



# Florida District

FUN in Florida is # 1



Southeast - Region A

<http://www.floridadistrict.com>

October 2011

**March 22 - 24, 2012**

**Come Find Me Treasure at the  
33rd Annual Florida District  
Gathering of the Wings**



### October

Monthly Visitation Bonus Points

- FL1-S (Zephyrhills)
- FL1-W (Apopka)
- FL1-Y (Gainesville)
- FL2-L (Lakeland)

If your Chapter plans on visiting,  
as a courtesy, please call or  
send an email to the CD

### October Events

- |           |                                       |            |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|------------|
| Oct 8     | FL1-A Poker Run                       | Tampa      |
| Oct 15    | FL2-G Pancake Breakfast               | Ft Myers   |
| Oct 13-15 | Mississippi District Rally/Convention | Tupelo, MS |
| Oct 29    | FL1-D Green Frog Getaway              | Bear Lake  |

Director of GWRRA  
Mike Stiger

Region "A" Director  
Bob & Nan Shrader

District Director  
Bill & Gina Berry

Assistant District Director  
Cliff Hotchkiss

Assistant District Directors  
Bill & Cheryl Smith

Assistant District Directors  
Motorist Awareness  
Nate & Danelle Kinion

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Membership Enhancement  
Bruce Griffing & Mary Haight

Assistant District Directors  
Chapter of the Year Coordinator  
Harry & Lynn Anderson

Assistant District Directors  
Chapter Newsletter Judges  
Joe & Jan Mazza

Assistant District Directors  
Geno & Kathie Jette

District Leadership Trainers  
2011 District Couple of the Year  
Rick & Madalena Buck

District Treasurer  
Jim & Rebecca Iverson

District Rider Educator  
Don & Judy Danbury

Assistant District Rider Educator  
Rick & Pam Northrop

Rider Ed Assistant Administrator  
Mike & Bobbie Roy

District Webmaster  
Howie Taylor

We have just returned from the Region A Rally and what a great event it was! Bob & Nan and the entire Region Team did a fantastic job having a little of everything and plenty of FUN in Eufaula, Alabama. The weather was nearly perfect and the area provided a wide range of riding venues. If you attended the Rally, I am sure you will want to return. If you missed it, plan to attend next year (September 13 - 15, 2012 - Mardi Gras theme). You can already make your reservations at the Lakepoint Resort Lodge (Contact Sone' Kornegay 800-544-5253).



Florida came away with First Place in the District Challenge. Some of you didn't think Gina could fix an omelet, did you? You had to be there! Florida also won Largest District in Attendance.

A new Region A Couple of the Year was crowned. Greg & Renee Dempsey of Alabama took the helm from Ron and Becky Lees. We know they will make Region A proud as did Ron & Becky! All of the District Couples were awesome and we know that they will continue to represent their District and GWRRA in high fashion!

During the Couple of the Year selection process, the couples were asked what they would do to improve Membership Enhancement? The foremost answer given was to make New Members feel welcome and to make them part of our "family." There are many factors as to why membership is down, but even in hard times, people will find a way to have FUN. If a person is made to feel welcome at the Gathering they attend, if you see them on their bike and can talk to them, if they see you enjoying yourself they will wonder and ask questions about what is going on. People having FUN attracts others wanting to have FUN! Most of the Chapters in our District have a MEC and those that don't the CD or their Staff/Team assist with the monthly contacts of New Members from the Area Run List. Our ADD's try to assist and should help contact these New Members if necessary. We all play an important roll in the ongoing saga to maintain our Membership. We know everyone of you want GWRRA to grow and we all have a part to perform. So go out and have FUN and see your Chapter grow!

We would like to thank our Team and all the folks from Florida that assisted in manning the Registration Table and working the Games in Eufaula. Thanks to FL1-A, FL1-B, FL1-D, FL1-H, FL1-H2, FL1-L2, FL1-M, FL1-O, FL1-S, FL2-E, FL2-G, FL2-L and FL2-W for working a couple of hours during the Region A Rally. We do appreciate all of your help in this endeavor.

October will bring a change to our seasonal weather and with it Mississippi will put on their Hillbilly Style Rally in Tupelo (October 13 - 15). If you can attend, we know Bobby & Lori Bryant along with their Team will make your feel at home. We plan to kick our heels up!

