



# The Florida Gator Tale

Newsletter of the Florida Chapter of the  
Motorcycle Sport Touring Association

November 2024 - Volume 18 Issue 11

## In November 2024 Issue:

- Page 1 – [Feature Article](#)
- Page 4 – [Safety Talk](#)
- Page 6 – [Florida News](#)
- Page 9 – [Florida Rides](#)
- Page 10 – [Future Florida Rides](#)
- Page 11 – [Florida MSTa Apparel](#)
- Page 11 – [Classified Ads](#)

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## Feature Article

### Riding the Blue Ridge Parkway

By Ellen Kocher

*[Editor's Note: Ellen's article was published in the July 2018 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.]*

*Editor's Request: If you have ridden somewhere interesting at any time and would like to share your experiences and some photos from your journey with other riders, please contact [editor@flmsta.org](mailto:editor@flmsta.org) to publish an article. Thanks!]*

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



*Ellen at the highest point along 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.

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.



*View from the Pisgah Inn*

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.

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!



*The Biltmore Estate*

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 Moses Cone Manor House*

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 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!

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!

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. mountain range tops.

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 1-mile loop trail around the lake that's behind the lodge, but we didn't manage to fit that into our activities.



*Walkway at James River*

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.

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 recreated 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.

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!



*The Mabry Mill*



*Harry F. Byrd, Sr. Visitor Center*

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!

*-Ellen*

## ***Safety Talk***

**IMPORTANT NOTICES:** *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. [Editor's Note: This article is reprinted from the July 2017 edition of the FLMSTA Gator Tale.]*



### **Overtaking Another Bike By Doug Westly**

Here is something we've never talked about, yet it happens all the time. How do you handle overtaking another motorcycle traveling in your same lane?

This scenario occurs frequently to us when we're out for our weekend rides or on longer trips in congested bike touring areas. I don't want to suggest we ride faster than most, but there are times when we find ourselves closing on another rider in front of us. So, what to do?

There are a couple of thoughts here. Under most cases, we will need to treat the motorcycle in front of us as a typical vehicle on the road. That means if we're on a multi-lane highway, we can pass the bike after moving into the left-hand (passing) lane. If we're on a 2-lane road (one lane in each direction), then we simply wait for a safe and legal passing zone, signal, move into the empty on-coming lane and move around the bike in front of us. Again, we want to be careful not to be too close either before or after executing the passing maneuver.

The challenge comes when we get "trapped" behind the bike in front. Everyone has probably experienced it. For whatever reason, the rider in front of you just isn't riding at the speed that you intend. There is no safe passing zone, no second passing lane, and maybe the sightline for passing is severely restricted. Now what do you do?

Rule #1 is that the motorcycle ahead of you has the right-of-way, both legally and for safety. The safest course of action is just to relax and wait for a safe passing zone to appear. Sometimes the rider in front will see you and recognize that you want to pass them. If they are polite, then may even move over in their lane and wave you by. Now what? Should you pass them in the same lane?

Here is where a couple of other considerations come into play. First off, is passing another vehicle (specifically one motorcycle past another) legal in the particular state? As a motorcyclist and licensed driver, it is your responsibility to know the law. As they say, ignorance is no excuse. Since we're in Florida, here are the rules you have to know:

FL Statute 316.083 says "...shall pass to the left at a safe distance...". 316.209(2) says "The operator of a motorcycle shall not overtake and pass in the same lane occupied by the vehicle being overtaken." However, 316.209(4) says "Motorcycles shall not be operated more than two abreast in a single lane." I interpret all this to mean that while you can ride two abreast (Sorry, there is no legitimate reason to do this either, and every safety reason not to), no, you cannot pass another motorcycle ahead of you, in the same lane, even if they pull over and wave you by.

Even more important, is it safe to do so? Certainly, it is safer not to attempt this maneuver. Even if the rider ahead is aware of your intent, and may have waved you by, it is safer to wait until there is a safe, legal passing zone. On the other hand, in states where it is legal (If there are any) and the rider ahead has motioned you by, then executing a safe pass in an area conducive to the maneuver, by giving the overtaken bike a wide berth and carefully moving around the bike may be reasonable.

I will offer one other thought here. Under NO circumstances do you want to try and pass another rider who may not know you are behind him or her, particularly passing close by and/or in the same lane. You don't know how that rider is going to react if they see you in the last moments before the pass, and that unpredictability becomes a recipe for disaster. Just don't do it. Make sure the rider ahead knows you are there, and you give them clear indication of your intention to pass.

