



Florida District

FUN in Florida is # 1



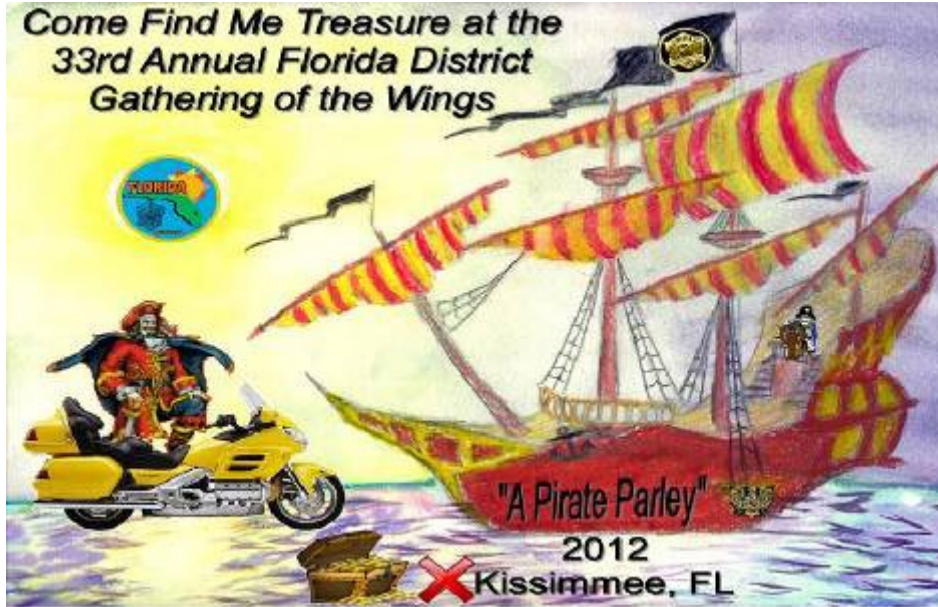
Southeast - Region A

<http://www.floridadistrict.com>

February 2012

March 22 - 24, 2012

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



2012
Kissimmee, FL

Director of GWRRA
Mike Stiger

Region "A" Director
Bob & Nan Shrader

District Director
Bill & Gina Berry

Assistant District Director
Cliff Hotchkiss

Assistant District Directors
Bill & Cheryl Smith

Assistant District Directors
Motorist Awareness
Nate & Danelle Kinion

Assistant District Directors
Membership Enhancement
Bruce Griffing & Mary Haight

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

Assistant District Directors
Geno & Kathie Jette

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

District Treasurer
Jim & Rebecca Iverson

District Rider Educator
Rick & Pam Northrop

District Webmaster
Howie Taylor

CHAPTER FL I-G
SANFORD - DELTONA, FL
PRESENTS
HAPPY DAYS

are here again!!

February 11, 2012
11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

AMERICAN LEGION
2874 S. SANFORD AVE
SANFORD, FLORIDA

\$12.00 PER GWRRA MEMBER
\$15.00 PER NON MEMBER

GAMES & PRIZES
50/50S
CAKE WALK
SILENT AUCTION
DANCE CONTEST

Colored Lunch
Coffee
Soda Pop
Tea

Enter \$50 Drawing (Details on Back)

YELLOW JACKETS

CHILI
3rd Annual
COOK OFF

\$6.00

When:
Saturday,
February 25, 2012

Where:
SunSports
Colonial Blvd.
Fort Myers, Florida

Time:
11:00am - 2:00pm



Contact: Mark Hanners
Phone:(239) 229-7882
E-mail: markfl2g@comcast.net

Calling all wranglers that either cook chili or are chili fanciers. The FL2-G Yellow Jackets is holding its annual CHILI COOK OFF. Drinks and desserts are included in the price. Hot dogs and Chili Dogs will be available for a small cost. Bring your family and friends. We guarantee a fun and yummy time for all.

Gold Wing Road Riders Association
FL2-G / Yellow Jackets



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3441 Colonial Blvd., Ft.

