

March 2024



**CHAPTER FL1-M**

# **CHAPTER FL1-M SUNCOAST WINGS**

[www.suncoastwings.com](http://www.suncoastwings.com)

**Eagle Wings Motorcycle Association  
FLORIDA DISTRICT  
CLEARWATER, FLORIDA**

**Friends for Fun, Safety & Riding!**

## **EWMA**

### **CEO:**

Anita Alkire

### **COO:**

Bruce Beeman

### **President:**

Bob & Nan Shrader

## **FLORIDA DISTRICT**

### **DISTRICT DIRECTORS:**

Fred & Karen Kennedy

**District Safety/Ride Coordinators:**  
Dominick & Diane DeSiato

**District Treasurer:**  
Pat Van Lengen

## **FL1-M OFFICERS**

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### **Treasurer:**

Bill Zulas

### **Safety/Ride Coordinator:**

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**Newsletter Editor: Kim Palmore**

## **KICK TIRES**

**1st, 2nd, & 4th Thursdays**

**See Calendar for Location\***

**Eat at 6:00; Meet at 7:00 p.m.**

**\* Visit us online:**

**[www.suncoastwings.com](http://www.suncoastwings.com)**



## **GENERAL GATHERING**

**March 21, 2024**

**Country Skillet**

**2839 Roosevelt Blvd. Clearwater, Florida**

**Eat at 6:00; Meet at 7:00 p.m.**



## Chapter Directors Message

Curtis has been chomping at the bit to get back in the saddle and finally made it on a couple of rides in February. It was an active month with two CPR/First Aid classes on February 10, taught by Instructor, Ron Jackson. Ron organized a third CPR class on March 3 for those who were unable to make the other two. Thanks Ron! And thanks to all who attended the classes. We never know when skills learned in these classes may be required and we are fortunate to have an Instructor in our Chapter.

We enjoyed dinner and a show at the Early Bird Dinner Theater on the 18th. Our annual Chapter Auction on February 24 was a lot of fun! All of that plus lots of rides and our weekly gatherings! Thanks to Jack Holzer for being M's Auctioneer extraordinaire once again this year! (Check out photos for events on Pages 9- 11.)

Several members will be heading out to the District Rally soon. We look forward to seeing old friends, making new ones and having fun riding in a new area! We are excited that Joe Maturo and Karen O'Connel will be joining us for their first EWMA District Rally!

Please note that there is no Kick Tire on March 14, due to the District Rally. There won't be a newsletter in April. April and May calendars are in the works now and will be posted to the website in a couple weeks.



Sadly, we are grieving the loss of another dear friend and member of our Chapter M family with the sudden passing of Dennis Magness.

Our hearts go out to Debbie and family as we extend our condolences for their loss. See Page 3-6 for memories of Dennis.



Check out more ride and event photos on the Chapter M website at [https://suncoastwings.com/chapter\\_m\\_photo.htm](https://suncoastwings.com/chapter_m_photo.htm)

Here's a link to the Florida District Events calendar for information on upcoming events: <http://www.ewma-florida.org/events.html>



**Ride Safe!**

*Curtis & Kim Palmore  
Chapter Directors FL1-M*



## *Memories of Dennis Magness*

As I've gone through photos for the Chapter M members who recently passed away, I've thought a lot about all of the great times we had together. Dennis was a skilled, avid rider who, along with Debbie, traveled all over the US Canada and New Finland with Curtis and me. Until the last few years they participated in every rally as well as most rides and Chapter events. Affectionately know as "The Ole Guy", Dennis was a very close friend who will be deeply missed.



