



**Gold Wing Road Riders
Association
Florida District
Southeast Region A**

Coastal Cruisers Newsletter



**Chapter FL1-V
Jacksonville Beaches
www.fl1v.gwrra-
regiona.org**

October 2011

**Volume XIV
Issue 9**

**Monthly Gathering: Second Saturday each month at
Golden Corral
14035 Beach Blvd. (east of Hodges)
9:00 AM Breakfast / 9:30 AM Meeting**

The next FL1-V Chapter Gathering will be held on November 11, 2011

CD's Corner...

Well, here we go... right on through the month of September! With the first weekend of September being a holiday weekend, that left only three weekends for us to be out and about doing our chapter rides and activities. Interestingly enough, while I was bragging how nice it'll be with the temperatures cooling down, I wasn't thinking that the rain would pick up on us - go figure!!!

After our chapter gathering in September, we had a great following to the Shrimps R Us restaurant in Welatka for the special appreciation and recognition lunch for Dave and Lee. From what I could see, everyone was having a great time. It was also fun presenting Dave and Lee with their bucket list items. Thanks to everyone for coming out to share this special time and showing your support!

This month we had Lacy & Marlene, AJ & Arletta, Kenny & Barbara, Gail & Henry, Jim Koprowski, Rick and Joanne and even Dan & Joy, spend some time out camping in the Carolina mountains and from what I hear they all had a great time despite a couple days of rain. Be sure to ask one of them about their trip. Charlie and Donna also took a road trip up to the Wings over the Smokies. Keep a look-out... maybe we'll even see an article or two about their trips in one of the upcoming newsletters.

We are working on a fund raising activity for our annual chapter Rider Ed Gold Wing raffle tickets and Ride for Kids. With the help of Doug Roberts, we've been able to offer a "slow/cone weave race" on Tuesday nights at Latitude 30. This is a bike night event sponsored by Latitude 30 and First Coast Honda. We are excited about this opportunity and looking forward to building this into a weekly fun event. For the last two Tuesdays of September we set up the course and had riders who joined in on the fun. Starting the first Tuesday of October, we will begin a weekly competition (the rider who has the best *slow* time) which will continue throughout the month of October. The contestant pays \$2 and rides the course for the best slow time. Throughout the month October, the weekly winning prize is a \$25 gift certificate from Latitude 30, and a chance to win the grand prize on November 1st. The grand prize will be provided by First Coast Honda and their associated sponsors. Each \$2 paid by the contestants is shared between the GW Rider Ed Gold Wing raffle tickets and Ride for Kids (\$1 dollar to each). Come out and join us on Tuesday nights, and tell everyone you know about it - we have a great time!! It's also fun to watch all the *egos* (and their bikes) take on this course!!!

Till next time... remember... Life's a journey... HAVE FUN, enjoy the ride and ride safe!

Chris Thacker
FL1-V Chapter Director



Chapter Director

Chris Thacker
904-641-9721

Asst. Chapter Director

AJ & Arletta Smith
904-838-5656

Asst. Chapter Director

Charlie & Donna Jackson
586-212-0601

Rider Educator

Rick and Joanne Mehil
904-730-3741

Treasurer/Secretary

Paul Reddy

Couple of the Year

Dan & Joy Fifield
904-3073325

Newsletter Editor

Open

Webmaster

Larry Fisher

Public Relations

Tom & Sharon Wiltfang
904-294-0689

Membership Coordinator

Paul and Chris Reddy
904-247-6511

Sunshine Lady

Rose Turntine
904-642-1254

M.A.D. Coordinators

Chris Reddy
904-247-6511

Goodie Sales:

Lacy and Marlene Hayes
904-721-3561

50/50 Sales

Larry Fisher and Regina Taylor
904-928-9555

Historian

Charlie Jackson
586-212-0601

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Points of Interest:

Gold Wing Road Riders Association

www.gwrra.org

Director GWRRR

Mike & Lorie Stiger
(517) 769-4824

Director@gwrra.org

Southeast Region A

www.gwrra-regiona.org

Region A Directors

Bob & Nancy Shrader
(352) 668-3164

Region A Couple of the Year

Steve & Tammy Hollingsworth
tlynn1730@bellsouth.net

Florida District

<http://fla.gwrra-regiona.org>

Florida District Directors

Bill & Gina Berry
bgberry93@tampabay.rr.com

Florida District Assistant Directors

Geno & Kathie Jettie
(904) 276-7488

Florida District Couple of the Year

Rick & Madalena Buck
rmbuck@tampabay.rr.com



SEPTEMBER VACATION

By AJ & Arletta Smith, FL1-V ACD

AJ and I recently went with our extended family (Gail & Henry, Kenny & Barbara, Lacy & Marlene and Rick & Joanne last but not least Jim) to North Carolina for a week. Dan and Joy were also there for a couple of days along with Donny (Lacy's Brother) and his friend David.