Florida's # 1 Rule
Have FUN!

The first month of 2012 has been a whirlwind of activity throughout the District. It started out with the "First Ride of the Year" to Shrimps R US and ending with the Multi-Chapter Breakfast in Kissimmee Hosted by FL1-D (Melbourne). In between we had great events throughout the area...like the Cowboys and Indians event that the Lakeland Fireballs, FL2-L, put on. It was well attended and FUN! January 7-8 saw our yearly Chapter Conference take place. Although it is the "business" part of GWRRA, we believe most of the attendees had some FUN during the weekend. For those of you who made the bowling event...all that can be said about some of the "bowlers" was "they had FUN!" Thanks to all who attended and big thanks to all of the Instructors - especially to Rick & Madalena, our District Trainers, for coordinating the entire conference schedule.



We congratulate FL2-G (Ft Myers), for being crowned the "Visitation Champions" for 2011. FL1-A (Tampa), was Second and FL1-K (Palm Coast), came in Third. A total of 18 Chapters turned in Visitation forms. We are sure more of you visited but did not send in the paperwork. We encourage you to do so whether you are competing or not because this gives us an idea on how many folks are out there socializing with other Chapters and having FUN! We just received an email from the KY District Directors asking if they can use our Visitation Program. It was just what they had been looking for to institute in Kentucky! Some folks from their Home Chapter had visited some of you and learned of the Florida's Visitation Program. The KY DD's didn't say where these folks visited but said they had FUN at each stop! Thank you for showing them how we in Florida have FUN!

Congratulations also go to the Winners of the Newsletter. First Place Black & White went to FL2-E (Miami), with Second Place to FL1-H (Daytona) and Third Place FL1-W (Apopka). First Place Color went to FL1-D (Pensacola), with Second Place to FL1-M (Clearwater), and Third Place to FL1-A (Tampa). Thanks goes to all who won awards, to those who participated, and a challenge to others to get in the game!

Thank you to all the Chapters that had their paperwork and Financial Reports ready. Again, this is a requirement that cannot be ignored. The Financials are a vital part of the IRS edicts that let us maintain our status as a 501(c)4 organization. For the few that are still missing some paperwork/documents before your reports are complete, please take care of this ASAP. You do not want your Chapter to lose their EIN.

At the Conference, three newly appointed Senior Chapter Directors were recognized: Gerald & Grace Wells, FL1-H (Daytona), Winston & Erma Carlton, FL2-H (Wauchula), and Garland & Charleen Dennis, FL1-G (Deltona). Garland & Charleen were sick and unable to attend the Chapter Conference. We will honor them with their certificate and patches at their Sock Hop on February 11. Congratulations to all three couples for their commitment and dedication to GWRRA and their leadership in their respective Chapters!

We are fast approaching the 2012 "Pirate Parley" - 33rd Annual Florida District Gathering of the Wings - also known as the Florida District Convention/Rally, March 22-24. Thanks to all who signed up for the volunteer slots. Without you this event could not come together.

In closing, most of you are aware of the change in regards to the District Rider Educator. We welcome your new District Rider Educator, Rick Northrop, and ask that you assist him as he transitions into his new position. CD's be sure your newsletters, websites, etc. reflect the change. Thanks go to Don & Judy Danbury for their efforts and time as the Florida District Rider Educators.

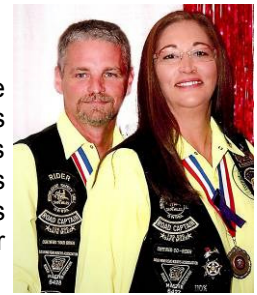
As always please feel free to contact us with any questions or comments. We hope to see you out and about following Rule #1...Have FUN!

Bill & Gina Berry
District Directors

Florida's # 1 Rule
Have FUN!



Success!



