



FLORIDA GATOR TALE

Honda Sport Touring Association

December 2006



Florida News

Submitted By: Sam Ulbing & Bill Royal

North News:

The lunch ride to Sleepy Hollow was well attended with people from north and south areas attending. Total head count was 20. As coordinator AD Williams had promised the owner of the

high powered and noisy airboat took it out for a few maneuvers for us to watch. It looked to me like the equivalent of an air boat doing wheelies and for sure the Harley owners were envious of the noise. The setting under the trees by the

edge of the lake was pleasant as was the weather and the food was good. The only negative was that Buck De Shazo waited an hour and half and never did get served before he had to leave. In fairness to the restaurant there were a lot of people there that day but that didn't make

poor Buck any less hungry. One snowbird member attended and hopefully Jerry Brenner will be able to make more of our lunches. His regular riding grounds are in Pennsylvania.



Becky & Doug Westly
(Becky's the one with the "ears")

Volunteers like AD make our range of lunch locations so much broader. I'm hoping more people will volunteer so we can keep trying new centrally located spots and make it easier for all to make at least a few lunches each year.

There is no north lunch ride in December but I plan to make the annual New Year's ride that Bill runs each year. Meanwhile enjoy the holidays and ride safe.
Sam

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This 2 time award winning newsletter is produced and edited by:
Bill Royal
HSTA Florida Newsletter Editor

Web Addresses:

If you're "connected" be sure to check out the National HSTA Site at:
www.ridehsta.com

And the Award Winning Florida HSTA Site at:
www.flahsta.org

The Florida Chapter of the HSTA has two State Directors. They Are:

North Geography: Sam Ulbing
545 Turkey Creek, Alachua, FL
32615 352-262-6221
n4uau@cox.net

South Geography: Bill Royal
1521 New Bedford Dr
Sun City Center, FL 33573
(813) 633-8155
RideFL@flahsta.org

Welcome to the Club!

We would like to extend a hearty and sincere welcome to the following recent new members. Thank you for choosing to join our group. Many long lasting friendships have begun here and we hope your experience will be a satisfying one!

| Name | Location | Ride | Introduced By |
|--------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Buck Jones | Boynton Beach | ST1300 & Hayabusa | Jim Park |
| Thomas Blake | Valkaria | Not listed | Terry Brown |

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Free Ads

Motorcycle related items - wanted or for sale, riding buddies or room mates for events can be placed right here - for free! Just send them to arrive by the 15th for the next month's publication. Send to Bill Royal, 1521 New Bedford Drive, Sun City Center, FL. 33573 or email to ridefl@flahsta.org.

For Sale

2003 Honda GoldWing - Yellow, Excellent condition, accident free, all maintenance services done by Honda. 54,000 miles. Some extra accessories such as fog lights, top case rack, highway pegs, spoiler with brake light. Asking \$12,000 OBO. For more information call 813-634-2223 or email at happysunshine@verizon.net.

2003 Honda VFR800VTEC Interceptor, 7500 mi., factory hard bags, Power Commander, Scorpion cans, sport touring windscreen, Heli Bars, Throttlemeister cruise, new Dunlop D220's, Silver. Sport Touring Ready! \$7500.00
Call Richard at 954.675.4728 or rpk2fla1@yahoo.com

Wells Cargo Cycle Wagon enclosed motorcycle trailer. Lightly used, probably less than 5,000 miles. 12.5' X 7' box, probably 16 to 17 feet overall. Tandem axle, electric brakes, aero nose cone, diamond plate aluminum fenders, black with chrome bottom trim, rear ramp door with spring assist, paneled inside with interior lights, wheel chocks and multiple floor and side tie down points, side door on front right side. This trailer cost over \$6,000 new, current mod-

els are about \$7,000. Buy mine for \$4,500. Will deliver up to 250 miles for cost of gas. I can E-mail photos upon request. Contact Jan Berryman, Tallahassee, Florida (850) 893-2253 or E-mail berryman15@comcast.net.

