



# The Kickstand

March 2007

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

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

## Business Meeting

**March 12th** at 7:00 PM  
Piccadilly's in Peachtree  
Mall  
Eat at 6:30 or earlier

Board Meeting  
To Be Schedule  
As needed

## Board of Directors

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

Vice-President: Sid Martin  
Tel: (706) 324-0775  
Cell: (706) 329-7555

Ride Chairpersons:  
Roger & Susan Miller  
Rogers Cell: (706) 402-7399  
Susans Cell: (706) 615-3355

Treasurer: Mary Fiske  
Tel: (706) 561-3543  
Cell: (706) 398-7147

Secretary: Laurie Avirett  
Tel: (229) 649-2584

Public Relations: Art Murphy  
Tel: (706) 569-6820  
Cell: (706) 681-8386

## Presidents Note

### Bits and Pieces

The wisdom, maturity, experience and knowledge of our members is such that almost anything I will say will be a repeat of something you likely already know. However, perhaps the reminders will be useful to help you recall items that may be of interest to you.

**Courtesy:** This is something most of us take as a given. However, as you know, there are a few motorcycle rider rotten apples, who have given riders a bad name, as seen by non-riders. As responsible motorcycle riders, we set the tone for all riders. We can also counter the any bad image with a positive friendly attitude whenever we ride or are when we are in our distinctive protective gear. Of course, courtesy should not stop when we park the bike.

**Be Seen:** I am stepping into the Vice President's area with this discussion on safety but I don't think we can be reminded of safety too much. In 2000, I when I was working at Ft. Benning, I was driving my truck and I nearly hit a motorcyclist. I just plain did not see him until after I nearly hit him. His bike was black, he was wearing camouflage battle dress uniform, which did what it was designed to do, make him difficult to see. It really shook me to think I came so close to hitting him, yet I try so hard to be aware of motorcyclists.

I urge all of us to be aware of the color of our motorcycles, our defensive lighting, and the color of our protective clothing. It appears to me that the most outstanding colors are bright orange, yellow and white. I really like the color of my deep red Goldwing but I regret it is not more visible. I do plan to buy a white jacket for this summer. White is good for two reasons, visibility and it does not absorb the heat from the sun. The next time you see a good-looking bike or protective gear, ask yourself: Will this help me be seen? Perhaps you should evaluate the current color of you bike and your protective gear. Is it time to change to a higher visibility color?

**Motorcycle Yoga:** Now it is confirmed what you had suspected, Earl has lost it completely. But let me explain. Especially, on a long trip, you sit in the same position for a long period of time and you are worn out when you arrive at your destination. Of course, you try to stretch your legs on the highway pegs but that does not help all that much.

Yoga is a form of exercise that typically incorporates poses, which help tone, your body while flexing the muscles and assisting with balance. Yoga is beneficial to people of all ages but it is especially beneficial to those of us that are so mature. Susan and I have both been taking Yoga (at different places) and realize the benefits that can be derived from it. We have discussed the potential of using the Yoga concept to develop a program that could be done when taking trips. Of course, this could only be done when the road was straight and clear and safety could be assured. A couple examples of how this might work are shrug your shoulders and hold for a count of 30, then relax. Tighten your buttocks and hold for a count of 30, then relax.

Susan and I have discussed the possibility of developing Motorcycle yoga for use while riding and at breaks. Stay tuned, more to follow as we get this on the drawing board.

(continued on next page)

## March & April Ride Calendar



### March 8<sup>th</sup> – Pat's Backwaters

Too in Bradley Park Square next to Publix. Dinner at 6:30

### March 17<sup>th</sup> - St. Patrick's Day

-O'Charley's Bradley Park Drive. Dinner at 6:30 PM

### March 25<sup>th</sup> – Iron Butt Ride

Depart from the Waffle House in Phenix City on 431 S at 8:00 AM sharp.

### April 14<sup>th</sup> – Atlanta Aquarium

(tentative schedule) plan to park at Marta Station

### April 21<sup>st</sup> – Annual Fish Fry

(tentative schedule)

## Long Term Planning Dates

### May 19<sup>th</sup> – Pot Luck Supper

### June 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> – GWRRA Wing Fling in Rome, GA

### June 20<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> – Honda Hoot in Knoxville, TN.

### July 4 – 7<sup>th</sup> – Wing Ding 29 in Billings Montana

### September 20 – 22 - Wings Over The Smokies

### October 7<sup>th</sup> – Membership Cook-out

### October 20 & 21 – Annual Shimp Peel in Panama City

### October 27<sup>th</sup> – Ocillia Sweet Potato

### November 10<sup>th</sup> – National Peanut Festival in Dothan

### December 2 – Toys-For-Tots Ride

### December 8<sup>th</sup> – Club Christmas Party

**Involvement:** Our club has a good record of involvement by members. However, it seems that the same members do most of the heavy lifting. Thanks to all of our great members, who do the many things that keep our club strong and interesting. For those of you that have not contributed, jump in, the water is great. In other words, you will find lots of self-satisfaction to be involved in planning an activity, leading a ride, helping with fund raising etc.

**Ty Kingrey:** At our last meeting, several members were generous and donated to the Ty Kingrey medical fund. As you may recall, Ty has juvenile Huntington's disease. This is a disease with no known cure. It debilitates brain and the body, gradually leading to death. Ty's biological father and grandmother also have the disease. I understand that Bob and John attended the pancake breakfast for him last Saturday at Applebees restaurant. Perhaps other VMATA members also attended. Applebees contributed all the food and the Applebees staff donated their time. Ty's adopted father manages the Applebees by CSU. About \$7,000 was raised from the breakfast. Thanks for all of your support.

