

Florida District FUNshine Times

EAGLE WINGS MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION

DECEMBER 2025



Friends for
FUN, Safety &
Riding

FUN in Florida is # 1

www.ewma-florida.org



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From Your Florida District Directors Fred and Karen Kennedy (FL1-D, FL1-E2)

Greetings Florida Members!

Welcome to December! The obvious question at this time of year is, "Where has all the time gone???", well, Karen and I spent a lot of time attending the 7 Region-A Rallies and 1- Rendezvous Rally! We had a marvelous time and met so many new friends, friends from all walks of life, friends that without the camaraderie that being a member of EWMA brings with it, we would have NEVER met or even crossed paths with. Isn't it great how many people share our love of motorcycles and having a lot of **FUN** while doing it? Not to mention traveling to new and exciting destinations that we have never experienced and exploring them for what they have to offer. We are very thankful for the opportunity to be part of such a great

organization. We hope all of our chapters and members celebrate this season and share in the Joy of Christmas surrounded by friends and family!

Do you have an I.C.E. contact set up on your phone? I'm not talking about the Federal Immigration Agency, but a contact on your smartphone labeled "In Case of Emergency" or, ICE for short...

Having an ICE contact can make a huge difference in receiving prompt medical treatment if you find yourself unable to respond verbally to questions after having a medical emergency. What does having an ICE contact actually do? Well, first responders are trained to look for a smartphone in the event the patient can't assist them. Your ICE contact could contain your Name, Emergency Contact number, address, medications you are on, conditions you have and any allergies you may suffer. Having access to this info could greatly assist in your treatment. Your ICE contact is even accessible when the phone is locked, so it can be available to those giving you care. How do you set it up? Here are directions for both Apple and Android devices.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

Set up emergency contacts:

This makes sure your partner's number shows up for first responders even if your phone is locked.

- **iPhone:** Open the Health app > Profile icon (upper-right corner) > Medical ID > Edit. Scroll to Emergency Contacts > Edit > Add Emergency Contact, select your partner, and save.
- **Android:** Open the Contacts app, pick your partner, and mark as Emergency Contact. Some phones (like Pixel or Samsung) also have Settings > Safety and emergency > Emergency contacts for more options.

You will also see other information that you might find pertinent to share with medical personnel... it's also quite handy when you go to the doctor and they invariably ask for a list of drugs you are currently taking and as long as you keep it accurate, you'll always have it with you. How much info you enter is up to you, but using this Smartphone feature is a super way to add just a little bit of insurance in case you become incapacitated.

We are only 1 month away from the annual Shrimps R Us ride in and luncheon. If you are planning on attending and haven't registered yet, please do so soon, as we need to let the proprietor know

approximately how many will be in attendance.

We are also just over 4 months until the Florida District Rally!!!! Join us for loads of **FUN**, Prizes and, best of all, **FRIENDS!!!!** We are looking forward to hosting this event and seeing all of you soon!

Until we are together again... Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!! And...

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

Fred and Karen Kennedy
Your Florida District Directors
The **FUN**shine State,
where **FUN** is #1!





John Cain

**Assistant District Safety/
Ride Coordinator / Safety
Presentations**

Merry Christmas!

Motorcycle Tire Age - How old are your motorcycle tires? How about new motorcycle tires for Christmas?

Tires degrade with time passage alone regardless of mileage. Now would be good time to consider just the age of your hard-working tires as we enter a new year. You should refer to your bike's operating manual for specifications that may vary.

Many experts and safety guidelines recommend replacing motorcycle tires at 5 years of

age, and absolutely no later than 10 years, regardless of tread depth or appearance. Major tire manufacturers like Michelin, Bridgestone, and Dunlop also generally state that 10 years is the maximum service life for properly stored and maintained tires. Beyond this, the risk of hardening, cracking, or sudden failure increases significantly.

So how do you know your tires' birthday and thus age? Do not assume your purchase date was also the date of manufacturer. Instead, find the date of tire manufacturer shown in the last four digits of the TIN (tire identification number) on the sidewall of the tire.



