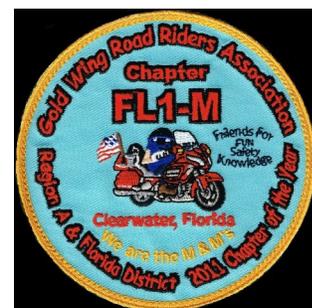




Chapter FL1- M Suncoast Wings Newsletter

Volume XIII Issue 12

December 2013



Friends for Fun,
Safety & Knowledge



Goldwing Road Riders Association
Region A - Florida District
Clearwater, Florida

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Jim & Sue Jackson

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**2011 FLORIDA DISTRICT
CHAPTER OF THE YEAR ***

**2011 REGION A CHAPTER OF THE
YEAR ***

**2011 1st RUNNER UP INTERNA-
TIONAL CHAPTER OF THE YEAR * ***

GENERAL GATHERING

3rd Thursday

McCabe's

2233 Gulf to Bay Blvd Clearwater

Mepting @ 7:30 PM

KICK TIRES

1st, 2rd, & 4th Thursdays

Eat at 6:00 Meet at 7:00

VISIT US ONLINE AT

suncoastwings.com

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WINGERS CHRISTMAS BALL

A few nights before Christmas and all through Park Royale hall, the Wingers were gathered for their yearly Christmas ball.

The bikes were all parked in the lot with much care, as they hurried inside to see the food they would share.

You could tell they were Wingers by their physical size, and the fact that they came bringing candy and pies.

They all took their seats at the leaders direction, and waited with patience to consume the confections.

A prayer was then said to God up above, which spoke about freedom and safety and love. It thanked him for keeping them safe as they ride, and talked about the Chapter and Family and Pride.

The prayer all finished, the food getting cold, they scrambled to see what treats they'd behold. The turkeys were fried and injected with butter, cholesterol so high your doctor would shudder.

Did that slow them down, this fearless bunch? Not for a second, they eat ice cream for lunch. They all feel a duty to preserve their image, so the food line resembled a football scrimmage. The tree was all decorated; the food was in place, as they all sat down to feed their face. Then after all eating an inordinate amount, they attacked each dessert, but who's keeping count. 'Twas chocolate and fudge and cookies and cake, all high fat and sugar let there be no mistake. When nothing but crumbs was left on the floor, I heard them exclaim, "We should have made more".

The focus then turned to the Chapter Director, this man is so thin, could he be a defector? He grabbed the mike with a great big grin, and to a roar of applause said, "Let the Presents begin".

A number was drawn and a gift was then taken, but there was a catch that had some wingers shakin'.

The gift that you got, that danced in your eyes, might be exchanged for the next Wingers prize. So on it went with laughter and glee, as prizes were exchanged for all there to see.

A good time was had by all who attended; each of them wishing the night had not ended. The presents all opened, crumbs swept from the floor, the wingers slowly making their way to the door.

With kisses and hugs each wishing the other safe flight, they mounted their cycles and rode into the night.

I heard someone exclaim as they passed me by, "I love this Chapter and I'll ride till I die".

With a twist of the throttle the cycle took flight, and in a second or two he was clean out of sight.

The evening was special it's so easy to see. These wingers are family, as wingers should be. They all work together making Chapter "M" a success, and that's what sets it far above all the rest.

May God watch over us all this next year, and allow us to gather, to share Christmas Cheer.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to you all!

Ed & Sandi Smoak, Charter members of FL1-M

The Goldwing tickets are here!!!

The Chapter has 5000 to sell before the Florida District Rally in March 2014.

The tickets are \$1 each and come in a book of 10 tickets. Books can be split and tickets sold individually.

Remember, the money from these ticket sales pays for ALL of your Rider Education classes (ERC, TRC, CPR/First Aid etc.)

The Florida District requests that each member buy at least one book to help pay for your education.

We need your help in selling them to the general public as well.

First place prize is a NEW Goldwing, NEW F6B or \$10,000 cash.

For every 10 books that you sell, you will receive one free book for yourself.

Please be willing to take some to sell.

They will be signed out to you and you are responsible for those tickets.

**Thanks
Tracy and Sharon**



THOUGHTS FROM OUR CHAPTER DIRECTORS

Happy Holidays!!!!

We hope your Thanksgiving was a joyous one.

We have plenty of leftovers to enjoy. NO cooking for several days.

December is here along with our busy riding schedule.

We will again be putting out a weekly email for that weeks activities.

However, please check your emails before leaving your house for any changes to that day's events.

