



The Florida Gator Tale

Newsletter of the Florida Chapter of the Motorcycle Sport Touring Association

Volume 11 Issue 7

Events in July 2018

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Feature Article

Riding the Blue Ridge Parkway

By Ellen Kocher

[Ed: Ellen's article was originally published in the October 2014 issue of this newsletter. It is reprinted to share some of her experiences along the Blue Ridge Parkway and to encourage our members to visit this scenic area of the Appalachian Mountains.]

Yes, most of us have ridden the [Blue Ridge Parkway](#), at least a portion of it, in our travels. However, ten years ago it was decided that we'd ride the entire length of the Blue Ridge Parkway starting at the southern terminus near Cherokee, NC, to the northern terminus near Waynesboro, VA. From there, we continued onto [Skyline Drive](#) in [Shenandoah National Park](#) to Front Royal, VA. The Blue Ridge Parkway travels 469 miles and Skyline Drive is said to cover 105 miles. None of these miles are meant to be hurried. With overlooks beckoning to your left and to your right, it's easy to spend awhile looking to capture those perfect pictures as you stop to admire the views.

A little history of the Blue Ridge Parkway: It was conceived in 1933, recommended by Virginia senator [Harry F. Byrd](#) to President [Franklin D. Roosevelt](#) as a second scenic drive to connect to Skyline Drive. Shenandoah National Park and the [Great Smoky Mountains National Park](#) would be linked by these roads. A joint study by the National Park Service and the Bureau of Public Roads offered routes to be considered and in 1936 the act that made the parkway a reality was signed into law. It would be another 50+ years for the last small section to be finished. The portion that included the viaduct at [Linn Cove](#) was opened to the public in 1987, thereby completing a continuous road from Virginia at [Rockfish Gap](#), Milepost 0, to [Oconaluftee](#), Milepost 469, near Cherokee, NC.



Ellen at the highest point along the Blue Ridge Parkway

Our pre-planning back in 2004 began with making advance

reservations to spend a night at each of the lodges located on the Blue Ridge Parkway and on Skyline Drive. We stayed at [Pisgah Inn](#), Bluffs Lodge, and [Peaks of Otter](#) on the Parkway. In Shenandoah National Park along Skyline Drive we stayed at [Big Meadows](#) and [Skyland](#).

However, the enjoyable part of this motorcycle adventure actually started in Townsend, TN. We discovered [Little River Road](#), a/k/a scenic TN route 73, a number of years ago and try to ride it whenever we are in the area. Our BMW's meandered on this winding road, following alongside the Little River for a while, until we ended up at US 441 by [Sugarlands](#) Visitor Center. From here, the ride south on [Newfound Gap](#) Road gets you accustomed to the curves ahead that will be experienced on the Blue Ridge Parkway.

The weather started out initially with early morning fog, not unusual, and by the time we stopped at the [Waterrock Knob](#) overlook, we could see rain in the distance. The rain caught us before we stopped at the highest point on the Blue Ridge Parkway, [Richland Balsam](#) overlook, where we took the obligatory picture of the sign showing an altitude over 6,000 feet. For most of this trip, rain was part of each day and the rainsuits came on, then off, and this procedure was often repeated!

The southern part of the Parkway in North Carolina was our favorite because there were more curves. I'm not saying that riding the ridge on the Virginia portion was not enjoyable. It was simply different. The two dozen or so tunnels were in North Carolina, whereas there were more open meadows as we traveled further north and into Virginia. There are so many places to explore on the Parkway that it lends itself to multiple visits. This particular trip was made in May of 2004. However, summer and fall are popular times for traveling both the Blue Ridge Parkway and Skyline Drive, since some areas are only open from May to November.

