



The Kickstand

April 2007

WWW.VMTAColumbusga.org

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

Business Meeting

April 9th at 7:00 PM
Piccadilly's in Peachtree
Mall
Eat at 6:30 or earlier

Board Meeting

To Be Schedule
As needed

Presidents Note

I am writing this as the Iron Butt ride is taking place. It must be nice to have the stamina to handle that much riding in one day. It just isn't for me but, I don't have buns of steel either.

However, I do enjoy having my Goldwing, behind our motor home going to a new destination and exploring the local scenery. That I can do at a relaxed pace and I have my own pillow to lie my head on at night.

When I first considered using a trailer, I asked Roger Miller for his advice. Roger related how he had won a motorcycle trailer at a rally, which was donated by Larry's Trailers on 2d Avenue. I took Roger's advice and visited Larry. I had in mind a 5' x 10' enclosed trailer with one ramp door in the rear, just big enough to hold the Goldwing. Theoretically it would have accommodated the Goldwing. After telling Larry that I planned to transport the Goldwing, he recommended the 6' x 10' trailer with the additional side door (which I did not think I would need). The 6' x 10' trailer also was about 6" taller. Boy, am I ever glad that I ordered the larger trailer. The 6' x 10' trailer is large enough to hold the bike with room to tie it down, which I could not have done in the smaller trailer. The side door is very handy. I installed a chock for the front wheel and I reinforced the floor with a 1" x 6" under where the tires track. The trailer has a flow through vent system and it has proven to be a good trailer for my purposes. Oh, and Jeannine loves the extra space around the bike, to store more stuff.

There are other options for transporting your bike to those far away interesting places. Some that come to mind are:

- An open trailer like Roger and Susan Miller have.
- A hydraulic lift on the back of a motor home like Wayne and Helen Kennedy have.
- An electric lift on the back of a motor home. Last week, while at the Family Motor Coach Association International Convention in Perry, GA, I talked to a fellow who had an electric lift hauling his Harley Road King. He said it was OK but, he wishes he had the hydraulic lift.
- A toy hauler. Barry and Linda Cowell, apparently have one. Barry told me he built living space in the front and the back is for his toys.
- Hauling in the rear of a truck. At the FMCA Convention, I also saw a Goldwing in the back of a pickup truck, on what appeared to be a platform that had been winched on the truck bed. Unfortunately, I did not get a close look.

It is likely there may be other methods.

I have covered a few options for taking your bike with you on longer trips, when you want to take more than a change of clothes and your tooth brush. Happy travels.

Jeannine and I will be leaving the Goldwing behind as we take a cruise from New Orleans, through the Panama Canal and ending up in Vancouver, BC. We expect to leave here about April 13th and spend a couple days in NO. We arrive in Vancouver on May 3rd so unfortunately we will miss the grand fish fry. Seeing the Panama Canal has been a desire of mine for a long time.

Earl

Board of Directors

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April & May Ride Calendar



April 12th – White House for Dinner Depart P.C. Home Depot at 6:00 PM.

April 14th – Atlanta Aquarium
Depart from Welcome Center Shell station at 8:00AM. Plan is to park the bikes at the Marta & take train in to City.

April 22nd – Mossey Creek Barn Yard Festival – Depart from the Miller Rd Burger King at 9:00 am

April 28th – Annual Fish Fry at Florence Marina State Park. Gathering will begin at 5:00 PM

May 6th – Talisi Hotel for lunch. Depart from P.C. Home Depot at 10:00 AM.

May 19th – PotLuck Supper at the Fiske house. Gather at 6:00 PM

May 27th – 29 Dreams Resort & Barber M/C Museum Depart P.C. Home Depot at 8:30 AM.

Long Term Planning Dates

June 14th – 16th – GWRRA Wing Fling in Rome, GA

June 20th – 23rd – Honda Hoot in Knoxville, TN.

June 26 – 28th –Honda Home Coming in Marysville, OH.

July 4 – 7th – GWRRA Wing Ding 29 in Billings Montana

September 20 – 22 - Wings Over The Smokies

October 7th – Membership Cook-out

October 20 & 21 – Annual Shimp Peel in Panama City

Announcements

April Birthdays

12th – Faith Mack
22nd – Jeff Howell
24th – Art Murphy

April Anniversaries

17th – Jared and Valerie Cohen
28th – Roger and Susan Miller

Motorcycle Safety

Not available at time of print.

Annual Fish Fry

For many years, the VMTA has held an annual family Fish Fry. Attendees always have a great time. Because Florence Marina State Park has been such a good location, it has been selected again for this year's fish fry. Reportedly, there have been major improvements made to the campground. Travis Garner has years of experience organizing the fish fry and he has agreed to do it again this year.

