

Chesapeake Region Annual Crab Feast

by Nick Prevas with input from Jerry Gordon,
Gary Ruby, Bill Wurzell, and Buzz Diehl



Saturday, July 20, dawned a little cooler than the previous days' heat wave—just right for an outing at the Avalon Area of Patapsco State Park. Of course several of our members who purchase and transport the crabs and shrimp, were up before well before the crack of dawn. Others who help with the breakdown and wrapping of individual servings, beverages, corn cooking, and set-ups arrived very early. Then a bunch of hungry members materialized—123 of them!

Without any hesitation they consumed 50 lbs. of Chesapeake Bay Blue Crabs, 50 dozen shrimp, countless ears of corn and hot dogs, not to mention a wide assortment of side dishes and deserts. This year's crabs were large, meaty, and considered by many to be the best ever in the 30-some odd years Chesapeake Region has been holding this event.

Member Bill Wurzell spoke for many: "This was my first crab feast and 'food extravaganza' since joining Chesapeake Region. The food was excellent, especially the crabs, corn and deserts; I had four ears of corn!

Probably a good thing it was all gone, otherwise I would have had more."

The auction was fun too and raised a nice sum for the club. Member and Chief Auctioneer Gary Ruby summarized it thus: "The auction was a little slow this year...but there were a few good items. There was a double-sided Texaco sign which I wanted and I bid her up and its mine now! We also auctioned a 1942 Oldsmobile shop manual. There were 4 or 5 die cast cars that sold well, a craftsman torque wrench, 1/2-inch breaker bar, a creeper, and 4 jack stands. Most sold well. We also had a turkey hat for sale [hilarious!]."

Linda Prevas won the 50-50 raffle and went home a very happy lady.

Many thanks to everyone who worked hard to make this event a success, notably: Jerry and Helen Gordon, Bonnie Mielke, Ed and Mary Allen, Gary and Vicky Wilmer and their sons Todd and Andrew, Paula and Gary Ruby, Al Lawson, Joann Day and Read Van Zile, Buzz Diehl, and all who shucked corn, packaged food, brought side dishes, and donated auction items.

[I regret any omissions. If I've omitted anyone, please contact me for future recognition. Thanks, Nick]