



# The Kickstand

August 2005

[WWW.VMTAColumbusga.org](http://WWW.VMTAColumbusga.org)

Newsletter Editor: John Fiske (706) 561-3543, email: [jfiske1941@aol.com](mailto:jfiske1941@aol.com)

## Business Meeting:

August 8<sup>th</sup> 7:00 Buffet City  
2301 Airport Thruway,  
(between Applebee's and  
Steve B's Pizza)  
Eat at 6:30 or earlier.

## Board Meeting

August 22<sup>nd</sup> 6:30 1500  
Second Avenue 6:30 PM

## **Officer Contacts:**

**President: Roger Miller**  
(706) 327-7999

**Vice-President: Bob Smith**  
(706) 660-8524

**Ride Chairman: Chris Aycock**  
(706) 507-1839

**Treasurer: Mary Fiske**  
(706) 561-3543

**Secretary: Joan Kaplan**  
(229) 649-9282

**Public Relations: Jackie Hancock**  
(706) 323-8368

## **The President's Message**

Well, our dear friends at the Weather Channel have just predicted that we could have a record tropical storm season. Based on what we have seen the past month or so that certainly was no shocker. Our usual summer time 30% chance of rain every afternoon has usually come to fruition making for some uncomfortable riding conditions. And when the sun comes out, ooh la-la, it's sauna time. On the other hand, I think I have watered the lawn all of two times this year! Personally, I would rather ride when it is cold than hot and humid but that could be the Cheesehead in me, too. Could be interesting this fall though as the peak of the hurricane season arrives.

Susan and I are looking forward to the River Grill up at the cabin on the 14<sup>th</sup>. Sure hope y'all can make it! Burgers and brats will be the featured items again this year and if you have never had a beer-soaked grilled bratwurst with a little kraut, you just haven't lived right.

At the time of this event we will be in full swing of beginning our new home project at the lake. I think we need to have our brains checked for building again so soon but we are excited about moving up there and enjoying the backwaters.

Please do not forget to sign up for the Accident Scene Management course on the 27<sup>th</sup> and if you haven't made your reservations for

Wings over Smokies you better hop to it! Unbelievable how time flies, before you know it we will be planning for Shrimp Peal. Lots of good rides coming up so check your calendar and let's get together!

Ride on.....

*Roger*

## **Announcements**

### **August Guest Speaker**

Jerry Elliott, Shriners, will be our guest speaker for the August 8th.

He will be asking the club to set up a Poker Run to benefit the Shrine Hospital here in Columbus. He will have hand-outs and wants to know what he needs to pull this together. For example: T-shirts, flyers etc. Any ideas?

*Thanks, Bob*

### **August Birthdays**

2<sup>nd</sup> – Peggy Martin  
3<sup>rd</sup> – Terry Glisson  
4<sup>th</sup> – Denny Reid  
19<sup>th</sup> – Roger Miller  
26<sup>th</sup> – Sandy Reid  
26<sup>th</sup> – Donald Lamee  
29<sup>th</sup> – Laura Avirett  
31<sup>st</sup> – Larry Mack

### **August Anniversaries**

14<sup>th</sup> – Bard & Stephanie Gobbell  
22<sup>nd</sup> – Jerry and Sonja Boyd  
22<sup>nd</sup> – Jeff and Janet Howell  
23<sup>rd</sup> – Terry and Marsha Glisson

Deadline for the September Newsletter is Saturday 9/3. Email articles to: Jfiske1941@aol.com.

## Upcoming Rides and Events



**August 6<sup>th</sup>** – Still Pond Winery in Arlington, Ga, 30 miles south of Albany. Grape stomping festival, wine tasting. Admission is free. Lv. Victory Dr Burger King at 9:00 AM.

**August 11<sup>th</sup>** – Good Old Boys - Good ride, good food. Don't need anything else. Leave P.C. Wal Mart at 6:30 PM

**August 14<sup>th</sup>** – The River Grill - Third annual gathering at Miller's on the Back Waters. Lv. P.C. Wal-Mart at 2:30 led by Roger.

