

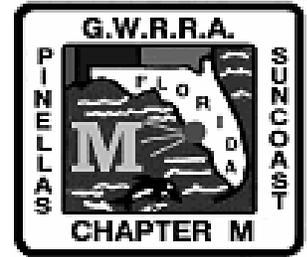


Chapter FL1- M Suncoast Wings Newsletter

We are the M & M's



Volume 1X Issue 7
July 2009



Friends for Fun,
Safety & Knowledge

Goldwing Road Riders Association

Region A - Florida District

Clearwater, Florida

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GENERAL MEETINGS

3rd Thursday @ Stacey's Buffet
1451 Missouri Avenue North
Largo - Dinner @ 6:00 PM
Meeting @ 7:30 PM

KICK TIRES

All RIDES LEAVE FROM
McDonalds at the corner of
Nursery Road and US 19
North

Check Events Calendar
on the following pages

Visit our website at **Suncoast-**

National, Regional and District Staff

National

Executive Director

Melissa Eason

Region "A"

Region "A" Directors

Bob & Nancy Shrader

Region "A" Assistant Director/Webmaster

Ed Porter

Region "A" Assistant Directors

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Bruce Griffing & Mary Haight

William & Cheryl Smith

Geno & Kathy Jette

Bill & Gina Berry

Nate & Danelle Kinion

Cliff Hotchkiss

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Conrad & Marcia Shad

District Rider Educators

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District

Membership Enhancement

Bruce Griffing & Mary Haight

District Motorist Awareness

Nate & Danelle Kinion

District Couple of the Year

Rex & Tina Prince

District Newsletter Editor

Millie Prince

District Webmaster

Millie Prince

GWRRR
Region "A"
31st Annual Florida District
"Gathering of the Wings"



March 11-13, 2010
Kissimmee, Florida

Region "A" Rally

Dothan, Alabama

September 10, 11 & 12, 2009

We're going back to L.A.

(Lower Alabama, that is)

for a

Region "A" Hoedown

"We're a thinkin y'all

should pull out those old overalls

A Thought from our Chapter Directors

Summer Again

Summer has arrived along with our heat and humidity. A lot of our chapter activities will involve in-door events to beat the heat. Be sure and check your calendar for activities. This past month we had a ride to Don Garlits' museum and there was not one motorcycle on the ride. We did travel in two vehicles, mostly due to the threat of rain and of course the heat. Just because we are not riding our motorcycles does not mean that we cannot enjoy each other's company.

The council is always requesting your input on activities that you would like put on the calendar. We don't expect to do any long rides now, but any suggestions can be used later in the year when the temperatures drop.

We do have our chapter bowling event scheduled for September and we are asking for donations and also lane sponsors. Any company can become a sponsor of a lane for \$200. Donations should be something that we can give to people that can be used anywhere in FL.

The District rally is in March as usual and this year we would like to have our members be active in the talent show, Chapter Pride, etc. There are some suggestions on what we can do and we would like ideas from everyone.

We would also like to thank everyone for their cards and phone calls when Kathy's Dad died. We had many of our members offer to take us and/or pick us up from the airport. These are the types of help that we have come to expect from our Chapter M family.

Until next month.

Ron & Mini M

THANK YOU

I want to thank everyone who called, sent cards, and visited during my recent hospitalization and recuperation. I am feeling better and look forward to see you all again.

Austine

Safe Riding Tips

I hope these tips will be of some help. These tips are based on riding principles we teach in our ERC and other GWRRA riding courses. To get more information regarding these tips and to practice them under controlled conditions, enroll in an ERC or TRC course at your next available opportunity.

The topic this month is SLOW SPEED RIDING. Riding a two-wheel motorcycle at slow speeds is much more challenging most times than riding at normal speed on the highway. Slow speed riding and turning requires PROPER BALANCE. The rider should be comfortably seated, knee against the tank, firmly, but not too tightly, holding handgrips with all four fingers and eyes up on the horizon, looking where you want the motorcycle to go.

