



The Kickstand

December 2005

WWW.VMTAColumbusga.org

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

Next Business Meeting:

January 9th 7:00 Buffet City
2301 Airport Thruway,
(between Applebee's and
Steve B's Pizza)
Eat at 6:30 or earlier.

Board Meeting

January 23th Time & place
T.B.D.

Club Officers:

President: Roger Miller
Tel: (334) 737-1849

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

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

Treasurer: Mary Fiske
(706) 561-3543

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

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

The President's Message

Well, I guess my time has come...my 'tour of duty' is nearing an end. It is certainly with mixed emotions that I 'sign off' from the President's position and hand it over to the very capable hands of Mr. Smith. Even with the trials and tribulations that go with the position, I can honestly say I have enjoyed having such a significant role with such a fine group of people. It certainly has been a learning experience and what would experiences be without learning. I sincerely hope that I have served you well and also hope that club continues to flourish and embrace new ideas and new membership. Being that this is my last letter, I would like to focus on those that most assuredly made this position much easier than it would have been without them.

First of all, there is my lovely wife, Susan. Although I will take the credit for creating a Monster on Two Wheels over the past two years, she has been an incredible support to me with her ideas, comments, and general objective observations. We truly work together on everything and the club was no exception.

To Chris Aycock, you brought us into the 21st century, literally, with creating our website and electronic newsletter for starters. Your countless hours on those subjects as well as databases, surveys, organizing the ride schedule, revising of the bylaws and Club calendar are most appreciated. The club is truly indebted to you.

To Barry Cowall, for his leadership as Ride Chairman in my first year. We all can appreciate this difficult job. Thank you.

To Bob Smith, simply put you were always there when I couldn't be. What more could I ask. Always a central point in communications and the first to offer individual help to anyone on just about anything. Thank you.

To Mary Fiske, keeping the numbers and checkbook straight is no small task, as we all know in our personal lives. And in helping me in our first every "Budget", thank you.

To Joan Kaplan & Peggy Martin, you simply could not find better and more thorough secretaries to keep our story straight. Thank you.

To Jackie Hancock, for spreading our 'word' (and perhaps something else) to our biker brethren. A more visible club we are as a result. Thank you.

To John Fiske, for taking over the newsletter with an iron-fist and MAKING IT HAPPEN each month. Anyone who has had this job in the past knows it is no easy task. Our newsletter today can truly be passed out in pride. Thank you.

To Clete Richardson, our wily veteran-at-large, for his direct support to the Ride Chairman with his vast experience with the club. Always first in line to support the interests of the Club. Thank you.

To members-at-large that routinely stepped forward and provided function leadership; Connie, Carolyn, Gwen, Travis, Denny & Sandy, and all of you. Thanks.

Soooo looking forward to 2006!
Ride on!

Roger

Announcements

December Birthdays

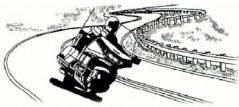
23rd – Richard Parker
28th – George Carter
28th – Jacob Kaplan
29th – Travis Garner
30th – Cornelius Smith

December Anniversaries

14th – Pierre & Deborah
Johnpeer
21st – Jacob & Joan Kaplan
23rd – Chris & Meitra Aycock
29th – Denny & Sandy Reid
29th – Mickey & Laurie Avirett

**Deadline for the January 06
Newsletter is Monday, Jan 2.
Email articles to:
Jfiske1941@aol.com.**

Dec Ride/EventSchedule



Dec 3rd – Christmas Party –
Magnolia Café on Hamilton Rd
6:30 Bring one each
man's/woman's gift plainly marked.
Also, if not riding in Toys for Tots
on Sunday you can bring your
toy(s) and someone will be sure to
deliver it on Sunday.

Dec 4th – Toys for Tots Ride –
Meet at Phenix City I-HOP at
10:00. Will ride to Civic Center as
group to assemble bikes at 12:00.
Ride begins at 1:00.

