

SIDETRACKS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GEORGIA SIDECAR CLUB ~~~ Special Fall Issue

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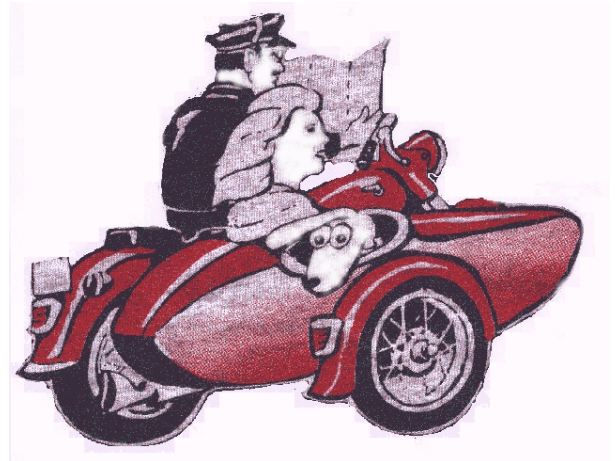
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This issue of Sidetracks is a special "Fall Edition" featuring a report by Kevin Klages on his trip to the USCA National Rally in Colorado this past summer.

I hope that you all enjoy Kevin and Chuck's great adventure!

Ride Safe,
Art







FRIDAY 6-24-16 = I left home about 6 A.M. on the 24th of June & met Chuck Ehrich at Cambridge, Ohio around 7:30 A.M. We traveled on I-70, I-74 & a little on I-80, racking up 644 miles on an uneventful day. Stayed near Davenport, Iowa at a Motel.

SATURDAY 6-25-16 = Pulled out of Motel around 6 A.M. & headed West on I-80, North on I-29 then West on I-90. We stayed in a Motel at Kimball, SD. I lost bolts out of the left rear muffler bracket & broke the heat shield on exhaust today, no other damage. I just replaced 2 bolts & all was good, but it was terribly windy all day. Traveled 558 miles today – 1,202 total so far.

SUNDAY 6-26-16 = Pulled out of Motel around 6 A.M. & headed West on I-90. It was still windy, but not as bad as yesterday. Traveled 273 miles today, but had a hard time finding Camp Grounds (Kemp's Kamp outside of Keystone, SD.) Finally got there, ate dinner in Keystone & gawked around town, then went back to Camp. Rode past Rushmore, but will go back tomorrow, then rode to Pioneer Museum in Murdo, SD. You really need to take a day at least to see it because it is a huge place.

MONDAY 6-27-16 = Traveled 102 miles today. Rode to Crazy Horse to Needles Highway, Wildlife Loop in Custer Park, Iron Mountain Road to Mt. Rushmore, ate dinner in Keystone then back to Camp. There were lots of Buffalo & some Antelope in Custer Park, but no Big Horn Sheep this time.

TUESDAY 6-28-16 = Rode to Hill City, Deadwood, Sturgis, up 385 & 85, then stopped at Side Hack Saloon in Sturgis. There were only a few lousy T-shirts so I didn't get one. Then I walked up & down Main Street gawking at the shops. Later I headed back to Camp. It stormed pretty hard & there was still some snow on top of the mountain. Traveled 116 miles today.

WEDNESDAY 6-29-16 = Packed up Camp early (6:00 A.M.) & headed North on 385 to Deadwood & 85 to Spearfish. Went to Devil's Tower NM Monument & Park, then rode to the 7th Cavalry RV Park near Little Big Horn Battlefield. Stopped at the Crow Reservation Trading Post for an Indian Taco, which was very good. It was made on thick fried bread. Chuck bought a couple of arrows & I probably will get something for Linda tomorrow. Traveled 375 miles today.

THURSDAY 6-30-16 = Went to Little Big Horn Battlefield today. It was a very captivating area & a National Cemetery that was really sad with a lot of unknown graves. This made interesting history. Ate at the Trading Post for breakfast & dinner. There were tepees in front; the food was good & plenty of it too! Traveled 89 miles today. The weather was good, just windy. Some electrical trouble with my Harley; I will get the battery checked at Walmart in Cody, WY tomorrow on the way to Yellowstone.

