

The Venture Voice



March 2002

<http://www.rmvt.com>

Volume 18 Issue # 3

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Vice-Prez.: Tom Shumaker *dagwood29@msn.com*
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Officers Speak

Submitted by: Gail Hawkins

Ten-9-8-7-6-5-4! The countdown is running and even though I'm writing this as the snow falls, riding season will be here before we know it. We actually have our first planned ride in 12 days, weather permitting! Then we all have the opportunity to take part in the "Have a Heart" rides, regardless of the weather. If you've not participated in this rewarding experience before, now is a great time to start. Please try to attend both weekends!

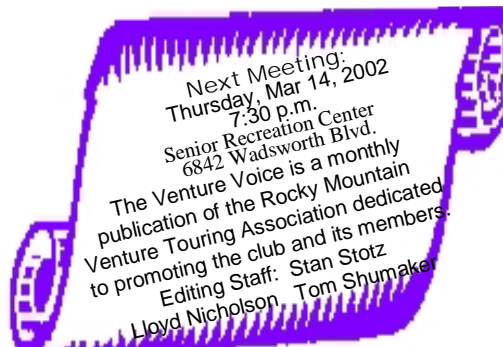
This year let's all remember our top priority - SAFETY! While we all think of ourselves as safety conscious, we must be ever mindful of other drivers/riders who may not be as courteous and careful.

With so many new members, I urge each ride captain to brief the riders about group riding etiquette. Though I don't ride myself, I've been a passenger/member of the club for 11 years. That's long enough to know that riding in a

group requires some different skills than riding alone. Please review these sections in the ride book before the season begins: "Group Riding Protocol", "RMVTA Safety Guidelines", and "Guidelines for Captains and Tail Riders". They can help make your riding season accident free and much more enjoyable.

3-2-1 - GO!

Gail
"Tiny Hiney"



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Meeting Place for March 2002 Meeting:

Submitted by: Bill Nielson

The March 14th Membership Meeting will be held at Senior Recreation Center located at 6842 Wadsworth Blvd. If you go north on Wadsworth from I-70, go through the stop light at 68th and Wadsworth, go past the Total station on the right (east side of Wadsworth) and the next building will be the Senior Center. We hope to see you there at 7:30. We have no word as to when we can return to our regular Fay Myers meeting place. We will let you know as soon as we find out.

"Rumble Buck"



Have a Heart Easter Basket Assembly

Sunday, March 17, 2002

Submitted by: Dave Menges

Iwould like to thank you all for the cash contributions you all gave at last

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Minutes of February 14, 2002 RMVTA Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Bill Nielson at 7:30 p.m. A total of 26 members were present.

There were no visitors present.

Committee Reports:

Secretary's Report: Motion to accept January minutes as written by Sandy Redford, seconded by Steve Inouye.

Treasurer's Report: Jonna reports there is \$3,630.54 in savings and \$1311.85 in checking.

Activities: Steve Inouye announced that 18 people plan to attend the Glenwood Springs trip on Feb 23-24. Train departs Union Station at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday and returns at 12:00 p.m. on Sunday. Everyone should arrive at 8:15 a.m. in order to pre-board.

A trip to Central City/Blackhawk is planned for late March. More details when they become available.

Steve handed out date plates for sponsor plaques for those who missed receiving them in the past.

Ancillaries: John and Sandy Redford have agreed to take this on for the year. Thanks, guys! There was a discussion about buying your own articles and having them embroidered. To get a price break on items, we must buy so many that it takes a long time to sell them, so this was suggested as an alternative.

Awards: Jeannie absent.

Finance: Karen absent.

Historical: Floyd (and others) took over 100 pictures at the Appreciation Party. Watch for them soon on the web. He thanked Steve and Debbie for hosting a great party!

Member Relations: Crane absent.

Membership: Robin announced that everyone present at the meeting had paid dues for 2002. No payment - no Ride Book at the March meeting.

Newsletter: Deadline for articles and/or pictures is 23rd of month. Stan called for anyone to submit articles of interest and promised to print anything that wasn't in extremely questionable taste!

Items are to be sent to Stan Stotz at stanstotz@attbi.com

Webmaster: Upgrade of the web site is now complete. With all the extra space available, Stan has put the last few newsletters in for anyone to refer to.

