



# The Kickstand

September 2006

[WWW.VMTAColumbusga.org](http://WWW.VMTAColumbusga.org)

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

## **Business Meeting:**

September 11th at 7:00  
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*  
*Cell: (706) 392-9282*

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

## Presidents Message

From somewhere near Boone, NC –

The end of the month sure comes quick when you are on a 2-week cycle trip. How am I to keep up with all the club is up to at this point? You really need to think about going on a 2-lane trip sometime. You see so much of the countryside that the freeways miss, I know you all know this but you tend to forget. You won't believe all the neat barns and bridges that one runs across when riding the backcountry roads. I have seen coffee table books with these inside but seeing the real thing is much better.

The Miller's lake party did not get rained on this year, so I hope everyone rode their bikes and attended this annual feast. The Wings Over the Smokies is coming up fast so plan to ride along with some of us for this NC event in late Sept.

Our membership party will be coming up soon and we need club members to be thinking of stepping up for office, like Clete & I did this year. The elections are coming up fast! Ha

See you at the next meeting.



Enjoy, Bob Smith

## Announcements

### September Birthdays

18<sup>th</sup> – Myra Delay  
22<sup>nd</sup> – John McRae  
29<sup>th</sup> – Faye Delay

### September Anniversaries

8<sup>th</sup> – Earl & Jeannine Cheal  
13<sup>th</sup> – Fred and Lucy Manzer  
19<sup>th</sup> – John and Mary Fiske

## Meeting Presentation

Chris has rescheduled his talk for the October meeting. He has ridden in several different countries and will talk about overseas travel and how you can arrange to ride motorcycles on your trips.

## September & October Ride Calendar



**September 4<sup>th</sup> - Labor Day Country Ride.** Bob will lead us on two lane country roads. Depart Welcome Center Shell station at 9:00 AM.

**September 9<sup>th</sup> - Bikes on Broadway.** Meet at Loco's on 13<sup>th</sup> Street at 7:00 PM & ride down together. Please wear green club shirt.

**September 17<sup>th</sup> - Ride to 29 Dreams Motorcycle Resort**  
Art Murphy will lead this ride to Birmingham. Depart P.C. Wal-Mart at 10:00 AM.

**September 21<sup>st</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> - Wings Over the Smokies** GWRRA rally in Fletcher, NC. Members are leaving at various times. Make your own contacts.

**October 1<sup>st</sup> Membership Appreciation Cookout at F.D.R State Park.** Come join fellow members for a hot dog cookout in your honor. Leave Welcome Center Shell station at 11:00 AM.

**October 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> - Shrimp Peel** Sid Martin is planning the event this year. Details to follow. Step-up to the plate & offer your assistance. Call Sid at (706) 324-0775.

**October 28<sup>th</sup> - Ocillia Sweet Potato Festival** Details to follow.

## Long Term Planning Dates

**November 3 & 4<sup>th</sup> - National Peanut Festival** - Annual event in Dothan, AL.

**December 2<sup>nd</sup> - Christmas Party**

**December 3<sup>rd</sup> - Toy for Tots**

## Biker's Wisdom

- Sometimes it takes a full tank of fuel before you can think straight.
- Never mistake horsepower for staying power.
- Whatever it is, it is better in the wind.

## September Safety Message(s)

### Overthinking it....

#### #1

We have all seem 'em, rolling down the road with a cell phone to their head, or busy with the kids in the back seat, or car weaving all over the road.

Distracted drivers are some of the most dangerous road hazards. Luckily, they're easy to spot. Look for drivers wandering out of their lane, tailgating, speeding up or slowing down for no apparent reason. Be especially wary of them near merge areas, as their lack of attention often catches up with them there.

And when you do see them, your course of action is clear: Put some distance between them and yourself.

#### #2

You're a conscientious motorcyclist. You're careful on the road. You've taken a motorcycle-safety course. You ride with the best protection you can.