The Chapter Christmas party is scheduled for Sunday December 8th.

Please sign up to bring a dish to share.

The Chapter will supply turkey, ham and drinks.

Call us with any questions.

CONGRATULATIONS are in order for some of our Chapter members.

Ron and Pam Lantz are the new Region A Motorist Awareness Coordinators.

Tracy Dunn has been upgraded to Senior Leadership Trainer status.

Education is important within our Chapter as well as GWRRA

Please plan on attending as many rides in December as your schedule will allow.

Tracy and Sharon Dunn

Senior Chapter Directors FL1-M

CHAPTER FL1-M SINCERELY THANKS KIM AND CURTIS PALMORE FOR THE USE OF THEIR HOUSE FOR BIKE DECORATING (AND EATING) ON SATURDAY NOVEMBER 30TH. EVERYONE WORKED HARD TO GET THEIR BIKES DECORATED FOR OUR LIGHTED BIKE RIDES IN DECEMBER.



FROM OUR ASSISTANT CHAPTER DIRECTORS

Hi folks,

It's hard to believe but the holidays are here. It looks like it's going to be a busy December with lots of lighted rides, which hopefully will bring smiles to both the young and the old. As you can see, on our calendar we have many places scheduled to display our lighted bikes. Hopefully, the weather will cooperate and the nights will be nice for riding and dry. For many of us, this is a yearly tradition. For our new folks, hopefully they will be able to join in and experience the joy that these rides bring.

As enjoyable and awesome as it is, we still must remember to be cautious and ride our bikes in a safe and appropriate manner. Being as visible as our lighted bikes are makes us more of a distraction to our fellow motorists which requires us to be alert and on our toes. Please don't assume that the driver coming up to the intersection that we are crossing is going to stop. During the holidays, there are many parties going on with a lot of alcohol being consumed. DUI accidents and alcohol related fatalities increase during the Christmas holidays. Hopefully, with the motorcycle training courses that we have taken, good judgment and being alert will make these holiday rides enjoyable and fun. We hope to see you at the holiday events that have been planned, as well as on our lighted bike rides.

Have an enjoyable and safe holiday season.

Paul and Wavy Begin

Assistant Chapter Directors



FROM OUR ASSISTANT CHAPTER DIRECTORS

Howdy All,

Well December is here and as usual Chapter M is busy. Almost every night of the month our members will be out spreading good cheer and showing off their beautiful bikes. Remember to check your email before you head out on any rides. This time of the year things change quickly.

Do you ever wonder about the inner workings of GWRRA? Have we got a deal for you. All members are welcome to attend the Florida Chapter Conference, Jan 4 & 5 in Oldsmar. This is the annual business meeting for GWRRA. The meeting is required by the IRS to maintain our tax exempt status. It is an opportunity to learn how and why we have certain policies and procedures. In addition to the education aspect, you will meet new people from other chapters around the state. If you would like to attend see a team member for more details.

This time last year was rough for us. For those of you who may not know we had an accident last year. We missed all of the December events including the Christmas party. We were very surprised when Tracy and Sharon came to our house after the party and told us we had been chosen as Couple of the Year. It has been our honor to represent our chapter for the past year. Thank you for allowing us to be your Couple of the Year.

Don and Tina Allen

Assistant Chapter Directors



RIDER EDUCATION

Caring For your Helmet

The helmets we wear may very well save our lives someday. I know that one saved Kathy's face from significant damage and without one she would have likely died. Now what do we do to care for our helmets.

Dropping a helmet onto a hard surface can cause damage to the hard shell and it is possible that this could weaken the helmet and result in premature failure during an accident. The only safe thing to do in an instance like this is to replace the helmet with a new one.

The recommendation is to replace your helmet at least every 5 years or 7 years from the date of manufacture. The reason for this is that the materials used in to make these helmets will deteriorate over time and may not provide the level of protection that they should.

It sometimes gets warm in Florida and we perspire. Now, you can clean the liner of the helmet without damaging the helmet. One way to do this is to dip the entire helmet into a container of water with a mild detergent (Motorcycle Consumer News recommends Dr. Bronner's Magic Soaps). PLEASE REMOVE THE HEADSET BEFORE DOING THIS!!! Another solution that works is one capful of Pine Sol and ¼ cup white vinegar and the balance water. You then dip the helmet and if you have a dirty area you can scrub with a soft bristle brush (toothbrush will work). They recommend soaking the helmet for at least 1 minute in the solution, then thoroughly rinse the entire helmet with cold water. You can squeeze the padding to remove excess water. A helmet manufacturer recommends laying the helmet on its side with a drier sheet spread out over the base of the helmet. You can place a fan to blow into the helmet to speed up the drying process.

