



Aluminum Butt devotees enjoying a scenery (and bottom) break

The Venture Voice

July 2007

<http://www.rmvta.org>

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Officers

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Member: Bill Nielson *billnielson@hotmail.com*

Officers Speak

Submitted by: Richard Bush, Secretary

We are on our way to a great riding year. The rides, which have been completed so far, have been great fun.

I would like to welcome our new members. It is fun to see the club grow and I look forward to meeting each new member. I hope that your membership will be as rewarding as mine has. I encourage you to take part in as many club activities as you can. There are members who are willing to help you with installation of the many accessories you are bound to accumulate for your ride. Please feel free to ask anyone. I'm sure we can find someone with answers to your questions or assist with installation.

The next few months are filled with exciting rides. I hope to see most of the members at one time or another on one of the up-coming rides.

It is extremely important to do a little safety check of the bike before each and every ride no matter how long or short the ride may be. A short list of items that should be check are:

- Walk around the bike and make sure everything is in order. Nothing loose or hanging off of the bike.

- Check all lights and make sure they are working, low and high beams, left and right turn signals, and all brake lights.
- Check the air pressure in the tires. Correct pressure will help reduce tire wear.
- Rotate both front and rear tires at least one complete revolution looking at tire wear and for any unwanted metal accessories in the tire.
- Check oil and coolant level
- Be sure to have yourself and the bike filled with fuel when you arrive at the ride meeting place.

I just returned from an activity that made me think of Steve's June Officers Speak article. This morning I participated in the fourth annual Colorado Ride for Kids. This ride is held at many locations throughout the United States for the benefit of the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation. I have attended this ride the past three years and have enjoyed it each and every time. This year the ride route was changed from the past three years. We took a very nice ride from Heritage Square, up Golden Gate Canyon to the Peak-to-Peak Highway to Coal Creek Canyon and back to the Jef-

erson County Government offices. This was a ride where you could actually smell the roses in both canyons instead of trying to blow the petals off.

But this is a day that it is not about the ride but about the beneficiaries of the ride. Each rider must provide a small donation to the Foundation to participate in the ride and there appears to be a very friendly competition between some clubs to donate the most. At the end of the ride, you are served a small lunch and there is a short program of awards and stories from the kids and their families. This year there were four "Stars" of the ride this year. Two, Spencer and Ben were returnees and Brystal and Sara who were there for the first time. It is so rewarding to see these young men, Spencer is celebrating one year of remission and a full head of hair and Ben was walking with assistance. The past years

(Continued on page 3)

Next Meeting: **Thursday, July 12, 2007 7:30 p.m. Fay Myers Motorcycle World 9700 E. Arapahoe Road.**

The Venture Voice is a monthly publication of the Rocky Mountain Venture Touring Association, dedicated to promoting the club and its members.

Editing Staff: Stan Stotz-Lloyd Nicholson

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Minutes
RMVTA Meeting
June 14, 2007

President Sam Ashley brought the meeting to order at 7:44 p.m. Everyone was outside enjoying the nice late-spring weather. We had one visitor this evening, Lou, a friend of Bill and Dena. Lou rides a Harley, which as always brought the usual cheers and jeers. It is always nice to have visitors join us.

Steve asked if anyone had done anything exciting other than regular club rides.

Cliff said he went on the ride through Poudre Canyon and to Walden. He said he saw a wolf, bear, elk, deer and moose. "There may have been some other critters in there that I missed." Cliff was asked if he went on a ride or just to the zoo.

Richard gave some details on the Ride for Kids. It was a fun ride with a new route from the past years. They collected over \$42,000 for the day in Colorado with over \$138,000 collected across the United States.

Floyd provided some great descriptions of his ride with Bill G and three others to Hyder Alaska. Floyd recommended that everyone should ride through the Canadian Rockies. The Gerbing heated clothing, Floyd purchased during our Sponsor Appreciation Ride, definitely paid for itself during this ride. They traveled for four days on the way up and three days back. There was quite a bit of rain and even some slush on the roads for most of the ride. Floyd described Idaho, as pristine, British Columbia as majestic and most of the roads outside of Colorado were much better than the roads in the state.

