

# FLORIDA GATOR TALE

Honda Sport Touring Association

April 2005



## Florida News

Submitted By: Sam Ulbing & Bill Royal

### North News - Sam Ulbing

Spring Fling- April 8th - If you aren't going, you will miss a lot of fun. There are some 40 people signed up. I'll tell you all about it in the next news letter.

There is no official April lunch due to the Spring Fling but Lee and I will eat lunch at Floyds Diner in High Springs on the way to Tallahassee on Friday April 8. We plan to eat early, 11:30, so we can get to Tallahassee at a reasonable time. You are welcome to join us just for lunch or to ride up together. Let me know if you



**Fearless Leader Sam Ulbing  
Addressing the attendees at the North Lunch Ride**

plan to so I can save seats. Also I will try to do an impromptu mid week lunch ride mid April. I will post it on the Yahoo Group page <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FLAHSTA/> Have you joined yet? Note that anyone can organize one of these impromptu lunch rides and contact all the group members through that web page.

Ridgdill organized a joint Bike Week lunch with BMWNEF and some 48 people attended including several celebrities: Moose Parrish, our STAREVIEW editor, Craig Vetter, motorcycle hall of fame, and Peter Nettesheim who has a private collection of 50 antique BMW's. He was riding a pristine 1960's model. The 'official' Saturday ride to the Outback Crab Shack just 9 days

later still drew 29 people. Clearly our group likes to ride or maybe it's the eating they like! These lunches are a great way for prospective members to get to know us so next time you come to a lunch think about bringing a friend. Pictures of both rides are on the Ya-

hoo Group web site.

Don't forget the Ride Into History on April 29 in St. Augustine. It should be a lot of fun and it is for a good cause. To learn more email Bill Robinson RIH2005@aol.com or 904-730-9719.

We had two north lunch rides this month. Phil

*(Continued on page 2)*

## 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!

**Bill Gove**

**Ruskin**

**'99 Honda Gold Wing**

**This 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](http://www.ridehsta.com)**

**And the  
Florida HSTA Site at:  
[www.flahsta.org](http://www.flahsta.org)**

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

**North Geography:** Sam Ulbing  
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[n4uau@cox.net](mailto:n4uau@cox.net)

**South Geography:** Bill Royal  
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Sun City Center, FL 33573  
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### Inside this issue:

Florida News	1, 2, 3
Free Ads	2
2005 Mileage Contest	3
RIH- Dennis Gage	4
A Nasty Guy named Floyd	4
Rides/Events	5, 6



# Florida News

Continued...

(Continued from page 1)

## South News - Bill Royal

What a great month of rides. Even with having to miss the Daytona lunch due to that bad four letter word—work—we still managed a LOT of riding and with some great weather!

First up was the South Lunch ride to Everglades City. 8 riders left Sun City Center for a 198 mile all non-interstate ride, including a couple who already rode 30+ miles to get to that starting point! Bob Shields got highest mileage honors for a member at 232. Another non-member topped out at 254 miles. Several more riders showed up from the east coast and a smattering from elsewhere and we had an enjoyable seafood meal. Stone crab was in season and we ate a lot of it! Lots of the usual tire kicking and BS'ing and all too soon it was time to head home.

The ride home was, well, exciting... We took a different route

home, and shortly after dropping off a rider or two, I approached a 90 degree left hand sweeper at speed (65 or so). We were six riders at the time and at that speed we were stretched out a good 1/4 mile. As I leaned into the turn and looked through it, I spotted a red SUV, looking to be traveling at least 80, maybe a tad more, but doing so entirely within the confines of MY lane! There really wasn't much I could do in the little time (<2 seconds) available. Fortunately for me, the driver spotted me just as I spotted him and he immediately corrected. Also, I was fortunate enough to already be on the outside of my lane since just a second later, he passed me by, while still half in my lane - luckily not the half I was in! Good object lesson in why we should NOT be hugging that centerline. Yeah, I was lucky that day.

I hated to miss the Daytona lunch ride but my job was not cooperating with time off right at the moment. Looks like it was a great turnout though.

