



Sandlines



The Monthly Newsletter of the Sand Dollar Motorcycle Club

August 2018



IT'S SUMMER
that means
SHIRT RIDES
and
BREAKFAST RIDES
are **HERE**



President's Corner

Hey Sandies,

It's been very hot and wet to say the least. I have a couple of things to talk about. It's getting close to the end of the year, it will be there before we know it. So, we have a poker run to think about, plus we have triathlons to do. We will need everybody's help, before not too long on both the poker run and the triathlons. I know it's really early on the tri's but are over very quickly and you are back home real early. For the poker run we need door prizes as soon as we can get them.

Thanks

Robert

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The Sand Dollar Motorcycle Club is a Chartered AMA organization. The Sand Dollar Motorcycle Club is open to all motorcyclists irregardless of riding experience or brand of motorcycle, as long as they share the Club desire to ride safely and have a good time riding.

Birthdays August

**If YOU SEE THESE SANDIES THIS
MONTH, WISH ALL OF THEM A VERY
HAPPY BIRTHDAY....**

**Joe (Goose) Bell,
CarolAnn Davis,
John (NYC!) Goncalves,
Edna Keefe,
Mark Storm**



**We wish all these couples a very special
wonderful and joyous anniversary**

**John & Ellen Goncalves
Howard & Francine Wilson**

Okay it's a go for the ASM Class! Follow Cindy's instructions below to sign up. This is a new system and has bugs like she said she will happily reimburse the \$15.00 bucks. Let's get signed up as soon as we can.

~George

So you know how to ride a Motorcycle...
but do you know what to do if a crash happens??

Leading the way internationally in motorcycle trauma education, Accident Scene Management is dedicated to reducing injuries and fatalities to motorcyclists through First Response education. The Weakest link in the chain of survival is First Response care to the injured. Motorcyclists are most likely to be first at the scene of a motorcycle crash. YOU can make a difference!

100 Series Basic Class "A Crash Course For The Motorcyclist":

Learn what to do in the first 5-30 minutes after a crash until EMS/professional help arrives. Basic first aid, Helmet Removal, Jaw Thrust Rescue Breathing, and Moving the Injured are all addressed & practiced.

You will also learn insurance tips on how to protect yourself financially in the event of a crash.



From: Cynthia Leavel

Payment comes to me not ASM. Register only online. I've already discussed it with home office and they said you can just register. The posted \$65 is what the class would usually cost without discount. My PP address is: ladybiker53@hotmail.com The flyer I sent says to register at accidentscene.org but payment comes to me. I know it's confusing...these are things we are in the process of ironing out. Used to be you registered with me and paid me. There are changes/upgrades in the works at the home office. The class is NOT \$65 it is \$50. I will refund \$15 if anyone pays \$65

Please let me know if there is anything else I can do. I would suggest that you might want to post a note on Sandies FB page that those planning on attending class will register online but payment comes to me.

Cindy "Purple" Leavel RN, ASM Instructor NWFL-Alabama
www.angelsride.net
angelsride@outlook.com
850.238.2620

What's Happening

Breakfast before our Rides..... Joe & Eddie's Restaurant (Across from Goofy Golf) 8:00 am. A note, Joe's has a bunch of new Wait staff, when you walk in and sit down, put your order in right away. Don't wait for other Sandies to join you. We leave at 9 am period.



Tuesdays... We will be getting together on our non- business meeting Tuesday's at a location To Be Announced by our famous "Cat Herder", so watch your emails, time as always: **6:00 PM.**

Our Business Meeting Time Has Changed !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Our Meeting will at The Okaloosa Fire Dept. Training Room, 2nd Floor 9:00 am, 1st Sunday of the Month, Ride to follow.

The Weekly Dining-In is now changing regularly. Watch the email for updates from George. The weirdness is always on Tuesdays, always starts around 6, and there's always a good crowd.

SHIRT RIDE season is nearly on top of us!! Now is the time to seek out the outrageous shirt and try to outdo The rest of the Sandies. It will take a real doozy to beat some of the attire seen on past rides, but there is always a chance someplace like Wally World will have something truly great. Keep your eyes on the calendar and email for the announcement of the first shirt ride. Then break out the ugly shirt and welding glasses and get ready for the fun!!!