Tour Master Cortech GX Air mesh summer riding pants. Women's size small, tag says small 8-10 but this is a very small 8-10. Removable padding, washable, sold as is, great condition. \$50.00 & you pay shipping. Paid \$169.00 new. Contact me by email: eblueday@mindspring.com or phone: 813-633-8155. I can send a photo or bring them to a lunch ride.

Shoel RF-800 full face white helmet, new, still in box with factory packaging. Size XXS, perfect for a young passenger. Price: \$125
Contact: diannelpark@yahoo.com or 561-793-7907.

KBC Helmet - FFR Flip Top silver and black.. This helmet is brand new.. I wore it twice and realized that I do not have a KBC head. \$175.00

Givi T80 Tank Bag - Magnetic. The bag has a map case and a clear rain cover \$50.00

Kapa top trunk for the Suzuki VStrom - Silver color matched for the '02 Vstrom - \$100.00

Fenda Extenda for Vstrom - Brand new - never installed - \$20.00

Stock regular and Tall windshields for a DL1000 VStrom - \$50.00 and \$75.00 respectively
Larry Fitch at fitchle@hotmail.com or 321-266-8757

Florida News

Continued...

(Continued from page 1)

South News:

We had a healthy group of 11 riders, fully half the attendance of the North ride to Floral City, but unfortunately we had an incident just 15 miles short of the event destination. A non-member rider went down in a turn and his bike hit him in the process. He suffered 5 broken ribs which necessitated a hospital stay of 4-5 days, but is now at home recuperating. This is the first such serious incident I've experienced in 5 years of leading these rides and it was NOT fun. I am very thankful it wasn't worse and hope everyone will heed the incident to re-double your efforts to ride safely and within your personal limits.

As Sam said, the place was nice, and I didn't even mind the long wait for food because it gave us more time to chat with everyone. We also had a new couple join us for the first time - Doug & Becky Westly (Becky is Buck DeShazo's sister) They seemed to really enjoy the ride and plan to join the club soon.

The South ride was just a week later and it was another great Florida day. We went to Lightsey's - a big seafood restaurant right on the north west edge of Lake Okeechobee.

Despite our large group arrival, these folks had our orders taken and food out in no time! Hopefully, next time we can reserve our seating so we're more together. I am looking forward to going back again.

We had 24 riders make the South ride - averaging 161 miles each just to get to the lunch! Bill & Shirley Groleau from Largo, FL garnered long distance honors with 225 miles - which they did 2-up on their Shadow Ace Tourer! Fred Schilling from Pompano Beach was 2nd place at 220 miles which he did by joining up with Jim Park's group out of West Palm Beach where they managed to turn a 50 mile direct route into 190 miles by taking the long way around... Way to go gang!

Also, for the North ride to Floral City: Long Distance king was Larry Fitch out of Melbourne who rode his gorgeous blue ST1300 172 miles to the lunch. 2nd place was Bill & Shirley Groleau at 163 and Bob Vanderwaag rounded out the top three at 151.

'Till Next time - Ride Safe, Ride Smart, Ride Home!

Bill



Over The Pond '06 - Part 4

Submitted By: Paulie COG 4561, HSTA 11498

Editors Note: I was so excited when I got Paulie to submit an article about his motorcycle trip in Europe this summer... That excitement turned to terror as I looked over the 20+ paragraphs (one paragraph per day) and the 250+ AWESOME photographs he sent me... Terror is because I have no idea how to trim his text without losing the experience of the trip and even if I didn't include ANY of the pictures, it'll take several months of Gator Tale issues to get it all in! But, I am going to make a try and we'll see how it goes. I won't be able to get in many of the pix but will try to get some of the best. So, here goes - installment 4 of 4

Oh and the article is written in "Mijamise" so I left it unedited for the effect :-)