When final info is received from the ride committee, Tim will begin their input to the web site.

Watch for the 30 new pictures to be added to the Membership Gallery soon!

50/50: Ruth urged everyone to buy lots of tickets.

Ride Committee: Mitch Munson says the draft of the 2002 ride schedule is posted on the web. There are still 6 open weekends, but they'll be filled with the entries to the ride contest.

Six entries were received - 3 each for the 1 and 2 day rides. Mitch described each ride as submitted and the members voted to use "A Day at the Races", Saturday, Sept 14, and "Wet N Wild", Sat/Sun, July 20-21. Wonder how much Dave Menges had to pay everyone to vote for BOTH of his rides?? Anyway, Dave's \$100 richer these days! Congratulations!

The other four rides submitted will be entered into the schedule on the dates suggested.

Mitch said the only ride still open was on Labor Day. Nancy Frase agreed to plan a ride for that long weekend.

Mitch thanked everyone who contributed their input this year. He had to make several phone calls to get everything together, but said most people were very gracious about it. For those who weren't, they could, and I quote "kiss my a_ _".

Upcoming Rides: The "Have a Heart" ride will begin March 17 when we gather to assemble baskets. Ride departs Safeway at 72nd and Federal at 4:00 p.m.. Distribution will be on March 23, leaving from the K-Mart at I-70 and Federal at 7:30 a.m. A ride/lunch will follow, weather permitting. Everyone present was asked to donate money toward candy for the baskets and/or bring individually wrapped candy to the next meeting.

Tom Shumaker says the Cherokee Ranch Tour on May 11 will be by reservation

only and Brenda must have your money (\$12/person) by April 30. There will be no refund if you are unable to attend.

A reservation is also required by June 22 (no advance payment necessary) for the Glen Erie Castle ride on June 29. Plans are to meet at Gunther Toody's for breakfast before the ride.

Watch the newsletter for reservation phone numbers for the Dodge City ride on June 15-17.

Old Business: John Redford is working on getting the disc made for the club logo.

John says he'll also have a new missing link made by the beginning of ride season.

New Business: Fay Myers is working diligently to have a room ready for our March meeting. Bill should know within 2 weeks. Just in case the room isn't ready, he asked everyone to be thinking about possible locations for the meeting. Wayne volunteered to check out the church where another club meets as a possible temporary site. Steve suggested the La Mansion Diner might be willing to let us use part of their dining area.

Sandy announced there was a miscommunication before the awards. Jonna Wright is still the award holder for the most women's rides, but Bill Nielson and Floyd Thorne will share that honor for the men. All three participated in 20 rides last year. Way to go!

Ruth announced that Chapter E will host a fund raiser spaghetti dinner on Saturday, Feb 17 at the United Methodist Church at 68th and Carr. Cost is \$10.

Missing Link: After several lame attempts at nominations, it was decided there'd be none again this month.

50/50: Ruth reported they collected \$81.00, with \$40.50 going to the club. The winners were:

- 1st Place: Brenda Shumaker \$20.00
- 2nd Place: Brenda Shumaker \$12.50
(no this is NOT a misprint)
- 3rd Place: Larry Gutt \$8.00
(2 months in a row!)

A motion was made to close the meeting by Steve Inouye and seconded by Sandi Redford.
Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

**Amtrak Train Ride
February 23 - 24, 2002**

Activity Leaders: Steve and Debbie
Inouye

It is a beautiful Colorado morning this Saturday as we all (eighteen of us) start to arrive at Union Station in anticipation of our planned activity. I am especially excited because I have never ridden the train before. I have always wanted to but never had the right opportunity or motivation. This was just the occasion that I was looking for. Linda had ridden the train years ago when her Dad took her to the Station in Kansas after graduation from high school. She was coming to Denver to live with a brother and seek work here. The rest of that one is history as they say.

Our train was late as our scheduled departure was to be 9:00 a.m. but by the time we boarded and pulled away from the station it was nearly 11:00 a.m. No one was too concerned because we did not have a real agenda or timetable to adhere to. After boarding we all located our seating and then many of us moved to the observation car where there were lots of windows and swivel seats. The views were very pretty, as we have all come to expect from this beautiful state of ours.