WE BE DO'N DINNER RIDES

The Sandies eons ago used to do one dinner ride a month, more than that and it got real thin on participation. The Dinner Ride will be a Mystery Dinner Ride. That means the Roadie leading it knows where it will end up. Now if you have certain dietary needs and/or a picky eater, just contact the Road Lead and find out just where.

A couple of remembers, we use the Sandie table method, parties of 4 or 5 or 6, don't let the restaurant folks, unless they have the space, set-up one mass table. It works better for the wait staff and kitchen. Speaking of wait staff, Sandies if you get good service and the kitchen screws up don't take it out on the wait folks. Traditionally wait people really are not in love with Motorcycle Clubs cause they are crappy tippers. We on the other hand have quite a few places where we are really appreciated, let's keep the good feelings rolling.



<http://twitter.com/SandDollarMC>



<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Sandollar-Motorcycle-Club/110038601999>



<http://www.myspace.com/sandollarmotorcycleclub>



<http://sandollarmotorcycleclub.com>

Minutes from Sandollar M/C Business Meeting July 1, 2018

Sam Engler called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

Treasurer's Report:

Edna Keefe read the Treasurer's report from the June 2018 meeting. Jim Morrison motioned to accept as read and second by Munchkin.

Secretary's Report:

DJ Kudla read the minutes from the June 2018 meeting. Joe Joe Rello motioned to accept as read and second by Jim Walters.

Road Captain's Report:

George Engler gave the Road Captain's report of July & August events. Please call or text George Engler at 850.244.0376 with any questions or comments regarding the ride schedule.

Save the Dates:

10/05/18 – 10/7/2018: Barber's Vintage Festival
10/05/18 – 10/07/18: Fall Thunder Beach
10/28/18: Pumpkin Run @ KM Cycle & Marine

Please remember to ask for door prizes at businesses you frequent. Gift certificates are a great option.

Old Business:

The advanced Rider's Course is scheduled on July 22nd. The class is limited to 15 attendees and all riders must wear full gear while on the range. Due to course dynamics, attendees are limited to 2-wheeled motorcycles only.

The Sand Dollars have been asked to support triathlons in August (Destin) and September (Pensacola) to carry judges as they must be carried on motorcycles, but draft busters are also needed.

New Business:

Sam noted that annual dues must be paid by June 30, 2018 or membership will be terminated.

Steve Gardinier has arranged for an Accident Scene Management course to be held in July or August. Cost for the course and certification is \$50 per person.

Steve mentioned that he spoke with Clay McCutcheon regarding his schedule, and he cannot hold any events until next year.

Munchkin stated he was recently watching a TV program about a helmet removal device and thought it might be a good thing to have available for the club. George will research cost and availability.

Meeting Closed: There being no further business for the benefit of the club, Munchkin motioned to close the meeting and second by Jim Walters. Meeting adjourned at 9:25 AM

George's Apple Compote

Ingredients:

3 pounds tart apples, such as Macintosh, Granny Smith, or Honeycrisp - peeled, cored and cut in chunks

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup Apple Cider

1 tablespoon apple cider vinegar

2 tablespoons super fine sugar

Zest of a lemon

1 tablespoon fresh lemon or lime juice

Sweet spices (cinnamon, nutmeg)

Raisins and cranberries to suit

Pecan bits or Almond silvers

All the butter you think will work.

Directions:

Place apples and water in a heavy saucepan and stir over medium-high heat until the mixture is bubbling. Reduce heat to low and cover. Cook, stirring often, until the apples are soft but still have some texture, 15 to 20 minutes.

Add sugar, lemon or lime juice, and spices, cover and simmer for another 3 to 5 minutes. Then crudely mash the apples leaving plenty of chunks

Remove from heat and add raisins and dried cranberries and almonds or my fav, pecan bits.

Cover and allow to cool, or serve warm to hot.

Of course you don't need to do three pounds, it makes a lot of Compote Use real lemon juice not the bottled kind. I use superfine sugar, it dissolves very quickly, Wal-Mart has it. Don't overdo it, the Compote should be a little tart. Now the secret, BUTTER, lots of real butter, no substitutes. You put this over thick grilled Pork Chops and you have an incredible out of body experience. Also good on Ice Cream and truck bumpers - it's that good!

~George



Lunch Riders On The Storm'

George Engler

Let's set the mood, Okay, our rather eclectic group (one of the kinder terms applied to our bunch of reprobates and na'er do-wells) is up and about early, the weather app says chance of rain 70 %. Okay Sandies don't do a lot of maths so you look out the Accu-Weather Window™ and see that the current weather conditions are blue skies and summer time temps. All Right – we're going riding!

