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## Motorcycle Travel Network Newsletter

Summer Newsletter  
July 2010

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Dear Scott and Christi,

Hope you are having a great riding season and have been able to connect with many other MTN members on your travels, or hosting while home!

What's the MTN News

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We just returned from Wing Ding 32 in Des Moines, Iowa. Have to admit, we weren't expecting much from Des Moines, but it turned out to be a lovely, vibrant and welcoming city. The rally, our best each year, was no exception this year. Both seminars we held were well attended and well received. We had 25 new members join, but the best part was meeting current members and hearing about their travels. Again, we think Brian and Loretta of Ohio (soon to be from Tennessee) hold the record for number of MTN nights. They are on an 18 night journey, staying with MTN members 11 of those nights! That's 11 nights for \$220! We also had the pleasure of meeting a couple of our international members, Peter and Janis, from New Zealand. They spoke at the seminars and Janis made a statement that really sums up MTN members. She said, "We didn't come here to the US to see a bunch of hotels, we want to meet people because we are 'people-people'. MTN has been great for that and our hosts have been fantastic, treated us like royalty!" Couldn't have said it better. We would also like to thank members Greg & Debbie who stopped by the booth and helped sign up a couple of 'reluctant' prospective members. Good Job Greg and Debbie!

### Are you New to MTN?

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If you are new to MTN and are nervous about your "first time", we suggest finding a member in your region, a couple hours away that you can visit over a weekend. That way, if you get there and are *really* uncomfortable, you can turn around and go home! We have to say though, from the looks of our "Quotes and Kudos", our members are fantastic hosts that will do all they can to make you comfortable. After all, they are also the guests when they travel and want you to have the kind of experience they hope and expect while traveling, themselves. This is also a good thing to do if you just want to get away for a weekend, travel light without lightening the wallet too much!

Ride safe and if you're coming through Indiana, let us know. We'd love to meet you. It's what keeps us doing what we are doing!

Announcing a New Partnership

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We are pleased to announce a partnership between MTN and MSTA, Motorcycle Sport Touring Association, designed to increase membership in both organizations.

In exchange for free advertising within the MSTA STARReview, MTN is offering MSTA members a free, one year trail membership. This is for both new and existing MSTA members. The expectation is that once a person joins and tries MTN, they will continue their membership for years to come.

This is a member benefit for MSTA members, but we would also like to encourage MTN members to check out this worthy motorcycle organization. MSTA, like MTN, is "non-denominational" and is open to all brands of motorcycles. Their focus is on touring and discovering the great roads to travel on as well as safety and riding safely.

If you are already a MSTA member and are active in your local chapter, we would appreciate any encouragement you can give to your fellow members to join MTN and try it out!

**Communication is KEY**

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As with most relationships, communication is vital to make certain everyone is "on the same page". This way expectations of both sides can be understood. In the case of MTN hosts and guests, communication is vital to everyone having a good experience.

Unfortunately, sometimes this doesn't happen. We recently received an email from MTN member, "Greg" in Colorado. He stated that they were to host for the first time and really looked forward to it. They cleaned house and had set in the breakfast food they were going to serve, only to have the guest not show up or call. One of the best things about MTN members is that we are all motorcyclists and understand when things go awry and prevent us from arriving when expected. However, not calling or communicating this to the host is... well, just plain rude. In this day and age of cell phones there really is no excuse for not calling as soon as you know you are going to be delayed and letting your host know. They are certain to understand. If you don't call and don't show up, though, they are going to worry that something happened.

The flip side of this is to make sure you are home when your guests are expected to arrive. Last year we had a member arrive at the hosts' home, only to find out they weren't there, they were working, and wouldn't be home until much later. The guests ended up having to make other, last minute arrangements in an expensive tourist area. That \$20 a night turned out to be quite a bit more.

In both cases, the members are now understandably weary of trying the network again, which is unfortunate for all of us.

So please, make sure that if you are hosting, you are at home when your guests are expected to arrive and if you are guest and have been delayed, you let your host know immediately. As long as we are all the type of guest we would want to host and vice versa, it will all run smoothly.

Quick Links...

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[MOTORCYCLE-TRAVEL.NET](http://MOTORCYCLE-TRAVEL.NET)  
[mtninfo@motorcycle-travel.net](mailto:mtninfo@motorcycle-travel.net)

**Contact Information**

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phone: 1-877-408-0471
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