

# VENTURE VOICE

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<http://www.dump.com/users/rmvta/index.htm>

March 1999

## OFFICER SPEAK

Hi! It's March 2 as I sit to write this column, and the weather today has been what they call "seasonal". There were snowflakes several times down southwest where I live, and it's been cloudy and chilly compared to the nice weather we had over the weekend. When I stopped in to buy the seed and corncobs I feed the wild birds and squirrels in my yard, the clerk and I chatted about the fact it's only 19 days until spring.

Thumbs up to spring! I'm no great fan of winter, especially in the years since I gave up skiing. But spring that's when everything comes back to life, we can wash the car and it stays clean more than a day, and the motorcycles can come out to play.

For the last several weekends, as I've traveled north and south from the Denver area, I've seen dozens of motorcycle buddies catching a little time on the roads. Everyone's smiling, cruising, and enjoying the moment. But I also noticed all the gravel still on the roads, and several times when motorists in cars didn't give the bikers their proper place on the roads. Those are the hazards of early spring riding. Seems we have to be twice as careful until the drivers get used to seeing us again.

Inside the newsletter, you'll find information and a registration form for a 2-up ERC safety course. We hope so many of our members express interest that a second session needs to be

scheduled. There couldn't be a better way to prepare for the season, getting ready to ride with the club, with others, or alone.

We're looking forward to a great year and to lots of participation from our members. See you at the meeting on the 18th.

B e t t y        R i c h a r d s  
"Butterfly"

## THE PREZ SAYS:

I, and on behalf of all Members of the Rocky Mountain Venture Touring Association, would like to thank Stan Stotz, Finance Committee Chairperson, and all the others who helped him put together the 1999 Budget for the Club. It was apparent that a great deal of thought and work went into their efforts and presentation at the February meeting. It is this kind of effort put forth by volunteers that make this Club what it is so that we all can enjoy it together. A GREAT BIG THANKS!!!

Floyd Thorne

## MINUTES:

President Floyd Thorne called the meeting to order. Fifty members signed in. No guests were introduced, and Steve Hamilton who joined in January re-introduced himself.

**Secretary's Report:** The report for January was approved as printed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Ruth reported balances as of 2/15/99 Checking \$ 815.63 + Savings \$3,486.06 = Total \$4,301.69.

Vice President Mike Rieger called for Committee reports:

**Ancillaries:** Janet indicated catalogs will be available during meetings for members to place orders.

**Rides:** Ken had a preliminary schedule of less than 15 rides. More rides and ride leaders are needed. The goal is to have ride books printed and distributed at the March meeting.

**Newsletter:** Crane has set March 5 as the deadline for the next newsletter.

**Finance:** Stan will cover the 1999 budget under unfinished business.

**Membership:** Nancy noted that dues had to be paid by the March 18 meeting to remain in good standing.

**Historical:** No report

**Awards:** No 1999 report. Jeanie had one remaining 1998 certificate to present.

**Activities:** Monica said the survey done at the January meeting showed member interest in several events such as Country Dinner Playhouse, a picnic, and the Comedy Club. More information will be available in future newsletters and at meetings.

**Member Relations:** No report

Three items were brought up under Unfinished Business:

A 2-up ERC safety program is scheduled for April 16-18. It will be limited to 12 to 14 bikes and will cost \$30 per bike. The registration form will be in the newsletter.

Stan Stotz presented the 1999 budget with comparison to 1998 results. After member comments, Karen Burgus made a motion to approve the budget, which was seconded by Ken Kenaston, and approved by the members.

For the Activities Committee, Monica led a discussion on the charity project to provide 200 Easter baskets for distribution through Have A Heart. This will be RMVTA's second year to provide the baskets, and several changes will be implemented to streamline the process. The baskets will be put together on March 20 and distributed on March 27.

Dave had already purchased 200 small "beany" animals for 99 cents each, and baskets, coloring books, and crayons have been priced. Steve indicated grass and cellophane will be available again through his work.