We got to Glenwood Springs and got checked into our accommodations at the historic Hotel Colorado. From there we ended up breaking into two groups. Some had a pallet for steak and the rest of us went for Mexican fare. After way too much to eat most everyone headed to the hot mineral pools that Glenwood is famous for. Linda and I opted to relax a bit and then walked over later to check things out.

Sunday we arose to another beautiful Colorado day. People went their separate ways to get breakfast. Some ate at the Hotel buffet and other to the Village Inn near by. After breakfast we checked out and placed our luggage in a staging area for pickup later on by the bellhop. From there it was off walking to check out the local shopping opportunities. There was a whole lot of looking going on but not a lot of buying.

As we neared midday we went to a Hotel

just across from the train station and many of them ate lunch and some of us that were still stuffed from breakfast took our lunch to go. It tasted great about 4:00 p.m. The train was late for it's 12:37 departure but we were on our way about 1:45 p.m. The ride home was spent mostly in our seats partly because the observation car was full already and I think everyone was pooped. If you get a chance to look at the pictures you will see most everyone if not sleeping were very inactive at best.

We encountered snow going towards Kremmling, CO and then over the divide. We went into the Moffet Tunnel in near darkness on the west side and it was almost difficult to tell when we exited the tunnel on the east side as it was now getting quite dark. Most of us agreed that we enjoyed traveling in day light more than in the dark. The movement of the train was a lot less noticeable in the daylight.

Someone had the foresight to pick up a carrot cake and a cherry pie to be shared by all on the way home. It really hit the spot after the dinner that many of us brought along as a take out at lunch. Thank you very much from all of us for that.

We, Linda and I, would like to thank Steve and Debbie for a GREAT trip and activity. We had a grand time of it and as usual enjoyed the opportunity to share time and break bread with our friends from the RMVTA. If we do this one again in the future everyone should plan on joining the crew.

Floyd and Linda Thorne



Membership Update

Submitted by: Robin Reynolds

Membership dues are due by the March 14, 2002 Membership Meeting. All paid members will be in the membership book. If you will not be at the meeting and haven't paid your dues, you can mail your membership dues to our mail box or send/give them to either Jonna Wright or myself. As a reminder, single memberships are \$25.00 and family memberships are \$30.00. "Tigger"

Two-Up ERC

Submitted by: Virgil Kipers

The Two-Up ERC (Experienced Rider Course) for RMVTA is scheduled for April 20th.. The sign-ups for this class will be at the next RMVTA meeting (March 14, 2002). These ERC courses are taught by MSF (Motorcycle Safety Foundation) instructors and can be taken by single Riders (One-up) or Rider/Co-Rider (Two-up) participants.

The April 20th class will start on Friday, April 19th at 6:15 p.m., at Fay Myers (meeting room). There will be two (2) hours of classroom study involving slides, videos, and lecture/discussion. The class will re-convene Saturday, April 20th, 7:45 a.m., at Fay Myers (meeting room). There will be two (2) more hours of classroom, one (1) hour of co-rider seminar, and five (5) to six (6) hours of range (riding through exercises). The range location will be announced at the Saturday classroom meeting. The class will end somewhere around 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.

YOU MUST ATTEND THE CLASSROOM STUDIES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE RANGE EXERCISES.

Participants must bring the following identifications to take the ERC course:

- Colorado Motor Vehicle Drivers License (with Motorcycle endorsement)
 - Colorado Vehicle Registration card
 - Vehicle Insurance card
- Be prepared to show these at the start of the classroom study.

Requirements:

1. Participants must have a motorcycle in GOOD working condition.
2. Participants must wear the proper riding gear:
 - Helmet
 - Gloves - full fingers
 - Long-sleeve shirt or jacket
 - Long pants
 - Over-the-ankle footwear
 - Eye protection
3. The fifty-five dollars (\$55.00) charge per motorcycle MUST be paid in advance unless other arrangements are made with Virgil Kipers (303) 948-9504. Make checks

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payable to: Virgil Kipers. Mail to:
8097 South Lamar Court
Littleton, CO 80128.