<https://www.wikihow.com/Tell-the-Age-of-a-Tire>

For example, "2718" means this tire was made in the 27th week

of 2018. So how old is this tire as of mid-December 2025?

For simplicity by using the year only, $2025 - 2018 = 7$, and the tire is roughly 7 years old. In my view, this age calculation using only the current year and year of manufacturer is adequate when considering tire replacement based on age alone. One could be more precise and calculate the age by including specific dates/weeks using the calculator at Calculate Date/Time Difference, <https://www.epochconverter.com/date-difference> as a tool. This tire's age as of 15 December 2025 is actually 7.42 years. This age should trigger increased scrutiny in tire inspections that may reveal other replacement issues such as tread depth that would drive replacement before 10 years.

Don't forget to check your tires for age! Based on tire age only, consider replacement after 5 years and definitely replace after 10 years.

Ride Safe!

"First Ride of the Year"
Join Us at Shrimps-R-Us
January 1, 2026



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

UNDERSTANDING HOW TO CHANGE DIRECTION ON A TWO-WHEEL MOTORCYCLE

The ability to be able to change the direction of your motorcycle at a moment's notice is essential to safe motorcycle operation. Knowing how this necessary task actually works might save you a moment of indecision that could save you time and space to a maneuver you might need. When to steer a motorcycle like a tricycle and when to press forward on the handlebar end to change direction must be first understood. If you are riding slow, which means any speed under 12 mph on a two-wheel motorcycle, you must steer the handlebars of the motorcycle like you would a child's tricycle to change direction. The gyroscopic effect of the two wheels spinning fast enough for the motorcycle to maintain its own balance occurs at 12 mph and up. At 12 mph or higher you change directions of the motorcycle by pressing forward on the handlebar grip on the

side you want the direction of the motorcycle to go. If you want the motorcycle to go to the right, press forward on the right handlebar grip. If you want the motorcycle to go to the left, press forward on the left handlebar grip. You must maintain the forward pressure on the appropriate handlebar grip as long as you want the motorcycle to keep turning. To straighten up after the turn is completed, you simply reduce the pressure on the handlebar grip you were pressing. The gyroscopic effect of the spinning wheels will naturally bring the motorcycle back to a straight path of travel. The faster the motorcycle is traveling the less amount of effort it takes to press forward on the handlebar grip.

Some riders say: "Push forward with one hand while pulling back with the other hand". This is only true with a three-wheel motorcycle. Steering a three wheel-motorcycle is direct steering all of the time at any speed like riding a child's tricycle. It takes a lot more arm muscle to steer a three-wheel motorcycle so using the Push/Pull method makes steering easier for the rider. The slower you are moving on a three-wheel motorcycle the more arm muscle it takes to steer.

On a two-wheel motorcycle at speeds of 12 mph or higher only the hand doing the pushing or pressing is needed. Your other hand is not needed to do anything other than remaining on the opposite

handlebar grip for safety and stability. Just to prove the point you could actually take the hand not being used to do the pressing off the other grip and the motorcycle will still maintain the direction you want to go in the curve. The motorcycle will go in the direction of the pressing hand without any help from the other hand.

Understanding how the motorcycle reacts to you is helpful when you have to react without warning to change directions quickly to avoid a hazard. Pressing forward on the handlebar grip end may not be your natural instinctive way to react. As with many aspects of riding a motorcycle, different necessary techniques will only become instinctive to you if you practice them. When you are riding your motorcycle practice avoiding imaginary objects. Pick a dark spot on the pavement or a manhole cover. Quickly press forward on the appropriate handlebar grip to avoid the object. Only with practice will you properly react when a real emergency arises.

We hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Ride Safe!





Bill & Cynde Nipple
Assistant District Directors
 Vendor Coordinators
 (Panhandle Chapters)

**Well, good morning,
 afternoon or evening.**

Let me start off by asking that you say a prayer for the folks affected by the hurricane, most if not all of us have been affected by one of these storms, and know what they are going through and the long road to recovery they have ahead.

We have been more than lucky this year as we have been spared Mother Nature's wrath.

Okay, Region A's 2025 Rally Season is complete, and it's now time to start planning for 2026, and what better way than to kick off the start of the 2026 Rally Season than a March Rally in the **FUNSHINE** State.

