

# The Kickstand



[February 2012 Issue](#)

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

Editor Barry Cowall (706) 681-7710 E-Mail [RazzBarry@ctvea.net](mailto:RazzBarry@ctvea.net)

## Next Business Meeting

February 13th, 2012 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: John Fiske

Tel: 706-561-3543

Cell: 706-392-6868

Vice-President: Cal Herring

Tel: (334) 298-7545

Cell: (334) 468-0288

Ride Chairman: John Delay

Tel: (334) 291-0546

Cell: (706) 575-0147

Treasurer: Susan Miller

Cell: (706) 615-3355

Secretary: Connie McRae

Tel: (706) 610-2805

Cell: (706) 527-3022

Public Relations: Don Lamee

Cell: (678) 988-6342

## Presidents Message

What a great turn out for the January meeting, 27 members. The weather being true to form with the temperature going up and down, rain then sunny makes it difficult to schedule any rides. But it could be worse.

Next month we will discuss the 2012 Budget so give it some thought. Is there something we can or should be doing different? What have we missed in prior years? The ideas will be put together by the Treasurer and presented at the March meeting for approval.

A new twist in the schedule is the weekly breakfast gathering on Tuesday mornings at 8:30. Granted this will be attended by retired members, but if your work schedule permits, please join us. Don't forget the upcoming ride to the Motorcycle Show in Norcross. Always keep an eye on the web site Ride Schedule for last minute additions or changes.

Ride safe; John

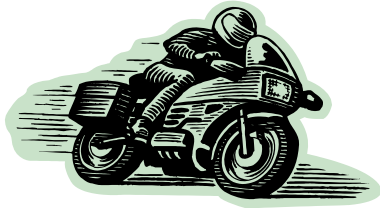
## Announcements

### February Birthdays

1<sup>st</sup> – Debbie Duke  
6<sup>th</sup> - Bobby Bowden  
7<sup>th</sup> – Barry Cowall  
6<sup>th</sup> – Altheia Hancock  
20<sup>TH</sup> – Bob Lee  
26<sup>th</sup> – Rhonda Lewis

### February Anniversaries

## Ride/Event Calendar



### January 2012

**Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup> – El Vaquero Mexican Restaurant** – North Lake Parkway. Meet there at 6:30.

**Saturday, January 28th - 2012 Great American Motorcycle Show** - at the North Atlanta Trade Center in Norcross! Don't miss the 20th year as Georgia's premier motorcycle show! Visit their web site & take a look.  
<http://www.northatlantatradecenter.com/cycle.html> Ride will depart the Williams Rd Shell station at 8:00 AM.

### February 2012

**Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> – Texas Roadhouse** – North Lake Parkway. Meet there at 6:30 PM.

**Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> – Valentine Dinner and Movie** - Cunningham Center; 6:30 PM Susan Miller has always been the perfect Hostess with a great movie, dinner and dance afterwards

**Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup> – Concord Café** – This has always been a favorite eating place for the club. Ride will depart the Miller Rd Burger King at 10:30 AM. John Delay will be the Road Captain for this ride

### March 2012

**Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup> – The Black Cow** – 115 12<sup>th</sup> Street Columbus. This was a very pleasant experience the first time there. To see the menu click: <http://www.allmenus.com/ga/columbus/293249-the-black-cow/menu/dinner/> we will meet there at 6:30 PM.

**Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup> – Oscars Steak & Sea Food** – in Warm Springs. Ride will depart Miller Rd Burger King at 5:00 OM. To view the menu click:  
[http://oscarssteakandseafood.com/yahoo\\_site\\_admin/assets/docs/oscars\\_menu\\_adobe.17250823.pdf](http://oscarssteakandseafood.com/yahoo_site_admin/assets/docs/oscars_menu_adobe.17250823.pdf)

## Awards

Annual awards were presented at the Christmas Party and are noted below:

### **Perfect Attendance:**

There were five members eligible for this and the winner of the drawing went to John Fiske.

### **Ride Captain Lottery:**

There were 12 different members in the lottery for this and the winner was Roger Miller and was awarded a free membership for 2012

### **High Mileage Award:**

There were 5 retired members and 6 working “stiffs” reporting total mileage for the year. The highest for the retired group was Bob Smith with 16,616 miles and the working stiffs were led by, and the overall winner, Belinda Baker with 18,310 miles. Belinda beat out the second place rider, Steve Tennant, By only 320 miles. Congratulations to all of you. The total miles for the 11 riders was 107,095. Bellinda receives the trophy to display and a free membership.

### **Roger Delay Award:**

This award goes to the member who participates in the most rides/activities during the year. Recording an 80% participation 43 was John Fiske. John receives a plaque to display and a free membership.