In closing, most of you are aware we lost a Member of our GWRRA family in September. Senior Chapter James Benson of FL1-W, Apopka, passed away. James was dedicated to FL1-W and to the motto of GWRRA, having served as CD for over 7 years. He will be greatly missed. Remember Patti and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

Until we see you out and about...remember Rule #1...Have FUN!

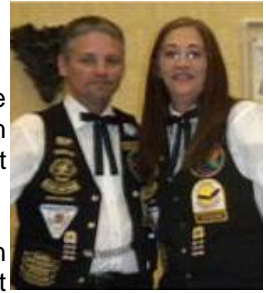
Bill & Gina Berry  
District Directors

**Florida's # 1 Rule**  
**Have FUN!**



## Region "A" Rally...or should we say Convention

What a FUN filled month September was for us! So many things were going on that we sometimes wondered how we were going to fit everything in. The highlight of the month was definitely the Region "A" Rally. That's right, we said "Rally". It's hard to break the habit of using a term that we used for so long such as the change of Rally to Convention.



For those of you that have not attended a Region "A" Rally, you sure are missing out on a FUN time. Bob, Nan, and the whole Region Team did an outstanding job! The Lakepoint Resort State Park in Eufaula, AL is a fantastic location. What's also nice is that the Region has the site exclusively for the Rally. For those that like great riding, there are so many places to go from this location. You can also ride a just few miles to town where you can get most anything, including some delicious food at a number of great restaurants. However if you didn't want to leave, the lodge has everything you need. We hope everyone will come out and join us next year at the same location.

The two of us stayed busy during the Rally. On Friday morning, we took part in the Couple of the Year Selection Process. Unfortunately when it was all said and done, we were not selected the Region A Couple of the Year. Were we disappointed? Yes! However, we have learned so much since being selected District Couple of the Year. We have had the fortunate opportunity to get to know four other District couples. There is a special bond that we will always have with them. They are all great people and we are so glad to be able to call them all friends! It has also opened the door to meeting more and more people not only here in Florida but throughout GWRRA. We would like to congratulate Greg and Renee Dempsey from Alabama on being selection the Region A Couple of the Year. They are both great people with big personalities and a sense of humor. They are an outstanding couple who will represent Region A in style next year at Wing Ding.

We also had three people present seminars at the Region "A" Rally to complete their last step to become certified Leadership Training Instructors. We would like to congratulate Michael Cabrera from FL1-A (Tampa), Feg Henkel from FL1-F2 (Ocala) and Norm Van Dame from FL1-B (Brandon) for presenting seminars and completing the certification. There are still a few more who should complete their certification by the end of October.

On Saturday, we had FUN at the Rally games. No, we weren't playing this time; we were having FUN volunteering to run the games. For those of you that have never volunteered to oversee or run Rally games, you don't know what you are missing. When people come up to play the games, they want to have FUN. So besides playing the games, we have always found a way to spice up their experience. You will have to come by next time we are over at the games to find out what we are talking about.

Looking forward to October, there are a number of great things happening in and around the District. On October 8<sup>th</sup>, FL1-A (Tampa) will be holding a Poker Run. The 13<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> The Mississippi District Rally will be in Tupelo, MS. If you can't make that event, then head on over to FL2-G (Ft Myers) on the 15<sup>th</sup> for their annual Pancake Breakfast. On the 29<sup>th</sup>, FL1-D (Pensacola) will be holding their Green Frog Get-away. Each one of these events has something different to offer. If you get a chance, come out and join the FUN.

The end of 2011 will be coming soon! With the end of the year, Chapters should be thinking about what deserving couples they have in their Chapter to recognize. Why does this matter? We are challenging each Chapter to select a Chapter Couple of the Year. Selecting a Couple of the Year is an award for a couple that has given back to the Chapter. There are no expectations for a Couple of the Year! If anyone has any questions about the Couple of the Year Program, you can contact us or Jim & Rebecca Iverson the District's Couple of the Year Coordinators.

In closing, we would like to thank all the Florida District members that attended the Region Couple of the Year Selection. For the two of us, it was great seeing all the familiar faces in attendance cheering us on.

