



The Kickstand

November 2007

WWW.VMTAColumbusga.org

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

Business Meeting

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

Vice-President: Paul Lujan
Tel: (706) 561-5445
Cell: (706) 681-6030

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: Laura Avirett
Tel: (706) 562-8608

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

Presidents Note

A message from Sid...

I hope you all enjoyed the Shrimp Peel as much as I did! I thought the event went very well this year. The weather was beautiful, the beach was gorgeous, the location was nice, and the food was wonderful. My thanks to all who made this possible. Guys, you really outdid yourselves cooking this year. I heard many say that this was the best shrimp ever! Ladies, the side dishes and desserts were outstanding! All who made this happen, my sincere thanks. Events like this can't occur because of one person's effort, and many of you contributed to the success of the evening. I personally want to thank Gwen Carter, Connie McRae, Peggy Martin, Sue Sealy, George Carter, Jackie Hancock, John McRae, Frank Sealy, and everyone else who contributed or attended this annual feast. The location was a little easier, because we didn't need to move beach recliners, tables and chairs this time. Some enjoyed the music, others thought it a little loud, but I hope all had a good time. Thanks for making it happen, and I'm looking forward to next year! It has been suggested that we might want to find a new location for this event, and I'm researching some possibilities. If you have ideas concerning this, please talk with me and we'll discuss it as a club at a later date.

Announcements

November Birthdays

1st - Micky Avirett
2nd - Connie McRae
6th - Jared Cohen
8th - Miriam Adkins
9th - Jackie Hancock
10th - Cal Herring
11th - Frank Sealy
23rd - Gwen Carter
25th - Bobby Shackelford
25th - DeEtta Morehouse
25th - Mary Herring
27th - Susan Miller
30th - Sara Lintymer

November Anniversaries

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

November & Decemer Ride Calendar



**November 3rd & 4th – Fall Ride
in North Alabama.** Departs P.C.
Home Depot Lot at 8:00 AM

**November 8th – Dinner at Red
Robbin.** Meet there at 6:30

**November 10th – Scotts Antique
Mall in Atl.** Departs Welcome
Center Shell at 8:00 AM.

**November 17th - God Bless Fort
Benning Day** Meet at P.C. IHOP at
9:00 AM

**November 29th – Dinner at
Smocky Bones** – Meet there at
6:30 PM

Long Term Planning Dates

**December 2nd – Toys for Tots
Ride** Gather at Phenix City IHOP at
10:00 AM

December 8th - Christmas Party
at Magnolia Cafe

**January 1st 2008 – Annual Polar
Bear Ride**

Monthly Safety Message

Why Helmets Work

Helmets Work

Most activities have their own suitable protective gear and equipment. Motorcycling is no exception. Every rider and passenger should wear over-the-ankle footwear, long pants, a long-sleeved jacket, full-fingered motorcycle gloves, and a helmet manufactured to meet DOT (U.S. Department of Transportation) standards. Helmets work. Helmet effectiveness has been confirmed by responsible studies, while helmet myths – “helmets break necks, block vision and impair hearing” – have been consistently disproved. Safety conscious riders wear helmets by deliberate choice every time they ride; we know that you will, too.

What a Helmet Does for You

First, it is the best protective gear you can wear while riding a motorcycle. Think of it at the same time you think of your ignition key: Pick up the key; pick up the helmet. They go together. Helmet use is not a “cure-all” for motorcycle safety, but in a crash, a helmet can help protect your brain, your face, and your life. Combined with other protective gear, rider-education courses, proper licensing and public awareness, the use of helmets and protective gear is one way to reduce injury. You hope you never have to “use” your helmet, just like you hope you won’t ever need to “use” the seatbelt in your car. But crashes do happen. We can’t predict when or what kind they will be. You should not say to yourself, “I’m just running down to the store,” and not wear your helmet. In any given year, a lot of people make good use of seatbelts, and a lot of riders give thanks that they were wearing helmets. Second, a good helmet makes riding a motorcycle more fun, due to the comfort factor: another truth. It cuts down on wind noise roaring by your ears; on windblast on your face and eyes, and deflects bugs and other objects flying through the air. It even contributes to comfort from changing weather conditions and reduces rider fatigue. Third, wearing a helmet shows that motorcyclists are responsible people; we take ourselves and motorcycling seriously. Wearing a helmet, no matter what the law says, is a projection of your attitude toward riding. And that attitude is plain to see by other riders and non-riders alike.

How and Why a Helmet Works

Different helmets do different things. There are hard hats on construction and heavy-industry heads; football helmets on athletes’ heads and Kevlar® caps on military heads. None are interchangeable. Motorcycle riding helmets are very sophisticated and specialized for the activity. They’ve been developed carefully and scientifically over the years.

