

July 13, 2008

Volume 3, Issue 2

THE REBEL YELL

ACE Mid-Atlantic Region's Official Newsletter Summer, 2008
Virginia · Maryland · Delaware · Washington D.C.

2008 Events

August 9
Oceanfest-
Jolly Roger Amusement
Park, Trimmer's
Amusement Park &
Baja Amusements

September 12
Go-Karts Plus

September 13
Busch Gardens Europe

October 11
Fall Thrillfest Kings
Dominion

October 12
Wild One Roars!
Six Flags America

Flyers inside!!!

Highlights:

Adventure Park USA - 2

Wisp Mountain - 4

Water Country USA - 5

Busch Gardens - 5

Dominated!

By Stephen Peebles of Lynchburg, VA

A small but eager group gathered at 5 AM, with a light mist falling. Each person had to sign in once the Kings Dominion employees were ready. Most attendees were ACE members, with a few Coaster Zombies along to fill out the group. First up was a continental breakfast just inside the front gate at around 5:30. The food wasn't very settled when our hostess led us back to Dominator.

It was a little surreal walking through the quiet park before 6 AM. Unlike the usual morning ERTs, the rest of the park was NOT waking up. All was still, except the test runs of Dominator. (What a great sound it is to hear the B&M roar at King's Dominion.) The grass was not filled in yet and the queue area was not finished, but otherwise the landscaping around the ride was very nice. We climbed the stairs on the right side of the station (to be used for single riders or a "fast-lane" queue?) and arrived at the brightly lit loading dock.

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ACE Members at the Dominator media day

ACE celebrates as Loch Ness Monster turns 30!

For the coaster that gave ACE our glorious event favorite – ERT, it was a birthday party for royalty. ACE members came out to ride Nessie dressed in their best (that is the best of the 70s)! At the celebration, ACE recognized Seth Chwast, who is an autistic artist and former ACE member, as “ACE member for a Day” in honor of his artwork and love of roller coasters. Chwast painted a portrait of the Loch Ness Monster at BGE that day that was later auctioned off.

A NEW LIFE EMERGES



Attendees at Springfest 2008!
Photo courtesy of Adventure Park USA



Shannon Somerville and David Rager examine the Wildcat structure, chain house from under the coaster during normal operation.

Fifteen ACE members had the honor of celebrating a rebirth of the *Wildcat* Roller Coaster at Adventure Park USA in New Market, MD in the afternoon of May 3rd. Adventure Park USA is a family owned property that features a surprising appearance when you first arrive with the *Wildcat* Roller Coaster landscaped beautifully in the front of the park, and a great wild west themed building entrance to an unbelievable park offering truly something for everyone. ACE members were greeted by Erik Stottlemeyer, the owner of the *Wildcat* Roller Coaster, whose father owns the park. Erik first introduced us to his love of the *Wildcat* by sharing the original sketches and plans of the coaster by Anton Swartzkopf himself for its installation at Busch Gardens Europe (then the Old Country). He explained the changes that were made at Williams Grove and the changes that he made to adapt the coaster to its new home at Adventure Park USA. He then provided us graphic details of the damage to the structure of the coaster that had occurred during its stay at Williams Grove and how he battled to build this amazing piece of roller coaster history. ACers were then treated to a backstage tour of the storage of the cars/pieces that are yet to ride the tracks of the *Wildcat* again. The tour then took us to the *Wildcat* itself where ACE members were taken into the lockout area in three small groups to examine the chain house and the workings of the coaster (did I mention the *Wildcat* was running?). After acquainting ourselves with the *Wildcat*, ACE was ready to ride! On that first ride, ACE members in attendance were treated to a rare on-ride photo opportunity on the *Wildcat* taken personally by Erik Stottlemeyer from the top of the catwalk. This was certainly a coaster that we all enjoyed celebrating, but it was especially special for your regional rep, celebrating her 301st coaster! (300 was a not so special double tracker due to an unavoidable early spring ride, so moving on to 301). According to Bob Ziems, ACE member, "This coaster runs like Anton Swartzkopf built it to!" After our initial ride, dinner orders were taken and ACE members were off to play. Adventure Park USA offers go-karts, mini-golf, carousel, teacups, a ropes course, laser tag, paint ball, a climbing structure for the mini-ACers, and video games galore! There are also bumper boats offered between Memorial Day and Labor Day. Dinner brought ACers in, greeted by surprise souvenir gifts from the park for each attendee. The evening wrapped up a little rainy, driving most ACers to challenge each other at laser tag and a quick meeting to award prizes for the best and worst mini-golf scores and a gift for each attendee from the region. This park has something for everyone of any age and is worth the drive to the tiny town of New Market, MD. Don't miss the Mid-Atlantic's second visit to Adventure Park USA on May 9, 2009!

