

Cruis'n with the



Chapter FL1-A2 Tallahassee, Florida

May 2008

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We're On the Net!
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Send in your e-mail address to be on the Chapter e-mail list!
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Florida GWRRRA Home Page Address
<http://floridadistrict.com>

Chapter FL1-A2 Information

General Membership Meeting
Second Thursday monthly
At
Golden Corral Buffet
Dinner at 6:30 pm
Meeting at 7:30 pm

Supper Rides Every Third Thursday

We miss you when you're not there!
Welcome to all visitors and new members!!!
We're glad you're with us!!!

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Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge



CD GOLDLINE

Hi Fellow Gold Wing Lovers:

This has been a trying month for us personally! Leucetia had her surgery and is home now. Two of her daughters came up the week of surgery and stayed with her at the hospital.

The week after, one was able to stay all week to help her with meals etc. Another daughter had come the last two weekends to be with her. She is doing better, but still having to rely on her pain meds to keep going.

We had great rides last weekend and again this weekend. Last week a group made a day of it. Breakfast at the Appalachia Restaurant, then on to Apalachicola for an antique boat and car show, down to the river walk, and ending up at the Coastal restaurant for a late lunch/early dinner. We had a great day.

Our Chapter outing to Barbers Motor Sport's Museum is just two weeks off. Sure hope you can come and enjoy it with us. Still don't know if we will be on two or four wheels.

I'll be out of town for the next ten days and Charles will conduct our May meeting for us. I am due back home Thursday evening just before our trip to Barbers. Hope to see you all there.

Ride Safe and Enjoy the Ride
Lenton and Leucetia Stephens



*From: Jim Zumbrunn
Rider Educator*

THE FOOT DRAGGER

By Jerry Palladino

The reason I bring up the "foot dragger" is because I see more and more of it all the time. I'm not sure if this is due to there being a lot of new riders on our roads or just simply a lack of knowledge of the basic riding techniques.

Then again, it can't be just a newbie problem because I've seen people I know that have been riding for over 30 years, drag their feet around an entire parking lot. I know what the problem is, it is instinct. Your instincts tell you, you're going slow, the bike may fall over, so keep your feet down just in case. As I've stated before, riding a motorcycle is not instinct. Most of the time the proper technique is actually the opposite of your instincts, as in the case of the foot dragger. All this came to mind recently while I was doing some filming at the Leesburg Bike Festival. I watched a middle aged rider, obviously looking for a parking space on Main Street, riding about 5 mph drag his feet the entire length of Main Street. It was at least 1/4th of a mile of some of the worst foot dragging I've ever seen. I had to use the zoom lens on my video cam to catch the entire spectacle. I think many riders aren't even aware they're doing this. Here's your first clue, if you wear out your shoes before your tires on your motorcycle, you're probably a foot dragger. Another draw back of being a foot dragger is that people who really know how to ride, will pick you out as a "no riding" fool, and they will point and laugh at you behind your back. If that's not enough to discourage you, keep this in mind. You could get your foot caught between the muffler and the pavement and break your ankle. In addition, you really can't control your bike at low speeds while dragging your feet because your foot isn't on the rear brake where it needs to be at low speeds.

The answer fortunately is very simple. As soon as you let the clutch out and the bike starts to move, pick your feet up and put them on the pegs or floor boards. At parking lot speeds (below 15 mph) use your rear brake only and stay in the friction zone. Remember, at low speeds, if you hit your front brake when your handlebars are turned, even slightly, it will pull you to the ground. Using the rear brake while in the friction zone and applying power will keep the bike upright just as if you were going 50 mph. Practice the slow race (going as slow as you can with both feet on the pegs while feathering the rear brake). Remember to keep your head and eyes up and look where you want the bike to go. Never look down at the handlebars or the ground.

Practice this technique and you'll find you have better control of your bike, your shoes will last a lot longer and you will no longer look stupid while riding through the parking lot at the local bike night.



From: Nate & Danelle Kinion

On April 6th, Danelle and I attended the Ft Walton Poker Run to benefit the American Diabetes Association. There was a pancake breakfast at Longhorn Steakhouse and they sold hot dogs and hamburgers in the parking lot at lunch, with all the money going to the ADA. There were games, 50/50, an auction, and a radio station in the morning. The band, Déjà vu, performed mostly 60's music in the afternoon after all of the participants returned from the poker run. Of course, that prompted dancing, mostly from the women. A big thank you to CD's Danny and Becky Donaldson and their staff and members for an excellent job in raising \$7,700 for the American Diabetes Association. There were 178 registered participants, which was pretty good for a rainy day.

On April 12th, Danelle and I attended the Fun Day in Samson, AL. We were glad to see a good turnout from the Milton and Panama City Chapters. Panama City won several of the grand prizes and the 50/50. A good time was had by all despite the rain.

