



The Kickstand

October 2004

WWW.VMTAColumbusga.org

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

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

November Business Meeting:
November 8th 7:00 Shoney's
on Airport Throughway, eat
at 6:30.

Officer Contacts

President: Roger Miller
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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

Greetings, again! Well, to say that we had an interesting month weather-wise would be putting it mildly...you think? Fortunately, from the aspect of motorcycle touring the weather events were nice enough to confine themselves to mid-week and we really had very little weekend weather that threatened our desire to motor around on two wheels! But, oh, our comrades in Florida had quite a time of it!

With that, we have confirmed through Patrick that all is well at the SandPiper Beacon so make your plans accordingly for another one of our main events – SHRIMP PEEL. As per usual it sounds like a main group will be going down early Saturday morning with other smaller groups or souls leaving earlier. I am sure we will discuss in more detail at the meeting. Also, as per usual I am extending an invitation to our friends in the Blue Knights and the local GWRRA Chapter. Looking forward to it!

I was very happy to see the Club had very good participation for the Wings Over Smokies rally again this year and the weather could not have been better! I talked with Don L. and he has been going for about 15 years and this was the first time he remembers not seeing a single rain drop! Outside of a serious run-in with the Days-Inn, it was an excellent rally and Susan and I really enjoyed ourselves. Thought it would be nice if

someone else won the motorcycles this year, though! However, I was not so happy to see the lack of club participation in the Bikes & Badges ride again this year. This event is for a very good cause, folks, and is high visibility for the club. Please mark this on your calendars for next year.

I want to close this month's letter on a bit of a solemn note and ask you for your prayers. We have a couple of our club members who are having some serious health issues and as a part of our family they need our support. Shack and George have either had or are about to have surgery and will likely be laid up for some time. Please, do what you can to comfort and support these men and their spouses.

Ride safe and God bless!

Roger

Deadline for November Newsletter:
Tuesday 2 November. 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.

New Newsletter Submission Procedures

As you can see above we had an email problem that prevented me from bringing you Roger's note. This has happened a couple of times before when members sent submissions for the newsletter. They sent the article. It just never showed up at the VMTA Newsletter offices.

In order to prevent this in the future I am implementing a new submission procedure. Whenever you email a submission for the newsletter I will respond to your email letting you know I received it. Normal turnaround for this is 24 hours, but in case of travel it could be up to 72 hours before you receive confirmation.

If you don't receive an email confirmation that means I didn't receive your email and your submission will not be in the next newsletter.

Also, submissions for the "For Sale by Member" section will need to be submitted each month you want an item listed. If you post an item in one month's newsletter and it doesn't sell, you need to contact me to continue the listing for the next month's newsletter.

Chris

October Birthdays

1st – Bob Smith
1st – John Fiske
24th – Carolyn Shackelford

October Anniversaries

8th – Sid and Peggy Martin
19th – Barry and Linda Cowall
30th – Don and Peggy Lamee

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

October 17th ~ Bullock House In Warm Springs ~ 10:30 Burger King Miller Road ~ Johnny was gracious enough to lead this ride and the food there is superb!

October 23rd ~ Shrimp Peel In Panama City ~ This will be brought up at the September meeting. Please consider helping and volunteering some services. This is your club too!

There will be a group leaving Friday morning, the 22nd, contact either Roger Miller or Bob Smith and the main group will leave per tradition at the Waffle King in PC on Saturday morning at 8:00.

October 30th ~ Sweet Potato Festival Ocilla ~

November 7th ~ Lineville Car Show ~

November 11th ~ Hunters Pub ~ Welcome Center Shell 6:30

November 20th ~ Moultrie Car Meet ~ One of the largest Car Swap, Auction, and Vendors I've ever seen!

December 4th ~ Christmas Dinner Party ~ Magnolia Cafe

December 5th ~ Toys for Tots ~

On The Road: Events in and around the Columbus Area

Mossy Creek Barnyard Festival, Perry, GA Oct 16-17

Georgia Apple Festival, Elijay, GA Oct 2-10 & 16-17

Ossahatchee Indian Festival, Hamilton, GA Oct 15-17

The Georgia Mountain Fall Festival, Hiawassee, GA Oct 8-17

Safety Tip of the Month:

Practice emergency braking on a deserted road sometime this month. You would be surprised at how quickly you can stop after just a few practice stops.

