



# The Florida Gator Tale

Newsletter of the Florida Chapter of the Motorcycle Sport Touring Association

Volume 11 Issue 2

## Events in February 2018

*Details on Page 10*

### In This Issue:

- Page 1 – [Feature Article](#)
- Page 3 – [Safety Talk](#)
- Page 4 – [Florida News](#)
- Page 8 – [Member's Ride Report](#)
- Page 9 – [Florida MSTA Apparel](#)
- Page 9 – [Member Promo](#)
- Page 10 – [Florida Rides](#)
- Page 10 – [Future Florida Rides](#)
- Page 11 – [Regional Events](#)
- Page 13 – [Mystery Hyperlink](#)
- Page 14 – [Classified Ads](#)

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## Feature Article

### **2018 Ocala Just-for-Fun Event March 9 thru 11, 2018**

*By Jim Park*

[Ed: Included in this article are several photos from the 2017 event taken by Jim Park and Don Moe.]

If you missed last year's [Ocala](#) Just-for-Fun weekend, you missed some good times and great riding with friends; but all is not lost, as we are planning a repeat event again this year!

Once again the event is set for the first weekend leading into the [Daytona Bike](#)

[Week](#). This allows our Northern friends who are planning on attending Bike Week to hopefully join in our event. Besides, if the weather turns a bit nasty, it's less than an hour's ride to [Daytona](#), where you can take in the vendors and hang out under a few tents.



We have negotiated an excellent rate at the Quality Inn-Ocala at \$89/night (plus tax) and it has several restaurants within a few hundred yards of the hotel. Evening socializing was the norm last year and I expect nothing less this year!



Riding? Well it's still Florida folks, but the roads around Ocala are some of the best in the State; much like Lexington, Kentucky with horse farms, rolling hills, canopy roads and nearby [Ocala National Forest](#). There is plenty of nice riding to do.

So reserve your room today (tell them you want the MSTA rate) and make your plans for a weekend that you are going to enjoy!

Ocala Just-for-Fun      Quality Inn,  
March 9 – 11, 2018      3434 SW College Road,  
Ocala, FL  
☎ 352-854-3200

Many photos from the 2017 event are available on our SmugMug page at [this link](#).

[msta.smugmug.com/Jff/2017-Daytona-Bike-Week-Ocala/i-J4hGhm3](http://msta.smugmug.com/Jff/2017-Daytona-Bike-Week-Ocala/i-J4hGhm3)

[msta.smugmug.com/Jff/2017-Daytona-Bike-Week-Ocala/i-Hd8wD5w](http://msta.smugmug.com/Jff/2017-Daytona-Bike-Week-Ocala/i-Hd8wD5w)

Breakfast at the [Old Sugar Mill Restaurant](#) in [DeLeon Springs State Park](#):

[msta.smugmug.com/Jff/2017-Daytona-Bike-Week-Ocala/i-VTLsS74](http://msta.smugmug.com/Jff/2017-Daytona-Bike-Week-Ocala/i-VTLsS74)

[msta.smugmug.com/Jff/2017-Daytona-Bike-Week-Ocala/i-tCgF5qp](http://msta.smugmug.com/Jff/2017-Daytona-Bike-Week-Ocala/i-tCgF5qp)  
[msta.smugmug.com/Jff/2017-Daytona-Bike-Week-Ocala/i-dSNV5Fq](http://msta.smugmug.com/Jff/2017-Daytona-Bike-Week-Ocala/i-dSNV5Fq)

A stop in the small town of Micanopy to explore and see the sights:

