

Sunshine Region Retreads

1434 Golden Park Ct.

Tallahassee, FL 32303



September/ October 2011 Newsletter

Mark your Calendar

__ Chili Ride-in Saturday, December 10th Fort Christmas, FL





Sunshine Region Newsletter



www.floridaretreads.org

Sept./October 2011

Jack & Carol Schardine
Sunshine Region Directors
sunshinedirector@comcast.net
850 212 1930

Message from the Directors



Greetings, Sunshine Retreads,

Even though the attendance was down, the Biketoberfest Luncheon was a very entertaining and informative event. Our guest speaker, Jim Walker, did an excellent job of relating to our group. Jim made a very good presentation about the concerns of our age group with motorcycles and presented helpful suggestions.

I have decided to move our luncheons to Saturday in order to accommodate the members who still work. I have written before that the foundation of our organization is communication through newsletters and our website. With that in mind, I have asked our webmaster, Dick Handverger, to speak to us and demonstrate the features of our website at the Bike Week Luncheon.

Dick Sabo announced the appointment of new leadership in the Leesburg group. Bob Walters will be the new director with Warren Houghton as his assistant. Many thanks to Dick and Randall Sumner for their years of leadership and thanks to Bob and Warren for accepting the positions.

Our next Sunshine Region event, the Chili Ride-in, is right around the corner. My son, John, will be doing the cooking and serving again. To help offset the cost, we are asking for a \$3 a person donation. We are also asking for help gathering door prizes. I will have a box to collect your Christmas cards so they can be taken to the post office and stamped.

The 2012 Retread International Rally will be held in Biloxi. All I know at this time is the host hotel will be the IP Biloxi Casino and Spa Resort. As soon as I have more information, I'll let you know. Wouldn't it be great if we could put together a few days to attend this event!



Area Reps

North Central

Wayne & Louise Howell
howell@windstream.net

386 659 2419

South East

Eric Turner

et8631@bellsouth.net

321 727 8631

Webmaster

Dick Handverger

Webmaster

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Sunshine Region Retreads Meeting Schedule

Clermont South Lake Retreads

Bob Evan's Restaurant on Rt27N across from Walmart

Check their website southlakeretreadsfl.weebly.com for meeting times

Ed Jorge 617 686 7831 roadkinged1955@yahoo.com

John Kruse 612 387 5000 kruser01@hotmail.com

New Port Richey Gulf Coast Retreads

Denny's Restaurant, corner of US19 and SR62

2nd Tuesday 7pm — Saturday rides

Earl and Barb Halle 727 847 9108 ebhalle@aol.com

Homosassa Nature Coast Retreads

Mama Sally's Restaurant, Rt19 Crystal River

Saturday, 8am We have breakfast and ride follows

Jacque Iverson 352 447 2662 jjiverson4@tampabay.rr.com

Inverness Retreads

B&W Rexall Drug Store, Citrus Plaza, 214 S. Hwy Inverness

Sunday, 8am Ride follows

Bob Fernandes 352 341 5762 fernandes.robert88@yahoo.com

Jacksonville North East Florida Retreads

Meeting place will be announced

By-monthly meeting is Sunday of odd number month

George Skelton 904 642 3116 skelton_g@bellsouth.net

Fred Bell 904 221 9569 bikerbell@yahoo.com

Leesburg Retreads

Cracker Barrel Restaurant 9450 US Hwy 441 Leesburg

Bob Walters 352 326 3964 ra_walters@hotmail.com

Warren Houghton 352 459 5547 whoughton01@comcast.net

Melbourne Retreads

Golden Corral Restaurant Palm Bay Road , Palm Bay

Tuesday 5pm

Eric Turner 321 727 8631 et8631@bellsouth.net

Port St. Lucie Treasure Coast Retreads

Cross Roads Rest. 5050 128th Ave. Okeechobee

Every 2nd Sunday, 9am

Rick and Kris Stanley 772 344 6377 rick.stanley@live.com

Borrowed from Jerry “Motorman” Palladino

Why is my bike so Top-Heavy?

I must get this question via email five or six times a day, every day. I've written about it before but obviously, many of you haven't gotten the message.

