



# Florida District

FUN in Florida is # 1



Southeast - Region A

<http://www.floridadistrict.com>

April 2011

## Florida District & Region "A"

### 2010 Chapter of the Year



#### April District Events

- Apr 2 FL1-K Disabled American Veterans Poker Run
- Apr 3 FL1-E2 American Diabetes Poker Run
- Apr 3 South Florida Ride for Kids
- Apr 9 FL1-B Road Rally
- Apr 16 FL1-W Green Eggs & Ham

Director of GWRRA  
Mike Stiger

Region "A" Director  
Bob & Nan Shrader

District Director  
Bill & Gina Berry

Assistant District Directors  
Cliff Hotchkiss

Assistant District Directors  
Bill & Cheryl Smith

Assistant District Directors  
Motorist Awareness  
Nate & Danelle Kinion

Assistant District Directors  
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  
District Couple of the Year  
Rick & Madalena Buck

District Treasurer  
Jim & Rebecca Iverson

District Ride Educator  
Don & Judy Danbury

Assistant District Ride Educator  
Rick & Pam Northrup

Rider Ed Assistant Administrator  
Mike & Bobbie Roy



The 32nd Annual Florida District "Gathering of the Wings" now belongs to history. The time for us getting together to renew old friendships, meet new friends and just have FUN as in an "Old Time Rendezvous" has passed. If you missed it, you certainly missed a spectacular event. If you attended, I hope you enjoyed it and will visit us again next year for our annual Gathering of the Wings! I thank each of you who participated in the Old Time Rendezvous and I would like to hear from you concerning this event, whether it is positive or negative. If it is something we can tweak or change to make your experience better, we will certainly look at your suggestions. We cannot correct things that we are not aware of. We are always interested in your opinion and our goal is to provide you, the Participants, the best experience possible! Rule #1 in Florida is to Have FUN!

For those of you, the Chapter Participants, we say "Thank YOU" for the time spent working some portion of Rendezvous...from Security to the Bike Show to Games to the Hospitality Room to Registration to Ticket Sales and all in between! You were invaluable to the success of this Rally/Convention! An event of this magnitude could not be possible without your assistance. **Thank you!**

I also say "Thank YOU" to our District Team! This group of people gave from 3-5 days of their time to ensure this year's "Gathering" was successful and FUN for the Participants. Without their support and backing, Gina and I could never have accomplished putting on this event. Thanks to Jim and Rebecca for handling all the financial transactions and coordinating the Couple of the Year Social and Selection process along with coordinating the pictures. Rick & Madalena for coordinating the Leadership Training seminars and a ton of other little things. Don & Judy along with Rick & Pam and Mike & Bobbie for handling the Rider Ed Trading Post & the Gold Wing Raffle. Nate & Danelle for coordinating the Motorist Awareness table and handling the Grand Prize and 50/25/25 ticket sales. Cliff for pre-registration and Registration on site. Harry & Lynn for the coordinating Scrapbook, Mascot, Collage & Diorama competitions along with coordinating the Game Room activities. Geno & Kathie for Goodie Sales and the Hospitality Room. Bill & Cheryl for putting together a great Talent Show & coordinating the Chapter & District Challenges, Banner Contest and Poker Run table. Bruce & Mary for Security and MEC table and Joe and Jan for coordinating the Bike Show & judging the Newsletters and Denis and Darla for coordinating the Best Dressed & Chapter Pride competitions. Thank you, District Team!

Also, we have a group of people that are not on the District Team, per say, but who also contributed to the success of the Rally/Convention...the "behind the scenes" folks. Dana & Jo Voight, FL2-G, served as Vendor Coordinators along with Bill Miller, FL1-M, who has helped year after year with the vendors and was a big assistance to Dana & Jo again this year. Excellent job, Dana, Jo & Bill! Howie Taylor, FL1-L2, maintained the video of pictures from this event for your viewing pleasure in the lobby of the Convention Center. He also put together the slide show for the Closing Ceremonies. In addition, Howie developed and maintains our District Website! Thanks, Howie...You the man! Norm VanDame, FL1-B, ran around from event to event, area to area, taking your pictures and capturing all the FUN folks were having. Thanks, Norm! For many years Sabrae Brown has decorated our Stage for the Talent Show and Closing Ceremonies with fabulous Rally theme decorations. She again out did herself on Old Time Rendezvous decorations. Thank you, Sabrae! You're the best! Thanks to all of our Judges, fair and balanced: Jim & Brenda Pennington, Fred & Mandy Mew, Lynn & Lyn Edwards, Phil & Judy Stone, Tommy & Vicky Martin, Jim & Sue Jackson, Ron & Becky Lees, Mike & Joyce Rist, Philip & Terri Kozlowski, Bobby & Lori Bryant, Woody & Debbie Jones, Gary & Pattie Hamilton, Greg & Renee Dempsey, Lemuel & Jane Jones, Jerry & Teresa Hill, Charles Coleman, Bob & Diane Hickey, Bob & Carla Greer, Roy & Anita Fosnight, Dave & Sharon Aikens, Ron & Corky Alexander, Ed Porter, Chuck Reed, and Richard Chapman. Thank you, thank you, THANK YOU! Thanks to all of our Instructors/Trainers throughout the Rally/Convention, too! We appreciate everyone who contributed in some way to the success of the 32nd Annual Gathering of the Wings! Thank you!

Congratulations to all the winners of the different events and drawings. You can find the winners, you or your friends, listed in this newsletter and on the website by event. Special congratulations to Rick & Madalena Buck, FL1-L2, our new District Couple of the Year for 2011. We know that they will represent the District of Florida well and we believe they will also be the next Region A Couple of the Year come September! Our outgoing District Couple of the Year, AKA the Southern Most Couple of the Year, Denis and Darla, FL2-E, have done an awesome job this past year in representing Florida and GWRRA. Thank you, thank you! One last special congratulations goes to FL1-L2 for being named both Florida District Chapter of the Year and Region A Chapter of the Year. Wow, what an honor! We wish you the best at the next level...International Chapter of the Year! FL1-H, Daytona is still the reigning International Chapter of the Year and we are proud of them. We hope that Wesley Chapel, FL1-L2, will capture the honor as the next International Chapter of the Year; thus keeping the title "home" to the Florida District!