FRIDAY 7-1-16 = Left Little Big Horn at 6:45 A.M. & onto Yellowstone. Took a side road until we hit Rt. 14 in Wyoming, then onto Rt. 16. Route 14 has an absolutely spectacular drive through a canyon; it was a great road. Stopped at Cody Walmart to get my battery checked & it tested fine. As long as it keeps starting, I'll check it when I get home. We came into Yellowstone via the East entrance; it was a pretty ride, but steep & twisty. A very heavy rain fell before we got to the campground, but we got set up OK in Grant Village. It was right by a lake, & the mosquitoes were hungry, oh well. Traveled 280 miles today.

SATURDAY 7-2-16 = Chuck & I ate breakfast, then rode to the Old Faithful Geyser, but it wasn't supposed to erupt for at least 40 minutes. I wanted to run Bear Tooth Pass & Dunraven Pass, but Chuck didn't. So we went our separate ways for the day. Dunraven Pass in the Park is great. On the North side you will see large herds of Buffalo, some Elk & Mule Deer. You go out the Northeast entrance to start Bear Tooth Highway (Rt. 212) toward Red Lodge, Montana. It's absolutely fantastic. I got snowed & sleeted on, but made 12 miles from Red Lodge before the road got too bad to continue. I turned around & headed back. There was snow on both sides of the road. If you ever get the chance to ride it, you won't regret it. (Beautiful, absolutely beautiful) Saw Wolves attacking a Buffalo in Lamar Valley. It was getting close to dusk & there were Elk everywhere. I didn't get back to Camp till 10:00 P.M. It was a really wicked ride back with such large animals all over the roads, but it sure beats the Hell out of sitting in front of a TV. Traveled 395 mountain miles today, although it was long & tiring.



SUNDAY 7-3-16 = Today I just ate meals & jabbered in Camp, caught up on laundry, etc, watched the sunset over the lake. It was pretty; then it rained.

MONDAY 7-4-16 = Chuck & I had a breakfast buffet at the Lake Shore Restaurant, then rode to Lamar Valley to see the Buffalo. While at breakfast a Squirrel tore up my sheepskin seat cover. There were chunks & tufts everywhere. It's a long ride again through The Grand Canyon of Yellowstone & Dunleavy Pass. Rode through ice cold rain a lot of the way back, pretty miserable, but it still was a great all day ride. I took some pictures of geysers, paint pots, mud volcanoes, Elk, Buffalo, Prairie Dog & just scenery. Will pull out tomorrow toward Hotchkiss, Colorado. Traveled 183 miles today. The temperatures have been in the middle 40's & lower at night, mostly decent in late morning or early afternoon, but it seemed to rain every day.

TUESDAY 7-5-16 = Broke camp around 6:30 A.M. Drove South from Yellowstone on Rt. 191 through the middle of Grand Teton, National Park; a really nice ride, but chilly. Stayed on 191 to Rock Springs, WY, then to Green River & down 330 & 44 through Flaming Gorge. It was really pretty, but a tiring ride with a huge amount of wind then heat. Got onto 191 again at the South end of the Gorge & down to Vernal, Utah for the night. Every part of my body was worn out by then anyway. Traveled 386 miles today. Most of it was slow going. Called Dana Williams tonight & told him we should make it to Hotchkiss, Colorado sometime tomorrow afternoon for the U.S.C.A. National.

WEDNESDAY 7-6-16 = 200 miles to Rally site today in Hotchkiss, Colorado. Nice campground & area. It was a little brown & dry, but mountains all around it. Just hung around & ate in town & set up the tent.

THURSDAY 7-7-16 = Chuck & I went for a ride to "Scooters & Shooters Bar" outside of Crawford, CO. No action for their big party weekend yet, but did get a T-shirt. I went riding on gravel side-roads up a canyon; rough roads & real narrow with steep drop-offs in the canyon. Wash boarded roads wiped out my headlight bulb so I will have to replace it in the morning. Ate meals in town again at Zach's Restaurant. (Good steak.) Traveled 80 miles today.