January Ride Calendar

1 January: New Year's Day Polar Bear Ride. 10:00 Welcome Center Shell Station. Ride Leader Chris Aycock. It may not be cold enough for polar bears so in that case it will just be a New Year's Day ride. Whatever it is let's kick off 2006 with an easy ride north of here to Pine Mountain, Warm Springs, Gay, Concord and Woodbury. The warmer it is the longer we will ride. After the ride you are welcome to Chris and Meitra's house for a traditional southern New Year's Day lunch of collards, black-eyed peas, and cornbread.

January Social Calendar

19 January: Locos Amigos Cantina 1030 Broadway, Columbus. Meet there at 6:30. Locos Amigos features some of the most authentic and best Mexican food in Columbus. Don't miss the chicken enchiladas with molè sauce.

Ride and Event Planning in 2006

As you may know rides and events are going to work a little differently next year. This article serves as a guide to these changes. Please take a few minutes to familiarize yourself with these changes.

There will be two calendars, the social calendar and the ride calendar. The social calendar is open to anyone who wants to have an informal get together with the club. Thursday night dinners or bowling are good examples of things that can be on the social calendar. If you want to include something on the social calendar please contact rides@vmtacolumbusga.org before the fourth Sunday of the month before the event so it can be included in the next month's newsletter.

The ride calendar will be separate from the social calendar and will include the traditional club events (fish fry, shrimp peel, etc.). The

board will decide the dates for the traditional events at the January 2006 board meeting. Only events in the ride calendar will count as official club events for the Roger Delay Award.

Ride planning is now in the hands of the individual member, not the board. We will strive for two rides a month. Each rider is asked to consider leading at least one ride a year. Please consult your calendar and contact rides@vmtacolumbusga.org to reserve a ride date. A couple of people have already placed dibs on certain dates. The type of ride, destination, and date of the ride is up to the person who volunteers to lead the ride.

For example, some member might volunteer to lead ride on the third Saturday in April. That member would decide the time, destination, and duration of the ride and provide the when and where to rides@vmtacolumbusga.org for inclusion in the schedule. It can be anything the ride leader thinks would interest other club members.

The board will provide it's full support to the ride leader to help plan, publicize, and execute the ride. The ride leader would have to commit to the date of the ride at least 60 days prior to the ride. The ride leader should provide full details for the ride to rides@vmtacolumbusga.org by the fourth Sunday of the month prior to the ride. This allows the ride to appear in the newsletter. Once the newsletter is published the ride date cannot change.

Remember the Ride Captain Lottery is in effect again for 2006. Anyone who leads a ride gets an entry into the lottery, which is drawn at the end of the year. The more rides you lead the more entries you get. The winner gets free family membership for a year.

That's about it. This will probably change some as the year progresses as we find what works and what doesn't. Go ahead and volunteer for a ride now so you can

reserve your date. If not I will happily nag you until you do.

Chris

2005 and 2006 Mileage Contest

2005 is drawing to an end so those of you who volunteered your mileage for 2005 should check your mileage as of New Year's Day 2006 and get that to me at miles@vmtacolumbusga.org or at my regular email address. I will send out a reminder to all who participated last year and hand out the award at the January meeting.

If you are interested in entering the 2006 mileage contest please send me your mileage as of New Year's Day to the address above or feel free to call me at (706) 507-1839 and let me know. Even if you don't do high miles it's a good way to have someone keep track of your mileage for the year.

Thanks, Chris

Write-ups & Articles

Barber Museum

Our trip to the Barber Motorcycle Museum on November 5th was a fun filled day. We departed the Phenix City Wal Mart around 8:45 am heading up Hwy 280 to our destination. Our first stop was the 29 Dreams Motorcycle Resort in Vandiver, AL for breakfast, arriving around 9:45 am CST. They serve an All You Can eat Breakfast Buffet for \$6.95. The food was great and I know no one went away hungry.

After eating breakfast, we wondered around 29 Dreams visiting the Bike Barn and their Moto Shop. For more information on the resort you can visit www.29dreams.com.