Rick & Madalena Buck  
District Leadership Trainers  
2011 District Couple of the Year

## Commitment...From an Educators Point of View

Commitment...what is commitment? According to the dictionary, when you make a commitment you strive to keep your promise to do it or support it to the best of your ability.

Do you have commitment when it comes to Rider Education? If so, how far are you willing to go to fulfill that commitment?



When you sign that N.7 REP Level I-III Application, you just made a commitment to ride safely. Will you do it? I think that most if not all will ride safely. You want to move up through the Levels Program from Level I all the way to Level IV. Here's where commitment comes in even more. When you decide to become a Master Tour Rider/Co-Rider, you sign the N.9 REP Level IV Master Tour Rider/Co-Rider Application. When you do this, you agree and commit to riding in All The Gear All The Time (ATGATT).

How committed are you? Some of you are very committed because I see you out there all geared up no matter what the weather. Then there are the rest of you. Wow, what a difference. When you signed your N.9 Form, you agreed to wear All The Gear All The Time but what the heck, it's hot, too hot for the helmet, long sleeves, long pants, gloves and over the ankle boots so why wear them? Think of your commitment to the Levels Program and to GWRRA, to Safe Riding and lead by example. Strive to keep your promise to the best of your ability. Wear those patches and pins with pride. Thank you for your continued support for Rider Ed and for yourself. Show your total commitment!

Till next we meet...Keep the Shiny Side up and the Rubber on the Road

Don & Judy Danbury  
Senior Master Tour Riders  
Florida District Rider Educators



### Gold Wing Raffle Tickets are available!

Sun Sports Cycle & Watercraft, Inc. of Ft. Myers, FL, along with the Florida District, have agreed to be the Sponsor of the Gold Wing Raffle Grand Prize give away

If you need tickets contact your Chapter or District Rider Educator

## MEC Corner

Each month an Area Run List (ARL) is sent to Chapters. This spreadsheet lists any Prospective Members, New Members, Expiring Memberships, and Expired Memberships for a Chapter. It is the responsibility of the MEC or CD, if there is no MEC, to contact the Prospective and New Members on their ARL and then to report the results back to the ADD. The ADD then reports to the District MEC's, Bruce Griffing and Mary Haight, who in turn reports to the Region MEC and so on.

What constitutes a "Contact?" This was discussed at the Region A Rally by Bob Shrader, Bob Greer, and all Team Members at the District level in Region A. Bob Shrader said that the MEC or CD, if there is no MEC, is to make a "Good Faith Effort" when calling the New Members from their ARL each month. A telephone call is the preferred method of contact to be used to welcome the New Member to GWRRA and tell them about your Chapter. If their phone rings BUSY, try again until you reach someone. Perhaps try calling at different times.

If you get an answering machine, it's ok to leave a message. Example: "Hi, this is \_\_\_\_\_, Chapter Director or Membership Enhancement Coordinator of the Brandon, Tampa, Lakeland, Miami... Chapter of the Gold Wing Road Rider's Association (GWRRA). I see that you recently joined GWRRA. Welcome! I will call again \_\_\_\_\_ to answer any questions you may have about GWRRA and to tell you about all the FUN you can have at the local level. If you'd like to call me back, I can be reached at \_\_\_\_\_. Thanks and have a good day." However, leaving a message doesn't not constitute a "Good Faith Effort" all by itself. It was determined that a minimum of 3 tries to speak to the New Member ("Busy" doesn't count) will be accepted as a "Good Faith Effort". You are to document this on your report (time and dates). If you want to follow up with an email or letter, fine, but we need to know the result. What did the new person say? We are looking for information regarding the results of your New Member contacts. Comments such as "Sent and E-Mail" or "Left Message" does not constitute a contact unless there is an addendum following up your effort to talk to the New Member or a response to their original e-mail or phone message. Just to say that you called, sent an email, or sent a letter doesn't give us feedback on what transpired with the new person.

Also, those Chapters who have previously submitted reports with unresolved contacts will find those New Members again on their list. We are looking for some sort of resolution to contacting the New Member. The only way we can get that New Member off the list is to make some sort of contact and to report the results of that contact.