Here's the question. "I just got a brand new (fill in the blank) it's SO top heavy! What can I do?"

First, let's get this straight. It ain't the bike, there's no such thing as top heavy. It's simple physics. The bike has two wheels, one in the front and one in the back. If you don't put the kickstand down, obviously the bike falls over. If you're going extremely slow and you don't keep power to the rear wheel with your clutch and throttle, the bike will fall over. It's called gravity.

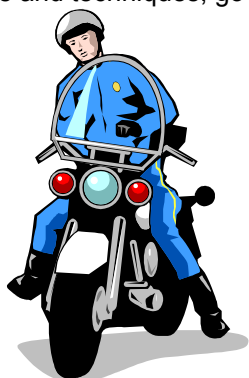
Why does the bike feel stable at higher speeds? Why is it that you don't have a problem balancing a bike above 15 or 20 mph? Again, it's simple physics. The two spinning wheels create a gyroscopic effect, that is, the force pulling you forward overcomes the force of gravity pulling you down. The faster you go, the more the motorcycle wants to continue going straight. Because of the gyroscopic effect of the two spinning wheels at speeds greater than 15mph, in order for the motorcycle to turn, you must make it lean. If you push forward on the left grip, the bike will lean left and go left. If you push forward on the right grip, the bike will lean right and go right.

Again, this is because of the gyroscopic effect. So, the question is, at low speeds how do I keep the bike from falling over? How do I overcome the force of gravity? Thankfully, the answer is very simple, you use the clutch and throttle, i.e., the friction zone. In addition, you put a little bit of pressure on the rear brake, as long as you put power to the rear wheel and at the same time a little pressure on the rear brake, the bike cannot fall over as long as the wheels are turning. Even if the wheels are turning very slowly. By very slowly I mean, 1 or 2 mph. Everyone has seen this if you've ever watched a slow race. If you see a motorcycle fall over during a slow race, or if the rider has to put a foot down to keep it from falling over, it's because of a momentary loss of power to the rear wheel.

If you don't believe when I say that there's no such thing as a top heavy bike, go to YouTube and watch police rodeo competitions. Notice that the rider's seat on a police motorcycle sits about four to six inches above the frame. The rider's weight of course is on top of that. That should make for an extremely top heavy motorcycle, yet, if you watch these videos, you can see these motor officers whipping their bikes through the tightest of turns and maneuvers with ease. They're able to do this because they know how to use the clutch, throttle and rear brake. Knowing these simple techniques will allow any rider to ride any motorcycle regardless of its size or weight, even at the lowest speeds with skill and confidence.

You'll be able to say, "good-bye top-heavy bike!" How do you know if you've mastered the clutch and throttle? Remember, just having the ability starting off from a stop without stalling doesn't mean you've mastered the clutch and throttle. Here's a simple test for yourself. Go to a lined parking lot, make a circle within 2-1/2 parking spaces. With the motorcycle straight up and no leaning begin riding around that circle using the clutch, throttle and a little pressure on the rear brake. You should be able to do this at an extremely slow walking pace; that is, 1 to 2 mph, just barely moving. Keep your head and eyes up at all times. If you can't do this, you have yet to master the clutch and throttle. In that case, you should start practicing the slow race in a straight line until you feel confident and then start riding the circle.

For anyone with a couple thousand miles under their belt, you should have this mastered in about one hour. For more tips, tricks and techniques, go to my website, www.ridelikeapro.com



**Motor Officer
John
Schardine**

Borrowed from the Ontario South Retreads September newsletter

International Rally Gorham, NH

Another first for us. Given Lorraine's new bike still isn't outfitted for highway riding, along with the storm damage in the New England area and the threat of more to come, made us decided to travel by car.

Sunday Sept 11th-We did the I-90 to Chicopee the first day and stayed at the Best Western. On our way in she found several pennies on the ground which is supposed to be good luck. Maybe they do work as we found the adjoining restaurant was having a \$5.00 all you can eat buffet; the admission was an alcoholic drink. The variety was excellent and one fellow had five plates of food.

