



# The Florida Gator Tale

Newsletter of the Florida Chapter of  
the Motorcycle Sport Touring Association

Volume 9 Issue 8

## Events in August

Details on Page 11

### In This Issue:

- Page 1 – [Feature Article](#)
- Page 7 – [Safety Talk](#)
- Page 8 – [Florida News](#)
- Page 9 – [Member Comment](#)
- Page 11 – [Florida Rides](#)
- Page 11 – [Future Florida Rides](#)
- Page 12 – [Regional Routes](#)
- Page 13 – [Mystery Hyperlink](#)
- Page 13 – [Classified Ads](#)

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## Feature Article

### **New England STAR 2016!!**

By “Van” VanSteelant  
South Florida Director

*[Ed: All photos by the author unless stated otherwise. Some photos link to larger versions.]*

Let’s get this out of the way right now – STAR Rallies are terrific!! If you haven’t attended one, you have missed out on THE best reason for your membership!! Those who have enjoyed one or more know what I’m talking about!! Make no mistake, some events have been better than others, BUT, every STAR Rally is spectacular!!

What follows are the musings of both Bob Shields and myself. We shared a ton of pre-ride planning with Steve Phillips, who had to make the heartbreaking decision to stay home for work at the last minute. Bob and I were grateful throughout our entire trip for his part in finalizing our routes. And I know exactly how he felt when he had to

bail... I missed the last two STARS due to last minute issues!

Bob and I traveled together for 12 days, meeting up in Sanford, FL on the Thursday before STAR. Then, on July 4<sup>th</sup>, we wished each other safe rides home from the very same train station! That’s right; we took the [Amtrak Auto Train](#) to and from Sanford to Lorton, VA. I had Auto-Trained back in ‘94, bringing a relative’s car to Florida from New Jersey. And we both had read about using the train for bike trips. We would do it again!! Despite the fitful night of sleep, the train saved us lots of time and miles. We eliminated a lot of hot, highway riding, and feel it is money well spent. We’ll just make sure to fit a pillow into our gear next time...

Here’s the first of many tips you’ll find as I ramble on... Route planning!! Do it!! And start early, like ridiculously early!! With three of us working Basecamp and Google Maps, we started in earnest almost eight weeks before departure, and we just managed to finalize the routes from Lorton to Stratton Mountain!! We had some preliminary routing done for our rides after STAR, but we had work to do while in Vermont!!

That said, our work rewarded us with terrific routes and ear-to-ear grin roads!! No highways, curvy roads, trees, small towns, great lunch places, hills and dales, trees, green mountains, river roads, mountain passes, very little traffic... We rode from Lorton to Williamsport, PA on our first day. A nice ride after the train ride. While planning our trip, we decided to add a day to our ride up to Stratton in order to include more curvy roads in PA.

Just outside of Williamsport (home of the [Little League](#) Championships and Hall of Fame), we rode some serpentine pavement reminiscent of north GA and NC! NICE!! We rolled into Binghamton, NY, just shy of the [Catskill Mountains](#), and settled in with some celebratory beers! The next day, we made it to Stratton after nine hours of only two-lane roads and maybe six stoplights!! The Catskills, western CT and MA were sweet. And the final 80 miles threading our way through the forests and hills south of the resort were awesome!! All that time squinting at the computer maps paid off...

What you can't pre-plan for is the road construction that must be crammed into the few decent months available to build and/or repair neglected maintenance. Down here in Florida, we forget that you can't work on roads year-round everywhere else!! And then, there are the roads that the crews haven't gotten to yet... The northeast is not immune to poor budgeting and awful winters. We found nearly half of the roads needed work, and some were downright dangerous. You needed to concentrate on picking the least destructive line through the corners rather than THE corner line and the scenery! Ah, but when the road was smooth, we were smiling!! Mostly sweepers compared to what we ride in GA, NC, SC, and TN. The upside is you could see through the corners and anticipate the exit more often.