Pisgah Inn, Milepost 408.6, was our first lodging and fortunately not far from Townsend where we began our day's ride. Rain persisted and we welcomed an early stop at Pisgah. It was quite cool because of the high altitude and the dampness chilled us to the bone! Pisgah Inn is by far our favorite place to stay on the Parkway. From the porch of the second floor rooms, it's enjoyable to sit in the rockers and enjoy the view of [Pisgah National Forest](#), even if it's cloudy and rainy! The restaurant at Pisgah is excellent also and it's open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. That evening I finished off my dinner with their chocolate silk pie. Yum! Save room for the desserts.



View from Pisgah Inn

(All photos by Ellen Kocher)

Among the attractions that fit into our schedule the following day was a ride off the Parkway into Asheville to tour the [Biltmore Estate](#), America's largest home built from 1889 to 1895. It takes several hours to tour the house and surrounding gardens. Once we returned to the Parkway, we couldn't resist a stop at the [Folk Art Center](#) just east of Asheville to shop at their craft center. Okay, I'll take one of these, one of those. Wait, there's only so much room in the saddle bags!

We rode again and took the turnoff to [Mount Mitchell](#), highest point east of the Mississippi. By now we were riding "in the clouds." We only stopped briefly at the restaurant for a light lunch and decided against continuing to the summit since visibility was practically nil. We retraced our route back to the Parkway.

The weather was threatening rain so we opted to forego a stop at Linn Cove Information Center. It is here that the missing link, a 7.5 mile section of the Parkway remained unfinished for 20 years due to easement issues and environmental concerns. The elevated roadway



Biltmore Estate

skirts the perimeter of the mountain at Linn Cove. The view from below the viaduct is testament to the complexity of its construction. On prior trips we've stopped here and walked a portion of the nearby trail.

However, [Moses Cone Manor House](#) and Craft Center is a must stop. When the weather is clear it's a welcome stop if only to pause for a while on the porch overlooking the mountains and lakes in view. We decided that it's still picturesque even when fogged in!



Moses Cone Manor House

After staying the night at Bluffs Lodge in Doughton Park, NC, we continued north and soon we entered into Virginia, which meant that [Mabry Mill](#) was nearby. This landmark is known as the most photographed area on the Parkway. If the mill is in operation when you visit, you might be able to observe a demonstration in the blacksmith shop. Spend a little time here and if it's lunchtime, the restaurant offers up some tasty selections. Even if you're not hungry, you owe it to yourself to try their cobbler a la mode!



Mabry Mill

As you continue north there are some good views of Roanoke from the various overlooks. I understand it's quite scenic at night with the lights visible in the Roanoke Valley. However, my preference would not to be riding the motorcycles on the Parkway too late in the evening. On this trip, as on other rides, we saw our share of deer, turkeys, and other critters. This was usually in the early morning or early evening in the meadows. I'll leave night driving on the Parkway to those folks in cages.

Back in 2004 we stopped at the [VA Explore Park](#) located at Milepost 115. There are recreated historic structures and a history museum there. However, when riding this section of the Parkway in July of 2011 on the way to the BMW rally in Bloomsburg, we stopped here and were surprised to find it closed. A current search on the internet indicates that it was reopening this summer (2014) with added bicycle trails and recreational activities.

Peaks of Otter Lodge was our resting place for the evening. Our room was located in the third section (farthest from the restaurant) of the lodge. I guess we needed the walking exercise for dinner! There's a one mile loop trail around the lake that's behind the lodge but we didn't manage to fit that into our activities.

The next morning we found our way to the [James River](#) Visitor Center. There is a footbridge constructed beneath the Parkway where it crosses the James River. We enjoyed the views from this vantage point. We continued walking across the footbridge and followed the trail leading to a lock (built between 1845 and 1851) remaining from the [James River and Kanawha Canal](#).



Walkway at James River

Our last stop on the Blue Ridge Parkway was at Milepost 5.8, [Humpback Rocks](#) Visitor Center where I took a few pictures of the re-created farmstead located there. It didn't take long to reach

Milepost 0 at I-64 and US 250. We had completed the 469 miles of the BRP and were now ready to ride Skyline Drive!