So, just before side-stands-up a passing shower wets everything. Sir Robert calls, "Hey we riding?", I replied, "Yes sir!" When I get to AL's Garage and Motorcycle Meet-Up Place there is a sizable Clowder* of Sandies. I was surprised at how many Sandies showed up on a partially rainy Sunday morning. I counted 10 Sandies, a pretty good bunch, all things considered. So, when Sir Robert pulls in - it's Showtime!

*Clowder A group of cats, generally rowdy, unruly and hungry, at least as applied to Sand Dollar Members.

Anyone who knows JoeJoe knows that he is a former professional Weather Prognog..., um, Prognast... ah, the hell with it, former professional weather guesser, i.e. real life WeatherMan, er, person. Since JoeJoe has real time weather on his Harley, he keeps you well informed via electronic telecommunications devices (CB Radio). Reminds me of Jim Cantorre from the Weather Channel, "Hey George lots of reds and yellows ahead, HOO that looks like a tornado, Volkswagen size hail too! (Beetle, not bus) ! All said with that gleeful tone of voice that Mr. Cantorre reserves for only the most dangerous weather events.

We ride on in spite of JoeJoe Cantorre, still dry, forging ahead the way Sandies do. My phone rings, a word here about Technology and Motorcycles. See the sub-thread here, full color weather radar, answering a phone while in route. Following a voice in a box, sometimes to a place you hadn't really wanted to end up. Many of us are old enough to remember planning sessions with paper maps, careful attention to the weather report for several days before the ride, plus a sharp eye on the sky ahead when riding, plus a dozen or more hand signals for group communications. My point with all this is that in spite of all the new technology, to include satellites(!) here is a group of Sandies heading straight into a rather ominous full dark sky. Back to the phone, it's Tommy N, he had taken his vehicle and gone on ahead of us.

Tommy says, "Hey George the café is closed and it is raining hard",
"How bad is it, Tommy?"

"Just saw a guy building a really really big boat..."

So we stop and regroup at Bluewater. Steven G had a pit stop to make. We discuss where to eat and a group of Sandies trying to reach a consensus on food is like North Korea and The US on denuclearization. Finally, success, The Neighborhood Café on Mary Ester Cut-off. Now let me get this straight we drove 45 miles to go 3 miles? People keep wondering why I take drugs.

Call Tommy and inform him of the new location, Robert calls Sharon to do the same. While in route JoeJoe lets Sharon know how many poor, famished - barely hanging on to life by their finger-tips because of hunger - Sandies there are in our party. See there? Mere moments after my tirade about technology above - here the technology was a god send to these famished Sandies. Each one assured me they might well have passed on to that great group ride in the sky had they not eaten in such a timely manner.

Frank W returned from whatever far journey Frank takes. Now Frank has some really neat stories, I enjoy listening to them. Speaking of stories, at breakfast Dona was regaling everyone with tales from their latest adventures in Spydie Land. Seems Dona and Dona's husband, Harold, attended a Spyder Rally in North Carolina. Listening to all the adventures a great time was had by all. Harold did kinda say he might put a missive about their adventures together, notice might.

Munchkin is now, "Officially Retired Munchkin", is and is still feeding Munchkins retired body like it was Munchkin working body. Helen with a knowing look, looked at me then at Munchkin and said "Soon you will be George's Mini-Me'. Talk about Scared Straight!! That should have scared Munchkin onto a much cleaner living schedule...nah, probably not.

We just beat the crowd at Neighborhood Café. Thanks to Sharon for grabbing a table - it was timely as hell. 12 Sandies and with Sharon, Haley joining us we had a table of 14 Sandies for Breakfast.

Tommy unfortunately had a tire to replace and couldn't enjoy the great breakfast that he, Tommy, was so instrumental in helping to keep a fun (and dry) time.

In spite of rain, in spite of (allegedly) almost losing half the group to starvation, it was a great Sandie Breakfast Ride. Thank you Tommy for the early warning.

Tuesday Dining -In 6ish will pass location when I find out.

Dues are due folks, time is getting short, you can pay on line, front page of The Sandie Web site.