We left on a Friday afternoon and everything was going great, then stopped at a Truck stop for the night and went to bed around 10PM. Then at 11PM I was awakened by this loud beeping noise. I woke AJ up and we realized that the Carbon Monoxide detector was beeping. AJ tried to take the battery out and in doing so pulled the detector from the ceiling. We waived it around, opened the front door of the motor home and took it outside and it still wouldn't stop beeping. So we stuck in the freezer until morning (at least we got some sleep)!

One day while riding we stopped to get something to drink; there was a gentleman that told us about the Snake - 489 curves in Shady Valley, Tennessee. We only covered a small part of the snake. However the part we rode was a lot of fun. Getting to the top was fun, but going down... it was hang on to you hat. This is one ride I would love to take again and ride the entire route that covers three states.

The last day we went to Grandfather Mountain mile high swinging bridge in North Carolina. The leaves have already started changing and the greens, reds, and orange colors were absolutely beautiful. The ride was a curvy and straight up ride.



*****REMINDER*****

Together with Chapters J and X, we will be conducting our next Road Captains Course/Team Riding Seminar.

It will be held at the Hospitality Inn (Exit 16 on I-295) on the Westside of Jacksonville. The seminar/course to start promptly at 8 a.m. and should be done by no later than 2 p.m.

Contact Rick Mehl to reserve your spot.



WHAT CAUSES CRASHES?

...that's a really good question and one that every rider, experienced and novice should want some answers to. With the reading and research I have been doing, I have recently found some interesting facts and conclusions according to studies that have been published. This article may take a few issues to complete, but I am counting on it being very informative.

"A new Motorcycle Crash Causation Study has been in the works in the United States for the last few years. It has been abbreviated to include a sample of 300 crashes. Hopefully this small sampling can provide enough significant data to determine whether the causes of crashes have changed in the U.S. and whether training developments and other safety protocols are helping reduce motorcycle accidents.¹

"Similar conclusions about the causes of motorcycle crashes were reached by the European Association of Motorcycle Manufacturers in their Motorcycle Accidents In Depth Study (MAIDS) and the Hurt Report for the NHTSA. About half of all motorcycle crashes involve another vehicle and about half of those are the fault of the driver. While the other half of all crashes involve a motorcycle only and are most likely caused by either failure to brake or corner properly.

The Other Guy: About 50 to 75% of the time, the four wheeled driver was at fault. Some riders may actually think that drivers are out to intentionally kill us, but the most common reason is that motorcycles are difficult to see. MAIDS says that over 70% of the driver errors were due to failure to perceive the motorcycle rider. The Hurt Report concurs by saying that "motorists failed to detect and recognize motorcycles in traffic" and "did not see the motorcycle before the collision, or did not see the motorcycle until it was too late to avoid the collision." This is why it is so important to have effective strategies for conspicuity, such as wearing brightly colored riding gear and using proper lane positioning techniques to see and be seen.¹ (Sounds to me, like the perfect reason to get out and get some more safety chrome and LED lights for that motorcycle, ladies and gentleman!)

Rider Inattention and Distraction: It's not always the driver who is to blame. MAIDS reports that in 10.6% of all crashes, inattention on the part of the motorcycle rider was a contributing factor. The Hurt Report says a "lack of attention to the driving task is a common factor for the motorcycle in an accident." Many factors can lead to inattention, including emotional stress, impatience, hunger, and discomfort from excessive heat, cold or saddle-soreness. Fiddling with electronic gadgets can also lead to dangerous levels of inattention or distraction.¹

One of the biggest factors that can cause inattention is impairment from drugs or alcohol, (including prescription drugs). The Hurt Report states that "almost half of the fatal accidents show alcohol involvement." Happily, this high occurrence of alcohol impairment has decreased over the past thirty years, but it is still a major concern today.¹ In the upcoming articles Speed, Crash Locations, Visual Barriers, Judgment and How to avoid Crashes will be the topics of discussion.

Have a great ride and please stay informed!