We departed there around 11:15 AM CST and headed up HWY 25 over the mountain through Leeds, AL to the Barber Motorcycle Museum arriving around 11:50 am

CST. The Museum is around 17 miles from 29 Dreams.

We wondered around the museum looking at numerous motorcycles from years past to present. We also were able to watch European Sports Cars ride around the speedway, as the Birmingham Club was having a track meet testing out their cars.

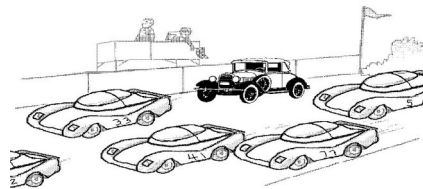
We stayed there around 2 1/2 hours, being able to see everything in the museum. For information on the museum visit www.barbermuseum.org.

Before departing, we decided to stop somewhere for Ice Cream. So we headed back, stopping at the Dairy Queen in Childersburg, AL. We all got our fill of ice cream and headed out. We drove just a short stretch, making another stop at the Road King Leather shop in Childersburg. We visited the shop, made some purchases, and talked to other bikers there. Everyone mingled looking and talking about each other's bikes. It was getting late and we told them that we needed to head out. We departed there traveling back on Hwy 280 arriving in Columbus around 6:00 PM EST.

If you missed this trip, maybe you can catch the next, as the ride was a pleasant and enjoyable one for all.

Ride Safe, Ride Often!

Art Murphy



Daytona Speedway

Returning from this weekend at the speedway I found 2 volunteers for next years trip at Thanksgiving time. Jim Ingram had recommended a nice route down to the Flagler Beach area so that is what I took. Now driving down to his route took me over some roads

our club has taken; for example – where Jackie lost his rear brake in Palatka, FL coming back from Bike Week.

Picking up Rt.#100 I found this was the same road he had told me to take last year. So I had turkey dinner at the same Shoney's as before, no crowd and free pumpkin pie!

Got to I-95, taking the small road just past the supermarket, as Jim suggested. This takes you from Flagler Beach to the Old Dixie Highway. Along this road is Tomoka State Park, full of Palmetto trees and stately oaks growing right out to the edge of the roadway. Makes a very scenic drive with the trees like a canopy over the narrow Old Dixie Highway. Fantastic!

The next day I went back as I remembered that during Bike Week they offer a scenic drive out of Daytona Beach and this is the road that is used.

The speedway had over 8000 old cars displayed and many acres of flea market parts for sale. Just lots of eye candy for some of us. On Friday night there was a Gas Light parade for old cars at 7pm on the beach road. Counted 100 cars and then the usual assortment of hot rods tooled up and down the street all evening long. One huge old car was driven by a woman in a black beaver coat which turned out to be a Locomobile.

Saturday morning I again went up to Tomoka Park. Along the way came some old Model A Ford's taking the scenic route to a small car show out by the inland waterway at a city park. The cars at the show were all original, dating from 1917 to 65 Mustangs. Showing the Locomobile, a Packard, '23 Buick, '25 Pierce Arrow and the Fords. Lots of cars of the 50s and 60s, too. Pretty neat.

Was returning home by way of Rt.#27 going thru Williston enroute to Tallahassee. It started as a nice

sunny warm day, till I got 17 miles into Georgia, just a little rain, then more! All the way to Ft. Benning till it dried up. Got home and checked my messages wiped the bike down a bit then met Chris and Gerry Boyd to go for a ride! Yes, that is the way my days go. We did a nice 130 miles, finding a couple new roads up near Greenville. Back in Columbus it started to mist again so we headed home. Not a bad way to end a 4-day vacation.

Bob Smith

SHRIMP PEEL 2005

Again I have performed in my usual manner. I procrastinated in writing an article concerning this year's "Shrimp Peel". Needless to say most of you already know all the facts concerning the event as the majority of the VMTA members were there.

Again this year we had several members, and some guest, going down as early as the previous Wednesday in anticipation of the upcoming Saturday event. Again the Sandpiper Beacon Motel provided us with rooms at a special rate and assisted us in every way to make the weekend as successful as possible.

