



EAGLE WINGS MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION

MAY 2023



Friends for
FUN, Safety &
Riding

FUN in Florida is # 1

www.ewma-florida.org

Florida District FUNshine Times

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From Your Florida District Directors Bill and Cheryl Smith (FL2-A, FL2-O, FL2-R)

Here it is May already! Many things happen in May, like May flowers and National Lemonade Day! But most important is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month! Be aware yourself and spread the word to everyone that We Are Out There with them!

We have busy times ahead with the new EWMA District Rallies in Region A! We hope to see you April 27 – 29 in Johnson City, Tennessee for that rally. Our EWMA Founders, Anita Alkire and Bruce Beeman will be in attendance there.

August 31st – September 2nd will be the very First Eagle Wings Rendezvous in Knoxville, Tennessee! Please get your registration in early. The list of the host hotels will be out soon; so, when the list does come out, don't hesitate, book them right away!

September 15 – 16 is the Georgia Ride-In held in Dillard at the River Vista RV Resort.

September 22 – 23 is the North Carolina Ride-In held near Boone.

September 28 – 30 is the Alabama Rally held at the Lake Point Lodge in Eufaula.

October 26 – 28 is the Mississippi Rally held in Gulfport.

Please put these on your calendar, make your reservations and send in your registrations. All of the flyers and more information can be found on the Florida District Website Events page, www.ewma-florida.org. More Rallies and Ride In's can be found on the EWMA Website Events page, www.ewma-world.org.

May is still a great time to ride in Florida. Be sure to participate and

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get out there and enjoy your riding. The weather is warm, but for those who ride in the summer know it's not too warm to enjoy the ride any time of day!

The search is still on for a new location for the 2024 Florida District Rally. As soon as we know, you will know. Then, we can print up the new Florida District Motorcycle Safety Raffle Tickets.

We hope to see you out and about.

Bill and Cheryl Smith
Florida District Directors
The **FUN**shine State, where **FUN** is #1!



Harry & Lynn Anderson
Assistant District Directors
District Hospitality Coordinators
(FL1-H, FL2-D)

I did not write this... but WOW does it ever speak to my heart. Worth the read:

Barely the day started... and it's already evening. Barely arrived on Monday... and it's already Friday. ... and the

month is over... and the year is almost over... and already 40, 50, 60, 70, years of our lives have passed... and we realize that we have lost our parents and some friends in that time... and we realize that it's too late to go back.

Soooo... let's try, despite everything, to enjoy the remaining time. Keep looking for things in our life that we enjoy. Let's enjoy the color of gray, let's smile at the little things put balm in our hearts, enjoy, with seventy, the time left to us and above all eliminate the "AFTER"

Because what we don't understand is that: Afterwards, health passes. Afterwards, the

kids grow up and leave. Afterwards, promises are forgotten. Afterwards, the day becomes night. Afterwards, life ends.

So, leave nothing for later. Because waiting for later, we can lose the best moments... The best experiences... our best friends.

The day is... today, the moment is now!

We are no longer at the age when it is so easy to postpone. Enjoy life... DO IT NOW!!!!

Think this over: If too many people enjoy the free ride... and not enough people help pull, the wagon isn't going ANYWHERE.

Stay tuned for the date and location of
our
"2024 Florida District Gathering of
Friends for FUN"



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

FLAT TIRE REPAIR

Greetings to All,

Good riding season is once again upon us. That means more opportunities to ride and more opportunities to pick up a nail or screw in one of your motorcycle tires. Are you prepared for a roadside repair? There are three usual methods of repairing a tire due to a nail or screw. They are the Rope Type, Mushroom Type, or the Internal Plug.

The Rope Type method has you hone out the diameter of the hole big enough to insert the rope with sealant and then pull

out the insert tool. An access of rope is then sticking out of the tire which is cut off with a razor blade.

The Mushroom Type plug has a large head which goes into the hole head first. After being pushed into the tire the large head prevents the plug from slipping back out.

The Internal Plug is the best method to plug a tire. This requires the tire being removed from the rim and the plug being inserted from the inside. The plug has a large adhesive base which sticks to the inside of the tire and a stem which comes out through the hole you are repairing. This method is practical if the tire is fairly new. If the tire is worn you might as well replace the tire with a new one.

The newest intervention to the market is the Self-Tapping Screw Plug. It looks like a plastic wood screw with a Phillips head screw pattern on the end. The kit comes with several different size diameter screws. You just match the

screw plug to the diameter of the nail or screw you removed from the tire. You then place a little adhesive on the screw plug and screw it into the tire.

One of the brands of the Self-Tapping Screw Plug Kit is "Norshire", should you like to take a look at it on the internet. I purchased one of these kits to keep in my motorcycle alone with a Rope Type repair kit just in case. It looks like a good idea so I will give it a try the next time I get a flat.

Have some method of flat tire repair on your bike. That includes some method to inflate the tire once you plug it. Remember if you think you have a tire that is going flat as you are riding on the highway do not go for the brakes. Pull in the clutch and coast towards the shoulder of the roadway. Slow down using only the brake on the wheel that does not have the flat.