We believe we can only judge the success of something by the feedback we receive after it happens. Based on the feedback we received after the Chapter Conferences, it was a success! The first thing we would like to do is thank the 215 people that attended this year's conference. As you know, the Chapter Conference is where we conduct the business side of GWRRA. In doing so, we hope that we made it interesting. The real benefit for us is having the opportunity to spend time with people we don't necessarily see on a regular basis.

During the Chapter Conference we also had the privilege to appoint 5 new Leadership Training Instructors. Congratulations to Jim Iverson (District Treasurer), Pat Van Lengen (FL1-B, Brandon), Feg Henkel (FL1-F2, Ocala), Michael Cabrera (FL1-A, Tampa) and Norm Van Dame (FL1-B, Brandon). The District now has a total of 39 Leadership Training Instructors standing by to provide you with any of your training needs.

Paul Lewis, Assistant Chapter Rider Educator for FL1-A (Tampa) was the winner of the free registration to the Florida District Rally/Convention. Paul's name was drawn from 38 people who responded to finding the 24 in a circle newsletter challenge.

Just around the corner we will be gathering in Kissimmee for the Florida District Rally/Convention. If you haven't pre-registered you still have time. As a matter of fact, you have up until March 10th to preregister. This year's theme is "A Pirate Parley". There is no doubt that there will be some interesting things happening so you don't want to miss this event.

From a Leadership Training aspect, we are putting together a great line up of seminars for you to attend. Along with the line up of seminars, the District is fortunate to have outstanding Leadership Training Instructors willing to volunteer their time to present the seminars. Based on feedback we received from last years Rally, we are altering the schedule to give people time to take a break before the next seminar starts up. The following is the list of seminars that will be available at the Rally:

Listening & Communicating	Time Management
Managing Change	Problem Solving
Member Benefits Overview	How Can I Participate in GWRRA
Public Speaking 101	Motivating Volunteers
Know Your True Colors	Stress Management
Remembering Names	

We, along with the District Rider Educator have not finalized the schedules yet however, we guaranteed that it will be by next month's newsletter. We will make sure the schedule is posted on the District website so you will be able to view it ahead of time. We want to ensure the schedule is out early so it will give you the opportunity prior to the Rally to plan what seminars you would like to attend along with all the other FUN planned for the weekend.

There are another couple of events we are really looking forward to. The Couple of the Year Social will be held on Thursday afternoon. This is an opportunity for all current and past Couples of the Year to get together. It is also an opportunity to introduce the couples that will be participating in the District's selection process Friday morning at 10:00AM in Salon B. If you have not attended a selection before, we highly recommend that you attend because it is a FUN time. We also encourage Chapters to come out in force to support your Chapter Couple of the Year. Having gone through the process, it is so special to walk up on the stage and see the people supporting you.

The next couple of months are going to be busy! When you look at the District calendar you will notice that there are a number of great Chapter events so we hope to see you at one of them.

Until Next Time, Be Safe Out There!

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

We appreciate the opportunity to serve GWRRA in the position as Florida District Rider Educator and to be part of the District Team is a great honor. We will strive to keep Florida #1 in Rider Education!



Just to recap 2011, the Rider Education program has had a monumental year. Let me just list it for you.

<u>Number</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Participants</u>
9	ERC	85
8	TRC	48
18	Medic First	199
24	PLP	248
9	Co-Rider Seminars	91
13	Road Captain Courses	135
	Other seminars	1079
	TOTAL	1885

This is fantastic! So many learning so much! That's 1885 more knowledgeable and safer motorcyclists on the road having FUN!

Also, there were 7 new PLP Facilitators and 6 new Medic First Instructors certified during 2011. With 14 GWRRA Rider Course Instructors, 50 Seminar Presenters, 19 Medic First Instructors and 61 PLP Facilitators in our District, there is no reason why our Members should lack training.

Our Levels program seemed a little slow this past year but we feel that this fluctuates from year to year. As Members renew courses every few years for their level certification we can understand how it may do so.

How do all these courses and training come to pass? Well, simply, it comes to pass through all the hard work and diligence of each and every Chapter Educator! You are on the front lines with our Members. Putting all this in front of our Members, setting up the classes/training in your areas is the only way it gets done. Our hats are off to you all!

