



# The Kickstand

March 2009

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

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## Presidents Note

### Greetings fellow Bikers!

Well, here we are in the coldest part of winter. I think my motorcycle has forgotten who I am. I know that we are having a small break in the cold weather right now, but don't worry, the cold will be back.

We had a good crowd at the monthly meeting, wish you could have been there if you didn't go. Sue invited a guest speaker, Bob Davidson. Bob has an embroidery business called "Sew What". He will be working with the club to produce a new club patch, LOGO. He specializes in small jobs and will work hard to handle individual needs, as we may need shirt, hats, flags, etc. If you have any questions for him or even a small job, contact him at (706) 645-2542.

Remember that we are planning our annual Fish Fry. It is on the calendar for April 25. Check your calendar for all the new rides that Susan and Roger have planned for the club. We really have some interesting events coming up this year.

If you didn't make the monthly meeting, we really missed you and hope that you can put it on your "TO DO" for next month. This is your club and it is up to each of us to make it the best in the area.

Have a safe and fun filled month. "May God bless you and keep you... ON THE ROAD AGAIN!"

John McRae, President VMTA

## Announcements

### March Birthdays      March Anniversaries

14<sup>th</sup> – Joan Kaplan      7<sup>th</sup> – Bobby and Carolyn Shackelford  
17<sup>th</sup> – Clete Richardson  
31<sup>st</sup> – Mary Fiske

### Next Business Meeting

March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 7:00 PM  
Piccadilly's in Peachtree Mall  
Eat at 6:30 or earlier

### Board Meeting

To Be Scheduled  
As needed

## Board of Directors

President: Johnny McRae

Tel: (706) 628-4486

Cell: (706) 527-3023

Vice-President: John Fiske

Tel: (706) 561-3543

Cell: (706) 392-6868

Ride Chairpersons:

Roger & Susan Miller

Roger Cell: (706) 402-7399

Susan Cell: (706) 615-3355

Treasurer: Sue Sealy

Tel: (706) 327-9948

Cell: (706) 575-1284

Secretary: Jerry Morehouse

Tel: (706) 221-2217

Cell: (706) 575-6456

Public Relations: Art Murphy

Tel: (706) 569-6820

Cell: (706) 681-8336

## February & March Ride/Event Calendar



**Feb 14<sup>th</sup> – Valentine’s Dinner & Movie** at the Cunningham Center. Catered dinner and movie to be announced. Contact Susan.

**Feb 19<sup>th</sup> – Mello Mushroom** – Meet there at 6:30 PM

**Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> – Crock Pot Gathering at the Millers** – Ride will depart Home Depot at 2:00 PM.

**Mar 7<sup>th</sup> Niffers on Lake Martin** –Departing Home Depot at 10:45 AM.

**Mar 12<sup>th</sup> – Shiloh Grill** – Departs Miller Rd Burger King at 6:30 PM.

**Mar 14 Swamp Gravy** – Details to follow.

**Mar 22<sup>th</sup> – Iron Butt Ride** – Departs PC Waffle King on 431-S at 8:00 AM. .

**Mar 28<sup>th</sup> – Alabama GWRRA State Rally** in Pelham AL. departs Home Depot at 8:00 AM

### Long Term ‘Planning’ Dates

**April 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Yard Sale** at the Fiske house. Start saving your unwanted items.

**April 18 or 19<sup>th</sup> – Mossy Creek Barn Yard Festival.**

**April 25<sup>th</sup> – Fish Fry**

**June 15<sup>th</sup> – Annual Ride to Work Day**

**June 17 – 20<sup>th</sup> – Honda Hoot has been cancelled this year.**

**July 24 – 26<sup>th</sup> – Curso Camp-out**

**August 22<sup>nd</sup> – Mid-Night Ride**

**Sept 5<sup>th</sup> – Bikes & Badges Ride**

**Sept 13<sup>th</sup> – Bikes on Broadway.**

**Sept 20<sup>th</sup> – Membership Picnic**

**Sept 24 – 26<sup>th</sup> – Wings Over The Smokies**

**Oct 10<sup>th</sup> – North Georgia Ride**

**Oct 17<sup>th</sup> – Shrimp Peel**

**Oct 24<sup>th</sup> – Sweet Potato Festival**

**Nov 7<sup>th</sup> – North Alabama Ride**

**Dec 6<sup>th</sup> – Toys For Tots Ride**

## **Safety Message**

### ***Emergency Braking***

Sometimes you have to stop as quickly as possible.

Here are some tips on how to get you and your bike stopped quickly:

- Ø Apply both brakes for their maximum effectiveness, just short of locking them up. Practice in an open place with a good surface, such as a clean parking lot.
- Ø Keep the bike upright and traveling in a straight line, and look where you’re going.
- Ø You don’t want to lock the front brake. If the front wheel begins to skid, release the front brake lever for a split second, then immediately reapply it with slightly less pressure. ABS feature will take care of this problem for you.
- Ø If your rear wheel locks up, keep your straight-line balance. You will skid in a straight line, which is better than skidding when leaned over. You have a more important priority, and that is to get stopped!

From MSF. John

### **Semi-Annual Yard Sale**

The next yard sale is scheduled for April; 3<sup>th</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Please start piling stuff up for the Club’s yard sale, Your junk is income for VMTA. Plan on giving to Mary Fiske by March 21<sup>st</sup>.

