



RMVTA riders "on top of the world" on the Mystery Ride

The Venture Voice

January 2007

<http://www.rmvt.org>

Volume 23 Issue # 1

Officers

President: Sam Ashley gsam3@comcast.net
Vice-Pres.: Steve Benko cb4ever1014@comcast.net
Secretary: Richard Bush bushre@yahoo.com
Treasurer: Sherri Barrett gshab1@comcast.net

Board of Directors

Chair: Brain Graves btoys@comcast.net
Member: Brett Barrett fithorne_jr@msn.com
Member: Cliff Eudy cliff1946@msn.com
Member: Jamie Melies buzz5942@msn.com
Member: Bill Nielson billnielson@hotmail.com

Membership Appreciation Party
 Saturday, January 20th 2007
 Fay Myers Club House
 6:00 p.m. Social Hour,
 7:00 p.m. Dinner

It is that time of the year again for the big party. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend. Please RSVP to Brian Graves, or George or Sherri Barrett. It should be a great time. Don't miss out this year. Hope to see you all. You need to bring nothing but your smiling faces and your appetites. We will provide the rest. Great fun, Great food and most important...Great friends.

Officers Speak

Cabin Fever

Submitted by: Sam Ashley,
 President 2007

Whether you call it Cabin Fever, Wintertime Blues, or PMS, (Parked Motorcycle Syndrome), it is running rampant at our house, and the only cure is an occasional dose of riding the bike with your buddies and ultimately for the summer riding season to arrive. If you are anything like me, you "tolerate" winter, and you would prefer riding your bike several times a week in beautiful sunny weather. I'm trying to ignore watching the weather forecast

when they talk about the high temperatures in Phoenix being around 75 degrees or so. Oh well, at least when summer does arrive, it's not 116 degrees down there. Just pray for El Nino to keep our winter mild and limit the snowstorms to the mountains. I have come up with sort of a "Survival Guide" to help get us through the winter and keep ourselves from going postal or stir crazy during these winter months until our riding season starts up again.

1. Be optimistic; don't store your bike away this winter. Wash and polish, change the oil, and fill the gas tank with anticipation of the first opportunity to fire up that bad boy. Even a 45 or 50 degree day out riding, swerving back and forth to avoid the sand and gravel, is better than not riding at all.
2. Go through all your gear and make sure that everything will be ready for spring. Repair or replace the rain gear, get those new tires mounted, fine-tune your CB functions, download more music to your iPod, buy those new boots, etc. so that you are ready to roll. Remember to support our sponsors with any service or purchases that you may need, they are not usually very busy this time of year. We will be

visiting all of them in April again this year.

3. If your plans this year include visiting many of our state parks, consider purchasing an annual parks pass for \$55 online at <http://parks.state.co.us/> which will get you into all 41 parks in the state through 2007.
4. Watch some movies with titles like "On any Sunday", "Dust to Glory", "The Fastest Indian", and so on, and try to avoid titles like "The Shining"!
5. Submerge yourself in all types of motorcycle books and magazines, or get an early start to planning an upcoming trip. Use a GPS whenever possible so that you can include as many gravel roads and dead ends as possible. Sit down and write an article for the newsletter, we would like to hear about some in

(Continued on page 3)

Next Meeting: **Thursday, Jan 11, 2007**
7:30 p.m. Fay Myers Motorcycle World
9700 E. Arapahoe Road.

The Venture Voice is a monthly publication of the Rocky Mountain Venture Touring Association, dedicated to promoting the club and its members.

Editing Staff: Stan Stotz-Lloyd Nicholson



Minutes
RMVTA Meeting
December 14, 2006

President Brian Graves, donning a very flashy Goldwing pin, pounded the gavel at 7:34 p.m. to call the meeting to order. Our lone visitor was Kenna Ashley, home for Christmas from college.

Sam Ashley reported about an impromptu ride he led last Saturday to Conifer, Pine, etc. Four bikes were on the ride. I won't go into any more detail because I'm still upset I couldn't ride that day.