GOOD CLUTCH-THROTTLE CONTROL. The rider should always maintain good smooth throttle control. The clutch varies the power to the rear wheel, while the throttle controls the engine power. During the slow speed maneuvers, the throttle should be on with sufficient fuel to reasonably propel the motorcycle. The rider's wrist should be relatively flat to avoid pulling back on the throttle. The clutch should never be all the way in or all the way out but would vary depending on the required speed. The rear brake should be applied slightly, as needed, to slow the motorcycle.

LOOK INTO THE TURN. The rider should turn their head looking in the direction of the turn. The secret to doing good smooth slow speed riding is keeping good balance, maintaining good clutch/throttle control with strategic braking, using smooth steering inputs and looking in the direction you want to go. In cornering or circles, it may be appropriate to use counter-weighting, moving the body to counter balance the lean angle of the motorcycle.

Remember a hug is a great gift, one size fits all, give one today and brighten someone's day.

Ride Safe

Ride Often

**Ken and
Chapter**



**Sue Stagner
Educators**



Special Days

July

Birthdays

Brenda Houston 7
Alice Ledee 15
Sandi Smoak 15
Samantha McNeill 16
Pamela Lantz 27
Julie Schneider 29
Oly McDonough 30
Curtis Palmore 30

Anniversaries

Art & Randy Makinster 3
Fred & Joyce Hartley 19
Dawn & Don Dillon 27

August

Birthdays

Jerry Costell 3
Nickey Sanderson 6
Arthur Makinster 8
Tina Allen 12
Mike Perkins 12
Bill Miller 20
Shirley Morgan 22
John Morgan 22

Anniversaries

John & Shirley Morgan 5
Dennis & Debbie Magness 8
Peter & Evona Pawlik 23



2009 FLORIDA GWRRA EVENTS

June 11-13 Georgia District Rally Hiawassee, GA
June 20 FL1-O Kick-Off DeFuniak Springs
Sept 10-12 Region "A" Rally Dothan, AL
Sept 19 FL1-A 15th Anniversary Picnic Lutz
Sept 27 FL1-M Bowling for Pediatric Brain Tumor Foun. Largo
Oct 10 FL1-B Coast to Coast Charity Ride Brandon
Oct 15-17 Mississippi District Rally Tupelo, MS
Nov 1 SW Florida Ride For Kids Sarasota
Nov. 14 Florida District Rider Ed Fair St. Petersburg

Although not a GWRRA function, we have learned that Honda Hoot has been cancelled for 2009.

Our Ride & Motorists Awareness Coordinators Column

Hi Gang,

As always we want to remind everyone to keep hydrated when you are riding or doing anything out in our Florida heat. Dehydration can occur quickly. Now that that public service announcement is out of the way lets get down to business.

We have don't have very many rides planned because, lets face it, it's too darn hot. We do have some fun events on the schedule. July 4th we plan to pack as many people as we safely can into a few vans and go see fireworks. Lets do this in typical chapter M style and bust out the loud red white and blue outfits, light up hats, glasses, whatever you have. We'll really let people know how much fun GWRRA members have together. Keeping with the patriotic theme we have day planned at the Armed Forces Military Museum. Admittance is \$6.50 if we have a group of at least 15. Anyone that has a card that states they are retired military will get in free. We also have mini golf planned for one evening.

Check you calendars for dates and times. Watch your emails for changes. Mother Nature makes us change plans more than we like to this time of year.

Don & Tina Allen

Ride Coordinators

Please phone any changes in your address, telephone home/cell phone numbers or e-mail address to
dunbo@tampabay.rr.com
We would like to keep our records up to date.

