



The Kickstand

November 2006

WWW.VMTAColumbusga.org

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

Business Meeting:

January 8th at 7:00 PM
Piccadilly's in Peachtree
Mall
Eat at 6:30 or earlier

Board Meeting

To Be Schedule
As needed

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
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Public Relations: Earl Cheal
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President's Message

This has been a good year for long trips of some members; if you are envious why not start planning a summer trip for next year? Remember TIME is of the essence!

In a way our riding season seems to be cut short by the shorter days, but we still do our Thursday evening dinner rides and the weekend days are getting cool enough that we want to be home by sunset anyway.

Our VP – elect has had to decline the nomination and since Jackie came up with a rare stipulation for his election we need someone (Peggy?) to volunteer for this job. It comes a time for anyone of us to step forward to help run the club. No big deal and we all help out in anyway we can. You are never alone up there (you can even get someone to hold your hand :)

The Christmas Party and Toys for Tots are coming up, keep them on your calendar. We have good turnouts for both of these events and would like to see more. People or events!!

Have you all seen the email of thanks for our Shrimp Peel from the Blue Knights Club; this is a nice appreciation toward our club and its members. We enjoy inviting other clubs or any bikers.



Enjoy, Bob Smith

Announcements November Birthdays

1st - Mickey Avirett
2nd - Connie McRae
6th - Jared Cohen
9th - Jackie Hancock
10th - Cal Herring
23rd - Gwen Carter
25th - Bobby Shackelford
25th - DeEtta Morehouse
27th - Susan Miller
30th - Sara Lintymer

November Anniversaries

12th - Art and Donna Murphy
24th - Richard and Linda Parker
25th - John and Connie McRae

November Safety Message

November & December Ride Calendar



November 5th – Lineville, AL Car show. Contact Bob Smith if interested in riding to this large annual event. 75 miles from Columbus.

November 11 – Dothan Peanut Festival Depart P.C. Waffle King on 431S at 9:00 AM

November 18th – God Bless Fort Benning Rally Ride will leave Civic Center at 4:00 PM

December 3rd –Toy for Tots Ride Leaving the Civic Center at 12:00 noon.

December 9th – Christmas Party at Magnolia Café 7:00 PM

Dangers of Intersections

Intersections are the area of highest risk for a motorcyclist. This is still true for the group, despite the increased visibility. All intersections should be approached with caution.

When making a left turn at a protected intersection, where traffic turning left has its own turn signal arrow, tighten the formation to allow as many riders as possible to pass quickly through the intersection. Do not ride side-by-side: the group should make the turn single file or in a tight, staggered formation. Use the same procedure for right turns and remember to respect the rights of other roadway users. During your riders' meeting, you should have discussed what to do if all of your group cannot proceed through the light before it turns red. Knowing that the group will stop at a designated point up ahead will help keep each rider from feeling pressured to jeopardize their safety by running the light.

In unprotected intersections that have no turn signal arrow, riders should proceed with caution and in single file. Riders should act as an individual, only making the turn when it is safe and legal for them to do so. While waiting your turn, remember to check your rearview mirrors, as other motorists may be expecting you to ride on as a group. The most important thing is to make the turn safely. The group can reform after everyone has ridden safely through the intersection.

Blocking an intersection without specific permission and an appropriate escort is illegal in most circumstances. In the case of an escorted parade and event ride, riders should be given specific instructions at the riders' meeting on the group formation and the procedures to be used for moving legally through blocked intersections

At two-way stop intersections, where you are required to stop, move through only when it is safe and legal. When stopping at an intersection with a light, it may be appropriate to close up the formation and sit side-by-side while waiting for the light to change. If you do this, the rider on the left proceeds first, and the following riders reestablish the staggered formation and space cushion as they depart.

At yield intersections be safe and cautious. Turn your head to check for traffic before merging. Respect the law, other members of the group and other roadway users. Put safety and operating within the law ahead of trying to stay in formation. The group can reestablish its formation afterward.

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(Copied from MSF Group Riding Guide)

Biker's Wisdom

- Time is a great healer, but it's a lousy beautician.
- Conscience is what hurts when everything else feels good.
- Age doesn't always bring wisdom: sometimes it comes with age.

Dinner at Aspens in Pine Mountain

If the ride captain gets credit for good weather, I will certainly get lots of credit for our ride on October 5th.

What a wonderful evening we had. Eight soles showed up for a pleasant ride to Pine Mountain. We were glad to have Wayne and Helen Kennedy join us. They are a wonderful couple and we hope they will join the VMTA.

After leaving the Welcome Center Shell station, we eased up Fortson Road, cut across on Hunter Road to GA 315 left on Hudson Mill Road to Hamilton Road to Pine Mountain.

Connie McRae gave us a running commentary on the Harris County area, south of Hamilton. Connie told us of the home where the family just had a baby, the one where the man had cancer, the one where she picks up the twins, their daughter's home, a drug house etc. As we approached the next mailbox, she would give us the low down on each family, such as if they had good kids or not. It was like having our own tour guide.

Dinner at Aspens Restaurant was OK, food was good but not great and the service was slow. However, it was very pleasant eating on the porch. Most of us lingered long after we finished eating listening to Connie's stories about her sister. She was very entertaining.

Our ride home was delightful, in the nearly full moon.

Earl

Membership Cookout



What, rain on our special day? Luckily there was blue sky in the direction we were riding toward. So we did leave on wet roads and several club members drove their 4 wheel vehicles. Twenty people met at FDR Park for a comradery afternoon.