Officer's Reports:

Secretary: After my usual threat to anyone having a problem with the minutes of the previous meeting, Stan made a motion to accept the minutes as printed in the newsletter. Sonny seconded and the motion passed without any whining or sniveling.

Treasurer: Sherri reported \$1,081.93 in checking and \$2,731.27 in savings for a total of \$3,813.20. She also reported that twenty-seven people attended the Christmas party and that, compared to last year, it was a cheap outing for the club.

Committee Reports: Vice-President, Larry Gutt presiding.

Activities: Brian will organize another snowmobile trip for January or February. He suggested that everyone bring a shovel with them this year.

Newsletter: The deadline for submissions is, as always, the 23rd to Stan. I just cut and paste that sentence from month to month.

Website: November "hits" were 14,101. There were 4,652 different computers used to view the web site in 2006. There is a problem with the newest version of Internet Explorer. It won't let you access the "members only" section. Brett is working on the problem.

Rides: The ride schedule is almost complete. Ride leaders should send their info to Stan for inclusion in the ride book and web site.

Old Business: An informal election was held, and the annual realigning of the Board of Directors is as follows: Dick Bush, who has one year left on his term

will be leaving the Board to become the new Secretary, (Editorial comment, "YEAH!!") and Jamie Melies will fill out the remainder of his term. Brett Barrett will be coming off the Board with his two-year term coming to an end, and Brian Graves will be replacing George Barrett in the Past President's chair. Cliff Eudy has one year left, so he'll be sticking around. Two new two-year members will be Floyd Thorne and Bill Nielson. I thought sure I wrote all that stuff down right, but by my count we now have one more Board member than we started the night with. Well, I'll just leave it to the new lovely Secretary to straighten everything out for you next month. What are you going to do, fire me!?

The Member Appreciation party will be January 20th. Brian will line up the food from either Famous Dave's or Ted's Montana Grille. Maybe Ted and Jane will serve for us. I will ask Becky for some ideas for decorations. She's very creative, you know, but she hates meetings.

New Business: A bench clearing brawl then took place over when the new administration should take the reigns, December or January. It was tradition vs. by-laws. Tradition won the battle, and the gavel was passed from Brian to Sam in an elegant ceremony. I also threw my spiral notebook and #2 pencil at Dick Bush, but then like an idiot, agreed to compile the minutes you're now reading. The ceremony included the new President Sam Ashley, Vice-President Steve Benko, and Secretary Mr. Bush. Our returning Treasurer Sherri Barrett felt very left out, but was included in the photo op.

Sherri asked if everyone had gotten their "Best Ride" ballots, and had returned an email to her with their choice. Then she had some interesting news learned while trying to update the club bank account. It seems the account is tied to a tax ID number. She then did an entity search on the internet, and found that the club was officially dissolved in June of 2003! That would make the ID number invalid. Our house attorney, Dena "JD" Nielson agreed to look into the matter to see what may have to be done to rectify the situa-

tion.

The new president took the gavel and jumped right in asking if there was any more new business. Breaking the silence, he passed around a sheet for all to update their contact information. Sam then reported that all sponsors had been recently visited, and that all appeared to be renewing their support. Brian proposed highlighting a different sponsor each month on the web site, and to set up a membership drive area at each dealer sponsor sometime during the ride season with info about the club. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the proposal. Volunteers will be needed to staff the membership drive tables/tents. Steve Benko stressed the importance of patronizing our sponsors, and telling them you are a member of the RMVTA.

50/50: Bill and Dena collected \$102 total, so \$51 was divvied among the winners. Bill himself won 3rd place money of \$10. Diana Gutt got 2nd for \$15, and Sonny Crary won the jackpot of \$26.

The Benko Mystery Gift was a pocket watch, and was won by Sherri Barrett. The Diana Gutt Surprise Bag was ultimately won by Floyd Thorne after Bill Nielson's and Diana's tickets were drawn. It was a bighorn sheep refrigerator magnet.

The Missing Link will be dusted off and most likely given to either George or Brian in March or April.

Cliff made the motion to "get the hell out of here" at 8:33 p.m., making it a brisk 59-minute meeting.

