



# The Kickstand

April 2008

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

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

## Business Meeting

**April 14th** 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: Gwen Carter  
Tel: (706) 561-4175

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

## Presidents Note

### A message from Sid...

Days are longer, pollen is thicker and peskier, and the weather is more pleasant: time to really enjoy our bikes and our club friendships. Keep in mind all the plans for rides, dinners, & events. Spring break for most schools is upon us, and I hope all your plans for everyday include safety first. Hope you all have the Fish Fry on your calendar. (Peggy and I saw the Garners recently, and they say they plan to be there and hope to socialize!) The following weekend is Relay for Life in Harris County, with Muscogee County's relay after that. We have many club members who are thankfully, cancer survivors, but we also have several who lost the battle with this dread disease. Many of us have family members or close friends who have fought this fight, and this is a wonderful time to acknowledge them and their bravery, along with their support system who stood beside them. Someday, we hope, this will be a former disease just as polio is. Peggy teaches youngsters who only know polio because they've studied FDR. Wouldn't it be great for us to see cancer become only a memory that our kids study in the history books! Please keep in your prayers the family and colleagues of the tragedy at the hospital. We are once again reminded of the fragile nature of our everyday safety in a cruel world.

Sid

## Announcements

### April Birthdays

12<sup>th</sup> – Faith Mack  
24<sup>th</sup> – Art Murphy

### April Anniversaries

28<sup>th</sup> – Roger and Susan Miller

## April & May Ride / Event Calendar



**April 6<sup>th</sup> – Talisi Hotel** – Departs from Home Depot in PC at 11:00 AM

**April 10<sup>th</sup> - Movie Night** – Worlds Fastest Indian 6:30 PM Doors open at 6:00 PM.

**April 13th LaGrange Square** – Leave Williams Rd Shell station at 11 AM

**April 20<sup>th</sup> – Concord Café** – Departs from Miller Rd Burger King at 10 AM.

**April 24<sup>th</sup> – Good Ol' Boys Rest.** - Departs Home depot at 6:30 PM

**April 26th – Annual Fish Fry** – at Florence Marina State Park (same place as last few years)

**May 8<sup>th</sup> – Mellow Mushroom** – Meet there at 6:30 PM.

**May 10<sup>th</sup> Children's Miracle Network Parade** 3:00 AT Extreme.

**May 17<sup>th</sup> – Little White House Tour** - Leaves from Williams Rd Shell station at 9:00 AM. Expect a \$7.00 fee.

**May 22<sup>nd</sup> – Movie Night** – Feature to be announced.

**May 25<sup>th</sup> – Shakeys in Auburn** – Departs Home Depot at 11:00 AM

## Long Term Planning Dates

**June 25 – 28<sup>th</sup> – Honda Hoot** in Knoxville TN

**July 25 - 27 – Curso Campout.** Get your reservations made early  
Tel: 828-235-8350 or  
[www.blueridgemotorcyclecamp.com/](http://www.blueridgemotorcyclecamp.com/)

**August 23<sup>rd</sup> – Mid-night ride.** History says we will leave at 9:00 PM.

**September 18 – 20<sup>th</sup> – Wings Over The Smokies.**

**October 25 – 26 Annual Shrimp Peel**

## Safety Message

# What They Didn't Teach During The MSF Class

## And a couple of things they shouldn't

By: James R. Davis

The MSF classes must teach an enormous number of facts and skills to people who must be assumed to have no experience whatever with motorcycles. As such, they do not have time to teach the kinds of things that are found in these various Tips & Techniques articles, or they have insufficient time to emphasize these various ideas to the extent that I do. [Lest anybody gets the wrong idea, this Tip is not meant to be antagonistic towards the MSF nor of its teachings - I am one of the strongest advocates of MSF training to be found anywhere.]