But when did you last take the time to **practice your low-speed maneuvers** in a parking lot?

It's a good idea to take a few minutes every few weeks, find an empty parking lot and practice the basics: braking, swerving and turning tightly.

It doesn't take much effort, and it's actually kind of fun. Best of all, it keeps your skills sharp.

Above tips reprints from AMA magazine.

*John*

## ICE CREAM SOCIAL

The weather was hot but didn't stop everyone from enjoying cool ice cream. I was very pleased with the turnout, 25 total I believe. My sister and her family, as well as my neighbor Rose were impressed with our friends. They thought we were a very diverse group who enjoys each other company.

George, Charles (brother-in-law) and Ken (nephew) made three churns of ice cream-two peach and one strawberry. Everyone arrived and sat inside the house to cool off before adjourning to the deck. Clete was considerate and brought electric fans to help with the heat and the temperature was still warm even that late in the day. We ate the peach ice cream first, chatted for a short while then served the strawberry ice cream. I hope everyone enjoyed themselves and the ice cream and I like to think they did for there was very little left in the churn.

I don't know what it is about home made ice cream that makes it so good but it definitely beats Brusters, which is pretty good. Thanks to everyone who attended we enjoyed having you and maybe we can do it again sometime.

*Gwen Carter*

## **Bikes and Badges 2006**

Details of the 2006 Bikes and Badges Ride were decided at our first board meeting, yesterday.

Bikes will meet in the parking lot of the Welcome Center at exit 8 on Interstate 185 at 9:30 AM on Sunday October 8<sup>th</sup>. We will leave the Welcome Center at 9:30 AM as one large group with a police escort to the Dawson Sheriff's Department where we will take a short rest stop. The Sheriff has agreed to open the office for those who need to use the restrooms. We will then ride to Sylvester Georgia to rally with the group from the southern part of the state. Again after a short break we will ride as one very large group back to the Harley shop in Albany.

Poker hands and 50/50 tickets will be sold at the Welcome Center starting at 7:00 AM on Sunday. This year the fee for the poker hands will be a little different as they do include a BBQ lunch from Country's. You will receive 3 hands, 1 Georgia Boys Ranch do- rag and 1 Georgia Boys Ranch arm band good for a free lunch at the Country's BBQ booth located at the Harley shop, for a fee of \$25.00. Additional armbands will be sold for \$5.00 each. Do-rags also will be sold for \$5.00 each. You can pre-register at the Harris County Sheriff's office any time prior to Sunday October 8<sup>th</sup>. This will be the only pre-registration we will have this year.

We will be selling tickets again this year to win a Hand Made Custom Chopper with a value of \$70,000.00. The drawing will be held on November 4<sup>th</sup> 2006. This is a one of a kind custom motorcycle powered by a 96 cubic inch S&S motor. I will have a picture after the next board meeting. Tickets will sell for 1 ticket for \$2.00 or 15 tickets for \$20.00.

Door prizes will also be given away at the final stop in Albany.

More information will be furnished as decisions are made during the next board meeting.

Please mark your calendars for this date.

*Jackie*

## **Blue Ridge Parkway**

### **A note to those who maybe going to Wings Over the Smokies and plan on doing some riding.**

A rockslide on August 18 has forced closure of the Parkway between Balsam Gap (Milepost 443) and Soco Gap (Milepost 455). Repairs to Sims Creek Bridge (Milepost 295-299) require a well marked, short detour off of the Parkway through the summer of 2006. All Julian Price Park facilities are accessible from the south end of the detour.

<http://www.nps.gov/blri/>

Mary & I reached this detour Monday, 8/21, heading south. It forced us off just before Maggie Valley onto RT 74.

## **Peppermill Grill**

Thursday evening, it must be time for a VMTA dinner ride. Sure enough, three bikes/five people gather at Wally world at 6:30. Skies did look threatening but no one was going to let it bother us.

