

# The Kickstand



April 2010 Issue

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

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## Next Business Meeting

May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at 7:00 PM  
Piccadilly's in Peach Tree Mall  
Eat at 6:30 or earlier

## Board Meeting

To Be Scheduled  
As needed

## Board of Directors

President: Johnny McRae

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Public Relations: Art Murphy

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## Presidents Message

Greetings Cold Riders. Looks like we have seen the worst, cold wise, that we will probably get this winter. At least I hope! I am looking forward to being able to ride my Goldwing again, soon. My back is getting better every week and, hopefully, I will be back in the saddle, soon! I have really missed riding with everyone. I guess I will have to work my way back up to the longer rides. I still have some issues with my left hip, but I am hoping that it is only because I may be favoring one side as I walk. Keep me in your prayers! Thanks for all of those you have already sent up for me.

We had a great meeting this month with a very good attendance. We are making our annual membership round up, to make sure dues are sent in to prepare for another great year with VMTA.

Susan presented our 2010 Budget and it was passed by those present. We noted that without all the missing dues, which means fewer members, those attending our budgeted events will be fewer, which means less pay out. As we get further into the year, we will take another look into the budget and prepare for any needed changes. If you have friends who have not paid their dues and want to participate in our club functions, urge them to send their money in, soon, as to avoid placing them on the inactive list.

Barry has agreed to take over the annual Fish Fry and has everything lined up for another great event for VMTA MEMBERS! Make you plans to attend and come spend the weekend camping or join John Fiske as he leads the ride to the campgrounds the day of the event. Check the ride schedule for meeting place and time of departure. Ladies, don't forget to bring some surprise deserts or side dishes, MMMMM!

Clete gave a great refresher course on proper riding procedure, which was really needed with great riding weather ahead.

If you didn't attend the meeting, you really missed a surprise attendance from a couple of Beautiful Mangers from our local Hooters. They handed out calendars and announced a special Thursday night Bike riders Night Special starting soon. For times and a calendar, see Susan, I believe she has a few extras that were left for us to hand out.

Come and be part of one of the areas BEST riding club in the area! We welcome new members and guests who are looking for a great group to ride with in our area.

Until next month, may the wind be at your back and God be with each of you! I hope to see you "... On the road again...." As Clete sings, again!

John McRae, President VMTA

## Announcements

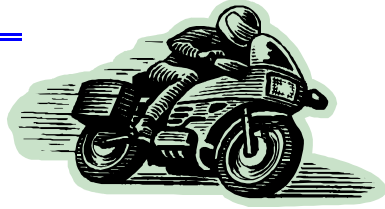
### April Birthdays

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

### April Anniversaries

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

## Ride/Event Calendar



### March

March 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> – St Augustine FL – This will be our first multi-day ride of the year and will visit the city Spanish explorer Menendez founded in 1565 on the feast day of St. Augustine, August 28th, he sailed through the inlet and named the area after the saint. Ride will depart from Victory Rd. Burger King at 8:00. Total ride will be around 675 miles.

March 18<sup>th</sup> – Shiloh Grill – Ride departs Miller Rd Burger King at 6:30 PM.

March 21 – Iron Butt Ride – This is an annual ride that always attracts 10 – 12 members. Ride will leave from Phenix City Waffle King at 8:00 AM. Travel to Panama City for lunch and return.

March 26<sup>th</sup> – Daytona Bike Week Begins - This is not a scheduled club ride. But if you are going, check with other members who may be going down.

March 27<sup>th</sup> – Redneck Gourmet in Newnan – Ride will depart from Williams Rd Shell station at 10 AM.

### April

April 1<sup>st</sup> – 3rd – GWRRA Alabama Rally – Event. “Goldwing Odyssey”, being held in Huntsville. This is not a VMATA ride, but listed for informational only if members which to attend.

April 10<sup>th</sup> – Concord Café – Another one of VMATA's favorite eatery's. Ride will depart Miller Rd. Burger King at 10:00 AM.

April 18<sup>th</sup> Mossey Creek Barnyard Festival – Semi-annual festival in Perry's piney woods. Named one of top 20 Events in SE and a top 100 event in North America. So it has to be good. Admission is \$5.00. Will be about 170 mile round trip. Departs from Miller road Burger King at 9:00 AM.

April 24<sup>th</sup> – Annual Fish Fry – Once again we will take over the pavilion at Florence Marina. Barry is our Chief cook and coordinator this year. Call him and volunteer a hand. Meal time on or about 6 PM.

April 30<sup>th</sup> – May 2<sup>nd</sup> - Mammoth Cave NP KY – This will be a 3-day ride. Caves are off I-65 about 25 miles north-east of Bowling Green. About 800 miles RT. More details to follow.

### May

May 8<sup>th</sup> – Blackbeards Seafood in Albany - Depart 4:30 from Victory Dr Burger King.

May 13<sup>th</sup> – Sunnys Family Cooking in Valley – Departs P.C. Home Depot lot at 6:30 PM.

May 15 & 16<sup>rd</sup> – Falls Creek Falls State Park – in Pikeville TN located on the Cumberland Plateau. It has one of the highest waterfalls east of the Rockies. Details to follow.