Ride to Traxxion Dynamics, Woodstock Georgia

By Earl Rummel

I left Palm Harbor about 8:30 am Monday Memorial Day on U.S. 19 planning to us the old U.S. highways. Traffic was light through Spring Hill and became almost non-existent after I got north of U.S. 50. Weather was warm, humidity moderate with white puffy Q's in an otherwise relatively clear sky.

I passed through Perry about Noon and stopped at what turned out to be the only family owned restaurant that was open on Memorial Day according to the local residents. The restaurant is located just about the center is town right on U.S. 19. I decided to make this my dinner for the day so I ordered the Grouper Dinner which, was excellent and more then I could eat on the best of days.

I continued north on U.S. 19. Passing through the town on Monticello I noticed the soil was starting to look like Georgia red and getting hilly. Continuing on to Albany Georgia where I picked up U.S. 82 to Dawson where I turned onto U.S. 280/GA 520.

Traveling through Georgia one think I noticed was that even in the small Peanut growing towns on Southern Georgia the school building I saw along the highways were all well built, well maintained mostly brick and mortar. Sorry to say I was surprised and saddened thinking about our schools in Florida.

U.S. 280 took me to my planned over night stop in Columbus Georgia. Arriving about 4:30 pm I checked into the room, unloaded the bike, went back out and put the half cover. I not much more then got back into the room when the heavy rains started and lasted for a little more then an hour. That was close timing, but not the closest.

Tuesday morning I picked U.S. 27 until I hit I-85 then jumped over to Alt U.S. 27 continuing until I hit I-85 again. As I goofed and didn't have the rest of my intended route in my GPS from there I just continued to Woodstock via I-85, I-285 and I-75. Pulling in to the motel about 1:30 pm I unloaded

the bike, went down to put the half cover on and as I grabbed the cover the rain started. Got the cover on, but after two hours of heavy rain I went and wipe the bike down to dry it off. Didn't beat the rain this time.

Wednesday 27 May, Traxxion Day

I took the bike over to Traxxion Wednesday morning to have the suspension upgrades installed. Takes about a half day for them to change the front and rear shock components, steering head bearing for tapered roller and a fork brace. My bike was done about 1:00 pm when I got back from lunch. Paid the bill then decided that rather than stay in Woodstock another night I'd head home.

I left Woodstock heading due east via Arnold Mill road to Rucker Road then Old Milton Road to Abbotts Bridge Road to Sugarloaf Road to Hwy 316E/U.S. 29 until I hit GA 81. Ga-81 goes around Atlanta on the east side. I followed GA-81 until I hit U.S. 41 south of Atlanta and stayed on 41 all the way to Lake City Florida. I stopped in Lake City about 1:00pm after 12 great hours of riding on one really great riding motorcycle, but, more on that in a minute.

I left Lake City and decided I'd continue home via I-75 to SR-56/SR-54. About one hour into the ride I decided the better part of velour was to stop at the rest stop as the clouds south of me were growing dark. Good thing, five minutes later all heck breaks loose. About an hour it finally lets up and by noon I'm home.

Round trip 1122 miles. Ride on factory suspension 531 miles. Ride on upgraded suspension 591 miles.

Traxxion Upgrade ride:

What do I think about the Traxxion suspension upgrade. Yes in my opinion the upgrades improve the ride and is worth the cost. I know many won't agree with me though. Before I did the upgrade when I'd hit what I'd consider small road bumps my old drink cup would always splash water. After the upgrade the amount of splash is down by what I would consider at least 60% on these same bumps. Yes I know it's only my opinion, but it is much smoother in all riding conditions.

The biggest complaint I had with the stock Honda GW suspension was when you have the front brake applied coming to a stop on a wash board intersection. The old suspension locks the front suspension with the anti dive system. This causes the front wheel to literally skip from bump to bump with on suspension action as the right fork is locked solid. The Traxxion suspension removes the anti-dive system and replaces it with a full suspension shock in both the right and left struts. The units have a different and (in my opinion) better dampening rate. The ride when I left Traxxion in Woodstock was apparent to me as soon as I left the shop. The road bumps both large and small (especially the small rattling kind) are much less perceptible and the large seem to jolt you less.

