



# Southeast Region



# Newsletter

## February 2008

### **From Your Regional VP**

Hi to Everyone

You're receiving this newsletter because you're an HSTA member and live in one of the 8 Southeast Region States. They are Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. Each of these states with the exception on Alabama and Mississippi have state directors and possibly a newsletter editor. Florida has two state directors, North and South and Tennessee has two state directors East and West. The three Mississippi members are covered by the West Tennessee state director and the twelve Alabama members come under the Georgia state director.

Our goal is to have a regular state newsletter either monthly or bi monthly. Florida has done a great job with this but the other states are struggling with either sporadic newsletters or no newsletter.

So we're going to try a quarterly regional newsletter with target publication dates of February, May, August, and November. This newsletter will not replace the state newsletters rather it will supplement it in the hopes of providing regional information to all the SE region members.

The format of this newsletter is electronic and will be sent to all SE Region members via an e-mail attachment and mailed to any member

*(Continued on page 3)*

### **Southeast Region Membership Facts**

375 members  
as of February 1, 2008

|                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| Alabama.....         | 12  |
| Florida.....         | 131 |
| Georgia .....        | 58  |
| Mississippi .....    | 3   |
| North Carolina.....  | 51  |
| South Carolina ..... | 18  |
| Tennessee .....      | 65  |
| Virginia .....       | 37  |

Do you have information, photos, stories or tall tales that you'd like to share with fellow HSTA members?

Information and articles should be related to SE Region HSTA members or events.

Are you planning a "just for fun event"?

Do you have regularly scheduled ride?

Send all information to:

**Doug Pippin**

[d\\_pippin\\_89@bellsouth.net](mailto:d_pippin_89@bellsouth.net)

828-684-8488

### **In This Issue**

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**If you received this newsletter in the mail please send your e-mail address to Doug Pippin so he can add you to the electronic distribution, saving the HSTA money and your editor a lot of work.**

**The electronic version has web links to photos and events etc. and is in color. Also at some point we may stop the mailed version.**

# Member News



Sad News from Warren Renshaw, HSTA member from Hanceville, Alabama.

**12/14/2007**

I have a high grade, very aggressive form of cancer and there will be many bills for us to pay.

We are all just stunned and in shock right now. I mean, one day everything is fine, happy go lucky, I feel great, I'm only 45, then in a moment of time things change. It's a parotid gland (salivary gland tumor). Had it removed but there are still microscopic cancer cells in there. Will get full body PET scan next week to check for any other tumors. Thanks for the help offers!

The best thing I can think of for you

all to do is just to love your family and friends best you can each and every day.

**02/05/2008**

Judy and I are in Houston going to the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center for treatment. We should be out here thru the first week of March when my treatments should end. Since I'm semi young and in otherwise good health they are treating me pretty aggressively with high dose cisplatin chemo (three treatments) and 30 rounds of radiation. I've been talking to Geoffrey Greene about helping him with the Ride For Kids fundraising once I get back on my feet. That's been on my mind lately. I've had 45 good years but I'm seeing some kids out here with cancer and the blank stares on their face and it just rips me apart. I hope to be able to make it to an event here and there, starting maybe in late April, just a guess. I've enjoyed reading the posts from everyone on the list. Thankfully, my sister let me borrow a lap top so I have internet access.

*editors note:*

Warren would enjoy any email or riding stories from Ya'll. He checks the NC-SC-HSTA Yahoo group often and would love to hear from you.

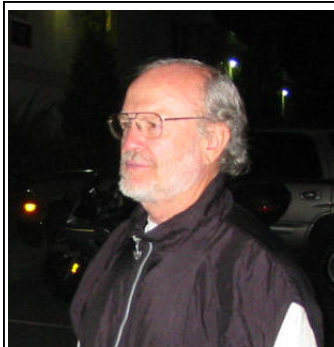
Warren's e-mail address is:

[renshawenvironme@bellsouth.net](mailto:renshawenvironme@bellsouth.net)

Georgia member Ron Walkenspaw is still recovering from a bad high side while riding on the track at Barber Motorsport Park last September.

Eric Larsen recently spoke to Ron and sent in this report.