Our location for STAR was well chosen for the area roads and the fun routes to the various destinations! Bob especially enjoyed the location due to his personal ties to the area. He has near and distant family throughout VT and NH. Both of us shared our feelings about the event hotel and staff in the follow up survey that Henry sends out after STARs. Generally speaking, it was OK, and priced fairly. We would have liked an outdoor meeting place like a pool or large fire pit where the members would have enjoyed the 70 degree evenings!! It seems that we encountered an anomaly with the weather this year. Just before our event, and shortly after our departure, the temps were 10-15 degrees higher!! While we were there, the mornings started at 60, and we never saw more than 82!! Though we had to ride VT-100 a lot, it is a great road!! Being in the mountains often limits the options for road builders! Now, if we could get the local drivers to understand that driving 10-15 mph UNDER the posted limit is not a user-friendly behavior...

As for those destinations, we enjoyed all that we rode to!! The Lunch Ride to [Killington Ski Resort](#) was sweet and curvy! The view from the balcony was terrific!! And the alternative return route that we found was very grin-worthy!! Most often, Bob and I joined up with Don Moe for our forays.

Don had the advantage arriving days earlier than we did. And, on previous summer trips, he has ridden through the area as well. So, we often found ourselves chasing his GS through hill and dale!! You'll have to ask him about the dual-sport ride he enjoyed the day before STAR officially started! In fact, there are several riders who enjoyed the dual sport adventures that [MotoVermont](#) offered each day, led by Eric Milano. Lots of dirty bikes and big smiles in the parking lot every afternoon!!



Nice view for lunch!

The other BIG vendor on hand was the official Honda Demo Truck and Demo Team, led by our own Doug and Becky!! The stars and planets aligned this year for us to enjoy the Team, despite the small size of our rally.



The Honda demo bikes are lined up for the next group of riders.

Photo: Don Moe

And we collectively made Honda's commitment very worthwhile!! They expected 150-175 demo rides, and ended the week with nearly 400!! LOTS of members took advantage of hassle-free signups and a wide variety of bikes. I enjoyed the 1000RR very much, but I have to say my 'Busa is a better road bike. That RR would leave me at the track though...

You realize another advantage of our rally size when you attend one of the evening seminars. Instead of 1,000's looking for a seat (think [Americade!](#)), you can find a seat at any of our seminars!! Honda marketing took advantage of our collective genius and got an hour's worth of product development tips!! Be looking for a new Gold Wing very soon!! And who needs outside "experts" to educate us when we have Doug Westly and Fred Rau amongst our membership!! Doug's safety seminar was concise and interactive. A rare combination as one needs to direct the outside input and keep on topic. Fred's PowerPoint, though silent due to some incompatibility with the presentation equipment (really, in 2016, a hotel doesn't have a full array of cables and accessories for its guests?), made everyone in the room want to relocate to New Zealand for a week, a month, eternity...

The Florida membership was well represented, with 19 of us on hand! And we kicked butt when it came time to winning awards and stuff!! Here's what I remember: Don Moe won Best State Newsletter Editor, for the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> time ; my very significant other, Kim, and I won for Best State Website of the Year, for the second year in a row!! A BIG thank you to everybody who helps out with our website. Many people contribute throughout the year to make us look good!! Ellen Kocher won a gift certificate for [Clearwater Lights](#) ' Krista LED lights! Eve Blazsur was honored with the [Jean Monacelli Award](#) for all she does for the club and her fellow riders!! And Bob Shields won the [Honda Grom](#) at the end of the Banquet!! Best of all, we were all there to share the fun and congratulations!! AND, the BMW bike winner was in the room too!! He was moved to tears, as he had never won a thing in his life!! What a treat to have the winners right there to share the cheers!!

Then there's Dianne Park... She was VERY instrumental in lining up our Keynote speaker, [Alonzo Bodden](#)!! Over three years of schedule checking resulted in Alonzo being with us on that Wednesday night! If STAR had been held the original week, we would have had to wait another year... Bob and I both had Alonzo on our list of reasons to attend this year, and he was well worth the wait!! A true motor head with a terrific sense of humor and comedic timing. He had us going from start to finish. A great guy and he really understands our kind. We may even get him to join us in Colorado!! [Ed: [Alonzo](#) will perform in Tampa on September 29<sup>th</sup>. Check the link.]