This of course is only my opinion. I know of at least one member of the chapter that (in his opinion) the Goldwing is perfect as it sets. Would I recommend the upgrade? You bet! Do I think it's worth the cost? A resounding, YES. Just for the secure feeling of stopping at wash board intersections. Do other parts of the ride feel more secure? Yes, in turns (and don't ask me why) the bike feels more solid.

These are my opinions. If you want to try the bike out just let me know. But I'll tell you one thing, I'd never put the stock suspension back on my Wing again, and would only grudgingly ride your bike while you riding mine to check out the suspension.

Happy riding, however your bike is set up. It's yours and nobody should say it's not the best motorcycle ever.

**Schedule of Events
For July**

- ♦ July 2 Kick Tire—Pete & Shorties 7:30pm
- ♦ July 4 Independence Day Fireworks TBA
- ♦ July 5 Honey Do
- ♦ July 9 Kick Tire- Savory- 12281 Walsingham Rd
- ♦ July 11 Morning Rd RM 8:15 am
- ♦ July 12 Honey Do
- ♦ July 16 General Meeting Stacey's 7:30 pm
- ♦ July 18 Armed Forces Museum RM 9:30 am
- ♦ July 19 Congo River Mini Golf 20060 US 19N
♦ meet there at 7pm
- ♦ July 23 Kick Tire—Acropol 1170 Starkey Rd
7:30pm
- ♦ July 25 Mall Hopping ride cancelled
- ♦ July 26 Honey Do
- ♦ July 27 Council Meeting Park Royale 7pm
- ♦

August 2009

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
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| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
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| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |

July 2009

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
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| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |

**Schedule of Events
For August**

- ♦ Aug 1 Bowling—Tweeds 6:60 pm
- ♦ Aug 2 Honey Do
- ♦ Aug 6 Kick Tire—Queen's Pizza 7:30 pm
- ♦ Aug 8 Movie Night at Park Royale 7:00 pm
- ♦ Aug 9 Honey Do
- ♦ Aug 13 Kick Tire—China Inn—7:30 pm
- ♦ Aug 15 Honey Do
- ♦ Aug 16 Nite Ride 7:30 pm
- ♦ Aug 20 General Meeting Stacey's—7:30 pm
- ♦ Aug 22 Reddy's Retreat
- ♦ Aug 23 Honey Do
- ♦ Aug 27 Kick Tire—Los Mariachi's—7:30 pm
- ♦ Aug 29 Sunset Cruise—TBA
- ♦ Aug 30 Honey Do
- ♦ Aug 31 Council Meeting Park Royale 7pm



To put ads in this newsletter, you must be a member of Chapter M or GWRRA. Space permitting – New ads will be allowed to have a short paragraph of about 2-5 lines describing the item for sale, plus up to 3 colored pictures. The editor may adjust wording, and size of pictures will be adjusted to fit space available. If you want to continue running the item for sale, you must let the editor know and it will be edited to 1 or 2 lines and no pictures. Ads may be e-mailed or

GOODY SALES

If you want Chapter M shirts or patches, flags, decals, please call us ahead of time at 727-517-3552 . We will bring them to the kick-tire or General Meetings.

A limited number of Chapter helmet hangers are available. Please contact Pete or Evona Pawlik @ 727 517-3552 for details.

Chapter M Apparel and GWRRA Artwork

We are pleased to announce that our Goody Sales representatives have greatly increased the variety of apparel that you can now order. In order to view these items, please request that they show you the new attire catalogue that they have made up. You can also view these items by visiting our website and clicking on the “For Sale” button on the home page and then following the directions on the page that comes up. If you are viewing this newsletter on the web, just click on the underlined text to access these items.
<http://suncoastwings.com/Attire/attireindex.htm>

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