



The Florida Gator Tale

Newsletter of the Florida Chapter of the Motorcycle Sport Touring Association

Volume 11 Issue 3

Events in March 2018

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Feature Article

Why Do We Ride? ... A Pictorial Musing

By Doug Westly

[Ed: Doug published this article in the January 2012 issue of this newsletter. It is reprinted now to share some of his thoughts again on why we are so infatuated with motorcycling.]

A couple of years ago, I finally got to take my wonderful wife on her first cross-country trip. She had been wanting to make the trip for a while, and we finally got the opportunity. We spent 18 days traveling from Florida to California and back. Some days were better than others. One day was 8 hours of solid rain. Another was 725 miles of nothing but interstate (yuk). On the other hand, we rode the Colorado passes in the Rocky Mountains, traveled down the Pacific Coast Highway, and saw the endless ribbon of the “Loneliest Road”, U.S. Hwy 50 through Nevada. I’ve been across the U.S. by motorcycle several times, but always solo before. This was my first trip with a riding partner, and doing with my best friend and love of my life made

it extra special. I also watched her experience that first cross-country trip and it reminded me of when I was making my first, similar journey many years before. Recalling that memorable trip, it raised the question: “Why do we really ride?”



Is it the traveling itself? Many riders say “It’s not the destination, it’s the journey.”

It could be. How many of us have been “In The Zone” when we’re riding, that magical feeling when all perception of time, troubles and the outside disappears? It is feeling and thinking of nothing but you, the bike and the road... The Zone is a unique experience...

Maybe it is the chance to get away with your best friend, loved one, or just friends who enjoy the same passion.

I don't think Becky and I are ever closer than when we are on a trip together. The sharing of mutual experiences when you travel by motorcycle is unique.

It is one of the reasons motorcyclists bond together so strongly.

OK, sometimes it is undoubtedly the challenge. Whether it is crossing the country, climbing the mountain passes, or just taking a Sunday morning off-road ride, motorcycling challenges all of us in one way or another. This next pic has my vote for coolest riding gear look...ever. 🤪👍



...and until you've experienced it, you can't imagine the thrill of pushing your skills and machine to the limits around a racetrack.

Doing a track school and/or a track day is a great way of improving your skills, meeting new folks in our sport, and finding your limits, and the limits of your machine.

I highly recommend everyone experience a track day, at least once!



Of course, sometimes it may be the destination. Whether it is across the country, to the mountains, or just a ride to your favorite ocean-view picnic spot, there is no better way to experience our land than to feel it, see it, and even smell it (unless you're going by the cattle processing plants out West...) than on two wheels!

For us MSTA'ers, it may just be the time we spend with each other, riding our favorite back roads, on the way to lunch and time spent talking motorcycles.

For each one of us, motorcycling is a very personal experience.

So the next time you're on your bike, whether alone or with the group, ask yourself:

“Really, why do I ride?”



SAFETY TALK

IMPORTANT NOTICE: *Ultimately, the safety of motorcycle riders and their passengers is their own responsibility. Nothing presented in the column supersedes, negates or relieves a motorcyclist and/or passenger from assumption of personal responsibility for their actions and safety.*

The Eyes are the Key

Sometimes we tend to forget the basics. It is easy to get complacent and not practice good riding techniques. Using our eyes is probably one of the most basic and most critical elements of our riding.

When you started riding, your instructor (hopefully) stressed how important it was to “Look where you want to go.” It really is true. There is a bioscience term for it. It is actually called body indexing. Your body tends to orient towards your line of sight. It is a natural occurrence that just happens to lend itself to riding, provided that you use it properly.

That means that you not only have to look where you want to go, but you have to look ahead. And.... while your focus needs to be on where you want to go, at the same time you have to remain aware of what’s around you. So how do you do all that at the same time?

The key is visual awareness. Understanding not only that you need to look where you want to go, but that your vision also has to tell you what’s going on immediately around you. That’s a lot to ask your eyes to do. So here are some simple steps to follow:

First, always remember to keep your eyes moving. Scan ahead. Move your eyes from one point to the next.

Next, don’t get visually fixated. If you focus on one thing too long, guess where you are going to end up going? Yep, right at where you are looking.

Try cataloguing: As you note particular visual cues (cars, interchanges, other riders, the dog that looks like he’s going to run out into the road, etc.), mentally voice those to yourself. That will help you maintain visual and mental awareness of them, peripherally, while you continue to scan ahead.