Four basic components work together to provide protection in the motorcycle helmet: an outer shell; an impact-absorbing liner; the comfort padding and a good retention system.

What we see first is the **outer shell**, usually made from some family of fiber-reinforced composites or thermoplastics like polycarbonate. This is tough stuff, yet it’s designed and intended to compress when it hits anything hard. That action disperses energy from the impact to lessen the force before it reaches your head, but it doesn’t act alone to protect you. Inside the shell is the equally important **impact-absorbing liner**, usually made of expanded polystyrene (commonly thought of as Styrofoam). This dense layer cushions and absorbs the shock as the helmet stops and your head wants to keep on moving. Both the shell and the liner compress if hit hard, spreading the forces of impact throughout the helmet material. The more impact-energy deflected or absorbed, the less there is of it to reach your head and do damage. Some helmet shells delaminate on impact. Others may crack and break if forced to take a severe hit; this is one way a helmet acts to absorb shock. It is doing its intended job. Impact damage from a crash to the non-resilient liner may be invisible to the eye; it may look great, but it probably has little protective value left and should be replaced. The **comfort padding** is the soft foam-and-cloth

layer that sits next to your head. It helps keep you comfortable and the helmet fitting snugly. In some helmets, this padding can even be taken out for cleaning. The **retention system**, or chinstrap, is very important. It is the one piece that keeps the helmet on your head in a crash. A strap is connected to each side of the shell. Every time you put the helmet on, **fasten the strap securely**. It only takes of couple of seconds. To ride without your helmet secured would be as questionable as driving without your seatbelt fastened.

This message brought to you by the **Motorcycle safety Foundation.** **Paul**

Election of Officers

At the October business meeting the officers for 2008 were elected. Continuing in their current position are Sid as President, Paul as Vice-President, Roger & Susan as Ride Co-Chairpersons, Mary as Treasurer and Art in Public Relations. Gwen Carter was elected Secretary. Congratulations to these members and our thanks for accepting the positions. Thanks to Laura for her great job during 2007.

Now lets all get behind our officers give them our 100% support and help throughout-out 2008.

Pat's Backwater Evening Ride



The club had a moderate turnout for this dinner ride, but we had a big group at our table and everyone was having a ball. Sid & Peggy, Frank & Sue went early and called down to the Welcome Center to get a count for seating at the restaurant.

Bob and George & Gwen were waiting for the rest of you at the Shell Station. Mickey & Laura and Connie showed up in time for all of us to go in and order our meals.

We had five guests join us from Harris County School system (I think), and really kept everyone in stitches. Food was very good as usual and it was a nice night to ride, as the drought continues - so no chance of any rain. Ha.

Bob S

Shrimp Peel Thanks

We thank George, Gwen, Sid, Peggy, Jackie, Sue and anyone that helped to make the Shrimp Peel a success. Without these people this event would not get done. Thank You, Thank You, Thank You, Everyone deserves a big hand of applause. *Mary Fiske*

A Funny One

A mechanic was removing a cylinder head from the motor of a Goldwing motorcycle when he spotted a well-known cardiologist in his shop.

The cardiologist was there waiting for the service manager to come take a look at his bike when the mechanic shouted across the garage, "Hey Doc, want to take a look at this?"

The cardiologist, a bit surprised, walked over to where the mechanic was working on the motorcycle. The mechanic straightened up, wiped his hands on a rag and asked, "So Doc, look at this engine. I open its heart, take the valves out, repair any damage, and then put them back in, and when I finish, it works just like new. So how come I make \$39,675 a year (a pretty small salary) and you get the really big bucks (\$1,695,759) when you and I are doing basically the same work?"

The cardiologist paused, smiled and leaned over, then whispered to the mechanic... "Try doing it with the engine running."

Message from Blue Knight Member

CLETE,

PLEASE PASS IT ON FOR US TO YOUR MEMBERS THAT WE HAD A FANTASTIC TIME IN PANAMA CITY THIS WEEKEND.....WE GREATLY APPRECIATE THE INVITE AND WANT EVERYONE TO KNOW THAT YA'LL IS AN AWESOME GROUP TO RIDE WITH.....AND THE COOK AIN'T BAD EITHER.....AGAIN WE APPRECIATE THE INVITATION.