We are here to assist you with your training needs.

Ride Safe!

Joining is easy! Just use your cell phone and take a photo of the of the image to the right!

"Eagle Wings Motorcycle Association"





Ed & Jeanette Carr
Assistant District Safety /
Ride Coordinators

What Happened to Spring?

Ah! Baseball season is in full swing. What you ask, does baseball have to do with riding. If you're like me, I love going to Major League Baseball Stadiums to watch a game. But, I also like to ride to Grapefruit League games in Florida. There are 15

Minor league stadiums in Florida. So, you can ride to a ballpark; just to name a few, there is JetBlue Park in Fort Myers, Joker Merchant Stadium in Lakeland, Steinbrenner Field in Tampa, BayCare Ballpark in Clearwater, LECOM Park in Bradenton and Jackie Robinson Ballpark in Daytona Beach. Many have motorcycle parking. Treat yourself to a ride to a ballpark soon.

The weather has been perfect for riding in our area. Sunshine, mid 70's to high 80's with low humidity. Our Tuesday rides have been in the 200-to-300-mile lunch rides. For a small Chapter, FL1-K rides have been well attended with six to nine bikes for the Tuesday and Friday rides. I lead most of the

early week rides and our resident snowbird, Barry Watson, normally leads the late week rides. However, Barry & Faye were at a dance last Saturday evening, and Faye somehow managed to break the femur bone in her thigh. Barry will have to stay kind of close to Faye until they fly out to Canada in a couple of weeks, with the doctor's approval of course.

We hope to see you at the TR Ranch for the South Carolina District Rally in Greenville, SC, on Jun 1st, 2nd & 3rd. A variation of what Mr. Jim Hodge used to say, "Their giving away so much money, you're bound to like some of it".

That's it for now!

Where will the 2024 Florida District Gathering of Friends for FUN be held?

As soon as we secure a location and date, we'll let you know!



Geno & Kathie Jette
Assistant District Directors
 Rally Registration Coordinators
 Goodie Sales
 (FL1-F2, FL1-K, FL1-X & FL1-Y)

National Lemonade Day

National Lemonade Day is a holiday that falls on the first Saturday in May, but its name might be a bit misleading to many people. People would assume from the name of this holiday that it was a day for only drinking lemonade, but there's actually a lot more to it. It's actually a day to encourage the entrepreneurial spirit among young people all over the U.S. In our opinion, it should be called National Lemonade Stand

Day, but since we didn't invent this holiday, we're just going to have to go with the flow.

This holiday was invented by Michael Holthouse in 2007 to help empower future entrepreneurs by inspiring them and helping them start their own business to operate. And since one of the easiest businesses for a child to start is a lemonade stand, this day was called National Lemonade Day. Since its inception, this holiday has helped spark the entrepreneurial spirit in countless children all over the U.S and beyond.

Lemonade is a beverage that goes back to Ancient Egypt. The earliest written evidence of this beverage can be found in this country around 1000 AD, but it probably existed even before then. That's because lemons were introduced to Egypt from Asia three hundred years prior, in 700AD, so lemonade was probably being made around

that time. Of course, the lemonade that was made around that time was very different from modern lemonade. Egyptian lemonade was made with not only lemons and water, with honey used as a sweetener, but it also contained dates.

- In the 17th century, vendors in Paris would sell "lemonades" made from lemons, honey, and sparkling water.
- In 1840, frozen lemonade was invented in Naples, Italy.
- Lemonade stands could be found in New York as early as the early 1870s.
- Lemonade is often made with crushed mint leaves in many parts of the Middle East.



Looking for something to
do?

Support one of our
Neighboring Districts and
attend an EWMA Rally!



Fred & Karen Kennedy
Assistant District Directors
 (FL1-D, FL1-E2)
Motorist Awareness
Coordinators

Greetings fellow riders... Karen and I hope that this newsletter finds you all well and enjoying all the benefits living in the Great Riding State of Florida! Here in the panhandle, we've been riding pretty regularly and have enjoyed every mile, even though it was quite chilly for many of those. It seems that the grip of winter just doesn't want to let go... April showers (and downright torrential rains) are bringing forth May's flowers and the trees are full of leaves once again and the beauty is returning to the scenery... May is also Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month! A whole month dedicated to expanding awareness of Motorcyclists on America's highways and educating all on safely driving/riding to avoid accidents and deaths. Here are a few of the latest statistics from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)...

- In 2020, there were 5,579 motorcyclists killed in traffic crashes, an 11% increase from 2019 (5,044). In contrast, an estimated 82,528 motorcyclists were injured, a 2% decrease from 83,814 motorcyclists injured in 2019. Motorcyclist deaths accounted for 14% of the total highway fatalities in 2020.
- Research shows that motorcyclists are significantly overrepresented in traffic crashes and fatalities each year. In fact, in 2020, per vehicle mile traveled, motorcyclists were about 28 times more likely than passenger vehicle occupants to die in a motor vehicle crash and were 4 times more likely to be injured.
- Motorcyclists 55 and older accounted for 27% of motorcyclists killed in 2020. Over the 10-year period from 2011 to 2020, motorcyclist fatalities among the 55-and-older age group increased by 37%, from 1,087 to 1,486. In 2011, the average age of motorcycle riders killed in traffic crashes was 42, whereas in 2020, the average age was 43.
- In 2011 and 2020, roughly half the motorcyclists were killed in traffic crashes during the weekend versus the weekday. Additionally, motorcyclist fatalities on weekdays increased by 15% from 2,402 in 2011 to 2,765 in 2020.