A collection was taken up during the meeting, and \$277 was raised to reimburse Dave and cover some of the other items. Members were asked to bring wrapped candy to the March meeting. After discussion, the Club voted on a motion by Karen Burgus to go ahead with all the preparations and vote at the March meeting on where to budget any additional money required.

The Officers had nothing scheduled under New Business, but members brought up the following two items:

Wayne initiated a discussion on the location or linkage to our Web page.

It was decided that we need a more legitimate site, and Stan Stotz offered to head up a committee with a couple of other

members working on a solution to be presented at the next meeting.

Ken initiated a discussion on whether the Club's name should be changed to eliminate Venture as being associated with a motorcycle brand. This may be brought up for later discussion.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

A Biker's Easter Sunrise Service is scheduled at Colorado Motorsport Park, 88th & Buckley Road, at 5:37 a.m. on April 4.

Mike and Lori are expecting a little biker in September or October. Congratulations!

A couple of our members are involved with the Colorado Motorcycle Drill Team. They will be participating in the St. Pat's Parade on March 13.

Lakewood Honda is a sponsor of the Team, so if you trade there please be sure to express appreciation for their involvement.

#### **50/50 Drawing:**

\$68 to the Club

\$15 to Ken Kenaston

\$20 to Stan Stotz

\$33 to Stan Stotz

**Missing Link:** To Karen Burgus for buying her 50/50 tickets and then trading them to Stan Stotz (see above).

The minutes were taken and submitted by Betty Richards, Secretary

### **ACTIVITIES:**

Our first activity in 1999 will be an evening of fun at the Wits End Comedy Club,

Saturday, March 20th. We will meet at 7:30 pm, the show begins at 8 pm and runs for approximately 2 hours. Wits End is located at 8861 Harlan (just west of the Westminster mall).

We look forward to seeing everyone who signed up and paid for an evening of fun and laughter..... for those of you helping with the baskets at 4 pm, March 20<sup>th</sup> and then on to the Wits End show, we hope to have time to go eat nearby, but if running late we will order pizza to be delivered at the Have a Heart Project building.

Thanks again,

Dave Menges

(Redneck)

### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Membership fees for the calendar year of 1999 are due by the March monthly meeting (March 18). You can give them to Nancy Frase at any of the monthly meetings or mail them to her at: 633 Ridge View Dr., Louisville, CO 80027. The dues are \$25 per family or household. If you have any questions, please call her at (303) 926-1591 or e-mail her at NF122867@aol.com.

### **SPOTLIGHT ON NEW MEMBERS:**

#### **DAVE HEELEY**

Dave joined at the January meeting after learning about our club from Darrel Lagerhausen. Dave's family is British and fairly new to America. In fact, Dave is the first Dave Heeley joined RMVTA at the JanuAmerican-born person in his family.

Of course, his birth was remarkable . . . he was born in Chicago on Halloween in 1963! At least he is guaranteed a party every year!

Dave moved to Colorado from Chicago in 1994, leaving behind the majority of his family but looking forward to the good life here. He earns his living by representing several product packing machine manufacturers. He helps the engineers of packing companies create a packing solution based upon what machines are available on the market and the pro's and con's of each of those machines. His field of service covers four states: Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, and New Mexico.

Dave was married, but has now been divorced for about six years. He said that his house is rather quiet since he doesn't have any kids or pets! However, it gives him a lot of time and space to pursue his hobbies, which include (but are not limited to): scuba diving, photography, down hill skiing, hiking, and mountain biking. He is a certified rescue diver. With that training, he is able to assist novice divers as they attempt to execute new skills. He enjoys photographing landscapes and taking portraits of people and pets. In the time that he is not pursuing the above hobbies or riding his motorcycle, he likes to dance (rock & roll and a little country/western) and collect popular music CD's. He said music is a very important part of his life.

Dave started riding motorcycles only a year ago. He has always thought motorcycles were "cool", but after seeing his neighbors take off in the morning on their bike, then hearing them talk about what a beautiful ride they had experienced, Dave decided to try riding himself. He promptly bought a 1997 Shadow Spirit 1100. He has already put 7,000 miles on it! He is hoping to hook up with other riders through RMVTA. Welcome to the club,

Dave!

