



Southeast Region



Newsletter

May 2008

From Your Regional VP

This is the second SE Regional Newsletter. I hope you enjoyed reading the first issue. Well spring is here and the riding is in full swing in our region. I think one of the great things about the Southeast is you can really ride all year. There may be a few days when conditions aren't conducive to riding but if you wait a day or two you'll be able to get out again. Personally I do a lot of dual sport riding in the winter.

There are a lot reports from Star 2008 (held in Kerrville Texas) in this newsletter as many of you were able to attend. That's great however it would be nice to have more local news to share in the newsletter. I can't do that alone. I need your help to share your experiences. The success of this newsletter is up to you. I'll guarantee that I'll burn out and cease publication without support from all. So tell us what's going on in your area. Ride reports, bike reports, social events, all that kind of stuff. Write an article, send an email, or a photo or whatever of your motorcycling adventures to your state director/newsletter editor. Contact information is listed on page 7.

It doesn't have to be fancy, just let us know what's going on. If they don't use the information for their state newsletter they'll forward it on to me for this regional publication.

...thanks for taking the time to read this.

Doug Pippin

HSTA SE Regional VP

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Southeast Region Membership Facts

358 members
as of May 1, 2008

Alabama	12
Florida	118
Georgia	58
Mississippi	2
North Carolina	52
South Carolina	17
Tennessee	63
Virginia	36

Do you have information, photos, stories or tall tales that you'd like to share with fellow HSTA members?

Information and articles should be related to SE Region HSTA members or events.

Are you planning a "just for fun event"?

Do you have regularly scheduled ride?

Send all information to:

Doug Pippin

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828-684-8488

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If you received this newsletter in the mail please send me your e-mail address so I can add you to the electronic distribution, saving the HSTA money and your editor a lot of work.

The electronic version has web links to photos and events etc. and is in color. Also at some point we may stop the mailed version.

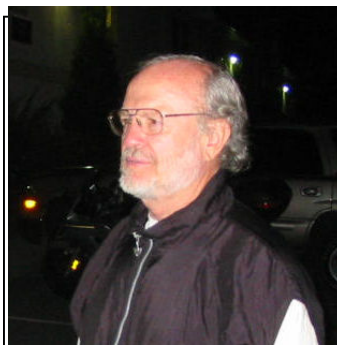
Member News

Following up on your SE Region Volunteers here's some information on Florida newsletter co-editor Jim McClure

- Co-Editor of the HSTA-Florida Newsletter "The Grapevine", starting in late '07
- Has lived in Howey-In-The-Hills, FL for 7 years (it's a long story!)
- Has one daughter, who lives in New York City
- Retired in late 2000 – was a financial guy with a large SE electric utility
- Been riding for about 15 years (started a bit late!)
- Been a member of HSTA since about 1996
- Has always owned / ridden Honda and BMW motorcycles
- Currently has two bikes: 1) an '03 Honda 919, painted and badged as a Hornet 900, which is the British version of the 919, and 2) an '07 BMW K12GT
- Prefers sport touring, with a very strong emphasis on mountainous terrain
- Has ridden extensively in the Western U.S.

Favorite roads? Two come quickly to mind: AZ 191 and UT 12

Interests other than motorcycles? Does a lot of volunteer work plus photography and electronic stuff



Here's a followup on Ron Walkenspaw from Eric Larsen (GA State Director)

Ron is doing better, getting around well and doing better all the time. No talk of riding yet, but the last time I spoke to him, I could see that twinkle again in his eye when

we talked about motorcycles.

editor's note:

Ron can be contacted at home at 770-457-1688 or rjwalk@earthlink.net



Eric also reports that Warren Renshaw is home, no signs of cancer, riding around on his SV and looking forward to Helen and TRI-STAR

SE HSTA Member Awards given at Star 2008

Doug Pippin, NC	Presidents Award
Joanna Murray, GA	Jean Monacelli Memorial Award
Bill Royal, FL	State Director Of The Year
Sam Ulbing, FL	State Director Of The Year
Bill Royal, FL & Dave Brickner, NC	Recruiting Award tied for 3rd Place
Geoffrey Greene, TN	Mileage Award 2 nd Men's Touring
Eve Blazur, FL	Ron Maudlin" Mileage Winner Ladies Masters

Also Sonja Hall, TN won the "Moose" award.

Other News from Star 2008

Congratulations to Syd Mayes of Sutherland, VA the winner of this year's Raffle Bike, a Yamaha FJR1300.

Next years STAR will be held June 21 thru 25 at Snowshoe Mountain West Virginia.

<http://www.snowshoemtn.com/index.htm>

Sad News from Virginia

Eleven year old Ryan Hutchinson, son of Jeff and Belinda and brother of Tyler, passed away Monday 4/28/08.

