



The Kickstand

September 2005

WWW.VMTAColumbusga.org

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

Business Meeting:

September 12th 7:00 Buffet
City 2301 Airport Thruway,
(between Applebee's and
Steve B's Pizza)
Eat at 6:30 or earlier.

Board Meeting

September 26nd 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

Day Trip

Roger asked for company on a quick trip to Chattanooga, TN. We pulled out about 8:15 in the morning, touring up around LaGrange to the part of #27 that is under construction. A flagman was just letting northbound traffic around when he let us slide in front of the long line of cars & trucks. We tooted right along ahead of everyone up toward Rome. Just before Carrolton we saw the tornado damage of several homes along the road. Lots of blue tarps and several trees uprooted or ripped off.

The plan was to take #27 all the way thru Chickamauga State Park but upon asking how much further we had to go at a gas station, we decided to get over on I-75 and shoot on up there. We were on #53 toward I-75 when we saw several trucks take #140 toward Adairsville. They must know something and the sign said only 7 miles so we followed. Was a quick enough shortcut to use next time we are heading up toward Knoxville or into the N. GA. Mountains. Lots of chatter on the interstate on the problems in New Orleans and the truckers. We will see if any of this develops into a sit-down strike or whatever.

The plant he had to visit was at the base of Signal Mountain, just on the north side of town. Having been on this route #127 before with Clete & Gerry Boyd, I knew this would be a good ride to take up over the top and around the tourist sites. Very twisty road

up to the overlook of Signal mountain. Many beautiful homes have been built over the years on top of this rock. Some new ones are extremely large with commanding views of the city. Most lawns were strewn with small limbs after the tropical storm came through. No other damages that I saw anywhere.

One point on the steep road had a sign saying watch out for flooding water. Now this was on a very steep part, but if there is nowhere else for the water to go it will go across the pavement. Did not see any washout areas so must not have had too much rain from this storm. Two turns were almost 180 degrees, wow!

At the bottom of the hill was a side road along the Tennessee River, Tenn. route #27, different than the US #27. It was a nice drive; no twisty turns but nice. Lots of cabins and homes all along this section. Two had swimming pools just feet from the river, looked odd but then I remembered seeing pools that close to the ocean when we were at the beach. Time to meet Roger.

On our return trip we took the 4-lane to Rome, then at Cedartown, we took old #100 down through Tallapoosa and Bowden to Franklin. Nice road and much cooler than the 4-lane. Lots of farms then big old homes in the towns. Were seeing some gas station-lines as this was the day of the rumor!! Got back to Columbus just at dusk, some damp pavement so I guess there had been a shower some time earlier, really raised the humidity. Had been

quite nice all day for riding till dusk. We had put 500 miles on the bikes, I think I only had 18 extra miles on my bike while Roger was working!

chuckle chuckle - Fun Day.

Bob Smith

Announcements

September Birthdays

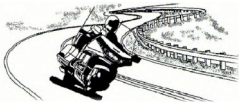
18th – Myra Delay
16th – Deborah Johnpeer
21st – Ray Arrendondo
22nd – Betty Arrendondo
22nd – John McRae
27th – Gloria Hagen
29th – Faye Delay

September Anniversaries

13th – Fred and Lucy Manzer
19th – John and Mary Fiske

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

Upcoming Rides and Events



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

September 8th – Dinner at Pat's Backwater – Depart Welcome Center Shell Station at 6:30 or meet there at 7:00.

September 10th - Sherrano's – for dinner. Sherrano's has been a club favorite of late. Depart Miller Rd Burger King at 5:00 PM

September 17th - Progressive Dinner – Appetizers at Linda Pemberton's in Waverly Hall followed by main course at Mickey

& Laura's in Box Springs. **Depart Welcome Center Shell station at 5:30 PM.**

September 22nd - 25th Wings Over the Smokies Members leaving at different times. Call and make your own connections

September 29th – Good Old Boys in Auburn Always been a favorite place to eat. Depart Phenix City Wal Mart at 6:30.