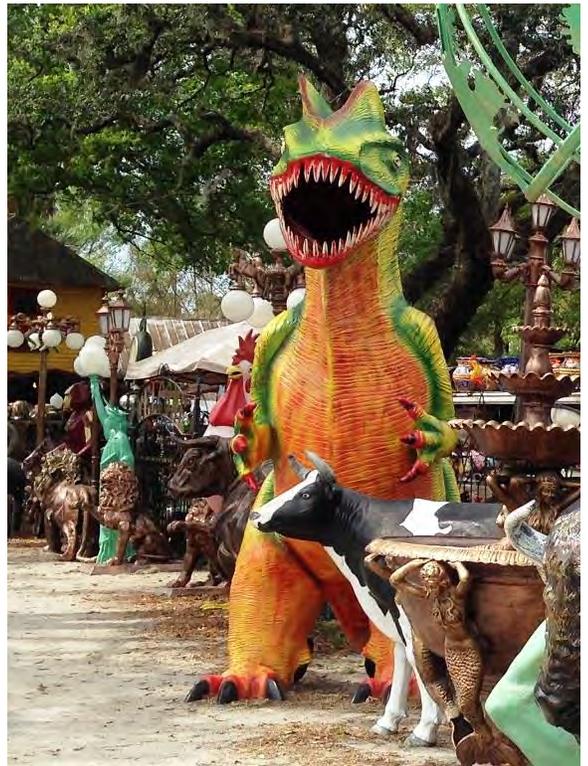
[msta.smugmug.com/Jff/2017-Daytona-Bike-Week-Ocala/i-QgmzTdM](http://msta.smugmug.com/Jff/2017-Daytona-Bike-Week-Ocala/i-QgmzTdM)  
[msta.smugmug.com/Jff/2017-Daytona-Bike-Week-Ocala/i-zTCCzpL](http://msta.smugmug.com/Jff/2017-Daytona-Bike-Week-Ocala/i-zTCCzpL)

And evening of socializing:



We look forward to seeing many of you at this year's event. –JEP–

P.S. Many of us arrive on Thursday, March 8<sup>th</sup> in order to get in two full days of riding on Friday and Saturday.



Visit the Barberville Produce (and Curio Shop) on SR-40 just west of US-17 in [Barberville, FL](#)

## ***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.*

### ***Solo Riding - Best Recommendations***

As I prepare for a Saturday solo ride of about 400 miles, it occurs to me that MSTAs riders are a strange bunch. While most motorcyclists are happy always being in a group, we occasionally (and for some, always) like to get out by ourselves. And I am not talking about a ride around the block, either. It may be across the state, or in my case down to the Everglades and back, just for lunch, or even across the country with nobody to keep us company except the bike.

There are entire books, online forums and seminars where you can find tips and hints on long-distance, solo riding. Long distance riders all have their own tips and techniques. Here are a few of mine:



Photo: [The Lost Adventure](#)

- 🏍️ A thorough bike check. You are going out there, depending on your mount to get you to your destination. Before you go, do a thorough inspection of the bike. I don't mean a once-over. I am talking about putting your hands on every nut, bolt, fastener, cable, line, light, spoke, etc. Don't just check air pressure. Rotate the tires and inspect the tread. Do I even have to mention oil? Well, I did, anyway. Find it before it finds you, otherwise luck could mean you're stuck on a backroad in the middle of nowhere. And do this check at least a week in advance, so you have time to order, repair, replace or fix anything without having to rush at the last minute.
- 🏍️ Make a riding plan. That means route, gas stops, meals, nightly stops if it is over-night, etc. Take a look at the weather fore-cast and plan, plan, plan. Once you make the plan, stick to it. Oh, and tell someone the plan. That way they know where to go look if the worst were to happen.
- 🏍️ Check-in. With today's communications, there is no reason to ever be out of touch. Enable your location finding for your significant other. If you are going to be way out there, then get a SPOT or other type of satellite communications. It's easy, fairly inexpensive and means you can always reach out if you need. Don't let your loved ones worry.
- 🏍️ Don't overextend yourself. Make sure your riding plan is realistic. Take more frequent stops. Long distance riders tend to want to just keep riding. There is a difference between fun long ride and an Iron Butt challenge.
- 🏍️ If you haven't done a lot of long distance days, try this. Instead of thinking about it as one long ride, imagine it as a number of short rides, from one planned stop to the next one. Mentally that makes it a lot easier to absorb and manage.
- 🏍️ Hydrate, hydrate, hydrate. Start before the ride. If you wait until the morning of the trip, you're too late. Your body needs time to absorb and process. Once you're on the road, stay hydrated. Use a hydration system. That way you can take sips during the ride, and not depend on stopping to get a drink.