Bill G survived a Grizzly bear attack while on the trip. Even though the bear was stuffed, he managed to get a hold of Bill's ear. Several e-mails were sent to friends in the lower 48 about the attack which cause quite a stir. George was a little groggy when he read the e-mail. He was not sure what he had just read and during the meeting gave Bill a bad time.

This was a great experience for the group of travelers.

Paul, the old man, Maynard enjoyed his 40th birthday on Sunday. It was noted by Debbie that there was no change in his maturity. After a BBQ, the poker started at 3 with Lloyd winning 1st place, Paul 2nd and a neighbor came in 3rd.

Officer's Reports:
Secretary:

Richard thanked Debbie for taking the meeting notes and getting them published in the newsletter. Debbie did a fantastic job and no objections were noted to the minutes as they were published. Debbie said that it had something to do with the rather large pen she was given at the start of the meeting.

Treasurer:

Sherri reported \$1,259.35 in checking, \$2,033.91 in savings for a total of \$3,293.26.

Committee Reports:

Activities:

No activities planned at this time. Floyd made a suggestion that the club take a ride to the Budweiser Events Center for an evening out. Floyd will check on the scheduled events and bring some suggestions back to the club.

Newsletter:

SOSDD. Get articles to Stan by the 23rd.

Finance:

Done for the year.

Website:

Brett did not have the actual numbers but the site has been really busy. Brian said he wanted real numbers to which George responded, "you wouldn't know what they meant anyway." Brian said he still wants numbers.

Member Relations:

Connie said that Stella was recovering very well from sinus surgery although she wasn't quite well enough to attend Paul's party.

Judy Clark also had some surgery and should be back riding soon.

Sonny and Charolette were celebrating their 42nd wedding anniversary. Charo-

lette was surprised by their two children who arrived for the anniversary celebration.

Historical:

Floyd said the Mesa Verde trip pictures were not on the web site. Paul provided a CD with pictures from the trip to Brett earlier in the evening.

Membership:

Sherri reported the club has 77 members. This is down from 90 last year.

Past Rides:

We attended the open house at Aurora Honda. There was a good turn out and we had several interested people stop by. We handed out our ride schedule and cards. A dealer for the Boss Hoss brought two bikes. These bikes were quite a sight.

There will be Spyder test rides at RPM on Friday, June 15 at RPM Motorsports.

The May Dinner ride was well attended. Paul had quite a few members of his family join us for dinner. Everyone enjoyed the evening.

The Fish Creek Falls ride was a very enjoyable ride. The falls were spectacular due to the high run off. We enjoyed lunch in Steamboat Springs and returned over Cameron Pass and the Poudre Canyon.

The Mesa Verde ride was attended by 19 people on 11 bikes. Bill noted that the people who lived there had to be pretty short. We enjoyed a great ride with the weather cooperating each day. There were a couple of showers over the high passes but not requiring any rain gear. The ride went though Cortez, a short detour to Telluride and on to Ouray. On Monday we stopped in Leadville for lunch on our way home.

The Poudre Canyon run was cut a little short due to a minor mishap. After we determined that everyone and everything was ok, we continued the ride to Ft. Collins for lunch and on to home. This ride was a fun and enjoyable ride.

The White Water Ride can only be described in one way: What a ride! The

ride was attended by four riders on four bikes. Had a great time on the water and a very fun ride back through Leadville and a stop by Lewis' Sweet Shop.

Old Business:

The club will provide an informational table at the open houses being held at Vickery Yamaha and Grand Prix Motor Sports on Saturday, June 23. Brian will head up the group for Vickery and be chief cook. Steve will be at Grand Prix. Members were encouraged to stop by and help.

There will be another opportunity for the club to recruit new members on July 14 at Sun Honda.

New Business:

It was suggested that all riders provide their cell phone numbers on the ride sign up sheet so that if someone gets separated from the group, we can make contact and get everyone back together. Everyone thought this was a good idea.

Sam suggested that we have a "safety moment" during each meeting. This suggestion was well received and generated several ideas about safety. This will be an open forum for discussion of any and all safety related topics.

Ron and Joyce brought a 6-pound apple pie, which was enjoyed by all.