May 22<sup>th</sup> – Hoofers in LaGrange – Depart Williams Rd Shell station at 5:00 PM.

## Safety Message

The whole point of motorcycle touring is contained in that unrestricted, exhilarating sense of freedom. To know you can go wherever you want, whenever you want, in a completely unencumbered manner. Motorcycle touring brings you directly in tune with elements you're passing through. You feel lighter, yet closer to the road.

But traveling light on a motorcycle should not mean sacrificing comfort. Luckily for touring riders, packing for an extended motorcycle trip has been refined to an exact science. This precision packing can be achieved by each of us once we master the basics.

Proper equipment and fore-thought in packing will mean that the trip itself is easier and more enjoyable for both of you. So take enough equipment to ensure comfort, cleanliness and proper rest.

The principles behind motorcycle packing are quite simple. Pack enough to be comfortable, but not enough to overload. The execution of this principle may be quite another story. As you prepare your take-along list, keep in mind the backpacker's creed: travel light, and with as little bulk as possible.

Many touring couples have discovered that a "his" and "hers" system in one of the best ways to pack and carry personal belongings. One container for him and one for her not only lets you divide the amount of gear equally to balance saddlebags, but it will also provide you with more convenient access.

A weekend clothing list for both men and women should include what you are wearing at the start of the trip as well as the clothing to be worn the second day. The list should also include one extra change of socks and underwear. Many times an extra pair of shoes may be desired for walking, or changed into in the event of inclement weather. Other items that should always be taken on any ride is a first-aid kit as well as foul weather gear.

Clete

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## Thoughts on past rides

### Valentines Day Dinner

Once again Susan did us fine. Thirteen club members and many other quests that I did not count. The buffet was opened and everyone ate well, so well that some of the serving pans were scraped clean as we went back for seconds.

Just as we were satisfied, then came the movie "UP", on all 4 or 5 big screens. This movie was a departure from the normal theme of Valentines Day and it was very entertaining.

Great night. On behave of all those there,  
----THANKS SUSAN-----

## Pat's Backwaters

A cool night for riding but Barry & Linda and Belinda showed us that it was not TOO cold. Mary & I were returning from a game in AL, coming across the river just a 6:30 so we headed up River Rd. Upon arriving we found Sid & Peggy, Larry & Faith and 3-guests were already seated. As we got comfortable, in came Jim, Clete, Bobby, Barry, Linda, Belinda, Roger and Susan. What a group: 17 total.

Good food and plenty of topics discussed. Great night.

## Ride to Donaldsonville FL

February 21, 2010

Today was just absolutely the best for riding. My name is Eloise and my mom is Belinda. We joined John and Mary, Clete, Don, Jerry, Bob S. and Bob L. to Donaldsonville for lunch. We all met at the Burger King on Victory Drive and headed out around 9:30 am. I was a bit nervous as my mom hasn't had me very long and this was her first long trip we took together.

There were eight humans that took the trip and seven bikes, all Honda's and me, a Harley Davidson Tri-Glide Ultra Classic. The weather was beautiful, not too cold until we go down around the water and you could feel the temp drop, thank goodness mom had her heated jacket on.

The first stop was at Kolomoki State Park where the humans had to take their clothes off and for a potty break. Okay, not all the clothes! We got started shortly after that and headed for lunch in Donaldsonville.

We ate at the Gateway Restaurant, not sure what it is the gateway to, but the food was very good. It was an all you can eat buffet and the atmosphere was that of a ma and pa kind of place.

After the humans fueled themselves they then took us to fuel ourselves and then to head back home. We managed to travel through three states in an afternoon; I mean how cool is that.

We stopped for ice cream in Abbeville, interesting kind of small town. I think it might be one you wouldn't want to get stuck in overnight. We rode a bit further up the road and stopped at Florence Marina for another potty break, they sure take a lot them. Anyway this was a beautiful stop and I believe is the location for the Fish Fry.

All in all the day was just perfect, I think my mom is ready to take me on a long trip, I know she is looking forward to the iron butt coming up.

## Niffer's by the Lake

As the clock ticked to the departure time the bikes kept appearing. Nine bikes with 11 riders. There was: Jim, Belinda, Gerry, John & Mary, Jerry, DeEtta, Clete, Roger and Mike & JoLynn.

We went up 280 the Salem and turned left near the lumber yard and rode 169 and 54 before going over I-85 and joining 280 once again. It was then onto 72 W, then 50. At one point a short detour off 50 provided sights of a couple sizable horse farms. Off the beaten paths are many wonders. Then it was onto 49 north and Niffer's.

As we removed layers of clothing in the parking lot, to our surprise there walks Art & Donna. They were up checking on property at the lake and joined us for lunch. They were able to seat us all together, close but together. I did not hear any complaints or see anything but empty plates so the assumption is the food was great.