Be aware of your eye usage. If your focus tends to become too long or delayed on any particular visual target, it could be a sign that you are getting tired (or at least your eyes are getting tired).

Finally, using your eyes also means finding your path of travel. If your eyes can trace your intended path of travel, then there is a good chance the bike will follow that path as your eyes continue to move ahead. This becomes more and more critical as the path becomes narrower, faster, more congested, etc. You often hear riders talking about “looking through the corner.” What they should be referring to is using their eyes to trace their intended path through the corner (whether it is an outside-inside-outside line, or another path), and then continue their eye movement beyond the corner as they can see through or beyond it. Once your eyes trace that path, you and the bike should follow right along behind.

As you can see, our eyes are not just another tool when we ride. Used properly, they add safety, control, smooth movement and early warning for our riding. Not using them properly is one of a rider’s biggest sins. Don’t get caught just going out for a ride and visually taking in the scenery. Certainly there is a time and place for that, but let the casual view come peripherally. Focus your eyes on where you want to go, catalogue those visual cues and trace your lines. You’ll find it to be a particularly necessary skill, if you haven’t already.

Ride Safe!

Doug Westly – Safety Editor



There’s a lot to look for on the street.

Photo:
[Riding in the Zone](#)

Florida News

South Director's Report

AS IF FLORIDA WASN'T ATTRACTIVE ENOUGH...

WE ENJOY MOST OF FEBRUARY AT 80°!! THE MOVING TRUCKS ARE ROLLING DOWN I-95....

Of course, those of us already here know that “winter” riding is always terrific!! Catch Tom's excellent Central Lunch report below on the ride to [3 Bananas](#). A spectacular start to our February adventures! The South Lunch ride turned out to be nearly perfect. I called ahead to the “weather gods” to ensure a bluebird day. The new-to-us location, the [Sunset Grille](#), in Sebring, was more than ready for us. Especially when 25 of us showed up. We thought just 10-15 would make the ride!! You have to check out the photos from this ride on our website. James and Laura surely enjoyed their ride over with the Eastsiders!! Two snowbirds from Ohio joined us at the Grille, Clem Willis and Dan Igoe, and just smiled when asked what their friends were doing back home....

We started arriving a little early, allowing us to establish a real “beach head” out on the patio overlooking Lake Jackson. The service staff swung into action, and everybody enjoyed a drama free and delicious lunch! Our conversations continued well past the clearing of the plates. And into the parking lot!! We are now hanging out for over two hours during these ride-to-eats. This is why I've been so active here in Florida.

Our chapter continues the legacy of many prior Florida Directors who established a bona fide model of camaraderie and good times!! So, a perfect weather day. Great water side dining alfresco. Plenty of parking. Easy access from all over the State. And a unanimous vote to make this destination a yearly must-do!! [Ed: Numerous additional photos on our state [SmugMug site](#).]



Van VanSteelant



Dan Igoe and Clem Willis

Photo: Jim Park



Now, about our 50/50 raffle. Tom has introduced our Club practice to the Central riders. And he's off to a great start. We began the raffle with the South rides as a way to offset the costs of our website and other minor Club expenses. Over the years, we have brought in more than enough funds to pay our way. This month, we renewed our hosting and domain with Go Daddy, for \$310.00. I THANK all of you who regularly contribute to our coffers. I receive frequent compliments on our website and Club presence on the National site. Without your support on several levels, we just couldn't function as well as we do!! Exhibit A – both Lunch rides

contributed \$104.00 to our account. Bill Rorke won the South raffle, which netted him \$57. He then donated \$32 back to us! So, we added the \$104 to our \$1,105, then subtracted the \$310 for our new total of \$899.00.

Any thoughts on using some of our windfall for another donation to a worthy cause? We were a big hit with the Dan Clarke Safety Fund last year. We are completely open to ideas connected with motorcycling... MSTA, (MSTA favorite) Pediatric Brain Cancer Research, Two Wheels For Life.... And we ought to be able to donate anywhere up to \$500 again this year. Send me your suggestions.

What's Next??

Be sure to check our RIDES calendar often to insure you never miss one of our events!! www.flmsta.org/ The ride dates for 2018 are currently set. The Central Ride destinations are set through May. The South Ride locations are set for the year as well. We have some new ideas and places in mind!!

