



The Kickstand

June 2006

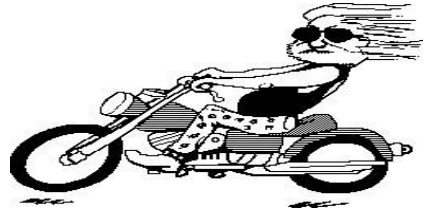
WWW.VMTAColumbusga.org

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

Business Meeting:

June 12th at 7:00
Piccadilly's in Peachtree Mall
Eat at 6:30 or earlier.

Board Meeting
To Be Schedule
As needed



Presidents Message

With all the traveling planned for June, we should have lots of articles for the next newsletter, right club members? Hope everyone has picked a ride to go on this month. If you miss the Kentucky ride there will be the Wing Fling and Honda Hoot coming up soon. Short ride or long ride, plan to come along.

Our spur of the moment-rides have always had good attendance and that was the case last month. Many of you have put new tires on the bikes and that raises the "Fun to Drive Factor" so much, that you will want to just keep going.



With

the improvements in the Elite3 tires and all the extra tread you can go many more safe miles. Or go with the Metzlers. We did not have much of a rainy season but June is supposed to be the start of the dry times so no excuse for not riding, right? Hope to see you enjoying your cycle in June.

Could use a volunteer for Ride Chairman for the rest of the year to keep us from scheduling more than one ride a weekend.

Our next club meeting will have Roger giving an explanation about filters, which should be very enlightening. See you on the road.

Enjoy, *Bob Smith*

Announcements

June Birthdays

23rd – Chris Aycock

June Anniversaries

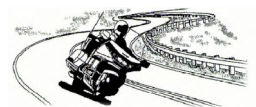
18th – Travis and Margie Garner

Deadline for the July Newsletter is Friday, June 30th. Email articles to: jfiske1941@bellsouth.net

Meeting Presentation

Roger Miller will give a brief presentation on filters at the June business meeting.

June & July Ride Calendar



Saturday, 3 June: Fantails in Prattville, AL. Ride Captain Jackie Hancock. Depart Phenix City Wal-Mart at 6:00. Fantails is an

Officers:

President: Bob Smith
Tel: (706) 660-8524
Cell: (706) 575-7932

Vice-President: Clete Richardson
Tel: (334) 291-0055
Cell: (706) 289-0055

Ride Chairman: (OPEN)

Treasurer: Mary Fiske
(706) 561-3543

Secretary: Joan Kaplan
Tel: (229) 649-9282
Cell: (706) 392-9282

Public Relations: Earl Cheal
Tel: (706) 563-5677
Cell: (706) 575-6761

excellent seafood restaurant north of Montgomery.

7-11 June: Tennessee, Kentucky, & West Virginia Tour. This should be an excellent multi-day tour with interesting sights and stops each day. It is perfectly suited to both riders and passengers alike. See Bob, John Fiske, or Clete if interested.

17 June: GA GWRRA Wing Fling Rally in Rome GA. John Fiske will lead a ride at 7:00 AM at the Welcome Center Shell station. Stopping in Franklin for eats or other needs. Return same day.

22 – 24 June: Honda Hoot in Knoxville TN.

24 June: Dinner at Sherrano's for those not going to Honda Hoot. Leave Miller Rd Burger King at 5:00 P.M.

29 June: Good Old Boys. This has been one of the club mid-week favorite places to eat. Depart Phenix City Wal-Mart at 6:30 P.M.

9 July: Ride to Cheetah Mt. Excellent day ride to mountains of AL with lunch at the Inn. Leave Phenix City Wal-Mart at 10:00 AM

19 July National Ride to Work Day: Ride you bike to work or any other place you may go on this day to show the public that bikes are a method of transportation and not just a sport.

28th – 30 July -Camp-in at Curso's Blueridge Motorcycle Campground. Make your reservations now. Contact Clete.

Planning Dates

12 August – Mid-night Ride Clete to lead, beginning at 9:30 PM. Destination TBD.

16 September – Progressive Dinner starting at 5:00 PM.

21st – 23rd September – Wings Over the Smokies

1st October – Membership Cookout.

21st – 22nd October – Shrimp Peel.

2nd December – Christmas Party

Ozark Trip



Lots of plans were made, with an entire week scheduled off, but we still had to keep checking the weather for what day to leave. As things turned out, Saturday was a great day to start out, lots of clouds all day long. This was how the trip went, clouds during the day and beautiful sunsets each evening.

Larry & Faith, Joan & Jake, Bob, Clete, and John headed to the Ozark Mts. in western Arkansas by way of Birmingham, northwest Alabama and across Mississippi by way of Tupelo. Most of the roads were limited access 4-lanes. Where it was 2-lane it was straight as can be with widening going on beside of the road. Won't be long before it will be hard to find scenic byways. Now of course since we wanted to make time the 4-lane was the way to go.