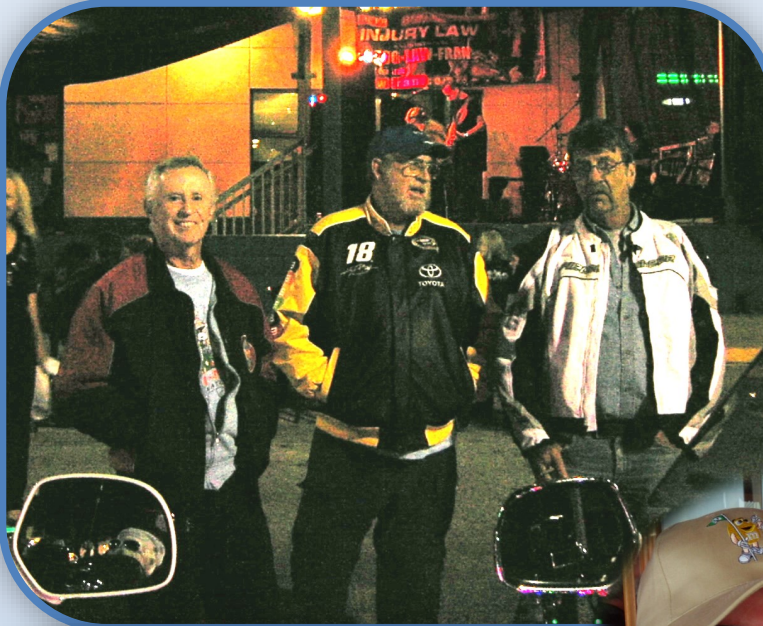


## Memories of Dennis





## More Memories of Dennis





## Memories of Dennis

Some walk through  
the Pearly Gates . . .

Others ride through  
them.

We're thinking Dennis  
just might ride  
through.



**ETA**  
**EASTERN CARIBBEAN**  
San Juan - St. Thomas - St. Martin

### ETA Motorcycle Cruise



**FREEDOM  
OF THE SEAS**

**February 2008**



Rest in Peace, Dennis.  
You will live forever  
in our hearts and  
memories.



# ***Rider Education Corner***

## **RIDING IN A GROUP REVIEW**

**WOW! Our Florida District Rally is almost here. One important and fun feature of our Rally is going to be the Group Rides. EWMA is all about riding! I thought I would review with you the important aspects of safe and fun Group Riding. The primary thing to remember when you are riding in a Group is that you are no longer an individual rider. Every action you take should be for the benefit of the Group staying safe and together.**

**Group Riding consists of several riders who have agreed to structured rules regarding formation, conduct, consideration and cooperation while riding together. There is a reliance on each other and a concerted effort to support the others in the group. Members of the group must realize that their individual riding actions influence the others in the Group. You should ride with awareness and focus.**

### **Ride Planning and Preparation:**

- 1. Plan the Route away from congested areas and Interstates if possible.**
- 2. Plan the Breaks taking into consideration the different needs and ages of your group.**
- 3. Hold a Pre-Ride Briefing to discuss the ride itinerary which includes rest stops, food/fuel stops and destination.**
- 4. Plan the Size of the Groups. This should be determined by the Lead and Tail Gunner by considering the amount of Riders the group will be comfortable with.**
- 5. Plan the Start Location and Time.**
- 6. Be Prepared to ride. Members should arrive with a full tank of gas, full stomachs, necessary gear, ride ready and an EMPTY bladder.**
- 7. Plan the Speed of the Groups. The larger the group, the slower the Lead Rider needs to take off from a stop. The normal Speed Limit should not be obtained until the Tail Gunner has advised the Lead Rider that all members have moved and are together. Remember the Primary Objective of Group Riding is to keep the Group together, relaxed and comfortable with the ride.**
- 8. Plan the Stops. The larger the group, the longer it will take for everyone to get back on their bikes and ready to move out.**
- 9. Responsibilities. The Lead Rider must be an Experienced Rider who is able to change hats when he/she is leading a Group. They must slow down their take off speeds and riding speed to keep the Group together. They must keep in communication with the Tail Gunner. They must point out obstacles on the roadway, speed limit changes, traffic lights or stops ahead, or any other traffic situation that warrants being announced. Hand signals should also be used and passed down by all Riders, especially if some Members do not have audible communication.**
- 10. Group Members should Ride their Own Ride. Only the individual rider can determine certain actions and make decisions that affect their Safe Riding. Members must maintain adequate spacing. The recommended method of riding is staggered and Two Seconds behind the bike in your Same Lane Track. That means the bike staggered in front of you is only One Second ahead of you. Your escape path, should you have to make an emergency stop, would be to pass the bike directly in front of you on the Empty Lane Track side of them if necessary. Remember, the purpose of maintaining a tight formation is to deter other traffic from encroaching into your Group. Should it become obvious that another vehicle is trying to move into the Group to make an upcoming turn, LET THEM IN. A vehicle that has entered the Group and is not turning can be deterred to move out of the Group if the Lead Rider slows the Group down until**