Monday Sept 12th-We continued on the I-90 where we saw a sign warning of severe flooding beyond exit 31, exactly where we were going. Eventually we got to that exit but happily there was no water to be seen. Then we continued on to the 495 to the 93 north. Not long after getting into New Hampshire we came across a sign advertising a rest area complete with liquor store next to the safety rest area. The selection of wine was huge and the prices were as good as the Duty Free.



Not a good mix eh?

Once again we saw signs stating we were in a FEMA declared disaster area. There were no signs of flood damage near the highway other than one point where a rail bed had been washed away and the rails were a tangled mess.

We arrived early in the afternoon to find we would have to wait for our room to be made ready. Taking advantage of having our car and having requested a fridge for our room, we made a trip to the Berlin Wal Mart for cold cuts, salads and munchies.

We got set up in our room and just managed to get registered before they closed down for the day.

We found out that Rob and Bob were in the room next to us so we had a social gathering, joined by

Chris and Bonnie. Later we tried out the motel's restaurant.

Tuesday Sept 13th-Today after breakfast we followed Alan and Anna, Connie and Tely, from Kawartha, on a trip to [Mount Washington Cog Railway](#) with the intention of riding the train to the top of the mountain. The price was high but it would seem worth it to see the famous peak of the mountain in a relatively safe mode of transportation.



Anna, Alan, Connie and Tely tickets in hand

Our brakeman was quite entertaining pointing out interesting aspects along the way such as; the water tower where the old steam locomotive must stop on its way up to replenish its water supply to allow it to go all the way to the top.



Water tower and switch needed for two way traffic

It takes 40 minutes to reach the top where you are given one hour to do sight seeing and buy

souvenirs or have a snack. There is an [amazing view](#) and many places for photo ops.

It is noted for its sudden changing [weather](#) and above all the wind speed which has been clocked at a record 231 mph. One of the buildings has huge chains over it to keep it from blowing off the mountain.

A testimony to the weather is the markers where people have died due to exposure, just a short distance from safety, when caught in snow storms etc.



The chain is just visible at the right of the picture

As promised the train was there one hour after we arrived and was boarded promptly. On the way up the brakeman had little to do except entertain us and operate any switches that were in the wrong position. [On the way down](#) the brakeman (a new one) had to operate brake wheels to keep the passenger car, which is not coupled to the engine, from getting too far away and to bring it back in contact without any unnecessary hard impact with the engine.



The brakeman applying necessary friction

We made our own way back to the motel to be sure we would not miss the lobster bake which was great! After this it was the State Representative and Regional Directors meeting.

Wednesday Sept 14th-We signed up for the Poker run and drew our cards but with no success. We drove the Poker Run route and stopped at Echo Lake Beach and ate our picnic lunch Lorraine had packed. A single duck joined us and soon there were many more paddling across the lake to join in the free-for-all for the crackers we threw them.

A sign on the highway announce the next exit was for Cannon Mountain Aerial Tramway. It could be seen from the park and we made our way to it.

The gondola would take us 2000 ft up the mountain to a little over 4000 ft. Here we hiked along the "scenic route" to the observation tower. This was a demanding walk with the path right beside the edge of the mountain with no guard rails.



View from trail (No guard rails)



View of Echo Lake from the Gondola

We took the short route back to the ride. Back at the base we shopped for souvenirs for the grandchildren.

We headed back north to the motel killing time until the ice cream social. Wow! We were given ample amounts of the entrée with many toppings to finish it off. I doubt anyone went back for seconds.

Thursday Sept 15th-Even though it was raining many people ventured out for breakfast in town. We also went to a restaurant on the main street. It was a little busy and our waitress was not too speedy so it took a long time to get our meals. The wait was worth it. The Taco-Taco omelets were huge and quite tangy.

The remainder of the day was spent socializing around the property and getting ready for the banquet. The buffet was excellent with a wide selection of food available.

In total there were 18 Ontario South members at the rally: Jack and Jane, Robin, Bruce; Rob, Bob and Chris and Bonnie who came as a group, Chris and Shirley; Tony and Caro, Gary and Marilyn and John and Karen who also came together.



Some of the Ontario South members



Board Members: Kay, Jim, Laura and Dave



In all there were 246 people registered with 30 plus cancelling out due to fears generated by the storm Irene and possibly other reasons.