(Continued on page 3)

## 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 wgr@sprynet.com.

### For Sale

#### Bikes

**1991 Honda ST1100.** Excellent condition, Silver, 88k miles, always garaged, original owner. Sargent Leather seat, MEZ 4 tyres, luggage rack, works performance shock & org shock, 3 windshields, Audio com with Radar connection, Properly serviced and on Mobil 1 syn oil (Motorcycle). Asking \$3999 obo.. North FL area. Phil Ridgdill 904 287 9654 or rfoxrdr@bellsouth.net

#### **2002 Honda CBR1100XX (Silver)**

13500 miles Gen-mar risers, throttlemiester cruise control, Full Ventura Luggage System (2 racks, 3 bags) Honda extended warranty. Excellent condition. This bike makes an awesome sport touring mount. \$7900.00 - Mark Hanke 321-403-4289 cell Melbourne, Fl.

**2001 BMW K1200 LTC** Pacific Blue 25K , dlr serviced, Autocom, Piaas, CB, Cee Bailey W/S, Kisan and Run-in Lights, 6 Disc CD changer, Luggage Rack, garage kept. \$ 13,000. Contact: Dennis Villarose - ipnman2002@yahoo.com

#### Gear

**Motorcycle lift** for Harley- Davidson or cruisers type bikes. Folds flat for storage. Activated manually with long lever. \$ 70.00

**Chaps**, nice quality black leather with fringes on the side. New, never worn. Size: waist 36" , inseam 34". \$ 80.00

**Pants**, black leather, jeans style, liner. Made in Germany. Size: waist 33" , inseam 32" . \$ 50.00

**Pants**, nice soft black suede leather, jeans style, liner. Made in Germany. New, never worn. Size: waist 33" , inseam 34". \$ 100.00

**Women's gloves**, black leather with fringes, from Harley-Davidson, new, never worn. Size small. \$ 25.00

**Helmet** open face black leather from Harley-Davidson. Size small. \$ 60.00

**Blanket**, black with Harley-Davidson's name stitched on blanket, new. \$ 25.00

Call 813 634-2223 or email hainef@earthlink.net.

**Triumph Summer Weight Motorcycle Jacket.** Black. Size 46 US 56 UK New. Worn 3 times. Fully perforated panels. Cordura construction. Removable CE95 protectors, shoulders and elbows. Removable back insert. Excellent condition. Too many jackets. \$75.00. Tom Roe 321-777-0219 or RTR2169@aol.com

### Accessories

**BRAND NEW Dunlop D404**— 80/90-21. \$50.00 plus shipping. Or if you bring me the bike or the wheel, I'll mount it for free! Contact Scott Wingerter, Inglis, FL 352-447-2662 or Vmax97@peoplepc.com

**Spitfire windscreen** - Smoke tinted, smallish screen (16" wide at bottom tapering towards top. 16.5 " tall) Universal mounts for 7/8 diam. Handlebars. Asking \$25.00 shipped to you. Contact: Eve Blazsur eblueday@mindspring.com 813-633-8155



# Florida News

Continued...

*(Continued from page 2)*

Then there was the North lunch ride. I was actually on the fence about making that one but the weather and my attitude all conspired to convince me to go. Having a potential new member wanting to ride with a group probably also helped there. Bob Shields and I left Sun City Center for a boring first half ride up I-75. It was a chilly 48 or so and it didn't really warm up too much until we had had lunch and were heading back home. We picked up one rider at a rest area and the other new guy at the exit off 75. We took CR484 off I-75 east over to CR464 and then north on CR314A eventually crossing over US40 and then we headed east onto the Salt Springs highway picking up US19 to get into Palatka. From there we crossed over the river and took CR13 north for the last 20 miles. The "new" guy, AD Williams got off his Yamaha FZ6 at the Crab Shack with that wide grin like the cat that caught the canary and exclaimed his pleasure with the

ride and especially the pace so that right there made my day! And, we still had lunch and the ride home to go.



The obligatory "after lunch pose" at the South Lunch Ride in Everglades City

For the ride home I went a mostly different route, down 19 through the Ocala National Forest, and then through Tavares where AD parted company to head for Floral City. Then down through Howie in the Hills (What a name for a town! But it sure is pretty down through there!) and all the way down to SR50 where Bob split off for Lakeland, George and I continued on 50 until I left him to take the (quick route—SR471) so I solo'd home the last 60 miles or so. Got back at 5:30 PM having left at 7:45 AM. Just one more outstanding days riding in Florida. Sure hope to see

you all out on the road another day!