MORE FUN FROM SPRINGFEST 2008 AT ADVENTURE PARK USA



RIDE WITH NO BRAKES – IT'S MOUNTAINS OF FUN

By Danny Barnes, Mid-Atlantic Assistant Rep

Ever wanted to control the brakes on a coaster yourself? At Wisp Resort in McHenry, MD, nineteen ACers got to do just that when they got up early on May 3rd to ride the second installment of an alpine coaster on the east coast. This is truly a unique experience that is as close to do-it-yourself as you can get on a coaster: self-braking, self-blocking, and one or two people per sled. In true ACE fashion, most of us had the brake levers pushed as far forward as we could reach all the way down the mountain.



The course has plenty of elements including hairpin turns, bunny-hops, two helixes and a really steep U-turn. The entire experience takes about five minutes... that's four leisurely minutes of lift hill that parallels the ski lift and is actually two separate lifts with a short drop in the middle, followed by one minute of down without brakes. After ERT, there were some other not-quite-so-adventurous souls on the track whose rides lasted a bit longer than one minute (and we won't talk about the terrified kid who panic-braked all the way down for seven minutes...) but the ride operators noticed the backup and actually paused the lift until the track cleared so the speed-demons could have a clear path without any flashing yellow lights warning us of a slowpoke ahead.

Wisp Resort's "Mountain Coaster" is open year-round, hours vary by season but the summer hours are 11am until 9pm. Wisp is just off Interstate 68 in Garrett County, Maryland, about three hours west of Baltimore

Rebel Yell takes First Place

The Mid-Atlantic took the prize this year at Coaster Con XXX. The "Rebel Yell" our regional newsletter placed first among the regional newsletters in this year's contest. Congratulations to everyone who contributed this year for making it the best regional newsletter! I hope to hear from more of you in the next year for ideas to improve and stories you would like to write. This region is the members, so let's hear from you.

Moving around the Region

Water Country USA opens the season with a new vice president – Terry Prather, the former general manager of Six Flags America and former vice president of Seaworld San Antonio, has become the newest vice president of Water Country USA.

So, Six Flags America also has a new general manager – Chris Haenn, formerly the marketing director at Six Flags America.



We caught the WAVE!

ACE Members met on a chilly Passholder Preview Day at Busch Gardens Europe to kick off the season with a ride on Apollo's Chariot.

SLIP, SLIDE AND TWIST Water Country USA Remodels For a Few New Dances

Water Country USA premiered Rock 'n' Roll Island this year with large remodeling project of the former activity pool area that previously featured the Peppermint Twist slides and the "Lemon Drop". At the premiere, excitement churned for the visitors to experience the new slides, but the first change noticed was that the area is now accessible by a ramp. The island features three new body slides all dancing you to the bottom by twisting and turning you to a great splashdown, and the best part – they are super smooth on your back! Named after three popular dances – "The Hully Gully", "The Funky Chicken" and "The Twist", they are a great addition to an already amazing collection of slides at Water Country USA. In addition, the pool on the island was remodeled to include two new daring ways to cross the pool if the bridge is not your preferred method – take your pick and hold on tight as the guitars float around under your feet. "The Little Bopper" children's slide was relocated to the former location of "The Lemon Drop" slides to allow better crowd movement within the island. The lazy river continues to float guests around the entire perimeter of the area. Rock and Roll Island is certainly a nice improvement to a great park and worth a trip if you have not visited recently.



