

## THE RIGHT WAY TO WIND DOWN



On Sunday Andy Lightle invited the Warrior's Society team up on the Main Divide at Four Corners for the 1st Annual Maples Springs Ping-Pong Tournament. As the riders started pedaling Andy loaded his truck with chairs, drinks, adult beverages, pizza, a Ping-Pong table and drove up to meet them. Dances with Hornets--Chris Vargas himself--was the first rider to meet Andy at the top. He was greeted by a set up Ping-Pong table, blasting reggae music, and the discovery that half the pizza and most of the adult beverages had mysteriously vanished. Molly was next up and was soon followed by the remaining Tournament contestants. They immediately selected teams and started hacking away at the ball. It turned out to be the Warrior's against the elements: The winds wreaked havoc on the placement of the shots. The sun was throwing out harsh shadows. And riders' cleats were fighting for traction against the rocks.

With a performance enhancing drug test pending, Pat "Shoot 'Em Low" Burton and Barry "Hang 'Em High" Wood were able to walk away with the coveted Rubber Chicken Awards. The first ever Maple Spring Ping-Pong Tournament Championships was in the books!

The Special Ed Comedy Award goes to Ron "I can't play Ping-Pong so I'll just move all funny during the game" Sawacki. He was able to fake it into the finals with partner Chris "Oh, my eyes are supposed to follow the ball?" Vargas...

The best part about this tournament was not about the win (obviously). It was about getting out and having fun again. No pressure to perform. No predawn alarm clock. No energy supplements taped onto the top tube. Just a ton of smiles and lots of laughs! If you could have only seen the looks on the faces of various OHV'ers and mountain bikers as they passed the tournament site way up in the mountains!



## SUPPORT THOSE WHO MAKE IT HAPPEN

The Cleveland National Forest borders Riverside and Orange Counties. It's incredible riding potential has borne more National and World Champions and breakthrough bike designs than any other place in the world. The Warrior's Society is the group largely responsible for maintaining and prolonging its availability to all user groups alike. Like braves were chosen to protect the tribe and the lands of the Warrior's Societies of the Plains Indians, the Warrior's Society is made up of cyclist, trail runners and hikers who dedicate themselves to improving and protecting the trails for modern man. The Society only votes member into the tribe. To become a brave you must share the tribe's love of the land and the endurance to ride or hike it. Once you are voted in you will be given a name that best matches your personality.

The Warrior's Society actively campaigns the local and national NORBA circuits. This year Monique Sawicki won the NMBS National Marathon title and placed third at the U.S. Championships. Ron Sawicki won the U.S. National 30-39 Marathon Championship. The Warrior's Team--Andy Lightle, Drew Lazenby, Brian Blair, and Ron and Monique won Hawaii's 24 Hours In Paradise.

Following are a few of the Warrior's Society tribal names:

Chris Vargas: Dances With Hornets--Chris got stung 49 times by hornets up a hike-a-bike. But he still finished the three hour ride. Chris is the founder and Executive Director of the Warrior's Society.

Andy Lightle: Fast on Slow Horse--Andy rides a single speed (and likes beer too).

Molly Hartsough: Quick Sparrow--Strong single speed rider.

Ron Sawicki: Charging Horse--Because of his intensity in competition.

Monique Sawicki: Coup Women--She has counted many coup (won many races).

Every riding location throughout our land needs a protector group like the Warrior's Society. Log on to <http://www.warriorssociety.org> and learn how to start your own!