October 2nd – Membership Cook Out at FDR State Park. Club wants to thank you for your continued membership by treating you to a cookout at FDR Park near Pine Mountain. Club will provide the eats & drinks. Depart Welcome Center Shell at 11:00 or meet below the dam at Lake Delano at noon.

October 9th Bikes and Badges Ride to support the Georgia Sheriff's Boys Ranch. We meet at Chattahoochee H-D. Group leaves at 9:30 rain or shine. You can pre-register on Saturday, October 8th from 12:00 to 2:00 at Chattahoochee H-D or Sunday before the ride.

October 13th – Provino's - A highly regarded Italian restaurant in Auburn. Depart Phenix City Wal-Mart at 6:30 PM.

October 16th – Apple Ride to North Georgia – We will first ride to Toosy's Way Station near Dahlonega. They offer rest, supplies, education, and entertainment to the two wheeled travelers. After Toosy's we will ride to Ellijay for Apples. Depart Welcome Center Shell Station at 7:00 AM.

October 29th – Ocilla Sweet Potato Festival Leave Miller Rd Burger King at 7:30 AM.

Events Around the Area

September 3rd – Hot Air Balloon Festival at Callaway Gardens.

2005 Traditional Events & Rides

Oct 22 & 23rd – Shimp Peel at the Sandpiper Beacon. Reservations Tel. 1-800-188-8828

Dec 3rd – Christmas Party

Dec 4th – Toys for Tots Ride

Still Pond Winery

Saturday, August 13th, there were 4 bikes that in spite of the weather went to Arlington, GA to the Still Pond Winery. As we traveled south it began to get dark then darker until we all stopped to put on our rain gear. And yes it rained. It had quit raining before we got there and that was a good thing because we had to go down a dirt road about 1/2 mile. They were having a little festival with a few vendors and demonstrations.

We however left before they did the muscadine stomping demo to make the wine. We were able to taste several wines thanks to Valerie getting shoved up to the bar by some little old ladies, and then she would take the cup and pass it back to Faith, Connie, John & Jared. Outside they had another man letting you taste a frozen muscadine wine slush that was out of this world.

Everyone enjoyed the experience very much and I think everyone came home with a bottle of wine or mix to make the frozen slush. We left there and went to Albany for lunch at Black Beard's. That was some of the best food we had had in along time. (Could it have been the wine?)

We then suited back up for rain to come home. About half way home we stopped to un-suit again but we didn't let a little rain stop us from having a great ride and lots of fun fellowship.

Valerie & Jared

SAFETY TIP OF THE MONTH

Group Riding

One assumption that sets a group up for an accident is that we're all on the same wavelength. We haven't learned the same skills and habits. The truth is, we're all different, with different risk awareness and different risk acceptance. The idea that we're all thinking alike is an illusion. It is essential for everyone to understand that when we are riding down the road, each person is responsible to control his or her own machine.

Bob Smith

River Grill

Even with the repeated forecast of afternoon thundershowers a few brave soles showed up at the Wally World meeting place on their motorcycles. There was John, Bob Smith, Mickey & Laurie and Jim Ingram. Mary was in her car while Jackie & Althea was in their truck. At the appointed time, Roger showed up in the car. Because others were expected to come, Roger stayed behind for a few minutes while Bob led the group to the river cabin.

Going down the one-way road Bob over shot the cabin driveway a bit, due I am sure to the landscape changes caused by the ongoing construction. No problem. Quick U-turn and it was down the drive to the river edge. We were not there very long before Johnny & Connie came across the shining water with their recently refurbished pontoon boat. On board were Larry & Faith as well as Bobby & Carolyn. Shortly after that Barry and Linda came floating in with their Fish & Ski boat.

Once the boats were tied up and the chairs located in the shade of the trees the conversation and story telling began. Roger started

grilling the hamburgers and the knockwurst. A few retreated to the air-conditioned comfort of the cabin for conversation and I am sure some TV watching. All this time Susan is in the kitchen, with help from others, getting all the goodies ready for the hungry souls. It was not long before all were stuffing themselves with some fine food. The time and occasion just makes us eat way more than we should or need.