FRIDAY 7-8-16 = Went for breakfast then to a local Polaris Shop to purchase a headlight bulb. They lent me a screwdriver & I changed it right there. More people coming in, Dana says about 140 pre-registered. Meals, door prized & games will be on Saturday. Had doughnuts, fruit, water, lemonade, tea & coffee all the time. Showers were free, electric spot was \$6.00 per night.

SATURDAY 7-9-16 = Went to breakfast at Rally. They had good pancakes, eggs, sausage, ham, orange juice & coffee. I picked up a T-shirt & Chuck wanted to go to a town yard sale. They had nothing but junk that I could see. Loafed around at Rally & took pictures of bikes. There was dinner, singing & playing in the evening. U.S.C.A. meeting was held in the afternoon. The discussion pertained to when will the 2017 Rally be held. It was announced it will be the last weekend in July at Corning, NY (Finger Lake Region.) It screwed the K.S.G. Rally to death. Hell with it! Packing up & heading home in A.M. 1,750 miles to go: I WILL BE GLAD WHEN THIS TRIP IS OVER. Around 3:30 P.M. I plugged the phone charger into the sidecar power-port then started to walk away. I turned back to get a pop from the cooler for dinner & when I turned around there was black smoke pouring out the sidecar, trunk & under the bike seat. I started throwing stuff out of it because the carpet & seat were burning & the wiring from the front of the sidecar to under the seat of the bike was on fire. It took a while for me to fish out a ½ inch wrench & disconnect the car battery in the trunk. I tore out the seat & carpet & tossed it on the ground then got the bike seat off. ALL the sidecar wiring was fried & some of the bike wiring too! One heck of a place for this to happen; 1,700 miles from home. When it all cooled down, I proceeded to cut out all the sidecar wires & the fried bike wires. Got the lights & starter working on the bike again, but the sidecar wiring couldn't be salvaged. The Harley runs, but no lights at all on the sidecar, no trim adjuster & no auxiliary fuel pump & tank. I will try to start home tomorrow with it. Traveled 78 miles today. One good thing is there are great fresh black cherries in the area to eat.

SUNDAY 7-10-16 = Packed up camp by 4:15 A.M., but had to wait until day break so you could see the sidecar because there were no lights on it at all. About froze going up over passes on 133 & 82 in Colorado. Saw 4 Wolves, some beautiful scenery including lots of snow. When we hit I-70 East you go through Glenwood



Canyon; fantastic ride & scenery. By the time we got to Denver we had gone over 3 large passes & the temperature was hitting 105 degrees in Denver. Talk about drastic temp changes. I'm about cooked & my sunburn was awful even though I was using sunscreen. Traveled 560 miles today in really rough winds & elevations. Kansas is really windy, a lot of 4th gear running on I-70. Stayed in a Motel in Ellis, Kansas for the night. Stopped around 8:00 P.M., took a swim & sat in the hot tub.

MONDAY 7-11-16 = Left Hotel around 6:30 A.M. & headed onto 70 East toward home. It was really windy until late afternoon & was going to keep rolling, but with no lights on the sidecar I decided to stop for the night in Greenup, Illinois. Stayed at the Budget Inn around 8:45 P.M. Traveled 665 miles today.

TUESDAY 7-12-16 = Pulled out by 6:00 A.M. & was home by 3:15 P.M. Traveled 442 miles today.

IT WAS A 5,280 MILE TRIP

(2016 Georgia Sidecar Campout was held at Whispering Pines Campground, approx. 10 miles West of Blairsville, GA on Rt. 76 = July 8-12, 2016)

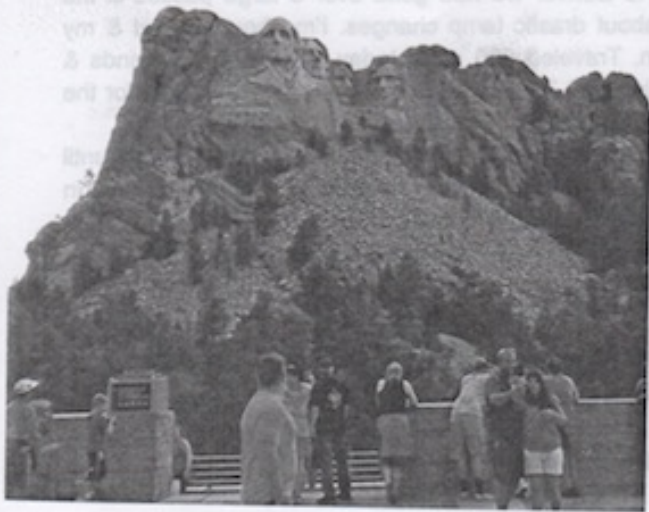
2016 GEORGIA SIDECAR CAMPOUT 2016 written by Kevin Klages