Future Rides:

Cliff said we should saddle up and be ready to ride on the Aluminum Butt ride this weekend. The route will go over Grand Mesa, the north rim of the Black Canyon and Monarch pass. Should be a fun ride.

The June Dinner Ride will go to Wong Phats Sombrero. This was in response to an earlier comment about the May dinner ride going to a Pizza restaurant instead of Chinese or Mexican food.

God willing we will make it to Yellowstone this year. This should be an exciting ride. We will stop in Cody and enjoy fire works and on to Wing Ding. Steve made a comment that he had purchased a Packit rack. Connie made him do it.

George has made reservations at the Best Western in Red River, NM for the fall

color ride. He will post the phone number on the web site.

George checked on the reservations for the Bryce Canyon ride and found that one motel had a few issues. After some conversation with the motel staff, George has everything ironed out. If you have already made reservation, you should be set.

50/50:

Bill and Dena collected \$95 with \$47 going to the club and \$48 divided into prizes.

3rd prize was \$10, which was won by Debbie.

2nd prize was \$14, won by Jerry.

1st prize was \$24, won by or visitor, Lou.

The missing link was awarded to Bill for our ride through Pagosa Springs during the Mesa Verde ride.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respective submitted by:

("Officers" Continued from page 1)

he was in a wheel chair. Brystal and Sara are both college students and shared some of their experiences with us. This year's ride earned \$49,205. I have three healthy kids, a grandchild with two more on the way. I have decided to make this ride a much bigger part of my life next year and I hope that the club and all members will support the ride by attending in person or by sponsoring me for the ride. What a wonderful and heartwarming way to do a little something to help change the "Biker" connotation. Hope you will join me next year.

"Kickstand"

Our June Meeting Visitor Submitted by: Bill Nielson

The friend I brought to the meeting is Lou DiStefano. Lou is who I report to at AirCell. He was recently hired from the Los Angeles area. He has three Harleys, one of them he recently had shipped to Denver so he could get some Colorado riding time in. Lou said he would like to go on some rides with us as time permits.



Guest Lou DiStefano

July Birthdays:

1st - Debbie Maynard
7th - Jerry Henn
10th - Sally O'Rourke
13th - Dianna Gutt
13th - Tamrin Melies
24th - Charlette Crary
30th - Ron Nardiello
31st - Cari Todd

July Anniversaries:

8th - Sam & Susan Ashley
16th - Paul & Diane Dible

Goldwingmama's Fun Facts

Submitted by: Sherri Barrett
As of June 23rd

May Dinner Ride – 20 people & 7 bikes & 4 cars
Mesa Verde Ride – 19 people & 11 bikes
Poudre Canyon Run – 23 people & 15 bikes
White Water Ride – 4 people & 4 bikes
June Meeting – 29 people
Aluminum Butt Ride – 9 people & 9 bikes
June Dinner Ride – 19 people & 10 bikes & 1 car

Perfect Ride Record Holders
(With 14 rides under our belts)
(Only 2 riders left now)

R - Richard Bush
R - Brian Graves

Point Leaders
(With 21 events under our belts)

Riders
29 pts - Brian Graves
23 pts – Richard Bush & Bill Nielson



Passengers

- 20 pts – Sherri Barrett
- 19 pts – Debbie Maynard
- 18 pts – Dena Nielson
- 22 pts – Paul Maynard & Floyd Thorne

Membership

I am done with the membership renewal for this year. We now have 77 members. 39 are males and 38 are females, there are 32 couples and 13 singles. Wow, I was really surprised by these numbers. If we get 2 more females, the women would rule. Sorry guys, I just had to point that out. ☺

“Goldwingmama”

UPCOMING RIDES:

June 30 –July 7 Yellowstone and Wing Ding Ride Brian Graves and George Barrett

July 15 Twist & Shout Run. Stan & Janet want to invite you all to participate in the 5th running of this incredibly twisty romp through the foothills of Colorado. Breakfast in Nederland and some other fun things are planned. Come join the fun and don’t be left out! Stan & Janet Stotz

July 21 Multi Passes (7+4) Ride Steve & Connie Benko

July 28 Moonlight Ride Team Barrett

PAST RIDES:

Memorial Weekend Mesa Verde Ride

May 26th – May 28th

Submitted by: Bill & Dena Nielson

The Weather Gods made sure we had good weather for the 3-day weekend. There were 11 bikes, 19 people for the trip.