Continued from previous page

During Closing Ceremonies, we announced the theme of our 33rd Gathering of the Wings in 2012...A Florida District Wing Parley! Shiver me timbers! We will again have a flyer/shirt design contest. Entries for this are to be submitted to us by May 15 to [bgberry93@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:bgberry93@tampabay.rr.com). The winner will receive 2 registrations and 2 themed Rally/Convention shirts. The title can be tweaked. Be creative and work around the idea of Pirates. We look forward to reviewing your submissions and selecting the winning entry.

In closing, we would again like to say Thank YOU and we hope to see you at an upcoming event. Be sure to check out April's calendar of events. Lots of FUN planned for you!

See ya soon!

Bill & Gina Berry  
District Directors

## Florida's # 1 Rule Have FUN!



From the Couple of the Year Coordinators

Rebecca and I would like to personally say "Thank You" to Dennis and Darla who represented our District so well over the past year. They were able to visit every Chapter in Florida as well as many outside of Florida. That is much more than is asked of anyone but they had the time and desire to do it.

We have just returned from the District Convention where our new Couple of the Year was crowned. For those of you who did not attend the Convention, your new District Couple of the Year is Rick and Madalena Buck who also serve on the District Team as your Leadership Trainers. The selection process began on Thursday evening with the Couples interviews and concluded on Friday morning with the stage performance. This year we only had two Couples participating in the process and they both did outstandingly well. Both Joe and Gloria from Daytona Beach and Rick and Madalena from Wesley Chapel were sharp on the stage. When all was said and done there can only be one couple selected and this year it was Rick and Madalena. They will serve the District well as our "Couple".

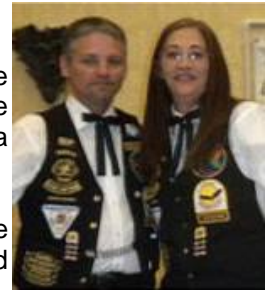
For those current and past Chapter and District Couples of the Year, please remember that the Couple of the Year Social Hour which is held on Thursday evening at the Convention is for you. Many did attend this year but I know many of you decided not to attend. Let us encourage each of you to attend any Couple of the Year Social that occurs at any Convention you attend. Those who have been a Couple of the Year know the honor that comes with it, so remember when your term is completed you are still an ambassador for your Chapter, District, and GWRRA as a whole.

We would like to also encourage any Chapter who has not selected a Couple of the Year, to please consider it. Remember to let your Couples know about the District selection each year. We know that many have reservations about participating in the selection process at the District level but you need to remember that your Chapter is there to support you. Just because you may follow in the footsteps of another Couple who had been able to go everywhere and do everything, like many of our past Couples, don't let that discourage you from participating. The District only requires you to represent the District when and where you can. The only requirement for a District Couple is to "HAVE FUN"! Once you clear the first hurdle it only gets easier. We look forward to seeing more folks participate next year, so begin now making plans by beginning your resume now.

Jim & Rebecca Iverson  
District Couple of the Year Coordinators

## What a FUN Time!

We think we have finally caught our breath after a fantastic District Gathering of the Wings! Unlike last year, this year the weather was great and the people came out for some **FUN**. The best part for the two of us, was getting to talk with people we had not seen for a while. Best of all, we had the opportunity to meet so many new people.



During the Gathering, one of our focuses was the Leadership Training schedule. There were 12 Leadership Training seminars available for people to attend. By the time we had completed the last seminar, 143 people attended the seminars over the three days.

Providing the seminars would not be possible if it were not for the outstanding Leadership Training Instructors we have in the District. We were fortunate to have 12 Instructors that volunteered their time to present seminars. A **BIG THANK YOU** goes out to Mo Dalton (FL2-D), Gary & Terry Hartley (FL1-X), Ron Jackson (FL1-M), Jerry & Grace Wells (FL1-H), Howie Taylor (FL1-L2), Millie Prince (FL1-H2), Kay Durham (FL1-L2), Tim Poppell (FL1-D), Karen Taylor (FL1-L2) and Wes Davis (FL1-O). Without these volunteers, the District could not provide the quality training that was presented. We would also like to congratulate Ron Jackson for completing all the requirements to certify as a Leadership Training Instructor.

Now that the District Gathering is behind us, it is time to look to the future. The next Leadership Training event is the weekend of May 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>. On that weekend, the District will be holding a Horizon Program. One of the most common questions we receive is, what is the Horizon Program? Simply put, it is a day and a half series to jump start the attendee in the concepts of Teambuilding, Expectations, Meetings & Gatherings, Communications, and the Officer Couple. The program teaches the basic concepts of how Chapter Officers function, basic skills for any member who is involved in a local Chapter and how volunteers are motivated and directed.

In our opinion, the Horizon Program is the most **FUN** training program and it is available to **ALL** GWRRA members. Besides learning new information, there is a lot of interaction between the people. This interaction is truly what brings the **FUN** into the program. If you are interested in attending all you need to do is go to <http://fla.gwrra-regiona.org/docs/ltd/HorizonRegistration-May2011.pdf> and complete the registration form. Almost half of the seats are filled so send in your registration form soon.