RICK

MEMBERSHIP COOKOUT

Roger and I met everyone at the cookout, so we didn't ride to the park with the group. But after a delicious spread of food and good company, a few of us rode over to Warm Springs. The weather was just perfect. And if you expect just hotdogs at this annual membership gathering, you're underestimating what the women of VMTA often do: delicious salads and desserts complimented the fare. Many thanks to Mary Fiske who works very hard to pull together all the details of this outing. And one of these days, she's going to sell me the winning 50/50 ticket at one of our events! Right, Mary?
Susan Miller

NORTH GEORGIA RIDE

This was the second Annual North GA ride for the club, and history repeated itself in that it was an awesome ride. The weather was absolutely perfect, and we found some of the most fun twisties in GA, NC, and TN. We had six bikes and seven folks – John and Mary, Laura and Mickey, Bob, Roger and me. On the first day, we stopped at the Ellijay Apple Festival where the guys got

to see a car show. We rode the Cherohola Skyway, my personal favorite because it combines corkscrew turns with mountain views. We over-nighted in Athens, TN, and made a stop at TWO's (Two Wheels Only) in Suches, GA on the way back. If you like fun mountain roads, you won't want to miss this ride next year. And it's not too late to make plans to come along on the North Alabama ride the weekend of November 3rd! Same fun, different state!

Susan Miller

VMTA MOVIE NIGHT

This monthly event is like having a private movie screening just for members of VMTA and their friends. Taking advantage of this unique opportunity were Clete, Bob and his guest Dick Noxon, Frank and Sue, Sid and Peggy, Paul (did you know Paul SNORES when he sleeps?), George and Gwen, and Roger and me. Munching on take-out from KFC, Subway, Burger King, Johnny Carino's, and CSU's very tasty and reasonably priced cafeteria, this month's feature was Robin Williams in Man of The Year. Next month's feature is still to be decided, so stay posted for details of the November showing.

Susan Miller

SHRIMP PEEL

A little wet weather on the way down on Friday quickly cleared for a beautiful weekend at Panama City Beach. Everyone agreed that the shrimp were better this year than anyone can remember. We were glad to see some Blue Knights join us for this fun annual event. Many thanks to those who spearheaded the event – I'm hesitant to name them all in case I leave someone out! And thanks to all the ladies and gents who provided the delicious sides and desserts. We welcomed to the event, too, our newest members Curtis and Miriam Adkins.

Susan Miller

SHRIMP PEEL

Frank and I attended our first Shrimp Peel this year and I



am sure not our last. We had a wonderful time and the shrimp were plentiful. Thanks to all for making this a great trip for us.

The ride down with the group on Saturday

started out a little cool but the weather warmed up and made it a great day to ride.

Since Frank and I did not have to work on Monday or Tuesday we made plans to stay on an extra day.

After all of the group left on Sunday, Frank and I meet Peggy and Sid. We went to the Boatyard for lunch and then rode over to St. George Island.

We made plans to meet the Martin's for breakfast on Monday, but when we got up it was raining. Frank decided that we needed to head for home and have breakfast on the way.

After gassing up we headed out Highway 79 to Dothan. It rained all the way to Dothan. Of course by the time we got there we were ready for a dry place, some hot coffee and breakfast. Knowing there is a big yellow "M" after you make that right on to the Dothan bypass I knew I could make it. But to my surprise, Frank said, "Where is McDonald's?" And I looked to my right and it was gone. We did get breakfast but we had to go further down the road.

It was still raining when we left Dothan. We cut across to Blakely, Georgia. The rain continued but was lighter as we headed north on Highway 27. Frank was ready for lunch and we just happened to be in Lumpkin, so we headed for Michelle's. As always the food was great.

No rain the rest of the way home.

What an end to a great weekend.

Sue Sealy

For Sale By Member

2005 Kawasaki Concours
997 CC In-line 4 Cyl (60.8 CI)
J&M JMCB-2003-DU Communication Unit
2 Brand New Tires
12,900 Miles
Great Ride
\$6500.00
Call: Bob Lee 706-565-6078

VMTA Calendar of Events November 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Fall Ride to North AL. Departs P.C. Home Depot 8:00 AM
4 Return from Fall Ride to North AL.	5	6	7	8 Supper at Red Robin. Meet there at 6:30 PM	9	10 Antique Mall in Atl. Departs Welcome Center Shell at 8:00 AM
11	12 Business Meeting 7:00 PM at Piccadilly's in the mall	13	14	15	16	17 God Bless Fort Benning Day Meet at IHOP in P.C. at 9:00 AM
18	19	20	21	22 Thanksgiving	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 Supper at Smokey Bones. Meet there at 6:30 PM	30	

VMTA Calendar of Events December 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1					1
2 Toys For Tots Ride Gather at PC IHOP at 10:00 AM	3	4	5	6	7 Pearl Harbor Day	8 Annual Christmas Party – Magnolia Café at 7:00 PM
9	10 No Business Meeting in Dec.	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
----- 30	----- 31	CHRISTMAS DAY				