

Florida District FUNshine Times

EAGLE WINGS MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION

JUNE 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 Fellow Members!

June is here!

This month, we will be attending two rallies! The first one will be the combined Georgia District & Region A Rally, held this year in beautiful Helen, Georgia, June 5th, 6th & 7th. This area is simply gorgeous and one of the closest areas to Florida for some wonderful mountain riding. We are really looking forward to the scheduled rides and will try to do several. Georgia District Directors, Tommy and Vicky Martin, are great hosts and their planned events at the rally site are always entertaining and **FUN!** We Love this area!

Our 2nd rally of the month will be the Alabama District Rally, held in Sheffield at the Clarion on June 26th, 27th & 28th. I can't speak for

everybody, but I have surely had a great time at every Alabama Rally I've ever attended, and this one promises to be as entertaining as they were. After the Alabama District Director, Danny Baker was tasked with filling the Region A Director's seat (Congratulations Danny!), Terry and Barbie Cleveland stepped up as Alabama's District Directors and are a really great couple and there is no doubt in my mind that a great time is going to be had by all, except maybe the "Big Boss"... There's still time to get your registrations in and make reservations and have a bodaciously fine time, I guarantee it!

There is also a planned multi-chapter ride in to Dixie Crossroads at 1473 Garden St, Titusville, on June 21st at 1pm. All meals will be off the menu. There will be a 50/50 drawing and Florida District Rally tickets will be for sale too. If interested, please email Assistant District Director, Harry Anderson @ FLAADD@yahoo.com for questions or to RSVP. All are invited, so join the **FUN** and have a delicious meal too!

Now that Summer is upon us, we must remember that we have to keep ourselves hydrated so we don't experience the effects of dehydration, which can be quite dangerous, especially when

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operating a motorcycle. If you become overheated, please pull in to the nearest place that has air conditioning and cool yourself off. I have even stopped at a convenience store that thankfully had a walk-in beer cooler and spent more than a few minutes just loitering inside. What a relief! Dressing wisely is also a must, I applaud

those who can tolerate summer riding gear with armor, but I can't bear the reduction of airflow over my body that the armored gear restricts. I do wear an SPF 50, long sleeve wicking shirt, long pants and gloves to keep the sun off of my delicate skin and to keep me cool, but face it, unless you're wearing a refrigerated vest, it's hot riding on days when the thermometer tops 90°.

Always remember to stay cool and enjoy yourselves...

Until we are together again...

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!

You make
EWMA FUN!



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

American Eagle Day June 20, 2025

Celebrated annually on June 20, the observance commemorates the day in 1782, when the bird was added to the official Seal of the United States.

An American Symbol

On the front side of the Great Seal of the United States, a bald

eagle is depicted holding an olive branch in its right talon and 13 arrows in its left. The olive branch and arrows symbolize the United States' commitment to peace and its readiness for war, while the number of arrows – 13 – refers to the original 13 states.

This side of the seal is considered the coat of arms of the US and is used on most official US government documents.

In addition to being an important American national symbol, bald eagles hold significant value in many Native American cultures and religions, where the birds signify freedom, strength, honesty, wisdom, and power.

Both the national bird and animal of the United States, bald eagles were brought back

from the brink of extinction in the mid-1990s after a nationwide conservation and protection effort. Due to the widespread use of pesticides such as DDT, illegal hunting practices and the destruction of their natural habitats by human activity, the numbers of these majestic birds of prey fell down to a mere 400 in the 1960s.

After DDT was banned in the US and Canada, the numbers of the birds started to grow. By 1995, the birds were removed from the endangered species list. It is hard to accurately count the number of bald eagles, but scientists currently estimate that in the late 2000s, there were about 10,000 nesting pairs of birds in the contiguous United States.



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

Addressing Hazards in the Roadway

There are many different types of hazards you will encounter in the roadway while riding your motorcycle. Striking objects with your motorcycle is much more dangerous and has much greater consequences than if you had struck the same object with a car, SUV or pick-up truck. If you strike a pot hole, piece of truck tire, or any other substantial piece of debris with a 4-wheel vehicle the results might be a flat tire or some minor cosmetic damage. If you struck the same object with a motorcycle the result could be a crash.

Some types of hazards you might encounter in the roadway are as follows:

1. Wet or dry grass clippings being blown into the road during mowing.
2. Gravel kicked into the road by cars and trucks.

3. Tree branches falling from trees above the road.
4. Wet or dry leaves.
5. Dirt washed onto the road during a rain storm.
6. Deep puddles during or after a rain storm.
7. Motorcycles or other vehicles approaching from the opposite direction intruding onto your side of the road going around a curve.
8. Pieces of truck tire. (Florida Gator)
9. Snow or ice
10. And many more.