Ron Walkenspaw has been a friend of mine for close to 20 years. While we met in business, we became friends because of the common bond of motorcycling and more specifically through involvement in the HSTA. I recently talked with him about his motorcycling over the years.



Ron recalled to me that when he was growing up in Ohio, his dad had a side car motorcycle and he "tried" to ride it. With his limited experience, his riding time was very short as he hit a mailbox with the sidecar. Despite the less than perfect example, Ron learned to ride like most kids in previous years did - on a

borrowed friends bike. His buddy had a Triumph that they both rode and when Ron's buddy went into the marines, Ron "kept it in running condition" by riding it around. The first bike Ron owned was a 1959 BSA 650 he purchased while he was stationed in Barbados serving in the Navy. When he got out of the service, he owned a variety of off-road bikes until he bought his first BMW - a 1985 K100 RT. This is the first bike I remember Ron having. He rode that bike a lot putting over 100,000 on it as he rode through all the 48 States, with his wife Joan on the back for many of these miles. I can't recall how many times I saw that little tire in my rear view mirror.

Over the years Ron raced a little, has been bitten a few times by unplanned get-offs, but has always had a great attitude and did whatever it took to get back in shape and ride again. Even at seven decades in age, he rides on the track better than most and is a great guy to be around. I've had the great opportunity to ride a fair amount with him and am proud to be his friend.

Ron's always been a very supportive member of any of the events I help with or coordinated. Always willing to lend a hand and participate. Joan has always been there as well. I can't tell you how many rides we went on where Joan was the only wife along. She's always loved to ride with Ron.

Ron has been an official HSTA member since 90, but his first HSTA rally was in 1987 for STAR at the Blue Ridge Motorcycle Campground in Caruso, NC. There are only two Georgia members with more tenure than Ron. He's been to 12 STARs and we laughed about how much fun we used to have at the TN-STAR event when there seemed to be a really large group of Georgia couples attending - raining or not. In addition to the many STAR events, Ron also completed a 11,000 mile four-corner ride in 2005 with fellow HSTA member Roger Brooking as well as two three-flag tours, one with fellow Georgia HSTA member Danny Chance. Ron also rode some in Alaska during a motorhome trip to Alaska with Joan.

While Ron is still currently recovering from a pretty bad accident at the Barber track, he's making improvements all the time and looking forward to being able to get back out and take some trips in his motorhome with Joan.

*editor's note:*

Ron can be contacted at home at 770-457-1688 or

[rjwalk@earthlink.net](mailto:rjwalk@earthlink.net)

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without e-mail or internet access. In order to make this publication a success we need your input. Write an article, send an email, or a photo or whatever of your motorcycling adventures to your state director/newsletter editor. They're contact information is listed on page 7.

It doesn't have to be fancy, just let us know what's going on. If they don't use the information for their state newsletter they'll forward it on to me for this regional publication.

I asked each of your HSTA volunteers to introduce themselves. Their responses are on this page 4, and 5.

If you received this newsletter in the mail and have an e-mail address please send it to me so I can add you to the electronic distribution, saving me a lot of work and the HSTA money.

...thanks for taking the time to read this.

**Doug Pippin**  
HSTA SE Regional VP

**Tom Sullivan**  
**West Tennessee & Mississippi**  
**State Director**

Residence: Memphis TN  
No children. I'm the only kid in the family and I don't want any competition.  
Occupation: Building Designer  
Bikes: GSXR, RC51, Pacific Coast, various dirt bikes  
Bi-biketual (Torn between street and dirt)

**Rick Giddish**  
**East Tennessee State Director**

Residence: Kingsport, Tennessee  
Family info: Wife - Nicky, Cats - Bandit & Booger, Bird - Sodie  
Occupation: Piping Engineer  
Bikes: 97 Honda ST1100,  
97 Ducati 900 SS SP, 07 KTM 950 SE  
Learned to ride motorcycles when I was 10 on my fathers Honda CB 100, have been a HSTA member since 1998, have recently taken up Dual Sport Riding and really enjoy it, always looking forward to the next motorcycle trip...