By late Friday night most of the participants had arrived. Even with all we had John Fiske rolled in early Saturday afternoon with eleven bikes and one automobile. He arrived in plenty of time for our 2:00 p.m. meeting in the Tiki Bar.

At 2:00 p.m. the Bar was pretty much full and there was lots of chatter going on as everyone, to include the Bar Tender, seemed to enjoy themselves. The usual announcements were made and everyone that wanted shrimp was asked to get in line and sign up. After all was 'said and done' we had a total of seventy-three paying for the upcoming feast. In addition to the seventy-three that paid there were several that did not order as they could not eat or they did not

like shrimp. There were several of those; therefore we did not get an exact number of individuals attending the weekend event.

At approximately 5:30 p.m. we started moving lounge chairs and setting up the tables and cookers. Our cooks this year were Bobby Shackelford, Don Lamee, George Carter, and Sid Martin with Jackie and Althea Hancock assisting in the organizing and setup of the evening. Many of the Ladies provided additional foods and deserts that completely filled two of the tables. There were foods such as pastas, salads, and slaw, just to mention a few. The deserts to choose from were endless. Once everyone was served and had their fill it was then time to cleanup. The cleanup went rather quickly as lots of individuals pitched in to assist.

As the evening continued on, several went down to the Tiki Bar for fun and dancing, or just to listen to the music. Some gathered out front while others just retired to their room.

When Sunday morning arrived there were several groups leaving as different times heading back north and to home. Only a few remained for an additional day. I personally think they overdid it and had to stay to recoup.

Everyone eventually returned home and all of us of VMTA wish to thank those guests that assisted in making this another successful "Shrimp Peel"

Clete

SAFETY TIP OF THE MONTH

Road Sharks

These are the aggressive drivers out there that pay no attention to the other vehicles. The point here is to know where they are and how they might interfere with your driving down a road.

Therefore you must know where they are on the road, especially behind you. Keep your eyes on your mirrors as you are riding in traffic in order to see them cutting in and out of the traffic lanes behind you.

If you see one accelerating behind a slow moving vehicle you know he will be cutting into another lane just as he gets to the slow car. Now you can be prepared to take evasive action if he is close to you. Everyone is so busy with the current season that they pay less attention than ever to motorcycles. Stay alert!

Bob Smith

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.

<p style="text-align: center;">Tire King Manchester Expressway</p> <p>Tires/ Alignments/ brakes/ shocks/ struts/ oil service/ wheels/ AC service</p> <p>Ask for Jeremy Hancock or Steve Crenshaw. (Sales tax will not be included in the discount)</p> <p>(706) 324-0444 Manchester Expressway, Columbus</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Get Noticed!</i> <i>Get Lit !!</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Express Lites</p> <p>Custom LEDs, Spark Plug Wires & Neons For Motorcycles In Red, Amber, Purple, Blue, Green, white, & Orange <u>Bo Prytula</u> Cell: 706 563-3085 Email: bo@expresslites.com web: www.expresslites.com Licensed & Insured</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">JVC and Sons Enterprises</p> <p>Jared & Valerie are offering VMTA members a 10% off regular embroidery prices. As an excellent Christmas gift, they are offering top-quality Fleece Blankets with embroidery at special prices. Email or visit their web site.</p> <p>Email : jvcandsons@mchsi.com Web site: jvcandsons.com</p>	

VMTA Calendar of Events December 2005

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Christmas Party Magnolia Café at 6:30 PM
4 Toys For Tots Ride Meet at I-HOP in Phenix City at 10:00 AM	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 No Business Meeting	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 Christmas Day	26 No Board Meeting	27	28	29	30	31

VMTA Calendar of Events January 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <u>New Year's Day</u> PolarBear Ride 10:00 Welcome Ctr Shell Station	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 Business Meeting 7:00 Buffet City 2301 Airport Thruway	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 <u>Locos Amigos</u> Cantina 1030 Broadway Meet there 6:30	20	21
22	23 Board Meeting	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				