The Florida District Rally will be held March 12-14 2026 at the Beautiful Best Western Gateway Grand Hotel in the great city of Gainesville, FL.

If you remember last year, rooms were at a premium, So please register early.

We have already started working on contacting vendors to ensure we have a great variety for your shopping pleasure. But remember, there is so much more to rallies than vendors, there are things like seeing friends you may not have seen in awhile, all the games, the educational classes and last

but not least, the whole reason for our being is the RIDES, of which I'm sure will be awesome.

Well it's time for me to get on my soapbox, and remind everyone to visit the vendors in this day and age of the web we tend to do most of our shopping that way, and this explains the decline of vendors at our events, SO I ask you if you like seeing and buying from the vendors be sure to help support them at all the upcoming events.

Remember we are celebrating America's 250 year Birthday. So dress accordingly, this theme should lend itself to tons of different costumes and skits for the talent show, so LET'S HAVE **FUN**.

ATTENTION MEMBERS,

Do you know of a local vendor that would like to attend our March Event or someone in the local area that maybe we should contact? if so please send me the contact information.

Florida District

“Gathering of Friends for FUN!”

March 12 - 14, 2026

Gainesville, FL



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

History of Gingerbread House Day

December 14, 2025

“Run, run, run, as fast as you can, You can’t catch me, I’m the gingerbread man!”

Nothing brings in the holidays like the smell of fresh baked gingerbread. But before the decorative cookie led the popularity contest on the holiday

dessert table, baking gingerbread was acknowledged as a specific profession. In the 17th century, only professional gingerbread bakers were allowed to make gingerbread, except at Christmas and Easter, when anyone was allowed to bake it.

In Europe, gingerbread was sold in special shops and at seasonal markets that sold sweets and gingerbread shaped as hearts, stars, soldiers, babies, trumpets, swords, pistols, and animals. Gingerbread was especially sold outside churches on Sundays. Religious gingerbread reliefs were purchased for particular religious events such as Christmas and Lent. Decorated gingerbread was given as presents to adults and children or as a love token bought specifically for weddings.

Gingerbread was also considered a form of popular art in Europe. Molds often displayed actual happenings by portraying new rulers, their children, spouses, and parties. Substantial mold collections are held at the Ethnographic Museum in Toruń, Poland and the Bread Museum in Ulm, Germany. According to some food historians, the tradition of making gingerbread houses started in Germany in the early 1800s. The first gingerbread houses were the result of the well-known Grimm’s fairy tale “Hansel and Gretel.” After this story was published, German bakers began baking ornamented fairy-tale houses made from gingerbread. They were brought over to America by German immigrants and became popular during the Christmas season.

Get Ready for 2026 RALLY FUN
The Florida District
Gathering of Friends for FUN
March 12 - 14, 2026 - Gainesville, FL

FLORIDA DISTRICT HAPPENINGS

DECEMBER 2025

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, Ft Walton Beach FL2-F, Punta Gorda
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 FL2-P, Lake Placid	12	13 FL1-A, Tampa FL1-D, Pensacola
14	15	16 FL1-F2, Ocala	17 FL1-H Daytona Beach	18 FL1-M, Clearwater	19	20 FL2-B2, Sarasota
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 FL2-G, Ft Myers
28	29	30	31	Please verify with an individual Chapter before visiting. Chapters occasionally alter their gathering schedule to accommodate rallies and/or other events.		

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

Upcoming Florida EWMA Events

January 1, 2026	1st Ride of the Year <i>"Shrimp-R-Us & More"</i>	Welaka, FL
March 12 - 14, 2026	Florida District Gathering of Friends for FUN <i>"Happy 250th Birthday America!"</i>	Gainesville, FL
April 23 - 25, 2026	Tennessee District Rally <i>"America's 250th Anniversary"</i>	Johnson City, TN
May 14 - 16, 2026	South Carolina District Rally <i>"Happy Anniversary America!"</i>	Piedmont, SC
June 4 - 6, 2026	Georgia District Rally <i>"Happy Anniversary America!"</i>	Helen, GA
June 25 - 27, 2026	Alabama District Rally <i>"Happy Anniversary America!"</i>	Decatur, AL
Sept 3 - 5, 2026	EWMA Rendezvous	Sharonville, OH