**Rick Brant**

**North Carolina State Director**

I am excited about the creation of our new regional newsletter. This newsletter will provide all of us living in the southeast region an opportunity to share riding experiences and better coordinate opportunities to ride. My home is located in Pfafftown just outside of Winston-Salem. I live there with my wife of six years Tree Bright, who is a frequent passenger on my 2000 Triumph Sprint ST. My daughter, Maggie is a college freshman and until the last couple of years we made an annual motorcycle trips on our 1989 Goldwing 1500. Maggie and I have been to T.W.O. in Georgia, civil war battle fields in Northern Virginia and the Grand Canyon, of Pennsylvania all on the Goldwing.

I feel lucky to be able to ride to work on a regular basis. My current commute is about 15 miles and usually made on my 1995 VFR750. Yes I still have an old VFR I just can't seem to kill. I am extremely lucky to work as a real estate appraiser as it provides me an opportunity to ride all over North Carolina, Virginia and South Carolina appraising properties. My travels frequently take me into the mountains where other appraisers seem to avoid working. Their loss is my gain.

I am looking forward to the 2008 riding season. We just returned from a week in Aspen, Co skiing and have one more ski trip planned for this year. Then it will be motorcycle season. I am looking forward to Helen this spring and Tri-Star over Memorial Day. Some of my other favorite summer rides are north through West Virginia to my family's home in Somerset, Pa. This year I am planning to attend the US Moto GP round in Indianapolis, Indiana as well. I hope to see all of you out there on the road.

**Bill Royal**  
**South Florida Co-Director**

Residence: Sun City Center, FL - a retirement community just south east of Tampa FL  
Family info: Eldest of 3 sons - brothers live back in Massachusetts  
Occupation: practicing retirement  
Bikes: '91 Sparkling Silver Metallic ST1100 - "SilverSTreak"  
Bio: Techno geek, heavily into computers, Excel Visual Basic for Applications, GPS and routing. Regularly publish planned routes with ETA's for pickup's along the way - usually accurate to within 5 minutes. Recently joined the ranks as an officially recognized Iron Butt Rider with a SS1000 & BunBurner1500.

*editors note:*

Bill recently retired from the Florida newsletter editors job after may years of producing monthly newsletters for the Florida members. Many thanks to all the work Bill has done as the Florida newsletter editor.



**Eric Larsen****Georgia and Alabama State Director**

I've been a member of the HSTA since 1996 and the first 5 years was a quite an experience for me. When I joined in my early thirties I was a little younger than the average member. Although I have been riding since I was 9 years old, it didn't take long to realize that I really did not know how to ride very well.

Georgia member Steve Bishop took me on my first HSTA rally – the Highlander in Pineloa North Carolina. The ride up there was fun, but I was way over my head and tried to keep up with experienced riders I had no business trying to keep up with. I just didn't really know how to ride. I ended up in the woods, broken wrist, twisted up bike and a concussion to boot. Well, after Steve realized I was not in the group, he doubled back and retrieved me, we got the bike out of the trees and I rode back with him to regroup. When a buddy of mine brought my truck and trailer from Atlanta we went back to get the bike and it was gone! I thought it had been stolen, but it turns out it had been impounded and I had to go the State Patrol to get the info where it was and a ticket to boot. Great weekend. Well, I realized then I needed to take some riding courses and get a good bike. I purchased a 96 VFR and started taking classes like the California Superbike School and CLASS as well as riding in some track days.

**Jim Randall****East Tennessee Newsletter Editor**

Jim Randall lives in the mountains of northeast Tennessee with his wife Nancy. Both he and Nancy ride. He has two adult children who both have their motorcycle certifications also.

Jim has been a member of HSTA for approximately 10 years and has recently assumed the duties of **editor of STARreview "Around the HSTA"**. Jim and Nancy enjoy both events and "non-events" and consider the contacts with like-minded riders to be the most valuable benefit provided by the organization. A rider since 1958 when he started out with a Cushman Eagle, Jim has enjoyed a number of interesting bikes and currently rides a '04 DL650, a '01 SV650 and a '99 KLR650. When asked about employment, Jim responded, "What's that?" Being retired Jim can take advantage of all the good riding days without the inconvenience imposed by a job. He expects to ride approximately 25,000 miles this year.