“There we were surrounded by Messerschmitt’s”
Okay not quite that dramatic but close
George Engler

This is the OTHER Sandie’s Adventure. First let me be very clear, the PayPal algorithm should have worked to lose Bobby B’s dues in the ether. Please see my technology rant last week. Just when you need technology to mess up - Shazam! Nothing. Meanwhile The Other Sandies did 135 miles and got as far as Milton. Had one hell of an Oopsie from a Sandie you would never have expected it to happen to. The perpetrator of said famous Oopsie , Sir Mac, has written a long and heartfelt explanation of his (unintentional) off-road adventure.

Okay the telling, arrived at AL’s expecting not much of a group. I mean distance and heat alone left a few on the Bench. Remember the ride was scheduled to Monroeville about 245 miles on a July day in Florida. (Hey, no one ever said we were smart.) The smart ones stayed home in Air Conditioned comfort. Well who do I spy first but JoeJoe followed shortly by Frank W. It was decided rather quickly that Monroeville would be a bridge too far during this heat wave. So being the ever resourceful Sandies it was quickly decided to take The Sandie Way*to the Derail Diner. Just then Sir Mac arrived on that Black Rocket of his and joined the Adventure.

*my italics, cool huh?

From AL’s it was a rocking ride through and around North West Florida’s best riding ares. We had done a bit over 85 miles and still in Okaloosa County when the route led us into The Blackwater.

Now the tale takes a rather strange turn, first a bit of background. I have led groups now for over thirty years, covered over a hundred thousand miles easily leading groups . Each ride is different, each situation different, I would like to think I can handle most situations. But every once in awhile something happens that throws you a curve (get it curve? I still got it.) As the picture shows it was a decreasing radius curve, a curve we have taken dozens of times. Now what Mac in his saga didn’t point out that as we entered the curve a Bicycle Club was coming in the opposite direction. As we were pulling away from the curve JoeJoe calls me on the Radio “Dave is down”. My training kicks in and I responded in a split second as a true leader, “Dave who?”

Yes, fellow Sandies that was my actual response. We turn around and head back, as I pull up I see this big black Triumph rocket emerging from the woods, backwards. Pushing it was David and JoeJoe, now it’s been awhile since I have seen a Triumph Rocket emerging from the woods backwards. Come to think of it I have never seen a Triumph Rocket emerging from the woods, backwards. Now once we determine the only thing hurt was a certain Scotsman pride. Our ASMI (Accident Scene Management) training kicks in. Sam heads around the curve with orange vest on to warn oncoming traffic to slow down. Move the bikes off the road; JoeJoe has the road with markers on. Frank is watching for traffic coming toward us. Sandies that is probably the best class you as a motorcyclist can take, The Sandies will be hosting a class next month - only ten openings, \$50.00 a head, a bargain, usually \$90.00 but since we are providing the training room, the discount. At this point we decided that the Road Gods have sent a huge “do not ignore” signal to us. We decide that a good breakfast would be what is needed

now. The Ace Café in Milton beckoned and being ones not to ignore Divine Providence that is the direction where we turned our headlights. Now as we set down to breakfast I realized it was just after 9 am, that was one busy morning. After Breakfast we headed home, Mac along I-10 the rest on 98. Sandies, 98 stuck in traffic during a July in Florida, is one lousy way to spend part of a Saturday morning.

Everyone is fine, Macs pride and joy looked rather chic draped in festive woodland plants I must admit. Take aways: it can happen anytime and to anybody. Level of experience is no guarantee it won't happen to you. The ASMI training worked, again, fortunately this time we could leave the Med Kits on board. But ya know we had one hell of a Saturday Adventure, hopefully the next one will be a bit closer to normal.

Off-Roading a Triumph Rocket

Dave McAulay

Had quite an adventure recently. George, Sam, Frank, JoeJoe and I had a wee bit more exciting day than originally planned (at least as far as my riding plan was concerned.) As we were rolling through the backwoods we came upon a left turn. Well, George went around the turn followed by Sam and Frank now me being the stupid one - I decided to leave the road???

A moment's lapse in concentration is all it takes and I was in the sand with the bike still upright, I kept as calm as possible under the circumstances and I was shaving speed off slowly because it was sandy and I did not want to apply the brakes too much. I had gotten it slowed down to about a walking pace then I think hit a soft patch and the front wheel tucked under to the left and the bike tipped over. Was not going fast at all but still not a good feeling.

JoeJoe helped me get the bike up and back on the road, the left side crash bar did a great job as it stopped any damage to my bike. Apart from some dust and a lost reflector the bike was 100%. When I got home I gave it a polish and it looks as good as ever.

