

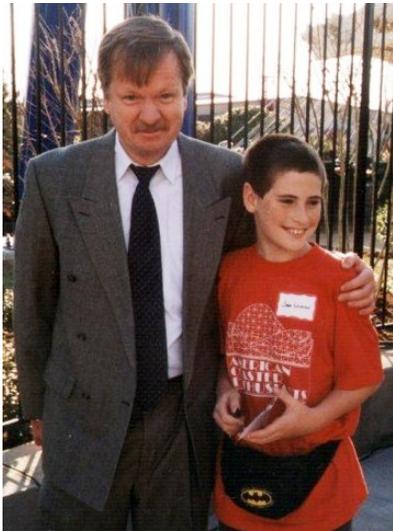


# The Southern Scream *WINTER 2010*



For ACE members in Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, & the Florida panhandle

Although Six Flags has yet to make their formal announcement about 2010 capital expenditures, The Southern Scream has exclusive information about a beloved attraction making a return engagement for Spring Fling.



Samuel Colter Ulrich.

Long time ACE Southeast members will remember Sam participating in ACE events from an early age. After all, Robert has been our Regional Rep for going on twelve years. And we weren't the only ones who knew Sam. A cover story of National Geographic Kids proclaimed Sam to be "The Coaster Kid". His astonishing feat of finishing over half of The Great American Scream Machine 30th anniversary marathon exclusively in the back seat. Heck, he even

worked at American Adventures. So, why has Sam been absent from so many Spring Flings? Well, he's been kinda busy. A year of studying in Colorado gave Sam the opportunity to go snowboarding in the Rockies. Not to mention time to spend at Lakeside and Elitch Gardens.



There have been hiking trips up and down Kennesaw Mountain. Economics classes and Kappa Sig functions to attend. And we can't forget keeping the Acworth, GA Target on, well, target.



Pictures provided by Facebook

The question then becomes what made it the right time for Sam to return to Spring Fling? We went straight to the source.

*"Well I figured that I haven't been to a Spring Fling in a while and since it's the old man's last one as Regional Rep, it's going to be good. Also with the economy the way it is, I've had a lot of slow time at work, and who else is going to uphold the Coaster Kid legacy if not the young Coaster Adult."*

And there you have it. Even as the Robert Ulrich Regional Rep era comes to a close, the Sam Ulrich Spring Fling attendance era begins anew. Sam has graciously offered to pose for pictures and sign autographs for all in attendance. And if that's not reason enough to come to Spring Fling, then what is?

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A message from.....

Maegen Worley

*ACE SE Webmaster*



Visit the ACE Southeast Website!

Get the latest ACE Southeast news and updates, view park info, discounts, event photos, or become a member at [www.acesoutheast.org](http://www.acesoutheast.org)



Carowinds update from...

**Max Cannon, ACE SE Assistant Regional Representative North & South Carolina**

"Construction continues to head towards the finish line at Carowinds on the new Intimidator B&M hyper coaster. The trackwork for the coaster was completed at the end of last year. Now, work centers around the station and the surrounding area. The park has launched a website for bids on the first public ride on March 27th <http://intimidator.carowinds.com/public/auction>



(For those of you not going to Spring Fling,)



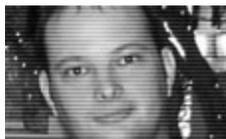
Painting continues on the rides in Planet Snoopy and the park expects to make another announcement very soon!

**Show your ACE membership card and receive \$15 off regular admission at Carowinds!**

**The rest of...  
The ACE Southeast  
Rep Team**



Kim Fowler, Assistant (Editor, The Southern Scream, SFOG)



Josh Herrington, Assistant (Mississippi, Special Projects)



Matt Lambert, Assistant (East Tennessee/ West Carolinas)



Chip Siczko, Assistant (Special Projects)



Kevin Smallhorn, Assistant (South Georgia, Projects)



Andi Westland, Assistant (Alabama)



**WHO WILL TAKE ROBERT'S PLACE AS ACE SE RR???**

**COME TO SPRING FLING ON MARCH 27<sup>TH</sup> TO FIND OUT!**

# Dollywood in December

By Karen Lawson

Dollywood is beautiful during the holidays. For the past couple of years, I've spent the first weekend in December with a group of friends in the park. Usually, the weather is on our side and it's warm enough to enjoy the coasters for most of the day without much of a wait. Instead of coasters this year, we got snow.



Most of us had been to the park many times before, but it all looked new to us blanketed with snow. It was fun to explore the park that was otherwise so familiar. The park staff seemed to take the weather in stride, too. Everyone was as cheerful and friendly as ever.