It comes down to what is safe, legal and reasonable. Be considerate to other riders, and treat them as you want to be treated on the road

*Ride safe! – Doug Westly*

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## [Florida News](#)



### South Director's Report

#### **Just another dull month here in storm land...**

I do know some of our members have suffered damage from the back to back hurricanes. If you can, donate to your favorite charity in hopes of expediting their relief! Down here in southern Palm Beach Co., we were mostly spared. Unfortunately, the tornados that touched down sporadically from Wellington up through St. Lucie County really did some unexpected damage.

Meanwhile, we squeezed in two of the three rides we planned on. Tom's early in October ride went well! See his delightful report below. The Southies tried twice to find a place to eat, but both choices were compromised by the storms. Fortunately, they reopened after the water receded and some necessary cleanup.

We were able to keep the West ride on schedule. Catch Tom's ride report below... Yep, Tom was able to fill in for Doug this month, and made the most of it! I'll be on deck for the West ride in November!!

We are looking for a volunteer(s) to lead the charge for the West Area Ride Coordinator position. We need to start 2025 off on the right foot, so please contact Van with any questions or concerns. See my contact info at the end of the *Gator Tale*.

And you may have heard that STAR 2025 was a big success! The itinerary was jam-packed, the weather was ideal (smart choosing October for Texas!), the bike raffle winner was in attendance, and we head to Williamsport, PA next October for STAR 2025!! I've ridden a few of the roads up there and will do so again next year!! Good times!!

Catch-up time regarding the 50/50 raffle. The Brunch rides typically don't draw the crowds that the Lunch rides do, and often we let the raffle slide by. Recently, Tom and Doug were able to send along their collections for the past few months, and we can now report a new tally to start the fall/winter riding season at \$863.00. We recently paid for a GoDaddy renewal of \$288.00 for another 3 years for our website and email address, which nets us \$575.00. As always, a **BIG THANKS** to all who participate!!

### **What's Next??**

As we front load the rides in November and December to accommodate the holidays, the East Central **LUNCH Ride** happened **November 2<sup>nd</sup>**!! The weather looked good for the ride to **Renegades On the River in Crescent City**. The **South LUNCH Ride** heads back to the **Camellia Street Grill in Everglades City, on November 9<sup>th</sup>**. Yep, they are open!! On November 23<sup>rd</sup>, the **West LUNCH Ride** heads to a new-to-us location at **Champ's III in Arcadia**. Van will likely bring a few Southies with him, too! AND, on **November 29<sup>th</sup>**, we once again offer our **Black Friday Lunch Ride**, this time to the **Cherry Pocket Steak and Seafood, in Lake Wales**. New owners ought to make a difference...

We have inserted an email response "button" to our announcements to assist our coordinators with the reservation headcount. Click on the green "button", then hit the send arrow. The pre-loaded email will be on its way!! Easy peasey!!

## Membership News!!

If you are receiving the *Gator Tale*, but not my announcements, **PLEASE** email me ASAP to correct my files. I believe I'm up to date...

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...

FLMSTA added a new member this month: Larry Melton of Sebastian. Welcome!

These Florida memberships have recently renewed:

Jamie Rohrbaugh      Michael Shooks      Roger Spice

These Florida memberships have recently expired or will expire soon:

|                 |                   |                |               |                 |
|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Richard Alleman | Tom Blake         | Terry Casto    | Michael Clark | Greg Cyr        |
| Michael Ewanus  | Herman Greinstein | Robert Holder  | Buck Jones    | Dennis Mitchell |
| Hugh Palmer     | Matthew Sturgis   | Chuck Waychoff |               |                 |

We urge all our members to renew their memberships and continue supporting their MSTA. If you have a question about when your membership expires, please contact the membership committee at [membership@ridemsta.com](mailto:membership@ridemsta.com). Renewing or joining can be done quickly and securely 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 the new member of our new membership team, **Scott Snedden, 11484 Waterwood Dr., Tyler, TX 75703**, and not to the address of any 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 brand-new **Invitation-To-Ride Tri-folds!** For each new member you recruit and who provides your name and/or membership number on the application, you will receive a coupon for a **raffle ticket for the motorcycle touring package drawing at our next STAR event**. Any new or current member who joins or renews as a Sustaining Member will likewise receive a coupon for a raffle ticket for each year of the new membership term.

## Random Ramblings!!

We have a new year right around the corner. How about a resolution to make 12 out of 36 rides next year...

Especially after the last few months, we will continue to support our local, small business restaurants. Please send your recommendations to any of the ride coordinators.