'Till then - Ride Safe!

## 2005 Mileage Contest

Submitted By: Theresia Shearer

I've got a folder of emails and slips of paper that I'm still compiling so stay tuned for the next issue for the 2004 results. I could blame the lack of a mileage results article on the fact I'm getting lots of projects done or that it's a nice sunny day and I'm going riding. Here in the land of no daylight savings time it's only 22 degrees so riding is something I'm just thinking about. It's just as well, the bike is at my dealer taking advantage of winter service specials. Hey, that's one thing I can check off of my project list!

The 2005 contest begins with your odometer readings on April 1st.. On that Friday morning, before you leave for work, check your odometer readings and jot them down on the garage wall. Think of it as a motorcycle version of the growth chart your mom penciled on a doorframe of the house you were raised in. Or get a small dry erase white board, hang it in the garage and use it to keep track of those odometer readings, when you did your last oil change or last major service. Hey, you could even jot the info inside your Blue Book - you do keep that in your tank bag don't you?

The rest of the rules are simple. If you trade bikes, note the ending mileage of the outgoing bike and the starting mileage of the new bike. On November 1st send me the beginning and ending odometer readings for each bike, the year/make/model of each bike, your full name and your state. I need both the beginning and ending odometer readings as sometimes the competition gets a little tense. Your name and state are equally important. When I get an email from 2343UIY@e4343 <mailto:2343UIY@e4343> these old bifocals just aren't going to try going through the Blue Book to put a name and state with it.

Send me the information no later than 11/15/2005. You can email me at the\_shearers@earthlink.net or use the US Postal Service and mail it to Theresia Shearer, 6629 English Drive, Avon, IN 46123. Remember to be sure to include your name, state, and for each motorcycle; the year, make, model, starting and ending odometer readings.

And, for all you folks who get new bikes this year no excuses for not keeping track of your starting mileage. It's easy, it's zero!



## Dennis Gage to Film Riding Into History for the Speed Channel!

Submitted By: Bill Robinson

The Sixth Annual Riding Into History on April 30 at the World Golf Village is sure to be a special one. Dennis Gage of the Speed Channel is going to be the Grand Marshall and speaker at the Biker's Ball. Even more exciting is the fact that Dennis and his crew are going to film the entire event for a segment on one of the Speed Channel national television shows!

Many of you know Dennis from his handlebar mustache and his excellent reporting on Speed. You probably have caught him hosting "My Classic Car," perhaps even one of the episodes featuring his buddy Jay Leno. You may not know, however, some of these interesting facts about Dennis:

- He produces two of the motorcycle shows on the Speed Channel
- He is an avid rider and collector of motorcycles.
- As a young man, he was a professional musician, opening for notable acts such as Charlie Daniels and Waylon Jennings as a steel guitar player.
- He has a degree in physics and has won awards for his research into quantum physics.
- Dennis also has a Ph.D. in Chemistry from the University of Idaho.
- He was product research scientist for Proctor & Gamble, and director of product development at Bristol-Myers Squibb
- Dennis holds numerous patents which allow him the freedom to pursue his interests in classic motorcycles and cars.

With charity rides from Jacksonville and Daytona, a Concours d'Elegance featuring 200 beautiful motorcycles from all over the country, and the Biker's Ball, Riding Into History offers something for everyone. It has become one of the nation's premier events of its kind, and the national coverage on the Speed Channel will bring it to an even wider audience.

Be sure to come enjoy a great day celebrating the motorcycle with Dennis Gage. For more information go to [RidingIntoHistory.org](http://RidingIntoHistory.org) or contact HSTA member Bill Robinson at [RIH2005@aol.com](mailto:RIH2005@aol.com) or 904-730-9719.

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## A Nasty Guy Named Floyd

Submitted By: Jim Cavanaugh

Pisgah National Forest – September 1999

When I go on my motorcycle trips, my wife follows the weather and puts the forecast on my voice mail each morning. During this particular trip, she was leaving reports more often, since there was hurricane headed toward the North and South Carolina coasts.