Bob Ziems of Falls Church, VA rode his 600th coaster this month - *Goliath* at Six Flags Over Georgia. Congratulations!

Busch Gardens Europe - Two New Features Aim to Please the Customer

In June, Busch Gardens Europe introduced the Quick Queue ticket which enables guests to get one-time, priority-boarding access on *Griffon*, *Alpengiest*, *Apollo's Chariot*, *Big Bad Wolf*, *Loch Ness Monster*, *Curse of DarKastle*, *Roman Rapids*, *Le Scoot Log Flume* and *Corkscrew Hill*. The Quick Queue ticket is available to be purchased in limited quantities each day at all admission booth windows for \$24.95 (\$19.99 for season passholders).

BG Connect was introduced by Busch Gardens Europe at the beginning of July to keep guests connected with the park 24/7. The BG Connect application brings up-to-the-minute information, fun facts, trivia, insider tips, discount details, and event reminders directly to your desktop or email. In addition, visit www.bgwmobile.com from your mobile phone for special offers, directions, and show times!

Did you know our national website changed?
www.americancoasterenthusiasts.org

Dominated continued from page 1

The park media personnel were already filming for commercials or other park uses. The first 24 of us quickly climbed into the cars for the first ride. You've probably had a chance to ride by now, so I will give a just a quick synopsis of the ride. The lift hill provides a nice view of the park, but is not too long. The curved drop into the enormous 135' loop is a great beginning, with a quick turn into the Immelman Loop. At that point the track passes over the station through a braking section. The final part of the course includes back-to-back intertwined corkscrews.

The coaster train aggressively attacks the corkscrews as flashes through in each direction. The train then pulls back into the station as it finishes its run.

Only one train was running for the morning session. There were a couple of back-to-back runs as the film crew did their work, and a live location shot on one of the local morning shows. As the time approached for the 11:00 AM Press Conference, the coaster riders drifted over to the designated area. I squeezed in one last ride (24th of the morning) before the crew paused to add the other train, and hurried to the press conference. I gave a Washington DC radio station some sound bites then picked up my 25th ride with some of the Richmond TV personalities.

After the impressive lunch spread (carved turkey and roast beef among other items and a chocolate fountain for dessert), we headed back to the coaster for the afternoon. The media folks took a few rides then headed off for lunch and to file their stories. The ACE members filled back in for yet more rides. I waited for a front row spot for ride number 29, then managed to get back on the front row with a fellow ACer Todd Neese for ride number 50 for both of us. We called it a day at that point. I claimed my complimentary ride photo, and headed home to Lynchburg.



Stephen Peeples on Media Day!

Photo courtesy of Kings Dominion

WELCOME TO THE NEWEST MEMBERS

Virginia

Rick Mathews of Manassas

Timothy and April Wade of Richmond

George, Chase, and Jo Ellen Gray of Chesterfield

Maryland

Todd, Megan, Christopher, and Sierra Waters of Glen Burnie

Jeremy Newkirk of Laurel

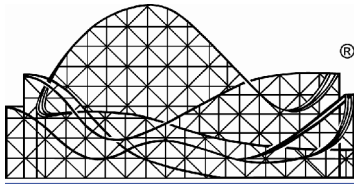
Brandon Hayes of Takomas Park

Delaware

**Thomas, Theresa, Patrick, and Liam Neary
and Abbie and Hannah Steele of Newark**

Washington D.C.

Dail Doucette of Washington D.C.



**AMERICAN
COASTER
ENTHUSIASTS**

MID-ATLANTIC

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.acemidatlantic.org

From the Backseat...