**August 20<sup>th</sup>** – Mid-night Ride to Albany Will leave Miller Rd. Burger King @ 9:30 PM

**August 25<sup>th</sup>** – Milano's in Valley, AL Leave P.C. Wal Mart at 6:30

**August 27<sup>th</sup>** – Motorcycle Accident Management Program at Pierce Chapel Methodist Fellowship Hall, 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM. The purpose of the Bystander Assistance Program "A Crash Course for the Motorcyclist" is to enhance survival rates and reduce severity of injuries for the injured riders of motorcycles. We expect to decrease the chance of rescuer injury due to inappropriate actions at the crash scene as well as treat the injured cyclist. We also expect to educate the rescuer how to protect themselves and their loved

ones legally and financially should a crash occur.

Fee is \$35.00 per person. Sign up today at "[www.accidentscene.net](http://www.accidentscene.net)".

**August 28<sup>th</sup>** – Breakfast in Lafayette – Leave Cracker Barrel at 8:00 AM

**September 4<sup>th</sup>** – High Falls Picnic Ride Leaving Miller Rd Burger King at 9:00. We had a great turn out the last try, lets do it again.

**September 8<sup>th</sup>** – Dinner at Pat's Backwater – Leave Welcome Ctr Shell Station at 6:30 or meet there at 7:00.

**September 10<sup>th</sup>** - Sherrano's – for dinner. Has been a club favorite of late. Lv. Miller Rd Burger King at 5:00 PM

**Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>** - Progressive Dinner – Appetizers at Clete's followed by main course at Mickey & Laura's. Lv. Phenix City Wal-Mart at 5:00 PM.

**Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup>** Wings Over the Smokies Members leaving at different times. Call and make your own connections

**October 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Membership Beenie Weenie Ride. Club to provide the eats, drinks on your own. Location TBD.

**October 16<sup>th</sup>** – Ride to Dahlenega & Toosy's Way Station Offers rest, supplies, education, and entertainment to the two wheeled travelers. Leave Welcome Center Shell Station at 6:00 am

## Events Around the Area

**September 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Hot Air Balloon Festival at Callaway Gardens.

**October 9<sup>th</sup>** Bikes and Badges Ride to support the Georgia Sheriff's Boys Ranch

## 2005 Traditional Events & Rides

**Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Shimp Peel at the Sandpiper Beacon.

**Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Christmas Party

**Dec 4<sup>th</sup>** – Toys for Tots Ride

## Email from Terry Jones

**This email was received by Gwen and is being shared with us.**

Greetings Gwen. So glad to have heard from ya. I actually enjoy hearing of the adventures there in the world because hearing about such things helps to remind us that life still goes on and that interesting things are happening to other folks too.

Things continue to move along over here. We're just about at our halfway mark and the bad guys are getting more creative with their craft everyday. However, we're remaining vigilant and taking it to them whenever we get the chance. I gotta tell ya, I'm very proud of my brothers in arms and especially the young guys; their resilience and toughness truly give me hope for our future army.

How are sales of the new Hammer going? I haven't read anything in the few bike rags that we get over here. It sure is a very impressive-looking piece of machinery and I'd love to ride one.

The wife, Faye, told me that she'd ride with me again if I kept the speed of the bike to no more than 70 mph. I told her that I couldn't make such a promise because that would be too slow to keep me awake on such a smooth rider as my Valkyrie much less on a Goldwing (which I'm considering buying when I retire next year). I'm sure we'll come to a compromise on the speed; I'm setting my cruising speed limit (with wife) at 80 mph while Faye has promised to bring an iron skillet with her to rectify the problem!

By the way, I received the monthly newsletter two days ago. Looks like you guys have been as busy

as ever. I hope to take a ride with the group when we return. I'll likely ride the Valkyrie since I've promised to sell my HD to one of the soldiers in my unit when we return.