Being able to offer all this training at absolutely no cost to our Florida Members is done through the tremendous effort of each and every Team and Chapter Member. Selling the Gold Wing motorcycle raffle tickets is what pays for it all. We thank you all.

Yes, we have set several goals for 2012. First and foremost is to raise our Levels Program standards in all levels by 15%. Increase our Motorist Awareness Team so that there is someone in every Chapter.

Please get your ticket money and stubs turned in as soon as you can. We still have about 2500 more tickets available. If you or your Chapter needs some more please let us know.

Ride Safe, Ride Aware!

Rick & Pam Northrop
Florida District Rider Educator



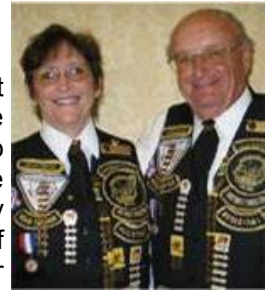
Gold Wing Raffle Tickets are available!

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

If you need tickets, contact your Chapter or District Rider Educator

Hello Again Everyone!

What a busy month! We started with a Saturday Chapter Gathering for FL2-G (Ft Myers) on December 31st. Then followed it up with a full weekend Chapter Conference the next weekend and the FL2-L (Lakeland) Rally the next weekend. It was great to see so many of you (over 200) at the Chapter Conference. The attendance was good and we really appreciated seeing and meeting so many Chapter MEC's. We were especially happy to be able to announce that Florida has been able to reverse the ongoing loss of memberships. In particular those Members who have been with us for 1 to 3 years. Our numbers on December 31, 2011 were greater than on January 1, 2011.



We had planned to provide copies of the revised position description to all Chapter MEC's. They were overlooked and we failed to distribute them at our seminar. If any one still needs one, you can go to the MEC page on the GWRRA website, or you can see us at the District Rally/Convention March 22-24 in Kissimmee and we will be happy to provide one.

We were also able to complete the paperwork for 5 new Chapter MEC's. We welcome Jeanette Carr, FL1-K (Palm Coast), Jill Davis, FL1-O (DeFuniak Springs), Barbara Gall, FL2-E (Miami), Jolene Voight, FL2-G (Ft Myers) and Timothy Moriarity, FL2-R (Ft Lauderdale). There are still many Chapters who do not have a Chapter MEC. This means that the Chapter Director is responsible for completing the monthly contacts of New Members who may reside in the Chapter's Area. It would seem that the Chapter Director is busy enough and would want to encourage a Participant to take on this important but simple task of inviting new GWRRA Members in the neighborhood to come have some FUN!

We now turn our attention to the 2012 Florida Wing Gathering in Kissimmee, March 22-24, 2012. We hope you have made your reservations and registration. Time is slipping by fast, March 10th will be here before you know it and then preregistration will be closed. Save yourself some money...register now! This year's theme is "A Pirate's Parley". This should prove to be an interesting presentation! We're sure the Worldgate Resort will be Rockin!

At the Chapter Conference, each Chapter was asked to volunteer to take on some obligations to make the Rally run smoothly and to make it possible for everyone to enjoy their stay in Kissimmee. Please remember what you have committed to and the day and time that you are supposed to do it. The District Team all have responsibilities as well. Most are supervisory, but please be sure to meet your time and date commitments so the District Team doesn't have to spend time searching for you. We will be working with Vendor and Gate Security. We're pleased that all the times have been filled, except one.

As always, there will be plenty of vendors, a full schedule of seminars, FUN games, competitions and just plain FUN events. We will be looking for YOU!

It's been great traveling around visiting the Southwest and other Chapters the past few months. We have enjoyed meeting so many new friends. Our thanks go to all of you for your hospitality and continued support of GWRRA.

We will attempt to keep you abreast of things that are happening in our area. Hope to see you all again soon!

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



We hope everyone had a Happy New Year! Spring and good riding weather is just around the corner.