Mark you calendars for April 28th. More information will be forth coming.

If you have a recreational vehicle, you might like to make a reservation and spend a couple nights. There is a two-night minimum. The cost is \$22.00 per night. Details about Florence Marina State Park along with reservation information can be found at the web site: <http://gastateparks.org/info/flormarin/>.

April Meeting Presentation

Richard Noxon will present a breakdown of the GA/AL gas tax per gallon. Interesting and enlightening. Will last about 15 minutes.

Bob Smith



What a great turnout of bikes for our annual Spring ride to the beach! We had 12 bikes at the start and one joined us at Cottonton, then 2 more at Montego Bay near the beach. So there were 22 at the tables for chow.

We made our first stop in Eufaula for some morning eats. Riding thru the old part of town with the hundreds of Azaleas blooming was really something. One guest had never been to Florida so I wondered if she had seen the beautiful town? There was one couple drop out there for mechanical reasons but felt they could make it home easily.

Next stop was Dothan for gas after taking the scenic ride straight thru downtown instead of the outer belt. Many had never been thru the city, it seem much shorter to me and on a Sunday morning no traffic. We came home the same way and made almost all the lights! After a short break off we went to the sunny beach.

All the new bridges are finished in Panama City so it is much easier to get around there are two levels and we were able to ride both of them – sure is a view from that high up. Lots of sail boats on the inland waterways. We were just a little early, not for the restaurant but for when we would meet our Florida club members coming from Pensacola, so we rode out to the beach and saw all the new construction. Cannot see much of the beach anymore while on the roads. My Mapquest notes did not match any road names we saw but I knew how to get there from our motel of last fall. Pretty soon I got us on the right street to Montego Bay. Barry & Linda were staying for the weekend and met us there also, plus rode home with us.

Had some excitement with lunch and the food was great. Only noticed one couple getting dessert, which is how good the food is there. Once outside we met a couple from Colorado who wanted to chat. They were Claude & Nancy Lockhart from Colorado Springs, down for some sort of sports event Claude was attending. They had just gotten a 93 Wing with trailer and joined GWRRA last summer. They talked to lot of us about their Wing and our club. We had time to chat while we checked out a Harley that did not want to start back up. After an hour they had called a towing service and told us to head on back. It was getting on to 3 PM so we gassed up and took off. Turned out the bike did make it back after it cooled some more. He said it happens a lot.

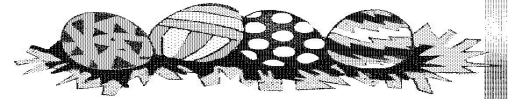


The return was up thru Graceville to the Flea Market at Dothan, nice scenic 2 lane roads. Then had to stop at Spanish Acres for some Mayfield ice cream. Of course!!

Some split off there and kept heading back, the rest of us made it almost to Phenix City when one of the smaller bikes needed gas. A few more broke away while we gassed up. Near home Mickey came on the CB asking where we were going to eat supper! (He was only joking) I guess my reputation for eating every 4 hrs brought this up. Ha

This usually was Clete's ride each spring but due to unforeseen circumstances he could not ride along. So all of you club members skipping this ride thinking we would have some rain because of Clete's reputation for bringing rain, you missed a great sunny ride! Too bad.

Bob Smith



For Sale by Member

Mesh Jackets

(2) First Gear mesh jackets with full liners. One large and one medium. Used one season. \$75 for both. Same company that makes them for Honda
Roger or Susan Miller
706-615-3355
706-402-7399

Enclosed Trailer

Seven months old 7'W x 10'L x 6' 6"H enclosed Gladiator trailer for sale. Only has about 500 miles on it. Pewter color with diamond plate stone guard, inside lights, side door with flush lock, electric brakes, lined with plywood, vent, dolly wheel and stored inside. Price new \$2,900. Selling price \$2,399 O.B.O. Call Earl (706) 563-5677

VMTA Calendar of Events April 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 April Fool's Day	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Easter Sunday	9 Business Meeting 7:00 PM at Piccadilly's in the mall	10	11	12 Dinner at The White House P.C. Home Depot at 6:00 PM	13	14 Atlanta Aquarium Welcome Ctr Shell at 8:00 AM
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 Mossey Creek Festival Miller Rd B.K. at 9:00 AM	23	24	25	26	27	28 Fish Fry at Florance Marina Gather at 5:00 PM
29	30					

VMTA Calendar of Events May 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Talisi Hotel for lunch. Lv. P.P. Home Depot at 10:00 AM	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Business Meeting 7:00 PM at Piccadilly's in the mall	15	16	17	18	19 Pot Luck Supper at the Fiske House.
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Barber Museum & 29 Dreams Resort Lv at 8:30 AM P.C. Home Depot	28	29	30	31		