Even the eagles were lively.



We weren't limited to just the sights. While we didn't get to enjoy Thunderhead or Mystery Mine, we got a few turns on Blazing Fury. Some even braved the Dizzy Disk and the Dollywood Express. We got in the full holiday spirit by riding The Polar Express motion simulator ride (the former "Thunder Road" motion simulator ride for this special attraction.)



Even though the park closed early that day, we still got to see the park's decorations lit briefly. There was still a decent amount of snow left,

which made for a true winter wonderland. The park increased their use of LED lights this year. Besides being a little "greener" way to decorate, the glow from the lights seemed more colorful than usual.



While we didn't get to ride as much as usual, everyone still had a great time. We bundled up, enjoyed some warm drinks and each other's company. It's always fun to spend quality time with a great group of people in one of the country's most beautiful and friendly parks.



Pictures by Josh Herrington

# Wild Adventures 2010!

BY KEVIN SMALLHORN

"It has been over 5 years since the Southeast Region has been "Runnin' Wild" at Wild Adventures, but with a new year comes New Year's Resolutions. The new ownership group has made resolutions of their own to bring Wild Adventures to the forefront of the theme park industry in the Southeast.



With the addition of three new rides in 2010 including the scrambler, flying scooters and a Miler family-coaster, and a substantial investment of over \$1million in refurbishing Cheetah, the Herschend Family Entertainment Corporation has shown their commitment to a revitalized family park in south Georgia.



We are pleased and excited to have the opportunity to take Micha Hogan, Public Relations Coordinator for Wild Adventures, up on her offer to re-ignite the excitement of this event and put it back in the annual repertoire of enthusiasts all across the country as a must-do event. With a new ownership comes new surprises and this year is going to set the bar for all years to follow.



Come join us as we experience Wild Adventures unlike any time ever in its past. "Bottomless drinks" and "lights out" ERT are a couple of the items on the fun-filled menu for May 1. You will also have access to Wild Adventures Water Park throughout the day.

If you enjoy yourself as much as we expect, you can upgrade your admission to a "Gold Annual Pass" for just \$30 more and that will provide you with free parking at Wild Adventures, free adventure golf and go-kart rides, food & merchandise discounts and 50% off admission to additional discounts at the other parks within the Herschend Family Entertainment Corporations family of water and theme parks.

Oh, and did we mention you get to come back the next day free? All of this is part of the "new" Wild Adventures Water and Theme Park.



Come join us for a fun filled day for the entire family at one of the Southeast's premier water & theme parks. I look forward to seeing you there.

Lions... and Tigers... and Cheetah's... OH MY!



*Pictures provided by Wild Adventures*

# RUNNING WILD!

**Saturday, May 1, 2010**  
**(bonus day Sunday, May 2)**

It's time to go wild again in Valdosta. After over \$1 million in renovations to *Cheetah*, the park's wooden coaster wonder, a year of first ride privileges for ACE members, and the ACE Con in 2008, ACE Southeast returns to enjoy the rides at **Wild Adventures** in Valdosta, Georgia.

Saturday starts out with a group photo before getting the first rides on *Cheetah*. Note that this is a regular benefit for ACE members. After that attendees are free to explore the remainder of the park, including 9 roller coasters, all day enjoying "bottomless drinks" to quench their thirsts. And when they get hungry they can use their included meal ticket and choose from one of the several eateries in the park.

At the end of the day, while security is closing down and securing the park and animals for the night, everyone will get a chance to meet members of the Wild Adventures staff.

Finally, after the lights have been shut off on *Cheetah*, it will be time for ERT on *Cheetah*, *Hangman*, the Vekoma suspended looping coaster, along with the three new rides for this year including both a family coaster and flying scooters.

Attendees can return on Sunday with an included bonus admission day. And if you want to return more times during the year event tickets can be upgraded to a GOLD Season Pass for an additional \$30.

All this spells a great May day for only \$50 for an ACE member, or \$55 guests. Members with a Wild Adventures Season Pass can attend for just \$18. But hurry, registration closes April 16, the day after "tax day".



## SCHEDULE SUMMARY

- 9:30 AM Registration begins at the Front Gate
  - 9:55 AM Exclusive walk back for event attendees followed by a Group Photo at *Cheetah*.
  - 10:00 AM *Cheetah* opens with first ride privileges for ACE members and event attendees  
Wild Adventures opens to the public and you
  - 10:30 AM Registration pickup ends. Materials not picked up will be left at Will Call until 6 PM.
  - 7:00 PM Wild Adventures presentation
  - 8:00 PM ERT on *Cheetah* (in the dark), *Hangman*, flying scooters, scrambler and the family coaster (the three new rides for 2010)
- Sunday, May 2, attendees may visit the park again with their bonus day admission
- Attendees can upgrade their ticket to a Gold Season Pass for \$30 plus tax on either Saturday or Sunday.

