



DCBRAG Club News

Club #0628, Established April 2000

Dec-Jan 2003

A WORD FROM OUR SPONSOR –

Our updated webpage, www.hdwash.com, is now up and running! Some of the changes to the site include a monthly newsletter from the dealership and a new, improved means of receiving monthly specials. All Internet specials will be sent automatically to the email address of those persons wishing to receive them. To sign up, go to the site and sign in to our "riders club." You will then be on our list to receive notifications. So check the site often, and sign up so you don't miss out.

Our DCBRAG Appreciation Week will be held from Dec. 9, through Dec. 14. If you are a local Club member who joined the Club prior to Sept. 15, 2002, you will be eligible to receive a one-time 20% discount - just in time for Christmas! You can take your special discount at any time during the week, but remember that "one time" means that your 20% discount is good for just one trip to the cash register. So plan wisely, and be sure to show the cashier your membership card when you are ready for your discount. This discount is good **only** at H-D/Buell of Washington.

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, there are some changes coming up for the way the local BRAG discount policy will work. Effective January 1, 2003, chapter discounts will be given to those members who participate in Chapter rides or events listed in the newsletter as well as those who participate in dealership events such as Rolling Thunder, the National Open House, etc. The purpose of this change is to encourage increased participation in Club/Dealership events and to get people back out riding, which was the initial purpose of the Club. All members who participate will be given a one-time 10% discount card that may be used at any time at either H-D/Buell of Washington or All American H-D/Buell. You will receive a discount card for each function you participate in. For example, if (in a given month) you attend the Club meeting, participate in a Club-sponsored ride and participate in a Dealer-sponsored event, you would get three discount cards for that month. You will need to have your Club membership card with you in order to use this discount card. There will be no expiration date on the card, but it may not be used in conjunction with any other sale or discount. As usual, the discount card will not apply to motorcycle purchases or labor in our service department. Additionally, discounts to AMA members and ABATE members will no longer exist as of January 1st in order to ensure equal treatment to all our customers.

If you have any questions about this, please feel free to stop in or call either general manager Steve Knowlton, Bones or myself; we'll do our best to answer all your questions.

Ken Thomas, Buell Parts

Slaying the Dragon, by Randy Urick

The Contest-On April 27, 2002 the Buell Motorcycle Division introduced a new bike called the XB9R Firebolt. It was a going to be a radical new design with the gas tank in the frame and the oil tank in the swing-arm. To celebrate, Buell also held a one-day only contest called "Slay the Dragon" where you could win a new Firebolt and take a ride with Erik Buell at Deals Gap in North Carolina. All you had to do was sign up at your local Buell Dealer. So Amy and I went over to Ft. Washington H-D/Buell and signed up that morning, along with a bunch of fellow DCBRAG members and other interested motorcyclists. We also got free T-shirts!

The Envelope - A month later, on Tuesday May 28th, I came home to find a FedEx envelope in the front door. I threw it on the table, not thinking much of it, because my mind was on getting my Rolling Thunder film to the store after the annual memorial day weekend motorcycle event to have them processed. Later on that afternoon I opened up the envelope and started reading. "*Congratulations, you are a potential Grand Prize Winner!*" Ed McMahon and the Publishers Clearinghouse flashed through my mind. What were the Odds? , I would later find out that 20,000 people signed up! There was a yellow sticky note on the bottom of the page, "Randy-call me if you have any questions." I called the number and a nice lady answered, asked me a few questions and said, "Congratulations, you are a potential Grand Prize Winner! There's really only one winner. We just have to say that until we know that you're over 21, have a valid motorcycle permit and have never worked for Harley." I couldn't believe it! Hell, I still can't.

The Bike - On August 15th I picked up the bike at Ft. Washington H-D/Buell. It's a fantastic bike! It handles great and has good brakes too. In the time between getting the bike and before the trip, I tried to get some miles on the bike under my belt to prepare for the ride down at Deals Gap with Erik. I would get on my new Firebolt and Amy would ride my old 2000 Buell Cyclone and we would head out to the country to look for some curvy roads. This part of Northern Virginia has some good roads, but nothing really compares with Deals Gap!

