



The Kickstand

September 2009

WWW.VMTAColumbusga.org

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

Next Business Meeting

September 14th, 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: Clete Richardson

Tel: (334) 291-0055

Cell: (706) 289-0055

Ride Chairpersons:

Roger & Susan Miller

Roger Cell: (706) 402-7399

Susan Cell: (706) 615-3355

Treasurer: Mary Fiske

Tel: (706) 561-3543

Cell: (706) 668-3113

Secretary: Jerry Morehouse

Tel: (706) 221-2217

Cell: (706) 575-6456

Public Relations: Art Murphy

Tel: (706) 569-6820

Cell: (706) 681-8336

Presidents Note

Greetings! Well, another month has come and gone with good rides and good friends. We missed all those who couldn't make the monthly meeting, hope to see you next month. We made some decisions concerning the Christmas Dinner. Believe it or not, time is quickly sneaking up on us and so....., we have reserved the room at the Elks lodge for the annual Christmas dinner and decided to use the same caterers we used for our Valentines dinner. Their food was really good and the service was excellent. I am really looking forward to sharing this event (hmm..... Could it be that I will be stepping down as President then?????)

Speaking of that, we will be forming a committee next month for Club Officer nominations. If you are interested in running for office or being on the search committee, please let me know, ASAP. I am confident that there are many suitable members that can fill these offices. PLEASE APPLY HERE!!!

Please check your calendars for all the GREAT rides we have on tap this month. Come and join in the fun. If you aren't a member and looking for a club to ride with, check out our calendar and just come meet up with us and enjoy the ride. I promise a great experience.

Until next month or the next ride, I hope I see you....." On the road again...."

John McRae, President VMTA

Announcements

September Birthdays

10th - Linda Register

18th - Myra Delay

22nd - John McRae

29th - Faye Delay

September Anniversaries

13th - Fred and Lucy Manzer

19th - John and Mary Fiske

20th - Curtis & Miriam Adkins

22nd - Jerry & DeEtta Morehouse

August & September Ride/Event Calendar



August 13th - Supper at The White House - This is a favorite dining place for the club located on Rt. 29 in Valley, AL. Ride (approx. 22 miles) will leave from Phenix City Home Depot lot at 6:30 PM.

August 20th – Movie Night – Cunningham Center. Feature TBA. Doors open at 6 PM Movie at 6:30. Drinks available for \$0.50.

August 22nd - Mid-night Ride - Just a great time each year. Depart Miller Rd Burger King at 9:00 PM. Will ride two lane roads to Albany, stopping for mid-night eats and then return via the four-lane. Ride will include a poker run.

August 27th - Dinner at the Shiloh Grill. Ride will depart from Miller Rd Burger King at 6:30 PM.

September 7th – Annual Labor Day Ride –This has been a Labor Day weekend club favorite for the past 4 or 5 years. Ride will depart from the Williams Rd Shell station at 9:30 AM. Route determined by ride captain & generally includes lunch.

September 11th & 12th - Bikes On Broadway - Club involvement to be determined

September 20th – Membership Picnic –Heath Lake Park North Pavilion on Parkway Ave. off south side of Weems Rd. Short ride will leave from Williams Rd Shell station at 11:00 AM. with plan to arrive at the pavilion for 12 noon lunch

Sept 24 – 26th – Wings Over The Smokies - There have always been some members riding up to this GWRRA event in Fletcher, NC either for the rally or just riding in the mountains. Stay tuned for further details

October 10 & 11 - North Georgia Ride - Yearly favorite for riding the mountains and then stop at the Apple Festival on way home.

October 11th - Bikes & Badges Ride - This year it will return to event of years ago for local ride ending at the ranch. Details to follow.

Long Term 'Planning' Dates

Oct 17th – Shrimp Peel

Oct 24th – Sweet Potato Festival

Nov 7th – North Alabama Ride (Leaf Ride)

December 5th – Christmas Party – at Elks Club on Miller Court, Columbus; north side of Miller Rd.

Dec 6th – Toys For Tots Ride

Safety Message

KNOW YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

As a rider you can't be sure that other operators will see you or yield the right of way. To lessen your chances of a crash occurring:

- **Be visible** – wear proper clothing, use your lights, ride in the best lane position to see and be seen.
- **Communicate your intentions** – use the proper signals, brake light and lane position.
- **Maintain an adequate space cushion** – following, being followed, lane sharing, passing and being passed.
- **Search your path** - of travel 12 seconds ahead.
- **Identify and separate** - multiple hazards.
- **Be prepared to act** – remain alert and know how to carry out proper crash-avoidance skills.

Blame doesn't matter when someone is injured in a crash

Redneck Yacht Club Party at Lake Harding

It was two in a row for perfect weather at the second annual Redneck Yacht Club Party at Lake Harding. Ski Island was again the tie-up point for all the boats, followed by an ice cream social at our house, just a couple of minutes away from Ski Island. Banana splits seemed to be the crowd favorite, but the boaters made room for Martha Bowden's homemade strawberry cake which was to die for! (I hear she'll gladly share the recipe, by the way.)