There are usually only a few New and Prospective Members per Chapter to contact each month. Let's try to get these New Members engaged in Chapter Life as soon as possible...more friends...more FUN! Although not required, if you recognize a name on the Expiring or Expired list, give them a call to say hello and let them know you care. Please provide the results in your Report. We feel that making these contacts could benefit your Chapter in keeping Members.

If you need help from us in making the contacts, let us know. All ADD's and us, if need be, will assist you if you need help in making the contacts. Start making the contacts right after you receive your ARL each month, allowing yourself enough time to make "Good Faith Effort" on all the contacts. Please return your report to your ADD by the deadline set each month.

We appreciate your efforts in growing the organization and expanding the FUN in your Chapters and across the State by engaging the New Members right off the bat!

Bill & Gina Berry  
District Directors

Labor Day is behind us and fall is here with perfect riding weather. From September 15-17, we attended the Region A Convention at the Lakepoint Resort in Eufaula, AL. There were 537 attendees. On Thursday night, we attended the Barbecue Dinner and sock hop. Danelle and I worked the Games and Registration on Friday and that night attended the Ice Cream Social and Talent Show. There were Vendors, Games, Bingo, Bike Show, Lighted Bike Show, and Bike Parade to downtown Eufaula.



Prizes were given out every night. The weather turned cooler on Saturday and I managed to get in a game of golf. It was FUN seeing old friends and making new ones. On Saturday, there were District and Chapter Challenges and the Statistical Awards were given out that afternoon. Danelle won 1<sup>st</sup> Place in Saturday's Poker Run. We want to congratulate our Panhandle winners:

FL1-D (Pensacola)  
1st place Mascot  
2nd place Color Newsletter

FL1-A2 (Tallahassee)  
Leucetia Stephens - Oldest Female Rider

Chapter Directors, Chapter Educators & Motorist Awareness Coordinators don't forget that the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter Motorist Awareness report on the Form N6 is due to us by October 5<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to all of you who have already sent in your reports.

Don't forget the Green Frog Getaway in Pensacola on October 29<sup>th</sup> at Bear Lake. We hope to see you at a Rally or Convention soon.

Ride safe!

Nate & Danelle Kinion  
Assistant District Directors, Panhandle

### Visiting Our Heroes

On September 10<sup>th</sup>, FI1-A (Tampa) held a Bike Show at the VFW hospital in Tampa. There were 37 bikes and 58 GWRRA Members in attendance. Seeing and speaking to our injured veterans was quite an emotional experience. Jan and I spoke to several of these heroes as they toured our motorcycles and took pictures. Some of them were wheelchair bound and one was actually propelling himself while lying flat on his stomach on a gurney. These men seemed so appreciative that we would take the time out of our lives to visit with them. Here we have men who fought for their country, some receiving life altering injuries, and they are thanking us. Ironic, isn't it? It was sad to see the physical and emotional scars some of them have suffered through all these years. Tina Prince who works at the hospital said some of the Veterans she saw at the show hadn't been out of the hospital in over a year. This was the least we could have done for our country's protectors.



Having just returned from the Region A Rally/Convention in Eufaula, Alabama, I can report that it was an unequivocal success. The overall number in attendance was just over 500. That is equal to last year's numbers and a tribute to both Nan and Bob Shrader our Region A Directors. It is obvious that these two leaders always bring something special to the table each year. Our Florida District Team and Participants were also well in attendance. Our District Director, Bill Berry, wore his nerd costume and did his usual great nerd impression even though he wasn't feeling well. Since I didn't know Bill in high school, I can only guess he was just acting the part of a nerd. We can always count on Bill and Gina to come up with great costumes and impressions.

