



The Kickstand

January 2005

WWW.VMTAColumbusga.org

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

January Business Meeting:
January 10th 7:00 Shoney's
on Airport Throughway, eat
at 6:30

January Board Meeting
January 24 6:30 1030 First
Avenue, Columbus

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 Letter

Well, as unbelievable as it may seem, here we are in 2005! It seemed like just yesterday we were all celebrating the new millennium. So much has happened since then and personally this period has brought about a major improvement in my life. This club has had a lot to do with that statement. As we begin a New Year, Susan and I hope you all had a happy holiday with friends and family. We are certainly looking forward to another year of fellowship and miles and miles of two-wheel pleasure.

I have to share with you an amusing experience over the holidays. As most of you know my Yankee background involved growing up in Cheeseland (that's Wisconsin to you Dixie folk). Just to confirm what you may have read or seen on the Weather Channel, it DOES get a little 'nippy' in those parts come December and Christmas time. So on Christmas Day my little Columbus-born Southern belle and I jump on the big bird and fly up to Minneapolis to go see the Miller family.

As we approach the airport the landscape is adorned in white, which for northern folks is the way it should be on Christmas. Susan comments that it sure is pretty and I am thinking that she has not yet realized that all that 'pretty' white is nothing more than FROZEN water.

Just before landing the Captain announces that it is -8F at

the airport and I hear this 'gasp' of instant reality check on my right. Mouth open and eyes that said it all, she looks like the Queen who has just been told that the Huns have crashed through the front gate. The second we step off the plane into the gangway tunnel, that unmistakable visible breath confirms the Captain's report and we hustle to the warmth of the terminal.

Before the night is over the temperature reaches -16F and as we arrive at the church in my hometown the snow sparkles and glistens in true winter elegance. As we walk from the car to the church, I am taking in the beauty and bringing back memories of the good ole days while my bride is seriously wondering about survival. You see, my belle had never experienced below zero temperatures before in her life. That level of cold is almost surreal but trust me, survivable.

By the end of the trip the Cheeseheads were commenting on the heat wave as the temperatures climbed all the way up into the upper 20's. We had a great visit with way too much food (Mom and all three sisters are excellent cooks) and yes, Susan did survive bringing back all ten fingers and toes. Good training, I say, but I am with her in proclaiming it sure is good to be back home in the warm South!

Speaking of warm, hasn't this last week been incredible. Hope you

have been able to take advantage and get out on those bikes. The Cycle World International Motorcycle Show is this weekend and it sounds like we have a pretty good group going up to Atlanta on Saturday. I love to see what all the manufacturers are offering for new bikes. Hope you can make it! And 2005 has only just begun.

Ride on!
Roger

Membership Dues:
2005 Club dues are now due. \$20 for single membership & \$30 for member & spouse. Send checks to VTMA c/o Mary @ 3951 Biltmore Dr, Columbus 31909

Announcements

Looking Ahead

The next club yard sale will be April 1 & 2 at 3951 Biltmore Dr. (John & Mary's house). Get your items together. Items can be put in Mary's car at any meeting during Jan. Feb. and March. Mary will clean and tag items for sale.

January Birthdays

4th - Sidney Martin
5th - Linda Parker
17th - Jerry Boyd
23rd - Leslie Smith
26th - John Delay

January Anniversaries

6th - Jackie and Altheia Hancock
8th - George and Gwen Carter

Deadline for February Newsletter is : Wednesday Feb 2nd. Email articles to: Newsletter@VMTAColumbusga.org

Upcoming Rides and Events

Sat Jan 15th - Renate's 6:00 PM Meet there.

Sat Jan 22nd -El Vaquero 5:30 PM Meet there. This is the new one next to Extreme Power Sports.

Thurs Feb 10th - Ezell's Catfish House 6:30 PM Meet there.

Thurs Feb 24th - Mellow Mushroom 6:30 PM Meet there.

Sun Feb 27th - Lunch at the Hotel Talisi in Tallassee Alabama, about 50 miles west of Columbus. Ride Captain Chris Aycock. Meet 9:00 AM at the Phenix City Wal-Mart for a long ride to the hotel.

Events Around the Area

February 4th through 6th.
Moultrie Car Swap Meet in Moultrie, GA

February 26th. Jordan High School Car Meet

Safety Tip of the Month:

With all the new club members we need to keep them in the middle of our group. If they do not have a CB, we need to give hand signals in plenty of time when we see anything in the road ahead. Watch our speed till they become acclimated to riding in a group - give them space.

Bob Snith

New Years Eve

For this beautiful last Friday in Dec. John Fiske, Chris Aycock and Bob Smith met to search for the Coheele Creek covered bridge. This bridge is the southern most (historic/ authentic) covered bridge in the US. It was a little cloudy but not too cool morning when we left. South of town we went, picking up #280 down to Weston, where we

headed further south on state route #41. That was a nice quiet back road after the 4 lane thru Ft. Benning.

In Early County we picked up #62 to Blakely. We hunted for some food there. The only restaurant on the square was really backed up, so we circled around town till we found a small BBQ that also appeared to have some home cooking. Turned out to be very good.

A street-rod was parked outside that had twin 4 barrel carbs on a wide crossover ram induction system - aka Chrysler 300. Pretty rare engine set up. Maybe it was the lunch or after noon, but the day finally warmed up to what the forecast said it would be - mainly 66 degrees! Yippee on the last day of December.