I would like to say it has been my pleasure to have been the club secretary for the past three years. However, I can't do that. Seriously, it has been fun and rewarding transcribing the events of the meetings, sometimes due to a lack of good notes, from memory. I think the experience has brought me closer to many of my fellow members. I encourage everyone to serve at some time as an officer or on a committee. It's the only way a fraternal organization can flourish. The RMVTA has had an abundance of willing people to serve in those capacities over the years, and I



salute them all. We just need to keep up the good work! Ride often. Ride far. Ride safe.

Submitted by the now Past Secretary, Bill Gillespie

Note From the Editor: Bill, you have set a high bar in editorial excellence. I don't know why you haven't won a Pulitzer Prize by now. I would be first in line to nominate you. I will miss your inserted humorous quips! As well as being informative, you made us laugh and caused us to take life less seriously. Thanks a million Bill and to all the Executive Committee members and Committee Chairs and staff for an outstanding ride year. Things are looking bright for 2007 as well.

"Steamer"



Debbie, Susan and Linda are obviously up to something!

CELEBRATIONS:
Submitted by: Sherri Barrett

January Birthdays:

- 4th - Bill Gillespie
- 5th - Cheryl Dunwell
- 9th - Cliff Eudy
- 9th - Pat McCombs
- 13th - Bill Nielson
- 22nd - Janet Stotz
- 23rd - Paul Dible
- 27th - Peggy Gregg
- 27th - Floyd Thorne

January Anniversaries:

- 2nd - Bill & Dena Nielson
- 11th - Floyd & Linda Thorne
- 29th - Pat & Donna McCombs
- 30th - Tony & Erni Paolucci



Yes Gertrude, that is snow! Fall Color Ride

face or bugs in my teeth while cruising at mach speeds. I still can't believe Bill G. lost 17 bikes. We had a mini rally and a hare and hound chase. Let's not forget all the food, whether catered, barbecued, or restaurant style. I had a great time! I'm really looking forward to the 2007 Riding season.

"Goldwingmama"

Note From the Editor. RMVTA is fortunate indeed to have somebody like you Sherri who is always first in line to support the club whether it is on-time newsletter articles, keeping the entire club's statistics or keeping our money straight. We all owe you a hearty THANK YOU!!!!!!! Keep up the great work.



Hare & Hound ride leader Bill Gillespie reads the ride instructions to ensure that he knows where everybody else is going

- ("Officers" con'd from page 1)
experiences of yours on two wheels.
6. When weather allows, find an empty parking lot and practice your slow-speed maneuvers, using the friction zone; winding in and out of cones, U-turns, figure eights, etc. Practice makes perfect. Even seasoned riders should re-familiarize themselves with these important skills.
 7. To kill some time on a cold winter day, sit down and assemble a jig saw puzzle, word is that URSALA is floating around out there somewhere.

Let me know if you have any other ideas that you can add to my list, I may need them! How many more days until summer?????

"Yosemite Sam"

**Goldwingmama's Fun Facts
(As of December 16th)**

December Meeting – 24 people
Christmas Party – 27 people

2006 Averages

Meetings saw an average of 31 people in attendance. January had the lowest with 17 people and March had the highest with 46 people.

We had 8 Dinner Rides with an average of 20 people attending and an average of 10 bikes. June had the lowest with 15 people and April had the highest with 25 people.

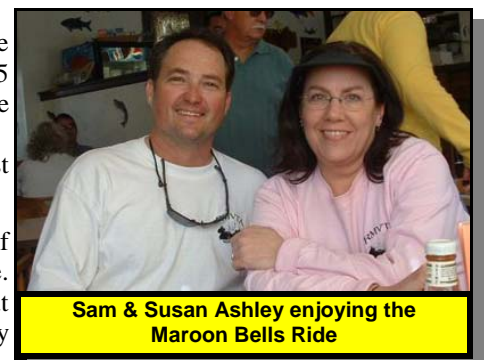
We had 23 other club rides with an average of 21 people attending and an average of 15 bikes. The Aluminum Butt Ride had the lowest with 10 people and 10 bikes. The Bishops Castle Ride had the highest with 33 people and 21 bikes and 1 van.