Well, I'll close now. I didn't intend to be so longwinded in this response but I just don't hear from many folks and when I do, I guess I tend to go overboard. Please continue to have a safe and productive summer. Good luck with the bike shop sales. I also ask that you continue to keep all of us US servicemen and women in your prayers, specifically, that we'd serve America with honor and dignity. God bless and keep you.

### Safety Tip of the Month:

28 percent of accidents happen when a car turns left in front of a motorcycle. You must be aware of anyone approaching an intersection.

The vehicle begins to slow as it enters the intersection. Watch for a dip of the hood as the car begins to brake. The car enters a left turn lane or eases over close to the center. The front wheel begins to turn in your direction. You may have the right of way but the smart tactic is to slow down.

Move to the lane position that maximizes your view and be prepared to take evasive action to get out of the way. It pays to practice quick stops (in a parking lot) before you have an emergency stop. Even with ABS, quickest stops are usually made if the rider brakes to a maximum just short of where the ABS activates.

Whether your bike has interlocked brakes, ABS, or independent brakes, you need to be proficient at making quick stops.

Bob Smith

### High Falls Park Picnic Ride

Columbus sits on the 'fall line,' a geographic boundary for the

piedmont region to the north and the coastal plains to the south, and is the former coastline of an ancient ocean. The fall line extends from Texas to Maine and, in Georgia, is host to Columbus, Macon, and Augusta. These towns owe their origin to the ready supply of power for 19<sup>th</sup> century mills given by falling water as well as being the furthest point inland on their respective rivers that was navigable at the time.

This would have nothing to do with riding motorcycles except that riding the fall line provides some of the best riding in the local area, and is one of my standard riding routes. High Falls State Park sits north of Macon and has been a resort retreat for many years, with people coming to enjoy the falls and the cool water.

Our plan was simple enough. We would all pack a picnic lunch, ride to High Falls, and there partake of our outdoor feast. It was not to be.

It was a good turnout. We started with 14 bikes and had two more join up on the road. Sure it had been raining for a week straight but this was June in Georgia so it couldn't possibly rain for much longer. Thinking this we headed off on a partly cloudy but somewhat muggy Saturday confident that we would be given good weather.

We rode up state route 36 watching the clouds gather and thicken. By the time we hit Barnsville it was raining hard enough to warrant a stop for raingear. It didn't help that my CB went south so I was leading the ride 'deaf.'

We thought the rain must be local and we could ride through it. However by the time we hit I-75 just north of High Falls it was pouring rain. After realizing that the rain had the better of us we abandoned the picnic and instead headed to Buckner's, which was right up the road.

After eating it was still dripping rain so some kept their rain suits on and some decided to chance it. Roger led back on state route 18, which is a pretty good road. Then the sun came out and the rain suits became personal saunas. A quick gas stop allowed everyone to shed their plastic outfits and we continued to Warm Springs where we stopped and walked around for a while before heading back to Columbus.

All in all it was a good ride even though it did rain on our picnic. Hopefully we can plan another picnic ride in the fall when it is a bit drier.

*Chris*

### Early Morning Ride

Chris and Bob took off early (6:30am) for a ride to our nearest mountain, Cheaha Mt. up near Anniston, AL. A week or so ago Chris rode all over north Ga. (491 miles) in 9 hours, but we felt we needed to get home and still enjoy a back road ride.

We headed up route #100 through Franklin, then went west into AL on route #9, which turned into AL #49. But then we got onto some grey roads on the map. Very good riding up to Cheaha. Lots of turns and nice scenic farms, etc. All along our routes, the box turtles were really out crossing the roads. Maybe all the rainy weather had widened their habit areas and they were on the move!

From the mountain on up to Heflin on Rt #281, they had just put pea-gravel over tar. So with the heat lately and some rain, most of the loose stuff had washed off or soaked into the tar. Still the turns were a little worrisome. It is a very curvy section north of the mountain and lots of fun when the road is in better condition.

We gassed up and headed back down #49 again toward Alex City, then picked up Rt #77 going toward Lafayette, another grey road on the map. Once in town we found an old diner in the corner of

a downtown building. For some reason they were still serving breakfast at 10:30 CST, so we made do and had a down-home breakfast with some good biscuits.