The Ride- Buell sent me an airline ticket, agenda and \$700.00 for expenses. On September 31st, I flew down to Knoxville, TN. I had reserved a Ford Taurus to get around but I also had a free upgrade, so I got a Lincoln Town Car. The next day I met the group I would be riding with in the hotel lobby: Erik Buell, Chairman and Chief Engineer, Tripp Nobles, from the Tilley/Buell race team and three other Buell employees. We went over to Knoxville H-D/Buell to pick up the six bikes that they had for us and off

Officers & Contacts

Director/Treasurer: José Quiñones, josequinones3@aol.com; Assistant Director: Thomas Bass, trbass@boo.net Secretary: **VACANT**
WebMaster: Steve Madden, turnagain@erols.com Safety Officer: Ray Sundman, rsundman@attglobal.net; Club Homepage: www.dcbtag.org
DCBRAG Club Hotline: 1-888-HDF-EVER, ext. #6703 National BRAG: 1-888-432-BRAG Web hosting by Electronic Systems, Inc. www.esi.net

Harley Davidson of Washington/1-888-HDF-EVER/www.hdwash.com **All American Harley-Davidson**/888-833-2REV/www.aah-d.com

General Manager: Steve Knowlton, Buell Sales: ask for Jennifer

General Manager: Tom Harr, Buell Sales: ask for Carmen

Buell Parts: ask for Ken Thomas, Buell Mechanic: ask for Chris Harms

Buell Parts: ask for Todd, Buell Mechanic: ask for Kirk

we went. Tripp went first, I was second and Erik was third. The first person we saw when we got on the highway was a Tennessee State Trooper. He gave us a good hard look, then gave us the thumbs up and he sped away! An interesting way to start out. We pulled up to a traffic light and Tripp leans over and said playfully "*We could have taken 'em if it was just us!*" What have I gotten myself into!?! We began getting into some twisties and I started to fall back some. Tripp turned around and waved me to get closer. Ok-here I go-crack the gas. I followed his line through the corner and cranked the throttle. I shot out of the corner like a sling-shot with Erik right behind me! Ok...be cool...calm down. Another corner and out like a rocket! Ok...be cool...calm down. After that we came up to our first stop and picked up our police escort. A North Carolina trooper on and Electra Glide rode a few minutes ahead while the one in the Crown Vic followed. We started to get into the real twisty part of US129 and the bike was handling like a dream. This road is called The Dragon because it has 318 turns in 11 miles and it's a great bike road, turn after turn. We stopped at Deal's Gap Motorcycle Resort for lunch, then turned around and headed back to Knoxville through the Dragon and the Foothills Parkway. The parkway reminded me of Shenandoah's Skyline Drive with its sweeping curves and beautiful mountain views. Unfortunately, we reached Knoxville and the ride was over. In summary, everybody was very nice and the event was very well planned. It was a first class trip all the way around. Thanks Erik!

P.S.: If you want to check out the pictures that we took during this ride with Erik Buell, check them out in the Gallery Section of our website, www.dcbtag.org.

Director's Report

It's the end of the riding season for some of us, so now is a good time to tie up some loose ends regarding the club, like renewing our charter with the Dealer and National BRAG. But before we can complete this step, we need to elect new Directors! If you want to help to guide the direction that the club will take in 2003, what we do and where we ride, you need to show up to the December and January meetings where we will try to tie up these loose ends, culminating in club director elections during the January meeting. Here is your chance to show up and participate!

RIDE/ACTIVITIES CALENDAR –

- Dec 7 DCBRAG meeting
- Dec 9-14 HOG/BRAG appreciation at HDW
- Dec 14 – HDW Christmas Open House: food, fun, door prizes and unannounced specials!
- Jan 1 – Polar Bear ride @ Sign of the Whale, Annandale, VA, sign up 9-11 am.
- Jan 4 – DCBRAG meeting, director elections
- Jan 4-5 – Custom Bike Show, Dulles Expo Center
- Feb 1 – DCBRAG meeting
- Feb 7-9 – Bike show, Timonium Fairgrounds, MD
- Feb 28 Mar 9 – Daytona bike week
- Mar 1 –DCBRAG meeting
- Mar 1-2 - Formula USA races @ Daytona
- Mar 4-8 - BRAG @ Daytona
- Mar 7-9 – AMA Races @ Daytona
- March 21-23 – Cycle World International Motorcycle Show, Dulles Expo Center



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Have something that you want to put in the newsletter? Let us know! It's YOUR newsletter!