**Sam Ulbing****North Florida State Co Director**

I've been retired 21 years and have lived in Florida ever since. I did live on a boat for several years and spent the winters in the Bahamas and the summers along the East Coast. In 1999 I sold my boat and decided I was finally old enough for motorcycles. Since then I have ridden over 150, 000 miles on Hondas exclusively: first a Magna, then an ST1100 and ST1300. Three years ago I supplemented the ST1300 with a VFR Interceptor for more sportier riding. My wife Lee rides on back of the ST1300 but has no desire to ride a bike. You can learn more about me at my web site <http://members.cox.net/n4uau> and click on Who is N4UAU anyway?

**Doug Pippin****Southeast Regional VP**

I live in mountains of Western North Carolina, specifically Fletcher, North Carolina (Asheville area) with my wife Diane Almond.

I have one son and four grandchildren who live in northern Michigan.

I've been a member of HSTA since 1978 and served as Michigan State Director before moving to NC.

I worked as an engineer at the General Motors Technical Center in Warren Michigan for 34 years before retiring in 1998.

My first involvement with motorcycles at age 29 was off-road and almost all my riding for my first 20 years of riding was with dirt bikes including competing in Enduros in the Midwest.

I currently have 4 motorcycles 98 VFR800, 05 SVS 650 Suzuki, 02 KLR650, and a 01 SV Suzuki dedicated track bike. Each year I try to attend as many HSTA events as possible as well as several track days and at least one California Sportbike School.



**Galen Diehl**  
**Virginia State Director**

I live in Collinsville, VA (close to Martinsville) with my wife Flo. I have 3 adult step-daughters, who are living around the USA in Columbia, SC; Nederland, CO and Denver, CO. I am originally from PA and moved to VA in 1986 to work at Patrick Henry Community College.

Now I work in the counseling profession; splitting my time as an Employee Assistance Program Specialist with REACH EAP and Workplace Solutions, and as a Licensed Mental Health Counselor and Substance Abuse Treatment Practitioner in private practice with Associates in Mental Health Services.

Currently I have three motorcycles in my garage and choose which one to ride depending on what kind of ride is planned. In the last year I rode my XR650L on Dual Sport rides more than my two street bikes: the SV650 and the VFR800. I consider myself extremely fortunate to have three bikes for different riding purposes-each providing many smiles per mile

I joined the HSTA in 1998 and have been lucky enough to attend most eastern local events and most national STARs since. I joined HSTA with the purpose of being around fellow like-minded sport touring riders, and have met some of my best friends through HSTA.

For several years I have served as Virginia State Director and hosted annual riding events such as: TRISTAR, FOOLS RUN, and Fall Colors Ride. A Dual Sport event is tentatively set for later this year in the Jefferson National Forest area near Roanoke.

Riding motorcycles and being with great friends makes for such an awesome time. I guess that is why I enjoy the HSTA so much!

**So You Want To Ride Off Road?**

Recently there's been quick a surge of dual sport motorcycles being sold and quite a few of our North Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia members are participating in this segment of motorcycling.

We have dual sport rides at two of our sanctioned events for the past couple of years. Jim Randall puts together a great guided dual sport ride in the Appalachian Mountains at the Nolichucky Valley Rally held in August.

For the past two years we've had an organized dual sport ride at the September SE Star Rally in Dillard Georgia.

This is a great way to get out in the woods and see the country. There are places that have spectacular views, and for the most part there is no traffic to speak of.

We also had November dual sport ride out of Dillard in 2006 that was well attended by HSTA members.

In April 2007 a contingent of HSTA members from NC, TN, and VA travelled to Moab where we met up with another group of HSTA members from various states for the annual Moab Mob Dual Sport non-event.

Let me tell you the scenery was spectacular.

November 2 thru 4, 2007 Rick Giddish held a "just for fun" DS weekend out of the Sleep Inn motel in Etowah Tennessee exploring the western portion of the Cherokee National Forest. He plans on having the event again in 2008.