Over The Pond, Part 4 - Backtracking towards Voss on another beaut of a day, 13 was a delight of narrow twists & nice scenery. I plunged thru countless tunnels, all lit & well-maintained. It was really surprising that I've run into virtually no road construction or closings, considering the rugged, convoluted terrain & harsh climate. They prolly know the "right" way to build em over here. Waiting for the ferry to cross the Eidfjord were 2 Englishmen on Pan Europeans. They told me that the interesting looking scot

but that was mitigated by 2 girls that whistled at me. I'll take that as a compliment even if it means "Hey, olde phart!" to the locals. Germany beat powerhouse Argentina tonite, & the busy hostel clerk appreciated me talking football with him. I asked for some space to store my piles of gear, & he came up with a room just for yers truly! That beat the snot out of the crowded 6-bunker I'd been originally assigned to.

811 km, ~11 hrs on my last day of scooterizing back to Marc's in the Netherlands. En route I hooked up with Achim again & we had a nice lunch at the Hamburg, Germany "willkommen Hof" on the Elbe. Here they announce details about the ships that pass & play

their home country's anthem. I appreciated Achim's hospitality & guided tour.

Marc split to do his thing today with his GF, so I pattered around scraping bugs off the GTR. In all I put 8814 km on it. I took my time & was able to fix a flat on his 3-speed clunker (similar to everyone else's) bicycle. Somehow it fit me w/o adjustment so I took the a relaxed poke about Dronten & its numerous paths on this warm day. Back to the modern Amsterdam airport via Marc's car early this morning. The stun-



Norwegian View!

getting off the ferry was a Deauville. My route between Odda & Haukeligrend was Sweeper City, just a hoot! I'd read about the fun road to Lysebotn, but after ~30 km I gave up on it & returned to 9 because my maps conflicted. Another place to hit on a return trip. 572 km today, 10.5 hrs to the Kristiansand hostel. This very pleasant small waterfront city was holding an interesting international festival. One difference I've found thruout Norway is that strangers don't look you in the eye nor greet you in public. But once I engaged folks, most all were downright friendly.

ningly beautiful Martinair clerk had me flustered a little, but there was time to recover with Marc as we chilled awhile before I had to get to the gate. Farewell & appreciation to him, a key player in the OtP '06



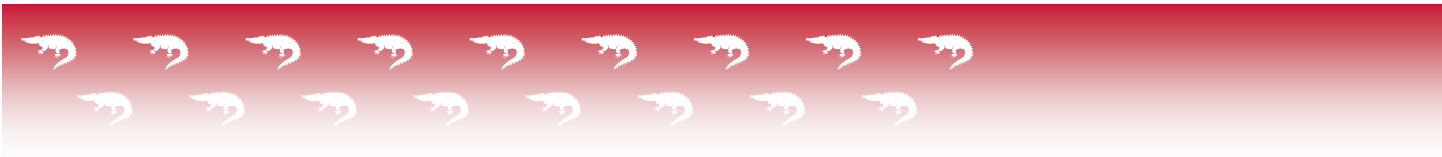
scheme. The long flite back homey was aided by chatting with Gunther, a custom m/c builder from Belgium.



What a GREAT ideal NO toll for the M/C's

It's been swell but it's time to say so long to Norway on the early ferry to Hirthals, Denmark. A 4.5 hr crossing then 208 km primarily on the motorway to the Arhus hostel, where I met happy triathlete & m/c guy Gespar & his family. Got some aggravation running around downtown trying to get Marc's @%\$@\$@ cel working,

My mom wasn't particularly fond of my m/c shenanigans, but I think she would've approved of this fantastic trek. I am honored & humbled by the great folks of COG & GCE that allowed me to take it. My deepest thanx to all, & hope we get to meet down the road. Enjoy the ride!



Upcoming Rides/Events

Ride/Events are compiled for your convenience from a variety of sources. HSTA sponsored rides are indicated with the "♦" symbol.

NOTE: Event schedule is subject to change without notice. Please be sure to check with the listed contact before making your plans!