About four o'clock as the forecasters predicted the dark clouds and thunder began showing up. All of a sudden you could see the wall of water pouring down on the area to the East towards the island. Within minutes the island was invisible and everyone retreated to the cabin as the rain had reached our location. After quickly covering the bikes all were inside. The card games began as we continued to munch on the goodies watching the wall of rain be blown against the cabin windows and the lighting flash among the clouds.

About 6:00 the rain let up and the bikers decided to make their escape to the city. The wet grass on the hillside made it tricky getting up to the road but everyone got there safely. The first to go was Mickey, then Jim, Bob and John. Mickey turned left at the top not knowing it was a one-way road. Once Bob joined them in the road a quick U-turn again and we were on our way.

When we reached the blinking light at 379 Bob turned north towards LaGrange. The other three bikes continued towards Columbus. At the next blinking yellow light we turned left taking the back way to Summerville Road avoiding the heavy traffic intersection at the Flea Market as well as the four lane Rt. 280.

One more gathering with great friends and fine food making for fond memories.

John Fiske

Mid-night Ride ver 1

We met

We rode

We ate

We returned home

The Ride Captain

Mid-night Ride ver 2

This Mid-Night Ride was like none I have ever led. We met at Miller Road Burger King as planned with the depart time set for 9:30 p.m. When I arrived at approximately 9:15, Johnny McRae was there with a headlight that would not function properly. Farings were slapped, fuses checked, and switches operated, with no results. Bob Smith was involved and as usual he had read someplace about this malfunction. He started playing with the starter button and ZAP-- there was light.

It was now departure time and Johnny had not gotten gas. He went to the station next door that took about 20 minutes, as the station was very crowded. With all the hesitation and delay Brad and Stephanie Gobbell decided to bow out and return home due to his early commitment the following day. Well finally we were on the road with twelve motorcycles headed out highway 80 toward Box Springs. The Full Moon was spotted hanging low in the night sky and had a very beautiful soft orange glow. The temperature was in the upper 80's and the air was filled with the aromas that can only be experienced riding in the open air of a motorcycle and late at night.

In Box Springs we turned right on highway 355 and on toward Buena Vista. In Buena Vista Johnny McRae stated his back was giving him serious pain and he felt it necessary to cancel the remainder of the ride and return home. Jake and Joan Kaplan were waiting for

us there and were glad to join us which gave them the opportunity to use their new CB's they had recently acquired. We stopped in Americus for some social time, which everyone appeared to enjoy. We were not far out of Americus when Jake came on the radio and stated his bike had 'hiccuped' and a dash light had flashed. This problem continued to escalate all the way to the Steak and Shake in Albany. There Jake checked the oil and water and all appeared to be correct.

Once inside it was approximately 12:30 and food was ordered. The service was not up to standard and Faith Mack had to eat leftovers from Larry's plate, as she never received her food. Well, back outside we headed North toward Richland and gas. At the station it became doubtful that Jake's bike was going to start. Almost everyone had arrived at the decision that there was a problem with the ignition switch. Finally it did start and as we rolled toward home the problem became more and more frequent until there were some doubts that the bike would arrive home under its own power. In Richland they left us and headed toward their home with Bob Smith, Larry and Faith Mack as chaperones to make sure they arrived safely. (It was learned later that the problem was a loose positive battery cable--quick fix)

The remainder of the group traveled on toward Columbus with the time now a little after 3:00 a.m. and the temperature still in the 80's. The Moon was now high in the early morning sky and giving off a silver glow providing sufficient light to identify features of the landscape. The air was crisp and had a clean fresh smell that can only be enjoyed in the early hours of the day. On the ride home everyone was quiet and little was said, as it was a great time to ride. Just ride and enjoy all that has been given to us by the "Greater Power on High".

Clete

Quote of the Month

If you ride like there is no tomorrow, there won't be.