FUN in Florida is # 1


 Like us on
Facebook
facebook.com/ewmaflorida



EWMA Florida District
Fred & Karen Kennedy
District Directors
 Phone: 850-232-0365
 E-mail: FredandKaren@cox.net
www.ewma-florida.org



Appreciation for our Sponsors



The Florida District has a Sponsor Plan. We currently offer four levels of Sponsorship: "Platinum", "Gold", "Silver" and "Partner". If your business is interested in being a sponsor of the Florida District of EWMA, please contact our District Director.



1st Ride of the Year
January 1, 2026
SHRIMP "R" US & More
765 3rd Avenue Welaka, FL



Are you ready to feast and frolic with your friends?

The Annual 1st Ride of the Year is just around the corner and we want YOU to be there!

We're ordering a spread that'll make your taste buds dance, so we need to know if you're in!

RSVP and prepay now to secure your spot at the table. Get your registration in by December 21st, 2025!
Your Armband will be waiting for you!

Trust us; you won't want to miss out on this scrumptious soirée!

Price: \$30.00 per person ALL You Can Eat Buffet

Time: Lunch begins at 12:00pm

What are we eating? Shrimp: fried, grilled, steamed, garlic baked chicken, red potatoes, fritters, coleslaw, salad with dressing, 1 drink and 1 dessert

*Check Payable to: EWMA Florida District
Mail Check to: Pat VanLengen
1654 White Arrow Drive
Dover, FL 33527*

Any Questions call ADD Harry Anderson 321-693-8703

Please Print

Name: _____ # _____ x \$30.00

Email: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Total Due: _____



BW | Best Western
Hotels & Resorts

4200 NW 97th Boulevard
Gainesville, FL 32606-3742



Rate \$139.00 (including buffet breakfast for 2)

Reservation call 352-331-3336

Group Code: EWMA2026

Group room rate cutoff date: 02/20/2026

Cancel w/o charge 48 hours before arrival

Raffle to support EWMA Florida District Safety Program &
EWMA Florida District

1st Drawing - \$5,000 Cash

2nd Drawing - \$ 500 Cash

3rd Drawing - \$ 250 Cash



Visit
GAINESVILLE
Alachua County, FL



Happy **250th**
Birthday
America!
1776-2026



MARCH 12—14, 2026



EAGLE WINGS MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION



Riders Name	EWMA Member #
Riders or Co-Riders Name (circle one)	EWMA Member #
Street Address, City, State & Zip Code	
Phone #	Email Address

Chapter	Chapter Position	District or Team EWMA Position
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I/We agree to hold harmless Florida District, co-sponsoring organizations and any property owners for any loss or injury to self or property in which I/we may become involved because of participation in this rally. I/we have read this waiver and acknowledge with signature(s) below:

Signature	Signature
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Date: _____ Is this your first-time attending the Florida Rally? Yes No

Member Registration	\$35.00	X	=	
Non-Member Registration	\$40.00	X	=	
Under 12 (Dinner on Thursday extra, See below)	FREE	X	=	
Sit Down Dinner - Thursday Night	\$30.00	X	=	

****Fully Registered attendees only****

Dinner choices—Circle One for each attendee:

Chicken Marsala (with mushrooms & shallots in a demi-glace, Pork Tenderloin
(Roasted with Caramelized Pear & Brandy or Eggplant Parmesan (lightly coated fried) (pick one)

Ticket Sales

\$5,000 Raffle (Book of 10)	\$10.00	X	=	
Daily 50 / 50 Thursday (Strip of 10)	\$ 5.00	X	=	
Daily 50 / 50 Friday (Strip of 10)	\$ 5.00	x	=	
Grand 50 / 25 / 25 (Strip of 10)	\$ 5.00	x	=	
Grand Prize (Strip of 10)	\$ 5.00	x	=	