Do you like people? Do you like to interact with people? Are you interested in training or instructing people? If you answered yes to all three questions, then we have a deal for you! On June 25<sup>th</sup>, the District will be holding an Instructor Development Certification Program. The program is the first step in becoming a Leadership Training Instructor. The Instructor Development Certification Program is a one day course. During the program, a candidate will learn about the goals and overview of the program. They will also learn about the Instructor's Tool Box, LTP curriculum, organization and presentations. There are also several exercises to help prepare the candidate for the future. If you think this is something you might be interested in, all you need to do is contact us.

There will be plenty more training opportunities coming up later in the year. If you are attending Wing Ding, there will be 30 Leadership Training seminars that will be presented. In August the District will be holding an Officer Certification Program followed by a Horizon Program in October. We are also looking at having an Intermediate or Advanced Leadership Skills Program before the year is out. Information will be sent out through the Chapters, District newsletter and website. Or just drop us a note and we can send you information.

Is your Chapter thinking about submitting a Chapter of the Year package in the future? If you are, Leadership Training has its own section that will gain your Chapter valuable points. For instance, a Chapter would receive points if the ACD, Ride Educator, Treasurer, MEC and Chapter of the Year Coordinator attend an OCP. A CD or ACD can receive points for completing Leadership Training Programs. The Chapter can also receive points for attending any of the 47 seminars available. If you need more on the requirements, review the 2011 Chapter of the Year Program Guide or contact Harry Anderson, District Chapter of the Year Coordinator or us.

In closing we again would like to thank not only the Leadership Trainers that presented seminars, but all the Participants that volunteered their time to make the Florida District Gathering of the Wings a success.

Rick & Madalena Buck  
District Leadership Trainers

For those of you that did not attend the District Convention in Kissimmee, you missed a great time. For those of you that made it, you know what I am talking about.

As Assistant District Directors, Lynn and I have certain responsibilities during the convention. One of these responsibilities is the operations of the Indoor Game Room. I cannot say enough about the work crews we had from the different Chapters that made the job not only easier but FUN. The Members that worked there know how to have FUN, FUN, FUN. Thank you all again and hope to see you all next year.



Another of our responsibilities is to arrange and oversee the judging for the Collage, Diorama, Mascot and Scrapbooks. A lot of time and effort was put into this by the Members. The competition in all of these areas was out of sight. Thank you all for participating! They all were all winners and please try again next year if you didn't get a plaque.

All during the year we have been working on the Chapter of the Year. We had four Chapters participate this year, FL1-M (Clearwater), FL1-W (Apopka), FL1-L2 (Wesley Chapel) and FL2-G (Ft Myers). Once again the Florida Chapters jumped in with both feet and the competition was close. FL1-L2 with Rick & Madalena Buck as Chapter Directors emerged as the Florida Chapter of the Year. Being the District winner their application was forwarded to Region A for consideration. Guess what? They were also selected as Region A Chapter of the Year and are now in consideration for International Chapter of the Year. Way to go FL1-L2, Wesley Chapel.

The other three Chapters hold your heads up because the competition was close. The only problem is that you were competing in Florida where there are so many great Chapters. Your endeavors are far above the other Districts.

At this time I would like to encourage all of the Chapters to participate in 2011 Chapter of the Year selection. Guidelines can be found at <http://med.gwrra.org/> and select the Chapter of the Year from the menu. Please contact me for any assistance or if you have questions. It is not too late to get started.

I would also like to thank FL1H (Daytona), our outgoing Chapter of the Year and current International Chapter of the Year.

Thanks again to all that participated in the 2011 Florida Convention.

Harry & Lynn Anderson  
Assistant District Director, East Coast

I have just returned from probably the best Wing Gathering, District Convention/Rally ever! With 1,470 smiling faces there and perfect weather, what more could you ask?

My sincere thanks to all who helped us put this event on. It would not be possible without Chapter Participant assistance. You folks are the best and it makes me proud to be a Member of your District Team. THANKS!!!!



Next year we are going to be in "Pirate Mode", so get your best pirate outfit together and plan on being there. "Arghs" all around!

Florida's Gathering of the Wings kick off the 2011 Rally season and there are lots of them coming up. Whether Regional, District or local rallies, we've got them all and I look forward to seeing everyone there. Of course, there's the largest of them all, Wing Ding 33, right here in our backyard in Knoxville this July. What a wonderful opportunity that is.

As always, I pray for everyone's safety out there on the road. Remember that our Wings might be big, but the 4-wheelers tend to not see the trucks, either.

Cliff Hotchkiss  
Assistant District Director, Mid-Florida

Spring is finally here and a great time for riding.

On February 26<sup>th</sup> we attended the FL1-A2 (Tallahassee) Lake Side Rally at Lake Talquin. There were 87 people in attendance. There were Participants from several Chapters in the Panhandle with FL1-L (Panama City) winning the Largest Chapter in attendance. I won the Oldest Rider award. There were people from the Christian Motorcycle Association, FL1-R (Dunnellon), FL1-Y (Gainesville) and 6 Members from the District Team. Plus, we also had Participants from AL-G (Samson, AL). There were games, 50/50, Door Prizes and Grand Prizes along with a few vendors. For lunch, they had chicken pileau and hot dogs as well as desserts. FUN was had by all and it was a beautiful day on the lake. We want to thank the people who contributed to Motorist Awareness because we raised \$28.00.



The Florida District Wing Gathering is over for another year and it was a great one, with 120 more Participants than last year and beautiful weather.

We want to thank the following Members for their help with selling tickets and with Motorist Awareness and handing out Door Prizes: Tim & Genene Poppell and Mike & June Walker, FL1-D (Pensacola), Wes & Jill Davis and John & Gayle Schupp, FL1-O, (DeFuniak Springs), Lenton & Leucetia Stephens, FL1-A2 (Tallahassee), Danny & Becky Donaldson and Bruce Brooks, FL1-E2 (Ft Walton Beach) and Ron & Corky Alexander, South Alabama Assistant District Directors.