I would like to thank each and every one of you for making this a wonderful year for me. Especially my hubby Kmart, whom without I wouldn't be able to enjoy the wind in my

"Steamer"

Mind Teaser for You to Solve
Submitted by: Larry Gutt

Arnold Schwarzenegger has a big one.
Michael J. Fox has a small one.
Madonna doesn't have one.
The Pope has one but doesn't use it.
Clinton uses his all the time.
Bush is one
Mickey Mouse has an unusual one.
Liberace never used his on women.
Jerry Seinfeld is very, very proud of his.
Cher claims that she took on 3.
We never saw Lucy use Desi's.



Sam & Susan Ashley enjoying the Maroon Bells Ride



Past Prez Brian shows the members how many times he went through line at the September potluck dinner meeting



Linda & Floyd led the Maroon Bells Day Ride



Bill & Becky led a fine September Dinner Ride to Romano's

What is it? Answer on next page
 Answer to Mind Teaser: "A Last Name"
 You didn't think we would publish a dirty



Jon Lofstedt "bats cleanup" at the September meeting



Fall Color Ride leaders George & Sherri enjoying a pizza



The hardest part was what to order at Romano's



Dick, Steve, Connie and Dale take a break after chasing "Wild Bill" - Hare & Hound



Picnic in the park - Maroon Bells Ride



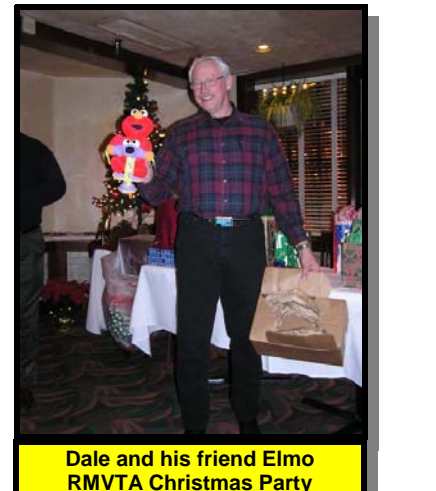
Stella & Her Hat RMVTA Christmas Party



Welcome to Carla (Dena's daughter) and Dena



Mystery Ride Leader Brian Graves enjoying life



Dale and his friend Elmo RMVTA Christmas Party

joke, did you?

A Texas rancher got in his pickup and drove to a neighboring ranch and knocked at the door. A young boy, about 9, opened the door. "Is yer Dad home?" the rancher asked. "No sir, he ain't," the boy replied. "He went into town." "Well," said the rancher, "is yer Mom here?" "No, sir, she ain't here neither. She went into town with Dad." "How about your brother, Howard? Is he here?" "He went with Mom and Dad." The rancher stood there for a few minutes, shifting from one foot to the other and mumbling to himself. "Is there anything I can do fer ya?" the boy asked politely. "I knows where all the tools are, if you want to borry one. Or maybe I could take a message fer Dad." "Well," said the rancher uncomfortably, "I really wanted to talk to yer Dad. It's about your brother Howard getting my daughter, Pearly Mae, pregnant." The boy considered for a moment. "You would have to talk to Pa about that", he finally conceded. "If it helps you any, I know that Pa gets \$50 for the bull and \$25 for the hog, but I really don't know how much he gets fer Howard."

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE WW II MOVIE STARS

In contrast to the ideals, opinions and feelings of today's "Hollywonk" the real actors of yester-year loved the United States. They had both class and integrity.

With the advent of World War II many of our actors went to fight rather than stand and rant against this country we all love. They gave up their wealth, position and fame to become service men & women, Many as simple "enlisted men".

Past pages have listed but a few, but from this group of only 18 men came over 70 medals in honor of their valor, spanning from Bronze Stars, Silver Stars, Distinguish Service Cross', Purple Hearts and one Congressional Medal of Honor.