Floyd was a sizable storm and as it approached the east coast there was one of the largest evacuations that I can remember.

Many people, including my brother and sister in law in Charleston, fled the coastal areas to safer ground. I had been having mostly sunny, but breezy weather in the mountains of western North Carolina.

I was camped at the Blue Ridge Motorcycle Campground at Cruso, North Carolina. The campground is on the west side of the 5700-foot Mount Pisgah and the campground is at approximately the 4000-foot level. The sky became very cloudy in late afternoon, as the wind picked up. There were about twelve campsites occupied, as well as few cabins. I was in what is called a three-man tent; that is just right for one man, with motorcycle gear. Not wanting to be blown into the river next to my site, I secured my tent to my Honda ST1100 and a picnic table. At least if I got blown away, my steed would go with me. I also put some additional stabilizing ropes on the tent

There was a little rain late in the afternoon, but nothing more during the night. When I turned in the wind was about as strong as I ever experienced in a tent. My major concern was that the huge oak tree, next to my tent, would be able to withstand the wind. Some of the branches were as large as some trees. I am not sure

that I really slept more than ten or fifteen minutes at a time. The roar of the wind and flapping of the tent was endless. It was so noisy that I could no longer hear the river next to my campsite. It was a very long night with many prayers.

When I got up in the morning, it was still windy, but a more like a very windy day. I was impressed that a motorcycle popup camper, which was broadside to some of the strongest wind gusts, was still intact. The couple next to me had loaded their Harley in a trailer and pulled out sometime during the night. Two guys in another site got up at the same time, that I did, and said, "you may laugh, but we tied our bikes down". I told them not to worry, because nobody would have laughed if they had been the only ones left standing.

One of the campers was an actor, from New York City. He said he rode to the top of the mountain about nine o'clock the previous night to see what it was like. He found several weather monitoring units that were recording the wind speed. He said the sustained winds were about 60 mile per hour, with near 80 mile per hour gusts. He said he got blown over twice, while riding his Valkyrie.

The next day turned out to be extraordinarily beautiful, with about fifteen to twenty mile per hour winds. The sky was very blue with large white clouds.

Floyd left eastern North Carolina with what was thought to be their worst flood of the century. He left me with a night I will never forget.



## Rides

Submitted By: Bill Royal

(Continued from page 2)

### Rides

Rumor has it that some folks are planning a ride up to STAR '05, and a few may even make a longer week out of it by attending either the Honda Hoot and/or the ST Owners Club EASTOC events after STAR. If you're wanting to get in on any of these plans, email or call Bill Royal - (813)633-8155 or RideFL@flahsta.org

Now don't be shy! I know someone else has to be planning on riding up to STAR Who Dat?

OK, so I am fudging this a bit by extending the Free Ads section and making an additional article, but it's called Editor's Prerogative! 😊

Seriously tough, as we approach the summer and longer days and nicer weather that attends it, it really is time to turn your attention to planning your 2005 riding season event attendance. Until I joined this club, I had never really attended much of any

events. Let me tell you, since I've attended several in the last few years I can only say, do make the effort to make one or more because you will have a great time and meet some new friends for sure.

You absolutely cannot go wrong with attending ANY HSTA event, and the STAR is a must do at least once in your riding career. I bet you can't do "just one"! If that's too much to fit in, pick one of the many regional events for a weekend outing. Even if you prefer to ride alone - just hanging out with the other riders, chatting it up and learning about something new or different will definitely improve your riding perspective, if not your riding itself.

If you do make an HSTA event and are totally new to the group, be sure to look up the SAM and if you don't know who that is at the event, ask any event coordinator. They will make sure you get hooked up with the right folks to make your rides fun, safe and memorable.