## Running Wild at Wild Adventures —May 1, 2010 (bonus day May 2)

Name	City, State	Email (for confirmation purposes only)	Regular	Season Pass
			ACE \$50 Guest \$55	ACE \$18 Guest \$20

**Advance Registration Only! There is no on-site registration for this event.**

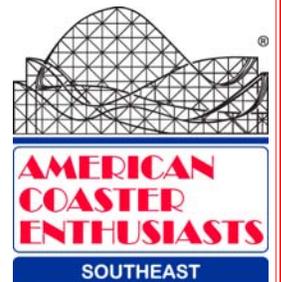
**Total Payment: \$**

To register for this event complete this form and mail it in\* or with a credit card on-line at [www.ACESoutheast.org](http://www.ACESoutheast.org) (service fee applies). Make checks payable to ROBERT ULRICH. Personal checks & money orders only, bill pay or on-line with credit card — do not send cash.

Send your completed order form and payment to:  
 Robert Ulrich, ACE SE  
 2921 Caribou Trail  
 Marietta, GA 30066-4115

Registration post-marked / online order completed by *Friday April 16, 2010*

While Wild Adventures will endeavor to provide ride times and the rides listed, inclement weather, equipment problems or other unforeseen circumstances may affect this schedule. Your registration is a non-refundable fee, and all registrations are final. Admission to the park, one meal voucher and ERT sessions are included in your registration fee. The payment of registration fees by, for or on behalf of participants releases and holds harmless the American Coaster Enthusiasts, Inc., and its Officers, Directors, Executive Committee Members and 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 also responsible for the conduct of non-member guests. Event tickets can be upgraded by redemption at the park's Season Pass Sales Office. \*To register via bank bill pay services send an email with the information requested to [RUlrich@ACEonline.org](mailto:RUlrich@ACEonline.org) and send a check or direct your financial institution's electronic payment to the address shown for receipt on or before the registration deadline above.



# REPS CORNER

BY: ROBERT ULRICH



It's time for *au' revoir*, or "see y'all later", but not farewell. This is my last official column as the Regional Representative for ACE's Southeast Region. After a dozen years it's time to let someone else experience the joy and heartache the position provides. My goal was to create an active community providing coaster enthusiasts a reason to come together and enjoy each other in the company of some great parks. Along the way we got to experience some great events, be introduced to some fantastic new rides, and also sadly say goodbye to well-loved parks and coasters.



But what I hadn't considered when taking this job was working with so many great park representatives and executives. When I stepped in the park reps weren't that familiar with ACE and we weren't that familiar with them. I strived to get ACE considered as a partner in promoting roller coasters and their history, and through those great people we were given that opportunity in many instances.



I think ACE's future lies in the relationship between the amusement park professionals and a professionally run club of fans who have defined guidelines, rules and elections that generate their activities. Through that relationship club members will be provided unique opportunities to gain knowledge and enjoy some unbelievable ride events.



As I write this column the new Rep has not been appointed, but I will support whoever steps in as he or she builds new relationships and friendships. It's an honor to have been able to build the Region into what it is - and perhaps a better word would be "aloha" which is both an acknowledgement of goodbye and a greeting.

Hoping to see you on your favorite ride someday in the future,

Robert



**Pictures provided by Facebook**



# ROBERT ULRICH

BY: JIM TAYLOR

I did not start out as a roller coaster person. I have been and always will be a public relations person. But being a PR person at an automobile plant means becoming somewhat of an expert on cars. PR people at hospitals must know a great deal about healthcare in order to speak the language of the reporters and other key constituencies they deal with.

At Six Flags I learned quickly about the business and was quickly able to talk the talk of the theme park industry. But Robert was the one that actually turned me into a coaster fan.

I remember one of our first conversations Robert asked what my favorite SFOG coaster was. Wanting to impress I said "The Ninja," recalling my teenage years of the early 90's when that coaster was the latest and greatest. I was shy to admit I had not yet ridden all of the rides at the park.



Robert giggled a little that day on the phone, but was very polite. During one of our first face-to-face meetings a few months later we rode several of the other coasters at the park. He casually recalled my remark and asked if I wanted to recant my position. I did!

