



The Kickstand

March 2006

WWW.VMTAColumbusga.org

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

Business Meeting:

March 13th 7:00
Piccadilly's in Peachtree Mall
Eat at 6:30 or earlier.

Board Meeting

March 27th 6:30 1500
Second Avenue

Presidents Message



Finally our green club color fits the time of year! Ya gotta love St. Patrick's Day.

If winter is really over we can get some more great road riding accomplished during the coming season. Our tours and camping plans are being finalized at this point.

Now remember the Iron Butt Ride is coming up so you better get used to that saddle again if you have not been riding the last couple of months. It will make the ride to the beach much more enjoyable when you do not get sore that day (or the next). Try to get in a weekly 50 mile ride to start getting used to the saddle again, with your spouse.



Our new meeting place will be at Piccadilly's this month, with a necessary program on what to do when coming upon an accident by the Kaplans.

Don't Miss The Next Meeting!

Bob

Announcements

March Birthdays

14th – Joan Kaplan
17th – Clete Richardson
24th – Janet Howell
21st - Peggy Lamee
31st – Mary Fiske

March Anniversaries

7th – Bobby and Carolyn Shackelford

Deadline for the April Newsletter is Saturday, Mar. 1st Email articles to: Jfiske1941@aol.com.

March & April Ride Calendar



11 March Dog Track Slots -

Going to Shorter, to play the slots. Will depart Phenix City Wal Mart at 10:00 AM. Play slots, have lunch & do whatever until 3:00. We will return via county roads south of Rt. 80. We will be

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: Chris Aycock
Tel: (706) 507-1839
Cell: (404) 606-0408

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

returning to Columbus around 4:30 PM. John Fiske to lead.

March 17th-18th: VMTA

Yard Sale. Mary Fiske is taking donations for the VMTA yard sale on Friday and Saturday. Bring your items to the March meeting or drop them off at John and Mary's before the 17th.

18 March: International Motorcycle Show.

Cobb Galleria Marietta, GA. Road Captain - Mickey Averett. Depart Welcome Center Shell at 8:00.

26 March: Florida Lunch

Ride. Depart Waffle King in Phenix City. Time 8:00. Once again Clete Richardson will lead us down to Panama City and back for lunch. This ride has traditionally served to kick off the VMTA riding season so get your riding boots on and come on out for the Iron Butt!

2 April: Bulloch House.

Depart Miller road Burger King 11:00. Road Captain John McRae. For the uninitiated the Bulloch House is a restaurant in Warm Springs and is always a club favorite.

22 April: Fish Fry, R Schafer Heard Park, West

Point Lake. We are trying a new location this year. R Shafer Heard is a Corps of Engineers park that has excellent camper facilities. Eat around 6:00.

29 April: Dam Ride. Depart the Welcome Center at 9:00. Road Captain Roger Miller.

Remarried in Las Vegas

On Saturday, December 17th, Joan and I took an airplane ride to Las Vegas to get remarried. Saturday night and Sunday were set aside to see the strip and downtown area. On Monday we took a trip to Hoover Dam on rented Harleys. On Tuesday we flew to the Grand

Canyon on a helicopter. On Wednesday we renewed our marriage vows in the wedding chapel at the Aladdin Hotel and Casino.

Neither of us had ever ridden on a Harley Davidson before and we were excited about getting a chance to try them out. A feeling of manly patriotism rushed over us and we did not know if we should get some tattoos first or not.

We both rented Heritage Softtails. Joan got a newer, fuel-injected model. I got an older carburetor model. We had to learn how to go through the odd starting routine and that you must put the key in your pocket if you didn't want to lose it. Other than my handlebars being much higher than I am used to, the bike felt just like my Kawasaki. Unfortunately, at numerous times during the ride, I would let up on the gas a little and the motor would miss a beat. Joan didn't have that trouble with her fuel injection.

I was so bedazzled about riding a Harley that I forgot what road I was supposed to get on to get to Hoover Dam. Then I got confused by highway entrance signs containing double directions and wound up leading Joan around in circles three times before she told me where to get off (or on).