Hoping you're living the life you love, and loving the life you live...

*When you can...*

*Join one of our monthly rides!!*

*And invite a friend to ride along!!*

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

**ATGATT Van**

**MSTA Florida State Director**





## East-Central Ride – Lake Harris Hideaway, Tavares, FL – Tom Blake

On the 5th, we were blessed with moderate temps, very low humidity and sunny skies. This is in contrast to the days before and after which were muggy and hot – pretty much like it had been since spring. Rain moved in the Monday after and then we endured Hurricane Milton mid-week. Some are still dealing with flooding or are without power as I write a week later.

But that Saturday was a beautiful day to ride and, having pretty much parked my bikes since May, I was aching for some serious saddle time to clear my head and cheer me up – even if done alone. (The local group was either out of town or had conflicting plans.)



*Beautiful day to ride to Tavares*



*We all welcomed new member Jay B from St. Lucie County (waving)*

I stopped at the normal rendezvous for gas. Jay B, a new member from St Lucie County unexpectedly pulled in. We picked up one more rider at our rest stop east of Sanford. And when we pulled in at Lake Harris Hideaway, there were seven riders waiting for us.

We all headed inside at 11 o'clock – well, it's not really “inside” but rather through an entryway onto the open-air, covered deck along and over the water. More folks showed up around 11:30... they missed the time change. All told, there were fourteen of us – all in a good mood, engaged in motorcycle talk and downing good grub. I was grinning broadly.

The 50/50 pulled in \$60 and the winner, Steve S, gave his cut back. Later, Tod P chipped in another \$15. So thank you all for attending and contributing and a special thanks for both donations. And Dale, your help with the tickets is always appreciated.

To cap my day off, three of us headed south through Groveland, worked over to Haines City where Steve split off, and Lake Wales where Jay kept going south. I turned east there and eventually north to get back home. For me it was a 288- mile day forming a large circle and I loved every minute – well maybe not the last 30, my butt was getting a tad sore. Even with afternoon temps in the low 90's, the low humidity allowed the breeze to keep me cool.

**Next up:** Assuming flood waters recede by November 2nd, **Renegades on the River**, 9 miles west of **Crescent City**, is our next ride. Crescent City is on US 17 about halfway between Barberville and Palatka. An especially nice resort setting along the St. Johns River with good food and service and plenty of paved parking. This will be our second time there.

Also, in November we do a **Black Friday lunch** to someplace away from stores and traffic for those who aren't of a mind to Christmas shop just yet. This year we're heading to **Cherry Pockets Steak & Seafood** on a finger of **Lake Pierce north of Lake Wales**. They have new owners so I'm hoping for the best.



## West-Central Ride – Sleepy Hollow Fish Camp, Floral City, FL – Tom Blake



*Mike, Star, Alan, Larry and Tom  
enjoying the food and weather at Sleepy  
Hollow Fish Camp*

Before you get your panties all up in a knot, let me just say that I'm not the new West-Central Ride Coordinator. Yes, Doug had to step down and there is a vacancy. But I'm not the one who will fill it. Been there, done that. It's just too much area to cover for my aging body. In this case, Van knew I was planning to ride over and asked if I could snap a couple pictures, maybe do a little write-up. I said sure. So here goes.

My good friend Larry and I both decided that the summer swelter was over and it was time to get back to going what we really enjoy – and that is taking pleasurable motorcycle rides. For us, going the fun way to The Sleepy Hollow Fish Camp just east of Floral City would equate to a little over three hours of saddle time. Coming home, it turned out, would be even more. We didn't care. We both had the time and totally enjoyed our day.

Sleepy Hollow was a little different type of place. For one thing, it was cash only. The tables were outside under a roof. A 2-person band was setting up for their 1 o'clock gig but were of little distraction while we were there. There was a nearby walk-up trailer where food was ordered and paid for. Then, when ready, it was delivered to the tables. I have to say, the food was exceptionally tasty and plentiful. I ordered a pulled pork sandwich with fries, and the fries were so good I ate them all before even starting on the sandwich. The pork was also delicious and stacked high.

Mike and Star were already there when Larry and I arrived about 11:25. It looked like we might be it. But Michael, Mike, Brian and another fellow (didn't sign the attendance sheet) from Stuart, Boca Raton and Ft Lauderdale area popped in. They didn't ride up from there solely for this lunch but happened to be in the area and decided to drop in. We're glad they did. And Alan from Orlando dropped in as well. So we had a nice little gathering of nine riders to enjoy good food and friendship with.