Heading on back toward the Chattahoochee River we stopped to hunt for an old cemetery on the long-bridge road not far from Peppercorn Grill. Sure enough it was up in the woods, with some big trees growing up everywhere. Lots of old old gravestones, newest was 1987, so it has gone into disuse in that short of time. We enjoyed the look-see of some neat history

*Bob Smith*

## **Open Destination Breakfast Ride**

Our July breakfast ride did not have a ride captain assigned so who ever showed up could decide everything. Finally BS led a ride this year!

We had a good group at the meeting place: Barry & Linda, John & Mary, Larry & Faith and myself. We were to meet Roger over by the Lee City Flea Market (too early for Susan), so we decided to eat at Cracker Barrel in Opelika. Faith commented we have been only riding to eat and returning home so I mentioned Roger & I were riding up to Gadsden's Noccalola Falls for the annual car show. Some have ridden to this before so by the end of the meal everyone decided to ride up there.

We went up #431 for a quick route, it is two lanes, so was enjoyable. Once there you can walk around the woods looking at restored cars or go down by the waterfalls to read about the Indian maiden who jumped off the falls because her father would not let her marry her true love.

Not too many cars this year so afterward we met at the gate and decided on routes home. That's right, some wanted to get back to do chores, but several of us took

the long way home, as usual. We went due east on #278 which turns into Ga #6 to Cedartown, then picked up #100 for a smaller scenic (cooler) ride back south.

Of course, it was lunchtime by now so we stopped for a buffet at KFC. Not too shabby either. Shouldn't eat so much and ride in hot weather - that could be a "safety report" but I digress - We came down to Franklin and LaGrange where John asked to stop at a city park right downtown. Needed a break, turns out everyone needed a break - it was warming up. We had a good laugh there and set off again down Whitesville Rd to Mountain View Rd to get Larry & Faith back to #315, we separated, each going their own way back to town. Some down Fortson Rd, others down #27. A good time was had by all.

*Bob Smith*

## **Quotes of the Month**

*Keep your motorcycle in good repair; motorcycle boots are not comfortable for walking.*

*Unknown*

*There's something ugly about a new bike and a trailer.*

*Also unknown*

*Some bikes run on 100% ego.*

*Also unknown*

## **For Sale by Member**

(2) FIRST GEAR summer mesh riding jackets w/water proof liners. One large men's and one small ladies sizes. Excellent condition. Worn one year. Two for the price of one \$150 Contact Roger or Susan @ 327-7999.

*If you have anything for sale that you would like to advertise in the newsletter please email the details to:*

[Newsletter@VMTAColumbusga.org](mailto:Newsletter@VMTAColumbusga.org)

## **DeSoto Caverns**

The ride was planned on a Saturday in hopes that there would be several able and anxious to see Desoto Caverns. That turned out to be a disappointment as at nine o'clock at Wally World there was only Jackie Hancock, Renee Moon and myself. None the less we left approximately five minutes late, knowing that before the day was over the temperature was forecast for the high 90's.

We rolled along discussing the usual things with the temperature already in the upper 80's. Just prior to Alex City I realized that another motorcycle had joined us and started participating in our conversation. After several minutes I realized it was Art Murphy who was unable to join us at Wal Mart.

We arrived at our destination and our timing was perfect, we had just enough time to browse the gift shop prior to the next tour entering the Caverns. As we walked through the tunnel and down toward to the main room, which is larger than a football field and twelve stories high, the drop in temperature felt great. Once inside the temperature was a cool, refreshing 57 degrees. The tour through the caverns was great with Renee taking lots of pictures. (She must be making a documentary for National Geographic)

After we were outside Art suggested we continue North on highway 25 to a motorcycle campground just South of Birmingham called "29 Dreams" which he stated was only about 20 miles away. Highway 25 was a nice curvy ride and when we arrived I was pleasantly surprised. The campground was very nice with cabins as well as campsites that could be rented. There was a gift shop oriented to the cycle rider as well as a pavilion, a restaurant/lounge with a porch and lots of rocking chairs and outside tables provided for enjoying the weekly Saturday night

entertainment. We ordered a hamburger, which was larger than most and definitely delicious. The restaurant /lounge had a good number of riders which had apparently stopped in for a break and to indulge in the food.