We traveled toward Hilton to the Covered Bridge Rd. Sure made it easier to find the bridge when they named the road for it. It was a very scenic location with a small waterfall just below the bridge. The water was flowing quite fast and was very clear. In the park, down by the Chattahoochee River, was a campground and fishing area with lots of trees and one family tent camping.

We went back up to the Blakely by-pass picking up #39 to Ft. Gaines then up thru Georgetown crossing over to Cottonton, Al. and up #165 to Phenix City. It was a slow afternoon going up thru Columbus on 2nd Ave and home for everyone.

Bob Smith

Restoration Project

I have recently purchased a 1964 Honda Dream CA77 that I hope to restore to running status. This bike was last rode in 75. It has been sitting in the corner of a carport for the last 30 years. If you have any suggestions or can help in any way it sure would be welcomed John Fiske

2005 Mileage Contest

Most everyone likes to put miles on their bikes right? Well here is your chance to have a little fun and get recognized for your commitment to riding in 2005.

All riding members of the VMTA are eligible to enter into the 2005 Mileage Contest. In order to enter all you have to do is send the mileage on your bike(s) as of 15 January 2005 to miles@vmtacolumbusga.org. If you don't have email call Chris Aycock at (706)507-1839 and tell him your mileage as of 15 January.

Then go ride.

On 15 January 2006 check your mileage again and email or call it in to Chris. If you sell or trade bikes during the year let Chris know the ending mileage of the old bike and starting mileage of the new bike. The contest is for total miles ridden on any and all motorcycles you own during the year.

The type of miles doesn't matter. It can be a club ride, commuting to work, or even a trip to Hooter's.

So what does the lucky winner get? Ummm, well, nothing. Okay, maybe we'll come up with a certificate or something. A prize of a tire would be nice but this is a non-profit organization you know.

So make sure to get your mileage as of the 15th to Chris and go riding.

2005 Ride Captain Lottery

Last year we agreed to a program to reward those who volunteer to lead rides in 2005. As we enter the new year it's time to implement the Ride Captain Lottery.

Every time a member leads a ride he or she receives an entry in the Ride Captain Lottery. The more rides a member leads the more entries he or she will receive. This will continue throughout the year

until the last ride of the year. Once the last ride is completed all of the entries will be pooled and a winner will be drawn from all entries during the January business meeting. The winner (and spouse if applicable) will receive free membership for 2006.

There are a couple of caveats however. First, if a member volunteers to lead a ride the ride must actually take place with that member leading the ride. If the ride is rained out or otherwise cancelled then the member receives no entry for that ride. If for any other reason the ride captain cannot lead the ride the person who actually leads the ride gets the lottery entry.

Since lotteries are by nature a game of chance there is no guarantee that the person who leads the most rides will win the lottery. It's entirely possible that a person who leads just one ride will win the lottery. However as with all lotteries the more chances you have the better your odds of winning.

Keep this in mind when you volunteer to lead a ride or are asked to lead a ride in 2005, it may just pay off for you.

For Sale by Member

GL1500 Performance Wheel. New, never installed. Installation instructions. Increase mileage & performance. \$20.00
Call John 706-561-3543

Accessory Switch Box for 1500- 4-switches fit over right side reservoir. New with instructions. \$20.00
Call John @ 706-561-3543

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

2005 Ride and Event Survey

In order to gauge what kind of rides and activities we should plan for the club in 2005 the board has put together a survey that we are asking all members to complete. It is available online at: http://www.surveymonkey.com/Users/98409246/Surveys/6875798007/01C051A2-5AA4-46CB-8AA7-F6313EA7FA12.asp?U=6875798007&DO_NOT_COPY_THIS_LINK

Members can access this through any computer connected to the Internet. The easiest way to do this is by accessing the link in the rides section of the VMTA web site www.vmtacolumbusga.org/rides.htm. It asks 42 questions, most all of them multiple choice so it should only take five or ten minutes.

For those without any way to access the Internet paper copies can be requested from Chris Aycock at the January and February club meetings or by calling him at (706) 507-1839.

Please complete the survey by 28 February. A little time invested on your part can mean big returns on what you get out of the VMTA this year.

Thank you in advance

Member Requesting Help

VMTA member looking for a Gold Wing 1800 with ABS, with less than 20,000 miles. Must be a bright color i.e. red, yellow, white, orange etc. Also looking to trade or sell 2003 Silverwing with 2700 miles, throttle lock and extra trunk, always garaged.
Please contact Earl Cheal, email: aec177a1@aol.com or (706) 563-5677.

VMTA Calendar of Events January 2005

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31					1
2	3	4	5	6	7 Cycle World International Motorcycle Show in Atl. 4pm – 9pm	8 Cycle World International Motorcycle Show in Atl 10am – 6pm
9 Cycle World International Motorcycle Show in Atl 11am – 6pm	10 Business Meeting 7:00 Shoney's Airport Thwy	11	12	13	14	15 Renate's 6:00 Meet there. / Mileage reports due to Chris
16	17	18	19	20	21	22 El Vaquero 5:30 Meet there – next to Extreme Sports
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

VMTA Calendar of Events February 2005

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5 Moultrie Car Swap Meet
6	7	8	9 Newsletter Submission Deadline	10 Ezell's Catfish House 6:30pm Meet there	11	12
13	14 Business Meeting 7:00 Shoney's Airport Thwy	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Mellow Mushroom 6:30pm meet there	25	26 Jordan High School Car Meet
27 Hotel Talisi in AL. 9:00am P.C. Wal-Mart Chris to lead.	28 Board Meeting / Ride and Event Survey due					