Ryan lost his battle with the cancer that was running rampant in his body

Jeff is a former Virginia State HSTA Director, and resides in Salem, VA.

For Sale

Great condition suit that wife no longer uses. 38 jacket 36L pants. Grey with black ballistics. Used less than 10 times, never wet. A steal at \$400.00 (new ones go for \$800+!!). Will ship to 48 states. Check out sizing, colors and other details at www.riderwearhouse.com.

Contact Eric Larsen at enlarsen@bellsouth.net



Events

Star 2008 Report from Eric Larsen

Some tidbits from Georgia/Alabama members at STAR:



There were around 15 or so Georgia and 3 Alabama HSTA members at Star 2008.

Ken and Joanna Murray HSTA Safety Advancement Members gave out nearly \$3,000 from the Dan Clark Fund.

Two first time STAR attendees, George Lenz (member for 10 years+/-) had never been to a STAR, but enjoyed himself thoroughly. His wife, Polly, flew in to join him and after STAR he rode to the Big Bend area with Mike Lyles, joining up there with Danny Chance and Tommy Victor.



Tommy Victor, new member and also a first time STAR attendee, wrote:

"I was completely impressed from the pre-registration to the close of the event. The organization of the event went smoothly. I guess 25 years of practice has paid off.

The Hill Country is something I did not expect in Texas. I have visited Texas and hills were not in the parts I saw. I was totally set back once I was introduced to the roads and camaraderie of fellow HSTA attendees. I hope to become a familiar face in the crowd as many of the members already are. Meeting old friends and making new ones are as important as the roads we ride. I tried to take in as much as I could but there is still plenty to learn and I look forward to my next HSTA event. After the event, Danny Chance and I went to Big Bend National Park in south Texas. On the way there, we happened to meet up with fellow Georgia members George Lenz and Mike Lyles heading to the same place. We all rode to the park,

camped, and spent the next 4 days exploring the park. George had been there before and was a great guide showing us the highlights of the park. On our last day we soaked our weary bones in the hot spring located on the Rio Grand. We could actually step over a wall from the spring into the river then back into the spring. What a great way to end a magnificent journey. On the trip back home, Danny and I headed east while Mike and George went north. Now that I am back to riding the familiar roads of N. Georgia I saw a couple of folks that I met in Texas. This is a big country but can be a small world."

2008 Spring Fling held in Lake Park Georgia April 11 thru 13 Report

Great times! Great people! Great riding!

That pretty much sums up this past weekend's Spring Fling up in Lake Park, GA.

Even though we got rained on Saturday afternoon, thank goodness the predicted temperature of 40 degrees on Sunday AM did not materialize! It was closer to 65 - much better! I don't do cold very well. Sam had two planned meals. One at the Ivy House in Alachua and the other at the White Springs B&B (I think that's the name) in White Springs and they were both superb. We should do a lunch ride to one of those restaurants soon!

Accommodations were just fine, indeed.

We had a smaller crew, but it was a lively group!
AD Williams



We now have a web site for Southeast
"Just For Fun" Events
Click the link to see what's coming up.
If you have events planned and want them
added to the site, e-mail Doug Pippin
d_pippin_89@bellsouth.net

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Star 2008 Report from Jim Randall



Tennessee was well represented at STAR this year. There were at least 10 "volunteers" enjoying the great roads, great weather and great barbecue around Kerrville.

Geoffrey Greene was busy selling Ride-for-Kids tickets of course and after STAR he and Randy Logan of Knoxville were planning to ride on out to San Diego and attempt an IBR 50cc (coast-to-coast in 50 hours) ride back to Charleston, SC.

Meanwhile Jim Randall of Kingsport and Dave Brickner of Morganton, NC joined the outstanding informal "tour" of Copper Canyon and northern Mexico led by Tim and Teresa Vipond of Sugarland, TX.

Don't forget that the Nolichucky Valley Rally has been extended to a four day event this year. Come on up to the high country of eastern Tennessee and western NC from July 31 - August 3 for some of the best riding in the mountains!

Star 2008 Report from Tom Blake (Florida)



The YO Ranch Resort included seven buildings with 191 nice sized rooms each with opening windows and patio doors and, very thankfully, comfortable beds. Plus the main building housed the large lobby, bar, restaurant, gift shop and 7 conference rooms. Outside was the veranda and pool. And four of the buildings (including mine) framed in an outdoor amphitheater. It is a really nice place. The lady at the front desk said they have one group in there after another. They stay very busy. She called us bikers! The packet included maps and instructions for four different self-guided tours of the hills and in a couple

cases, long and short loop options. The one I took on Sunday was the longer 255 mile "Three Twisted Sisters" loop S and SW of town. It encompassed the little villages of Medina, Bandera, Tarpley, Vanderpool, Leahey, Camp Wood and Barksdale.