The rally was very good: the motel was excellent, the staff was obliging and friendly, the rooms were spacious and the rides, roads, and attractions were great. The lobster bake was something to remember!

Congratulations to Cliff and Carol and their volunteers for a great rally! We hope we can do as good a job in Niagara Falls in 2013.

Friday Sept 16th-We checked out just before 7:00 am and were on the road intent on driving straight through. We ran into rain on 93 south which made our thoughts turn to the members who would be riding through these conditions. We didn't have to make a stop to get something to eat because we had another batch of sandwiches Lorraine made the night before. The weather cleared and we arrived home at 7:30 pm.

We heard from everyone and no major problems were reported in their rides.

Annual Barbeque This year the BBQ was to be held at Chris and Mary's place in beautiful downtown Speyside.



Chili prepared by
award winning chef
Lt. John Schardine



Bring your Christmas cards
to mail at Christmas Post Office



Sunshine Region

Retreads



Chili Ride-In

Saturday, December 10th

Fort Christmas Historical Park

1300 Fort Christmas Rd.

Christmas, FL 32709

**Bring your own preferred beverage
Fresh graded cheese, bowl, spoon and
crackers**

will be supplied

50/25/25

Drawing

Door

Prizes

There is no charge for admission to
the park.

We will be asking for a donation of
\$ 3 per person to cover expenses



Application for Membership

Sunshine



Region



Retreads® Motorcycle Club International, Inc.

Please type or print

Membership is valid from January 1st through December 31st

**** This information must be completed before a membership card is issued.**

New Membership Renewal Membership

Retreads® Group Name _____
 Area Rep Group Director Assistant Group Director

**** Name:** _____ ****Co-Rider:** _____

**** Address:** _____ ****City:** _____

****State:** _____ ****Zip:** _____ Phone : (____) _____

E-mail Address: _____
 Yes, send me the news letter using E-mail

**** Applicant's Birthdate** _____ ****Co-Rider's Birthdate** _____

Recruited by: _____

Donation \$ _____ \$ 15.00 single person or \$ 20.00 for couple per year.

Make checks payable to: Sunshine Region Retreads

Send application to: Sunshine Region Directors
Jack and Carol Schardine Phone 850 212 1930
1434 Golden Park Ct. E-mail sunshinedirector@comcast.net
Tallahassee, FL 32303

I understand that the Retreads® cannot assume responsibility for any aspect of my safety. I understand that my participation in any Retreads® activity is strictly voluntary and further, I fully release and hold harmless the Retreads® Motorcycle Club, International, Inc. from any loss to my person or property.

<u>For Region use only</u>	
Card #(s) _____	
Ck# _____	
Cash _____	

**** Signature** _____

**** Co-Rider** _____

**** Date** _____

ot

Retread Mart

2006 Harley Davidson Electric Glide Classic: 36,000 miles, J&M CB, Kuryakyn Highway Pegs, Kuryakyn Brake Light Kit, Harley custom mirrors, windshield chrome, leather windshield bags, Screamin Eagle air filter, chrome axle covers, shorty antennas, air vents, chrome license plate holder. Amsoil Synthetic oils used, Good rubber, color Brandy Wine Sun Glow. Asking \$13,000, Leesburg Florida, e-mail ra_walters@hotmail.com, (h) 352-326-3469, (c)863-307-0390. 05/2011

For Sale:

Aluminum tri-fold motorcycle loading ramp.

\$100

Call Jack at 850 212 1930 or email jackschardine@comcast.net



2008 GL 1800 Gold Wing

20,175 miles— Honda extended warranty till 9/19/ 2014

Call Walter at 229 226 1192

\$16,000



2008 Yamaha TTR-230 electric start.

Minimal hours ~ 30 hours

No wrecks/no dents or bangs garage kept...there are a few scratches but heck, it's a dirt bike.

Retailer at \$3250 asking \$2000 and I will deliver it with a \$500 non-refundable deposit. If you come to Easley, you can buy it for \$1600.

This is as close to a brand new bike as you can get without having to pay taxes and title.

Mike Carpender EMAIL unsmic@netscape.net PH 864 858 0812 05/2011