Our first days ride was directed to Durango, stopping in Del Norte for lunch at Boogies Restaurant for lunch along the way.

Sunday, we headed to Mesa Verde. I can tell you that there were not any tall Scandinavians that built this condo. It was very interesting and educational. We spent three fourths of the day there sending time on the tours and shopping.

Leaving Mesa Verde, we stopped in Cortez for a gas fill and lunch... then we

headed to Ouray. We took SR 145 which turned out to be a beautiful drive and just enough twist and turns to keep everyone occupied. We stopped in at Telluride, more for curiosity than anything. A town with it’s “hip” atmosphere.

Monday, was the trek home, stopping in Leadville for lunch. I wish every Memorial weekend was as nice as this one was. Not too hot, not too cold, only got teased every now and then with rain. Life is good.....Motorcycling with a great club and good friends is even better...it’s the best!

White Water Ride

June 9, 2007

Submitted by:

Ride Leader Richard Bush

WOW,WOW,WOW!!!!!!

What more can I say about the White Water Ride? Four brave souls awoke before the crack of dawn, endured a cold ride over Kenosha Pass to enjoy a wonderful half-day raft ride on the Arkansas River near Buena Vista.

The brave souls were two-experienced river rats, Paul and Brian, and two river virgins, Sam and Richard. We met at the Park and Ride on the corner of Wadsworth and 285. Leaving approximately on time, we headed over Kenosha Pass. We stopped in Fairplay for a short break to warm up and have a snack. We arrived at River Runners in plenty of time to get suited up and ready for rafting. After putting on the semi-dry wet suit, slightly smelly booties and a splash jacket, we grudgingly turned in our keys to a couple of young ladies who we hoped we could trust to not enjoy a little joy ride while we were gone. After getting life vests, Jumpstart brought his own but could not use it, we waited for our guide and raft. We didn’t even have to take a bus ride to the launch point. After a few safety instructions, we met our guide, Sonya and the other parties, Raj and daughter, on our raft.

Brian convinced Sam to sit in the front. Richard, however let Raj have the other front seat. Brian and Paul got the middle and back seats on the left side and Richard found the middle seat on the right.

The river was running at about 1720 CFS (approx. 13,000 gallons per second) and the water was described as refreshing. You can read that as darn cold. The first part of the ride was pretty smooth with only a few small white caps. Sam found that if he would duck, when we hit some white water, Brian would catch much more water. That only lasted for a while. Our guide found a way to ensure that each of us got very wet at some time or another. We had a great time on the ride. There were several really good rapids and even one where the river actually drops about 15 feet over the length of the rapid. All of us agreed that we would do this again.



Whitewater action on Dick Bush's Whitewater Ride

After a short bus ride back to the River Runners headquarters, we changed and rode to Buena Vista for lunch. After lunch, we continued on highway 24 to Leadville, on to I-70 with a short detour to Lewis’ Sweet Shop. Yes Jamie, I know, Bad Man.

This was a great ride. I’m sure some of us, including yours truly, woke up the next day with some sore muscles but what a fantastic time.

“Kickstand”

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

Dena said that she would be sure and have a Member Spotlight next month. Believe it or not, her “To Do List” is longer than mine! (Something about marrying a daughter off next week).

“Steamer”



SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT:

Grand Prix Motorsports

Vickery Motorsports

Submitted by: Sam Ashley

Submitted by: Steve Benko,
Vice President

Vickery Yamaha has been around for a long time, 38 years to be exact, so they must be doing something right. Family owned and operated for that entire time Bill Vickery, along with wife Shari, and son Doug. Vickery Motorsports was located at Illiff and Havana up until 1980, and then moved to their current location at 2231 S. Parker Road, 303-755-4387.