So, as you can see, we have our work cut out for us to both educate others and to protect ourselves from becoming part of these statistics while still enjoying all the pleasures of riding. So, here are some life-saving tips for all Motorists...

- Yield to motorcyclists, especially while turning at intersections.
- When driving, avoid distractions that place motorcyclists and other road users at risk.
- Remember, motorcycles are smaller than most vehicles and difficult to see. Their size can also cause other drivers to misjudge their speed and distance.
- Though a motorcycle is a small vehicle, its operator still has the same rights of the road as any other motorist. Allow the motorcycle the full width of a lane at all times.
- Always use a turn signal when changing lanes or merging with traffic.
- If you see a motorcycle with a signal on, remember: motorcycle signals are often non-canceling, and the motorcyclist could have forgotten to turn it off. Proceed with caution to allow

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the motorcyclist the opportunity to complete the maneuver.

- Check all mirrors and blind spots for motorcycles before changing lanes or merging with traffic.
- Allow more follow distance — beyond three to four seconds

— when behind a motorcycle. This gives them more time to maneuver or stop in an emergency.

- Drive alcohol- and drug-free.
- Drive defensively.
- Obey the speed limit.

Let's all become more aware of Motorcyclists, after all, when we aren't on our motorcycles, we

become the Motorists that we are trying to educate too! As always, we look forward to seeing everybody soon, so until we do.

Ride Safe, Ride Often... but most of all... RIDE!!!



John Cain
**Assistant District Safety/
Ride Coordinator**

**Group Riding Leaders and
Gunners**

Group riding leaders and gunners have many important duties to perform that contribute to a safe group ride. Here are a few suggestions from the EWMA "Riding in a Group" safety presentation. I can send the presentation to any member for their use at any official EWMA event. If needed,

I can provide a presenter as well.

To set the stage, I'm referring to a planned group ride of, say, two hours one way. The leader should plan the ride ahead of time and preferably check the route on Google Maps or other planning software that highlights hazardous areas. Select a gunner or coordinate with the pre-arranged gunner. Start the pre-ride briefing on time if at all possible. Always conclude the briefing by offering the gunner and riders a chance to ask questions and contribute safety tips as time permits. This is the best time to communicate your planned speed and, hopefully, get unanimous consent from the group. The art of conducting the pre-ride briefing is another topic in itself.

En route, the leader maintains communications with the group

by any and all means available: hand signals, CB radio (channel), Bluetooth devices (set up ahead of time), mesh devices (channel), lights, horns, and smoke signals. (Just wanted to see if you were paying attention!)

The gunner is the "drill sergeant" for the group and should not hesitate to assist any rider in performing their assigned duties or dealing with contingencies: mechanical, physical, or otherwise. One task the gunner CANNOT PERFORM is to stop traffic for the group. That is against the law in most states.




Most chapters have some variations of the above points. Perhaps it is worth reviewing a few main points at a chapter meeting.

Friends for **FUN, Safety & Riding.**

The Place for FUN:

Eagle Wings Motorcycle Association!

FLORIDA DISTRICT HAPPENINGS MAY 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 FL1-Y, Gainesville FL2-D, Melbourne	3 FL2-R, Ft Lauderdale	4 FL1-X, Orange Park	5 	6 FL1-E2, FtWalton Beach
7 FL2-A, West Palm Beach	8 FL1-K, Palm Coast	9 FL2-H, Wauchula	10 FL1-D2, New Port Richey FL2-O, Stuart	11 FL1-B, Brandon	12	13 FL1-D, Pensacola FL2-F, Punta Gorda
14 	15	16 FL1-F2, Ocala	17 FL1-H Daytona Beach	18 FL2-B2, Sarasota FL1-M, Clearwater	19	20 FL1-A, Tampa
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 FL2-G, Ft Myers
28	29 	30	31	<u>Please verify with an individual Chapters before visiting. Chapters occasionally alter their gathering schedule to accommodate rallies and/or other events.</u>		

Check this URL to find particulars for each individual Chapter and their calendars:
<http://www.ewma-florida.org/chapters.html>

Upcoming Florida EWMA Events

Jun 1 - 3, 2023	South Carolina District Rally	Travelers Rest, SC
Aug 31 - Sep 2, 2023	EWMA Rendezvous	Knoxville, TN
Sep 15 - 16, 2023	Georgia District Fall Mountain Ride and Reunion	Dillard, GA
Sep 22 - 23, 2023	North Carolina District Ride	West Jefferson, NC
Sep 28 - 30, 2023	Alabama District Rally	Eufaula, AL
Oct 26 - 28, 2023	Mississippi District Rally	Biloxi, MS

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EWMA Florida District

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