We want to congratulate the FL1-D (Pensacola) and especially Mike Walker, Newsletter Editor, for coming in first place in the Florida District Color Newsletter Award competition for 2011. Keep up the good work Mike!



On January 7-8, we attended the Chapter Conference in Lakeland, FL. We conducted a seminar on Motorist Awareness on Saturday afternoon and want to thank everyone who attended. We recruited 2 new Motorist Awareness Coordinators: Dennis & Vicki Hinchy, FL1-T (Inverness) and Denis Turcotte & Darla Williams, FL2-G (North Ft Myers). A big thank you goes to them for stepping up to this most important position. This brings our total Chapter Motorist Awareness Coordinators to 14 for the District. Chapter Directors, get out there and get a Motorist Awareness Coordinator for your Chapter if you don't already have one.

Our numbers for the 4th quarter Motorist Awareness N.6 reports were 26 events with 4,872 participants. Out of the 36 Chapters in Florida, we only had 12 responses. Please remember that the Chapter Director, Chapter Rider Educator or Chapter Motorist Awareness Coordinator needs to be sending us copies of their monthly N.6 Reports even if you have no motorist awareness activity for that month. The N.6 reports are due to the District Rider Educator by the 5th of each month.

Overall for the District, we had a grand total of 91 events with 11,850 participants for 2011. We want to give a special thank you to all of our Chapter Motorist Awareness Coordinators for their efforts.

We are planning to give an award to the Chapter Motorist Awareness Coordinator who has the most events with the most participants for 2011, which will be presented at the Florida District Convention, March 22 - 24. The plan is this will become annual award. The requirements are that your Chapter has to have a Motorist Awareness Coordinator who has been in the position for the entire year and the numbers will be taken from the N.6 reports.

We will be sending out very soon to the Chapter Directors in the Panhandle a list of the time slots available to help us sell tickets at the Florida District Convention. If you plan on being there, please think about giving us some help for a couple of hours. We appreciate all the help we have received from our Chapters in the past.

Happy Valentine's Day! Hope to see you at a Rally or Convention soon.

Ride safe!

Nate & Danelle Kinion
Assistant District Directors, Panhandle
Motorist Awareness Coordinator

Greetings from the Northeast

We have been tasked with organizing the Hospitality Room during the Florida Convention. We would like to remind all Chapters to please bring some snacks to share with all the friends and family attending. We will have coffee and drinks available for the entire convention.



As keepers of the Florida District GWRRA Goodie Sales, we will have a full inventory available at the District Convention in March. Please check your Chapter store and make a list.

Hope to see you sooner than later

Geno & Kathie Jette
Assistant District Director, Northeast
District Goodie Sales

Hi everyone,

It was a great Chapter Conference and a pleasure getting to see everyone again. There were several Chapters not represented and we missed your smiling faces.



We are doing really well with the 2011 financials with over half of the Chapter reports ready to be turned into Region. We are waiting for a few Chapters to send paperwork, please do so. If you are having problems please let us know so we can solve the problem together.

When some of the Financial Reports were turned in we discovered that files downloaded had been corrupted and were unknowingly used. The Financial Reports and forms are currently in the process of getting updated. Once this is accomplished they will be updated on the District website and we will also copy and send them to all CD's and Treasurers. We will email copies of our article to Treasurers that we submit for the newsletter (after it's been approved of course).

If your Chapter has decided to purchase a gift for the District Conference instead of sending in the \$25.00 for Game Prizes we ask that you please let us know?

Please let us know if your Chapter will be providing a Gift Basket for the New District Couple of the Year raffle. It would be beneficial to know how much room we will need for the baskets.

Should anyone want a copy of our resume (District Couple of the Year 2009) or Rick & Madalena Buck's (District Couple of the Year 2011), just let us know. We will be glad to send them to you or to your Couples of the Year.

We hope to see all current and past Couples of the Year at Social during the District Convention! There will be Chocolate!

That's about all for now. We are looking forward to seeing you all at the District Convention.