Stay Safe, Have Fun

Joe & Gracie Mazza  
Assistant District Director, West Central

September has come and gone but we had some good times! One of our Chapters, FL2-O had its double point Visitation. We couldn't go because we were on our way to the Region A Convention at the beautiful Lakepoint Lodge in Eufaula, Alabama. As usual, Bob, Nan, and the Region A Team organized a FUN Convention and thanks to the Chapter and District Volunteers that it made it a FUN Rally! The weather was great and the Vendors were too. Bill Berry got ill but pushed himself to win at the Directors Challenge with Gina. Congratulations to them - Florida Rules! Some of our own Chapter FL2-R Members, Tim & Nancy Moriarty, won Longest Distance Two-Up and Nancy won 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in the Friday Poker Run. They will receive their plaques at their October Gathering. After the Region A Convention, Cheryl and I went to the North Carolina District Convention, A.K.A. Wings Over the Smokies. It was our first time going to this Rally. We had a good time there as well. We took a Waterfall Self Guided Tour through some wonderful mountain countryside. There were four of Chapter FL2-E Miami Wings Participants there, four from Chapter FL2-O Stuart, Treasure Coast Wings and four, Chapter FL2-A West Palm Beach Gold Coast Wings Participants in attendance as well. Florida won "Largest District Outside of Region N"! It is always FUN to attend a GWRRA event and see old friends and meet new ones!



Speaking of great GWRRA events, coming up in November is the SE Florida Chapters first ever Multi-Chapter Lunch! Mark your calendar for November 12<sup>th</sup> because we ARE putting on one great luncheon at John Stretch Park in Clewiston, FL "Saluting Veterans". Check out our flyer on the District Web Site Events page.

Now back to our story...

As we continued through Eastern Utah on US 50, around every curve all we could say was WOW! The scenery was amazing. It reminded us of the Badlands National Park in South Dakota! We pulled into a scenic view overlook and saw Indians putting out on the ground, pretty pottery, and jewelry for sale. Some were under a sign that said "No Soliciting or Vending"! Too funny!

Once in Colorado, we went to the Colorado National Monument. Here we were riding in the area that we were saying WOW! On our continuing trek east...the back roads and even I-70 was beautiful. There were tunnels, curves, and mountains. The roads followed rivers and streams. We went to Aspen (very expensive gas there) and Vail. We continued to Rocky Mountain National Park, stopped at Moraine Park Campground where we had reservations. We had to push our bunkhouses up a hill about 50 feet to the flat camp pad. We had dinner and a nice fire that night.

The next morning we got a visit from a Park Ranger who said we had to move because wheeled vehicles were not allowed on that site. So after breakfast and a failure to convince the Ranger to let us stay, we moved to another site down the road. Later that day we rode to Bear Lake and then into Estes Park for lunch. The next day we rode the main road through the park. When we got to the Alpine Visitors Center, it was 57 degrees! We saw a Marmot and some Elk in the fields next to the center. Continuing west, we made it to the bottom of the mountains there and saw cars and a Ranger parked on the side of the road. We stopped and finally saw Moose! It was a momma and her baby in a river enjoying their day.

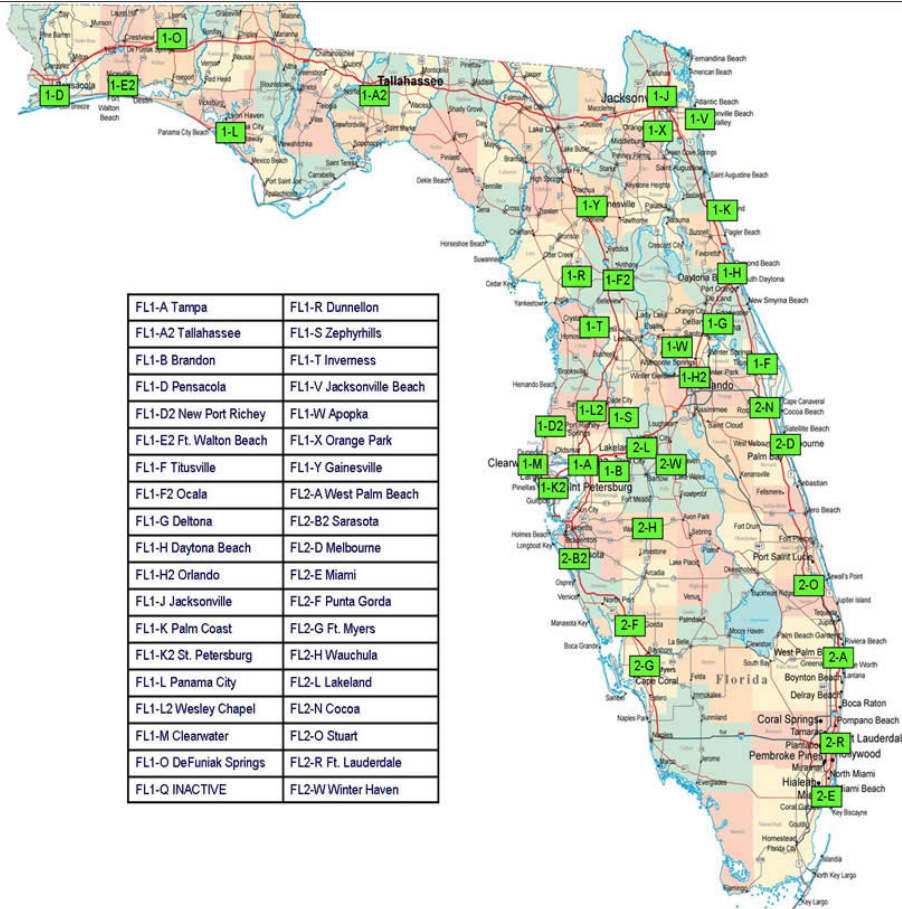
After turning around at the SW Visitors Center we went back to the Alpine Visitors Center for lunch. From there it was back to Estes Park to wander the shops. Heading back to the campground we came across a large herd of Elk and some Deer. We stopped to watch them and after a short time the big Bull Elk got up, honked and got the rest of the herd up and moving, pushing some who were stubborn. I think it was some females (LOL). They settled in another part of the valley. The next day we pack up and moved on.