Make sure if you have to surmount any of the potential slippery examples I have listed, you take as much lean angle as possible out of your bike before you make contact to reduce the chance of sliding out and losing control. No braking, down shifting or abrupt throttle deceleration while crossing over these areas. Just pull in the clutch and coast over the slippery surface. If you have to surmount a large object such as a two by four, or a piece of truck tire, you must momentarily become a dirt bike rider. Hold on to the hand grips, stand up enough to use your knees as shock absorbers, give the throttle a blip-on just before the front tire contacts the object and then immediately roll-off of the throttle so the rear tire can

easily go over the object. This method also works in reducing the shock when going over a hole in road or speed humps.

The best way to avoid any hazard is not to encounter it in the first place. To be able to avoid a hazard you must see it soon enough and far enough away so you have enough time and space to avoid it. Braking or swerving only works if you have enough time and distance to execute these maneuvers. A person needs at least two seconds to react. It takes about one second for your eyes to tell your brain something needs to be done. It takes about another second for your hands and feet to begin to move to accomplish whatever action is required. Much literature has now been changed to three seconds being the minimum amount of reaction time required. More is better. The proper reaction time distance directly related to the proper following distance. If you are closer than 2-3 seconds behind the vehicle in front of you, you will not have enough time and distance to react should some hazard appear.

Riding at night reduces your reaction time even if there is not a vehicle in front of you. There is a line between where your headlight is lighting the road and the darkness just beyond your headlight beam. The distance of this line depends on your

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speed and headlight adjustment. This line should also always be 2-3 seconds ahead of you. If that distance is shorter than 2-3 seconds slow down accordingly.

A legally, properly adjusted headlight is supposed to illuminate 150 ft. ahead on low

beam and 450 ft. ahead on high beam. At 50 mph the distance of two second ahead of you is already 150 ft. If you are going faster, such as 70 mph on the interstate, you are already over riding your low beam head light's illumination distance.

You can switch to high beam for additional distance. But, remember if you are running with your high beam on and

another vehicle is approaching you from the opposite direction, legally you must switch back to low beam at 500 ft. from it. If you switch to low beam until the other vehicle passes you are now drastically over riding your low beam headlight distance.

Ride Safely and Watch Out for Hazards!

Have You Registered for the Florida District Gathering of Friends for FUN March 12 - 14, 2026? Don't miss out on the FUN!!!



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

"New Safety Talks - Escape Path Planning"

This month I am continuing to highlight the brand new,

outstanding, safety talks authored and presented by Florida EWMA members at the 2025 Florida District Rally in Gainesville. Tim Poppel's "Escape Path Planning" safety talk was a great presentation addressing high-potential crash scenarios and possible preplanned escape paths to avoid and quickly react in those scenarios. With Tim's (timpoppel@gmail.com) permission, the PowerPoint presentation is available at [Escape Paths.pptx](#). Topics addressed include:

- Understanding what an escape path is

- How to identify escape paths
- Using constant vigilance to identify hazards
- How to practice, "What If" and how to react to it
- What is rider radar and using the "SEE" strategy
- Using co-rider input to assist in identifying hazards
- Do's and Don'ts of co-rider communication

If any chapter wants a personalized presentation at a chapter event, let me or Tim know and we will arrange it.

Ride Safe. Have FUN!



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

HELLO and HAPPY FATHER'S DAY to ALL fathers, grandfathers. Also, a GIANT shout out to South Carolina, District for a really, really, **FUN** gathering. All their members did a fantastic job and we had such a great time. For those of you that didn't attend... BOO-HOO.

Just thinking...

Have you ever seen something, heard something, or smelled something that triggered a memory of someone or something? Maybe you even

saw something that made you wonder if there was a story behind it. Now I'm sure there are lots of you that either garage sale or thrift shop. I am the queen of this hobby. It is surprising the things you can find. But I will tell you that as I see certain things, I can't help but wonder about the story. A serving platter??? What were the gatherings... Family, Christmas, Thanksgiving, Birthdays, Happy times, maybe even sad times? But at one time that platter served it all. Then I wonder how it ended up here. Cast aside and placed on a thrift store shelf. Let me tell you a story (hope there's room). Many years ago (and I DO mean many), Harry and I were looking to buy a house. The lady took us to see this one particular one. After touring bedrooms, baths and kitchen, Harry wanted to see the basement. I stayed in the dining room... that's when I saw it... The boxes, each labeled with names, right down

to Goodwill. These people had lived their lives here, raised a family here, laughed and cried.