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## Upcoming Rides/Events

Ride/Events are compiled for your convenience from a variety of sources. HSTA sponsored rides are indicated with the "♦" symbol. If you are considering making any of the rides we suggest you call the contact ahead of time to confirm the ride is still on as listed. (RSVP always helpful if you know)

♦ **HSTA Florida South Lunch Ride** - No Ride in April

♦ **HSTA Florida North Lunch Ride** - No Ride in April

♦ **Real Florida Spring Fling** - [April 8-10, 2005](#) - **The Guesthouse Inn & Suites, Tallahassee, FL**. This will be the first of what we hope to make an annual weekend event. We have not had a weekend event in Florida since the demise of the Key West Escape a couple years back, so if you like this type of event, please be sure to attend! You DO have to be a member of the HSTA to attend this event. Contact: Sam Ulbing - 352-262-6221 or n4uau@cox.net

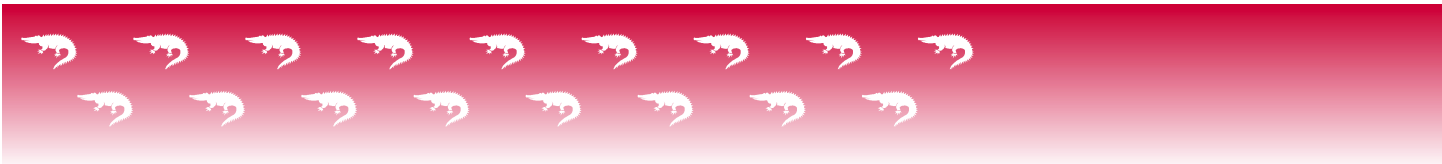
**Riding Into History** - [Saturday, April 30](#) - **World Golf Village, St. Augustine, FL** GPS: N29 59.532 W81 28.258

Riding Into History, a Concours d'Elegance for Motorcycles will return to the beautiful World Golf Village for the sixth straight year. This year it will feature "The Legendary Motorcycles of Germany". The WGV is located just north of St. Augustine, Florida, on I-95, exit 323.

The Atlantic Beach Vintage Motorcycle Club and the BMW Motorcycle Owners of Northeast Florida will be the presenters of the event. Buddy Check 12, a breast cancer charity and a partnership between Baptist Health and First Coast News, will be the beneficiary of the charitable event. Last year RIH raised over \$25,000 for the charity.

RIH consists of three parts: 1). Charity motorcycle rides originating in both Daytona and Jacksonville, leading to the World Golf Village. 2). The Concours, featuring approximately 200 motorcycles from all over the country, as well as vendors, clubs, dealers and entertainment. 3). The Biker's Ball, a dinner and dance held at the Renaissance Resort at the WGV the night of the Concours. Special hotel packages are available.

(Continued on page 6)



## Upcoming Rides/Events

Continued...

*(Continued from page 5)*

For additional information visit [RidingIntoHistory.org](http://RidingIntoHistory.org) or contact HSTA member Bill Robinson at 904-730-9719, RIH2005@aol.com.

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

NOTES: Schedule now updated with 2005 events. Some events are still tentative. Please be sure to check with the listed contact before making your plans!

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)!

Date	Event	Location
April 8-10	T-17	Queen Wilhelmenia Lodge - Mena, AR 800-264-2477
April 28-May 1	Helen 2005	Alpenhof Hotel - 15 Yonah Street, Helen, GA 800-535-8678
May 6-8	AR By Way Boogie	Hot Springs Village Inn - 4429 N. Hwy 7, Hot Springs Village, AR 888-922-9601
May 13-15	TwISTAR 2005	Voyageur Inn - Reedsburg, WI 800-444-4493
May 27-30	Tri-Star	Allegheny Inn - Sparta, NC 888-372-2501
June 19-22	STAR 2005	Holiday Inn North - Lexington, KY
August 12-14	Nolichucky Valley Rally	Holiday Inn Express - Erwin, TN
August 26-28	Mail Pouch Fly By	Best Value Inn (formerly Knights Inn) - Marietta, OH
September 9-11	Ozarks BS Rally	Theodosia Marina & Resort - Highway 160 Theodosia, MO
September 16-18	River City Ride	Baymont Inn - 2495 Landmark Avenue Corydon, Indiana 812-738-1500
September 23-25	SE Star	Holiday Inn Express 64 White Oak Lane Dillard, Georgia 706-746-3585
September 30-October 2	Friends of Freddie - XIII	Tradition Inn Intersection of Hwy 67 & W Farmington, MO 877-355-6205
November 4-6	Texas Hill Country Ride	YO Ranch Resort 2033 Sidney Baker Kerrville, TX 78028 877-967-3767

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