Getting underway we went north on 49. I was very surprised to see that the lake was not at full pool. Hope Art can shed some light on that. Reaching 280 turned south for about 5 miles and then east onto 50. Turned left on CR89, then right onto CR 48. Taking us into Lafayette where we once again rode 50 into the west side of Valley. Then Phillips Rd, to Fairfax Bypass to 379/380 and onto Phenix City & home.

Total ride 152 miles. Good time, great friends.

## Cheaha State Park

What a great day for a ride! The sun was shining, the air was crisp, and the roads were dry. There were 8 bikes and 11 people that beautiful morning when we headed out to the Mountains. John Fiske took the lead and Clete took up the rear and we knew we were in for a great ride. The day started in the mid 40's and got up into the mid 60's. What a perfect day for a two wheel adventure.

John led us up 280 just past Lafayette where we caught 77 and headed to Lineville and some real good BBQ. We used to go to the restaurant on the top of the mountain, however, we found this great BBQ place in Lineville that is a lot more economical and you don't have to wait in line like at the top.

After everyone had their fill we headed up over the mountain where on top there was still snow on the side of the road. Linda got some really good pictures of the white stuff. We went over the mountain and onto George Carter Blvd. That is the dead end road that George led us to many years ago and is one of the most unusual roads we have ever been on. It's just a two lane road that comes to an abrupt end; however I must say we turned around before making it that far. Coming back we stopped at the restaurant at the top of Cheaha where we could take in the view.

Mike & JoLynn Frank, Bob Lee and Linda and I went to the overlook on the other side of the restaurant to take in the sights. I love coming to the mountains in the summer when everything is so lush and green but this time of year really puts a new perspective on things. Everything is surreal as you can see right through the trees. It has a splendor of its own.

From there we headed north, hit I20 east, caught 46 to Bowden and headed south on 100 where we met up with Bob Smith. Linda and I departed at I85 where we headed to Auburn to take care of some business. John, thank you for leading us on the ride, you are someone very special. John has already put the pics on the web for your enjoyment. As always, it's great to put some miles on with the VMTA!

*Barry*

## Fish Fry

Hey Everyone,

This is Barry and I'm trying to let everyone know that this year I am heading up the Fish Fry. This has always been one of the major events of the year and we have always had a great turn out, and a great time. I would love to keep this thing rolling and make it just as incredible as it always has turned out. To do this I'm going to need all of your support.

I've heard the hardest thing about being in charge of this event is an early and accurate count of the folks that are going to attend. I'm sending this out early to gather as much information as possible so I won't have to wait until the last minute. During our meeting most of the folks there signed in. The Fish Fry is going be at the Florence Marina in Georgia on April 24th and dinner will be at 6:00 pm. We already have rented the Pavilion that we always get. Linda and I have already made our camping reservations there too. We hope that as many of you that can join us, will.

I'm going to need volunteers to bring deserts (which we have always had the best of); I would like to see if I can get a few people to bring some Cole slaw. The Club will provide the fish, fries, hushpuppies, and drinks. Club members are free. Guests are invited and welcomed; guests are \$7.50, children 5-10 years \$5.00, children under 5 free. Please pay Susan Miller for guests.

Please let me know as soon as you have decided to attend. Also let me know if you can help in any way. If your not sure what you can do let me know and we can always find something for you. Don't forget, this is your club to, the more you contribute, the better it can be for everyone. Please call me.

*Barry*

706-681-7710

## VMTA Calendar of Events March 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7 Daytona Bike Week ends	8	9	10	11. <b>The Dawg House</b> – Warm Springs Rd Meet there at 6:30	12	13 <b>St. Augustine</b> – 2-day. Departs Victory Dr BK at 8:00 AM.
14 RETURN	15	16	17	18 <b>Shiloh Grill</b> Departs Miller Rd BK at 6:30	19	20
21 <b>Iron Butt Ride</b> – Departs PC Waffle King 431S at 8 AM	22	23	24	25 <b>Hooters Bike Night</b> 7:00 PM	26	27 Redneck Gourmet in Newnan – Shell station 10 AM
28	29	30	31			

## VMTA Calendar of Events April 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 GWRRA AL Rally in Huntsville	2 GWRRA AL Rally in Huntsville	3. GWRRA AL Rally in Huntsville
4 <b>Easter</b> Day light savings begins	5	6	7	8	9	10 <b>Concord Café</b> – Miller Rd BK – departs 10:00 AM
11	12 <b>Business Meeting</b> 7:00PM at Piccadilly's	13	14	15	16	17
18 <b>Mossey Creek</b> – Miller RD BK at 9:00	19	20	21	22	23	24 <b>Fish Fry</b> – Florence Marina Gather anytime, dinner 6:30
25	26	27	28	29	30 <b>Mammoth Cave</b> <u>This is a 3-day ride</u>	

## VMTA Calendar of Events May 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 <b>Mammoth Cave</b> Details to come. <u>This is a 3-day ride</u>
2 RETURN	3	4	5	6	7	8 <b>Blackbeards</b> Depart Victory Dr BK at 4:30
9 <b>Mothers Day</b>	10 <b>Business Meeting</b> 7:00PM at Piccadilly's	11	12	13	14	15 <b>Falls Creek Falls State Park, TN</b> - 2-day ride