Paid our admission to ride the 105 miles of Skyline Drive. My notes say we stopped at Loft Mountain wayside for an overpriced late lunch. I also noted that deer in that area wandered very near to us. They didn't seem wary of people.

We stayed at [Big Meadows](#) that evening. This is near the [Harry F. Byrd, Sr. Visitor Center](#). According to my diary, I had a good chicken dinner and we split the blackberry cobbler and blackberry ice cream for dessert. After dinner we wandered into one of the lodge rooms with a large fireplace and rocking chairs set up facing the mountain view. That gave us a chance to sit and relax a bit before heading back to our room.



Harry F. Byrd, Sr. Visitor Center

Around 10 pm that night a rainstorm blew in. It sounded like a hurricane with the wind howling and gusting outside. I guess since we were on the edge of the mountain and also very high on the mountain top that we experienced the full force of the blowing rain. The next morning we spotted some deer and also a bear from the balcony of our room. Glad we're not camping as I wouldn't be happy if a bear showed up outside my tent or if the tent blew over in the storm!

Today we concluded the part of this trip that covered both the Blue Ridge Parkway and Skyline Drive. It wasn't far to Front Royal, VA, so we took our time packing up to leave that morning. Had lunch in Front Royal and then turned around and headed south to pick up Skyline Drive again. We'd accomplished our goal of riding the entire length of the Blue Ridge Parkway and Skyline Drive. Our evening reservation was for Skyland, another lodging facility available in Shenandoah National Park. Skyland was maybe 10 miles from Big Meadows, but we wanted to stay there also to compare accommodations. It turned out that Skyland's various lodges were spread out all over the mountain and our room wasn't near the restaurant at all. In fact, most of the lodges were down the hill! Not wanting to start up the motorcycles again, we walked the uphill trail to the restaurant at dinnertime. Did I mention "uphill"? Oh, yes!!

469 miles on the Parkway. 105 miles (and then some) on Skyline Drive. It had been a leisurely ride. We'd stayed at every lodge on the Parkway plus Skyline Drive. The remainder of this vacation included some nice riding in Virginia and West Virginia before we headed south towards home. It was a great trip!

Editor's Request:

If you have ridden somewhere interesting at any time and would like to share with other riders your experiences and some photos from your journey, please contact me at editor@flmsta.org to discuss publishing an article. I can offer assistance in preparing your article. Thanks!

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.

Off-road Riding...How It Helps the Street

Over the past two weeks, I've been dirt and adventure (ADV) riding in the Sierra and Cascade Mtns. I did this last year as well, having the privilege then of riding with Johnny Campbell, as well as this year with other notable off-road experts.

(If you don't know who Johnny Campbell is, simply Google "Baja 500 Johnny" and be prepared to be amazed...)

In any case, I've spent a lot of time in the dirt, actually starting my riding career many years ago with my '76 Honda XL350 Enduro. From that and my recent off-road riding out West, I'd like to offer some observations on off-road adventures and how it can make you a better and safer street rider.

Off-road riding is a completely different two-wheel experience. The most dramatic difference is the available traction and response of the motorcycle to the ever-changing surface.

When you ride off the pavement, the surface traction is not static. The road or trail is not smooth. The bike is constantly moving under you, responding to the changing surface. You learn quickly to allow the bike to move and shift beneath you. Inexperienced off-road riders have a tendency to grip the bars too tight, trying to force the bike into a constant straight line, when just the opposite is required. A rider needs to relax their grip, allowing the bike to move and shift as they ride, simply keeping the bike balanced and pointed where they want to go (sound familiar?).

The next challenge is head and eyes. The inexperienced rider wants to look down; to see the upcoming ruts, holes, obstacles, surface changes. Instead, they should keep their head and eyes up, taking in the surface in their peripheral vision, learning to recognize terrain from just a glance. (Again, something you've heard before).

You stand up on your bike a lot when you're off-road. It's not to look cool. It is to afford the rider better balance of the bike in rough terrain, and to be able to respond quicker with weight shifts and inputs.