For Sale by Member

(2) FIRST GEAR summer mesh riding jackets w/water proof liners. One large man's and one small lady's size. Excellent condition. Worn one year. Two for the price of one \$150

1993 Ducati 900 Super Sport
Excellent condition, V-twin engine recently gone through completely at Ducshop in Marietta. \$4,995

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

August Breakfast Ride to Lafayette

The meeting place was for Cracker Barrel, in case people did not know where our alternative day meeting place was located. Seems only one-person makes it to this site on our off days. . John was the only rider here on Saturday. This ride start is hard to leave from with the good aromas emitted from inside.

Chris, Earl, John Fiske & Bob waited till the appointed time to start out on a nice warm morning. It was to stay cloudy especially in the afternoon if we stayed that long. Sure enough we were out most of the day, lost in a way but having fun. We rode over to Lanet, AL. and picked up 50 to head to breakfast. It is just a small diner near the square in Lafayette, apparently has been there forever according to a newspaper article

on the wall. Same owner all those years, too. (And he looked it).

Met an elderly couple that liked our bikes, especially the bright blue BMW. That got us talking and after awhile I asked about a county road out of town due west, that went toward Horseshoe Bend State Park. Sure they said, very scenic and it went to Dadeville instead. I thought no way; the map shows it going straight across to Rt. 49 and the park. Well, wouldn't you know the locals knew what they were talking about? We ended up on Rt. 280 before Dadeville. So on we went to 49, then up to the Park. Checking the map it did show straight across, not down to 280, oh well. Alabama!!

Chatted with the Ranger a few minutes and went back down the road to the route that did come straight across. We rode back toward Lafayette till we found our old road; there were no markings in any direction to tell you where you were. It was supposed to be a village called Sikes – nothing! From there we headed north to Shiloh and Abanda.

Nice scenic roads that did not turn into dirt but, also, did not go anywhere! It just ended at a farmer's gate, then dirt on the other side. At this point we had Chris get out his GPS system and see where we were – yes in the middle of Alabama, somewhere that did not seem to go to Shiloh. Time was passing and we needed a rest stop so headed back to Dadeville, the nearest town. This was a sixty mile circle.

From there we went south on 49 to pick up 50 again, along side of Lake Martin. That took us back to Opelika and then 169 to the old road to Phenix City. We did enjoy the ride and should have called it a ride in the country! I may get on Map Quest and see how to go to Shiloh.

Bob

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;">Get Noticed ! Get Lit !!</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</p> <p><u>Bo Prytula</u> Cell: 706 563-3085 Email: bo@expresslites.com web: www.expresslites.com Licensed & Insured</p>

VMTA Calendar of Events September 2005

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
"The past does not equal the future." <i>Anthony Robbins</i>				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	12 Business Meeting 7:00 PM Buffet City, Airport Thruway	13	14	15	16	17 Progressive Dinner Leave Welcome Center Shell at 5:30 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	26 Board Mtg. 1500 Second Ave. 6:30 PM	27	28	29 Good Old Boys Lv P.C. Wal Mart @ 6:30	30	

VMTA Calendar of Events October 2005

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
"Few are those who see with their own eyes and feel with their own hearts" <i>Albert Einstein</i>						1
2 Membership Cookout at FDR State Park Lv. Welcome Ctr Shell @ 11:00	3	4	5	6	7	8 Bikes & Badges Registration 12-2 PM
9 Bikes & Badges Ride Lv. H.D. @ 9:30 AM	10 Business Meeting 7:00 PM Buffet City, Airport Thruway	11	12	13 Provino's in Auburn. Lv P.C. Wal Mart @ 6:30 PM	14	15
16 Apple Ride to N Georgia Lv. Shell Station @ 7:00 AM	17	18	19	20	21	22 Shimp Peel in Panama City
23 Shimp Peel in Panama City	24 Board Mtg. 1500 Second Ave. 6:30 PM	25	26	27	28	29 Ocilla Sweet Potato Festival Lv Miller Rd Burger King @ 7:30 AM
30	31					