

Motorcycle Team Races For Fun & Prizes

By Matt Kresser

This has been quite a stellar year for OCC's men on motorcycles. From every angle, it is obvious that the program has reached new levels of excellence.

New recruits such as Tommy Damon, Gunner Schull and Mark Johnson have survived the initiation gruel and joined the ranks while the old guard solidified with Walter Guild, Brant Ackerman, Al Serafin, Mark Kennedy and John Beaumont holding their ground by exhibiting decades of accumulated skills. Also on the team were Alan Pflueger, Derek Wood, Brian Deer, Keola Sheehan, Brenton Block and Matt Kresser.

This assorted cast of rookies, veterans and hellions has trained, competed and road tripped extensively from day one and, to date, has compiled a ground breaking string of performances. In addition to showing force at local events such as the Cobra Hare-n-Hound, and other enduro type races held on the north shore of Oahu.

OCC's crew ascended upon two neighbor island venues with grand style and horsepower. The first of these meets was the President's Day race on Kauai. This three-day race-fest sported a tag team Hare-Scramble, a hurricane ravaged cross-country Enduro and a fun for all Poker Run over our three day sojourn.

By the guiding light of our committee chief Alan Pflueger, our team landed in Princeville armed and ready and proceeded to duke it out in the dirt against the Sandwich Isle's best.

Despite all attempts by the OCC youngins' the first day's spoils landed fat in the lap of team Geritol's combo of Guild/Ackerman who conquered their division. The following day's endurance challenge

would further test our haggard troops as they were plunged mercilessly into more than a hundred miles of lot-littered trails and the remnants of the power and fury of a much too recent Iniki.

Remarkable, though madly frustrating, the race course managed to provide its riders with some of the most choice and splendid panoramas imaginable. Mother Nature hath no mercy, however, and half of our valiant warriors fell victim to mechanical overloads and subsequent DNF's (did not finishes).

Despite all the trauma, the team succeeded in taking home overall honors as well as having an epic road trip to the Garden Island. Our palatial accommodations Casa de Pflueger, combined with the renowned managerial and pit-crewing expertise of Greg Moss and Tiare Finney, made for quantum catered cookouts and horseplay.

In May, we participated in what is now considered one of the world's most demanding off-road events, the Mauna Kea 200. The cornerstone of the OCC riding program, this year's race proved to be the most gruelling ever with the entry of pro level riders from around the world.



Outrigger riders gather before the President's Day Enduro on Kauai.



Keola Sheehan, Alan Pflueger and Walter Guild rest bikes and bodies during lunch break during Mauna Kea 200.

The promoters have upped the ante for bike and body, and revamped the MK200 into even more of a torture than it was before. Seized bikes, blistered and battered bodies, and broken wills punctuated many a rider's experience.

Undaunted, however, were OCC's Keola Sheehan, who blitzed to a fifth place finish, and sole survivors Derek Wood and Alan Pflueger.

After all was said and done, the troops journeyed home hungrier than ever and have already begun their plans for next year's mayhem.