The ride to Hoover Dam was on a very congested highway, but not too bad. The dam was absolutely amazing and the guided tour was great. The Hoover Dam hot dog I ate for lunch was also pretty good. OK, I got confused again when leaving the parking garage and wound up on the second floor of the garage instead of the exit road. Luckily, Joan was there to tell me where to get off again. Then my Harley kept dying because I didn't let it warm up enough.

On the way back from the dam, we entered the Lake Meade State Park (for a small fee) and rode the scenic route that ran alongside the lake. The ride was absolutely awesome. Lake Meade and the

surrounding landscape were beautiful. The scenic route then led us to the congested highway back to Vegas and the motorcycle shop. Amazingly, I did not get lost and found the shop with no trouble. It was a great ride. Joan really liked her Harley and I told her, if she won the lottery, she could get one as a spare.

*Jacob Kaplan
Remarried Kawasaki Rider*

Biker's Wisdom

- Catching a June bug or yellow jacket in your goggles or honeybee down your shirt at 60 MPH can double your vocabulary.
- Don't argue with an 18-wheeler.
- You forget what you do for a living when your knees are in the breeze.

Membership Dues

2006 Club dues are now due. \$20 for single & \$30 for member and spouse. Please pay Mary at any meeting or mail to VMTA c/o Mary @ 3951 Biltmore Drive, Columbus, GA 31909

Must be paid before March 31, 2006

SAFETY TIP OF THE MONTH

When driving an automobile we all have been guilty, at one time or another, of tailgating. In an automobile this can result in a serious rear end collision. Even as dangerous as this is, tailgating on a motorcycle offers greater potential of a serious accident. Not only is there a danger of having a rear end collision in the event of a sudden stop, there is also the danger of an unseen road hazard. There is always the danger of rough or torn up pavement, gravel or foreign objects. These foreign objects may have fallen from a truck, could be an animal carcass, or just plain objects that always seems to appear from unknown places. Many times these objects are in the center of the lane and will be 'straddled' by an automobile. Even the smallest of automobiles can pass over an object large enough to be serious for a motorcycle. Tailgating does not allow the appropriate amount of time to properly react to an object coming from underneath the vehicle we are following. Many times a vehicle may swerve to avoid an object. If we are tailgating we may not be able to determine which lane the object is in or which way we should move to avoid the object. Many years ago a friend of mine was on the bypass (285) around Atlanta and was following too close

when a tire, rim and all, appeared from underneath the vehicle he was following. He was unable to react quick enough to avoid the collision, but quick thinking and being the skilled rider he was he managed to avoid a serious accident. A considerable amount of damage was done to the underside of the motorcycle, but no serious accident for fatality resulted. This could have been avoided had he not been tailgating but following at the correct distance. We should keep in mind the speed we are traveling and the reaction time required to react at that speed.

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.

<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;"><i>Express Lites</i></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. Email or visit their web site.</p> <p>Email : jvcandsons@mchsi.com Web site: jvcandsons.com</p>	

VMTA Calendar of Events March 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 Daytona Bike Week	4 Daytona Bike Week
5 Daytona Bike Week	6 Daytona Bike Week	7 Daytona Bike Week	8 Daytona Bike Week	9 Daytona Bike Week	10 Daytona Bike Week	11 Play the Slots at Dog Track- Depart P.C. Wal-Mart 10:00 AM
12 Daytona Bike Week	13 Business Meeting 7:00 Piccadilly's in Peachtree Mall	14	15	16	17 IMS in <u>Marietta</u> . Yard Sale at the Fiske's St. Patrick's Day	18 Ride to IMS in Marietta. Mickey <u>to lead</u> Yard Sale at the Fiske's
19 International Motorcycle Show in Marietta.	20 President's Day Spring begins	21	22	23	24	25
26 Iron Butt Ride. Round trip to Panama City – Clete will lead. 8:00 AM	27 Board Meeting 6:30	28	29	30	31	

VMTA Calendar of Events April 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Bullock House Lunch – Johnny to lead.	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 Business Meeting 7:00 Place T.B.D.	11	12	13 Full moon	14 Good Friday	15
16 Easter	17	18	19	20	21	22 Annual Fish Fry R Schafer Heard Smiths' Founders Day Parade
23 30	24 Board Meeting 6:30 PM	25	26	27	28	29 Best Dam Ride – Roger to lead