4. Cancellation for a refund MUST be made at least three (3) weeks before the scheduled training. Fifteen dollars (\$15.00) of the course charge is not refundable.

Bring a sack lunch OR purchase lunch at a nearby restaurant.

NOTES:

This course will be most advantageous if the rider has at least one (1) year of riding experience.

THIS IS NOT A REQUIREMENT.

A single rider CAN take this ERC. There is no requirement to have a co-rider. The same range exercises are used that are required in the One-up ERC.

However, if you normally ride Two-up, this training will offer the greatest benefit if a co-rider is included.



(Easter Basket continued from page 1)

month's meeting and the continued support for this program. We will meet at 3:45 p.m. on Sunday, March 17th at the Safeway parking lot at 74th and Federal. We will leave for the Have a Heart facility which is close by at 4:00 p.m. to assemble 250 Easter baskets for the kids. Please remember to bring individually wrapped candy with you to put into the baskets.

After we get done assembling the Easter baskets (approximately 2 hours), we plan to go out to dinner and have a good time. We hope to see you all there.

**Have a Heart
Easter Basket Distribution**

Saturday, March 23, 2002
Submitted by: Dave Menges

We will meet at 7:30 a.m. at the K-Mart parking lot at approximately 54th Avenue and Federal (just north of I-70) on Saturday, March 23rd. We will leave at 7:45 and ride to the Have a Heart building to prepare the area for Easter basket distribution. We plan to start handing out the Easter baskets at 8:30 a.m. Jerry Hatfield will be

our Easter Bunny again this year. He does an outstanding job in this capacity! We plan to leave (weather permitting) for a ride to Severance, CO to eat at Bruce's Restaurant. If you haven't attended one of these functions, you have been missing out on a treat. All you need to do is see the joy in these kids' eyes and you will realize that the trip there was more than worthwhile. We hope to see as many of you there as possible.



Spotlight on Sponsors

Submitted by: Debbie Farnum

Grand Prix Motorsports
3675 South Santa Fe Drive
Englewood, CO 80110
Phone (303) 761-2471

This article on Grand Prix Motorsports is an addition to the article in the January 2002 newsletter. Grand Prix Motorsports has been a double sponsor of RMVTA for the last few years. (Maybe that is why I spread this article over two months) Bill Comegys has been the owner/operator of Grand Prix Motorsports for the past 7 years.

Bill is from McKinney, TX just north of Dallas. He is married to Laurie and has two daughters. Haley is 10 years old and Rachel is 12 years old. The girls really enjoy the ATVs that he sells at Grand Prix Motorsports. Laurie works as the office manager for Grand Prix Motorsports. While living in Texas, Bill raced for Plano Honda. He won three championships including the Daytona. He wanted to buy his own shop and his dream has apparently come true. He met Laurie at Texas A&M.

To reiterate what was said in the January newsletter, Grand Prix Motorsports sells Yamaha, Suzuki, Kawasaki, and Polaris motorcycles, ATVs, and snowmobiles and their product lines. They feature same-day oil changes and tune-ups. They offer special low prices on Dunlap tires and if you have them mounted at Grand Prix Motorsports he can guarantee that you are getting the lowest prices on Dunlap tires even if you mail order them. Grand Prix Motorsports is open for business Tuesday through Saturday. They

keep longer hours during peak season. Bill tells me that they pride themselves on being customer friendly. If you are ever dissatisfied they really want to know. Grand Prix Motorsports web site is: <http://www.grandprixmotorsports.com> and e-mail address is: info@grandprixmotorsports.com.



Spotlight on New Members

Alan and Suzanne Sanborn

Alan was born and raised in Ironton, Ohio. Suzanne was born in New Jersey and traveled around a lot. Suzanne lived in Iran during the late 60's and 70's with her Dad and sister. She ended up going to High School at St. Mary's High School in Peekskill, New York. Her grandmother did not live too far from there. Her roommate at St. Mary's High School was dating Alan's roommate at the time, Paul. Paul and Alan were attending West Point. Alan was a sophomore at West Point and she was a senior in High School. Suzanne's roommate hooked her up with Paul and they started dating. Well Paul gave her to Alan as a Christmas Present. We all know that it is nice not to give away Christmas Presents (unless it is at the White Elephant Gift Exchange) so Alan and Suzanne are still together. They have been married for 29 years.