We left 29 Dreams and headed back south toward home as the temperature had reached those predicted figures of the upper 90's. The total ride mileage was about 250 and it was another good/safe ride that was enjoyed by those of us that participated.

*Clete*

# BUSINESS FRIENDS OF VMTA

10% Discount on the **total ticket** to VMTA members with proof of membership.

Sales tax will not be included in the discount. If you need a membership card please contact Mary.

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Tire King</b><br/><b>Manchester Expressway</b></p> <p>Tires/ Alignments/ brakes/ shocks/ struts/ oil service/ wheels/ AC service</p> <p>Ask for Jeremy Hancock or Steve Crenshaw.<br/>(Sales tax will not be included in the discount)</p> <p>(706) 324-0444 Manchester Expressway, Columbus</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><i><b>Get Noticed !</b></i> <span style="float: right;"><i><b>Get Lit !!</b></i></span></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Express Lites</b></p> <p>Custom LEDs, Spark Plug Wires &amp; Neons<br/>For Motorcycles In Red, Amber, Purple,<br/>Blue, Green, white, &amp; Orange</p> <p><u>Bo Prytula</u> Cell: 706 563-3085<br/>Email: <a href="mailto:bo@expresslites.com">bo@expresslites.com</a><br/>web: <a href="http://www.expresslites.com">www.expresslites.com</a><br/>Licensed &amp; Insured</p> |
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## VMTA Calendar of Events August 2005

| Sunday  | Monday  | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday  | Friday | Saturday   |
|---|---|---------|-----------|---|--------|--|
|   | 1   | 2       | 3         | 4   | 5      | 6 Still Pond Winery Lv. Victory DR B. K. @ 9:00                              |
| 7   | <b>8 Business Meeting 7:00 PM</b>             | 9       | 10        | 11 Good Old Boys 6:30 PM P.C. Wal Mart            | 12     | 13   |
| 14 The River Grill at the Millers' Lv P.C. Wal Mart at 2:30 | 15  | 16      | 17        | 18  | 19     | 20 Mid-night Ride to Albany Miller Rd BK @ 9:30                              |
| 21  | <b>22 Board Mtg. 1500 Second Ave. 6:30 PM</b> | 23      | 24        | 25 Milano's in Valley. Lv P.C. Wal Mart @ 6:30 PM | 26     | 27 Motorcycle Accident Management Program, Pierce Chapel Rd Methodist Church |
| 28 Breakfast in Lafayette - Lv. Cracker Barrel @ 8:00 AM    | 29  | 30      | 31        |   |        |  |

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| Sunday  | Monday  | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday   | Friday                    | Saturday   |
|---|---|---------|-----------|--|---------------------------|--|
|   |   |         |           | 1  | 2                         | 3  |
| 4 High Falls Picnic Ride Lv Miller Rd Burger King at 9:00 | 5   | 6       | 7         | 8 Pat's Backwater Lv. Welcome Ctr at 6:30, meet there 7:00 | 9                         | 10 Sherrano's for dinner. Lv. Miller Rd B.K. at 5:00     |
| 11  | <b>12 Business Meeting 7:00 PM Buffet City, Airport Thruway</b> | 13      | 14        | 15   | 16                        | 17 Progressive Dinner Lv. Phenix City Wal-Mart @ 5:00 PM |
| 18  | 19  | 20      | 21        | 22 Wings Over the Smokies                                  | 23 Wings Over the Smokies | 24 Wings Over the Smokies                                |
| 25 Wings Over the Smokies                                 | <b>26 Board Mtg. 1500 Second Ave. 6:30 PM</b>                   | 27      | 28        | 29   | 30                        |  |