PRE-ORDER ONLY SHIRT SALES

Deadline for pre-order of shirts will be February 10, 2026

T-Shirt	S	M	L	XL	\$21.00	X	=	
T-Shirt	XXL	XXXL	(XXXXL unavailable)		\$25.00	X	=	

TOTAL ENCLOSED (US Dollars Only) \$ _____

RALLY SHIRTS NOT AVAILABLE ON SITE—PRE-ORDER ONLY

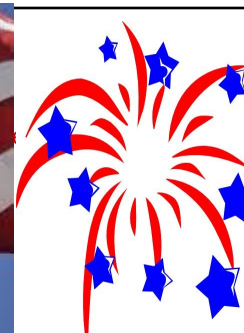
Florida District Rally March 12—14, 2026

Opens daily at 9:00am

Florida District Directors

Fred & Karen Kennedy

(850)-232-0365



NO refunds after February 23, 2026

After March 1st Registration is \$5.00 higher

\$15.00 Day Passes will be sold onsite and are good for all events of the day of purchase except Thursday Night dinner

Submit Registration Forms to:

Geno & Kathie Jette

114 Canis Dr E

Orange Park, FL 32073

addgeno@yahoo.com

Make check or money order (US Dollar only)

Payable to EWMA Florida District

If you would like registration confirmation, please ensure you provide an email address

Guided Rides on Friday & Saturday

Register by **December 1, 2025** for entry into

Early Bird drawing to be awarded to 1 lucky winner at Closing Ceremonies!

Pre-Order Shirts for entry into a drawing for a prize to be awarded to 1 lucky winner at Closing Ceremonies

See website for latest information

<http://www.ewma-florida.org/2026-rally.html>



Eagle Wings Rendezvous
Eagle Wings Motorcycle Association
4th Annual Rally
Sept 3rd – Sept 5th 2026
Sharonville, OH



PRICE ONLY GOOD STARTING 10/16/2025 AND THEN MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN 2/16/2026

3 Nights of FUN, FUN, FUN!!!!
Thursday GRAND OPENING PARTY FUN,
Light Dinner and entertainment

Friday Night Bike and Light Show Vote for your favorite and enjoy some ice cream!

Saturday Night is Closing
Ceremonies, and Dinner

***For up to Date Schedule & more info,**
go to [www. EWMA-World.org/Rendezvous](http://www.EWMA-World.org/Rendezvous)

Special Registration for 2026
Must be postmarked by 2/16/2026

	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Total</u>
EWMA Members	\$40	_____	\$ _____
Non- Members	\$55	_____	\$ _____
Light Dinner on Thursday Night	\$35	_____	\$ _____
Dinner on Saturday Night	\$45	_____	\$ _____
First Aid/CPR—Friday	\$25	_____	\$ _____

	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pre-Registration Tickets			
Grand Prize & Mystery Cash—Books of 5	\$10 X	_____	\$ _____
Grand 50/25/15/10— Books of 5	\$20 X	_____	\$ _____
2026 Bike Giveaway— Books of 5	\$20 X	_____	\$ _____

GRAND TOTAL IN US DOLLARS ENCLOSED: \$ _____

All pre-registrations must be
postmarked

BY
2/16/2026

Make Checks payable to EWMA

Mail completed forms to:

EWMA
Cheryl Fowler
6635 W Happy Valley Rd,
Suite A104-443
Glendale, AZ 85310
clfowler74@yahoo.com

\$15.00 fee on all cancellations
No refunds after Aug 1st 2026

CC# _____

EXP _____ CVV _____

Billing Zip Code _____

See and purchase our Rally shirt on our website in our store.
Pick them up at rally. Some may be available on-site.

For more information go to
www.ewma.world.org/rendezvous

Name: _____ EWMA #: _____

Name: _____ EWMA #: _____

Address: _____ Reg/District/Chapter: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail _____

The undersigned, agree to comply with the ideals governing this event and to hold harmless the EWMA, co-sponsoring organizations and property owners for any loss or injury to self or property in which I/we may become involved, and I/we agree to assume responsibility for any property which I/we knowingly damage.

EWMA reserves the right to refuse registration and/or entrance to anyone at any time.

Rider Signature: _____ Co-Rider Signature: _____