I guess all her traveling around while growing up made her adaptable to married life with a military man. Alan spent 4 years at West Point and then 20 years in the Army. They traveled around a lot (Ft. Benning, GA, Ft. Knox, KY, Ft. Hood, TX, Ft. Rucker, Al.) (Alan was a Armor Officer and then decided to change his career to aviation and fly helicopters), Ft. Bragg, NC (Alan did a stint in Korea at that time), Ft. Hunter Army

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Airfield, Savannah, GA, Ft. Stewart, GA, Ft. Devens, MA, and Kaiserslautern, Germany.) Suzanne worked at Ramstein AFB while they lived in Germany. When Alan was retiring from the Army he requested his retirement assignment to be east of the Mississippi and South of the Mason Dixon line and he was transferred to Denver. They love Denver and have been here for 13 years. Alan works for the post office and she works for the Denver Finance and Accounting Service at the former Lowry AFB. They have raised two children (Army brats like me). I wonder with all her traveling around with her dad in the oil business does that make Suzanne an Oil brat or Gas brat? Their oldest daughter, Christina Elizabeth Sanborn-Gomez (married to Paul Gomez) is 24 years old. Paul and Christina have given them a granddaughter, Felice who is 7 months old. Their son, Douglas, is 22 years old and works at Auto Zone. He is attending Denver Automotive and Diesel College. Alan enjoys working around the house and is excited to be able to finish the basement in their new home. Suzanne does cross stitching, scrap booking, and photography. They both ride their own motorcycles. Alan has a Kawasaki Vulcan Nomad 1500 and Suzanne has a Honda Shadow Sabre Classic. They have a cat named Charles B (the name was too long for me to have space to type it here, Chuckie for short) Sanborn. A big name for a small cat. They are both movie buffs and have a large collection of movies.

Welcome to the RMVTA Family



For Sale:

Like new full-face Shoei helmet, size XL, color pearl white. Cost new \$275 will sell for \$100 or best offer. Call Steve Inouye at 303_274_2472 or email at stdebino1@home.com.

2001 Honda Shadow Sabre, Model VT1100C2. Black & gray w/saddlebags, sissy bar & luggage rack. 3,300 miles. Price: \$7,750.00. Call Al after 4:00 p.m. at (303) 368-7408



SPRING POLAR BEAR RIDE AKA POLAR BEAR NINE

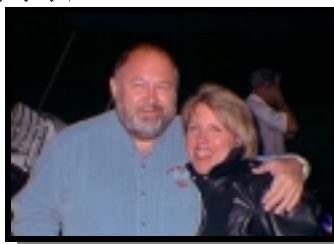
Captain: Ken Kenaston **Phone:** (303) 344-9368
Date: March 9 Saturday
Meet: 8:45 AM @ I-25 & 120th (Holiday Inn parking lot)

Ride leaves at **9:00 AM**. Eat & fuel before meeting. The route, directions and length will vary depending on the temperature and the weather. We will attempt to be back in Denver by 5:00 PM.

This ride will go regardless of the temperature.
**THIS RIDE WILL NOT GO IF THE ROADS ARE ICY,
 SNOWY OR IF IT IS SNOWING.**

If in doubt contact Ken on his cell phone @ (303) 550-0344.

Come prepared to ride in the conditions that exist at the time and that are forecast for the day. Riding in the cold can be dangerous if you are not prepared. If you are prepared, it is extremely enjoyable and your bike runs like no other time. Plus, meeting the challenge gives you a great feeling of accomplishment. **Fair weather rider? Not the POLAR BEAR RIDERS!**
Come along, have fun.



Speaking Of Polar Bears!

Two Eskimos sitting in a kayak were chilly, but when they lit a fire in the craft, it sank, proving once again that you can't have your kayak and heat it, too.

The Deadline for the Next Newsletter is March 23, 2002

Next Meeting:
 Thursday, March 14, 2002
 7:30 p.m.
 Senior Recreation Center
 6842 Wadsworth Blvd.

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 80034-1461

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