Read where next month!

Bill and Cheryl Smith  
Assistant District Director, Southeast

### 2011 Florida GWRRA Events

Oct 8	FL1-A Poker Run	Tampa
Oct 15	FL2-G Pancake Breakfast	Ft Myers
Oct 13-15	Mississippi District Rally/Convention	Tupelo, MS
Oct 29	FL1-D Green Frog Getaway	Bear Lake
Nov 12	Multi-Chapter Lunch	Clewiston
Nov 19	FL1-X Spaghetti Social	Jacksonville
Dec 10	FL1-S Mingle Jingle	Zephyrhills



FL1-A Tampa	FL1-R Dunnellon
FL1-A2 Tallahassee	FL1-S Zephyrhills
FL1-B Brandon	FL1-T Inverness
FL1-D Pensacola	FL1-V Jacksonville Beach
FL1-D2 New Port Richey	FL1-W Apopka
FL1-E2 Ft. Walton Beach	FL1-X Orange Park
FL1-F Titusville	FL1-Y Gainesville
FL1-F2 Ocala	FL2-A West Palm Beach
FL1-G Deltona	FL2-B2 Sarasota
FL1-H Daytona Beach	FL2-D Melbourne
FL1-H2 Orlando	FL2-E Miami
FL1-J Jacksonville	FL2-F Punta Gorda
FL1-K Palm Coast	FL2-G Ft. Myers
FL1-K2 St. Petersburg	FL2-H Wauchula
FL1-L Panama City	FL2-L Lakeland
FL1-L2 Wesley Chapel	FL2-N Cocoa
FL1-M Clearwater	FL2-O Stuart
FL1-O DeFuniak Springs	FL2-R Ft. Lauderdale
FL1-Q INACTIVE	FL2-W Winter Haven

### 2012 Florida GWRRA Events

Jan 7-8	FL Chapter Conference	Lakeland
Jan 14	FL2-L Cowboys & Indians	Lakeland
Jan 21	FL1-O Annual Chili Run	DeFuniak Springs
Jan 29	FL2-D Multi-Chapter Breakfast	Melbourne
Feb 11	FL1-G 50's/60's Sock Hop	Sanford
Mar 22-24	FL District Rally/Convention	Kissimmee
Apr 14	FL1-B Rally	Sefner
Apr 14	FL1-K Poker Run	Palm Coast
Apr 19-21	AL District Rally/Convention	Mobile, AL
Apr 26-28	SC District Rally/Convention	S. Charleston, SC
Apr 28	FL1-W Green Eggs & Ham	Orlando
Jun 14-16	GA District Rally/Convention	Dillard, GA



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