

# Cruis'n with the



**September 2007**

Chapter FL1-A2 Tallahassee, Florida

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## We're On The Net!

Visit our web site at  
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Send in your e-mail address to be  
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**Florida GWRRA 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**

**Dinner Social Every Fourth Thursday**

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

## NATIONAL, REGIONAL & DISTRICT

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:  
Melissa Nordeoff

REGION A DIRECTOR:  
Larry & Patti Lingo

REGION A RIDER EDUCATOR  
Ron & Pam Lantz

SENIOR DISTRICT DIRECTOR:  
Bob & Nancy Shrader

ASST. DISTRICT DIRECTOR:  
Ed Porter

ASST. DISTRICT DIRECTOR:  
Jack & Betty Birge

ASST. DISTRICT DIRECTOR:  
Bill & Cheryl Smith

ASST. DISTRICT DIRECTOR:  
Bruce Griffing & Mary Haight

ASST. DISTRICT DIRECTOR  
Ed & Jeanette Carr

DISTRICT RIDER EDUCATOR:  
Joe & Jan Mazza

DISTRICT ADMIN ASSISTANT:  
Cliff & Joyce Hotchkiss

FLORIDA PUBLIC RELATIONS:  
DISTRICT TRAINERS:  
Pat & Judy Seadorf

DISTRICT COY COORDINATOR:  
Jake & Joanne Jacob

DISTRICT MAD COORDINATOR :  
Jim & Linda McGinnis

DISTRICT WEBMASTER/MISTRESS  
Thomas & Penny Treadwell

DISTRICT TREASURER  
Bill & Austine Barbour

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**Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge**



**ED GOLDLINE**

Hi Fellow Gold Wing lovers,

Sure hope everyone got the e-mails on new our new Directors and meeting times for the rest of the year.

I wanted to tell you all that we got our first paid application for our 2008 Rally already. It's from Ed & Jennet Carr, who are about to be appointed ( at the Region Rally in Perry) our new State Directors here in Florida. Bob and Nan will be going up the ladder to the region staff.

Things have been hoping lately, we have several great Saturday rides in spite of the heat, and being left to find our way home.

We are leaving in the morning to attend GWRRA'S 30<sup>th</sup> Birthday party along with Tenn.'s State Rally at the Gaylord Hotel in Nashville. We plan on attending the Opry on Friday night. WE will return on Monday.

WE are excited about the rest of the year, with The Region A Rally in Perry, The Bandit Getaway in Panama City, The up coming Christmas (Holiday Party) and our two week vacation to the Smoky Mountains immediately following The Bandit Getaway in October.

Leucetia had two toes operated on Monday, is felling good considering. She plans on riding her Bike to Nashville. Sure wish we had some company to ride with us.

Leucetia received her Flowers to day from the chapter. They are beautiful. THANKS TO ALL.

Ride Safe and Enjoy

Lenton and Leucetia Stephens

**Safety Corner**  
*Safety Corner*

*From: Jim Zumbrunn  
Rider Educator*

The article below may be old news, but the warnings and information included are pertinent today. Let this serve as a reminder to many who will be visiting this area this fall.

## **TARGETING THE DRAGON**

By Anna C. Irwin  
The Daily Times  
May 12, 2006

Tennessee and North Carolina state troopers aren't looking to slay the Dragon, but they do want to keep its fire under control with Operation Dragon 2006.

The joint effort will combine the forces of Tennessee and North Caroling highway payrolls to make the Dragon and nearby roadways safer.

Troopers from both agencies will provide a highly visible presence in the areas frequented by motorcyclists and sports car enthusiasts. The first coordinated operation is scheduled Saturday and others are planned during the summer and fall.

Troopers in both states will conduct their own intensive enforcement efforts at other times during the season. THP Sgt. Danny Thomas, who oversees highway patrol activities in Blount and Monroe counties, said the enforcement activities are all focused on safety.

We welcome everyone who visits the Dragon and the areas around it, as long as they obey the law," Thomas said. "we're doing intensive enforcement in an effort to make the roadways safe for everyone on two, four or even 18 wheels."

The Dragon sports 316 curves on an 11.1 mile stretch of U.S. 129, running Deal's Gap at the North Carolina line to Tabcat Bridge alongside Chilhowee Lake – a 1085 foot change in elevation. It is one of the nation's favorite rides for motorcycles and sports cars. The run has been touted in several national magazines as well as on several Internet sites. The

often heavy traffic on the narrow highway includes riders and drivers from across the country, some from other continents.

Unfortunately, the festive atmosphere is too often clouded by accidents, some of the fatal.

In 2005, there were three deaths on the Dragon – all of them motorcyclists. Thomas said that in 2005 troopers investigated 47 accidents on the Dragon 41 of the involving motorcycles. He said the number of accidents on the Dragon was down from 57 investigated by THP in 2004 – 51 involved motorcycles and two were fatalities.

So far in 2006, Tennessee troopers have investigated only nine wrecks on the Dragon. Eight were motorcycle accidents. However, troopers have responded to reports of accidents on the Dragon 27 times in 2006. Eighteen times so far this year, the troopers and often Rural/Metro Ambulance Service have rushed to the area only to find a motorcyclist's friends have picked up the rider and bike and the reported accident has vanished.