On Thursday, Bob and I went our separate ways for the day!! He took the day to visit several old family haunting grounds around VT and NH, ending up at a terrific lodge, complete with pub and excellent restaurant. I took off early and made my way to a friend's cottage on a "pond" in Maine. Think small lake! And he's only 12 minutes from the coast. Check out the pictures...



Brilliant coastal shot of distant islands and local lighthouse!



View of Keith's two-mile long "pond" from his dock!



One of three working lighthouses that you can see from this location!! The [Pemaquid Point Lighthouse](#). First built in 1826. Rebuilt in 1835 and again in 1857! The smaller buildings house a terrific museum!

His family goes way back in the area, and I enjoyed the grand tour of "here, my granddad did this...; my uncle use to own the entire point of land over there...; my dad built this pulley tower next to the lighthouse...". We had a terrific time together, ending with a dinner feast that words can't describe!!



This is what they call dinner in Maine! This was for 10 of us. Imagine what it looks like when they feed 200! Absolutely delicious!!

The next day, Bob hit a few more family sites, and I hauled it to meet him in Danbury, CT later in the afternoon. Both plans worked out perfectly, as we arrived within 10 minutes of each other. OK, Bob did stop for lunch across the street from the hotel, as the room wasn't ready yet... Here's another tip from your "uncle Van"... When thinking about whether to take the interstate versus a two or four-lane surface road, be sure to consider where you're riding. I truly enjoyed 300 of the 350 miles of interstate that day. Why? Cause they were gorgeous!! Very much unlike I-95 down here, I rode through tree covered hills, without billboards!! Drivers were running 5-15 over the posted limit, so I only passed a few other cars... Unless you are riding right through a city, you do not see anything resembling civilization, like industrial buildings, or oil refineries, or blighted residential neighborhoods... This was true not only this day, but also Thursday, riding from Stratton through NH to Maine, and again on Saturday, as we left CT and made our way to Fredrick, MD. The interstates continued to make us grin and shake our heads in amazement. Forests, vistas, decent road surfaces (that's where the \$\$\$ went!!) was the norm for most of day. The rest of the day found us on the best roads of our entire trip!! The next Eastern STAR should be in the Pocono's area!! During our route planning, we had researched several routes for our last good day of riding. Turns out, we hit the jack pot!! We followed rivers, and rode what must have started out as cow paths turned roller coaster pavement!! Overall, we both enjoyed all the routes we made during the whole trip!!

Our last day on the road was short and sweet. It only took us 90 minutes to get down to the train. We wisely looked at the weather reports before leaving for Lorton. By leaving a little earlier, we missed the rain moving toward Fredrick and the rain had left the Lorton area by the time we arrived! All in all, we rode for 12 days, covering just over 2500 miles, and we were spritzed only once!! Amazing!!

I'll conclude with several non-sequiturs that just didn't fit in the report...

We witnessed and were forced to endure the most stupendously unsafe riding behavior by three Ohio riders, and I believe a VW Golf driver from Ohio. The three of us were riding in our usual two-second stagger on a two lane road, clearly marked with double-yellow lines. We were following three local drivers, moving at the posted limit. Pleasant pace, perfect weather. I was leading, and we had been following safely behind the locals, looking for a safe passing zone. There had been ones before, and more to come. Suddenly, one of my partners yells over the Sena that one, then, two morons were passing on the double yellow, on curves, AND then cutting into our group, totally eliminating any safety zone that the staggered position provides. Then the third dolt makes his move. Then... the first rider pulls out to pass me, again on a curve, double-yellow, and the three cars in front of me... They force themselves in between the vehicles in front of me, causing them to brake hard to avoid hitting the bike. Suffice it to say, all three idiots continued this behavior, followed right behind by the VW driver. NONE of their passing maneuvers were done safely. So, not only were we endangered, so were the other local road users. All three of their vehicles sported VT license plates. Besides the safety issues, imagine the "wonderful" impression those A-holes made on the local drivers. As this idiocy happened just 10-15 miles from the Lodge, it's safe to say that the locals knew they were part of our rally. This is the second time at a STAR that we've witnessed this riding stupidity. Might be time for everybody to re-read the MSTA mission

statement and safety credo. (Epilog: within five miles of passing us on a curve, we hit two passing zones that allowed us to not only politely pass the locals, we also easily caught up with the other riders...)