First overnight was in W. Helena, Ark. Right along the Mississippi River. How we missed the casino I do not know!! With a lighthouse right down the road, in front of a nice fish place, we had a good meal. We did have some misting rain near the river, so the bikes got a clean up the next morning and they stayed clean till back near Birmingham.

As I have written before, there is nothing but rice paddies and catfish farms for at least 20 miles on each side of the Mississippi. This makes for some boring riding the next day to get to the foothills of the Ozarks, bypassing Little Rock. Along here was where Jake's smaller gas tank

got me into trouble, I said we were near I-40 and there would be gas at each exit --- wrong!! We went quite a ways before finding any gas; I-40 is still as bumpy as ever.

After lunch we came to the Ozark National Forest with some interesting roads and lots of bikers to talk with at our rest stops. All agreed any of the roads were good around the northern part of the state. Going mostly north to Mountain View then on to Mountain Home on Rt. 5 where we checked out motels but it was too early to stop so we rode on to Gainesville, Missouri. Nothing to speak of there so we found another route south, Hwy. J. That is how that state designates their roads. The motel had a steakhouse in front of it so we didn't need to get back on the bikes.

Morning found us going due west on Rt. 62 to Eureka Springs. Pretty good road to make time on but it had no good curves. This is a very historic town dating back to the late 1800s, mostly built of stone after the big fire; streets are very steep with very tall buildings crowding the sidewalk, of course no parking to speak of. Shop owners gave out coupons to get you into their eateries. We picked a café and really had fun with the older German waitress,



I had desert first then ordered something from the menu. ha

After spending 3 hours wandering around this very scenic tourist area we were very concerned with the approaching storm front everyone was talking about. This of course, was the best day for sunshine we had. It turned out the storm was a good 24 hours behind schedule, but who knew. While stopping for gas, we met several Indiana cyclists, one of whom was riding to

Auburn, Al. Talk about the long way around!

Found a nice scenic road, well written up in the cycle magazines, to come back across the state. Rt. 14 sure lived up to its reputation until well across the state. Now, it was still marked as a scenic highway, but was straight as an arrow heading to the river.

We decided to go to Graceland in Memphis, so stayed just west of downtown. Waited till traffic died down the next morning to ride across the mighty Mississippi.

It is easy to find Graceland since it is on Elvis Presley Boulevard. Toured there and heard more about the rain coming, but it was still sunny and nice outside. Heading east across Tenn. on Rt. 64, which takes you all the way to NC, we did have dark clouds following us. Decided we better eat fast and keep on trucking. We turned south to pick up MS 72 to head toward home but there was barely enough time to make it all the way. So we decided one more day would not hurt and stopped in Cullman, Al. An hour later the rains came but not any severe storm like they called for. Walked to a nice restaurant again.



The next morning another front came through just as we were ready to leave so delaying a short time we had good roads half way to Columbus. Only drove in rain about 90 miles that last day, amazing considering all the predictions while we were in the Ozarks. Guess they did get flooding rains from this storm where we stayed in Mountain Home, Ark. For the round trip mileage came in at 1629 miles, of course Joan and Jake live the furthest away so add a few for them.

Bob Smith

Biker's Wisdom

- God made the world round so we would never be able to see too far down the road.
- There is a time to let things happen and a time to make things happen.
- I've learned that you will never see a trailer behind a hearse.

Pot Luck Supper

It was Saturday night and 10 hardy & hungry soles gathered at the Fiske's. A good time and good food was had by all. Mickey & Laurie showed up early so we sat on the screen porch and chatted. When everyone arrived Mary deemed it was too hot on the carport so inside we went. Tucked together around the dining room table and card tables in the front room we ate, joked, and laughed together.

After desert, George got his served to him; there was more conversation inside on out. John showed off his project bike, a 64 Dream, which is in the re-assemble stage.

After cleaning up the food area a little it was time for some too leave. John & Mary and Bob rode with Mickey & Laurie the long way towards their home. We bid them good night short of their house and returned to Columbus. It was a great night for a ride. Except for the bugs needing cleaning Sunday morning.

Mary

June Safety Message

HELMET FACTS - IT'S YOUR LIFE

HELMETS ARE NOT FOREVER: The elements of a helmet are subject to aging. The shell materials get brittle. Liner foam becomes compressed. Experts recommend that the best helmets

should be replaced after three or four riding seasons.

THE TEST STANDARDS: Department of Transportation (DOT) and Snell Foundation. Don't buy any helmet that does not have a DOT or Snell Sticker.