Just around the corner, we have the first of four events in March!! On March 3rd, the Central Gang heads to the [Coppola's Bar & Grill](#) (Sebastian Beach Inn), 7035 S. Hwy A1A, Melbourne Beach. *[Ed: Location recently changed.]* Situated right on the Atlantic coast, many of us have enjoyed going to the SBI in the past. There's ample seating and parking. This time, we will be indoors for lunch since they cannot reserve for the deck. But I see no reason we can't adjourn to the deck after eating. The weather should be great (upper 60's to low 70's) and they'll have a band outside beginning at 1 p.m.

The following weekend, you'll find a whole bunch of us in Ocala for the **2nd Annual Daytona Just For Fun Event** – in Ocala!! We have promoted this throughout February, both in and outside of Florida. By the time you read this, you'll be too late to take advantage of the MSTA room rate. Don't let that stop you from joining us anyway!! We had a blast here last year, and can't wait to make new memories again over March 9th-11th.

But wait, there's more...

Tom has set up a spectacular **MSTA Daytona Bike Week Lunch Ride!!** The long established tradition of hosting this Lunch on THURSDAY during Bike Week continues. On March 15th, ride on over to the [1884 Restaurant and Bar](#), on 12 East Magnolia Avenue, in Eustis, FL. You must hit our website for all the details and directions to this unique and beautiful restaurant. This should be a stunning event!!

On March 24th, we head west... way west... to [Pop's Sunset Grill](#), on 112 Circuit Rd, in Nokomis! The South Lunch Ride returns to a real winner location. Waterside, alfresco dining, and a wonderful "dream house" island road to be enjoyed coming or going. The bit of local traffic on the way in is well worth your time.

You better get out and ride with us sometime in March!!

Membership News

I have caught up with the latest membership print outs. I should have successfully culled the expired, and added the new members to my contact info. If you are receiving the Gator Tale, but not my announcements, PLEASE email me ASAP to correct my files. The last 12 months presented membership challenges for everybody in the Club. Because of the tenacious efforts of the Membership Committee, we should be starting 2018 with a clean slate and smooth riding!!

My heartfelt THANKS to Don Moe for his efforts EVERY month to bring our Florida membership up to date with all the news about our new and renewing members!!

Here's what we know today...

We welcome these two new Florida riders who joined the MSTA in February:

James Beyerl Raymond Harcourt

We thank these four Florida members for renewing their memberships in February:

Chuck Headrick Kevin Healey David & Leslie Noyes Don Williams

These four Florida memberships will expire soon or have recently expired:

Jim Cavanagh Frederick Christ Laura Gonzalez James Siler

We urge all our members to renew their memberships and to continue supporting their MSTA. If you have a question about when your membership expires, please contact me at membership@ridemsta.com. Renewing or joining can be quickly and securely done online at PlanetReg.com/MSTArenew or PlanetReg.com/MSTAjoin respectively. If you use a pre-printed form from STARReview or an ITR, be sure to mail it to Beth Hemstreet, 5560 Stone Church Court, Loveland, CO 80537, and not to the address of a prior membership director.

If you only want to update your phone, email, bikes, or other details, you can do so quickly via PlanetReg.com/MSTAupdate. Please include enough unchanging information to assure the correct member is updated in the database.

When you encounter a rider who would seem to be a good fit as a new MSTA member, please pass along one of our Invitation-To-Ride quad-folds! For each new member you recruit starting in 2018 and who provides your name and/or membership number on the application, you will receive a coupon for a raffle ticket for the motorcycle drawing at STAR in Wisconsin. STAR Bucks coupons have been discontinued and members still holding coupons should plan on redeeming them at rallies or other MSTA events before the end of 2018.

Random Ramblings!

When days like our last South Lunch Ride turn out so nicely, I get a little soft and gooey... It's cliché, but it just doesn't get any better than being with a great group of riders who gather over fine food and conversation at a spectacular location on a stupendous weather day... Thank you all for hanging out with us!!

We know that some of you are just holding back... Don't keep secrets from the rest of us! If you have purchased anything motorcycle related that has blown you away with its features or price or performance, send me and/or Don an email with a short write up and website. We'll try to include a Member's Promo each month...

STAR Registration and the Raffle Bike tickets are fully activated and ready for you!! Commit NOW and you'll be surprised how easily the planning part becomes. I've already had to change up my bike plans and flight plans, TWICE. As well as whom I might get to visit with while in MN/WI. But, I have the objective set, so changing the alternatives around is a piece of cake!!