There are a couple of recommendations to handling of your helmet.

Never set your helmet on top of a gas tank as the fumes can leak harmful vapors that could damage your helmet.

Do not store your helmet in a manner that would cause stress or compress the EPS liners, including mirrors, foot pegs, etc. If possible store in a cool dry place and ensure that the helmet is dry before putting it away.

Keep your helmet away from pets as they do like to chew on items and you don't want them to chew on your helmet.

Don't store helmets where there is excessive heat, such as near the exhaust, inside of saddlebags, or inside of hot car trunks.

These are all good suggestions on the proper care of your helmet.

Ron & Kathy Jackson, Sr. Chapter Educators



MEMBERSHIP ENHANCEMENT MOTORIST AWARENESS

I have window stickers and magnets for cars and drink covers to promote Motorist Awareness. I also have Chapter M pens . Please let me know if you would like any of these.

As always, please have some antenna hangers for GWRRA membership in your bike.

During our lighted Christmas rides we will have many people stopping to look in awe at our bikes. Please make them feel welcome.



Bill Miller
Membership Enhancement/Motorist Awareness Coordinator



Thanksgiving Charity

Since October 31st, I've been badgering and nagging you all for donations to the Turkey Lady. I was as relentless and rude as a bill collector on Monday. But it all paid off. The chapter's donations totaled \$1320.00 and I thank you for your support. Briefly I want to tell you a little about her organization and how much this Thanksgiving charity provided this year.

Robin started this grass roots organization, 20 years ago; because she felt that many people donate to charities at Christmas, but that those with needs are often forgotten at Thanksgiving. We have been fortunate to participate in this for 14 of those years. She wanted to help the community that has been good to her, so she collects contributions from only friends and family to purchase dinners for the holiday. Once the funds are collected, she matches them, from her own pocket. Then she purchases as many dinners for four that the funds will buy. A dinner for four consists of, one turkey (15-20 lb.) one box of stuffing mix, and two cans of vegetables. This food then goes to the Salvation Army for distribution. The Salvation Army was chosen, rather than other food banks, because they only distribute food to those that show they are in need, and then give them a voucher to pick up their food. It's a good system and eliminates fraud.

Robin has matched donated funds two for one since 9-11-01, because they felt the need to do more. So the \$1320.00 that we collected this year bought almost \$4000.00 of food. Between all the monies she collected and her generous donation, we bought 5335 dinners for four and many that may have not had a decent holiday meal were provided for.

Once again, the YMCA let the Salvation Army use the empty lot the on the south side of the SA campus to set up the distribution site in order to be more efficient.. This lot has a paved drive around the perimeter, so people could just drive in, present their ticket, and pick up the food without ever getting out of the car. In the past, the handicapped and elderly had a difficult time getting their groceries back to the car, so this made distribution quick and safe. The food tickets that were given out, had a day and time for the person to pick up their food. This kept traffic congestion down so we were not backing up onto Highland Avenue. An army of volunteers bagged groceries, collected vouchers and handed out food. We had volunteers from Salvation Army, Publix, High school cheer squads, Civil Air Patrol and other organizations that I didn't know. The whole scene was an impressive sight.

Who would have thought that such a little gesture of thanks would grow into the mega event it has become. In twenty years this has grown from 11 turkeys to 5335 complete dinners. We were up from last year by over 400 dinners. It took two 53 foot refrigerated trailers, just to deliver the turkeys. Next year I hope we can help Robin set another record. She'd like to hit the 6000 mark in 2014.

Robin wanted me to pass on her thanks and her appreciation for our help. I responded with our thanks for her allowing us to be a part of this charity. Likewise, I personally want to thank all of you that donated for helping a worthy cause and making others holidays more enjoyable. We can be proud that we made a big impact in helping to feed over 20,000 people this Thanksgiving. Happy holidays!

Ride to Stumpknockers on the River Nov. 10th, 2013.

When we arrived at McDonald's, we were pleased to see that we had 15 bikes and realized that more would be joining us up on SR54. Upon arriving on SR54 we were joined by 5 more bikes, so we had a total of 20 bikes and 28 people, 25 members and 3 guests.

We rode up in 4 groups and had 4 very capable leaders and tail-gunners that made the ride one to remember. On the route up, we travelled 134 miles, through country roads, saw beautiful scenery and rode many winding roads, all thanks to our leaders.