Also this year Galen Deal is also planning some DS riding in the mountains in Virginia and West Virginia . So if you want to return to your youth and get a little dirty, ride with some great people and see spectacular scenery check out some of these rides. Join one of the NC-SC, Tennessee, and Virginia Yahoo Groups to keep up to date when these events are being planned. If you only want to join one the NC-SC Yahoo groups would have all of the information. See the links on the last page to join these Groups.



**Click this Link to see larger and more photos [HSTA Photos](#)**

# Events

## Georgia Chapter's Annual Cold Butt Ride 2008 February 10, 2008



This year's annual ride brought the usual chilly temps in the morning. High 20's, but clear and crisp. A dozen hardy souls braved the weather the meet up at Simply Southern Resturaunt in Freehome to plan a day's ride up to Tellico Plains to eat at the Telli Café. Several new members endured the cold to enjoy a nice days ride including Pete and Sue Tattersfield, Tommy Victor and Mike Knowles. HSTA members George Lenz, Mike Lyles, Dave Graff , Jim Burnette, Phil Kineer Jr all made it along with guests invited by Mike Lyles and myself. While I made it to the eatery, I was under the weather, too much so for riding, but enjoyed meeting up with folks and chatting. Everyone mounted up to make the ride and planned on meeting with Phil Kineer Sr. outside of Morganton.

Mike Lyles kindly took the lead since I was down and took the guys through a nice wandering ride up to Tellico plains including hwy 53, 52, Dial/Aska Road, and the back way of hwy 30 and ??? in Tennessee to Tellico Plains.

After a tasty lunch, some riders took to the Cherohala skyway while others ventured south on 68 back toward the ATL.

I wish I were able to make the ride as it was one of the best turnouts we've had for a ride in a long time, but at least I was able to see old and new friends and there was an enjoyable ride with no incidents.

### Eric Larsen

*editors note:* more photos available at:  
[Cold Butt Ride 2008](#)

## Going to Daytona Bike Week?

**HSTA Daytona Bike Week (2008) Lunch** will be Thursday, March 6th '08 at the Artisan Inn, Deland FL.

Lunch will start at 11:30am, separate dining area, order off the menu, reserved parking for Bikes. The Artisan Inn is about 20-25 minute ride west of Daytona Speedway. The Inn is on US 17 South in Deland. Easy to find, from Daytona US92 west to US17 (Woodland Blvd), left turn on US17 proceed South on 17, Artisan Inn will be on your left approx 3-4 miles 215 S. Woodland Blvd.

[www.delandArtisaninn.com](http://www.delandArtisaninn.com), map on the site. Click link to see a [group photo](#) from last year!

Also here on [Google Maps](#) if you want to get directions.

Further information Contact,

Phil Ridgdill, 904 287 9654 or 904 699 2447 or  
[rfoxrdr@bellsouth.net](mailto:rfoxrdr@bellsouth.net)

## The 2008 Spring Fling will be held in Lake Park Georgia April 11 thru 13

For reservations contact Days Inn 229-559-0229.

Dortha Smith, the manager, has offered our HSTA group the Jennings rate of \$55.

[Click here](#) for information on other Lake Park hotels

Sam Ulbing

HSTA Florida Co-Director

(352) 262-6221

[n4uau@cox.net](mailto:n4uau@cox.net)

Sam has a nice route laid out for Saturday.

For those riding up from Florida Sam has a route to Lake Park from Gainesville and back on some nice back roads.

Contact Sam for a restaurant in the area where you can meet for lunch and ride up as a group.

On the ride home Sunday brunch will be in White Springs, at the Telford Inn, which has an awesome buffet.

We now have a web site for Southeast  
"Just For Fun" Events

Click the link to see what's coming up.  
If you have events planned and want them  
added to the site e-mail Doug Pippin  
[d\\_pippin\\_89@bellsouth.net](mailto:d_pippin_89@bellsouth.net)

More Events on Page 7

**North Georgia Classic**

**Helen, Georgia  
May 16 thru 18 2008**

Just a reminder about this year's HSTA North Georgia Classic event in Helen Georgia. While we usually have the event in late April, the date is a little different this year due to STAR being in April. We will hold the event May 16th-18th. The format for the event will also be a "Just for Fun" event rather than the full AMA sanctioned / HSTA regional event that we usually do. It is not required to be a HSTA member to attend this year. This is a great opportunity for those who would like to see what the HSTA Rally is like. We'll still have all the great roads and great folks, but there will be no grilling out, no organized dinners, no raffles etc. Just the basic, show up and ride deal.