I love when a plan comes together... again...

Ride well! Ride often! Do it safely!!

ATGATT Van
MSTA Florida State Co-Director

Central Director's Report - January 2018

Three Bananas in Crescent City was our February 10th Central lunch destination. Maybe it was just me, but there seemed to be a really good vibe going on there that day.

First of all, it was beautiful out – dry, lots of sun, 70's to low 80's. Who could resist going for a ride or just being outside on such a gorgeous day? That elicited *smile* number one.

Secondly, the ride itself. After skirting around Melbourne, my group breezed through Cocoa and Titusville and then just caught the edges of Edgewater, New Smyrna and Deland. We took Marsh Rd, a very curvaceous bit of country joy, around the Deland airport. And US-17 – a pleasant, meandering, gently rising and falling rural 2-laner – got us the rest of the way to Crescent City. It was just a really pleasant ride the whole way. And that was worthy of *smile* number two.

When we got to Three Bananas at 11:30, there was already a row of sport-touring bikes lined up in front. In fact, a total of 19 folks rode in from around the state. Home towns included Flagler Beach, Deland, Melbourne Beach, Valkaria, Winter Park, Ellenton, Lakeland, Bartow, Gainesville, Inverness, Lake City. I heard one guy even rode up from Fort Meyers. So, the great turnout easily earned a really big *smile* – that's number three. I also liked that several of our members brought along non-member riding buddies. Each gladly accepted a quad-fold to take home and look over – a couple of previous members, as well.

Smile number four – just look at this idyllic place with Crescent Lake in the background!

In addition to the idyllic building and setting, they were able to seat us all together at four picnic-like tables on the screened and covered deck overlooking the lake. Perfect! Our wait staff was extremely courteous and efficient. The food was tasty and reasonably priced. No wonder we keep going back.

Perhaps my figurative *smiles* were a common sentiment felt among the group of riding friends, because real smiles came readily as I moved from table to table to share stories back and forth. It was very obvious that everyone was really enjoying the day, the food, the ambiance and camaraderie. And that could explain the *electricity* or vibe I felt in the air at Three Bananas that day. That gave me *smile* number 5. A *5-smile* day! It just doesn't get much better than that. Log another fun Central lunch event.

BTW, Mike Brennan won the 50/50 and pocketed \$15. The other \$15 goes to Van to add to our coffers.



Tom Blake



Picture courtesy of Brian Dickerson



Nineteen friends preparing for some good chow on a beautiful day in an idyllic Florida setting.
(Pictures by Tom Blake)



Fed up (sic) - maybe, but still not talked out (Picture by Tom Blake)



More of our group soaking in the tranquility and reluctantly preparing to gear up (Picture courtesy of Brian Dickerson)

To keep the ball rolling – on Saturday, **March 3rd**, we ride to **Coppola's Bar & Grill** (the old Sebastian Beach Inn), 7035 S. Hwy A1A, Melbourne Beach for a **noon lunch**. It's on the ocean. We've enjoyed this place several times in the past. Everyone's invited. The whole inside dining room is reserved. Go to

www.flmsta.org/rides-1.html or the 'Florida Rides' section of this newsletter for details. (Note: Another destination was originally planned for this date, but they changed their reservations policy and could not satisfactorily accommodate us.)

Looking ahead a bit further, the **MSTA Just-For-Fun Bike Week Lunch** starts at **11:30 on March 15th**, a Thursday, at the **1884 Restaurant** in Eustis. This is a fabulous place with loads of room and excellent food. It's easily accessible and about an hour from the congestion of either Daytona or Ocala. There should not be any conflicts with Daytona racing action as the only things scheduled are dirt TT's in the evening. So, all MSTA members and friends who are in the area or can ride in that day are invited to join us. Again, see the 'Florida Rides' section of the newsletter or www.flmsta.org/rides-1.html for details.

Safe journeys,

Tom Blake

Central Florida March Lunch Ride

Saturday, **March 3rd**, 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM *[Ed: Location recently changed.]*

Coppola's Bar & Grill (Sebastian Beach Inn) ([map](#))

7035 S Hwy A1A

Melbourne Beach, FL 32951

Tom Blake

MSTA Florida State Co-Director

Florida MSTA Apparel

As a reminder, our Florida State Storefront is open online for your MSTA-branded apparel! Go to mstaflorida.qbstores.com. We have made arrangements with the supplier for our National Gearbox to allow our State membership to buy shirts, hats, etc. with our State logos directly from the source!!! No muss, no fuss!! Order yours today!!