Bill sells a vast array of products including Yamaha, Polaris, and Ski-doo sleds, Kawasaki dirt and road bikes, and the full line of Yamaha scooters, dirt and road bikes, ATVs, watercraft, and full-sized 9 or 10 passenger Yamaha boats. Bill takes pride in the fact that they are enthusiasts in the sport and are very knowledgeable about their products. Vickery Yamaha has sponsored Andy Atkins, a 22-time motocross champion, and about 150 other riders as well. An interesting fact: Bill Vickery still holds the Bonneville speed record for the 750cc class at 191 mph, set back in 1975. Wow, way to go Bill!

Bill also attributes his success and longevity to his talented and loyal employees, many of whom have been with Bill for 30 years, motorheads who love what they are doing. Bill's service team can provide machine work, all types of welding, lathe work, and dyno-tuning. Chuck Jensen is the general manager who has been with Bill since 1968. Rick Gross is the service manager who has recently joined the team a year ago.

Vickery Motorsports has recently been awarded a couple of prestigious honors.... it is #1 in retail volume, and #4 in customer satisfaction, in the Mid-West Region (which covers about a dozen states) Remember, with major purchases, the tax rate at Vickery is only 4.35% and your RMVTA membership gets you a 10% discount on parts and accessories.

Stop in and say hi to Bill and the gang, I have always found them to be very helpful.

"Yosemite Sam"

The folks at Grand Prix Motorsports held their Customer Appreciation Day on Saturday June 23, 2007. Our club was in attendance along with several other vendors. Grand Prix provided a band for entertainment and free food and drinks.

Grand Prix has been in business since 1988. They carry Yamaha, Kawasaki, Suzuki, Polaris and Victory motorcycles, ATVs, watercraft and snowmobiles. They employ almost 50 people year round and have annual sales of about \$10.2M.

Bill and Laurie Comegys have been the owners since 1994. Originally from Texas, they started out building custom homes there. Bill has a degree in Environmental Design and Laurie has a Marketing degree. Bill started riding when he was 12. He began racing motorcycles in college. His biggest thrill was winning an event at Daytona International Speedway. He also established his own racing team. Soon after, he decided to pursue his love of motorcycles and acquired Grand Prix. Most days you can find Bill and Laurie working in the store. They say that the greatest asset to Grand Prix is the superior customer service that they provide.

Tony Hayter is the General Manager. His big smile lights up any place where he happens to be. Tony has been the GM at Grand Prix for over 8 years. He says that he enjoys the friendly, family atmosphere.

Grand Prix is also one of a very few dealers in our area that is an authorized distributor of Gerbing heated clothing. They have a

pretty good selection of items in stock and there is a coupon on their website that gives 20% off. It's hard to beat that deal. As with all of our sponsors, your RMVTA membership entitles you to 10% off of all your purchases.



Toys, toys, toys

"8 Ball"



Before or after the rafting trip???
You decide



Floyd suggested that at 5:00 a.m. this is what the bikes look like (blurry)



For Sale:

Need items for sale.
We are fresh out.

Member Notice

Look for your membership number in this issue. If you find it, see the 50-50 ticket sellers at the next meeting for your free brace of 50-50 tickets. Don't forget to check .

The Deadline for the Next Newsletter is March23, 2007

2007 RMVTA Sponsors

- Aurora Honda**(303) 341-7200
200 South Potomac Street,
Aurora, CO, 80012
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- Automotive M.D.s**(303) 758-0909
http://www.automds.com
- Colorado Power Sports**(303) 427-9000
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- Dena Silliman Neilson, P.C.**(303) 469-1277
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Parker, CO 80134
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- Farmer's Insurance**(303) 805-7230
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Centennial, CO 80111
- Fay Myers Motorcycle World**(303) 744-6632
9700 E. Arapahoe Road
Greenwood Village, CO, 80112
http://www.faymyers.com
- Grand Prix Motorsports, Inc.**(303) 761-2471
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- RE/MAX Alliance-Ron Nardello**(303) 693-6666
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Cell (303) 888-1083
- The Optical Gallery**(303) 690-1696
4252 S.Chambers Rd, Aurora,

RMVTA
PO Box 3744
Englewood, CO
80155-3744



COMPLEMENTARY COPY

Next Meeting:
Thursday, July 12, 2007
7:30 p.m.
Fay Myers Motorcycle World
9700 E. Arapahoe Road