Ride Reports

Ride to Wings Over The Smokies

Joan Kaplan

FINALLY!!! Bags packed, loaded, little ride to Columbus, breakfast done, bathroom done, quick puff on cigar by Jake done, everyone mounted, (total of 8 bikes I believe), the time had finally arrived for us to leave on our three day excursion to the mountains for the Wings Over The Smokies Rally. Clete was our great leader that day. After a little practice of going in a circle, we headed in the right direction and were on our way. The weather could not have been more beautiful. The route was planned so as to not get on the interstate, so here we go off on nice, pleasant scenic highways to our destination. The trip was very nice even if we did have to turn around a couple of times (nobody is perfect). At least Clete chose good places to do our turning around and didn't make me try and turn that big red around in any precarious territory. Thank you Clete. It turned into an all day ride, but heck, that's what it's all about isn't it? We arrived at the motel around 4:30. At the registration desk was one of our own (Denny), who had gone up the day before with another group, trying his best to get the very unreasonable, unprofessional so called manager

to honor all of our prior approved room prices. You see, the motel quoted and made reservations with all of us for the price of \$69 only for it to have been changed to \$89. The man would not budge one ounce on charging us the quoted price. So it was to stay at the higher rate or leave. It was discovered that the Econo Lodge across the street had some rooms available, so most left and went over there, but my better half had already checked in (tired and wanting to get unpacked and take a break). The ones that had arrived the day before were there also, because at the time, there were no rooms available anywhere else. The rooms were definitely NOT worth what we had to pay. But I had to quit complaining because like Jake said, why let this ruin our much awaited trip. But it is still not fair.

Anyway, having arrived, settled in, rested and freshened up, some got together and went to supper at a nearby cafeteria. The food was good but Sid and I (after discussing the GREAT coconut pie at Yoders and seeing big slices of delicious looking pie there), we just had to have some. BIG MISTAKE!! Looks can be deceiving. It was so bad we could not eat it. But I heard no complaints on anything else. The end of the first day, tummies full, socializing over with, great beautiful ride behind us, we all headed back to our rooms to rest our weary bodies.

Now men, I must say this: IF your better half was to EVER decide to POSSIBLY want her own bike, and a Gold Wing at that, you better watch out at the first rally. I was sooooo excited about my new "wing" and going to a Gold Wing rally, well, what can I say? I just wanted everything! I managed to get an appointment with TJ and got some pinstriping done, (which I think turned out very beautiful), got me a backrest, got some chrome front wheel break covers, an ID plate, and yes some lights to go around those chrome covers, I mean I was just going crazy. Then

it hit me that I could slow down and get some things later because there would be more rallies. I am sure Jake was glad I FINALLY realized that. Boy, this stuff for these wings sure is expensive. Anyway, needless to say, my bike looks totally different, I am excited about it all, and Jake is worrying about the charge card statement. Now there was one other "little" thing I bought, only to be used as a gag sometimes, that we won't go into detail about. Now with my bike looking soooo good, an exciting day behind me, I was ready for day 3, getting to ride again.

Boy!!! Ride we did. There were about 3 different groups leaving out the next day for home. Again, not wanting to travel on the interstate, we chose to go with Bob because he said he had a route that was not touching an interstate. It was absolutely a fantastic ride (to start with). No, it was a great ride all day long, but I found out I was too old for such riding. We rode for 12 hours and 450 miles to get home. I really liked those winding curvy mountain roads though. It was a great day again weather wise. There were 6 bikes in our group. I was worried that people might be getting aggravated because we had to stop about every 100 miles to gas up cause Jake's bike has a smaller tank, but by mid afternoon I think we all relished those quick gas stops so we could get off the bikes for just a few minutes. Anyway, we say "thank you" for putting up with our "so many" stops. Also, "thank you" goes to the ones we rode with going up on the first day.

I will end this with saying to Clete, I will try my best to remember not to do my little swaying maneuvers in the future, while riding in formation, and to say "Thank you" for being a wonderful leader. Then I would like to say "Thank you" to Bob for giving me some pointers on making those curves easier, and for being a great leader. Last but not least, I would like to say the trip was an exciting, wonderful, tiring (sometimes), expensive adventure

that I will remember forever. But most of all, like I have read in many of Barry's articles, one could not ask for a better group of people to associate with, and it is because of all of you that make being a part of this club so wonderful and memorable. Thanks for a great trip!