- When riding alone or in the lead of a group, as you approach the crest of a hill, move away from the center line. By the time oncoming traffic is visible it can be too late to move should you find someone coming at you in your lane if you have not already bought some air-space. (Actually, this one IS taught in the MSF class - I include it for emphasis.)
- When riding in a group it is far more important to put your most qualified/experienced/prepared rider in the drag position than it is to put that person in the lead. This person is, after all, the first person who will need to deal with an accident, is in the best position to observe the riding skills of the others and recommend changes to accommodate them if need be, and is the person that most often obtains that new lane for the group. That's plenty of activity and responsibility, and merits the best, not the worst of the group.
- When riding as a group, lane changes into a lane that is moving slower than you are should be done just as you do when passing a car - one at a time, first bike to last. The drag bike being the last bike to make the lane change. Observe that so long as the lead bike takes over the slower lane and maintains speed, the hole in the target lane gets larger and everybody can move over (one by one) with minimal time consumed. Only after the drag bike has made the lane change should speeds for the group be changed (lowered) to insure that everyone can get into the new lane. Note, please, that this assumes that there is sufficient opening ahead of the car being passed. If not, then a last-to-front maneuver is called for (the lead bike will slow the group down upon hearing that the drag bike has obtained the lane.) The choice is made by the lead bike.

When riding as a group, lane changes into a lane that is moving faster than you are should be done back to front - the drag bike obtaining the lane, and the others coming over only after the bike behind them has moved, and only if they individually confirm it is safe to do so. Pretty standard stuff, I'll grant you, other than the last to first moves. This is done because with the drag bike in position and maintaining his original speed, the 'hole' in the target lane gets larger in front of him. If you wait until everyone can move into it at once, that hole is awfully inviting to impatient automobile drivers too.

*Paul*

## For Sale: 2004 Honda Silverwing



Excellent condition. Silver in color. 9300 miles. Givi windshield, driver and passenger backrests. New rear tire (picked up a nail.) 12V accessory plug installed in right pocket. Chrome reservoir covers. Headlight modulator. Service repair manual, too. Never dropped. Always garaged. \$4,700

See photos at:

<http://www.PictureTrail.com/gid19270263>

If it asks for a password, use Silverwing.

Susan Miller  
susangmiller@mindspring.com  
Susan: 706-615-3355 or  
Roger: 706-402-7399

### Club Logo Tee Shirts

To order you club Tee Shirts call Jackie Hancock at 706 888-7989.

short sleeve \$15.00

long sleeve \$20.00

These shirts are white (only) with a heat transfer logo on front or rear. (your choice)

Jackie will be at March club meeting with order forms and shirts that were ordered in February.

**Make checks payable to " Sports One "**

## Fort Mitchell

Eight bikes gather at the Waffle King for the short ten mile ride to Fort Mitchell National Historical Landmark. Upon arriving we first rode up the hill to the Chattahoochee Indian Heritage Center behind the Visitors Center. There was a magnificent sculpture and plaque detailing the Creek Indian Trail of Tears. Down the hill on the other side as a flat piece of land where the Indians played stickball. (click for pictures: [www.bearhunter.smugmug.com/gallery/4462827\\_YJ2Sf#262445158](http://www.bearhunter.smugmug.com/gallery/4462827_YJ2Sf#262445158) )

We then went to the Fort Mitchell NHL Visitors Center and viewed the pictures and artifacts in the lobby. No one opted to take the tour of the Fort and cemetery ½ mile into the park. We then took a slow ride thought the Fort Mitchell National Veterans Cemetery which lies just to the north side of the Landmark property.

Upon leaving the cemetery we rode south to Lumpkin and had a very good and welcomed meal at Michelle's. Once we had our fill two bikes returned from whence we came while the remaining group proceeded up Rt. 27 back to Columbus.

Nice day for a ride with good friends and of course good food.

*John F*

## Annual VMTA Fish Fry

This is always a great get-together and hope that all of our members will mark their calendars for April 26<sup>th</sup> to attend this year's cookout. It will again be hosted at Florence Marina State Park Picnic Shelter and we plan to gather for dinner at 5PM.

If you haven't already RSVP for the event please do so by April 18<sup>th</sup> to my email [mla55@earthlink.net](mailto:mla55@earthlink.net) or call me at (706) 566-7163.

Of course your invited guests are always welcome to attend the event for a nominal charge.

This year the club will provide:

- Catfish
- French Fries
- Hushpuppies
- Onion / Pickles
- Tea / Sodas

We are asking our members to bring for sharing with everyone:

- Salad / Salad Dressing
- Cold Slaw
- Desserts
- Bake Beans
- Side Vegetables

Anything else you think everyone will enjoy!

For our members who want to camp you can make your reservations by visiting Georgia State Parks [www.gastateparks.org](http://www.gastateparks.org) or call 1-800-864-7275.