The restaurant staff was ready for us thanks to Charlie who set up the reservations, as the place was packed. Stumpknockers is not a chain, it is a casual, quaint Restaurant on the beautiful Withlacoochee River with a southern touch, where your meal is prepared just for you. They have been in business for over 20 years. They have a top notch staff to serve up a menu that includes Florida favorites like; catfish, frog legs, sea scallops, steaks and of course Florida gator. Add that to a fun casual atmosphere and we too experienced the difference.

Now, I would like to say that no one complained about the food, well not the taste at least but some people were not happy when comparing one plate over the others...whiner

(wonder who that was?) some were very sloppy, so I think that will take care of 2 pins. We were offered dessert made by family but to my knowledge everyone at our table was too full for dessert. Oops, then as we were leaving a new home was found for the "I dropped my bike" pin!!!

The ride back took us again through areas that were described as awesome, spectacular, gorgeous, great and many other descriptions. I also heard many times the word miracle, when talking about getting through all the lights with 20 bikes. My opinion of that is that when you have four trained leaders and tail gunners who have taken part in the road captains and other courses offered by the chapter, all these things fall into place and you have a safe ride without breaking any of the rules of the road. Riding with a group takes practice, so every time you go with a group you learn more about your fellow riders.

Just one more reason to keep yourself updated or take these courses when they are offered.

We even had the pleasure to see a World War II bomber B-17. It was the same model airplane known as the Memphis Belle. Thanks to Paul, for his knowledge of planes and passing that information on to the riders, many came over the CB to tell Paul thanks for sharing his knowledge with us.

We rode about 250 miles and some of us were out for 9 hours. Now, some will say that was a long day and a lot of miles but remember you can take part in all of a ride or just some of it, it's all about the ride, having fun, being safe and being with friends and meeting new ones...

Another thing to keep in mind is that group riding is not for everyone but do not let that stop you from going on the ride. If you prefer to ride alone or with another couple just get the route and follow or just meet at destination.

What is a Stumpknocker? The Stumpknocker is a fish that has long been a part of Southern fishing lore. You'll find these small bream-like fish hugging the submerged cypress stumps where they live and feed – thus giving them the name Stumpknockers. Stumpknockers are found in large numbers along the scenic Withlacoochee and other Florida rivers. Stumpknockers Restaurants is like its namesake – small and tucked away, but well worth the trouble to find.

Cathy Sweeney

WHO IS THIS CUTE LITTLE TYKE. HINT: IT IS AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF CHAPTER M

Everyone who guesses correctly will get \$20 chapter dollars.

EMAIL SHARON AND TRACY AT DUNBO@TAMPABAY.RR.COM WITH YOUR GUESS.

WINNER/WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT MONTHLY GATHERING

Last month's baby was Jeannie McCarty. Nobody guessed it.



Chapter "M" Money Disbursements, per person

\$1.00

Member can collect \$1.00 after signing in on the sign-in sheet, at each event.

ALL of the disbursements listed below will be given out by the activities coordinator or an alternate, at the event or as soon after the event as possible.

\$1.00

Attending Chapter M functions, where there is a sign-in sheet (Kick tires, M gathering, team meetings, rides, etc) and wearing M&M (non-chapter) attire or any GWRRA Rally shirt.

\$2.00

Attending Chapter M functions where there is a sign-in sheet (Kick tire, "M" gatherings, team meetings, rides, etc) and wearing a Chapter M shirt with a 10" GWRRA patch or a vest with a 10" GWRRA patch.

\$10.00

1. Attending a different Chapter functions/Rally and wearing Chapter M attire with a 10" GWRRA patch on a shirt and/or vest.
2. Participation in any Chapter challenge.
3. When a member volunteers at any District Convention, Region Convention or Wing Ding for working the games, volunteers as an instructor for training, helping with vendors or representing Chapter M in an event (Talent show, Coy Selection, Chapter Pride, Best Dressed, Bike shows, etc.)
4. Any Region Wanderer attempt, Billy the Bobber attempt or Double point visitation and wearing Chapter M attire with a 10" GWRRA patch on a shirt and/or vest.

\$20.00

1. Attending any District Convention and wearing Chapter M attire with a 10" GWRRA patch on a shirt and/or vest.
2. Any participation in a Triathlon or race event sanctioned by the Chapter Directors.
(Chapter attire is NOT required)
3. A Chapter member submitting an article for the newsletter (except the CD and the RE)

\$30.00

1. Attending any Region Convention and wearing Chapter M attire with a 10" GWRRA patch on a shirt and/or vest.

\$50.00

Attending the International Wing Ding and wearing Chapter M attire with a 10" GWRRA patch on a shirt and/or vest.