Big thank you to FIFA once they heard about my mishap they offered to postpone the World Cup Final by one day but I told them not to bother.

Also a big thank you to Queen Elizabeth II for the nice letter I received from her. Big thanks to all who helped me yesterday. It works when we all stick together and that we did.



Super Skills

George Engler

It was one super day to be a Sandie. It was hot, "Hey George, how hot was it?" "It was so hot I saw the devil in Wal-Mart buying an air conditioner". Now that's funny, right there. Okay back to serious stuff. (Yeah, right.)

We had 13 Sandies, well, 10 Sandies and all three RiderCoaches were Sandies . We got to spend the day with some of the Green Knights, Eglin Chapter - always an enjoyable time getting to share riding time with those fine fellow Riders.

Before we get into the meat and potatoes of this simply incredible day. I want to thank Dave McCauley and Chris Mitchell for a fantastic job. The two of them did a tremendous job under some trying conditions. Besides the heat, they had a Herd of Sandies to contend with,(which is not what you'd call ideal conditions for a RiderCoach.) Throw in temps in the mid-to-high 90's and a heat index in triple digits and you have a double whammy.

Here I must take a minute to bring a sad revelation to my fellow Sandies. I'm sure all of you have heard of Lance Armstrong, and Barry Bonds - maybe the 1919 Black Sox baseball team. We all remember Richard Nixon, and Canadian Ben Johnson who beat Carl Lewis in the Olympic 100 meters. Now, what do all these world-famous people have in common with a Sand Dollar M/C member doing an Advanced RiderCourse? They were CHEATERS!! It is with a sad heart I must report that, nestled in the bosom of The Sandies, resides a previously unknown viper. Many of you know him as New York City! Yes, John Gonsalves - that New York City! Oh, I understand your heartbreak at hearing this disastrous news. That someone who we all trusted could betray us. You feel like the little boy back in 1919 when the news broke on the Black Sox scandal when it was proven they had thrown games and manipulated scores: as the humiliated Black Sox trudged by to the tunnel and the boy leans over the rail of the bleaches, still not able to believe that his heroes are cheaters and yells to his favorite payer: "Say it isn't so, Joe!" Well, OK, it wasn't that bad, but still....

Let me tell the tale of this egregious transgression. (I got a "Word-A-Day" Calendar and I've been flipping through it)

John Gonsalves a.k.a. "New York City!" was a bit late for class. It seems that John's BMW Police Bike had a bad battery and didn't feel like getting out of bed to go play in the heat. So, Chris and Dave being the fine, up-standing individuals that...., (Okay I may be getting a bit carried away here.) They told NYC! he could use a BRC bike. Now here is where the slide to perfidiousness, starts. When John comes back he gets a Yamaha TRW. "A what?", you may well ask. A Yamaha TRW 200 is a fat tired dual-sport (on and off road) motorcycle known for its amazing agility and nimbleness. So why is this cheating? NYC! Is a very experienced rider, as in he's a damn good rider. Taking this Advanced course on a TRW is like playing sports against little kids. Playing poker and you have all the aces hidden up your sleeve. Playing Craps and you own the weighted dice. It was just unfair to all the rest of us folks on our big boy rides.

John could have taken a 250 nighthawk which, while small, can be a handful to throw around. This is especially hard if you're over 6 foot which coincidentally John just happens to be.

You know, I could have lived with this if John hadn't been so danged smug every time he rode past me. I had to work, and work hard, at some of the exercises. Not NYC!, he would breeze through it then have a sly comment about my effort. The harder the training the smugger (it's a word) was John's reaction. The straw that finally caused me to brand NYC! a Cheater was the three circles exercise. In this one there are three circles: large, medium and small. The circles have cones evenly spaced all around the perimeter and you're supposed to do a cone-weave in progressively smaller circles. If this doesn't sound fiendishly difficult to you, then you've never tried it. You have to weave through the cones while following the circle. The big circle was not hard, Medium was a bit harder, now for the smaller circle - it may be one of the gates of hell. Let's get one thing straight here, Robert and JoeJoe both on full size dressers made riding the small circle look easy. Now my turn, it was tough for me I had to work just to get every other one my first time through. NYC ! breezes through it even going in the opposite direction. John stops next to me on his TRW and mentions that the object of the exercise was to go between the cones, not around the outside. You know, that John G smile reminds me of the grin on the Cheshire Cat in Alice in Wonderland . John then tootles off to do the small circle, again, backwards. To me that makes John a Cheater, a big ol' Cheater riding a cheater TRW while cheating at the ARC.