It was Robert's vision that brought about what we now call Spring Fling. He came to me with the idea and I have to say, I wasn't quite sure it could be done. But he helped me put together a plan that we later presented to John Odum (then the GM). He bought it and we had roughly 30 people for Spring Fling 2003.

The next year Melinda Ashcraft was our GM. I wasn't sure how the plan would fly with the new boss. She not only accepted, she upped the ante with more food, more ERTs and more surprises! We more than doubled our numbers that year as I recall.

Through the years Robert was not only a close confidant that always seemed to know more about the park than I did, but a good friend too. I still remember a very soggy morning around 3 a.m. when we had run the Scream Machine only half of its 30-hour marathon in 2003. I was exhausted and frustrated. The weather was horrible; the ACEs were dropping one-by-one and worst of all it looked like we had deceased ex-mayor and ex-congressman news to compete with that next morning in the media. Things couldn't be much worse.

But as I sat there huddled under USA Games Whack-A-Mole, Robert came by to cheer me up and suggested that I take a few spins to help cheer up the guys out there on the tracks. It seemed to help the ACEs quite a bit and gave them a second wind. But I think he also knew that it would give me the boost I needed to get through the following day. It did. And I think that's the moment I really "got" ACE.

I still remember my last day of work at SFOG. It was Saturday, Spring Fling 2006. That day, Robert surprised me with a gift from ACE Southeast (which still sits on my desk) and we had some of the best coaster rides in memory. The weather was perfect and the crowd a delight to be around. Events with Robert were always easy.

After saying a few final goodbyes I thanked Robert one last time and shook his hand. I left, dropping off to ride Goliath one last time before heading home just after midnight. I did so with my new ACE plaque-clock under my arm. The next morning at 5 a.m. I was on the road to Chicago reporting to work at Six Flags Great America that Monday.

What a ride it's been.



# 2009 Coasterfest

STORIES BY: KIM FOWLER

A big thanks to Matt and the Dollywood team for making Coasterfest another amazing event. After attending this event several times I did not expect any new surprises, but there were. The morning started with ERT on Blazing Fury, a great indoor coaster. The temperatures were very chilly, but recovered nicely throughout the day. Probably the warmest Coasterfest we have seen in a few years.

After morning ERT we had a group picture and drawing for a full backstage tour of Blazing Fury.

Picture by Robert Ulrich



A large group took advantage of the special rates for the new Sky Zip. It was an amazing ride and the weather was perfect to fly through the sky above the park.



As the sun went down and the crowds went home we had hot chocolate while the park was being swept. Robert Ulrich and Matt Lambert conducted an auction with goodies Dollywood donated to ACE. Matt also announced the winners of his WORLD FAMOUS scavenger hunt.



The night ended with ERT on The Thunderhead and Tennessee Tornado.

# 2010 Spring Fling

## TOP TEN REASONS TO ATTEND SPRING FLING!

- ✓ Food (lot's of it!)
- ✓ Walk-back Tour for 30
- ✓ Additional rides added to ERT (11 of them!)
- ✓ Special entertainment during park sweep
- ✓ Meet our new SFOG representative
- ✓ Did I mention Goliath?
- ✓ A short 4 hour drive north to ride Intimidator opening weekend!
- ✓ Find out who the new ACE SE RR will be
- ✓ Southern Hospitality
- ✓ Thank Robert for the amazing 12+ years he has been ACE SE RR

## CALLING ALL ACE MEMBERS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY

*Would you like to contribute to an art project we are putting together? If you have any Robert, Peggy or Sam stories or pictures from the past 12 ++ years you would like to share PLEASE send them to Kim Fowler at [kim.coasterqueen.fowler@gmail.com](mailto:kim.coasterqueen.fowler@gmail.com) by February 27<sup>st</sup>.*

# A Bigger & Better Spring Fling!

Saturday, March 27, 2010

In 2010 the biggest ACE Southeast Regional event gets better than ever and the Spring coaster riding season officially begins when members and guests from around the world enjoy a *Spring Fling* at **Six Flags Over Georgia**. To keep up energy throughout the day enjoy a continental breakfast along with the morning ERT session. And there will be triple the number enjoying the backstage photo tour. Plus, there will be more surprises!

If you're new to Spring Fling, it's a different sort of event—with an invitation that's thin on details while the actual day is an absolute marathon of roller coaster fun. Since this notice goes out in the dead of Winter we can only sketch out the exclusive ride times and other activities. But rest assured that most of the coasters in the park's varied collection will be enjoyed during the exclusive sessions—and there will be a few more surprises as well.