The Chapter Director may give out chapter money for special awards, recognitions, etc. that he/she deems appropriate. \$\$\$ on the calendar means extra Chapter dollars.

ANY disputes over the distribution of Chapter M money's will be resolved by the Chapter Director or his/her designate on a case by case basis. REMEMBER THE #1 RULE IS TO HAVE FUN.

Active or In-Active????

What is the difference??

Everyone is a member of GWRRA by paying your yearly membership fee.

You can participate with any Chapter within GWRRA.

If you chose to participate with FL1-M then your name will remain on the ACTIVE FL1-M list as long as you continue to actively participate with this Chapter.

Your name will be removed from the ACTIVE FL1-M list/attendance roster/active email list after 12 months of nonattendance to any FL1-M calendar event.

As a GWRRA member, you will continue to receive the monthly FL1-M newsletter by email.

If you attend several FL1-M calendar events after a long absence, then your name will be added back to the ACTIVE list again.

Only you can remove your name by either nonattendance or failure to renew your membership.



Public Relations

Don't forget that we are still collecting clothes for Clothes for Kids. This is a year round endeavor by Chapter M.

Remember to carry some GWRRA antenna hangers with you when you ride to give to others who might be interested in our association.

GOODY SALES

FOR PICTURES OF AVAILABLE ITEMS AND AN ORDER FORM GO TO suncoastwings.com. All orders should be given to Mary Ann Claypool on the order form on the website.

New chapter flags are available

New chapter patches are now available

M&M helmet hangers are now available



**FIRST PLACE AT QUAKER STEAK BIKE NIGHT
NANCY, JERRY, AND MARLEY**



CONGRATULATIONS TRACY

CERTIFICATE
of
COMPLETION



Is hereby awarded to

Tracy Dunn III



Let it be known that the above named individual has satisfactorily completed all the required elements to be duly appointed a **SENIOR UNIVERSITY TRAINER** in the Gold Wing Road Riders Association, Membership Enhancement Program.

Ed and Linda Johnson

Directors, Membership Enhancement

October 20, 2013

Date



Region 'A' Motorist Awareness Coordinators

Ron & Pam Lantz

Ladies & Gentlemen,

Please join in on congratulating Ron & Pam Lantz for accepting the appointment to the position of Southeast Region 'A' Motorist Awareness Coordinators. Ron and Pam are long time GWR-RA Members and have been involved with Rider Education for many years holding a number of GW positions at the Chapter, District, Region and International levels. Folks, the valuable levels of experience will benefit Region 'A' in its' quest to elevate the Motorist Awareness Program in the Region. Ron and Pam will begin their position immediately and will be working closely with the District Motorist Awareness Coordinators as well as assisting our Senior Rider Educator Chuck & Anne Reed. District Directors, please share this appointment with your District and Chapter Teams.

Warmest Regards,

JJ & Sue

Jim & Sue Jackson - Life Members

Southeast Region 'A' Director

Gold Wing Road Riders Association



PLANNED CHAPTER M CRUISES

Thursday December 19, 2013 4 night Mexico cruise

Carnival Paradise sailing out of Tampa and returns on Monday December 23rd

Ports of Call are Cozumel Mexico

Sunday January 19, 2014 6 night Caribbean cruise

Carnival Freedom sailing out of Port Everglades and returns on Saturday January 25th

Ports of Call are Key West, Grand Cayman Islands and Ocho Rios/Jamaica

Contact Margie Miller 727 545-5405

Saturday April 12, 2014 16 night Hawaii cruise

Carnival Miracle sailing out of Los Angeles and relocates to Vancouver BC on Monday April 28th

Ports of Call are Hilo, Maui, Kauai, Kona and Honolulu Hawaii

Thursday June 5, 2014 7 night Alaska cruise/6 night Alaska land tour

Princess Cruise Line--Island Princess

Flight from Tampa to Anchorage, Alaska and return flight from Vancouver BC to Tampa on June 18th

Land tour of Denali National Park, Mt. McKinley, Anchorage, Talkeetna, Copper River

Cruise sails south from Whittier, Alaska to Vancouver BC

Ports of Call are Skagway, Juneau and Ketchikan. Also cruises Hubbard Glacier and Glacier Bay.