We left the Welcome Center for a meandering ride up to Pine Mountain, while the cookers were setting up at the park. Picked up a few more bikes in Cataula and Hamilton. Then went around the west side of Callaway Gardens on Mountain View Rd. Love the curves on this road, where some pegs were scraped that day.

Food was almost ready, as was the coffee; the cool morning had turned nice and warm. While smelling the food cooking, we all chatted about different things as the tables got organized. There was a lot to drink and eat as usual.

Big **Thanks** to Mary for arranging all the food and getting it all up to the pavilion. And thanks to the people bringing deserts for this always-hungry group.

It was John's birthday so Bob Smith passed around a card for signatures as he was under the weather and did not make the cookout. Everything was fine till time for desert. Then Mary lit candles on a cake with an antique car design, one of the two cakes for the birthday boys whose birthday was the same day. Sure surprised some of the group.



We were glad to see some club members that live quite a distance away who came over for this special day. The new members got to meet different people than usually show up at the meetings.

Art suggested a ride over to Warm Springs where the leather shop had moved into larger quarters. We had a good group go on the afternoon ride, finally circling over to Lanett, Al and down along the lake before coming back into Phenix City and home. And no we did not stop for any ice cream anywhere along the route. Not even tempted to eat more sweets. Ha

Bob

Pat's Backwaters

Seven members and two guests met at the Welcome Center Shell station for the ride to Pat's Backwaters on Lickskill road.

There were 5 bikes, 1 car and 1 truck. The weather was perfect at 71 degrees and the sun was setting slowly in the west. We left on schedule at 6:00 p.m. down Williams road to Fortson road, turned left

down 2 Lane Country road, then on 315 to River road on into Pat's Backwater Restaurant. I called ahead to Carolyn, who was already there, to inform her how many was on the way. She had the table all set up by the time we arrived so we could all set together.

The food was great and so was the conversation. Your were properly talked about. We tried not to leave anyone out. After dinner we all left together and most went their own way by the time we got to I 185. Most everyone was back home by 8:30 p.m. All who did not attend missed a good ride, great food and a lot of BS.

Shack

Membership List Additions & Changes

New Members:

John Fink, 4822 Delray Dr, Columbus 31907, 706-561-0693, jinks@mchsi.com

Randy & Charlene Harchar, 8965 Tuck Person Hwy, Waverly Hall 31831, 706-582-6160
Toyoman1@msn.com

Jerry & DeEtta Morehouse, 5705 Ironstone Dr, Columbus 31907, 706-221-2217
Jerdeemo@knology.net

Address Change:

Mickey & Laurie Avirett, 237 Old Chimney Court, Midland 31820, 706-562-8606

Email Changes

Jackie: hjackie@bellsouth.net

Altheia: haltheia@bellsouth.net

Email from Blue Knights

CLETE PLEASE TELL EVERYONE WITH THE V.M.T.A. THAT WE HAD A GREAT TIME AND WE TRULY THANK EVERYONE FOR INVITING US TO THE SHRIMP PEEL IN PANAMA CITY.....AGAIN THANK YOU GUYS FOR EVERYTHING.....OH AND GALS.....YOU HAVE A GREAT GROUP OF FOLKSRICK

Richard and Sandra Kohler

Shrimp Peel

Ah, the sweet smell of the ocean, without the red tide!!! We have an ever-increasing group of bikers at our annual beach event. Thanks for getting the word out to the other clubs; keeps everyone interested meeting new people.

Some of us went to Panama City Beach on Thursday, quite a few on Friday then the rest of the workers got there following John & Mary down on Saturday. Weather was great at the beach until a line of rain came through Sunday morning. But, now on the ride down, each group had some cool riding starting out from Phenix City. Much like our springtime lunch ride to the beach – pretty cold.



Entertainment reached a new high with the karaoke music in the TIKI Lounge. Each night was well attended and lots of fun for all.

A big thanks to Sid for all his work of delegating the jobs to make this the big success it was, as usual. His helpers, Johnny, George, Bobby, Jackie, Gwen, Connie and Peggy did a great job. Seems there was an order not to have too many deserts. Hum (think we did pretty well, don't you) And we had no gate crashers with our tickets, good idea that. The motel made us very comfortable, as they always do, even though we are not that big of group for the size of the Sandpiper Beacon, they still go out of their way for us.

On Friday and again on Saturday different groups took rides to either the Outlet Mall in Destin or downtown Panama City. We stopped at Captain Anderson's to watch the boats come in, with their catch of the day. Sure saw some big fish being filleted. That was a neat idea to check out the harbor area. There is always something interesting to do that was not part of the schedule.

The return trip(s) were less exciting than the trip down. No unfortunate calamities happened to anyone. Other than the showers the temps stayed pretty good for biking.

Bob Smith

Christmas Party

Nobody should forget the Christmas Party on December 9th at the Magnolia Café 7:00 PM. Based on last years you can expect plenty of good food and company. Word has it that the planning committee has surprises in store for us. A good time can be expected by all.

Hope to see everyone there.

VMTA Calendar of Events November 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 Lineville Car Show. Contact Bob if interested	6	7 Election Day	8	9	10	11 Peanut Festival Depart Waffle King on 431S at 9:00 AM
12	13 Business Meeting @ Piccadilly's 7:00 PM	14	15	16	17	18 God Bless Ft. Benning Ride Leave Civic Center at 4:00 PM
19	20	21	22	23 Thanksgiving Day	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

VMTA Calendar of Events December 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Toys for Tots Ride. Leave Civic Center at 12 noon.	4	5	6	7	8	9 Christmas Party Magnolia Café 7:00 PM
10	11 NO Meeting in December	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 Christmas	26	27	28	29	30
31						