The rest of the Class was a fantastic learning experience. Yes it's stuff that we have done at Skills. Sensei brought exercises from both new and old ARC to us when it was still in Beta Testing with the MSF, but The Mitchell made a very good point, it's all well and good to have Skills days. But along with the Skill builders, we might be short changing ourselves if we are ignoring the little things and not practicing those too. The Mitchell is enthusiastic and his knowledge of his subject is first rate. All of this shows in the Classroom, Chris puts on a great Classroom. Ah Sir Mac what can I say that hasn't posted on line by Interpol. Mac is one of the best Rider Coaches that I have been privileged to know. I can't say anything more, Mac cares about his students and even after all of these years Mac is still passionate about teaching.

There is a strong disturbance in "The Force" when both Munchkin AND Frank are in the same room. We are talking serious disruption. Darth Vader/Death Star level stuff. Frank is just not right on so many levels, then you have Munchkin who has no top floor .

Paco was there on his BMW G 650, for those that remember it was a 650 that went off the side of that mountain in Colorado and he had to leave it behind because the bike was so far down the steep sides of the mountain, it was inaccessible. That was the stuff of legends right there. Paco was the star of the Interweb for a couple of days. Maybe JoeJoe can find the story in our archives, it's a fantastic tale.

Lunch was at "Props" in Niceville, good food but it weighs on the wallet a mite.

Today was a great day to be a Sandie the opportunity presented by Chris and Dave was priceless. The Sandies can't thank you enough for all you have done for us.

Tuesday's Dining-In is at Joe & Eddies around 6-ish, good food and even better fellowship. We will have an early morning Ride Sunday to somewhere AL's at 7 am Sunday.

NYC! Responds to Recent Slanderous Accusations **John (NYC!) Gonsalves**

It is indeed great to be a Sandie. What a privilege to have benefited from Dave and Chris' generosity of time and knowledge Sunday. I really appreciate that they lent me a motorcycle due to a battery problem with mine.

I suppose that thanks are due to George as well for reporting on the event, even if he was a little off on interpreting much of what occurred. I'm sure you all noticed that he was a little confused about how well I did. I completed tasks requiring advanced skill in spite of doing it with an unfamiliar, undersized motorcycle with oversized off-road tires! WOW!!

You know those tinny little puppy dogs with huge paws and you say - "look at those paws, that's gonna be a big dog someday!" - Well, that perfectly describes a Yamaha TRW!

Now imagine doing slow tight maneuvering on this thing and trying to figure out how to make the handlebar and your knee occupy the same space at the same time!

~NYC!



Waldo Reports In Bobby B.

It's been almost a year since I rode on an official Sand Dollar MC ride of disorganization. It being July and me using the power of the interwebs to renew my membership (they haven't figured out how to reject my membership through PayPal yet), I couldn't help but browse the familiar Sandollarmotorcycleclub.com page. The calendar was still there, and it claimed "Saturday Adventure Ride 8AM Al's Auto Repair". So I changed the oil in the Victory, repaired the headset mount on my helmet because the ride is more fun when heckling The Chief Cat Herder Hissel (TCCHH). I topped off the tank, and washed the bike.... Okay so I did everything but that last bit.

Saturday morning, I sleep in so I don't get sidetracked and miss the ride. I realize when it's time to leave that I don't have cash in my wallet. This is a major faux pas in the world of Sandies, so I do my due diligence and message TCCHH and let him know I may miss kickstands up time while I stop for cash. I asked where I could intercept the group. No response.... Silly me, I figured maybe TCCHH was working or had some life altering emergency. Little did I know that my message was received and the Sandies were scrambling to avoid lowly lil' 'ole me.

I make it to Al's with a solid 95 seconds to spare. As I pull in I notice there's only one other bike present. A beautiful lowered white Harley. I can't tell you the model because I'm un-indoctrinated into the world of things Harley with blacked out mini-apes. Sitting there, waiting pretty as you please was Ms. Gail* (No Road Name Given). Now I start to panic... Sam as expressly forbade me to talk to new people without supervision. I'm stuck, so I pretend to know all about the club and mask the fact that no one ever knows where/who I am. I wanted to go to Red Bay Grocery, but the web still says that it's permanently closed. I've known that to be a lie in the past, that the club convinced management there to not update the interwebs in hopes of avoiding yours truly.... but I digress.