## **VIRGIL KIPERS, JR AND NANCY HANSON-KIPERS**

Virgil and Nancy joined RMVTA at the January meeting. They had attended many of our meetings prior to then, representing GWRRA and presenting training information to the club. They joined our club because they felt an affinity for the "great people in RMVTA." Nancy is a Denver native. She was born and raised here, and other than a short stint in Gunnison while attending Western State College, she has lived in Denver all of her life. Her family is all here, as well. Virgil was born in Hutchinson, Kansas, lived in Wichita, Kansas for awhile, then moved to Denver in 1971. He has two daughters and two grand daughters in the Denver area.

Nancy and Virgil were married in May of 1993 after meeting through a Westword ad. They had briefly met in church (with no resulting sparks), then attended an event that had been advertised in Westword. After the event, Virgil "tracked [Nancy] down, sang two songs, and she went down like a ship!" (Nancy doesn't quite remember it that way.) Now, Virgil stays out of trouble by working in the technical arena for the federal government in the payroll department. Nancy spends her days cleaning houses.

Virgil and Nancy are very involved in another motorcycle club, GWRRA. They are the currently reigning district couple of the year (1999), Virgil is currently the district educator, and Nancy is a past chapter director. Virgil used to be part of the Colorado [Gold] Wings Drill Team.

As for hobbies, they had trouble thinking of any outside of riding motorcycles and being

involved in motorcycle clubs. However, after thinking very hard, they said they are gearing up for retirement, doing landscaping and yardwork at their home, and once in awhile, Nancy gets to read a book or two.

Nancy has been riding since the early '70s. She started on a Virago 1100. After putting 27,000 miles on it, she "demanded" the use of Virgil's 1984 GW Aspencade 1200 (Virgil's words). Finally, in 1996, she purchased her own 1990 Gold Wing SE. Virgil started out in 1984 with a Honda CX500. In 1986, he moved to a 1984 GW Aspencade 1200 (which Nancy later "took" away from him). He then bought his 1990 Gold Wing SE in 1993. Their current bikes are almost identical! We look forward to riding with Nancy and Virgil!

### **PAUL & JENNIFER MAHNKEN**

Paul & Jennifer joined RMVTA at the December meeting. They were told about the club by Mike and Lori Reiger. Paul was born in Houston, and has since lived in Oklahoma, Texas, and then Colorado. Jennifer was born and raised in Denver, and has lived here all of her life. They were married in 1981 after meeting in a bar where Jennifer was attempting to avoid a guy that she didn't like, who happened to be a friend of Paul's, and Paul rescued her. The rest is history. (They also said they knew each other from high school . . . I am still trying to figure that one out . . .<grin> - NF)

How do they spend their time? Well, Jennifer works at Target and Paul sells truck equipment, they take care of their "children" (a spoiled-rotten dog and cat.) For hobbies, they used to water ski (before starting to ride motorcycles), working on their current house, and building a new house (due to be finished in two months).

Paul travels a lot for work and Jennifer enjoys arranging flowers. They are also involved in ABATE.

Paul started riding motorcycles as a kid, and he had a dirt bike when they were first married. Then, he didn't ride for many years, but got back into it about four years ago. At that time, he had a Kawasaki Vulcan. Jennifer refused to ride with Paul in the beginning. However, for three weeks, she watched him have a great time with the bike. Then, she took a trial ride. Again, the rest is history. They now ride a 1997 Royal Star. We welcome Paul & Jennifer to RMVTA!

### **FOR SALE**

'94 Pacific coast AU, FU, CB, intercom, 14,000 miles, Black. Like new. Extras. Steve or Karen Burgess, 303-425-5266.

2 Shoei RF700's w/J&M headsets instl. Pearl white L & XL \$300/ea or \$550 both. Steve or Karen Burgess, 303-425-5266.

R1100 RT tank bag & trunks. Tom Hudson, 303-252-7572, anytime.