

The Kickstand



August 2004

WWW.VMTAColumbusga.org

Newsletter Editor/Webmaster: Chris Aycock (706) 507-1839

September Business Meeting:

September 13th 7:00
Shoney's on Airport
Throughway, eat at 6:30.

October Business Meeting:

October 11th 7:00 Shoney's
on Airport Throughway, eat
at 6:30.

Officer Contacts

President: Roger Miller
(706) 327-7999

Vice-President: John McRae
(706) 628-4486

Ride Chairman: Barry Cowall
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Treasurer: Mary Fiske
(706) 561-3543

Secretary: Peggy Martin
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The President's Letter

The President's Message

Greetings, again. These busy months of summer go by fast! Hope you all enjoyed your vacations, if you took them, and had a chance to honor our nation's birthday. July 4th is always the highlight of July in my book. While you were doing just that, I hope that you had a chance to think and pray for our folks in Iraq. Doesn't matter how you feel about the war, these young men and women are putting their lives on the line during service for their country and rightly deserve the honor and respect that goes with this most difficult job.

Speaking of vacations, remember I referred to my annual trek to Wisconsin last month? Well, again this year it was a blast. After doing the family reunion thing, we sent Susan back home to work and ol' Dad and I piled in the boat to go drown some worms. The weather was picture perfect except for one day when it got a little breezy. We fish mainly in a small spring-fed lake about 15 miles west of town. I have fished this lake since I was a little kid so we know it like the back of our hands. We fished for panfish and in 2 ½ days we cleaned over 140 big bluegills (brim) and crappie. With ultralite rigs you just cannot have any more fun fishin'. And then to top it off, my Mom and sister treated us, and some friends, to a beer-battered fish feast. Folks, I'm tellin' ya, it just doesn't get any better than that!

Back home! I certainly apologize for the mix-up at the last meeting. Both Johnnie and I were out of town and my mind was occupied with my father who was showing some serious symptoms just before we left for Wisconsin. Fortunately, they proved to be not serious, but in any case I did not properly communicate down the chain of command. I understand the meeting turned out just fine and many thanks to Bob Smith for stepping up and taking the reins!

Looks like we will vote on the revised By-Laws at the upcoming meeting, so I hope everyone has taken the time to review them. No big changes, just keeping accurate as to what we really do. It's kind of an ISO9001 cleanup.

I know the hot weather has put a damper on the rides as it always does this time of year, but I am most pleased that the more aggressive tact we committed to in the June meeting – the calling committee - is working! We are seeing much better participation; many thanks to those who are making those calls. I hope everyone is laying plans for the next three months. It certainly looks like a fun schedule all the way through October. By the way, please note that we have changed our River Party to the 21st, and certainly hope that fits in with your plans. Don't miss that Bratwurst!

Ride safe!

Roger

Deadline for September Newsletter:
Tuesday 7 September.
Email articles to:
Newsletter@VMTAColumbusga.org

Announcements

Helping Others

Bring any canned foods, diapers, and non-perishable foodstuffs to the September, October, and November club meetings. Mary Fiske will be collecting these items in order to help the House of Mercy assist needy people during the holiday season.

The Editor's Note

My New Honda

Chris Aycock

For those who haven't heard, an unfortunate mishap while I was away put me in the market for a new machine. After pondering the issue for a few days, reading magazine reviews, and asking around I headed to the Honda shop and plunked my money down on a new red Honda.

I could not be more pleased. It's certainly high-tech, with an advanced engine, composite bodywork, and plenty of features that can't be found with the competition. It handles well, the engine is more than powerful, and it cruises effortlessly.

I was out with it this morning and found yet another cool feature; when the bag is full of grass the blade clutch automatically disengages to let you know it's time to empty the bag.

Those Honda lawnmowers are certainly impressive.