North on 431 we went. Making the turn onto AL 379 Roger & Susan were waiting for us and the five bikes continued to the Grill. No rain, but it was humid as expected during August in this part of the south.

Everyone enjoyed the food and conversation.

*John F*

## **New England Ride**

Vermont turned out to be the prettiest state in our New England run. I thought the Chesapeake Bay Tunnel/Bridge would do me in but I did not get sick like with the Blue Ridge ride last year or two. We made it to Denton, MD & stayed with my sister for 3-days. They took us to Cape Fears Beach, not many people there for July. Then onto Rehobeth Beach. It was packed with people from PA.

We went onto CT to visit our friends on our old street. Sometimes it's best not to go back. Our old house & yard looked awful.

Onto Windsor, CT and John's sister took us to the largest Cruise In by the Bradley Airport, Mark's Cruise In, 400+ cars.

Then it was on to MA and 3-days with my brother and a sister. We rode all around in his 1935 Lafayette. Smiles came from older folks & grins & thumbs up from younger folks. John tried out a Trike by Mike. He says that's a whole different feeling. I keep saying "that's us in 10 years".

We then went up & through NH touring around Lake Winnepesaukee, a beautiful area. We then went into beautiful VT.

The next day was rain – rain- rain into up state NY. We made it safety but our Frog Togs failed us in some degree. We saw corn, corn, corn, soybeans, soybeans & some field Tabasco and a couple fields of potatoes.

We went to Sodous Point on Lake Ontario. John & Roy went chest high fishing in a canal runoff from Canandaigua Lake.

We headed home through PA, OH, VA, KY, TN, & GA. We made it safely & saw/met friendly people all the way.

*Mary*

## **River Party**

As the clock began to reach 2:00 PM bikes started to gather at Wally world and at the same time comments were being made about the dark clouds that could be seen in the western sky. Many were confident that showers were not going to spoil our afternoon of companionship.

After waiting any extra 10 minutes for possible late arrivals, five bikes and four cars left the parking area headed for AL side of Lake Harding.

Upon arriving at the Miller home there were already a number of people there that had driven by car. And towards three o'clock Johnny drove up to the dock with his pontoon boat with other passengers. In total there were 26 club members present and 4 guests.

There was so much good food that was brought by guests along with the chef-Roger prepared main course of burgers and bratwurst.

We shared the wonderful confines of the indoors and the upper level porch of the very beautiful new Miller residence. Gathered in various groups we listened to too many stories of times past, as well as hopeful thoughts of things to come. Many gather around the TV waiting for the Little League game to start, which never did.

As the afternoon got late some were leaving, while others decided it was time for the usual boat ride. It was a wonderful afternoon of friendship and food.

On behalf of everyone who attended that fine event we thank Susan & Roger for sharing their new home with us and providing the wonderful backdrop for a great club event.

*John F*



## VMTA Calendar of Events September 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 <b>Labor Day Country Ride</b> Lv Welcome Ctr Shell station 9:00 AM	5	6	7	8	9 <b>Bikes on Broadway</b> Meet Loco's on 13 <sup>th</sup> Street at 7:00 PM.
10 Grandparents' Day	11 <b>Business Meeting @ Piccadilly's</b> 7:00 PM	12	13	14	15	16
17 <b>29 Dreams in Birmingham.</b> Depart P.C. Wal-Mart at 10:00 AM	18	19	20	21 Wings over the Smokies	22 Wings over the Smokies	23 Wings over the Smokies
24 Wings over the Smokies	25	26	27	28	29	30

## VMTA Calendar of Events October 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Membership Cookout at FDR. 11AM Welcome ctr Shell Station	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Bikes & Badges Ride Depart 9:30 AM Welcome Center	9 <b>Business Meeting @ Piccadilly's</b> 7:00 PM	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Shrimp Peel Depart Waffle King P.C. 431 at 8AM
22 Shrimp Peel	23	24	25	26	27	28 Ocillia Sweet Potato Festival Depart ??????
29	30	31				