As we enter the second half of our season here in the Mid-Atlantic, I feel such pride for all that we as members have accomplished for our region and all that we have planned for the future. I am really proud of our team of volunteers that have truly stepped up this year to take on lots more responsibility, allowing us to plan even more than I ever thought possible for the year. I also take pride in our parks, as we have tackled lots of change and came out for the better with fantastic events planned and ACE's continual involvement in special events. I only hope for more in the future and hope for lots more ideas from you – the members who create our region. I encourage you to become more involved this fall whether with your own ideas to continue the growth of the Mid-Atlantic Region or to help your regional rep team out with existing events. We want American Coaster Enthusiasts to continue growing and developing and the Mid-Atlantic to continue its recent successes! I look forward to seeing you all at our upcoming events!!!!

-Elizabeth

**What is your skill or hobby?
More volunteers desperately needed to
have fun around the region!**

UPCOMING EVENTS IN OTHER PLACES

Preservation Conference August 1-3 Lake Compounce, Six Flags New England, and Quassy Amusement Park

ACE Midwest Storm Aug. 16 SF Kentucky Kingdom and Beech Bend Park (KY)

ACE Day in New York – Buffalo Style August 30 Darien Lake and Martin's Fantasy Land (NY)

Carolina Coaster Classic September 20 Carowinds (NC)

ACE Day at Ghost Town in the Sky September 21 (NC)

Phoenix Phall Phunfest October 4 Knoebels Grove Amusement Park (PA)

Ridefest 08 October 5 Lakemont Park (PA)

Smokey Mountain Coasterfest November 22 Dollywood (TN)

Coaster Con XXXII June 21-26 in Branson, MO and Kansas City, MO

2008 ACE Mid-Atlantic T-Shirt Order Form

One time chance to get your limited printing of the FIRST EVER
ACE Mid-Atlantic Regional T-Shirt (100% cotton)

Order deadline: August 1



Size	Price (Each)	Quantity Ordered	Your \$
Small	\$10		\$
Medium	\$10		\$
Large	\$10		\$
XL	\$10		\$
XXL	\$12		\$
XXXL	\$13		\$
Shipping for 1st t-shirt			\$5
Shipping \$1 for each additional shirt (Example: shipping for 3 shirts is \$7. Enter \$2 here)			\$
Total order			\$

Your Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _(____)_____

Send your completed order form and check/money order to:
Michelle Aquilino, ACE t-shirt
9713 Greenmeadow Circle
Glen Allen, VA 23060



Oceanfest with

Baja Amusements & Trimper's Rides and Amusements (12-6 pm) &
Jolly Roger at the Pier (1-5 pm) & Jolly Roger at 30th Street (2-6 pm)

Q&A Session with Trimper's Staff!

Saturday, August 9, 2008

Pre-Registration Costs: \$18 for an Unlimited Ride Wristband for Trimper's Rides
and Wacky Worm Ride at Baja Amusements

Non-ACE members may join for an additional \$3 each

Day of Event: Purchase your Jolly Roger wristband at either Jolly Roger on event day with \$2 off coupon given
at registration for final price of 13.99. Please note you are not required to purchase this wristband for our event.

ITINERARY

9:30 Check-in at Baja Amusements

10:00 Ride Wacky Worm Roller Coaster at Baja Amusements

11:00 Arrival at Trimper's (and Late Registration)

11:30-12:00 Q&A with Trimper's staff

12:00 Trimper's opens for Riding

1:00 Jolly Roger at the Pier opens (1 coaster)

2:00 Jolly Roger at 30th Street opens (1 coaster)

5:00 Wristband expires at Jolly Roger at the Pier

6:00 Wristband expires at Jolly Roger at 30th Street

6:00 Wristband expires at Trimper's Rides and Amusements

WEAR YOUR FAVORITE LANYARD! We will have some lanyards available, but please try to bring your own.

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 WEDNESDAY, JULY 30 TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS EVENT!

Name	City & State	Phone Number	Email address for registration confirmation	ACE # or 'Guest'	\$18 + \$3 for Guest

NO REFUNDS · NO EXCHANGES · NO RAIN CHECKS

To register, cut out or photocopy this form. Advance registrations must be post-marked by JULY 30, 2008. 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.