Finally, go out there and enjoy the solitude. I do some of my best thinking when I'm on a long, solo ride. Maybe an epiphany will strike you as well, while you're alone on the road.

Ride Safe!

Doug Westly – Safety Editor

## Florida News

### South Director's Report

#### I LOVE WHEN A PLAN COMES TOGETHER... GEORGE PEPPARD/A-TEAM

We had a great month of winter riding in Florida!! The two wonderful lunch rides were attended by lots of members, old and new. Read Tom's splendid Central Ride report below. We enjoyed a big turnout at a new-to-us location!



Van VanSteelant

The South Ride covered multiple objectives. Our once-in-awhile foray to the [Everglades City](#) area... check. Pick a cool, dry day to make this trek... check. Bring a large crowd to an enterprise after recovering from [Irma](#)...check. See if these new [Sena 30K](#) units were worth the costs... check!

Though there's no extraordinary route to SW Florida, the location is unique and historic. Native tribes; early settlers; hundreds of square miles of protected habitat for marine fish and fauna; living examples of dos and don'ts in early 20<sup>th</sup> century development concepts; storm stories and survival recoveries... And a quaint little restaurant on one of the canals connecting the town to the [Chokoloskee Bay](#) and 10,000 islands. [Camellia Street Grill](#) is simple, funky and well run. Order as you walk in, keep your order number in plain sight, sit and chat, and voila, your freshly made meal appears!! Check out all the photos! Fifteen of us enjoyed the setting



and a delicious lunch. Lots of gab, with several interruptions by Van with Club stuff 😊. *Many more photos from our lunch events are posted to the Florida section of the MSTA SmugMug site:*

[msta.smugmug.com/MSTA-STATE-EVENTS/FLORIDA](http://msta.smugmug.com/MSTA-STATE-EVENTS/FLORIDA)

It was great to see Ohio MSTA member, Dan Igoe, currently in Naples, FL to avoid winter, who joined us a bit late due to a low battery. Dan has been extremely helpful to our national organization with some legal issues.

Another successful 50/50 raffle netted the Club \$48 after our winner, Don Mroczenski, donated \$20 back from his \$28 winnings!! We stand at \$1,105.00 after adding the \$66 from the Central Ride to the \$48 from the South Ride!! As always, a big THANK YOU to all who participate!!



Part of the large crowd was due to the excellent turn out from the Eastsiders. We had 12 meet up at the 7-11 a little early so several riders could configure their new Sena 30Ks to “mesh” with one another. We all felt that our new investments were worthwhile after nearly 300 miles of real world use. Clarity, simplicity (watch the

training videos first) and the absence of popping popcorn in the background are all welcomed improvements. Buyer beware. Our results may vary over the coming year. But day one was a winner.

Footnote: Van inadvertently tested the battery life by leaving his on from 8AM until it shut itself off around 3PM. I had also used it for 45 minutes with the training videos the night before. So, Sena's stated 8 hour ± user time is valid. Simply turning it off during a lunch stop (I forgot!) would solve nearly any rider's talk time needs. If not, the unit recharges quicker than the 20, so a wall charge or bike-sourced USB feed during a lunch break should get you to dinner.

Let's review... SW Florida destination; overcast but dry, cool day; over \$300 into the restaurant's till; and a pleasant first day with new tech!! Love it when a plan comes together!!

## What's Next??

Be sure to check our RIDES calendar often to insure you never miss one of our events!! [www.flmsta.org](http://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!!