## ***Rider Education Corner, Continued***

the vehicle leaves. It's not a perfect world! Stuff happens. Members should minimize audible communication chatter so the Lead Rider and Tail Gunner can talk as needed.

11. The Tail Gunner is responsible to keep the Lead Rider informed as to the Groups progress. The Tail Gunner will secure a lane if requested by the Lead Rider. The Group can then change lanes when advised to so, by either moving FRONT TO BACK or BACK TO FRONT depending on traffic congestion situations. If a Member pulls off, it is the responsibility of the Tail Gunner to notify the lead rider and also pull over with the member to determine the reason for the stop. The Tail Gunner will also advise the Lead Rider if any Members get caught up in traffic or separated due to a Red Light. Neither the Tail Gunner nor any other Member is allowed to Stop Traffic for the Group.

12. The Responsibility of All Riders is to inform the Lead Rider of any special needs: Parking, Medical, or Other. Members should repeat Hand Signals observed in front of them for the consideration of Members who do not have audible communication. Never take anyone else's word that traffic is clear to make any movements without first double checking yourself.

The above recommendations were just an abbreviation of our actual "Riding In A Group" classroom Presentation. If you would like to get the full presentation and discuss what has happened on your past Group Rides, please attend our class at the Rally. I will be conducting this Presentation which will actually be after the Group Rides, so there should be plenty to discuss.



**Ride Safe,  
Dominick & Diane DeSiato  
Florida District Ride/Safety Coordinators**



*Rides to Madison's and Der Dutchman February 19 & March 9*





***Sonny's BBQ - February 22 Kick Tire***





***M Celebrated Valentines Day at the Early Bird 2-18-24***





## Chapter Auction February 24



Joe Maturo and Karen O'Connel attended their first Chapter Auction and cleaned up!

FL1-M's Auction is held annually to reward Chapter members for participation throughout the year. The more you participate in Chapter events, the more Chapter dollars you earn to spend at the Auction.

Food is always a major part of any M event and it was great for the Auction! Bidding began after we stuffed ourselves at the buffet. Tables were loaded with bargains which were eagerly scooped up. Bidding was fast and furious on favorite items!





## ***M's Auction - Continued***



**Many thanks to the Duncan's who arranged for us to use the Pinellas Park Church of Christ Annex and to Jack Holzer for volunteering to be our Auctioneer. He did a great job along with his helpers, Gerry Bernier, Paul Begin, and others who swapped in and out. Thank you to the Begin's, Holzer's and Duncan's for helping us set up for the Auction. And thanks to all for staying and helping clean up after the Auction.**