And for 2010 the ticket price remains the same as ever—just \$60 for an ACE member, \$75 for guests. Plus, Six Flags Season Pass holders get in for half price—and that's with any valid 2010 Six Flags Season Pass. NEW Six Flags Over Georgia 2010 Season Passes\* can be processed starting at 8:00 AM.

Make plans for a great lunch, a spread of Southern hospitality unequalled at any event in the Spring. Plus, take a chance for \$1 to get one of 30 spots (winner + 2 guests) for what has become a Spring Fling tradition—a backstage photo tour of the park. Proceeds go to the ACE Museum & Archives Fund.

So get out that calendar and mark the date. This will be a day filled with fun and even more surprises (and also the last before the Region has a new Regional Rep). And everyone, everywhere talk to those who are in the know and keep the rain away! After 2 rainouts we're pulling out all the stops and calling in all favors!



## SCHEDULE SUMMARY

- 7:30 AM Free Parking (until 9 AM) and check in at the Main Gate. After 10:30 AM pick up your materials from the Will Call window.
- 8:00 AM ERT begins on the *Georgia Scorcher*. Season Pass Processing opens. Continental Breakfast in *Papa John's*.
- 8:30 AM More ERT TBA—schedule provided at check-in.
- 9:30 AM ERT ends, Group Photo time! (Location TBA)
- 10:00 AM Six Flags Over Georgia opens to the public & you
- Noon Lunch in the picnic pavilion. Take a chance to win a spot on the photo walk back through a \$1/chance lottery. Auctions, prizes and surprises, too.
- 2:00 PM Exclusive 30-person (1 winner + 2 guests) photo walk back tour for lottery winners
- 8:45 PM Meet in Crystal Pistol for security & more surprises
- 9:00 PM Six Flags closes to the public
- 9:30 PM 2 hours of ERT begins on *Superman-Ultimate Flight* and more, ending at 11:30 PM

## Spring Fling at Six Flags Over Georgia — March 27, 2010

Name	City, State	Email (for confirmation purposes only)	Regular	Season Pass
			ACE \$60 Guest \$75	ACE \$30 Guest \$45

**Advance Registration Only! There is no on-site registration for this event.**

Total Payment: \$

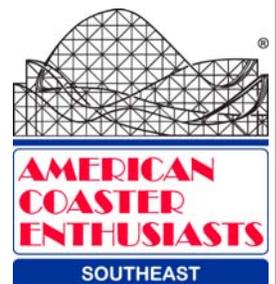
To register for this event complete this form and mail it in\*\* or with a credit card on-line at [www.ACESoutheast.org](http://www.ACESoutheast.org) (service fee applies). Make checks payable to ROBERT ULRICH. Personal checks & money orders only, bill pay or on-line with credit card — do not send cash.

Send your completed order form and payment to:  
Robert Ulrich, Regional Representative  
2921 Caribou Trail  
Marietta, GA 30066-4115

Registration post-marked / online order completed by *Mon. March 8, 2010*

While Six Flags Over Georgia will endeavor to provide ride times and the rides listed, inclement weather, equipment problems or other unforeseen circumstances may affect this schedule. Your registration is a non-refundable fee, and all registrations are final. Admission to the park and ERT sessions are included in your registration fee. The payment of registration fees by, for or on behalf of participants releases and holds harmless the American Coaster Enthusiasts, Inc., and its Officers, Directors, Executive Committee Members and 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 also responsible for the conduct of non-member guests.

\*Sorry, only Six Flags Over Georgia Season Pass vouchers can be processed. \*To register via bank bill pay services send an email with the information requested to [RUlrich@ACEonline.org](mailto:RUlrich@ACEonline.org) and send a check or direct your financial institution's electronic payment to the address shown for receipt on or before the registration deadline above.





2921 Caribou Trail  
Marietta, GA 30066-4115  
To submit your story or photos send  
them to [KFowler@ACEonline.org](mailto:KFowler@ACEonline.org)  
ON THE WEB AT  
[WWW.ACESOUTHEAST.ORG](http://WWW.ACESOUTHEAST.ORG)  
OR [WWW.ACEONLINE.ORG](http://WWW.ACEONLINE.ORG)

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

*Natalie Keng \* Atlanta, GA*

*Jason & Jessica Ross \* Evans, GA*

*Michael, Tiffany, Alyssa, Aly Copeland \**

*Knoxville, TN*



## 2010 EVENTS

**March 27, 2010 – Spring Fling**

**May 1, 2010 – Wild Adventures**

**September 11, 2010 – Carolina  
Coaster Classic (C3), Carowinds**

**November 20, 2010 – Coasterfest,  
Dollywood**