**Camping and Riding:** Several VMATA members have RVs and enjoy the outdoors in two ways. VMATA members Wayne and Helen Kennedy, and Jeannine and I are members of the local Good Sam RV Club, called the Columbus Round Tuits. Wayne is the President. Typically, the RV club camps out once a month on the 3rd weekend starting Wednesday and ending Sunday. Some Round Tuit members work at full time jobs and are only able to join us on Friday evenings. The Kennedys and Cheals usually take their Goldwings and go for scenic rides. The March is not a typical month. The March scheduled camp out is in conjunction with the State Good Sam Samboree at Perry, but only a few Round Tuits will be attending. Other Round Tuit members will attend the Family Motor Coach Association Convention at Perry the week prior. The next camp out is at Florence Marina in April. If you have any interest in knowing more about the club, our camping schedule or if would like to have a copy of the newsletter, please let me know and I will put you on the distribution list.

**Meeting Programs:** If you have a suggestion for a program at our monthly meeting, please let either Art Murphy [amurphy@mchsi.com](mailto:amurphy@mchsi.com) or myself [aec177a1@aol.com](mailto:aec177a1@aol.com) know your desires, so we can make plans. One thought was that perhaps a maintenance person from Extreme Motor Sports could come and tell us the most common maintenance problems they see, which we need to be aware of and how we can take preventive action. What do you think?

Earl

## Announcements

### March Birthdays

12<sup>th</sup> – Marie Lee  
14<sup>th</sup> – Joan Kaplan  
17<sup>th</sup> – Clete Richardson  
24<sup>th</sup> – Janet Howell  
21<sup>st</sup> – Peggy Lamee  
31<sup>st</sup> – Mary Fiske

### March Anniversaries

7<sup>th</sup> – Bobby and Carolyn Shackelford

## Motorcycle Safety from Sid Martin

When riding your motorcycle, it is imperative that you anticipate trouble situations and know what to do when you see them. Analyze what vehicles are doing and try to predict the outcome. Then make sure you're ready to avoid a bad traffic situation. Staying alert to the road and traffic conditions is your responsibility.

## Board Recommends Change to By-Laws

Currently, the By-Laws require two signatures on the VMTA checks. In theory this is to ensure verification of each check that is written. However, apparently it has long been a practice for the President to sign blank checks. Then the Treasurer signs when expenditure requires a check to be written. Of course, this in effect negates any verification. The Board of Directors discussed this policy and determined that with the relative small amount of funds handled by the VMTA, the two-signature requirement was not necessary or desirable.

Therefore, the Board of Directors is recommending the appropriate change to the By-Laws: Existing By-Laws paragraph 4 of Article Four says: Both the Treasurer and the President or Vice President must sign all financial instruments.

The Board recommends changing to: the Treasurer, President or Vice President must sign all financial instruments.

Article Eleven addresses the sequence of events for changes to the By-Laws:

- Submitted at a regular meeting -- March
- Advertised in the next monthly newsletter -- April
- Voted on at the next meeting -- April (2/3 vote of present active members, in good standing)

## Board Recommends Working Stiff High Mileage Award

The Board of Directors unanimously approved a change to the high mileage award program. The award for the most miles will remain the same. The change is to add a category "The Working Stiff High Mileage Award". The intent is to acknowledge those people who are still working full time and may not be in a position to take long trips, like someone who is retired.

The actual award has not yet been determined but, it will either be a certificate or a plaque, depending on the availability.

Many "working stiffs" likely did not even register their mileage because, they figured there was no way that they could compete with Bob, John and perhaps someone else who is retired. With that in Mind the Board agreed that speedometer reading for January 1st could be estimated.

## Yard Sale

Once again Mary Fiske is planning another yard sale. It is scheduled for March 31<sup>st</sup>. And once again VMTA is invited to donate items for sale to benefit the Club. OH; what a deal. How easy can it get. Just give your items to Mary at any of the future meetings or drop them off at the house. Mary will handle the rest.

In 2006 the club made \$183.83. Let's make this one a bigger success.

## Reminder #3 and Final

Club dues are must be paid before March 31st.

Please pay Mary Fiske at any meeting or mail to '3951 Biltmore Dr., Columbus'. Make checks payable to VMTA.

## New Members



If you missed the February meeting and missed reading the minutes on the Web Site we have new members, Frank & Sue Sealy.

## Sweet Heart Dinner

February 10 saw a hungry group gather at the Buckhead Grill for dinner. Gathering was small, eleven members and one guest, but the stories and empty dirty plates

were normal at the end of the evening.



## For Sale by Member

### **2000 Honda Civic EX**

Mint condition, 75,000 miles  
Auto, PW, PB, power moonroof  
Excellent tires, 32 MPG avg.  
\$8300 OBO.

Roger or Susan Miller  
706-615-3355  
706-402-7399

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**Daylight Savings Time begins  
March 11th**

### **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 March 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Daytona Bike Week	3 Daytona Bike Week
4 Daytona Bike Week	5	6	7	8 Dinner at Pat's Back Waters Too at 6:30 PM	9	10.
11 Daylight Savings Time begins	12 Business Meeting 7:00 PM at Piccadilly's in the mall	13	14	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day Dinner at O'Charley's at 6:30 PM
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 Iron Butt Ride Depart Waffle House 431S at 8:00 AM sharp	26	27	28	29	30	31 Yard Sale at the Fiske's 7 - 2

## 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	9 Business Meeting 7:00 PM at Piccadilly's in the mall	10	11	12	13	14 Atlanta Aquarium (tentative)
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Annual Fish Fry (tentative date)
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					