Wings Over the Smokies

Susan Miller

I LOVE this rally! The weather was perfect and it was so great to see all the VMTA family members there. Most of you know the highlight of the trip for me was seeing the Keith Henderson show – Illusions of the King. If you missed it, you missed the closest thing on this earth to a real, live Elvis concert. And yes, I did get a scarf and a kiss! (Many thanks to my very understanding husband!)

It won't come as a surprise to learn that Roger found a car show in the middle of nowhere on the day that Larry, Faith, John and Mary and we rode over to Chimney Rock. We were only there 20 minutes and the Macks won TWO doorprizes!

With Bob leading, we took the (very) long way home and rode some of the most beautiful mountain roads I have ever seen. I was really missing my bike on some of those curves, but for the most part was glad to be on the back of our Gold Wing.

I can't wait to go back to Wings Over the Smokies next year – be sure and put it on your calendars now!

Bikes and Badges

Susan Miller

Another beautiful day and a great ride with hundreds of other bike enthusiasts! It's always so cool to be part of such a huge group. VMTA-ers Art Murphy and Jackie

Hancock did a great job of making it a safe ride for all. We split off in Dawson with about 15 other bikes and headed straight to Albany where we had a nice lunch with Jared and Valerie Cohen. The Cohens are members of GWRRA Chapter G and I think we will be seeing them on some of our rides. They hope to join us for the Shrimp Peel.

After the treat of watching all the bikes roll in to the Harley dealership from Sylvester, we headed back a bit early with Barry and Linda. It should come as no surprise that we had to get back early to pick up Roger's Camaro from one of Bob Smith's car show at the Naval Museum!

The VMTA showing was weak this year, so please move this ride up on your list and plan to support the Sheriff's Boys Ranch by participating in this ride next year.

Country Ride

Chris Aycock

My memory fades now but about four bikes met up on Sunday morning to go for a leisurely ride north of Columbus. If I recall it was Bob Smith, the Macks, and John Fiske so, with the exception of myself, we had a pretty good group of people.

It was a nice day, the roads were good, and we didn't get lost. We stopped for lunch at the restaurant in Concord that Bob wrote about in the last newsletter. All in all it was over 200 miles I think and, except for a small section going into Zebulon (a pretty town) no four-lanes.

That whole area north-northeast of Manchester is pretty good riding area. It's moderately hilly piedmont country with good roads and ample vegetation. There are nice small towns about but it is still mostly rural, although the northern

sections are starting to become Atlanta exurbs. It's not the mountains but it's my current choice for Sunday rides.

For Sale by Member

Seat Back Rest for GL 1800.
Regular price \$159.00, used eight months, asking \$75.00 OBO.
Contact Denny Reid at 563-9194 or 718-3818.

*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 October 2004

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 Standard Time All Hallows Eve					1	2 Bikes and Badges Best Value, Box Road 8:00
3	4	5	6	7 Coyote Grill 6:30 Wal-Mart Phenix City	8	9 Fantails 4:30 Wal-Mart Phenix City
10	11 Business Meeting 7:00 Shoney's Columbus Day	12	13	14	15	16
17 Bullock House 10:30 Burger King Miller Road	18	19	20	21	22	23 Shrimp Peel Panama City, FL 8:00 Waffle King P.C.
24	25 Board Meeting 6:30 1030 First Avenue, Columbus	26	27 Full Moon	28	28	30 Sweet Potato Festival 8:00 Burger King Victory Dr.

VMTA Calendar of Events November 2004

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Sadie Hawkins Day
7 Linville Car Show 10:00 Wal-Mart Phenix City	8 Business Meeting 7:00 Shoney's	9	10	11 Hunter's Pub 6:30 Welcome Center Shell Veteran's Day	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 Pat's Backwater 6:30 Welcome Center Shell	19	20 Moultrie Car Meet 8:00 Victory Drive Burger King
21	22 Board Meeting 6:30 1030 First Avenue, Columbus	23	24	25 Thanksgiving	26 Full Moon	27
28	29	30				