They offer both embroidery and digital print options. Click onto the Embroidered Apparel or Shop By Logo for each option. Don't hesitate to contact Queensboro directly with any and all questions. They are very customer friendly. They also offer Polo shirts and T-shirts with pockets!!

Florida Rides This Month

Important Note

Always remember to check the Florida MSTAs [Event Calendar](#) and/or your email for updates on scheduled rides. Changes in times, dates, and especially locations are often out of our control and with short notice.

MSTA Florida Central Lunch Ride

When: Sat., **March 3rd**, 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM *[Ed: This is a recent change.]*
Where: [Coppola's Bar & Grill](#) (Sebastian Beach Inn), 7035 S Hwy A1A, Melbourne Beach, FL ☎321-728-4311 ([map](#))
Description: Situated right on the Atlantic coast, many of us have enjoyed going to the SBI in the past. There's ample seating and parking. This time, we will be indoors for lunch since they cannot reserve for the deck. But I see no reason we can't adjourn to the deck after eating. The weather should be great (upper 60's to low 70's) and they'll have a band outside beginning at 1 p.m.
Contact: Tom Blake, tblake1@cfl.rr.com, or ☎321-723-2857

MSTA Daytona Bike Week Just-For-Fun Lunch

When: Thursday, **March 15th**, 11:30 AM
Where: [1884 Restaurant and Bar](#), 12 East Magnolia Avenue, Eustis, FL 32726 ☎800-856-1884 ([map](#))
Description: We have a new destination for this year's luncheon and you are really going to like it. It's the perfect spot not too far away from Daytona's crowds in the small town of Eustis. The reservation has been made. The 1884 Restaurant and Bar is in a large, old 2-story brick building in easily accessible downtown. Inside it has wide-open spaces, tall ceiling, hardwood floors and dark wood bar and furniture and sections of marble wall. It is quite impressive in a manly sort of way. They will be able to easily accommodate all of us.
Lunches are made from locally grown, fresh produce and meats, along with homemade desserts from the in-house baker. Prices are moderate, in the \$9 to \$14 range, but you get your money's worth. Be sure to check their website for pictures, menus and more at 1884restaurantandbar.com.
If you're coming from out of town, you cannot get there without traveling some of Florida's better motorcycling roads. ([map](#))
From the Daytona speedway, it is just over an hour's ride. Follow US-92 west into Deland. Turn left on FL-15A (Spring Garden Ave) for just under 2 miles then right on FL-44. Once over the river, bare right again on FL-42 for an enjoyable 19-mile jaunt. Then go left on US-19 into Eustis. FL-42 is a particularly good ride. Staying on FL-44 can save you 4 minutes but is not nearly as much fun.
From Ocala, take US-441/27 south to Cr-464 and follow it southeast about 16 miles to Cr-25. Turn left on 25 through the small town of Ocklawaha. Cr-25 continues around the east side of Lake Weir and drops down to FL-42 at Weirsdale. Go left on 42 about 9 miles, then right on Cr-452. 452 is a very pleasant 12-mile run to US-19 where you turn right into downtown Eustis. Ride time should be just over an hour.
You can park on the Magnolia Ave in front of the restaurant. But the better alternative is the parking lot behind the restaurant on its south side. There is a back entrance. As you get to Eustis, keep on 19 (Bay St) to Magnolia Ave. Turn left on Magnolia, then right on the first street (Eustis St). Then take the first right again onto E. Orange (SR-44), then right again into the lot before crossing Bay St (19).
Contact: Tom Blake, tblake1@cfl.rr.com or ☎321-723-2857

[MSTA Florida South Lunch Ride](#)

When: Sun., **March 24th**, 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM
Where: [Pop's Sunset Grill](#), 112 Circuit Rd, Nokomis, FL 34275 ☎941-488-3177 ([map](#))
Description: We tried this place last year for the first time. And had a terrific time!! Wonderful location, good grub, and a very pretty island road to enjoy a little house “hunting”...
Contact: Van, busavan@flmsta.org, or ☎561-386-2594

[Future Florida Rides](#)

Note that the future ride events are included to facilitate longer term planning. The destinations and/or dates may be changed just before the ride dates. Please check the Florida MSTA [Event Calendar](#) for possible updates.