## **POLAR BEAR RIDE**

### **New Year's Day 2012**

January 1, 2012 a new year's beginning and the official end to 2011. Certainly some of us watched the ball drop on Times Square or the peach drop in downtown Atlanta, kissed our wives, wished them a Happy New Year and crashed. But the next morning brought the day of the VMTA Polar Bear Ride which has become a tradition in these here parts. Anxious waiting in the days prior to see just what weather we would be faced with is only a required part of the event adding a little suspense. Well, for 2012 the ride was not very polar bearish indeed as we were greeted with most cloudy skies but warm temps as Susan and I left the shores of Lake Harding to join the group at the Williams Road Shell station, just a stones throw from our former home. We arrived just before 10:30 to see a large group had already formed, dismounted and catching up with each other.

When we departed we had 12 bikes in all and 15 total participants, one of our best if not best showings for this event since we started it several years ago. I am sure the favorable weather conditions contributed but it was sure great to see such a good group. I was surprised to see Will Duke, a gentleman I had met in Patriot Guard, was among the riders and learned that he was very interested in joining our Club.

I took some time to map out a ride the night before right after confirming the weather forecast. We headed north briefly on old Whitesville Road before heading west and then north again along back roads on the east side of the river. We made our way north past Pine Lake and into Whitesville before turning back west on GA 18 at Jones Crossroads. We took some more back roads north just before the Interstate to make our way to Kia Boulevard on the north side of the Kia manufacturing complex where we headed west again towards Lake West Point. We crossed the West Point Dam which is always very picturesque and it was nice to see the rather blunt speed breaks separated in the middle for motorcycles (those on trikes still got the bounce). We headed into West Point and then Lanett before picking up Old Cusseta Road. We then proceeded to wind through the country side, pick up hwy 83 at Cusseta and a short distance to the truck stop on I85.

It was only about 11:00 Alabama time when we arrived so the lunch buffet had just been set up, piping hot and fresh. Our bowl of cereal or whatever from the early morning had long since worn off, so the folks in green were HUNGRY. And as usual, (I think this was our third year in a row for New Years Day) the buffet was delicious. They set up our long table and we indulged. Stories and laughter were flying around as usual which confirmed our purpose. Upon leaving, the weather had taken a turn with the wind picking up and dropping temps with very light sprinkle. We mounted up and the bulk of the group which included many from the north side of Columbus up to Cataula elected to go up the Interstate to GA18 for there ride home while Susan and I and John D. took our back roads towards home to Salem and Phenix City. We stopped for gas at the country store and said our good-byes to John as he headed home.

So the Polar Bear Ride for 2012 was a great success, I believe everyone enjoyed the ride, and we certainly enjoyed the great food and comradre. Thank you Lord for the pleasant weather, and with Your assistance, we will all be there again next year. Thanks to all who made this ride, it was fun and nice to be riding again in the middle of the off-season.

Roger

## **It's time for 2012 VMTA Membership dues!**

Do you enjoy VMTA club activities? The Spring Fish Fry, Panama City Shrimp Peel, leaf viewing trips, back roads rides, river parties, Valentine's and Christmas events, Thursday night dinners, and of course, our great group of rider friends?

On average, your club organizes more than 50 safety-minded, family-friendly activities a year for member enjoyment!

Your support through membership and club dues enables VMTA to continue to provide the best motorcycle club activities in the area.

If you have not yet paid your 2012 VMTA dues, please make checks payable to VMTA and mail to: Susan Miller, 529 Lee Rd. 339, Salem, AL 36874. Dues are \$30 per couple or \$20 for a single membership.

For your convenience, payments are accepted via PayPal. Send payment to PayPal account [smiller59@bellsouth.net](mailto:smiller59@bellsouth.net). If using PayPal, please add PayPal fees which are charged for use of PayPal. If the amount is \$30 - Send \$31.00; if the amount is \$20 - Send \$20.75.

Let's ride!

## VMTA Calendar of Events January 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Polar Bear Ride – Shell station 9:30	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 Business Meeting 7:00 Piccadilly's	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 El Vaquero Mexican Restaurant Meet there 6:30	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 American Motorcycle Show – Shell station 8:00 am
29	30	31				

## VMTA Calendar of Events February 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Texas Roadhouse Meet there 6:30	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 Business Meeting 7:00 Piccadilly's	14 Valentines Dinner & Movie Cunningham Center 6:30 P	15	16	17	18
19 Concord Café M.R. B.K. 10:30am	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			

## VMTA Calendar of Events March 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 The Black Cow Meet there 6:30	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Business Meeting 7:00 Piccadilly's	13	14	15	16	17 Oscars Steak & Seafood M.R. B.K. 5:00
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31