FULL FULL-OR OPEN: The chin bar on a full face gives your jaw and face the protection you just can't get in an open model. If you wear contacts, the full-face shield aids in preventing the wind from drying them out.

A LOOSE FIT IS A LOUSY FIT: A new helmet should be very tight when first tried on. It will conform to your head after a few wearings. It should still be snug after it is broken in. Most helmets will loosen up one full size after about 8--10 hours of wearing.

IT ONLY WORKS ONCE: Once a helmet has taken an impact, it has done its job. A single impact reshapes the non-resilient foam helmet liner. When that happens your protection is greatly reduced from that single impact. When it has saved your head once, do your head a favor and get a new helmet.

FIBERGLASS OR MOLDED: It's a matter of personal choice. It seems that all the better helmets are fiberglass and if you wish, can be repainted. Some molded ones deteriorate with painting. Whatever your choice, look for quality to protect your head. You may only need it once, but one time may save your life.

TIPS ON HELMET CARE: Follow the manufacturer's directions on caring for your helmet. Use only the mildest soap recommended. Avoid any petroleum-based cleaning fluids, especially if you own a polycarbonate helmet. Exposure to strong cleaning agents can cause the polycarbonate helmet to decompose and lose protective value. NEVER hang your helmet on the motorcycle's mirrors, turn signals or sissy bar. The liner can easily be damaged from such handling and may lose its protective qualities. In fact avoid carrying a spare helmet on your cycle, unless it's carefully protected or on your passenger's

head. Even the bumps and jarring from normal riding can easily damage a spare helmet carried on your cycle.

HELMET DECORATING: Before you do any helmet decorating, such as painting, pin striping or applying decals, check the manufacturer's recommendation. Follow them closely.

HEADSETS: If you plan to use a headset inside the helmet, find a model that doesn't necessitate drilling holes in your helmet. Even a tiny hole can spread and weaken the helmet's structure. Before you purchase your headset, check the laws in your state regulating their use in helmets. Some states prohibit them altogether.

GOT A \$29.00 HEAD? Buy a \$29.00 helmet!! It just means, if you value your head then protect it with a quality product. If you are intent on saving money, you may do just that but you may lose your life and have money left in your estate. Good products are not cheap. PLEASE SHOP WISELY AND BUY SMART!! (copied).

"Ride safe". *Clete*

Michelle's

There was an impromptu ride on May 21 (Sunday) to Michelle's in Lumpkin, GA. As this was an unplanned ride everyone was contacted by email or phone, to include some individuals that have previously ridden with us. We left Victory Drive Burger King at 10:30, which gave us ample time to get there ahead of the Church crowd. We had nine bikes, which included our guest, Rich and Sally Curtis. Rich and Sally are previous members and Rich was President of VMTA when they were members. Also a guest on the ride was Marty Rowland, which is a friend of Don Lamee. Marty and his wife have joined us previously on some of our events.

We were a couple minutes late leaving and the temperature was in the upper 80's. It was a great ride down and once we arrived all the bikes were parked in

a row, which made a very picturesque impression. Once inside we all went through the line and sat together in the back room. As usual the food was superb.

After the meal and lots of talk we went outside where Jackie Hancock took the lead and let us through some backcountry roads. After several miles we returned to the square in Lumpkin. (I don't think that was planned) From there we went West past Providence Canyon and Florence Marina then across the river at Cottonton and North to Phenix City and home. The total miles were in excess of 100, the weather was hot and dry but the journey was great. I wanna do it again.

'clete'

Sherrano's

As most of you are aware our ride to Sherrano's which was scheduled for the 13th of May was a 'Wash Out'. The weather was looking great until about 1:00 p.m. that afternoon. At that time our hopes for a ride started fading. This had all the makings of a great ride as approximately 18 had confirmed their intentions to go. This will be rescheduled for June 24th so put this journey on your calendar and join us.

'clete'

Yoders for Dinner

Saturday afternoon came with the hotter than normal temperature for late May. But the bikes started to gather at the normal Victory Dr site and before departure time there were 9 member bikes and 3 guests. This group included Bobby and Carolyn with their new trike ready for its maiden voyage. A total of 20 people.

Clete lead us via the old & tried route 27 and 26 arriving when all were plenty hungry. We all parked in the shade under the large tree on the west side of the driveway.

Upon entering the establishment, there we found Fred & Lucy waiting on us. They

drove their car over from Fort Valley.

I believe everyone enjoyed the food. There was plenty of stories/conversation during the meal and later under the tree while we waited for the sun to set just a little more.

A quick stop for those needing fuel and we were off for the return trip.

Hot, but great turn out for even greater food & company.