August Birthdays

2nd – Peggy Martin
3rd – Terry Glisson
4th – Denny Reid
19th – Roger Miller
26th – Sandy Reid
26th – Donald Lamee
31st – Larry Mack



August Anniversaries

22nd – Jerry and Sonja Boyd
22nd – Jeff and Janet Howell
23rd – Terry and Marsha Glisson

Around the Bend: Barry's Bulletin Board and Ride Schedule

August 7th: Yoder's; 5:00 Burger King Victory Drive. Turnout has always been great for this event and the food has always been superb.

August 21st: Roger & Susan's River Party; 12:00 Wal-Mart. This has always been a great event, and there are no better hosts.

August 12th: Milano's; 6:30 Wal-Mart Phenix City.

August 22nd: Tallassee; 11:00 Wal-Mart Phenix City.

August 26th: Peppermill Grill; 6:30 Wal-Mart Phenix City.

August 28th: Fantails; 4:30 Wal-Mart Phenix City.

September 11th: Progressive Dinner; 5:00 Shell Station Across From the Welcome Center.

September 16th: Cock Of The Walk; 6:30 Wal-Mart Phenix City.

September 18th-19th: Mountain Ride With Chris; 8:00 Krispy Kreme Veteran's Parkway. Come and explore the mountains with one of our leading guides for the weekend. You won't be disappointed.

September 23rd-26th: Wings Over The Smokies; Leaving at different times, check with Roger to see which group is leaving at which time.

October 23rd: Shrimp Peel.

October 30th: Sweet Potato Festival.

On The Road: Events in and around the Columbus Area

September 4th: Balloon Festival Callaway Gardens; Night Glow at the beach Friday evening, Balloon Fest Saturday and Sunday

Safety Tip of the Month:

Keep to the left or right of your lane, never in the middle. Since there are no car tires in the middle of the lane to clear them dirt, oil, nails, and the occasional animal carcass tends to accumulate in the middle of the lane.

Ride Reports

Country Ride

The heat and vacations conspired to postpone the planned Georgia Mountain ride until September so instead we went on a ride through the country north of Columbus on Sunday morning, leaving from Krispy Kreme.

First, let me say a few words about Krispy Kreme.

Krispy Kreme on Veteran's Parkway is a new doughnut shop. They have been around for years but are new to Columbus. Hank Aaron owns this particular shop.

The right time to stop at a Krispy Kreme is when the red neon sign that proclaims "Hot Doughnuts Now" is illuminated. Your doughnuts will be picked right off of the conveyor belt with the sugar coating just having been applied. Never has anything so bad tasted so good.

Okay, enough about the doughnuts. John Fiske, Terry Glisson and his son, Roger, and Susan showed so off we went past Hamilton, over Pine Mountain, and up to nearly LaGrange. We took some lonely back roads to state route 100, which we then followed down to Greenville. From Greenville we went east to a place called 'Cove,' a little settlement near the Flint Rover.

Cove is interesting because it's completely ringed by hills. Georgia Tech has its radio telescopes there, an interesting and surprising site.

As many of you have figured, I don't like riding to events or dinners. I just like to ride. So ride on we did, through Manchester and over to FDR Park on Pine Mountain, then back to Columbus.

We returned by noon and well before it became too hot. Since we stuck to mainly back roads we had plenty of shade as it was.

Everybody seemed happy to have dragged themselves out of bed so early on Sunday.

Chris Aycock

Blue Moon Ride

I am sure that most of you are aware that VMTA had a fantastic "Moonlight Ride" on Saturday the 31st of July. Not only was it a full moon but this was a "Blue Moon". There will not be another Blue Moon for approximately two and one-half years.

Saturday started out being a hot July day, and this carried on into the evening hours. We gathered at the departing location, Miller Road Burger King, and everyone was excited and greatly anticipating the ride. The temperature was still hanging in the nineties and the sky was clear, which meant this was destined to be an exciting evening. We had thirteen bikes and twenty-two riders, which included several guests. We left as planned at nine and headed toward Box Springs, then making the turn south towards Buena Vista with George and Gwen bringing up the rear. I had the lead; therefore, no one had to request that I do my usual serenade.