We should have stopped at every ice cream shop in PA... There was a sweet spot in EVERY town we rode through!! Might have added 2-3 days to our trip, and 50 lbs. to the waistline!!

The STAR gear was exceptional this year! The t-shirt and the hat were big hits!!

We were very pleased with the travel hotels along our routes. Only one was disappointing, but still tolerable. It is getting harder to find a sub \$100 decent travel hotel. I'll bet you that MSTA members could come up with a list since we stay at so many travel hotels. A good idea for the forum??!!

What I missed from previous STARS:

- 🚲 NoMar's tire service couldn't come!!
- 🚲 An onsite bike service, or even a dedicated offsite service option. There were no prior arrangements made with any local option. Or, were there no local options? Like the bike wash area, it would be good to have a repair or maintenance area with some minimal supplies and knowledge. I think "they" missed a Top 10 objective for any site selection.
- 🚲 A masseuse in the lobby for those after-ride 15-minute rubdowns.
- 🚲 150 more participants. Nothing wrong with 260 rallyers, but we have over 1,300 members and we pride ourselves on touring/riding. How can you not make it to a STAR?? I personally know that "stuff" happens, keeping you away... But, to never have attended a STAR is almost criminal!!

We are getting to be an old crowd. It may be just part of the niche that is sport touring. I do worry about the club aging out of members.

2017 Colorado Springs – NEW place in familiar territory. The promo video looked great and the [Hotel Eleganté](#) is owned by the Crown hotel group. We should be in for a great time!! I'll be there!!

ATGATT Van

P.S. The promotional video for STAR 2017, prepared by Norm Kern, can be accessed at the following link. Be aware that the 2½-minute video file is over 80MB and may take several minutes to download to your computer for viewing. Note that the sound starts after 42 seconds.

[www.planetreg.com/books/star\\_17\\_promo\\_720p30.mp4](http://www.planetreg.com/books/star_17_promo_720p30.mp4)



To begin generating some enthusiasm for STAR 2017 and the activities available in the Colorado Springs area, visit the [Visitor Bureau's Official Visitor's Guide](#) online or download the PDF file (50MB) from this link: [www.planetreg.com/star/coloradosprings.pdf](http://www.planetreg.com/star/coloradosprings.pdf)

## ***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.*

### ***Buddy Riding - Not a Group Ride!***

Riding with a buddy is not a group ride. Different riding techniques apply. Maybe you've ridden with your buddy for thousands of miles. Maybe you have a new friend with a bike who wants to go for a ride.

Regardless, here are some common sense rules for Riding with a Buddy:

- 🏍️ The staggered formation, one-second rule applies. Generally the Lead Rider rides to the left.
- 🏍️ The Lead Rider tends to be the more experienced, or at least the one with more familiarity with the local area or roads/route. This may mean he or she is comfortable with the route and/or ride. In these cases, the Lead Rider has to take this into account, and not lead the 2<sup>nd</sup> rider into situations or riding activities that may exceed their abilities or comfort zone.
- 🏍️ The Lead Rider has to remember he/she is part of a two-bike formation. That means more time to stop, start, and change lanes. That also means just because you can beat the yellow light, it doesn't mean your Follow Rider can do the same without danger.
- 🏍️ As the Lead Rider, at stop signs and lights don't forget to make room for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Rider to come alongside you. If you are a good Leader, you'll be able to anticipate where to stop so that both are comfortable and have room to maneuver.
- 🏍️ When the light goes green, don't play MotoGP race start time. It just frustrates the rider behind you, who now has to play catch up.