On Saturday, Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>, the Central Lunch Ride heads to [3 Bananas](#), on 11 South Lake Street, in Crescent City. This spot is a longtime favorite. Check it out if you've missed our previous adventures! On Saturday, Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>, the South Lunch Ride heads to the [Sunset Grille](#), on 2650 US-27, in Sebring. This is new-to-us spot, right on the edge of Lake Jackson. The view and menu should make up for the rustic nature of the restaurant. Certainly not a chain operation!

I brought this up during our South Lunch date... It's not too early to make your plans for the fun and games that the Florida Chapter has set up for the MSTA members country wide! Look at March 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> for our **Daytona Just For Fun Event** – in Ocala!! We have everything in place for this weekend, including discounted room rates. And our Daytona Lunch Ride happens on THURSDAY, March 15<sup>th</sup>. New location, but same great times for our locals and out-of-staters!! Look up [www.flmsta.org](http://www.flmsta.org)

## 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!!

### Here's what we know today...

No new Florida riders joined the MSTA in January.

We thank these three Florida members for renewing their memberships in December:

Steve Marcum                      Bill & Nicole Rorke                      Larry Snell

These Florida memberships will expire soon or have recently expired:

Frederick Blackall                      Laura Gonzalez                      Kevin Healey                      James Siler  
Jim Cavanagh                      Chuck Headrick                      David & Leslie Noyes                      Don Williams

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](mailto:membership@ridemsta.com). Renewing or joining can be quickly and securely done online at [PlanetReg.com/MSTArenew](http://PlanetReg.com/MSTArenew) or [PlanetReg.com/MSTAjoin](http://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](http://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!

I kind of covered the promo for the new Sena 30K in the first part of my report... BUT, 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. And who 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...

Ride well! Ride often! Do it safely!!

ATGATT Van

MSTA Florida State Co-Director

## Central Director's Report - January 2018

### BURRRRR!

Dang was it chilly for the January 6<sup>th</sup> Central ride! At least it was dry. Have to say – I've been warmer in much cooler weather. Heard others comment as well that it felt colder than the thermometer indicated. It's a good bet there'll be some revisiting of layering strategies next time.



Tom Blake

We had a super turnout for [The Smokehouse Grill](#) at Westgate River Ranch Resort. Twenty-five signed the attendance sheet plus Rose and her brother and sister-in-law drove over – so twenty-eight in all. Keith and Roberta from Flagler Beach had a battery issue on their Beemer, so they also drove. You have to like that!

This was a new and intriguing destination for the MSTA (to my knowledge). To say the least, it was eyebrow-raising to see the large *Takoda Village* "Luxe Teepees", an airstrip, grazing buffalo and even emus out there in the middle of nowhere. They refer to the teepees as "glamping" (glamorous camping).





I hear they are very expensive and come with served coffee and pastries for breakfast among many other high-end amenities. Rose is dying to see inside.

The old fish camp has been dressed up nicely and renamed since I ate there last. They had ample room for us inside and the warmth felt good. The place was clean and comfortable, service was friendly, and the food was quite tasty. Wood paneling made it a bit noisy. But looking around, everyone was chatting away and having a good time. The comments I heard were favorable. So, we'll be back – but maybe when it's warmer to try out the screened-in deck area, which should be quieter.

The 50/50 raffle raised 91 bucks. This was my first time selling tickets. Thanks to Van and Don for their help. Nicole won the drawing and 45 dollars – of which she graciously gave 20 back. So, \$66 went to Van to add to our coffers. Nicole pocketed lunch and maybe a little gas money for her and Bill.

Doug talked up the new Goldwings. He and Becky have been running Honda's demo rides for years and had detailed information about the greatly revised and updated 2018 GL's. The bikes should hit dealer showrooms late in February or early March. They will be in Daytona to exclusively demo the new Wings throughout Bike Week which is March 10<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>. There is a lot of buzz around this intro.