We also want to give a big thank you to Wes & Jill Davis and John & Gayle Schupp of FL1-O for handling the Lighted Bike Parade this year.

We raised \$41.00 for Motorist Awareness at the FL1-L (Panama City) Gathering, \$21 of that coming from Participant Gene Brandow who won 50/25/25 and donated his winnings. We also want to thank the people who donated items to be auctioned off for Motorist Awareness at the Florida District Wing Gathering: Harry & Lynn Anderson, District Team, Ed & Jeanette Carr, FL1-H (Daytona), Bruce & Anne Brooks, FL1-E2 (Ft Walton Beach), Sandy Odom, Wes & Jill Davis, FL1-O (DeFuniak Springs), John Buffington and McTotem (vendors).

We raised \$403.00 at the Florida District Wing Gathering for Motorist Awareness which brings the total to \$580.00 this year.

We want to thank Melody Grammer, FL2-H (Wauchula) and Bill Miller, FL1-M (Clearwater) for bringing us handouts for Motorist Awareness and to Melody for helping us set up our Motorist Awareness information.

Thank you to Dwayne Hopkins, FL1-O (DeFuniak Springs) who stepped up and assumed the Motorist Awareness Coordinator position for his home Chapter. Also thank you to Tom Wiemar, FL1-E2 (Ft Walton Beach), David Wessler, FL1-D (Pensacola) and Sonny Rollo, FL1-A2 (Tallahassee) for stepping up to the Officer position as Membership Enhancement Coordinator for their respective Chapters.

Congratulations to Don Prideaux for recruiting more than 25 new GWRRA Members and being inducted into the Hall of Honor.

Finally, we would like to congratulate the following people who won prizes and awards at the Florida District Wing Gathering:

- Tim Poppell - \$1,000 Grand Prize
- Wes and Jill Davis, one of two couples to be the first Senior Directors
- Jill Davis, Second place in the black and white newsletter competition
- Mike Walker, First place in the color newsletter competition
- John Schupp and June Walker won worker prizes.

Nate & Danelle Kinion  
Assistant District Directors, Panhandle





### A Word from the Treasurers

We would like to THANK each and every Chapter Treasurer for their help and understanding while compiling the necessary MOUs and other paperwork. Many of you were able to attend this year's Chapter Conference and we were able to complete much of the paperwork there. If it's not any trouble, make plans now to attend the Chapter Conference each year. This is one of the times where Chapter funds can be used for the Chapter Officers to attend.

Now that the 2011 District Convention is behind us we would like to encourage each Chapter Treasurer to stay on top of your Financial Reports. By entering the information monthly, at the end of the year all you will have to do is obtain your last bank statement and have the report for the Chapter Conference next January.

We only have two more 990Ns left to complete but it was nothing that any of us did that caused those two forms to be rejected. It seems that two Chapters, for whatever reason, lost their "exempt" status with IRS. This is in the process of being corrected, with a letter from Phoenix to the IRS, and the 990Ns will be completed soon.

We did experience a couple of Chapters who were using the same EIN number on their reports but this too has been corrected. We have learned a great deal over the past year or so since becoming your Treasurer and we appreciate the kindness all of you have shown to us as we have had to contact you for one reason or another. As we go forward together, please know that we are here to help and assist you with any issues that may arise concerning the Chapter treasury.

If you need anything from us please don't hesitate to contact us. Our email and phone are: Jim: [jiverson1@gmail.com](mailto:jiverson1@gmail.com) / 813-927-2354, Rebecca: [youngatheart3225@gmail.com](mailto:youngatheart3225@gmail.com) / 813-927-2355

Jim & Rebecca Iverson  
District Treasurers

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### Tired, But Happy

We've just returned from the Florida District Rally/Convention, tired but very happy. What a great time we and 1,470 people had. Never did we see so many smiling faces in one place. There was something for everyone with plenty of vendors, a variety of seminars, great new games and food- food- food. Kathie & Geno Jette did their usual magic with the Hospitality Room. The Members supplied plenty of goodies.

Our six Chapters were well represented and made us proud. Rick & Madalena Buck were selected as District Couple of the Year, and as former Chapter Directors of FL1-L2 (Wesley Chapel) were excited to see their Chapter garner District & Region Chapter of the Year. It was a very rewarding Rally for Rick & Madalena. Congratulations Melissa Wilkerson & Bruce Schlimme, of FL1-R(Dunnellon) were named Senior Chapter Directors in honor of their years of service and contributions to GWRRA. We were so happy to see Marion Duncan there after the recent loss of her husband and former Chapter Director of FL1-F2 (Ocala) Bob. Al & Alana Forte made Ocala proud by winning the new Gold Wing or the \$10,000, whichever they choose. We are also relieved that International Director of Rider Education and FL1-A (Tampa) Participant Gene Knutson is finally stable after his second surgery.

In the area of Rider Education Raffle Tickets sales, Tampa, Dunnellon, Wesley Chapel and Inverness all sold more than 1,000 tickets. Once again FL2-W (Winter Haven) sold the most, with 6,000. As we know, the ticket sales are part of what enables us to have such an outstanding Rider Education program, with free ERCs, TRCs, and First Aid/ CPR and other seminars.

With many out of state visitors and Team Members in attendance, we are very proud of the job our District Directors, Bill & Gina Berry, did in organizing the event. Each day things went like clockwork and thanks go out to them and the District Team and many other volunteers. It takes a lot of enthusiastic Participants to put on a winning Convention such as this. We can all look forward to a repeat performance next year. Ride Safe, Have Fun

Joe and Gracie Mazza  
Assistant District Directors, West Central Florida



Hello Again Everyone!