Not wanting to look like a clueless rookie, Ms. Gail* and I discuss our options. She mentioned that Ed's has good milkshakes and that was all the convincing I needed! My favorite roads, a MILKSHAKE, and a quiet unsupervised chance to corrupt a potential member before the yahoo's that are allowed to participate in regular rides turn her against me.

From Al's, North on 85. Right turn onto College blvd., then a brief left then right onto 85/toll connector to 285 (don't you worry, cheapo here bailed before any charges were incurred), left up to 285 North. After a few miserable miles in the blazing sun, we took a right onto the coveted Bob Sikes Rd. It's one of my favorites, and although they cut the trees back too much for me to have my sunless canopy, the road was recently re-surfaced. I was having such a great time, I totally missed Boy Scout and we rode all the way into DeFuniak Springs. A couple of lefts and a right and we were at Ed's for ...breakfast. What?!? Breakfast, how rude. I play it off like that's OK I didn't need my milkshake anyway (you know the whole reason for the ride) and get a sandwich. Gail* and I chat for a really long time about the world and things. I fill her in on all of

the Sandie riding protocols. I warn her that for her first few rides, they are going to keep her near the front so safety can be assessed. After a few thousand miles, she'll be free to move to the last group, that I affectionately refer to as the "Shiny Things Group" because we sometimes are spread out for miles getting sidetracked by all of the shiny things visible from the roadway. You know, the group that is always pulling in as Joejoe has already used the facilities, eaten, and ordered a second helping.

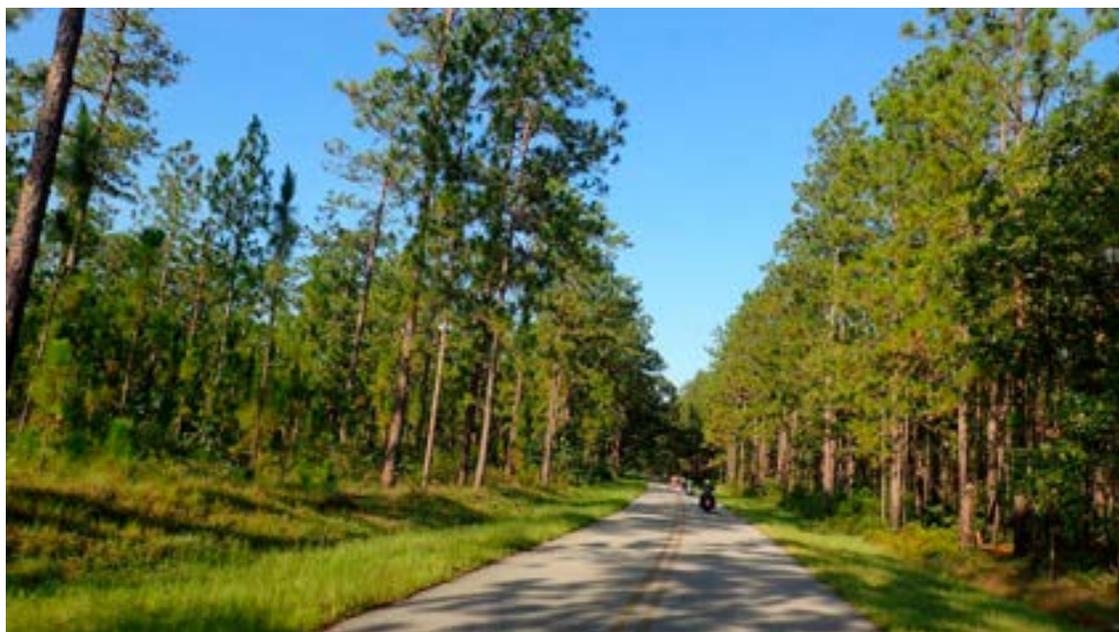
I spend the rest of the time at Ed's twisting the narrative of the Sandollar MC to convince this wonderful lady that it's best to avoid things like fried chicken, empty gas tanks are cool, and bike washing is a completely unnecessary task made up by the devil.