The moon was spotted coming up just prior to reaching our turn at Box Springs. It was very large, had a beautiful orange glow and made you feel all warm and fuzzy inside. The pace was slow and easy allowing everyone to take in the prominent evening smells and enjoy the beauty of the moon as it came up. Jake and Joan Kaplan were waiting for us just South of Buena Vista and fell into position as we passed. Once in Americus we stopped and took a well-deserved break. Everyone was full of conversation and had lots talk about.

Back on the road we headed to our final destination, Steak and Shake in Albany. (Albany no longer has an IHOP, Shoney's, or Denny's) Once we arrived it was then everyone for themselves. I had called earlier and informed the Management that we had twenty-four individuals and would be there at midnight. We were just a few minutes early. Once everyone was seated the conversations picked up again and continued on through until we left the restaurant and pulled out north toward home. We returned home by the four-lane through Dawson and Richland riding at approximately the speed limit. A few clouds did appear during the ride but none that threatened of rain. We arrived back in Columbus just before three on Sunday Morning. For those of you that missed this ride, I can truly say it was one of the better rides. At the end of the ride if you put the kick stand down at home, it has been a good ride. Everyone did that, and this was one of the better rides.

Clete Richardson

Blue Moon Ride

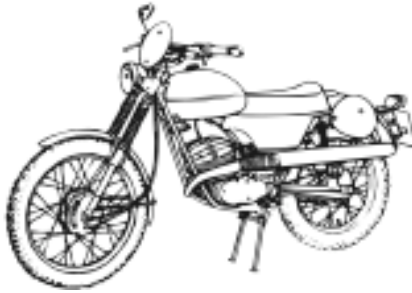
Our four guests were suitably impressed with the snake of red lights winding along the curves and hills in front of them. We enjoyed the show too. Letting the newer members ride toward the back of the line gave them a new perspective also.

There were 14 club bikes and Renee's Harley on this warm August evening. Try as he might, Clete could not find a rain shower on this ride. As usual we left at 9pm along two lane roads down to Albany, picking up Joan & Jake below Buena Vista. The full moon was spectacular on the eastern horizon. Johnny kept getting lost as the moon changed sides of the road, it was confusing as we came out of the valleys and the moon was on the other side of the road.

In typical club fashion, the ride captain had checked for our

hospitality stop several days ahead of time. Not a lot of places open that time of night could handle this crowd of twenty-four individuals. But we were in luck and had plenty of food to select. Coffee was a choice of a lot of riders to keep us awake for the long ride home. It really was 3am before we saw the lights of Columbus. This is always a big turnout for the club during our hot summer months – we do love to ride – anytime!

Bob Smith



For Sale by Member Lighted trunk mirror for GL1800 with wiring harness - \$45. R. Miller

Set of storage bags(3) tailor cut for the GL1800 storage compartments. Brand new, still in box. \$45.

Trunk organizer for GL1500 - used but in excellent condition - \$8

If you have anything for sale that you would like to advertise in the newsletter please email the details to:
Newsletter@VMTAColumbusga.org.

VMTA Calendar of Events August 2004

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 Yoder's 5:00 Burger King Victory Drive
8	9	10	11	12 Milano's 6:30 Wal-Mart Phenix City	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Roger and Susan's River Party 12:00 Wal-Mart Phenix City
22 Tallassee 11:00 Wal- Mart Phenix City	23	24	25	26	27	28 Fantails 4:30 Wal-Mart Phenix City
29	30	31				

VMTA Calendar of Events September 2004

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6 Labor Day	7	8	9	10	11 Progressive Dinner 5:00 Shell Station at Welcome Center
12	13	14	15	16 Cock of the Walk 6:30 Wal-Mart Phenix City	17	18 Mountain Ride 8:00 Krispy Kreme Veteran's Pkwy
19	20	21	22	23 Wings Over the Smokies	24 Wings Over the Smokies	25 Wings Over the Smokies
26 Wings Over the Smokies	27	28	29	30		