For more information contact Sharon Dunn

Home 727 544-2961

Cell 727 687-0336



2014 FLORIDA GWRRA EVENTS

January 1	First Ride of the Year Shrimps R Us	Welaka
January 11	FL2-L Sock Hop	Lakeland
January 18	FL1-O Chilly Run	Defuniak Springs
January 18-26	FL1-K 8 Day Cruise	Ft. Lauderdale
January 18	FL1-O Chilly Run	Defuniak Springs
January 25	Multi Chapter Breakfast	Port Orange
February 1	FL1-S Anniversary Party	TBD
February 8	FL1-G Happy Days Again Rally	Sanford
February 15	FL2-G Chili Cook Off	Fort Myers
March 20-22	Florida District Rally/Convention	Kississimee
April 3-5	Alabama District Rally/Convention	Mobile AL
April 5	FL1-K Rally & Party	St. Augustine
April 12	FL1-F2 Chapter Rally	Ocala
May 1-3	South Carolina District Rally/Convention	Florence SC
June 12-14	Georgia District Rally/Convention	Dillard GA
July 2-6	Wing Ding	Madison WI
Sept ember 11-13	Region A Rally	Eufaula AL

Special Days

December

Birthdays

Sharon Dunn 13
Chris Schwager 14
Dean Hauser 24
Wavy Begin 25
Annie Zulas 26
Ron Jackson 28
Jerri Miles 29
Roy Stevens 30
Charlie Nolan 31

Anniversaries

Charlie & Judy Nolan 20
Bob & Pam Price 23
John & Carole Titus 27

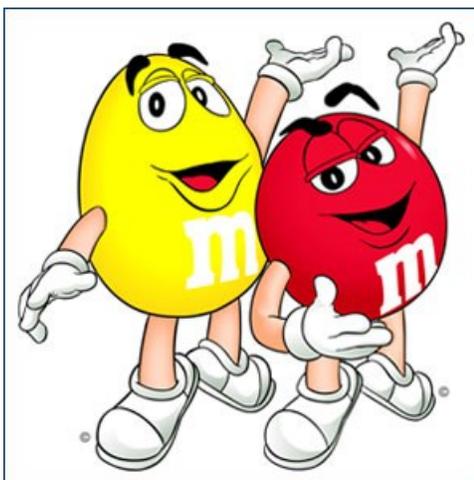
January

Birthdays

Steven Burson 1
Michael Richards 4
Lucy Giocondo 6
Marcia Schulz 7
Linda Jenkins 8
Brenda Thistle 8
Tom Hicks 11
Cathy Sweeney 11
Joann Hauser 12
Austine Barbour 15
Tracy Dunn 15
Jim Jackson 18
Paul Begin 20
Jean Stevens 22
Vic Vecchitto 25
Annie Stretch 29
Edgard Schulz 30
Rick Norris 31

Anniversaries

Tom & Ruth Hicks 1
Frank Hardy 26



December 2013

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

If you see \$\$\$ on a particular date on the Chapter calendar, you will be paid additional bonus chapter money for attending!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

MERRY CHRISTMAS



Week day Breakfast rides ONLY leave from Wendy's 4960 East Bay Largo

Golf every Thursday at 7am at ChiChi's Golf Course on McMullen Booth.

Schedule of Events For December

- Dec 4 Downtown St. Pete RM 6pm
- Dec 5 Jerri Miles Neighborhood RM 6pm followed by Beach Ride
- Dec 6 Gull Aire meet there at 6:15 then Countryside Mall
- Dec 7 Park Royale meet @ gas station 6:30pm then Candy Cane Lane, etc
- Dec 8 Chapter Christmas Party at Park Royale clubhouse 1pm—till \$\$\$
- Dec 9 Paradise Shores RM 6:30pm at Kohl's on Park St then Tyrone Mall
- Dec 10 Pawlik, Lantz, Claypool Neighborhoods RM 6pm
- Dec 11 Avalon and Country Park RM 5:30pm
- Dec 12 Mainlands RM 6:30pm
- Dec 13 Sky Harbor MHP Meet Clearwater Mall @6:30pm, Clearwater Mall and Village Inn
- Dec 14 Pinellas Park Parade RM 4:15. We will lead parade at 6pm. Parkside Mall
- Dec 15 Chpt S Zephyrhills RM 3: 30pm \$\$\$
- Dec 16 Oak Crest MHP RM 6pm Lake Park at Seminole
- Dec 18 Quaker Steak Recruitment Meet there at 6pm \$\$\$
- Dec 19 General Gathering McCabe's Gulf to Bay and Belcher 7:30pm
- Dec 20 Largo Central Park RM 6pm Then Largo Mall
- Dec 21 Barney's Recruitment 10-2pm \$\$\$
- Dec 21 Morningside Estates RM 6pm followed by Botanical Gardens
- Dec 30 Team Meeting 7pm Park Royale
- Dec 31 New Year's Eve party at Palmore's home 7:30pm