What a Rally we just had! We want to thank all 1,470 of you who were able to attend this event, particularly those who helped to make it such a success by volunteering their time to make the many events run smoothly. Bill & Gina Berry put in a lot of hours planning and organizing this Rally to make it happen the way that it did. The Radisson WorldGate Resort once again met all of our needs and made our 3 day stay a very comfortable one. We want to thank all of the Southwest Chapters who were able to spend a few hours to make the event enjoyable for all. FL1-K2 (St Petersburg) for once again making the Bike Show a success. FL1-M (Clearwater) for helping with the Indoor Games Thursday afternoon and FL2-G (Ft Myers) for once again taking care of the Registration table Friday morning, probably one of the busiest times for registration during the event.

Since we spent most of our time outside managing the security of the vendor area, we also want to thank those Chapters whose Members helped to maintain a secure vendor area. They were: FL1-A (Tampa), FL1-H (Daytona), FL1-K (Palm Coast), FL1-T (Inverness), FL1-V (Jacksonville Beach), FL1-W (Apopka), FL1-X (Orange Park), FL2-E (Miami), FL2-G (Ft Myers), FL2-L (Lakeland) and FL2-W (Winter Haven). Thank You all....we hope you had as much FUN as we did.

We also had a Membership Enhancement table stationed in the Convention Center Lobby. We didn't give anything away or Raffle off anything this year. Our sole purpose was to provide information about GWRRA, its benefits and "what we're all about". We did renew a few memberships and a few new members were signed up. Our thanks go out to Bill Miller, FL1-M (Clearwater) MEC for allowing us the use of the Membership Poster Board he built for FL1-M. We want to also thank Chapter MECs Bill & Cheryl Smith, FL2-A (West Palm Beach), Mo & Deb Dalton, FL2-D (Melbourne), Janet Morey, FL2-H (Wauchula), Jake Jacob, FL1-A (Tampa), Lisa & Jeff Duffey, FL1-L2 (Wesley Chapel), Kevin & Sandy Fisher, FL1-T (Inverness), Paul & Diane Anberg, FL1-W (Apopka) and Jeff & Teena Cox, FL1-X (Orange Park) for spending a couple of hours at the MEC Table during the three days of the Convention/Rally.

Our congratulations go out to Chapter FL1-L2 (Wesley Chapel) for being selected as **2010 Chapter of the Year for the Florida District and as Region "A" Chapter of the Year**. We wish you the best in the competition for 2010 International Chapter of the Year which will be announced at Wing Ding in Knoxville, TN.

We are looking forward to the 2012 Florida Wing Gathering. We hope you all had a good time and will join us again next year.

Our thanks go out to all of you for your hospitality and your continued support of GWRRA.

We will continue to attempt to keep you abreast of things that are happening in our area, and hope that you all will feel free to call upon us for help if you need it. Hope to see you all again soon!

Bruce Griffing & Mary Haight  
Assistant District Directors, Southwest  
District Membership Enhancement Coordinators



If you didn't make it to the Florida Wing Gathering, you were one of the few. We had excellent attendance and a wonderful FUN time! Congratulations to Rick & Madalena Buck on being selected the new District Couple of the Year!



There will be several articles on the details of the Convention but we wish to thank our Chapters for attending and getting involved! Chapters FL2-O (Stuart) and FL2-E (Miami) had great dioramas with FL2-O winning 2<sup>nd</sup> Place! Chapter FL2-A (West Palm Beach) assisted with running the Poker Run on Friday and Saturday. They sold so many extra cards we were able to give the winners some cash along with their plaques! They also helped us out with the Chapter and District Director Challenges on Saturday afternoon. Everyone chipped in to help somewhere and we want to thank you for anything and everything you did. The Talent Show went well. The problem with the sound and speakers will be rectified. Next years theme is Pirates! ARRR. The dates are March 22-24, 2012 and the place is still undetermined but we will probably return to the Radisson WorldGate Resort. We hope to see you there!

Now back to our story...

The Olympic National Park in northwest Washington State is very large and ecologically diverse. We camped the first night at Hurricane Ridge in the northern part of the park. The campground is on the side of a mountain but the sites are level. After setting up camp, the ride to the view of the mountains on top of Hurricane Ridge was great. The Visitors Center at the top had a store and small restaurant. The view of the Olympic Mountains and Mount Olympus was magnificent. The deer were all over the place. We saw several lying under trees about 3 feet from the walkways. There are no showers in the campground, so we went into the town's YMCA and paid \$2.00 for a shower. They said we didn't have to pay if we didn't have the money.

After a couple of days, we moved to the western part of the park which was a Rain Forest on the Hoh River. The road leading in was like a tunnel cut into the trees that opened up at the river area. We set up camp on the river. On the way in we passed through a town that had stores named All About Twilight and Welcome to the Twilight Zone. It was very curious so we went back later to check it out. Besides, it was the closest town to the camp, about 25 miles away. The name of the town was Forks, Washington. If you have followed the books and movies in the Twilight series you already know. We later found out that this is the town where the Vampires lived as mentioned in the book and where the movie was filmed. It was a lumber tree town but now survives mostly on the fame of the Twilight movies. Our neighbors' teenage daughter couldn't believe we were there, as she is a fan, so we got some souvenirs for her.

We took a trip to the Pacific Beach area, another part of the park, and the town where the Werewolves from the Twilight Books live. Another day we went to Noah Bay on the Route 131 loop. A very enjoyable ride but it was also very cold that morning in late July. We went to lunch in a spot that is about as far as you can go on a paved road in the Continental U.S. When we left Olympic National Park we headed down the Coast Road, 101. We made our way to Mount Rainier National Park. It is so big and different from the surrounding terrain that it creates its own weather! We arrived about 4:30 PM and the campground was full. Coasting down most of the mountain because we were almost out of gas, we barely made it to a gas station. Remember; always listen to your wife when she suggests getting gasoline! After filling up we rode some pretty rough roads looking for campgrounds only to find they were full. After arriving in Packwood, WA we set up camp at Packwood RV Park. Nice people and clean laundry, showers and restrooms for a reasonable price.