On April 19th, Danelle and I attended FL1-D, Pensacola's Green Frog Getaway which was held at Blackwater State Forest on Bear Lake. There was an Observation Run, where you look for places instead of drawing cards for a poker run. They had hot dogs for lunch and lots of desserts. There were group games, grand prizes, door prizes and 50/50. They even had a sno-cone machine! They raised \$100 for their charity, Wings of Hope. There was a good turnout, despite the threat of rain in the morning. It turned out to be a beautiful day. This was Tim and Genene's first event as CD's and they and their staff members did an excellent job.

Congratulations are in order for Ken Grant of FL1-D, Pensacola, for being Top Membership Recruiter of the Year for 2007. He will be recognized at Wind Ding.

Congratulations are also in order for Danny Donaldson, CD for FL1-E2, Ft Walton, for being inducted into the Hall of Honor for recruiting more than 25 members into GWRRA.

Wing Ding is coming up July 2-6 in Greenville, SC and the Region A Rally will be September 11-13 in Dothan, AL. Hope to see you there.

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S CORNER OFFICE

By David Nunez

I was having lunch recently with a co-worker friend of mine; Phil is his name. Phil has been with the company for about as many years as I. We are both about the same age and we are both looking forward to retiring within 2-3 years. Greg's wife also works and she also plans on retiring when he does. They have been able to build a nice nest egg and their plans are to take their camper trailer and travel for a couple of years, eventually building a cabin on a lake somewhere in Texas and settling down. They are both big fisherpersons (I'm being politically correct here). Greg also owns a Harley Davidson, A Sportster, I believe, and he talked about how much he enjoyed riding his bike and wished that his wife enjoyed it as much. He knew that I owned a Gold Wing and asked if Gail and I traveled much on it. I told him of our most recent vacation on our way to Wing Ding in Montana. I could see his eyes light up when I told him of the many beautiful sites we visited as we traveled through the states of New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, and Montana. He was completely in awe at the fact that we traveled the entire trip on our Wing, logging over 4,200 miles in the process.

I found myself doing a very poor job of trying to express just how beautiful some of the sites were, so I invited him up to my office to see some pictures from the trip. As the old saying goes, a picture is worth a thousand words. I believe that if it hadn't been for a meeting he had to attend, he would have probably been in my office the rest of the day.

The next morning I ran into Phil as I was getting a cup of coffee. "Hey Phil, ready to go buy a Gold Wing!" I asked. No response. At first I thought that maybe he didn't hear me, but just before I was about to ask again, he looked up at me with a somber face and admitted that he wasn't being completely truthful when he told me that his wife didn't enjoy riding motorcycles. He invited me to his office and as I followed him, I couldn't help but wonder if maybe I said something wrong to upset him. I walked into his office and then he closed the door behind us. I remember thinking – what in the world did I say? We both sat down and Phil began to explain that during dinner with his wife the night before he told her about the trip I had taken and how they had actually always wanted to take such a trip, but never got around to it.

He went on to explain that his wife has been diagnosed with lung cancer and that she was scheduled to begin chemotherapy soon. All I could think of saying was that I was sorry. We talked for a little while longer before we were interrupted with work matters, but as I walked back to my office, I couldn't help but think of our Chapter friend, Vincent Danna whom we lost to cancer last year. It also made me feel very fortunate to know that both Gail and I are in good health and able to enjoy the pleasures we sometimes take for granted.

There have been many times when we have met people admiring our Gold Wings and they talk about how they wish they could own one. We often ask what's holding them up. We try to encourage and explain to them how much fun we have. We tell them about GWRRA, our Chapter and our Chapter events, but more often than not and for whatever reason, it falls on deaf ears.

I can't help but think that if Phil and his wife had to do it all over again, they would have found time to get around to it.

Fun Report

REPORT FROM THE COAST – AND A FAMILY ADDITION

By Peggy

We spent the last weekend in April at St. George Island Campground and Saturday at the Apalachicola Antique Boat and Car Festival. What Fun!!! Ride coordinators may want to keep this in mind for next year as not too many people know about this activity, thus it's not crowded!!! And of course great seafood at the Apalachicola restaurants – old stand-bys and at least three new ones.

Now, the real reason for this blurb One of our favorites, the FAMILY COASTAL RESTAURANT in Sumatra has undergone a change. The food is still great, but there is a new addition to the restaurant, doubling its size, the best news of all, the bathrooms are now inside the facility instead of a walk outside ! Will progress never cease!!! They also have a senior menu, which for the fried shrimp dinner (14 shrimp, I counted 'em) and two sides was only \$6.99. Just thought you'd like to know.