January 2014

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Week day Breakfast rides ONLY leave from Wendy's 4960 East Bay Largo

If you see \$\$\$ on a particular date on the Chapter calendar, you will be paid additional bonus chapter money for attending!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



HAPPY NEW YEAR

Golf every Thursday at 7am at ChiChi's Golf Course on McMullen Booth.

Schedule of Events for January

- Jan 2 Kick Tire Sunset Grille 2328 Sunset Pt. Rd 7:00pm
- Jan 4 Chapter Conference Oldsmar 7:30am
- Jan 5 Chapter Conference Oldsmar 7:30am
- Jan 5 Peck's Ozello RM 9am
- Jan 9 Kick Tire Country Pizza Inn 14820 US 19N Largo 7pm
- Jan 11 FL2-L Sock Hop Lakeland RM 8:30am \$\$\$
- Jan 12 Honey Do
- Jan 13 Breakfast Ride RM 9am
- Jan 13 District Planning Meeting Park Royale 7pm
- Jan 15 Quaker Steak Recruitment 5:30pm \$\$\$
- Jan 16 General Gathering McCabe's 7:30pm
- Jan 18 Spaghetti Warehouse RM 4pm
- Jan 19 Pioneer Rest. Zolfo Springs RM 8:30am
- Jan 21 FL1-K2 General Gathering
- Jan 23 Kick Tire Village Inn 2525 Gulf to Bay 7pm
- Jan 24-26 Biker Build Off Quaker Steak
- Jan 26 Manatee Ride and Fred's Rest RM 9:30 am
- Jan 27 Breakfast Ride RM 9am
- Jan 27 Team Meeting 7pm
- Jan 29 Quaker Steak Recruitment 5:30pm \$\$\$
- Jan 30 Kick Tire Fresh Point Country Buffet 10525 U S 19N Pinellas Park 7pm



RIDE FOR KIDS 2013



REGION A NEWS

As we pull this December 2013 Region Newsletter together, I hope each of you had the best Thanksgiving ever which just passed and I'm sure each of you are anxiously awaiting the visit from the North Pole. You know, from the guy in the "red-suit" and the long white beard. He travels with some reindeer.....one with a red nose..... in a sleigh. And I'm sure some of you will be playing that favorite game during your Chapter Christmas party of "Dirty-Santa". I know our home Chapter really enjoys that game and it makes some entertaining memories. Sue and I wish each of you the best Holiday Season ever and please enjoy your blood family as well as your GW family. It is the season to be jolly.

Of course during 2013, we really enjoyed the Southeast Region 'A' Rally/Convention season and each District really "put on the dawg" with outstanding conventions. From the first in Florida to the last in Mississippi and all in between (AL, GA, SC, Region, WD) we thoroughly enjoyed each one of them. And how about that Wing Ding for 2013 in our own Region held in Greenville, SC. Yep, that Wing Ding will be remembered as the monsoon convention. I think it rained every day. But we had a bodacious good time inside the convention center. Looking forward to 2014 in Madison, WI. Why not make your plans now to join us in Wisconsin and it will happen. I must say Sue and I enjoyed all the GW functions we attended during 2013 at the Chapter, District, Region or National levels. We really had a blast and looking forward to 2014.

Many opportunities have us moving in several different directions during 2013 trying to maintain our membership which hasn't been easy. Yes, Region 'A' is still one of the leading Regions in recruiting new members, but we unfortunately are losing more members that we would like. As we've discussed before there are a myriad of reasons why we are losing members. However, in reviewing the "Drop Letter Survey" of members leaving, the majority of reasons are not that they are dissatisfied with GWRRA, but they have aged, health reasons, and/or don't have the finances to continue riding and yes some have expired. Certainly we realize when looking at declining membership numbers it can get discouraging, but please don't give up. Everyone is still working hard to make GWRRA grow again and are still recruiting new members in good quantity. Please accept our thanks for continuing to recruit new members and bringing them into the Chapters in the Region. Let's continue to find those special folks and show them the GWRRA way of having fun and good-times.