Looking ahead, [3 Bananas](#) in **Crescent City** is on tap for **February 10<sup>th</sup>**. They're at 11 South Lake Street - right on the shore of scenic Crescent Lake. Lunch starts at **noon**.

Everyone who's been there knows this is a unique and special place. Nice rural 2-laners get you there. They have indoor and outdoor seating, a relaxed and friendly atmosphere and a good selection of tasty sandwiches and wraps at moderate prices. In addition to Central riders, this should be within range for those of you in the north-central and northeastern sections of the state. I hope you'll come join us. Of course, everyone is invited.

If your routing takes you near any of the area racetracks – Daytona, Samsula, Ocala, Volusia – just note that our ride is on the first Saturday of Speed Weeks. Factor in a few extra minutes to deal with traffic in those areas. Then we'll see you at 3 Bananas for another fun Central FL MSTA get together.

### **Central Florida February Lunch Ride**

Saturday, **February 10<sup>th</sup>**, 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

[3 Bananas](#) ([map](#))

11 South Lake Street  
Crescent City, FL 32112

Tom Blake

MSTA Florida State Co-Director

## Member's Ride Report

Bill Rorke submitted this report about a group ride to Oak Hill on January 20<sup>th</sup>. We thank him for the contribution to the newsletter.

I had already received Van's South ride invite to Everglade City, and knew central director Tom Blake would be sending out the email to rally the central troops. I was trying to figure out in advance how Nicole & I would be able to do the ride and be home in time for dinner plans with friends. After going over the logistics, it was obvious it just wasn't going to happen. I was pretty bummed... Weather was looking good and we wanted to ride with our MSTA buddies. Apparently, the others in our central crew weren't able to commit to such a long day either. So Tom threw out an "option B"... A ride up to [Goodrich's Seafood Restaurant](#) in Oak Hill. Ok, I'm interested.

So Nicole and I met Tom at his house that Saturday morning and then mounted the bikes around 9:30 and headed across the bridge to A1A. What started out as a cool morning with temps in the mid-50s and overcast was really starting to change for the better. The sun was breaking through and the temps were already up into the low 60s. Tom led us on route zigging and zagging north on favorites A1A, Tropical Trail, Space Commons Way & A. Max Brewer Memorial Pkwy. The ride was great and traffic was very light.

We arrived at the restaurant around noon, where we met up with Hugh Palmer. Goodrich's is on a narrow little road that runs along Mosquito Lagoon. Really neat place! The food and service were great. Even though it was a little chilly there on the water, we were able to eat outside at a table that was sheltered from the breeze. It was still cool which made us enjoy our coffee, tea and hot cocoa even more.

After our nice big lunch, we jumped back on the bikes and rode a little south to a place called Seminole Rest historic site. Very nice park with two historic houses atop ancient shell mounds, a walking trail with several huge beautiful oak trees on the mound (or hill) – hence the town's name - Oak Hill. All were right on the lagoon. It was a really nice stop and a good way to burn off lunch before getting back on the bikes for the ride home.



Tom and Hugh swapped leading us on a scenic route heading west out of Oak Hill. Tom found a dirt road to a lake where we observed the highwater marks (from Irma) still on the trees, a herd of very curious cows and a rambunctious young bull which crossed a large stream to get very close to us and make sure we were no threat to his ladies. Then to Geneva where Hugh split off. I took the lead and finished off a great ride just shy of 300 miles. Overall a really great day of riding (and eating) with friends... And made it on time for dinner. It's nice to have options!

## **Member Promo**

### **Gripswell Gloves:**

A brief review of GRIPSWELL gloves.

I am not a big fan of gloves. As I find myself aging and arthritis creeping into my life, my fingers hurt a bit trying to wrap themselves around the grips on my ST. I have tried “Grip Gloves” without much success... They are too hard surfaced.

I came across an ad for Gripswell gloves in a magazine around October. When the kids asked what I hoped Santa would bring for Christmas, I requested a pair... It seemed a lot better than a tie...