**Hope everyone had FUN at M's Auction!**





# ***FLORIDA DISTRICT EVENTS***

**2024**

**Mar. 14-16**

**Florida District Rally**

**Best Western  
Gainesville, FL**

**June 21-22**

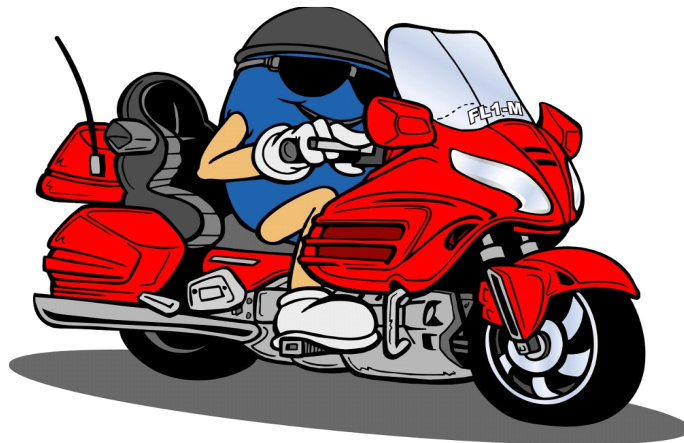
**EWMA International Ride In**

**Loveland, CO**

**Aug. 29-31**

**2024 Eagle Wings Rendezvous**

**Green Bay, WI**



**To view fliers with more details on these events, click below**

**<http://www.ewma-florida.org/events.html>**

**FLORIDA DISTRICT NEWSLETTER:**

**TO ACCESS THE CURRENT DISTRICT NEWSLETTER CLICK ON THIS LINK:**

**<http://www.ewma-florida.org/newsletter.html>**



# CHAPTER FL1-M'S MARCH 2024 CALENDAR

Hope to see **YOU** at some of these **FUN** activities!

All Riders Meetings (RM) will be at the Wawa's at US 19 and Roosevelt Blvd.  
unless otherwise noted. Be sure to fill your tank with gas before the RM.

**Kick Tires and General Gatherings: Eat at 6 p.m.; Meet at 7 p.m.**

Visit us at: [suncoastwings.com](http://suncoastwings.com)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Contact Chapter Director Regarding Golf Outings					1	2 RM 9:00 a.m. Solomon's Castle
3 CPR Class 12:00 Noon Jackson Residence RM 9 am Wawa's or 10 am McDonald's at SR 54; Bayport Inn Spring Hill	4 RM 9:00 a.m. Breakfast Ride	5	6	7 Kick Tire Acropol 1170 Starkey Rd Largo	8	9 RM 9:00 a.m. Der Dutchman Sarasota
10 <b>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS</b> RM 9 am Wawa's or 10 am McDonald's at SR 54; Peck's Crystal River	11	12	13 ←	14 Florida District Rally Gainesville  NO KICK TIRE	15 →	16
17 RM 9 a.m. Smokin' Joe's Bowling Green	18 RM 9:00 a.m. Breakfast Ride	19	20	21 General Gathering Country Skillet 2839 Roosevelt Blvd, Clearwater	22	23 RM 9:00 a.m. Waco Kitchen Lakeland
24 RM 9 am Wawa's or 10 am McDonald's at SR 54; Shamrock Inn Floral City	25	26	27	28 Kick Tire Bob Evans 2183 Gulf to Bay Blvd, Clearwater	29	30 9:00 a.m. Sunset Grill Ruskin
31 RM 9 am Wawa's or 10 am McDonald's at SR 54; JB Boondocks Travares	March 31 is Easter Sunday 					

HAPPY  
ST. PATRICK'S  
DAY!





# ***Celebrating Special Days!***

## ***March***

### **Birthdays**

03/03	Jennie Cox
03/06	Buzz Probus
03/16	Earl Rummel
03/18	Candi Vetat
03/19	Lee Vetat
03/28	Jr. Garrison



### **Anniversaries**

03/13 Brent & Vicki Oldham

## ***April***

### **Birthdays**

04/02	Ken Redding
04/04	Carolyn Korbel
04/13	Winnie McGill
04/13	Patty Traylor
04/20	Roger Rubeck
04/23	Maryann Todd
04/24	George Shukis
04/29	Joseph Maturo



### **Anniversaries**

04/05	Bill & Winnie McGill
04/12	Tom & Cathy Ohlson
04/20	Buzz & Betty Probus