*Mickey*

## Shiloh Grill ... March 6,2008

What a wonderful night at the Shiloh Grill. We came in cars and on motorcycles just minutes of each other. We were seated at a large table that had a bench down one side the length of the table. Those attending were Sid, Peggy, Bob, George, Gwen Frank, Sue, Connie, John, and guest Tom and Linda Sowell. There was plenty of talk and laughter and good food. We had a great night with friends.

*Sue*

## Niffers on the Lake (Martin)

March 15<sup>th</sup>, saw 16 bikes, 21 people, leave Home Depot for a first time visit to Niffers. It was a great day for a ride. Great place to eat and I am sure the Club will visit again soon. Click this link for some pictures:

[http://bearhunter.smugmug.com/gallery/4526956\\_JqHQP#266556716](http://bearhunter.smugmug.com/gallery/4526956_JqHQP#266556716)

After lunch Roger lead us on a nice long way home ending up coming east on Rt. 80 in AL. Great day, great friends and fine food.

*John F*

## Iron Butt Ride

This year VMTA had their 'Iron Butt Ride' on Sunday March 30th. As usual we were to depart from the Waffle King on 431, South of Phenix City. The weather that morning was in the mid 50's. The skies were overcast and there had been some rain the night before, and this, with the temperature, generated a cold lingering dampness in the morning air.

When the 8:00 a.m. departure time arrived, there were 8 bikes and eleven 'cold' bodies. (We were glad to see Rick, of the Blue Knight Members, joining us. Rick lives in Lanette, AL and had already ridden many miles to join us). After a short discussion Bob Smith reluctantly agreed to be 'Road Captain' and I was to bring up the rear. Bob did his usual thing. He "whooped" out his trusty GPS. When Bob does that, I know we are in for a treat, and I was correct. After a few minutes we were off traveling South on the 4 lane to Eufaula we stopped at McDee's for a break and hot coffee. After that, there were no more 4 lanes, it was two lane State and County roads for the remainder of the journey South. We stopped one more time to remove cold weather clothing as the temperature was now approaching the 70's. Continuing on the 2 lane roads brought us straight south into Panama City.

When we arrived at Montego Bay Restaurant in the Beckrich Shopping Center we were greeted by Denny and Sandy Reid (Denny and Sandy are still members that now live in Pensacola Florida). As usual everyone

was well pleased with the food and service of the Restaurant.

Once we had eaten it was outside where we said our good-bye's to our Florida friends and again Bob kept us on 2 lane roads until we reached Dothan for our first break on the return trip. From there it was 431 North until we arrived back in Phenix City at approximately 7:00 p.m. with 400 +/- miles behind us for the day.

It was another great ride with lots of 2-lane scenery and the temperature was very pleasant, both going and coming, South of Eufaula. The early morning and late evening temperature was a little uncomfortable but not enough to distract from the enjoyment. It was just another great VMTA ride that will be remembered by each one of us that was there.

*'clete'*

## Yard Sale

Thank you to those who supported the yard sale The club made \$189.75. At this time I have decided to take a year off from having another. But, please continue to save your items for 2010.

*Mary F*

## VMTA Calendar of Events April 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 <b>April Fools Day</b>	2	3	4	5
<b>6 Talisi Rest. for lunch –</b> Leave home Depot 11:00AM	7	8	9	<b>10 Movie Night –</b> Worlds Fastest Indian 6:30 PM	11	12
<b>13 LaGrange Square –</b> Leave Williams Rd Shell station at 11 AM	<b>14 Business Meeting at</b> <b>7:00 PM</b>	15	16	17	18	19
<b>20 Concord Café –</b> leave Miller Rd Burger King @ 10:00 AM	21	22	23	<b>24 Good Ol Boys Rest. –</b> Depart Home Depot 6:30 PM	25	26
27	28	29	30			

## VMTA Calendar of Events May 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	<b>8 Mellow Mushroom –</b> Meet there 6:30 PM	9	<b>10 Children's Miracle Network Parade</b> 3:00 at Extreme
<b>11 Mothers Day</b>	<b>12 Business Meeting at</b> <b>7:00 PM</b>	13	14	15	16	<b>17 Little White House Tour –</b> Shell station 10AM
18	19	20	21	<b>22 Movie Night</b>	24	24
<b>25 Shakeys in Auburn –</b> Home Depot at 11:00 AM	<b>26 Memorial Day</b>	27	28	29	30	31