Santa heard me! I requested the GS-33 Air-Flo in XL. I found that they fit as I had hoped... Plenty of finger length while still snug across the knuckles. They are leather, so they should “break in” to a perfect fit.



Gripswell GS-33 Gloves

Photo: [Gripswell](#)

The padded palm seems perfect. It wraps around the grip and allows easy control of the throttle. I have only ridden using them around 200 miles, but they seem to be exactly as advertised.

<http://moto.gripswell.com/>

Thanks,

Rich Peabody

## **Florida MSTA Apparel**

As a reminder, our Florida State Storefront is open online for your MSTA-branded apparel! Go to [mstaflorida.qbstores.com](http://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 MSTA [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., **February 10<sup>th</sup>**, 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM  
Where: [3 Bananas](#), 11 South Lake Street, Crescent City, FL 32112 ☎386-698-2861 ([map](#))  
Description: Everyone who's been to 3 Bananas knows this is one of the better destinations. Indoor and outdoor seating right at the edge of scenic Crescent Lake. Nice rural 2-laners to get you there. Friendly and relaxed atmosphere, good selection of sandwiches and wraps, with moderate prices.  
Contact: Tom Blake, [tblake1@cfl.rr.com](mailto:tblake1@cfl.rr.com), or ☎321-723-2857

### **MSTA Florida South Lunch Ride**

When: Sun., **February 17<sup>th</sup>**, 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM  
Where: [Sunset Grille](#), 2650 US Hwy 27 S, Sebring, FL 33870 ☎863-471-3900 ([map](#))  
Description: We head to a new-to-us place, right on Lake Jackson! Not much to look at from the outside, but the waterside view and comfort food menu look terrific!  
Contact: Van, [busavan@flmsta.org](mailto: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., **March 3<sup>rd</sup>**, 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM  
Where: [Riverside Café](#), 3341 Bridge Plaza Dr, Vero Beach, FL 32963 ☎772-234-5550 ([map](#))  
Description: Dockside on the Indian River Lagoon under the US 60 causeway bridge with designated motorcycle parking. They feature great views, ample inside and outside seating and a wide variety of foods, from comfy finger foods and classic sandwiches to entrees. This is a new destination for us that should be very enjoyable.  
Contact: Tom Blake, [tblake1@cfl.rr.com](mailto:tblake1@cfl.rr.com), or ☎321-723-2857

### **MSTA Daytona Bike Week Just-For-Fun Lunch**

When: Thursday, **March 15<sup>th</sup>**, 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](http://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, [tblakel@cfl.rr.com](mailto:tblakel@cfl.rr.com) or ☎321-723-2857

### **MSTA Florida South Lunch Ride**

When: Sun., **March 24<sup>th</sup>**, 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](mailto:busavan@flmsta.org), or ☎561-386-2594

## **Regional Events**

### **MSTA Daytona Just-For-Fun Event**

When: Fri.-Sun., **March 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>**

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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup>.

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.

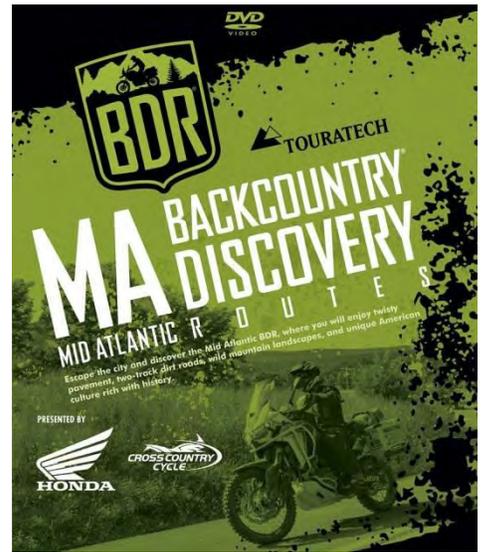
Just refer to the MSTA block of rooms when you make your reservation.

