

SIDETRACKS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GEORGIA SIDECAR CLUB ~~~ MAY-JUNE 2016

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From the President:

Hi everybody! Nope, no Russia trip, will finish that next time.

Weather is getting good, or at least no snow in the forecast. Bikes and riders should have the cobwebs shaken out. It is time to get out there and ride. Sidecars in the Smokies has come and gone, and I missed it again. Family came first on that weekend. Look for a ride report in the newsletter. Great rally, hate that I keep missing it. We have a gathering coming! I can't miss this one, not allowed unless I leave the country. Got reservations? Hope so, heard it is filling up. Should be a good time. We'll have everything a rally has, except a fee. Whispering Pines turns out to be a really nice place. Most of the neighbors like us, the host likes us and even joined us last year on Saturday night. Plenty and I mean plenty of tent camping areas for the more primitive among us. Come on out and have a big time!

Last month, road the Retro down to the keys and became a member of the Pirates of the Conch Republic. If you have been to a BMW rally, you know the Pirates. Some of the more serious members blow conch shell horns at odd hours. They are also some of the most hearty BMW riders I know of. Only mentioned this because they have been trying to get me down there for over 30 years. Finally did two years in a row, have learned their "secret" and will not share it. It's a pirate thing. That and I ran into someone who looked familiar as did his rig, the only other rig there. Then it finally hit me, he had been to our rally on the same old BMW rig with his wife when we were just starting out at TWO. Noticed that his wife was not there, turns out that she has passed and he is getting back on the road again. Suggested that he come up to the Gathering. Said he might. Now if I could just remember his name...

Eddie, Van, Robert and I have been helping sell Urals. Well not really, we've been going down to Bluemoon Cycle on the Ural demo days and assisting with new riders, giving rides, eating Johns food and drinking his sodas... Not a bad way to spend a day. Imagine John's parking lot full of Urals instead of BMWs. Robert has posted some videos on YouTube of the event. I will too once I figure out what and how I am gonna do it. James is getting arts with the video stuff. I never thought I would see Eddie ride a Ural, and appear to like it. He keeps riding the only M70 John has (and I noticed John does not put it in the showroom but in the garage) and saying, "Man, this is nice." Rest of us are just kinda shocked how much better the new ones stop and go than ours. Janice, don't ride a new one, instant sidecar envy will occur... So far at least 2 rigs have been sold per event and we've managed to get info to Janice for most of those folks. So welcome new Ural riders, hopefully you'll stay a while and come to some of our events.

Traffic warning when coming through Macon. We have had 14 road fatalities this year. More than a few have been pedestrians. Yesterday a guy rear-ended a garbage truck pinning one of the workers. This

morning number 14 was a cop involved in a chase. The suspect survived the crash. As a result of the incredibly bad driving lately we have little trailers reporting ones speed – just in lights right now – at some of the trouble spots. Buses are getting cameras to get folks who don't like to stop for them as well. Basically the speed trailers are a warning that heavy-handed enforcement is on the way. If you have ever driven here you know something needs to be done. Saying that, and since all of these are a problem with some local drivers and a crackdown is upon us, when riding or driving in Macon watch for school zones, flashing lights on buses, traffic lights, speed limit (changes especially) and put the cell phone away when driving as distracted driving seems to be the root of all these problems.

As always, you all ride safe, I'll try too as well.

From the Vice President:

The April campout was a resounding success. Van and Sharon Nichols, Steven and Rosie McDonald and myself were the attendees. We had a beautiful weekend weather-wise--cool at night, warm during the day and the sun shining all day long. We were exposed to culture of a sort by attending a glass-blowing facility at the southern end of the Little River Canyon road and then attended an artistic legend in the form of Paradise Gardens in Summerville, GA. We had several good meals at local restaurants and just enjoyed good company.

Our next campout would normally be in July but I will not be here. If someone else wishes to set one up please feel free to do so.