Photo: [Motorcycle.com](http://Motorcycle.com)

OK, Follow Rider...your turn:

- 🏍️ Remember to ride where the Lead Rider expects you. This is usually about one second behind, in the opposite wheel track. If you're a good Follow Rider, you'll ride so that the Lead Rider can always see you in their mirror. That way they don't have to wonder where you are, or turn around to find you.
- 🏍️ Riding in this position also means you've given the Lead Rider maneuvering room in case an avoidance action is needed.
- 🏍️ At stops, remember to pull up two abreast, but leave room for your fellow rider.
- 🏍️ Don't fixate! Particularly in corners, traffic, etc., don't just blindly follow the rear end of the bike in front of you. If your Lead Rider makes a mistake, you may follow them right off the edge of the road.
- 🏍️ A good rule of thumb to prevent target fixation, particularly in corners, is to fall back a little, so that you can see the road and the riding line between you and the bike in front. Make this part of your regular riding routine with your Lead Rider, so they know what is going on as well.
- 🏍️ Watch the traffic, so you can anticipate the Lead Rider's actions.

There is a lot more to being good buddy riders. These are just some of the basic guide-lines. Talk to your buddy. Develop your own buddy riding style. Just remember to be safe and work together! It makes riding more fun for both!

**Ride Safe in 2016!**

**[Doug Westly](#) – Safety Editor**

## Florida News

### South Director's Report

I'M SURE GLAD WE LIVE IN FLORIDA THIS TIME OF YEAR... NO, REALLY... WHAT'S A HEAT DOME?? WHAT ARE TRIPLE DIGIT TEMPERATURES... IN THE MIDDLE OF THE COUNTRY... WITHOUT A GULF OR OCEAN NEARBY?!? YIKES!!



Van VanSteelant

Don't get me wrong, hot and sticky is hot and sticky!! That's why we have A/C!! Some even take one along on their rides...And ride we did this month!! We had two Brunch rides, and of course, STAR 2016!! I heard good things about the Central Brunch, and I'm sure Teresa has more to say in her report.

The South Brunch ride was to a new destination in a favorite area. We found our way to [Two Peas Café](#), in LaBelle!! In the tradition of the beloved Flora and Ella's, the granddaughter of Ella and her lifelong friend opened their own restaurant to carry on the good old home style cooking we know and love!! We had a feast and a great time!! Vicky was very accommodating and set us up with room for 12, and 11 of us sat down!! And our timing couldn't have been better. After three years of successful growth, the owners took off on a well-deserved vacation two days after our visit!!



In addition to the "regulars", we had two first timers with us on this ride – Randy Berry and Bobby Craig!! Despite the temps and a "cooling shower" on the way home, we all averaged nearly 250 miles round trip!! Well done, everyone! As you can see from the interior shots, it was a little tight for space, and I didn't want to disturb the locals. So, we'll run our 50/50 at the next brunch ride! We still stand at \$689.50.

### What's Next??

The Brunch rides continue, with Teresa and the Central gang heading to the [Village Inn](#) in Titusville on August 13<sup>th</sup>! Two weeks later, you'll find the Southies riding to a new destination in Sebring. Check out the menu at [The Palm Dinner](#) on August 27<sup>th</sup>. You'll have a hard time deciding, I promise!! Remember: details, future events and lots of other info are waiting for you on our TWO-TIME AWARD WINNING website!!

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

### Membership News

A mixed report here... A lot of work has been done by our magnificent Membership Director, Michael Tissandier!! He has spent weeks, really, of time, wrestling with our existing membership rolls and procedures. Fortunately, help and new systems are coming that should make a huge difference in his work load and how we can keep up with the members.

I'm working on connecting to the updates so I can pass along the current status reports. I will have something for you by the next report. If I'm successful sooner, I'll send out an email to you all with the news.

Meanwhile, be sure to forward any new email addresses or other changes to Michael Tissandier [membership@ridemsta.com](mailto:membership@ridemsta.com). He then forwards the info to the various State Directors, VP's, and EC, as well as our newsletter editor. **AND GIVE HIM A VIRTUAL HUG FOR ALL HIS HARD WORK!!**

## **Random Ramblings!**

You should have been at STAR!! What a terrific part of the country!! We had a fantastic time out on the road!!