Let's not forget the big change in leadership in Region 'A' during 2013. After six fun filled years as Region 'A' Directors, Bob and Nan Shrader concluded their tenure at the end of the Region 'A' Convention in September. I could write a book on the adventures that Sue and I had with Bob and Nan along with the Region Staff during the last six years, but I'll just say it was one heck of a ride. Bob and Nan gave some of the best years of their lives to the Region and please join me in applauding them for their outstanding leadership, patience and management.

As you know by now, Sue and I (Jim Jackson) accepted the reins of Region 'A' in September as the Region 'A' Director. Over the past several months we have filled out most of the Region Staff and we look forward to the coming events in the future. If you would like to see the Region Staff just click on our Region 'A' website and take a look at those beautiful mugs. Seriously, we have some of the most experienced folks in the Region that will be managing their respective areas in a professional manner on the Region Staff. If you have the opportunity, please shake their hands and meet them in person at the next Convention in Florida.

Sue and I would like to extend a bodacious “THANK YOU” to our Region ‘A’ Staff and our five District Directors and their Staffs who have worked so hard during 2013 to maintain the existing Chapters and to keep GWRRA healthy and appealing to the members. Further, “THANK YOU” Chapter Directors and their Staffs for their hard work in making their respective Chapters a place where members like to socialize and play. Chapter Directors you are the backbone of GWRRA and you are appreciated more than you will ever know.

In closing, we would like to again THANK all our volunteer leaders at every level, Chapter, District and Region for their hard work and dedication to GWRRA during 2013.

Sue and I hope this Holiday Season will be the best ever for each of you.

Until next time please don’t ride faster than your Guardian Angel can fly.

Jim & Sue



Florida District News

We hope all had a great Thanksgiving and are now getting ready for the Christmas season. It's nice that the summer heat has let up a bit, so riding is a little cooler and perhaps a little more enjoyable for most folks. We were able to attend several events around the state starting with FL2-A, FL2-R, and FL2-'s Ghoulish in Clewiston. We also attended FL1-X's Spaghetti Social in the Jacksonville area. Both events were lots of FUN and the hosts did an outstanding job in putting on the events.

Our winter visitors are arriving and along with them a desire to follow our #1 Rule...
Have FUN! Provide the FUN and they will come! December will provide our chapters a time to get together for their holiday parties and festivities. We have been invited to several, and although we cannot attend all of them, we hope to make some! We love a good time with friends, good food, and great fellowship!

We will be in Eufaula Alabama early this month for the yearly Region A Conference. This event provides the Region Directors an opportunity to cover all the "business" details with the District Teams. We then bring back this information and share it with the Chapter Teams at our yearly conference in January.

Man, wasn't that a great segue to remind all the Chapter Directors about our upcoming Chapter Conference January 4-5, 2014! The event will be held at the Hampton Inn & Suites, Tampa Northwest/Oldsmar. The locale for this event is new. We are excited about the new venue and hope you are able to attend. The District website has all the information necessary to make your reservations. Go to FUN and then to Florida District Events. Please make arrangements to attend the conference with as many of your staff as possible. This is the one event during the year that we can meet with all the Chapter Directors and their teams at one time. You all hear the same information being presented and have the opportunity to ask questions directly to District staff folks. We have the "District Roundtable" where anyone who attends can ask any question you choose. All folks attending the conference can sit in on this event. The Chapter Conference is very important in meeting the requirements of GWRRA and the IRS. We are planning on providing you with any and all new information that Phoenix has for us and updating the OCP, Treasury, RE and LT areas for all in attendance. It is imperative that the financials from each chapter are turned in to our District Treasurers at this time. Our Treasurers then must compile a full financial report for the District and submit as required by the Federal Government and to Phoenix by early 2014.

In closing, Gina and I would like to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Whether you look at this time of the year in a religious manner or not, this is a wonderful time of year when most people can enjoy some levity and joy in just seeing the many light displays, the smiles on the children's faces at the many parades around the area, get together with friends and family, enjoy delicious meals and special treats.

Suggestion for some end of the year FUN...go for a ride into neighborhoods where all the folks decorate all their homes and lawns for brilliant displays of lights and decorations. No doubt these folks would love to see a string of motorcycles coming through their neighborhood admiring their creativity!

Most of all, whatever you do... HAVE FUN!!!
See you soon and always remember Rule #1...Have FUN!



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PLEASE HAVE A FULL TANK OF GAS

If you have changes in your address, telephone home/cell phone numbers or e-mail address send them to dunbo@tampabay.rr.com or call Sharon or Tracy Dunn at 727-544-2961. We would like to keep our records up to date.

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