Thanks, Mary

## Monthly Contemplations

Imagination will often carry us to worlds that never were. But without it we go nowhere.

Carl Sagan, Astronomer & Astrobiologist

## Dues Due

March is quickly approaching, the weather is warming and lots of rides are on the calendar. Please remember that your yearly dues are due. Dues are \$20 for rider or \$30 for rider and significant other. Please make checks payable to "VMTA" & mail to:

**Sue Sealy**  
**11023 GA Hwy 315**  
**Cataula GA 31804.**

Thank you

## January Ride in Florida

This is our 3<sup>rd</sup> year to make a short trip around the north central regions of our southern state in hopes of enjoying some warm riding days. Luckily we delayed a week as it was in the teens for our first plan. But warmer temps came in for the actual 4 days.

Thursday morning was 23 deg (warmer like I said) when Mickey, John and Bob headed down thru Alabama to the coast. From Marianna, Fl. we went due south to Port St. Joe and along the coast road, very calm waters as there are barrier islands that protect the area. That is not to say all the newer homes were not on tall stilts, maybe to garage fishing boats with flying bridges or for the storm surge?

We only made Perry for our overnight, 37 degrees Friday morning but warmed quickly. We stayed near the water going to Manatee Springs State Park. This is a Class One spring with 50-150 million gallons of 72 degree water boiling out of the ground and it did look like a blue hole as some parks are called. Elevated walkways took us out to the Suwannee River where some Manatees were lazing in the shallow water. Did you know there is a reason the Mulletts jump? Ask one of us – chuckle.

The GPS pointed us further south on a nice black line but it turned to hard packed sand very quickly. We continued to Chrystal River for lunch at a waterfront restaurant with sliding doors all around the eating area – they were closed due to the temps, which had dropped to 55 deg as we neared the tiny fishing village.

Going across the state, north of Ocala, we passed many horse farms; there sure is some money around this area. Very impressive. We zigzagged to Palatka and then headed east to Palm Coast for the night. Found a Bar & Grill with noted clarinetist playing along with CD music, food was of the Cajun variety – hmmm good.

Saturday morning we headed up A1A to Jacksonville Beach and the St John River, without a bridge on the old road. But there was a ferry - \$3 for bikes. Then it was on to Amelia Island and finally into Georgia. Waycross came with some sprinkles but we were ready for inclement weather, none of it amounted to much.

John has pictures posted of our 1000-mile ride on mostly small roads, which other than the hard packed sand were good riding roads. But it was an okay road too. We would go down it again, especially for the food.

Bob Smith

To view pictures: press Ctrl + click to follow link:

<http://s43.photobucket.com/albums/e359/vmtamotorcyclega/?albumview=slideshow&mediafilter=all&current=09%20Jan%20Fla%20Ride>

## Poker Night

Seven members sat down for a friendly game of cards on Feb. 5, while another dozen watched the movie "Sweet Home Alabama." Sitting down at the felt were Clete Richardson, Barry Cowall, Cal Herring, George Carter, John McRae, Roger Miller and Jerry Morehouse.

Returning players were dismayed that they would not be able to exact some revenge on Larry "Lucky" Mack from their previous poker night. But by the end of the night, many had transferred the nickname "Lucky" to Jerry Morehouse. He opened with a king-high straight and was catching good cards most of the night.

Various games were played, always dealer's choice. Cal learned how to play Texas Hold'em and was a quick study. He flopped a full house. He also called for a game he played while in the Army called "Dr Pepper" which made 10s, 2s and 4s wild. It certainly made for a couple of wild hands.

Roger "No Free Poker" Miller kept building the pots and took his fair share of them. Clete and Barry must have been playing with their gas money, because they did not make it to the club meeting four days later. Every player dragged in at least one pot and all had a good time. It is highly likely that this will become a semi-regular event. Clete won the last hand, a big-ante pot, but said it didn't make up for the rest of his night.

*Jerry*

## VMTA Calendar of Events February 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	<b>9 Business Meeting 7:00PM Piccadilly's in Mall</b>	10	11	12	13	<b>14 Valentine Dinner &amp; Movie Dinner @ 6:30, Movie @ 7:15</b>
15	16	17	18	<b>19 Mello Mushroom</b> Meet there at 6:30 PM	20	21
<b>22 Crock Pot Gathering</b> at the Millers Lvs Home Depot at 2:00 PM.	23	24	25	26	27	28

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1	2	3	4	5	6	<b>7 Niffers on Lake Martin</b> Depart Home Depot at 10:45 AM
8	<b>9 Business Meeting 7:00PM Piccadilly's in Mall</b>	10	11	<b>12 Shiloh Grill</b> – Depart Miller Rd Burger King at 6:30 PM	13	<b>14 Swamp Gravy</b> – Details to follow.
15	16	<b>St Paddy's Day</b>	18	19	20	<b>21 Deadline for yard sale items to Mary</b>
<b>22 Iron Butt Ride</b> – Departs P.C.Waffle King at 8:00 AM	23	24	25	26	27	<b>28 GWRRA AL Rally in Pelham</b> Departs Home Depot at 8:00 AM
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	31				