Oh, being close to Halloween, I brought along a big bag of Almond Joys. It's a tradition... I get a big bag or two of candy for the trick-or-treaters, then turn out my lights Halloween evening, then feast on the candy myself for the next month or so after Halloween. This time I decided to go on a diet and share my treats with the other riders. BOO!

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## **Florida Rides This Month**

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 East Central Lunch Ride**

When: **Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM**

Location: **Renegades On The River**, 1171 County Rd 309, **Crescent City, FL** 📞 (386) 524-4179 ([map](#))

Description: On the St. Johns!! Lots to see, and plenty to choose from!!

Contact: Tom, [tblake1@cfl.rr.com](mailto:tblake1@cfl.rr.com), or 📞 (321) 794-6147

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

When: **Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM**

Location: **Camellia Street Grill**, 202 Camellia St. W., **Everglades City, FL** 📞 (239) 695-2003 ([map](#))

Description: OK...This place is way south...So, it costs a little more to get things here, and so it costs a little more to enjoy their scrumptious vittles!! That said, this place has always treated us well and offered us really tasty options!

Contact: Van, [busavanflmsta@gmail.com](mailto:busavanflmsta@gmail.com), or 📞 (561) 386-2594

## **MSTA Florida West Central Lunch Ride**

When: **Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM**

Location: **Johnny's Egg House**, 133 S. Scenic Highway, **Frostproof, FL** ([map](#))

Description: Look for Westies and Southies at this one!! Always a good time, and you can get breakfast for lunch!!

Contact: Doug, [flwingrdr@msn.com](mailto:flwingrdr@msn.com), or ☎ (813) 928-1663

## **MSTA Black Friday Lunch Ride**

When: **Friday, November 29, 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM**

Location: **Cherry Pocket Steak n Seafood**, 3100 Canal Rd, **Lake Wales, FL** ☎ (863) 439-2031 ([map](#))

Description: Our annual Black Friday Lunch Ride. It's been some time since we were here...New owners and recently recommended...The location guarantees you won't be fighting shopping traffic here!! We'll be looking for you...

Contact: Van, [busavanflmsta@gmail.com](mailto:busavanflmsta@gmail.com), 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 MSTAs [Event Calendar](#) for any updates.

## **MSTA Florida Holiday Lunch Ride-North**

When: **Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM**

Location: **Gator Joe's Beach Bar & Grill**, 12431 SE 135<sup>th</sup> Avenue, **Ocklawaha, FL** ☎ (352) 288-3100 ([map](#))

Description: Our “northern” Holiday Lunch destination!! Join Tom for some good cheer and warm wishes!

Contact: Tom, [tblake1@cfl.rr.com](mailto:tblake1@cfl.rr.com), or ☎ (321) 794-6147

## **MSTA Florida Holiday Lunch Ride-South**

When: **Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM**

Location: **Dock 633, 633 Lake June Road, Lake Placid, FL** ☎ (863) 699-6330 ([map](#))

Description: Our “southern” Holiday Lunch destination!! Join Van for some good cheer and warm wishes!

Contact: Van, [busavanflmsta@gmail.com](mailto:busavanflmsta@gmail.com), or ☎ (561) 386-2594

## **MSTA New Year's Lunch Ride**

When: **Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM**

Location: **TBD**

Description: Our annual New Year's Lunch Ride.

Contact: Van, [busavanflmsta@gmail.com](mailto:busavanflmsta@gmail.com), or ☎ (561) 386-2594

For additional Florida events and information, [click here](#) to see the Florida MSTAs website's Events page. The Florida MSTAs chapter also has a presence on Facebook with upcoming events and past photos: [click here](#).

## 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!! Shopping finds online... We found some fun motorcycle t-shirts you can order online. Click the image for this particular t-shirt. There are other fun motorcycle t-shirts online at <https://teespring.com/shop/motorcycle-tshirts>.

These MSTA websites have extensive event information:

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*National MSTA* [RideMSTA.com](http://RideMSTA.com)    *SE Regional MSTA* [MSTA-SE.com](http://MSTA-SE.com)    *Florida MSTA* [FLMSTA.org](http://FLMSTA.org)

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We're also on Facebook: [facebook.com/FLMSTA/](https://facebook.com/FLMSTA/)

### **More Contact Information**

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|--|--|---|---|
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|--|--|---|---|

### *Classified Ads*

To find a buyer for your motorcycle items, please send your ad and pictures by email to [editor@flmsta.org](mailto:editor@flmsta.org). Don't trash it, recycle it! One man's trash is another man's treasure!