Contact: Van, [busavan@flmsta.org](mailto:busavan@flmsta.org) or ☎561-386-2594



## MABDR Movie Premiere

- When: Thursday, **March 29<sup>th</sup>**
- 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 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>**
- 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 25<sup>th</sup>.
- 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](mailto:nkern@kernvideo.com) or ☎937-609-0931, for further information.  
Doug Pippin, [d\\_pippin\\_89@bellsouth.net](mailto:d_pippin_89@bellsouth.net), will soon update the event webpage at [msta-se.com](#).

## North Georgia Classic Just-For-Fun

- When: Fri.-Sun., **April 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>th</sup>**
- 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.
- Complete information is available on web site at [msta-se.com/helen](#)
- Contact: Andray Hubble, [jandrayhubble@mindspring.com](mailto:jandrayhubble@mindspring.com) or ☎256-572-2719

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](mailto: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](http://ridemsta.com)

Florida MSTA [www.flmsta.org](http://www.flmsta.org)

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**ALL GRAPHICS WERE PROVIDED BY THE CREDITED AUTHOR, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.**



This month's Mystery Hyperlinks are again related to the safety article:

[Mystery Hyperlink #1](#)

[Mystery Hyperlink #2](#)

[Mystery Hyperlink #3](#)

[Mystery Hyperlink #4](#)

## CLASSIFIED ADS

### Jackson Won-Z Rain Suit...from Down Under

Brand: [Jackson Racing](#), Australia

My friend Jim did a bunch of research...he wanted raingear that was easy to don and that WORKED.

As a rule, one-piece suits are more watertight than two-piece. Climbing into a one-piece can be a challenge. He spent hours looking at videos and settled on the Jackson Adventure Suit from Australia. He figured how to fork over just over \$500.00 American and it arrived in the mail.

He was hit while riding last March (not in the rain or wearing the suit) and suffered severe injuries....it's clear that his riding days are over. Besides selling his FZR and Guzzi Norge, he will part with the rain suit.

Jim was 6'2", 230 at the time of the accident and follows is the email that Jackson sent him about sizing. From the manufacturer:

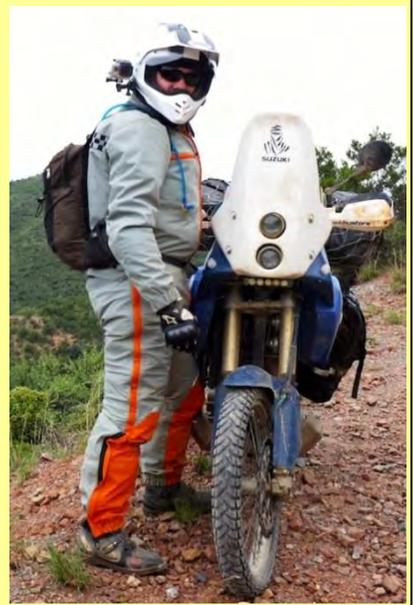
*Probably safest to go 4XL, 2XL might be a little hard to put on.*

*Have one 4XL left in grey/orange. Good timing really cos I'm about to pull the pin on these; brilliant though they are, not enough sold to warrant keeping stock.*

Link to video of the Won-Z in action: [youtube.com/watch?v=CjoKpm4kCi8](https://youtube.com/watch?v=CjoKpm4kCi8)

There is still a full year on the Warranty. Jim is asking **\$400.00 shipped** to you. Email me for his contact info and the information about materials and care of the suit.

**Contact: Rich Peabody - [rpeabody@verizon.net](mailto:rpeabody@verizon.net)**  
or ☎ 201-669-2605



Jackson Won-Z Rain Suit

Photo: [Internet](#)

To find a buyer for your motorcycle items, please send your ad and pictures by email to [editor@flmsta.org](mailto:editor@flmsta.org)