I'm looking forward to a great summer of riding, regardless of the heat or rain. Remember, most of our National members have only 4-7 months of decent riding weather. Can you imagine only LOOKING at your bike for 5-8 months a year?!?! Yuk!!

Ride well! Ride often! Do it safely!!

ATGATT Van  
MSTA Florida State Co-Director

## **Central Director's Report**

Upcoming Central Brunch Rides

### **Central Florida August Brunch Ride:**

Saturday, **August 13<sup>th</sup>**, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM,  
[Village Inn](#),  
2925 S. Washington Ave.,  
Titusville, FL 32780  
☎ 321-267-6611 ([map](#))

### **Central Florida September Brunch Ride:**

Saturday, **September 10<sup>th</sup>**, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM,  
[Waller's Restaurant](#)  
138 Bushnell Plaza  
Bushnell, FL 33513  
☎ 352-793-2592 ([map](#))

Full breakfast menu made with fresh (sometimes organic) ingredients. Grab a treat from the bakery to take home. Plenty of parking on both side streets.

Teresa Vipond, DeLand  
MSTA Florida State Co-Director

## **Member Comment**

### **STAR '16 and the Bumpy Ride in Vermont**

By Ellen Kocher

What can I say except that my first STAR was fantastic. I made a number of new friends that hopefully I'll see again at a future STAR location. Stratton Mountain and the Big Bear Lodge was a fine venue.

At registration we were provided with several STAR ride routes for our enjoyment in the Vermont area. On Monday, June 27, Eve and I took a short ride on what I believe was the Route 2 loop. Eve loaded the coordinates into her GPS and I followed her on my bike. The route initially took us west to the Manchester area and then north on US 7. Road paving slowed us down a bit on US 7 but once in Wallingford, we were routed east on Route 140.

My comments are about Vermont route 140, which I'll call the bumpy road. It wasn't long before a road sign appeared indicating a BUMP ahead. Yes, indeed, a bump. Then another bump. Then another bump and so forth. I'm not exaggerating when I say the road department could easily have placed a BUMP sign every 100 yards or so along the entire VT 140 route. Riding on that road gave one the distinct feeling that it must have been considered a less traveled route and didn't deserve better pavement!

It's funny how unusual things pop into one's mind while riding. I could imagine a cartoon depicting our ride. One image would show the rider from behind as he/she is propelled off the seat with each bump, but still gripping onto the handlebars. Yes, maybe if we were GS riders, Eve and I would have already been upright and standing on the pegs but our bikes weren't designed for GS-style riding!

Then another thought crept in and this one really dates me: the Burma Shave roadside signs. Okay, I know some of you MSTAs riders must remember those. I was a youngster back in the 50's and early 60's when I recall seeing these small signs. [Wikipedia](#) mentions the Burma Shave advertisements as being "posted along the edge of highways, spaced for sequential reading by passing motorists." Here are a couple examples:

PASSING CARS – WHEN YOU CAN'T SEE – MAY GET YOU – A GLIMPSE – OF ETERNITY – BURMA-SHAVE.

HENRY THE EIGHTH – SURE HAD – TROUBLE – SHORT TERM WIVES – LONG TERM STUBBLE – BURMA-SHAVE.

I suggest a current version of strategically placed signs designed with VT 140 in mind:

BUMP – MORE BUMPS – AHH SMOOTH PAVEMENT – FOOLED YA, HAD ENOUGH? – NAW, NOT AT ALL – BUMP

Or even the following:

BUMP – BUMP, BUMP – WEAK BLADDER? – NEED DEPENDS? – TOO LATE NOW – BUMP

On that note, maybe I should end my silly story. The remainder of our ride was fairly uneventful as Eve and I traveled on other Vermont roads. But wait, there was an unpaved section that routed us off VT 100 but it quickly connected us to VT 30 and shortly thereafter we were heading up Stratton Mountain Road and riding into the parking lot at Big Bear Lodge.

What can I say except that riding motorcycles is an adventure!