John F

Memorial Weekend Ride

You have all heard the phrase Best Laid Plans and I have used it before so here goes again: Due to severe storms coming down thru Indiana and clear thru TN., Gerry Boyd and I kept turning west by way of Huntsville, AL., Columbia and Clarksville, TN. to miss anything with 2 inch hail coming our way. Now this trip was to southern Indiana and ending in western Ohio, but . . . slowly we made our way to the western end of Tennessee, an area called Land Between the Lakes under Paducah, KY.

This Park is about 46 miles long and several miles wide, surrounded by water. Not much else is there but the scenery is really good, especially along the scenic drive that lets one see the river and all the barges and boats on the water. There are buffalo in some of the fields along the road. Check the history of the area it is very interesting.

Lots of bikes at the motel as St. Louis had a Memorial Day Rally with bikes.

The next day we headed east on small roads running beside the Kentucky Parkway, then turning north on route #69 to Tell City, IN. This area of the state is some of the most hilly that Indiana has to offer. We took #66 along the Ohio River with beautiful vistas. This road crossed #62 becoming #37 but somehow we stayed on #62 for several miles of great curves. When it did turn north we finally got on #135 in Salem, IN. taking it to just west of

Columbus, IN. where we found #46 going due east till #3 showed up taking us to the center of the state and #44 to Dayton, OH. All these were nice farm roads with little traffic.

The mail order shop, Competition Accessories, is located in Springfield, OH so we stopped there for a quick look-see. Ha, three hours later we are still talking to riders in the parking lot! It was like an overlook on the Parkway. Everyone wanted to chat and compare bikes, etc. None knew we were from Georgia till we told them, then it got interesting. We went to Xenia, Lebanon and Hamilton, OH before getting back to Indiana and points home.

From Brookville #1 goes south to #50, eleven miles later we found #62 again, just as good as miles west of this area. Lots of curves to #421, crossing the Ohio River again where we were told to take the small #625, by the BMW club members. They sure knew what they were talking about. Hairpin curves!! Time for a motel and there were 3 Wings we had seen at the cycle shop! They had been riding 12 hrs that day. One wife said that was her first time riding this year (sore). We also met a dentist from Grand Rapids, MI, riding a Venture, and chatted with him all evening and at breakfast. Very interesting.

There is a small route #55 all the way down across Kentucky we took past Abe Lincoln's Homestead. This went all the way to Lake Cumberland Dam becoming #127. Just into Tenn. we took #111 as a scenic hwy. Down below I-40 it soon got pretty wide and busy & we started seeing storm clouds so veered west to miss them but missed the road we wanted too, it was supposed to be #70S but we took #70W, why they are so close together who knows? Found Smithville and took #56 south missing the storm. This was a good dotted-line road behind said storm so it was nice and cool after the 90-degree weather we had been riding through. Also missed Chattanooga on the west crossing into Georgia and Lookout

Mountain. Simple ride down old #100 and home. 1780 miles

Bob Smith

For Sale by Member

GL1800 Tool Kit. Complete, in pouch and like new. An \$80.00 Honda value. Selling for \$40.00. Call John at 706-561-3543 or email 'jfiske1941@bellsouth.net'.

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>Bo Prytula 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. Email or visit their web site.</p> <p>Email : jvcandsons@mchsi.com Web site: jvcandsons.com</p>	

VMTA Calendar of Events June 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Fantails in Prattville, AL Phenix City Wal Mart 6:00
4	5	6	7 Ride to TN, KY, VA, NC	8 Ride to TN, KY, VA, NC	9 Ride to TN, KY, VA, NC	10 Ride to TN, KY, VA, NC
11 Ride to TN, KY, VA, NC	12 Business Meeting @ Piccadilly's 7:00 PM	13	14 Flag Day	15 GWRRA Wing Fling in Rome	16 GWRRA Wing Fling in Rome	17 Ride to Wing Fling in Rome. Welcome Ctr 7:00 AM
18 Father's Day	19	20	21	22 Honda Hoot in Knoxville	23 Honda Hoot in Knoxville	24 Honda Hoot in Knoxville Sherrano's. Lv. Miller Rd BK @ 5:00 P.M.
25	26	27	28	29 Good Old Boys – Leave Phenix City Wal-Mart at 6:30	30	

VMTA Calendar of Events July 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Holiday Weekend
2 Holiday Weekend	3	4 Independence Day	5	6	7	8
9 Cheetah Mtn. Leave P.C. Wal-Wart at 10:00	10 Business Meeting @ Piccadilly's 7:00 PM	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 National Ride to Work Day	20	21	22
23 30 Camp-in at Curso's Blueridge MC Campground	24 31	25	26	27	28 Camp-in at Curso's Blueridge Motorcycle Campground	29 Camp-in at Curso's Blueridge Motorcycle Campground