Here and now everything was either being divided among someone or thrown out. Somehow it felt so sad, so final. At that time, I didn't think that this is part of life. Harry came back up and my first words were "WE'RE NOT BUYING THIS HOUSE!!!". At that time, he realized he had married a nut.

The point being, whenever you're doing, perhaps your thrifting and see and buy an item, smile and think you are passing on silent memories. I know now that is life. One way or another we all use an item that, maybe, causes a warm feeling as they recall time of usage.

REMEMBER: The 3 stages of life... WANTING stuff... ACCUMULATING stuff... GETTING RID of stuff.

Until next time:

Florida District Gathering of Friends for FUN!

March 12 - 14, 2026 in Gainesville, FL



**Our 2025 Eagle Wings Rendezvous will be located at
 Convention Center, in Fort Smith, AR
 August 28th - 30th**

FLORIDA DISTRICT HAPPENINGS

JUNE 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 FL1-Y, Gainesville FL2-D, Melbourne	4 FL2-R, Ft Lauderdale	5 FL1-X, Orange Park	6	7 FL1-E2, Ft Walton Beach FL2-F, Punta Gorda
Georgia/Region A Rally						
8 FL2-A, West Palm Beach	9 FL1-K, Palm Coast	10 FL2-H, Wauchula	11 FL1-D2, New Port Richey FL2-O, Stuart	12 FL1-B, Brandon FL2-P, Lake Placid	13	14 FL1-A, Tampa FL1-D, Pensacola
15	16	17 FL1-F2, Ocala	18 FL1-H Daytona Beach	19 FL1-M, Clearwater	20	21 FL2-B2, Sarasota
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 FL2-G, Ft Myers
Alabama District Rally						
29	30	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

June 5 - 7, 2025	Georgia District Rally <i>"Beach Bash"</i>	Helen, GA
June 26 - 28, 2025	Alabama District Rally <i>"Roaring 20's"</i>	Sheffield, AL
August 28 - 30, 2025	EWMA <i>"2025 Eagle Wing Rendezvous"</i>	Fort Smith, AR
Sept 25 - 27, 2025	North Carolina District Rally <i>"Back to the Smokies"</i>	Silva, NC
October 16 - 18, 2025	Mississippi District Rally <i>"The New Frontier"</i>	Biloxi, MS
March 12 - 14, 2026	Florida District Gathering of Friends for FUN <i>"Happy 250th Birthday America!"</i>	Gainesville, FL
May 14 - 16, 2026	South Carolina District Rally <i>"Happy Anniversary America!"</i>	Piedmont, SC

FUN in Florida is # 1


 Like us on
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facebook.com/ewmaflorida



EWMA Florida District
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District Directors
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 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.



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
Friends for Fun, Safety & Riding

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 _____

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 _____

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) \$23.00 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/rally.html>



Eagle Wings Motorcycle Association
3rd Annual Rally
Eagle Wings Rendezvous
Aug 28th – Aug 30th 2025



**WE'RE GOING TO
FORT SMITH, AR!**

3 Nights of FUN, FUN, FUN!!!!

3 Days of Rides, Presentations and FUN!

Thursday GRAND OPENING PARTY FUN
Light Dinner and entertainment

Saturday Night is Closing
Ceremonies, Dinner and Entertainment

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

Let's make this the biggest Rendezvous yet!
We can't wait to see you there!

Registration Fees (onsite \$10 more)

	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Total</u>
EWMA Members	\$45	_____	\$ _____
Non Members	\$55	_____	\$ _____
Day Passes-available for purchase on site			
Dinner Thursday Night (Max seating-360)	\$30	_____	\$ _____
Dinner Saturday Night (Max seating-360)	\$45	_____	\$ _____
Chicken _____ Pork _____			
First Aid/CPR _____	\$25	_____	\$ _____
Pre-Registration Tickets	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Total</u>
Grand Prize & Mystery Cash—Books of 5	\$10 X	_____	\$ _____
Grand 50/25/15/10— Books of 5	\$20 X	_____	\$ _____
GRAND TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____			

**All pre-registrations must be
received**

BY 8/9/2025

Make Checks payable to EWMA

Mail completed forms to:

EWMA

Patti ONeill

2125 Meander

Prescott AZ 86305

Email: ewmacfo@gmail.com

Phone 408-639-0415

\$15.00 fee on all cancellations

No refunds after Aug 1st 2025

CC# _____

EXP _____ CVV _____

Billing Zip Code _____

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 entrance to anyone at any time.**

Rider Signature: _____ Co-Rider Signature: _____