Eddie George

2016 Keystone Sidecar Club Kampout

The 2016 Keystone Sidecar Club Kampout will be held the week of July 24-31, 2016 at Amish Country Campsites near Winesburg, Ohio. Contact campground for reservations, we highly recommend them, It is a small ,clean campground. It looks like some of us will be there all week, my family for sure. There is a small website for campground, the phone number is 330-359-5226. Friday night pot luck weeny roast, 50/50 drawing. Saturday evening dinner ride to Der Dutchman restaurant. Free firewood and barn on site. There is a ton to see and do in the area, so come early if you can. If needed contact Kevin Klages at 304-737-1531 or 304-670-3299. Or stretchkwk@hotmail.com. No fees for club just pay campground.

From the Editor:

The Howdy Summer is coming up soon. Hope to see all of you there. No fee for the rally. Food and accommodations are on you. Donations of door prizes would be greatly appreciated. For Saturday night dinner, we will probably all throw money into the pot for food (no obligation to participate). We did this last year and it worked well as it kept everyone on site for the "official rally stuff" held that evening.

The flyer for our upcoming Howdy Summer can be found at:

<http://georgiasidecarclub.com/>

The flyer for the GROPE Dual Sport Sidecar Rally can be found at:

<http://georgiasidecarclub.com/3rdAnnualGrope.pdf>

For Sale:

Hi Art,

I don't know I'm not sure when the next issue of *Sidetracks* comes out. Today I placed the following ad on craigs list:

"2008 Lees-ure Lite pop-up tent camper, 54" wide, sleeps 2, with awning, spare tire, mattress, cooler rack, tool box, front crank-up jack. Sets up in minutes, easily towed behind motorcycle or small car. " I am asking \$3500.

Contact info: dianaandudoreif@gmail.com or Diana's cell phone 706-781-4597

I'm attaching some pictures. Can you please put an ad in the next issue?

Thanks, Udo





The following is borrowed from The Northeast 3-Wheelers Motorcycle Club April newsletter

Dale's Tales:

Hello 3-Wheelers,

The riding season is now upon us and soon it will be time for my rigs to face the annual MA. State Inspection once again. (Grrr) Maybe it's an age thing but because of my procrastination, all of the maintenance and repairs that I should have done over the winter months never got done. So, now I'm really going to have to hump because 2 of my rigs will not pass inspection and the 3rd I really can't ride. The torsion suspension on my ancient GL1000/California FS1 let go and fortunately for me Guy Hill had an old set of springs that Sarge gave him years ago that he was kind enough to pass on to me so that I could rebuild my suspension. That was last fall. So did I fix it over the Winter? no no no. My Valkyrie/Oxford needs tires. Did I get to that? Not really. And last but not least I'm pretty sure my GL1500/Escort needs an alternator. I guess with 112,000 miles I should have expected it. I took it out for a late season spin last December to circulate the gas stabilizer and I heard a squealing noise coming from the motor but it was getting cold and dark so I put it away figuring I would check it out in the Spring. A few weeks ago I took it out for about a 30-mile spin and it ran great with no more noise. I thought all was well until I tried to start it this week. (By the way, the battery is new and checks out fine) I still need to check my charging system to be sure, but I'm thinking alternator. After looking on line I noticed that almost all of the alternators available are made in China including the expensive high amp Compufire as well as the OEM from Honda. Have any of you Wing guys in the club had any experience with this. Lactrical is an affordable brand that seems to get decent reviews but I would like to get some more feedback. If any of you can offer some suggestions give me a call or send me an email.

Because we have some new members in the club, I would like to mention once again that this newsletter is our forum and belongs to all of our members who may want to share something with us. So if you have a story to tell, a tech. tip to share, something to sell, or a ride to post please contact our editor John. He would love to hear from you. In the past some members such as Brad Barrus sent us some very good insightful articles which we all enjoyed reading and discussing. Send us an article about what you ride and what you like or dislike about it. We would love to hear from you and if your not a great writer, don't worry no one judges.

Keep the 3rd wheel down, Dale