So remember; while the "Entertainers of 2005" have been in all of the news media lately I would like to remind the people of what the entertainers of 1943 were doing, (61 years ago). Most of these brave men have since passed on. "Real Hollywood Heros"

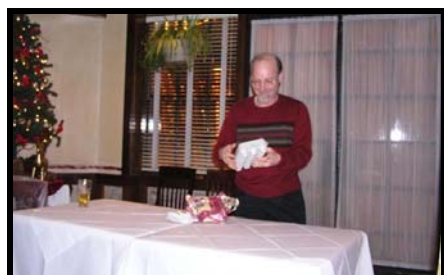
Audie Murphy, little 5'5" tall 110 pound guy from Texas who played cowboy parts.

Most Decorated serviceman of WWII and earned: Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, 2 Silver Star Medals, Legion of Merit, 2 Bronze Star Medals with "V", 2 Purple Hearts, U.S. Army Outstanding Civilian Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal, 2 Distinguished Unit Emblems, American Campaign Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with One Silver Star, Four Bronze Service Stars (representing nine campaigns) and one Bronze Arrowhead (representing assault landing at Sicily and Southern France) World War II Victory Medal Army of Occupation Medal with Germany Clasp, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Combat Infantry Badge, Marksman Badge with Rifle Bar, Expert Badge with Bayonet Bar, French Fourragere in Colors of the Croix de Guerre, French Legion of Honor, Grade of Chevalier, French Croix de Guerre With Silver Star, French Croix de Guerre with Palm, Medal of Liberated France, Belgian Croix de Guerre 1940 Palm.

The last in this series but certainly not the least is:



Sherrie, George & Gift RMVTA Christmas Party



Steve Benko - Last Gift RMVTA Christmas Party

For Sale:

FOR SALE:
1996 Honda ST1100 - ABS2/linked braking system, MR Accessories shelf, Clearview +4" windshield + stock shield, rear luggage rack, MEZ4 tires, 58,000 miles. A well cared for bike. \$6,200.00 to a club member. Seller: Bill Gillespie, phone 303-781-0032 or 303-758-8804.

Member Notice
Look for your membership number in this issue. If you find it, see the 50-50 ticket sellers at the next meeting for your free brace of 50-50 tickets. Don't forget to check .

The Deadline for the Next Newsletter is January 23, 2007



2006 RMVTA Sponsors

- Aurora Honda**(303) 341-7200
 200 South Potomac Street, Aurora, CO, 80012
 Http://www.aurarahonda.com
- Automotive M.D.s**(303) 758-0909
 http://www.automds.com
- Colorado Power Sports**(303) 427-9000
 Denver(303) 447-3500
 Http://www.copowersports.com Boulder(303) 447-3500
- Dena Silliman Neilson, P.C.**(303) 469-1277
 18901 E. Mainstreet Suite C
 Parker, CO 80134
- Fay Myers Motorcycle World**(303) 744-6632
 9700 E. Arapahoe Road
 Greenwood Village, CO, 80112
 Http://www.faymyers.com
- Grand Prix Motorsports, Inc.**(303) 761-2471
 3105 W. County Line Road, Littleton, CO 80129
 Http://www.grandprixmotorsports.com
- Home Computer Rescue Inc.-** George Barrett (303) 368-4800
 Http://www.vickerymotorsports.com
- Vickery Motorsports, Inc.**(303) 755-4387
 2231 South Parker Road, Denver, CO
 Http://www.vickerymotorsports.com
- Sun Honda/Kawasaki/Polaris/KTM**(303) 287-7566
 8877 Washington Street, Denver
 Http://www.sun-honda.com
- Dr. P.A. Paolucci, D.C.**(303) 851-0600
 18901 E. Mainstreet Suite C
 Parker, CO 80134
 Next to LePeep
- RPM Motorsports**(303) 232-7576
 1251 Wadsworth Ave., Denver, CO
- RE/MAX Alliance-Ron Nardello**(303) 693-6666
 13770 E. Rice Pl., Aurora, CO
 Cell (303) 888-1083
- The Optical Gallery**(303) 690-1696
 4252 S.Chambers Rd, Aurora,

RMVTA
 PO Box 3744
 Englewood, CO
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COMPLEMENTARY COPY

Next Meeting:
 Thursday, January 11, 2007
 7:30 p.m.
Fay Myers Motorcycle World
 9700 E. Arapahoe Road