Additionally, off-road riding teaches you to "feel" the surface underneath your tires. You learn to recognize the moving and shifting of the bike over uneven terrain and surfaces. You also learn how to quickly control and adjust the motorcycle as it responds to the changing riding conditions.

There are lots of other reasons why off-road riding improves a rider's street skills. (Not to mention you learn how to plug and change tires on the side of the road or trail, in case that's a skill that has escaped you to date).

If you've never experienced off-road and/or ADV riding, I highly recommend you give it a try. Borrow a friend's dirt bike. Go find some easy off pavement roads or trails. Something with soft ground helps by the way, as you may find yourself at some point in close contact with the dirt.

Dirt riding does make you a better and safer street rider. Give it a try!

Ride Safe!

Doug Westly – Safety Editor



Johnny Campbell

Photo: DirtBikes.com



Training at Rawhyde-Adventures

Photo: [Don Moe](http://DonMoe)

Do check out our ADV-related Mystery Hyperlinks

Florida News

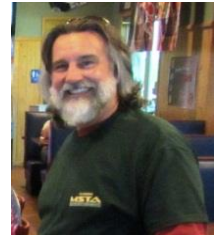
South Director's Report

IF YOU NOTICED JUST A SLIGHT CHANGE IN THE CLIMATE RECENTLY, IT WAS DUE TO VAN RIDING THE RUBBER OFF A HARLEY STREET GLIDE BAGGER AT STAR!! HELL DID BRIEFLY FREEZE OVER...

I'll share just a little about STAR 2018 here... You'll have to wait to next month for my full article, as TALL TALES WILL BE TOLD!!

In no particular order, here's what you need to know, and what you missed!! A great location... nice hotel that served all our needs... 16 road routes!! We rode 3... fantastic!! I proved that Harley's do follow the physics of motorcycles. Just not without A LOT of push and shove! My ass is still a little sore... good beers, cheese and eats... the raffle bike winner was in the banquet room once again!!

Tom's excellent report about the first BRUNCH ride of the season follows. Good times and the new location was a winner! The South BRUNCH ride happened just last Saturday. As usual, the Marsh Landing was accommodating and welcoming. We had thought that 10-12 riders would make the ride. 19 of you made a liar out of me!! We marched into the BIG dining room, and enjoyed great service and brunch galore! Part of the group size was attributable to the 7-8 members from the Space Coast BMW Club! They have begun to post our rides to their own website, and a little cross over has happened. Our own Tom Blake is a big part of this new activity... he too is a member of both clubs!! *[Photos by Van]*



Van VanSteelant



And wouldn't you know it; Tom was our 50/50 raffle winner!! He kept \$20 and donated the rest back to the Club. Our \$43 share brings us to \$1,047.00!! A **BIG** thank you to all who participate. We should start discussing what good we want to do with our good fortune! Donation thoughts??

What's Next??

Be sure to check our RIDES calendar often to insure you never miss one of our events!! www.flmsta.org The Central and South Ride destinations and dates are now set through December! We have some new ideas and places in mind!! Read on...

With the summer heat here, we shift to a 9:30AM start time for butts in the chairs. As a rule, we try to move our destinations to mostly center-of-the-state locations. There will be exceptions, but we try to keep the travel time to the restaurants to no more than 2-2.5 hours for most of our members. The Western members will find a few Brunch locations down the middle of the State, followed by a few Lunch destinations right along the Gulf Coast!

As always, the Central Gang kicks off the Brunch fun on July 7th, with a ride to [Goodrich's Seafood and Oyster Bar](#), on 253 River Road, in Oak Hill. Tom's promo for this event is detailed and spectacular!! Get your eyeballs on our RIDES calendar at www.flmsta.org for all the facts!! Really....

With several regional rides scheduled all around the Southeast for the next few months, we have done our best to schedule our brunch rides for maximum participation by our local membership. Case in point, the South Brunch Ride happens on the last Saturday of July, the 28th. We will repeat a visit to the [Two Peas Café](#), on 870 W Hickpochee Ave, #500, in LaBelle. You may know the road as SR 80...