## **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 Brunch Ride**

When: Sat., **August 13<sup>th</sup>**, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Where: [Village Inn](#) – 2925 S. Washington Ave., Titusville, FL 32780 ☎ 321-267-6611 ([map](#))

Description: Family-friendly chain serving home-style American classics such as chicken-fried steak & pot pie. Join Teresa for some fun and grub at the Village Inn!!

Contact: Teresa Vipond [termayn@gmail.com](mailto:termayn@gmail.com) or ☎ 713-504-5763

### **MSTA Florida South Brunch Ride**

When: Sat., **August 27<sup>th</sup>**, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Where: [The Palm Diner](#) – 2710 Kenilworth Blvd, Sebring, FL 33870 ☎ 863-385-7323 ([map](#))

Description: A NEW place for us... We have hit the same place in Sebring for years... Time to check this diner out!! The enticing menu will have you playing “innie-minny-miny-moe” to place your order!!

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

## **Future Florida Events**

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 Brunch Ride**

When: Sat., **September 10<sup>th</sup>**, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Where: [Waller's Restaurant](#) – 138 Bushnell Plaza, Bushnell, FL 33513 ☎ 352-793-2592 ([map](#))

Description: Full breakfast menu made with fresh (sometimes organic) ingredients. Grab a treat from the bakery to take home. Plenty of parking on both side streets.

Contact: Teresa Vipond [termayn@gmail.com](mailto:termayn@gmail.com) or ☎ 713-504-5763

### **MSTA Florida South Brunch Ride**

When: Sat., **September 17<sup>th</sup>**, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Where: [Beef 'O' Brady's](#) – 892 W Sugarland Hwy, Clewiston, FL 33440 ☎ 863-983-5002 ([map](#))

Description: Last year, we discovered how well they do breakfast here, so back we go!! Join us for some fine grub and gab!! Then, top off your brunch with a ride around the Big Lake!!

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

## **Regional Routes**

Doug Pippin, who selects and verifies the roads and dual-sport trails to include each year in routes for various MSTA events in our southeastern region, has set up a specific webpage to make the routes available to MSTA members, as follows:

The GPS routes will still only be available to participants at the specific events.

MSTA members can view all the SE Region motorcycle routes in Google map format on the following web site:

[All SE Region routes in Google map format](#)

That web site has all the current SE Region event routes and they can be viewed in Google map format. If any member would like the GPS file(s) for any of these routes they should contact me directly.

You can also access the Google map routes by clicking the link on the [SE Region web page](#)

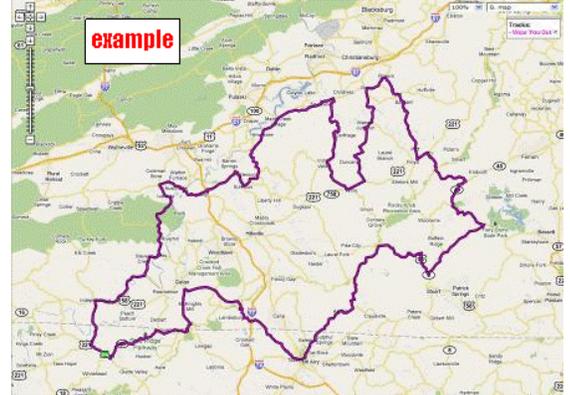
Feel free to use this information in your newsletter.

Doug Pippin

☎ Home: 828-684-8488

☎ Mobile: 828-490-8529

[d\\_pippin\\_89@bellsouth.net](mailto:d_pippin_89@bellsouth.net)



We thank Doug for his efforts in creating and maintaining the various routes and for sharing them with us.

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](#).

The MSTA National website has extensive event information:

🏍 For the sanctioned events: [click here](#).

🏍 For Just-For-Fun events in 2016: [click here](#).

*National MSTA* [ridemsta.com](http://ridemsta.com)

*Florida MSTA* [www.flmsta.org](http://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 we offer three Mystery Hyperlinks related to the safety article:

🏍️ [Link #1](#)

🏍️ [Link #2](#)

🏍️ [Link #3](#)

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