The roads were, for the most part, just what we like to ride. I have to admit that after 3 days of cross-country, my cornering skills needed some re-honing. But after an hour or two, I was very comfortable challenging the curves. In a couple instances, I came in a bit hot and had to use more brake and more road than I'd prefer. But once I got the rhythm back, all was fine and wonderful.

I stopped at Medina on the way back for a Popsicle and soda. Three sportbike riders were riding together and doing the same - 2 had Ducatis and 1 a CBR. We all finished about the same time and took off for Kerrville together - me following. The lead Ducati pretty much took off and left everyone. But the fellow in the 2nd spot was apparently not that experienced because thanks to him I was able to hang right with the other two. The tighter it got, the better I was able to keep up. But in the higher speed curves I could sense the extra weight of my ST1300 putting me at a disadvantage. Great fun. It was over too soon.

Tuesday was the well-attended lunch ride to Luckenbach - of Waylon, Willy and the Gang fame.

There could not have been more than a handful of buildings in Luckenbach. Prominent were the dance hall and post office-souvenir shop across the "street". To get there you had a choice of the 127 mile loop which included Comfort (SE) then Old No 9 Hwy, which had more curves than Paris Hilton, and was the most fun I've had in years.

Twice I came clean up out of the saddle dirt bike-style while cresting rises with sharp drop-offs! This and Grapetown Rd put us in Luckenbach. Exiting to the north is Willow City and over to Enchanted Rock State Park and then back through Fredericksburg.

The 270 mile version included Harper, Llano and Willow City; then back by way of Blanco, Wimberley and Sisterdale.

All I can say is my sitting bones were not up for some of the longer tours as interesting as they might have been. Since this was also a vacation, I made it a rule to not get up before 8 a.m. And at the advice of locals, I also made it a rule to be off the Hill Country roads before evening. The cool down in the evenings brings out the deer. And this is the land where the deer and the antelope play.

You can see some of the photos Tom took at Star 2008 at:

<http://tinyurl.com/5vepfm>

North Georgia Classic

Helen, Georgia
May 16 thru 18 2008

Just a reminder about this year's HSTA North Georgia Classic event in Helen Georgia. While we usually have the event in late April, the date is a little different this year due to STAR being in April. We will hold the event May 16th-18th. The format for the event will also be a "Just for Fun" event rather than the full AMA sanctioned / HSTA regional event that we usually do. It is not required to be a HSTA member to attend this year. This is a great opportunity for those who would like to see what the HSTA Rally is like. We'll still have all the great roads and great folks, but there will be no grilling out, no organized dinners, no raffles etc. Just the basic, show up and ride deal.

This year we are going to be staying at the Quality Inn which is the old Alpenhof Motel - the location we've stayed at in previous years. It's been cleaned up a lot, new beds, furniture, carpet, lots of work done. Phone number is 706-878-2268 and the rooms are being held for us until mid to late March so call early and mention that you are with the HSTA to get the group rate. This year, Matt Thornton - SC State Director, will be the event coordinator. Matt is a long time HSTA member and has been coming to the Helen event since 1996. His contact information is thorn2wheels@yahoo.com and phone is 864-979-3626.

Nolichucky Valley Rally

Erwin, Tennessee
July 31- August 3 (4 days)

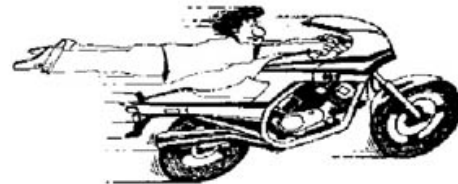
Event contacts, information and pre-registration form is on the NVR web site. Click on link for information or contact event coordinator [Rick Giddish](mailto:Rick.Giddish@nvr.com) 423-245-5558

SE Star

Dillard Georgia
September 19 thru 21, 2008

Event contacts, information and pre-registration form is on the SE Star web site. Click on link for information or contact event coordinator [Steve Rodnon](mailto:Steve.Rodnon@sestar.com) 423-245-5558

SE Region Just For Fun Events



TriStar

Sparta, North Carolina
May 23, thru 26, 2008 (4 days)

Event contacts, information and pre-registration form is on the TriStar web site. Click on link for information or contact event coordinator [Galen Diehl](mailto:Galen.Diehl@tristar.com) 276-647-3162

Web Sites

[Florida](#)

[Georgia](#)

currently under re-construction

[Virginia](#)

Yahoo Groups

[Florida](#)

[Georgia](#)

[North & South Carolina](#)

[Tennessee](#)

[Virgina](#)

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