We will continue on our journey next month.

Maybe we will see you at the Alabama District Conference,

Bill and Cheryl Smith  
Assistant District Directors, Southeast

Talk about hectic! March sure was just that! Getting ready for the District Convention was tough, to say the least, trying to get everything ready and packed so that we didn't leave something at home that we needed. The Convention was terrific and probably one of the best we've had in sometime! The Convention was terrific to say the least and probably one of the best we've had in sometime! I must admit that without the help of everyone that pitched in and gave a helping hand this could not have been done. To all the Seminar Presenters, Medic First Aid Instructors, and the workers that came by the Trading Post to help out, we just could not have made it through without you. You all need to give yourself a big well deserved hand.



This is the first time that I can remember, that we actually had a phone list of people wanting and waiting on raffle tickets. If people saw we had tickets, they were asking to purchase them. They would continue to ask even after being told they were already sold. Judy and I, and your District Team, wish to thank any and all who had anything to do with the selling of tickets.

We had three big winners and they were all within the District. 3rd place went to Tom Stein of Clearwater with 2nd place going to Tim Poppell of FL1-D (Pensacola). The winner of the 2010 Gold Wing was Al Forte of FL1-F2 (Ocala). Al had a hard time believing that he was the winner of the motorcycle. Some of his friends called him and told him but he thought that they were kidding. He had left to go home early and was in route when the drawing took place. I called him the next morning and he said, are you kidding! I told him again, no you're the winner. Then I told him that I was returning the motorcycle bike to Rick Case Honda on Tuesday. While I was at Rick Case Honda, Al called and made arrangements to pay for it over the phone and asked me if I could bring it home which I did

All in all everything came out great!

Till next we meet, keep the shiny side up and the rubber on the road!

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

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### Greetings from the Northeast

Spring is upon us; all of nature is alive and blooming. It is wonderful to warm up after a cold winter. Thanks to all who helped make the District Rally and Hospitality Room an outstanding success! All those cookies and snacks were a big plus.

On April 9<sup>th</sup> Jacksonville will have its third "Ride for Kids" event to benefit the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation. We are hoping for a record turn out for this charity.



We encourage you to attend the Armed Forces Day ride to Shrimp's R Us in Welaka on May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011. All had a great time on New Years Day, so let's do it again.

Remember that visiting other Chapter events improves attendance at your event!

Hope to see you sooner than later!

Geno & Kathie  
Assistant District Directors, Northeast



### What an Honor!

We are Rick and Madalena Buck and we are honored to have been selected as the 2011 Florida District Couple of the Year. We would like to thank everyone for coming out and watching the Couple of the Year Selection on Friday and supporting the program. We would also like to give a special thanks to our home Chapter, FL1-L2 Wings of Wesley Chapel, for selecting us as their Couple of the Year and for supporting us! Little did we know how quickly things would change for us!

It was on Friday, March 18, 2011 at around noon when things changed. Though we had seen countless Couple of the Year Selection Presentations and question/answer sessions at different events, little did we know how much actually goes on and how much FUN taking part in the selection process really is. We are here to tell you that we had a blast! We have joked that from the time the selection was announced until the time we left from the Convention on Sunday morning, between the two of us, we must have said thank you no less than 2000 times from all of the congratulations we received. And we can honestly say that our cheeks hurt from all the smiling we have done.

Though there were only two couples this year, for us it was FUN because we were able to share the experience with Joe Pomerleau & Gloria Harrington from FL1-H (Daytona). Though we had seen the two of them around the District before, we never really took the opportunity to talk with them previously. Well the selection process gave us the opportunity to talk and find out who they are. It also gave us the opportunity to share the Selection Process with them. We feel we have a new set of friends within the District. Joe and Gloria are great people and we are honored to have stood side by side with them.

Along with being ambassadors of GWRRA and the Florida District, our goal this coming year as the Florida District Couple of the Year is simple. We have always believed in and supported the Couple of the Year Program so we want to educate people about the program. We are hoping that we can educate Directors more in the hopes that they will be more apt to select a Chapter Couple of the Year. We know that every Chapter has at least one couple who have gone above and beyond. We believe those couples should be honored and shown the appreciation for all they do. More so, we want to educate the Members about the program. We believe that through education, more Chapter Couples of the Year will participate in the District Couple of the Year Selection process.

In closing, we would be remiss if we didn't thank the District's outgoing Couple of the Year, Denis Turcotte & Darla Williams. Denis & Darla were beyond a shadow of a doubt, great ambassadors for the District and the Couple of the Year Program. Denis and Darla had a personal goal of visiting every Chapter in the District. During their time as the District's Couple of the Year, they accomplished their goal along with visiting Chapters, Districts and Regions outside of Florida. They also took time to talk with people about the program and how much FUN you can have. From a personal standpoint, we would like to thank Denis & Darla for the advice prior to and since being selected. More importantly, we appreciate their friendship and look forward to more FUN in the future.

We look forward to seeing and talking with you soon at one of the many FUN events!

Rick and Madalena Buck  
2011 Florida District Couple of the Year

## Your Chapter Membership DO'S are due!!!!

**DO** HAVE FUN - we are Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge. The number 1 rule in Florida is to have FUN with you GWRRA Members.

**DO** try to go to the Monthly Meetings. There is a wealth of information at the meetings as well as updates to the calendar, fun, prizes and money!!

**DO** try to keep a calendar with you at all times so you know what's happening.

**DO** try to go to as many Kick Tires, Rides & Gatherings as possible to support your Chapter and wear your shirts proudly.

**DO** try to carry a GWRRA application with your name and number on it so you can invite new people to join.

**DO** keep your bike in the best shape possible, remember safety is part of our motto.

**DO** be as friendly as possible. Others see you as an ambassador so what type of attitude do you want to show others about our organization.

