THE CHESAPEAKE BULLETIN



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By Tom Young & Vicky Wilmer

After months of planning, promoting, and recruiting an outstanding group of volunteers, Chesapeake Region's efforts were rewarded on March 12th by being able to host our best Flea Market ever! The numbers only tell part of the story, but they were impressive – we sold more than 250 vendor spaces, had 25 vehicles in the car corral, and completely sold out all the purchased and donated food.

Because of the good early March weather, we were able to attract an excellent turnout of shoppers. We estimate that there were more than 400 cars parked in our new

shopper parking lot, and there was a steady stream of more shoppers arriving as late as 2 PM.

The level of activity with people buying and selling at a hot pace reminded some of us of how the Hershey Meet flea market used to be before it became an all blacktop affair. Most of the vendors we talked to said that they were satisfied with the sales volume they did at our Flea Market. This should result in many of them returning next year.

The Flea Market has become fairly big and complex and it requires a large staff of volunteers to setup, manage, and clean up the Fairgrounds afterward. The Club has been fortunate to have so many members volunteer.

The food operation was staffed by the following members – Rosalie Brown, Henry Chaudron, Barbara Diehl, Buzz Diehl, Wanda Garland, Helen Gordon, Ginny Habicht, Ellen Kelley, Barbara Muldowney, Anne Kenney, Tom Kenney, Paula Ruby, Vicky Wilmer, and Chris Young. And we had numerous members provide baked goods, soup, and chili. Thanks to everyone who made the food operation so successful this year.

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At the top of the page, two of the twenty-five vehicles in the Car Corral. The 1988 Corvette reportedly sold and the pickup truck was a project that no one was interested in for the moment. At the bottom, there were about 250 vendors indoors, under cover, and outdoors; this fender was going to a new home; and the this sign didn't stop the thousands of shoppers from buying all the bargains.

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Flea Market - continued







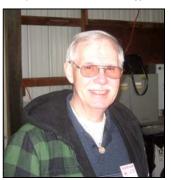


Shown from the left: Tom Young, vendors; Dan Materazzi, set-up; Vicky Wilmer, food ops; & Larry Butcher, 50/50 Raffle.







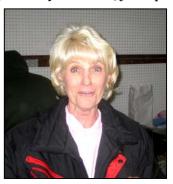


Shown from the left: Barbara Diehl, food ops; Helen Gordon, cashier; Ginny Habicht, food ops; & Henry Chaudron, food ops.









Shown from the left: Tom Kenney, cashier; Paula Ruby, food ops; Barbara Muldowney, food ops; & Wanda Garland, food ops.

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Managing the flow of vehicle traffic has become a key factor in getting vendors into their spaces efficiently and making sure that shoppers park in designated areas so that the roads aren't cluttered with parked cars. Thanks to the following volunteers for helping everyone park in proper areas – Ray Hirsch, Al Zimmermann, Dan Denham, Al Lawson, Franklin Gage, Ted Schneider, John Horn, Dave Cavey, Joe Zentgraf, Jerry Ross, and Dawson O'Neal, one of our Junior members.

On Friday, we had an excellent turnout for the vendor space and food operation setup work. In past years setup has been close to a full day of work for the crew, but this year, because of the good turnout, we were done in a few hours. A big thank you to: David Kelley, Owen Garland, Wayne McDaniel, Gary Wilmer, Dick Alexander, Dave Sturgis, Butch Comes, Franklin Gage, Jim Turner, Dan Materazzi, John Shenton, Paul Habicht, and John Young.

Several members provided their pickup trucks for hauling equipment, supplies, and trash/cleanup service. This is just one more example of our volunteers stepping up and ensuring that the Flea Market was a first-class operation. Thanks to: Jim Turner, Ed Allen, and John Shenton for their hard work

moving stuff around. Also, Gene Sauter, Franklin Gage, and Jim Turner helped on the cleanup detail.

The 50/50 Raffle was a successful venture for the Club with sales matching last year. Many thanks to all our members who either sold or bought the tickets that were mailed in early February. And a special thanks to our 50/50 crew: Larry Butcher, who received the money; Art Petrucci, who prepared the mailing; and to Joanne Day and Read Van Zile, who sold tickets to the vendors on Saturday.

By the way, this year's winner of the big 50/50 Raffle pot was Gary Wilmer.