Afterwards, we hook back south on 331. Travel a whole mile adjacent to the smelliest garbage truck in NWFL, to the U-Turn after Rock Hill. That's right, I took Ms. Gail* through her first ever Sandollar U-Turn! I assured her that it was an anomaly, and will probably never occur again. Rock Hill took us to 81, where I soon confirmed that Red Bay Grocery is still in fact open regardless of the facade on the interwebs. 81 south to 20, 20 east to Niceville where we parted ways.

128 miles on the odometer, potential member likely dissuaded from ever riding with us again, and a missed milkshake opportunity. Most people would count this as an utter failure, but not Waldo. No sir, this is a resounding success in my book.

Parking the bike, I see that TCCHH eventually responded after he knew I couldn't catch them. They were in Milton. Mighta known they'd go in the opposite direction...

Respectfully,
Bobby B
AKA Waldo



“SHUNPIKING”

A Modern Take on an Old Custom

Shunpiking, an old way to beat the turnpike toll and a modern way to beat the boring Interstate Highway. Here in the United States shunpiking started as soon as toll roads and bridges began to appear in the 18th century. It was a way to get from one place to another without paying the toll. Today there are still those that will shunpike to avoid toll roads, but more people will try to use the old routes to avoid travel on the Interstate and see the country the way it may have been years ago.

I know the Sandies do a lot of shunpiking in the local area and have discovered many great roads and restaurants. We have also visited several historic and interesting towns and villages. Burnt Corn and Two Egg come to mind. The Sandies are really great at finding out of the way attractions and roads with great fun in the trip to and from. A simple breakfast ride can turn into a 150 mile trip through the backroads of NW Florida and Southern Alabama. There have been 300 mile roundtrips for a great burger. Sure, these trips could be quicker and shorter using the main highways, but what's the fun in that. We ride to enjoy the ride not drone on and on boring interstates.

Long trips can be a great shunpiking experience if you are willing to throw away the fixed schedule and go with the flow. Sure, you want to have a general destination and direction in mind, but let the roads take you where they will. Don't worry about where you'll stop and where to eat, it will happen. By staying off of the big roads you'll surely run into many interesting places to stop and visit great small motels and restaurants.

Have you heard of Wall Drug? Have you been there? How about Red Lodge, Montana? I have traveled to these places and many others both East and West. I've travelled West along US 20 from the Finger Lakes region of New York to Yellowstone and back along other small highways using the Interstate only when necessary. I saw a lot of interesting places and met many friendly folks along the way. I stopped along a lonely stretch of road to see the wagon ruts left by the pioneers travelling west to a new life. In Wyoming I stopped at an old west Saloon for a break and later ate in a restaurant recommended by the locals in Cody, Wyoming.

Have you seen the Bay of Fundy, been to Eastport, Maine or had all you can eat lobster in Bathurst, New Brunswick? These are a lot of out of the way but a few of the places you can access by getting off of the beaten path. I know many of the Sandies have been to the southernmost point the United States. How many have been to the easternmost point? A great lobster roll in Maine or a big plate of scallops in New Brunswick is a real treat. Sure, riding down east will probably get cold and/or wet, but that's part of the journey.

~**Jim M**

Robert McLondon
Julia McLondon



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August 2018



Calendars are Subject to Change
Please check your Email Regularly

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 Business meeting/ Lunch 9 am	6	7 Food! Place TBA, call 246-0029 for further information	8	9	10	11
12 Breakfast Ride 7 am	13	14 Food! Place TBA, call 246-0029 for further information	15	16	17	18 ASM Class 8 am Okaloosa Island Fire Dept.
19 Open for Ride Sug- gestions	20	21 Food! Place TBA, call 246-0029 for further information	22	23	24	25 Dinner Ride Brewery North of Navarre 4:30 AL's
26 Beat the heat Ride 9 am AL's	27	28 Food! Place TBA, call 246-0029 for further information	29	30	31	

September 2018



1

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Please check your Email Regularly

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Business meeting/ Lunch 9 am	3 	4 Food! Place TBA, call 246-0029 for further information	5	6	7	8
9 Ride The Boats 9 am Al's Garage	10	11 Food! Place TBA, call 246-0029 for further information	12	13	14	15
16 Breakfast Ride 7am Al's Garage	17	18 Food! Place TBA, call 246-0029 for further information	19	20	21	22 Saturday Adventure Ride 8 am Al's garage
23 OPEN	24	25 Food! Place TBA, call 246-0029 for further information	26	27	28	29
30 Skills 8:30 AL's 9am Range						