[MSTA Florida Central Lunch Ride](#)

When: Sat., **April 7th**, 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM
Where: [Woody's River Roo](#), 5717 18th St. East, Ellenton, FL 34222 ☎941-722-2391 ([map](#))
Description: Situated on the north side of the Manatee River, Woody's has palm thatch shaded tables right out in the river on the dock. They combine an outstanding view with live music and fun and have an extensive menu of delicious Florida-inspired cuisine at moderate prices. Had a terrific time there last year.
Contact: Tom Blake, tblake1@cfl.rr.com, or ☎321-723-2857

[MSTA Florida South Lunch Ride](#)

When: Sun., **April 14th**, 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM
Where: [Lone Cabbage Fish Camp](#), 8199 State Road 520, Cocoa, FL 32926 ☎321-632-4199 ([map](#))
Description: Yeah, this is rather north for the Southies... But, we have a wonderful route that keeps us entertained and hungry by the time we roll in. Besides, the Southies will have “crashed” a couple of the Central Gang's events by now. About time that they come out to one of ours!!
Contact: Van, busavan@flmsta.org, or ☎561-386-2594

[Regional Events](#)

[MSTA Daytona Just-For-Fun Event](#)

When: Fri.-Sun., **March 9th – 11th**
Where: [Quality Inn](#), 3434 SW College Road, Ocala, FL 34474 ☎352-854-3200 ([map](#))

Description: We have put together a GREAT weekend of fun and frolic for our members, far and wide!! This is a great lead into Bike Weeks!! And, on the following Thursday, we have our MSTA Lunch Ride!!

Don't delay in making your reservations, as this arrangement will expire sooner than you think. Read through the details below, secured by a couple of excellent planners!! A big THANKS to them, and we'll see you there!!

Stay tuned for further event details and ride ideas...

Hotel Telephone ☎352-854-3200.

Room rates are greatly discounted for this time of year. We have a block of 10 rooms at \$89 a night, before taxes. This includes a hot breakfast, heated pool, 24-hour fitness center, WiFi throughout the hotel, and cookies and milk from 8:00-9:00 PM each evening. ☺

We have protected the price (\$89) for March 8th in the event that anyone from out of the area would like to arrive on Thursday for a good night's sleep and an early start the next morning on Friday, the 9th.



Keep in mind that not only are these dates the start of Bike Week in nearby Daytona Beach, it is also the heart of our tourist season so rooms may start to disappear quickly. Just call the telephone number above and reserve as soon as you know you can make it. You can cancel 24 hours prior to the date of your reservation. Any un-reserved rooms in the block of rooms will cancel on Wednesday, February 28, 2018.

Just refer to the MSTA block of rooms when you make your reservation.

Contact: Van, busavan@flmsta.org or ☎561-386-2594

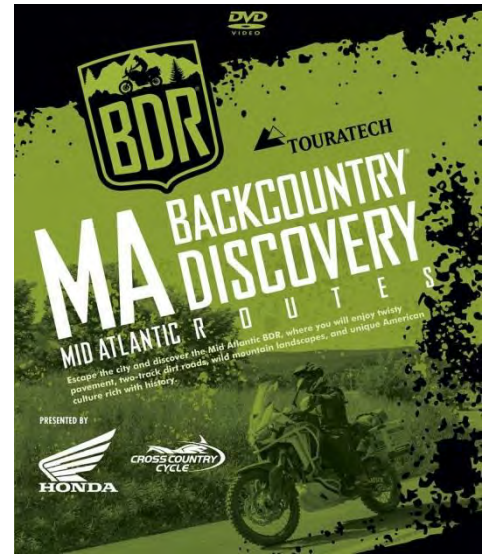
[MABDR Movie Premiere](#)

When: Thursday, **March 29th**

Where: [WMR Competition Performance](#), 8300 SW Lost River Rd, Stuart, FL 34997 ☎772-426-3000 (KTM dealership) ([map](#))

Description: Escape the city and discover the [Mid-Atlantic Backcountry Discovery Route](#), a scenic dual-sport adventure on dirt, gravel and paved roads through remote parts of Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania. Starting in Damascus, VA, and ending in Lawrenceville, Tioga County, PA. This 1,080-mile route primarily uses forest roads and rural country lanes through the Appalachian mountains, majestic forests, bucolic farming landscapes, Amish country, and locations that played pivotal roles in early American history. Watch the movie trailer on YouTube at [this link](#).