I met up with some friends in Wellsburg, WV around 7 A.M. on Wednesday the 8th. They never ran Deals Gap before so they were looking forward to it on Thursday. We rode down Rt. 2 South, then Rt. 23 through the Kentucky Mountains. It was a nice ride to I-80, then I-40, Rt. 66 to Sevierville, TN. We took 321 over to the Smokey Mountain Expressway, then to 129 South to Deal's Gap. These guys thought the Gap was "awesome." One had to head for home, so I routed him over "Moonshiner 28" then 19 through Maggie Valley to Asheville & up. After Deal's Gap, we ran Cherohala Skyway to Tellico Plains, then 68, 64 to 129, then 76 to Campout. I don't want anybody saying they don't get their money's worth riding with me. We got to the Rally around 4:00 P.M. It was awful hot, but no rain. Went riding in the area everyday (Blue Ridge, Blairsville & surrounding areas.) The riding is great here. There was lots of food, places to see & twisties, which was a real workout with a hack. The Georgia Bunch are a lot of fun & I always enjoy their company. There was good food, door prizes, sterling conversations & good time had by all. I even got to tow a Bural (Ural/sidecar outfit) back to camp. My friends had a great time & are already planning on a full week's ride next year to the G.S.C. Campout! *Thanks for everything.* We ran the super slabs home. Boo!

Below is Kevin on his 300,000 mile rig while Visiting Claude Stanley at Freedom Sidecar.