We were treated royally during our last visit!! Join us...

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, 2018 should be 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 one new Florida rider who joined the MSTA in June:

Robert Bourbon

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

Douglas Christensen

L. Dee Cramer

Ed Zaslow

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

Louis Clark

Ed Palmer

Ken Ford

Tom & Lynn Trieschmann

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 the membership committee 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 our next STAR event. 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!

STAR 2019 is right around the corner... in Bristol, VA. Yes, that is within spitting distance of the Bristol we know from NASCAR... The [Holiday Inn Bristol Conference Center](#) will be our base. It's right next to some great roads. If you were at Johnson City a few years ago, you'll be smiling again for the same reasons!! And it's only 12 hours from Boynton Beach... 836 miles...

Make the effort to join us for Brunch this summer. Good times are sure to be enjoyed...

Ride well! Ride often!! Do it safely!!!

ATGATT Van

MSTA Florida State Co-Director

Central Director's Report - June 2018

June 2nd Brunch Ride to Frostproof

Early Saturday morning, I opened the garage door and stepped slap into a wall of warm humidity! Once under way, a chill quickly evaporated along with the sweat. After that it was pure pleasure with, finally, some sunshine and the thermometer holding at a very comfortable 73 -74 degrees well into the ride.



Tom Blake

From West Melbourne, we rode to Holopaw and Yeehaw Junction, then took SR 60 and CR 630. A jaunt down the east side of Reedy Lake added some nice views of the lake and then rolling hills through citrus groves. Fort Meade Rd had three big curves heading west to US 27. Love those curves! We saw intermittent low clouds. But riders from the southeast and west reported areas of dense ground fog.

Having picked the *Four Seasons Restaurant* based upon on-line research, I was cautiously optimistic, maybe even a little skeptical, that it would be okay. But it was fine. The food was average but plentiful and reasonably priced. The coffee was excellent. The place was fairly basic but clean, and our service was very good. Plenty of paved parking was a plus. (Say that ten times.) They were able to easily accommodate the ten of us and could have handled a lot more. Definitely worthy of consideration for a future ride.

If you are thinking of trying Four Seasons on your own, just be aware that they will be closed the whole month of July. They're at 5298 Hwy 27 which is 1.7 miles south of US 98/Ft Meade Rd.



Clockwise from front, left: Jenks, Dell, Roger, Kevin, Glenn, Marty, Doug and Bob. In mirror, Tom, standing with camera above Marty's head. Carl wasn't there yet when the picture was taken. The dude in the blue shirt sitting with his back to the mirror was at the table behind me. The lady in the background appearing to be looking in is just a very nice picture.



Four Season's Restaurant, Frostproof as we were leaving

The ride home was vastly different from the ride over thanks to swarming love bugs. It took over an hour to clean the bike as sweat poured out of me in the very humid, 90-degree heat. My helmet was a mess, too. The riding gear went through a long soak and wash cycle. Hopefully, love bugs will be gone before our next outing.

The **Space Coast BMW Riders Club**, aka Space Coasters, a mostly BMW group based in Melbourne but appealing more broadly, is supporting our brunch rides this summer by posting them on the “Next Ride and Events” page of their website - spacecoastbmwriders.org. I feel obliged to reciprocate by encouraging you to check their site and join them when you can. It was a pleasure to have three of their members – Kevin, Glenn and Marty – join us Saturday at the rendezvous. Plus, we picked up a fourth, John from Vero Beach, at Yeehaw Junction. Fun guys.

The next Central brunch is at **Goodrich Seafood and Oyster Bar**, 253 River Road, **Oak Hill** [[map](#)] on July 7th. Oak Hill is along US-1 between Mims and Edgewater, north of Titusville. The Space Coasters turned me on to this place last year and the next visit will be my 4th. It’s a really cool place. Additional details are in the **Florida Rides this Month** section of the newsletter and on our website under **Rides**.