Happy Trails
Ed and Peggy

GWRRA NEWS

2008 FLORIDA GWRRA EVENTS



May 3	FL2-Z Night at the Oscars	Palm Beach FL
May 17	FL1-X Biennial Country Fair Poker Run – Orange Park	
May 23-24	FL1-Y Rally/Poker Run	Gainesville FL
May 31 – Jun 1	Horizons Seminar	Ocala FL
June 12-14	Georgia District Rally	Athens GA
June 21	FL1-V It's Five O'Clock Somewhere	Jacksonville Beach
July 3-6	Wing Ding 30	Greenville SC
Sep 6	FL1-A Picnic/Auction	Tampa
Sep 11-13	Region "A" Rally	Dothan AL
Oct 16-18	Mississippi District Rally	Biloxi MS
Oct 31-Nov 1	Panhandle Getaway	Panama City FL
Nov 2	Ride for Kids, Sarasota County Technical Institute	

Nov 8
Nov 15

FL2-A 30th Anniversary "BizzardRun" West Palm Beach
Florida District Rider Ed Fair St Petersburg FL

2009 FLORIDA GWRRA EVENTS

Jan 10-11	CD Conference	Kissimmee FL
Jan 17	FL2-L Chapter Rally	Lakeland FL
Jan 25	FL2-D Four Chapter Breakfast	Melbourne FL
Feb 8	South Florida Ride For Kids	
Mar 12-14	Florida District Rally	Kissimmee FL
Nov 14	Florida District Rider Ed Fair	St Petersburg FL

LOCAL DINNER RIDE SCHEDULE (All Rides Depart at 6:30 pm)

May 15	Pond House	Bainbridge	#1
Jun 19	Angelo's	Panacea	#3
Jul 17	Pace's	Bainbridge	#1
Aug 21	Seinyard's	Woodville	#4
Sep 18	Crawdaddy's	Thomasville	#6
Oct 16	R J's House of Catfish	Hwy 20	#7
Nov 13	Chicken Pilau	Coonbottom	Due to heavy traffic drive individually
Dec	Christmas Party	To Be Announced	

Departure Points

- #1 - Hardee's at North Monroe Street & Capital Circle NW
- #2 - Circle K at Hwy 20 & Capital Circle West
- #3 - Circle K at Crawfordville Hwy & Capital Circle SW
- #4 - Shell Station at Woodville Hwy & Capital Circle SW
- #5 - Citgo Station at Hwy 90 & I-10 East (Cross Creek)
- #6 - Publix at Thomasville Road (Hwy 319) & Bradfordville Road
- #7 - Pilot Truck Stop at I-10 West & Hwy 90



May Birthdays

Ann Langley - 5/3
John Ferrell - 5/10

Lauren Waller - 5/5
B. J. Allen - 5/12
Belinda Hicks - 5/30

Charles Couch - 5/9
Virginia Hart - 5/28



<i>May Anniversaries</i>		
Johnny & Janice Gargus – 5/10	Jack & Mercy Henderson – 5/22	Sonny & Ann Rollo – 5/30

<i>June Birthdays</i>		
Johnny Gargus – 6/1 Emma Wood – 6/20	Vanessa Shivers – 6/15 Len Martin – 6/24	Linda Henley – 6/17 George McKee – 6/29

<i>June Anniversaries</i>		
Bob & Ann Lumsden – 6/3	Lenton & Leucetia Stephens – 6/23	Buck & Carol Harris – 6/25

**KUDOS
WELCOME**

Invite your neighbors and friends to our meetings! We'd love to have them visit!!!

NEW BIKE CLUB

Notes From Last Meeting

What You Missed If You Weren't There:
By Leucetia:

First Coast Honda



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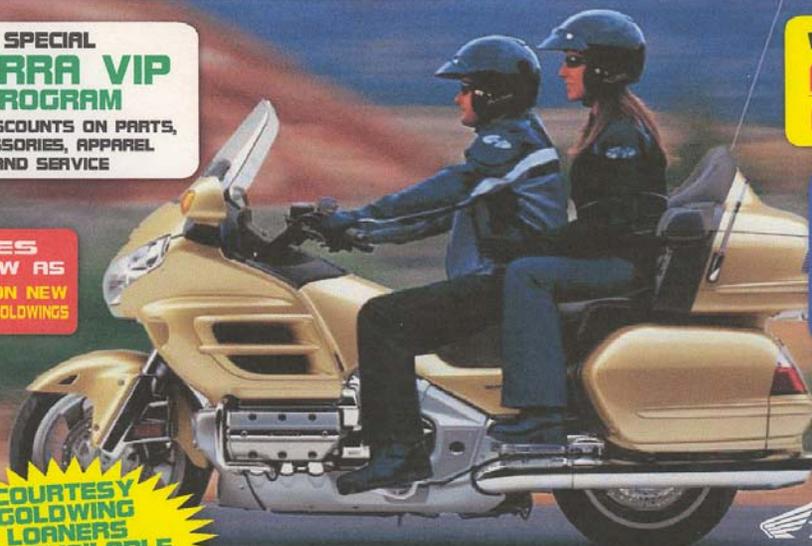
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