♦ **HSTA Florida North Lunch Ride** - No December ride

Future North Rides/Dates: Jan 20th - Gator Joe's - Ocklawaha

♦ **HSTA Florida South Lunch Ride** - December 16th - **Lone Cabbage Fish Camp, Cocoa** - Lunch at 12:00 Noon. This is a great location over near the east coast, right on the St. Johns River. (SR520 - King St just a few miles WEST of Exit 201 off I-95 - GPS: N28° 22.1482' W80° 52.2729') The bonus point is that if you have your Christmas cards ready to mail, you can have them postmarked from Christmas, Florida, just short 10 mile detour away!

Contact: Bill Royal RideFL@flahsta.org or 813-633-8155

Future South Rides/Dates: Jan 1st - Peck's Old Port Cove, Ozello Jan 13th - Cherry Pocket - Lake Wales
 Jan 27th - Broadway Café, Ft. Meade - special ride sponsored by the HSTA "Girls of Tampa"

Excapse to the Conc Republic IV - Saturday, Jan 20th - Everyone's welcome to c'mon down & take a scenic cruz on the Overseas Highway to Key West! Leaving: 8am Saturday 1/20/07 From: Quick Mart Mobil (used to be Chevron), 16 N Krome Ave, Florida City 33034, 305-245-8981. This is on the corner of SR997 (Krome Ave/SW 177 Ave) & SR9336 (Palm Dr/SW 344 St), 1 block W of US1, and 1 block S of the end of the FL Turdpike Extension. Destination: Half Shell Raw Bar, 231 Margaret St, Key West FL 33040, 305-294-7496. This is at Lands End Marina near the corner of Margaret & Caroline. ETA will be 11am. See <http://www.halfshellrawbar.com/home.html> Note that these are not official "group rides".

After lunch there'll be time for playing tourista including hitting the Southernmost Point for a photo op, then it's back to Florida City. Fun/budget accommodations are available 1 block W of the above Mobil that can also handle camping: Everglades Hostel, 20 SW 2nd Ave, 305-248-1122, 800-372-3874. Book online at <http://www.evergladeshostel.com/accommodations.htm>

Enter COG in the Special Requirements so they can keep us nutcases together.

The next morning we'll take the scenic route thru Mijami to breakfast in kewl South Beach...

Leaving: 7am Sunday 1/21/07 From: above Mobil Destination: Front Porch Cafe, 1418 Ocean Dr, Miami Beach 33139, 305-531-8300. ETA will be 8am. See <http://www.miamibeach411.com/Restaurants/frontporch.html>

Hope to seeya there...enjoy the ride!

Paulie, Mijami Floriduh, '01 Conc, COG, HSTA, MTF Over the Pond '06...done!
paul.heydemann@netzero.net

♦ And all the rest of the HSTA National schedule...

For non-HSTA members reading this on the internet, be advised that attendance at these National Events requires HSTA membership. You can join at the event and your event fee gets waived (one time only)!

NOTE: This is the **PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE** of HSTA National Events for 2007. It is offered for your early planning needs, but beware that some details may change so be sure to stay tuned for updates, especially if you are planning a long trip to make any of the events!

The regular full version with contacts and websites will re-appear in the January issue of Gator Tale.

| Date | Event |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| March 16-17-18 | Ride the Rio El Duodecimo (the 12th) |
| April 13-14-15 | T-19 |
| April 27-28-29 | Helen North Georgia Classic |
| May 18-19-20 | Twistar 2006 |
| May 25-26-27-28 (4 days) | Tri-Star |
| June 24-25-26-27 | STAR 2006 |
| August 3-4-5 | Nolichucky Valley Rally |

| Date | Event |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| August 24-25-26 | Mail Pouch Fly By |
| September 7-8-9 | Ozarks BS Rally |
| September 14-15-16 | River City Ride |
| September 21-22-23 | SE Star |
| October 5-6-7 | Friends of Freddie's |
| October 19-20-21 | AR By Way Boogie |
| November 2-3-4 | Texas Hill Country Ride |