This year we are going to be staying at the Quality Inn which is the old Alpenhof Motel - the location we've stayed at in previous years. It's been cleaned up a lot, new beds, furniture, carpet, lots of work done. Phone number is 706-878-2268 and the rooms are being held for us until mid to late March so call early and mention that you are with the HSTA to get the group rate. This year, Matt Thornton - SC State Director, will be the event coordinator. Matt is a long time HSTA member and has been coming to the Helen event since 1996. His contact information is [thorn2wheels@yahoo.com](mailto:thorn2wheels@yahoo.com) and phone is 864-979-3626.

**Nolichucky Valley Rally**

**Erwin, Tennessee  
July 31- August 3 (4 days)**

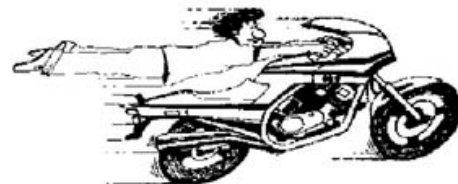
Event contacts, information and pre-registration form is on the NVR web site. Click on link for information or contact event coordinator [Rick Giddish](mailto:Rick.Giddish@nvr.com) 423-245-5558

**SE Star**

**Dillard Georgia  
September 19 thru 21, 2008**

Event contacts, information and pre-registration form is on the SE Star web site. Click on link for information or contact event coordinator [Steve Rodnon](mailto:Steve.Rodnon@sestar.com) 423-245-5558

**SE Region Just For Fun Events**



**TriStar**

**Sparta, North Carolina  
May 23, thru 26, 2008 (4 days)**

Event contacts, information and pre-registration form is on the TriStar web site. Click on link for information or contact event coordinator [Galen Diehl](mailto:Galen.Diehl@tristar.com) 276-647-3162

**Web Sites**

[Florida](#)

[Georgia](#)

*currently under re-construction*

[Virginia](#)

**Yahoo Groups**

[Florida](#)

[Georgia](#)

[North & South Carolina](#)

[Tennessee](#)

[Virgina](#)

**YOUR HSTA Volunteers**

|  |                     |  |              |
|--|---------------------|--|--------------|
| Florida State Co-Director .....                    | Bill Royal .....    | <a href="mailto:wgr@sprynet.com">wgr@sprynet.com</a> .....                     | 813-633-8155 |
| Florida State Co-Director .....                    | Sam Ulbing .....    | <a href="mailto:n4uau@cox.net">n4uau@cox.net</a> .....                         | 352-262-6221 |
| Florida Newsletter Editor .....                    | Jim McClure .....   | <a href="mailto:jamclur3@aol.com">jamclur3@aol.com</a> .....                   | 352-324-0569 |
| Georgia & Alabama State Director & NL Editor ..... | Eric Larsen .....   | <a href="mailto:enlarsen@bellsouth.net">enlarsen@bellsouth.net</a> .....       | 770-422-9433 |
| North Carolina State Director .....                | Rick Brant .....    | <a href="mailto:drbrant@infionline.net">drbrant@infionline.net</a> .....       | 336-945-6945 |
| South Carolina State Director .....                | Matt Thornton ..... | <a href="mailto:thorn2wheels@yahoo.com">thorn2wheels@yahoo.com</a> .....       | 864-244-7147 |
| Tennessee East State Director .....                | Rick Giddish .....  | <a href="mailto:rickandnick@chartertn.net">rickandnick@chartertn.net</a> ..... | 423-245-5558 |
| Tennessee West & Mississippi State Director .....  | Tom Sullivan .....  | <a href="mailto:sullivantom@comcast.net">sullivantom@comcast.net</a> .....     | 901-751-1414 |
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| Virginia State Director & Newsletter Editor .....  | Galen Deihl .....   | <a href="mailto:gediehl4@comcast.net">gediehl4@comcast.net</a> .....           | 276-647-3162 |
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