Back at the house eleven of us were brave enough to partake in a friendly round of Screw Your Neighbor, a fun G-rated card game (though the name hardly implies it) that boiled down to a dual between Larry Mack and myself. Strike one up for the girls because I walked away with the pot. The guys know that Larry is much better at poker.

I can't believe we have to wait an entire year to do this again, but we will definitely schedule this for next July. Because of the wave action in the middle of the channel, next time we'll consider the sand bar on the north end of the lake or Two Tree Island for our floating Yacht Club. Remember, you do not have to have a boat to participate! You don't have to be a Redneck either, but it helps.

Susan

Click [here](#) to see pictures

Movie Night

George and I walked in the door at the Cunningham Center and I asked "Where is everyone?" The attendance for Movie Nite was very sparse. Susan works very hard in setting this up for the club and your support would be nice and besides, you would enjoy it. I realize we had stormy looking weather and sickness recently which contributed to poor attendance. Bring your picnic lunch and sit around talk and eat before the movie or if you are late, eat during the movie no one will notice you are smacking.

Several brought pizzas (\$5) from Little Ceasar's and Susan had cake and muffins which we all enjoyed. There was also meat balls which most took home with them. The movie was Bringing Down the House and that is exactly what it did. Everyone enjoyed the movie and there was a great deal of laughter. I know Myra Delay and Linda Cowall enjoyed it. Myra sat at the table with us and I laughed along with her. Steve Martin was at his best. This movie has been on the cable Movie channels and if you haven't seen it- I suggest you tune in next time it shows cause you missed it on Movie Nite when it is much more enjoyable sharing it with friends.

I realize we can't attend every ride or function but this is free to you, your friends and family. All it cost is your meal.

Hope we see you at the next movie event.

Gwen Carter

Cruso

Well, our 'Cruso Campout' was one week earlier this year. It is normally the last weekend in July; however, it was rescheduled to accommodate other rides.

We left the Miller road Burger King at 7:00 a.m. with the sun already up and the temperature close to 70 degrees with the sun just starting to show the beauty of the morning. Perfect riding weather for this time of day. There were only two bikes with three individuals, Mike Jones, Gina and myself, leaving Columbus and heading north. It only took 20 minutes to arrive in Cataula where we were joined by Larry & Faith Mack and Bobby Shackelford. From there it was North on highway 36 through Thomaston, Barnesville, Jackson and picking 985 just North of Atlanta. Just prior to leaving the two lanes we took a shortcut through a State park and some beautiful farm country. I hope to ride that area again as it was like no other area I have seen in Georgia. We did have breakfast; it was at the truck stop on 75. (They have a McDonalds there.) By this time of the morning the sun had gotten well up into the sky and the day was beautiful with the temperature rapidly coming up.

Once on 985 it was a gorgeous day with great riding through Franklin N.C. and on to Cruso. We arrived a

little after 3:00 in the afternoon. I set up the camper and everyone else had a reservation for a cabin. We ate at the camp pavilion and wiled away the rest of the evening discussing the events of the day.

Saturday morning it was up early, eat and out to ride the Parkway. The Parkway was clear and sunny and the temperature required a light jacket. There was very little traffic on the Parkway that morning so the riding was at a very leisurely pace and stopping as we desired. We returned to camp in the early evening for lunch at the 'diner' just out of Cruso and then on for more riding. We rode about 75 miles of fantastic roads just North of Waynesville. The roads in this area are very curvy and the scenery is just great.

We made a loop and returned to Cruso just in time to eat and prepare for the journey home the following morning.

Sunday morning came early and it was pack up and move out. We stopped in Franklin for breakfast at the Waffle House, then gas. The return trip was backtracking the same roads.

The weekend was great and the weather could not have been more perfect. Friday and Saturday the temperature stayed in the high 70's and low 80's, just perfect riding temperature. The participation on this ride was low but it was a great weekend and we definitely would have enjoyed having you along.

Clete

VMTA Calendar of Events August 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
If you enjoy what you do, you'll never work another day in your life. Confucius						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 Business Meeting 7:00PM Piccadilly's in Mall	11	12	13 The White House – PC Home Depot at 6:30 PM	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 Movie Night – Cunningham Ctr 6:00	21	22 Mid-night Ride departs Miller Rd BK at 9:00 PM
23	24	25	26	27 Shiloh Grill – Departs Miller Rd BK at 6:30 PM	28	29
30	31	He who learns but does not think, is lost. He who thinks but does not learn is in great danger. Confucius				

VMTA Calendar of Events September 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Country Ride – Depart Shell station at 9:30 AM	8	9	10	11 Bikes on Broadway	12 Bikes on Broadway
	14 Business Meeting 7:00PM Piccadilly's in Mall	15	16	17	18	19
20 Membership Picnic – Lake Heath north end pavilion	21	22	23	24 Wings Over The Smokies	25 Wings Over The Smokies	26 Wings Over The Smokies
27 Wings Over The Smokies	28	29	30	The true meaning of life is to plant trees, under whose shade you do not expect to sit. Nelson Henderson, Author		