Jim & Rebecca Iverson
District Treasurer
Couple of the Year Coordinators

First of all, let me thank all who gave up their weekend and came out for the annual Chapter Conference. It was a really good conference and we got a lot accomplished. Also, my sincerest thanks to all of the Chapters who volunteered to help with the Convention in March. As I said at the time, there is no way we could put on such a large event without your help. If you don't remember or need a reminder as to what you signed up for, please email me and I will let you know what it was.



Riding has been wonderful lately. Cooler temperatures and very little rain make for ideal weather to ride. Add some good friends and a good time is on the way.

Chapter Directors: Be sure to keep talking about the up coming Wing Gathering with your Members. Pre-registration saves each Member \$5 in relation to on-site registration. These days that's important! Please encourage everyone to get them in early. It helps us immensely in planning for the Convention.

We are now into the New Year for visitations. Keep the forms with you all the time, so you can get them filled in and ready to send to me each quarter. Visiting other Chapters is great FUN and very helpful to the visited Chapter's relationship with the restaurant involved. More visitors mean more income for them. Good news all around.

As always, ride safe and keep smiling. See ya' on the road soon.

Cliff Hotchkiss
Assistant District Director, Central
Convention/Rally Coordinator

We hope your New Year has started out FUN! I know ours has! We attended the Chapter Conference and even though it was a business meeting a lot of FUN was had by all. Games were played, meals were enjoyed, a well stocked Hospitality Suite was maintained, and a FUN night of bowling was pulled off. All of that and we still managed to get the business and education part of the weekend accomplished. The following weekend we found ourselves back in Lakeland for FL2-L's Cowboys & Indians Chapter Rally. Again, a FUN time was had by all. Thanks to Rosemary, Michael and their Team for good times and good food. We will finish off the month in Kissimmee at Chapter FL2-D's Multi-Chapter Breakfast. As of this writing it hasn't happened yet but how can we not uphold Florida District's #1 Rule of "Have FUN" when getting together with our GWRRA family and friends over a table of all you can eat food!



Our next topic is on the same line, "Have FUN" but do it at the 2012 Florida District Convention / Rally March 22 - 24! If you haven't registered yet, do so right away! You don't want to miss out participating in the big "Pirate Parley" and all of the FUN! You will notice that the dinner is changed to Thursday so you will actually sit at a table to eat and the Ice Cream Social is on Friday. A Costume Parade will be on Thursday night and there will be a winner! Will it be you? Cheryl and I are in charge of a few things so we need to plug them! Get a skit together or your singing voice ready or both and participate in the Talent Show on Friday night. Don't forget to join us in the Chapter Challenge on Saturday. Everyone has FUN, win or lose.

If you haven't noticed we used the word FUN ten times in this short article. Are you a part of it? It's only FUN when U are there, otherwise it's just F_N!

Bill & Cheryl Smith
Assistant District Directors, Southeast

2012 Florida GWRRA Events		
Feb 11	FL1-G 50's/60's Sock Hop	Sanford
Feb 25	FL2-G Chili Cook-Off	Ft Myers
Mar 10	FL1-H Bike Week Breakfast	Ormond Beach
Mar 22-24	FL District Rally/Convention	Kissimmee
Apr 14	FL1-B Rally	Sefner
Apr 21	FL1-K Poker Run	Palm Coast
Apr 19-21	AL District Rally/Convention	Mobile, AL
Apr 26-28	SC District Rally/Convention	S. Charleston, SC
Apr 28	FL1-W Green Eggs & Ham	Orlando
May 19	FL1-Y Poker Run	Gainesville
Jun 14-16	GA District Rally/Convention	Dillard, GA
Jul 4-7	Wing Ding 34	Fort Wayne, IN
Sep 13-15	Region A Convention	Eufaula, AL
Oct 6	FL1-A Fall Festival	San Antonio
Oct 11-13	Mississippi District Rally/Convention	Biloxi, MS
Oct 13	FL1-X Poker Run	Jacksonville



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