**DO** try to mingle with others at Rides & Kick Tires with as many people as you can. Get to know your fellow members.

**DO** be respectful around others. Show your pride in your Chapter.

**DO** leave your ego at the door whenever you come to a Meeting, Ride or Kick Tire.

**DO** enjoy life to its fullest on or off your bike. Life is too short to blow it.

**DO** learn the rules of Riders and try to practice them daily even when not with the group.

**DO** take advantage of the courses offered FREE in Florida. Take an ERC, TRC, First Aid.

**DO** take any seminars that are offered either at a Convention or at you home Chapter.

**DO** appreciate your waiter/waitress at Meetings, Kick Tires and Dinner Runs. Sometimes our group can overwhelm them without realizing it.

**DO** go to an Officer if you have a problem with another Member of the Chapter. Diffuse the situation BEFORE it becomes a major problem.

**DO** buy at least 1 book of motorcycle tickets that Florida Rider Education sells every year. The proceeds from these tickets support all the FREE seminars and motoring course you take here in Florida. Everywhere else they cost about \$200.00

**DO** be an active member of your Chapter, that's right, it's YOUR CHAPTER.

"Perky" Paula Maxwell  
Membership Enhancement Coordinator, FL1-H (Daytona)

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A Florida District Wing Parley! Shiver me timbers! We will again have a flyer/shirt design contest. Entries for this are to be submitted to us by May 15 to [bgberry93@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:bgberry93@tampabay.rr.com). The winner will receive 2 registrations and 2 themed Rally/Convention shirts.



## 2011 District Convention Awards

### 2011 District Couple of the Year

Rick & Madalena Buck

### 2010 District Chapter of the Year

FL1-L2 (Wesley Chapel)

### Rider Ed Ticket Sales

1<sup>st</sup>  
FL2-W (Winter Haven)

2<sup>nd</sup>  
FL2-G (Ft Myers)

2<sup>nd</sup>  
FL1-M (Clearwater)

3<sup>rd</sup>  
FL2-E (Miami)

### 2010 Florida Visitation

FL1-H (Daytona)

### 2010 Florida Wanderer

FL1-M (Clearwater)

### 2010 District Hot Potato #1

FL1-X (Orange Park)

### 2010 District Hot Potato #2

FL1-O (DeFuniak Springs)

### Chapter Challenge

1st - FL1-L2 (Wesley Chapel)  
2nd - FL2-E (Miami)

### District Challenge

Mississippi

### Statistical Awards

Largest Florida Chapter  
FL2-G (Ft Myers)

Largest Non-Florida District  
Alabama

Largest Non-Florida Chapter  
SC-J (Myrtle Beach)

Longest Distance 2-up  
Bob & Debra Lehmann (MD-L, Denton)

Longest Distance Male 1-up  
Mark Cox (TX-J, Kountze)

Longest Distance Female 1-up  
Kathy Cox (TX-J, Kountze)

Longest Distance Sidecar  
Allan & Anna Tidd (FL1-R, Dunnellon)

Longest Distance Trike  
Lemuel & Jane Jones (MS-M, McCall Creek)

Youngest Rider  
Marie Lehmann (MD-L, Denton)

Senior Rider - Male  
Jim Jackson (FL1-M, Clearwater)

Senior Rider - Female  
Jeanette Bowen (FL1-H, Daytona)

Senior Co-Rider  
Maxine Jackson (FL1-M, Clearwater)

### Banner

1st - FL2-G (Ft Myers)  
2nd - FL1-W (Apopka)

### Collage

1st - FL1-L2 (Wesley Chapel)  
2nd - FL1-A (Tampa)

### Diorama

1st - FL1-H (Daytona)  
2nd - FL2-O (Stuart)

### Mascot

1st - AL-G (Samson)  
2nd - FL2-L (Lakeland)

### Newsletter (Color)

1st - FL1-D (Pensacola)  
2nd - FL2-W (Winter Haven)

### Newsletter (Black & White)

1st - FL1-W (Apopka)  
2nd - FL1-O (DeFuniak Springs)

### Scrapbook

1st - FL1-M (Clearwater)  
2nd - FL2-G (Ft Myers)

## 2011 District Convention Awards

### **Lighted Bike Show (People's Choice)**

Bob Fox (FL1-L2, Wesley Chapel)

### **Poker Run (Friday)**

1st - Pat Duquette (FL2-D, Melbourne)  
2nd - Nan Shrader (FL1-A, Tampa)

### **Poker Run (Saturday)**

1st - Betty Bradey (SC-J, Myrtle Beach)  
2nd - Woody Jones (MS-F, Jackson)

### **Best Dressed Couple (Show)**

Phil & Judy Stone (SC-P, Lexington)

### **Best Dressed Couple (Parade)**

Jim & Sue Harrison (MS-F, Jackson)

### **Best Dressed Couple (Riding)**

Phil & Judy Stone (SC-P, Lexington)

### **Best Dressed Chapter (Parade)**

1st - FL1-H (Daytona)  
2nd - FL1-M (Clearwater)

### **Best Dressed Chapter (Show)**

FL1-H (Daytona)

### **Chapter Pride**

1st - MS-F (Jackson)  
2nd - FL1-M (Clearwater)

### **Talent Show**

#### **Comedy (4 or less)**

1st - Terry Grow, FL2-A (West Palm Beach)  
2nd - Mack & Mabel McMenemy, FL1-H (Daytona)

#### **Comedy 5 or More**

1st - FL2-L (Lakeland)  
2nd - MS-F (Jackson)

#### **Serious 4 or Less**

1st - Denny Adkins, FL2-G (Ft Myers)  
2nd - Jay Northrop, FL1-S (Zephyrhills)

### **Bike Show**

#### **Best of Show**

Jeffery Cox (FL1-X, Orange Park)