Chris Reddy, MAD Coordinator

Birthdays & Anniversaries

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Donna Jackson	Oct 1st
Kenny Horne	Oct 4th
Brad Herrin	Oct 9th
Andy Hawkins	Oct 10th
Jim Choate	Oct 11th
Suzie Choate	Oct 12th
Dave Howell	Oct 28th

MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Al & Roseanne Salfer	Nov 7th
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Upcoming 2011 - 2012 GWRRA Events...

2011 Florida GWRRA Events

Sep 15-17	Region "A" Rally/Convention	Eufaula, AL
Oct 8	FL1-A Poker Run	Tampa
Oct 15	FL2-G Pancake Breakfast	Ft Myers
Oct 13-15	Mississippi District Rally/Convention	Tupelo, MS
Oct 29	FL1-D Green Frog Getaway	Bear Lake
Nov 12	Multi-Chapter Lunch	Clewiston
Nov 19	FL1-X Spaghetti Social	Jacksonville
Dec 10	FL1-S Mingle Jingle	Zephyrhills

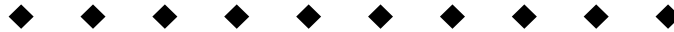
2012 Florida GWRRA Events

Jan 7-8	FL Chapter Conference	Lakeland
Jan 14	FL2-L Cowboys & Indians	Lakeland
Jan 21	FL1-O Annual Chili Run	DeFuniak Springs
Jan 29	FL1-H Multi-Chapter Breakfast	Melbourne
Feb 11	FL1-G 50's/60's Sock Hop	Sanford
Mar 22-24	FL District Rally/Convention	Kissimmee
Apr 14	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
Jun 14-16	GA District Rally/Convention	Dillard, GA

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www.tammysrealestate.com
4984 Palm Coast Pkwy NW #7 • Palm Coast, FL 32137



FL1-V Calendar

Oct 2011 - Nov 2011



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
2 Oct	3	4	5	6	7	8
MS Shore to Shore Bicycle Escort Ride-Details TBA		6:00p <u>First Coast</u> Honda's <u>Bike Night @ Latitude 30</u>	6:30p <u>Chapter X</u> MG			9:00a <u>Monthly Gathering-9:00 Eat / 9:30 Meet</u>
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
3:00p <u>Afternoon Ice Cream Run-Loc #1</u>	6:30p <u>Chapter K</u> MG	6:00p <u>First Coast</u> Honda's <u>Bike Night @ Latitude 30</u>		<u>Biketoberfest-Daytona Beach, FL</u>	<u>Biketoberfest-Daytona Beach, FL</u>	9:00a <u>Mighty 8th Historical Museum & Ole Times Country Buffet - Loc #1</u> <u>Biketoberfest-Daytona Beach, FL</u>
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
<u>Biketoberfest-Daytona Beach, FL</u>		6:00p <u>First Coast</u> Honda's <u>Bike Night @ Latitude 30</u>		6:00p <u>Chapter H</u> MG	7:00p <u>FL1-V Kick Tires-Jason's Deli</u>	8:00a <u>County Ride-Marietta & I-10</u>
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
		6:00p <u>First Coast</u> Honda's <u>Bike Night @ Latitude 30</u> 6:30p <u>Chapter J</u> MG		6:30p <u>FL1-V Core Team Meeting-Los Portales Mexican Grill</u>	<u>Florida/Georgia Weekend - Honey Do Weekend</u>	<u>Florida/Georgia Weekend - Honey Do Weekend</u>
30	31	1 Nov	2	3	4	5
			6:30p <u>Chapter X</u> MG		7:00p <u>FL1-V JAM Session/Game Night: Pecan Park Club House</u>	8:00a -2:00p <u>Riding seminar/Road Captain course</u>

NOTE: Because this calendar is planned in advance, there may be last minute updates and changes so please view the calendar on the FL1-V Web Site (<http://www.fl1v.gwrra-regional.org>) often or call Chris Thacker, Chapter Director, at (904-641-9721) for up-to-date information.

Ride Start Locations		
Location #1: Gate Station Hecksher Drive & 9A	Location #2: McDonalds—Ponte Vedra A1A at SR 210	Location #3: Gate Station US-1 at SR 210
Location #4: McDonald's—Mandarin San Jose Blvd. at Loretto Rd.	Location #5: Shell T/A Truck Stop I-95 at SR 210	Location #6: Shell Station Chaffee Rd. south of I-10