PRESENTS

A NIGHT WITH GO-KARTS PLUS #2

AND RIDE THE PYTHON PIT KIDDIE COASTER

Friday, September 12, 2007

You will have two options:

You can come out anytime from 6-8pm on Friday and ride the Python Pit Kiddie Coaster for **FREE!!!**

OR

Meet an ACE representative at Go-Karts Plus at 5:45pm on the left side of the ticket/snack booth to purchase a wristband for only **\$15 good for 2 HOURS OF UNLIMITED RIDE TIME ON ALL RIDES INCLUDING THE PYTHON PIT KIDDIE COASTER** along with Disk'o, 4 Go-Kart Tracks, Bumper Cars, Blaster Boats, and a kiddieland.

If interested, please email acemidatlantic@yahoo.com with the number of people including yourself attending and your interest in coaster only or unlimited rides.

You may bring non-ACE member guests with you for an additional \$3 each payable by check/money order to Elizabeth Ringas to be given to the Mid-Atlantic representative at the beginning of the event.

GO-KARTS PLUS is located at **6910 Richmond Road (Route 60 West) in Williamsburg, Virginia next to the Williamsburg Pottery**. Call (757) 564-7600 www.gokartsplus.com

- If you are traveling east on **I-64**, take **Exit 234, Lightfoot (Route 199)**.
- If you are traveling west on **I-64 (leaving Busch Gardens)**, take **Exit 234-A, Lightfoot (Route 199)**.
 - Continue on this road for one and a half miles and take the **Lightfoot/Route 60 exit**.
 - At the end of the exit get in your left lane and make a left onto **Route 60/Richmond Road**.
- Proceed through the next three traffic lights (passing first the **Outlet Mall** on your left and then the **Williamsburg Pottery** on your right).
 - We are the next business on your right hand side after the Pottery.

In order to ride for free, you must show a current ACE membership card.

You must be 46" tall to ride alone on the Python Pit Kiddie Coaster or 36" tall to ride with an adult.

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.

ACE DIVES!

PRESENTED BY:



AND



Saturday, September 13, 2008

TENTATIVE ITINERARY

8:30-9:00 AM	CHECK-IN
9 -10 AM	ERT on GRIFFON and ALPENGELIST
10 AM- 7 PM	Busch Gardens Europe open to the public
12 PM	PICNIC (fried chicken and pork barbeque) and a Q&A Session
7-8 PM	ERT on APOLLO's CHARIOT

Registration includes 2 HOURS OF ERT, picnic buffet, door prizes, games, snack and admission.

All of this fun is only \$16 for an ACE member with a season pass, \$53 without a pass. Guests of ACE members may join the fun for an additional \$5 (see below for details).

Wear your favorite lanyard to show your ACE spirit!

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

Registrations must be postmarked by **TUESDAY, August 26th** to PARTICIPATE in this EVENT!

Registration Costs	Adult	Child (ages 3-9)	Season Passholder
ACE member	\$53	\$47	\$16
Non ACE member	\$58	\$52	\$21

Name	City, State,	Email address for registration confirmation	ACE # or 'Guest'	Season Pass? Yes / No	Amount
				TOTAL	

NO REFUNDS · NO EXCHANGES · NO RAIN CHECKS

To register, cut out or photocopy this form. Advance registrations must be post-marked by Tuesday, **August 26, 2008**. Personal checks/MO 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.

ARE YOU GETTING EMAILS FROM THE REGION?

Our regional e-mail distribution is derived from ACE's membership list. Please be sure to keep your e-mail address updated by visiting the ACE website at the member services area.

<http://www.americancoasterenthusiasts.org/login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fMembersx%2fLoginWelcome.aspx>

Or follow this path: ACE Home page -> Membership -> Current members -> Submit change of address, phone, email

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

If you need to receive a paper copy of the Rebel Yell newsletter, you must email or call Evangelos at ebringas@aceonline.org or 804-360-4704.

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.org and renew online or use the downloadable renewal form. If you cannot access the form, please drop me an email.

AMERICAN COASTER ENTHUSIASTS

ELIZABETH RINGAS

ACE MID-ATLANTIC REGION

12024 Ivy Hollow Court

Glen Allen, VA 23059

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