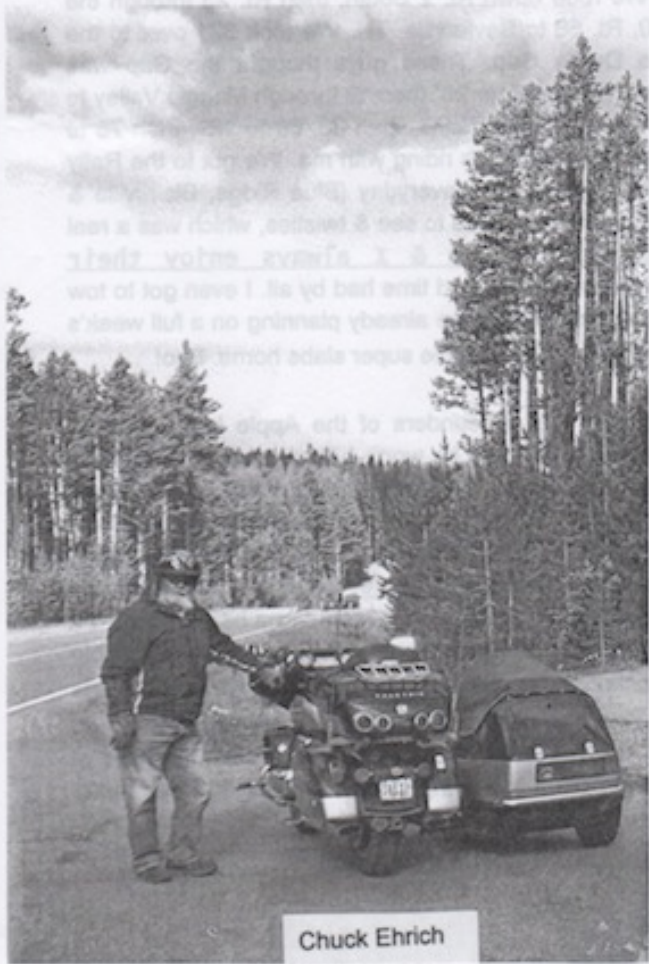




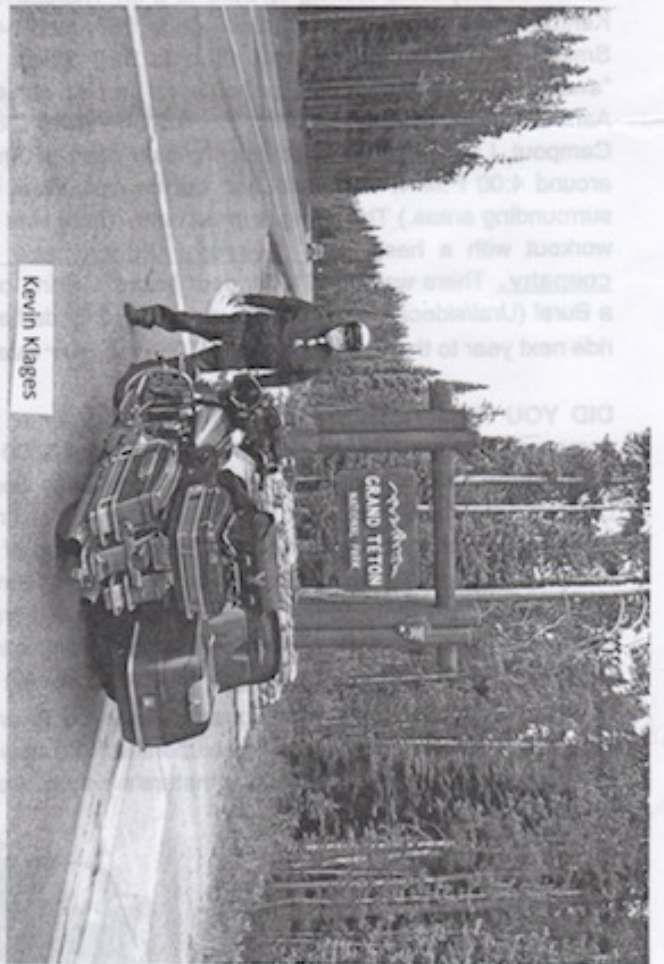
Mount Rushmore in South Dakota



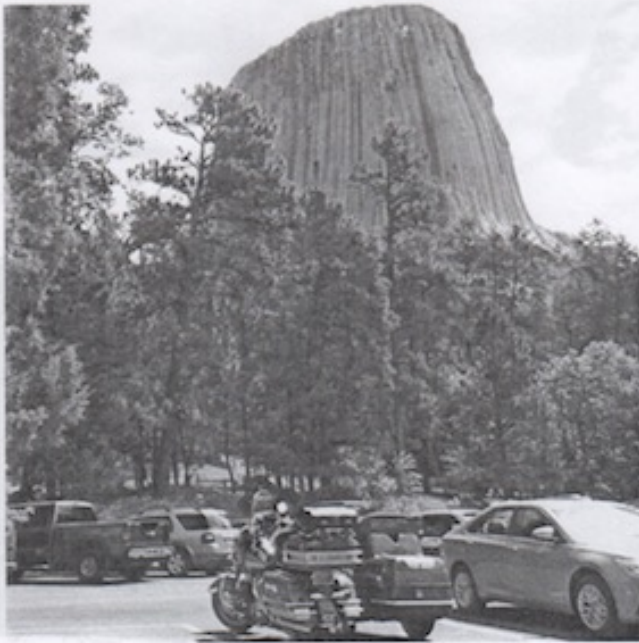
Sturgis, South Dakota



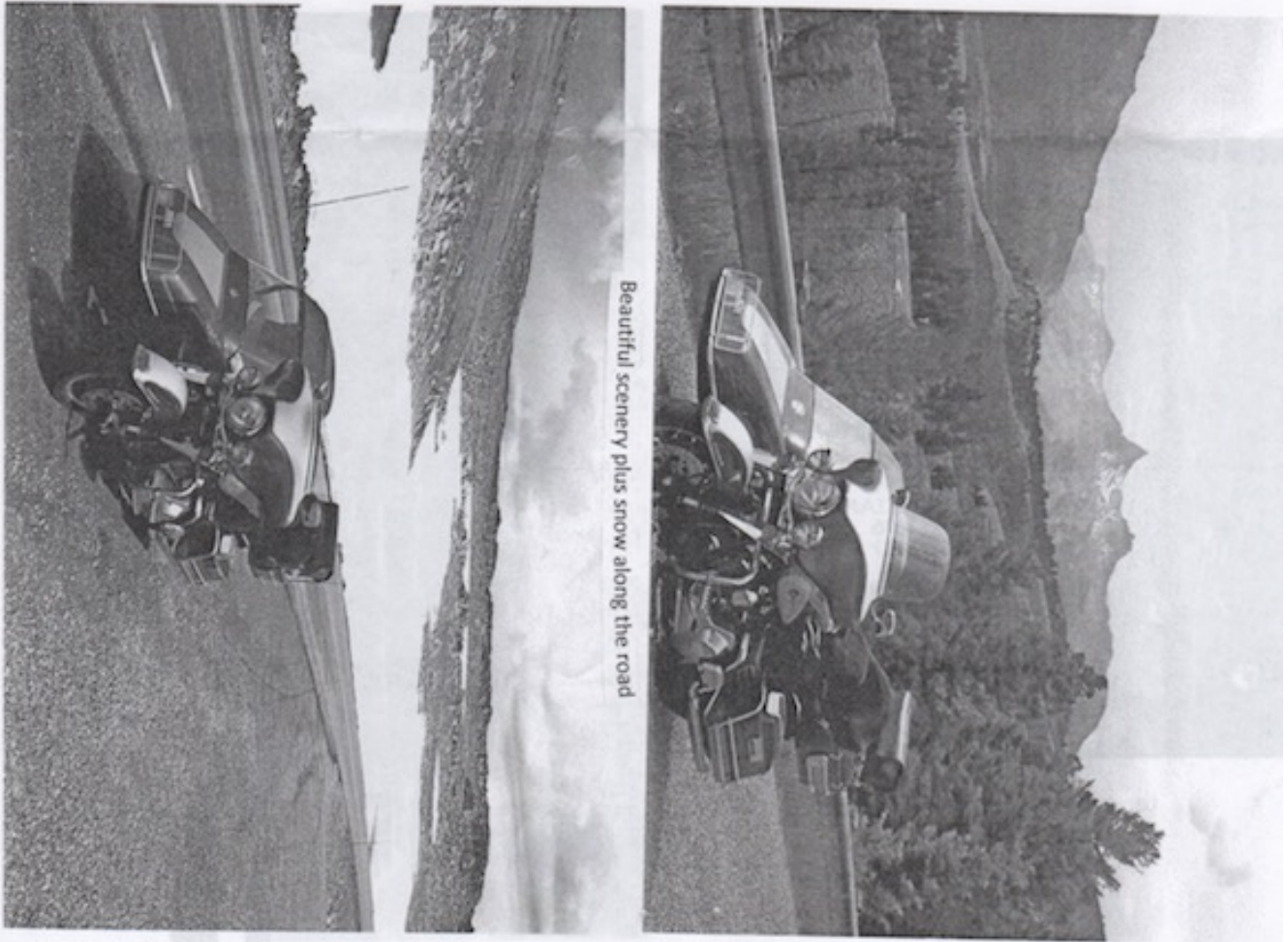
Chuck Ehrich



Kevin Klages



Devil's Tower Monument & Park in Wyoming



Beautiful scenery plus snow along the road



2016 U.S.C.A. National Rally



FIRST

DOUG BINGHAM MEMORIAL

SIDECAR RALLY

45th ANNUAL

AMERICAN LEGEND

**WILLIAM S. HART PARK
NEWHALL, CA.
OCT 23 2016**

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Come and show your support for the "Sidecar Guru" Doug Bingham who was one of the most influential sidecar builders and riders in the industry

Sunday, October 23, 2016

William S. Hart Regional Park

24151 Newhall Avenue, Newhall, CA 91321

8AM-3:30PM Sidecars \$10 Entry Fee

Solo Bikes and Spectators Free

Camping available for 95 people

Camping starts at 11:30AM Saturday, October 22, 2016

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