Safe Journeys,

Tom Blake

Central Florida July Brunch Ride

Saturday, **July 7th**, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

[Goodrich’s Seafood and Oyster Bar](#) ([map](#))

253 River Road

Oak Hill, FL 32759

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 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., **July 7th**, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Where: [Goodrich's Seafood and Oyster Bar](#), 253 River Road, Oak Hill, FL 32759 ☎386-345-3397 ([map](#))

Description: Casual dining in the [Canaveral National Seashore](#) along Mosquito Lagoon. This restaurant has some really good food, great service and great views. Parking is unpaved, so you might want to bring a kickstand support just in case. But do not let this distract from an otherwise great experience. This is an exceptionally cool place. And we can leisurely walk some calories off under the big oaks at [Seminole RestHistoric Site](#) just down the road.

Contact: Tom Blake, tblakel@cfl.rr.com, or ☎321-723-2857

MSTA Florida South Brunch Ride

When: Sat., **July 28th**, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Where: [Two Peas Café](#), 870 W Hickpochee Ave #500, LaBelle, FL 33935 ☎863-675-2891 ([map](#))

Description: Join us for a return to our Labelle-feasting-roots!! In the tradition of the beloved Flora and Ella's, the Granddaughter of Ella and her lifelong friend have opened their own restaurant to carry on the good old home style cooking we know and love!! We were treated like royalty the last time we visited here!!

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 Brunch Ride

When: Sat., **August 11th**, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Where: [Mary's Kountry Kitchen](#), 15945 County Rd 448, Tavares, FL 32778 ☎352-343-6823 ([map](#))

Description: This is a **little country gem** south of Tavares that we've been to before. Unremarkable on the outside, they serve up generous portions of home-cooked meals inside and the service cannot be friendlier. You don't want to miss it. Good roads to get you there.

Contact: Tom Blake, tblakel@cfl.rr.com, or ☎321-723-2857

MSTA Florida South Brunch Ride

When: Sun., **August 19th**, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Where: [Shuckers](#), 9800 South Ocean Drive, Hutchinson Island, Jensen Beach, FL 34957 ☎772-229-1224 ([map](#))

Description: YES, A **SUNDAY BRUNCH RIDE!!** They offer a terrific brunch buffet. And, they are right on the beach!!

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

Regional Events

Rally of Historical Proportions

When: Fri.-Sun., **July 6th – 8th**
Where: [Microtel Inn and Suites](#), 111 Darby Drive, Georgetown, KY 40324 ☎855-213-0582 ([map](#))
Description: AMA Sanctioned regional event. Just a heads up. Check out [ridemsta.com](#) for more details as the event gets closer.
Contact: Patrick Mogavero, patrickmogavero@gmail.com or ☎859-620-6352

Big Lynn Lodge Ride

When: Fri.-Sun., **July 20th – 22nd**
Where: [Big Lynn Lodge](#), Highway 226A, Little Switzerland, NC ☎828-765-4257 or 800-654-5232 ([map](#))
Description: The Big Lynn Lodge is located in/near Little Switzerland, NC and is literally hanging on the side of the mountain right on NC-226A. You will be AMAZED at the view and you will be ASTONISHED by the roads! The riding is what I go there for but the scenery and the location is what has me staying.
The Big Lynn Lodge is located 300 feet off the Blue Ridge Parkway on [North Carolina Highway 226A](#).
Contact: Dave Brickner, dwbrick@gmail.com or ☎828-448-8429
Information: The event webpage is available at msta-se.com/BLynn

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 Events in 2018: [click here](#).

National MSTA RideMSTA.com

Florida MSTA FLMSTA.org

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

Mystery Hyperlink of the Month

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

[Mystery Hyperlink #1](#)

[Mystery Hyperlink #2](#)

[Mystery Hyperlink #3](#)

CLASSIFIED ADS

To find a buyer for your motorcycle items, please send your ad and pictures by email to editor@flmsta.org