Locations: Visit the [MABDR website](#) for the movie's dates and locations in other areas of the country.



[Dillard Dual-Sport Just-For-Fun](#)

When: Fri.-Sun., **April 6th-8th**

Where: [Gateway Inn](#), 64 White Oak Ln, Dillard, GA 30537 ☎706-746-3585 ([map](#))

Description: A weekend of fairly easy Dual-Sport riding. Mostly two-track, lots of gravel, some rocks, some dirt. Weather should be mild/cool 50-75°F. There are a number of suggested routes to choose from and your hosts, Doug Pippin and Norm Kern will help you load your GPS. Soil in this area is sandy/loamy and drains quickly so there isn't much slippery mud. That said, there are areas that do not favor the large over 1000cc bikes.

\$70.00/room with 2 queen-sized beds. When you call to make your reservation, tell them you are with the MSTA group. The hotel is holding 10 rooms until March 25th.

GPS route files will be made available at the hotel. Norm will arrive about 4-5PM on Thursday to meet and greet everyone.

Contact: Norm Kern, nkern@kernvideo.com or ☎937-609-0931, for further information.

Doug Pippin, d_pippin_89@bellsouth.net

Information: The event webpage is available at msta-se.com/Dillard%20DS%202018.pdf.

[Barret-Jackson in West Palm Beach](#)

When: Thurs.-Sun., **April 12th-15th**

Where: South Florida Fair Grounds, 9067 Southern Blvd., West Palm Beach, FL 33411 ([map](#))

Description: Plan to visit the 16th annual auction, held at the S. Fl. Fairgrounds!! Multiple tents will be filled with artful, whimsy and truly collectable cars and more!! And the "ride along" experiences are worth getting there early each day!!

Information: Go to barrett-jackson.com for ALL the info about the show and ticket sales...

Staunton Spring Romp - Dual-Sport & Street Ride

When: Thurs.-Sun., **April 12th-15th**
Where: [Stonewall Jackson Hotel](#), 24 South Market Street, Staunton, Virginia, VA 24401 ☎540-885-4848 ([map](#))
Description: Staunton, VA provides an excellent location for motorcycle riders to gather and launch rides through the beautiful Virginia and West Virginia mountains and valleys. Street and dual-sport riding is available for your ride enjoyment.

The room rate will be \$119.00 per room/per night-parking included (single/double occupancy) plus applicable tax (Currently 12%). This is a \$60.00 room rate discount. If you want to enjoy breakfast at the Stonewall Jackson Hotel-be sure to add breakfast for an additional \$10.00 per night/per guest when you make your room reservation. You will be given breakfast vouchers for each morning when you check in to the hotel.

Contact: Galen Diehl, gediehl4@comcast.net
Information: The event webpage is available at msta-se.com/2018%20Staunton.pdf

North Georgia Classic Just-For-Fun

When: Fri.-Sun., **April 20th-22th**
Where: [Quality Inn](#), 15 Yonah Street, Helen, GA 30545 ☎706-878-2268 ([map](#))
Description: The 2018 North Georgia Classic will again be a Just-For-Fun event in Helen, Georgia. Dates for this year's event are April 20 thru 22, 2018. Event motel will be the Quality Inn in Helen with all rooms recently renovated. A block of rooms is being held at a \$99 rate for this event until April 10, 2018. Call ☎706-878-2268 and mention MSTA for your reservation.

Contact: Andray Hubble, jandrayhubble@mindspring.com or ☎256-572-2719
Information: The event webpage is available at msta-se.com/helen

For additional Florida events and information, [click here](#) to see the Florida MSTA website's Events page.

The Florida MSTA chapter also has a presence on Facebook with upcoming events and past photos: [click here](#).

We welcome articles and comments from our members for publication. Contact the editor at: editor@flmsta.org.

The MSTA National [website](#) has extensive event information:

- 🏍️ To join the MSTA or renew your membership: [click here](#).
- 🏍️ For the sanctioned events: [click here](#).
- 🏍️ For Just-For-Fun events in 2017: [click here](#).

National MSTA ridemsta.com

Florida MSTA www.flmsta.org

More Contact Information			
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ALL GRAPHICS WERE PROVIDED BY THE CREDITED AUTHOR, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

Mystery Hyperlink of the Month

This month's [Mystery Hyperlink](#) is related to the safety article

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