"It's hard to estimate the manpower and expense involved in responding to these disappearing accidents," Thomas said.

Statistics were not available regarding the number of accidents in North Carolina related to the area near the Dragon. However, the five counties in Western North Carolina in the area near the Dragon have had a 6 percent increase in motorcycle accidents from 2004.

North Carolina troopers will be assigned to the Deal's Gap area near the top of the Dragon and to the Cherohala Skyway, where some say the probability of motorcycle accidents is even greater than on the Dragon. The Cherohala Skyway linking Robbinsville, NC to Tellico Plains includes 15 miles in North Carolina and 21 in Tennessee.

Tennessee troopers will focus on the Dragon, but others will be active on the Tennessee end of the Cherohala. Marked and unmarked cars, motorcycles and aircraft will be used on both sides of the state line in the effort to curb accidents and, according to Thomas, "improve driving habits."

"We're not anti-motorcycle. I've got one of my own and take it us and over the Cherohala into Tellico Plains whenever I get a chance. That's a really beautiful ride. But, I can't enjoy it as much as I'd like when I have somebody on a sports bike or sports car zipping around me on a curve and making me think I'm going to find them smashed up around the next curve. Speeding and reckless driving are what we're trying to stop," Thomas said. "That way, everybody can enjoy themselves without getting hurt."

## **From The Chief Bandit's Hideout**

by Jack Birge, Assistant District Director

Jack & Betty Greetings fellow Bandits and others:

As most of you know, or have heard, there will be a change of Region Directors at the closing of the upcoming Region Rally. Well, as of this writing, it's official, Bob and Nan Shrader, our own District Directors will be moving up the ladder and assuming the position of Region Directors. No word yet who will be appointed to serve on the Region Staff and the new District Director has not been announced.

Bob and Nan were appointed to District Director in May of 2000 and in-turn, appointed Betty and Myself as the Assistant Directors here in the Panhandle and we have stayed on for the duration. Just as soon as I am told who the incoming District Director is, I will get the word out to the Bandits so you will know, who the new Sheriff is.

The Governor's Square Mall in Tallahassee was an ideal location for FL1-A2 to hold their annual Mall Show, but if you ever visit this mall, make sure you exit the same way you came in. It's very easy to get on the wrong road there and a problem getting turned around heading in the right direction.

With the Fall of the year fast approaching, more and more events will be on the calendar. Following the Region Rally Sept 13 thru 15, the Mississippi Rally will be Oct 11 thru 13 with the Annual Bandit Getaway the following weekend. Don't forget to check your Chapters and the nearby chapters' monthly events and support those you can.

I have just returned from a cookout hosted by the Sand Dollars in Ft. Walton Beach. They invited all the local Motorcycle groups to a free picnic where there was 12

different clubs/Chapters for a total of 240 folks present. Being so many of the local GWRRA folks had planned to attend, the least I could do as the Chief Bandit was to offer to help man the grills. Of course my offer was accepted and I enjoyed taking part. An enjoyable social and there was even talk of making this an annual event. I might add the Sand Dollar Club is sanctioned by the American Motorcycle Assoc., and they sponsor 4 charity poker runs a year with Sharing and Caring being their main charity.

**NEWS FLASH:** I just received official word the new **FLORIDA DISTRICT DIRECTORS** will be **ED & JEANETTE CARR**, effective at the closing of the Region Rally when Bob & Nan Shrader assume the Region Directors position. Still no official word on staff appointments but I'm sure the Panhandle Chapters will continue their support of the newly appointed Directors. I will get the word out as soon as I have been advised.

Florida Assistant Directors



### ***2007 EVENTS***

Sep 8	FL1-A Picnic/Auction	Tampa FL
Sep 13-15	Region A Rally	Perry FL
Oct 7	FL1-H Mall Bike Show	Daytona FL
Oct 11-13	Mississippi District Rally	Biloxi MS
Oct 13	FL2-N Rally/Fund Raiser	Cocoa Beach FL
Oct 19-20	Annual Panhandle Bandit Getaway	Panama City FL
Nov 3	FL1-X 4-Chapter Spaghetti Social	Orange Park FL
Nov 4	Ride For Kids, Sarasota Technical Institute	
Nov 10	FL1-L2 Rally/Poker Run	Brooksville FL
Nov 11	FL2-O 25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party	Stuart FL
Nov 17	Florida District Rider Ed Fair	St. Petersburg FL
Dec 15	FL1-S Mingle Jingle	Zephyrhills FL

### ***2008 FLORIDA GWRRA EVENTS***

Jan 4-6	CD Conference, Hampton Inn	Daytona Beach FL
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# KUDOS

To our entire Chapter for a great “Campout”.

# WELCOME

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

# NEW BIKE CLUB

David & Pat Ventry are the proud new owners of a new Goldwing!!

# Notes From Last Meeting

What You Missed If You Weren’t There:  
By

# Swap Shop