#### **Class 1**

Peter Flynn (FL1-A, Tampa)

#### **Class 2**

Mike O'Harron SC-J (Myrtle Beach)

#### **Class 7**

Jeffery Cox (FL1-X, Orange Park)

#### **Class 11**

Winston Carlton (FL2-H, Wauchula)

#### **Class 13**

Allen Wessels, (TN-Y, Murfreesboro)

#### **Class 14**

Bill Frenier (FL2-H, Wauchula)

#### **Class 15**

Richard Ruhnke (NC-K2, Fayetteville)

#### **Class 17**

Bill Manthey, (FL2-L, Lakeland)

#### **Class 19**

Alan Rohwedder (IA-F, Cedar Rapids)

#### **Class 20**

Karla Greer (GA-A, McDonough)

#### **Class 22**

Marie Lehmann (MD-L, Easton)

#### **Class 23**

Kathey Johnson (FL1-K2, St Petersburg)

#### **Class 25**

Bob Greer (GA-A, McDonough)

#### **Class 28**

Philip Weber, (FL2-G, Ft Myers)

#### **Class 36**

Peter Panlik, (FL1-M, Clearwater)

#### **Class 37**

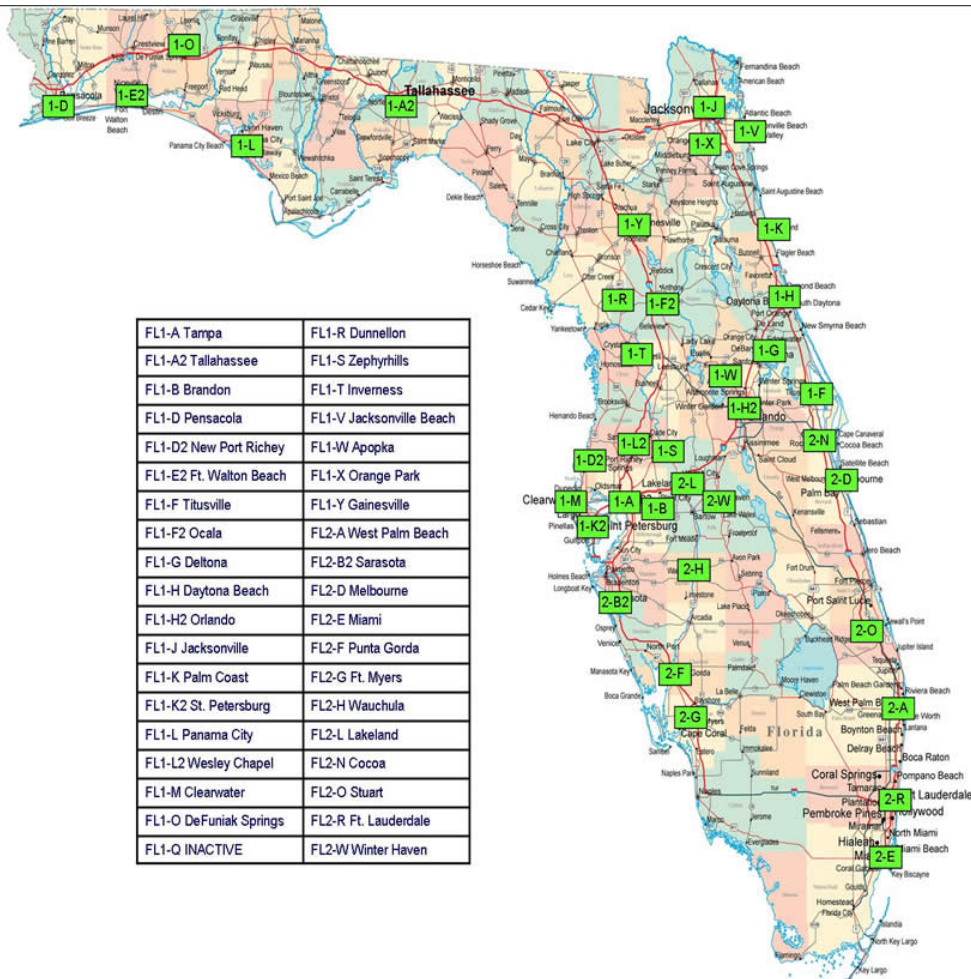
Ken Kloc (FL1-A, Tampa)

#### **Class 38**

Rosemary Grimes (FL2-L, Lakeland)

#### **Class 39**

Gary Hamilton, (TN-A2, Maryville)



### 2011 Florida GWRRA Events

Mar 31-Apr 2	Alabama District Rally/Convention	Huntsville, AL
Apr 2	FL1-K Disabled American Veterans Poker Run	Palm Coast
Apr 3	FL1-E2 American Diabetes Poker Run	Ft Walton Beach
Apr 3	South Florida Ride for Kids	Deerfield Beach
Apr 9	FL1-B Road Rally	Seffner
Apr 16	FL1-W Green Eggs & Ham	Orlando
April 28-30	South Carolina District Rally/Convention	Charleston, SC
May 14	FL1-F2 Chapter Rally	Ocala
May 21-22	Horizon Program	Seffner
May 21	Armed Forces Day Ride to Shrimps 'R Us	Welaka
June 16-18	Georgia District Wing Fling	Duluth, GA
Jul 6-9	Wing Ding 33	Knoxville, TN
Aug 21-22	Officer Certification Program	TBD
Sep 15-17	Region "A" Rally/Convention	Eufaula, AL
Oct 8	FL1-A Poker Run	Tampa
Oct 13-15	Mississippi District Rally/Convention	Tupelo, MS
Oct 22-23	Horizon Program	TBD
Oct 29	FL1-H2 Howl-O-Ween Harvest Picnic	Orlando/Christmas
Oct 29	FL1-D Green Frog Getaway	Bear Lake