had the honor of being invited to join VCU in the judging of the roller coaster building contest for middle and high school students at Paramount's Kings Dominion's Math and Science Day. I just thought you would love to see some pictures of what these kids built. They were just awesome and I can hardly wait to go next year! Check it out yourself!



Photo by Elizabeth Ringas



Photo by Elizabeth Ringas

Continued from page 1

GRIFFON

named for a WWI German fighter pilot. During the three minute ride, riders will experience 4 G Forces and dive a second time from 130-feet towards Lochness Lake. The train will brake into the station creating an 80 foot wall of water.

The ride differs from Sheikra in that it does not have a floor, seats 10 passengers across, and is taller and faster. The presentation definitely demonstrated the enthusiasm that BGE has for its new ride. With all this pizzazz, now we can hardly wait to ride, right? Well, construction is moving along because while at the site, all is gone of the Le Mans raceway and pylons were being drilled into the ground. Plans for the area beneath the coaster include drink and food stands and a gift shop. The height requirement will be 54”.

Due to the construction of Griffon, the sky ride is closed for the remainder of the season. It will reopen next season.



Photo by Elizabeth Ringas



Photo by Elizabeth Ringas

Taking to the Streets

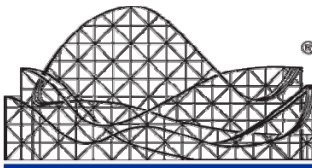
by Stephen Gray

The other day I happened to be flipping through the channels on my television when the movie The Italian Job happened to flicker on by. The critical scene taking place was the exciting chase through the Hollywood streets in the mini coopers that we have come to love on the streets of America. On May 25th Paramount's Kings Dominion gave ACE members a chance to come and experience the brand new edition to their coaster line-up in the park. In the shadow of Anaconda which was silently basking in the glow of the new kid on the block we raced, dove and held on for dear life as we became stunt drivers on the Italian Job Turbo Coaster.

The ride which is designed by Premier and has already seen two installations at Canada's Wonderland and also Kings Island is a perfect fit into the park. It is by far the best looking coaster in the park and to me the one coaster that truly fits into the area it occupies. The coaster cars are extremely comfortable and well accommodating to a wide variety of people. The entire area is full of great detail, which is what makes this coaster worth the trip. From the tunnels lit by the LED lights on the Mini Coopers to the special effects in the rest of the layout, making this one of the best and most unique coasters I have ridden. This coaster is something a family can ride together. It is also good starting coaster for someone who has ridden a few before but not quite ready for the big time!

HOWL-O-SCREAM

Howl-O-Scream will begin at Busch Gardens Europe on Sept 15. New attractions for this year include Wicked Woods, a maze shrouded in gory history and mystery. According to Busch Gardens, "this portal-in-time transports visitors to a remote English village where gruesome scenes of history such as the Great Fire of London, the rampage of Jack the Ripper and the bubonic plague are played out. Some call it a myth or even local folklore, but one thing is for sure: There will be more than autumn leaves falling out of the trees in Wicked Woods." Also debuting this year is Rockin' Eve's Countdown to Midnight at the Royal Palace Theatre. Hosted by Hallow Eve and featuring the magic of Aaron Radatz



**AMERICAN
COASTER
ENTHUSIASTS**

MID-ATLANTIC

**12024 Ivy Hollow Ct
Glen Allen, VA 23059**

Newsletter and Website Staff

Elizabeth Ringas

eringas@aceonline.org

Stephen Gray

sgray@aceonline.org

Evangelos Ringas

ringas@yahoo.com

Danny Barnes

dbarnes@aceonline.org

Ken Moore

kmoore@aceonline.org

On the web at
www.acemidatlantic.org

Send submissions for
publication to:

Elizabeth Ringas

eringas@aceonline.org