



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

(FL1-A, FL1-B, FL1-M, FL2-A, FL2-O, FL2-R)

WOW! Just WOW! We had a great turn out from Florida, the **FUN**shine State attending and having **FUN** at the Inaugural EWMA Rendezvous! Yes, we had some who couldn't attend due to the hurricane that inconveniently arrived from the Gulf Coast and we are so happy that no one lost their lives due to that bad storm. We did have one member, Florida District Assistant Safety / Ride Coordinator John Cain, who got on a plane after the storm passed and flew up to Knoxville for the Rendezvous! Thank you, John! If any of you Florida folks need some help due to the storm just contact us and we will do what we can.

The Rendezvous was a great success! There were 787 **FUN**-loving and happy attendees who said they had a great time! There were a lot of

vendors who all said they did well and will return next year for the 2nd Annual Rendezvous. There were plenty of games to play and presentations to attend. There were also forums and guest speakers who were all a big hit! The Bike Show and Lighted Bike Show were well attended and our own Curtis Palmore, CD of FL1-M Clearwater, won the Bike Show! Congratulations Curtis! There was a long list of Member Benefits unveiled at the Membership Development Forum and are now on the EWMA Website. A few are; corporate discounts at Vista Print, Red Roof Inn – 20% off through their Ride, Rest, Repeat Program, discounts at over 300 hotel chains around the world through Hotel Engine, corporate perks at Hertz and a new motorcycle towing service through MTS, where EWMA members get a deep discount on membership! These are just a few and there are more planned for the future! You must log on to the www.ewma-world.org to get the links for the discounts!

I mentioned earlier about next year's Rally. Where will it be you ask? I'll tell you; on August 29th – 31st, 2024 the Rendezvous 2 is in Green Bay, Wisconsin! Cheryl and I have already made our campground reservations at the Brown County, Reforestation Camp Campground. It's near the Zoo, so you can hear the animals at night and in the morning! Lots of folks have

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made their hotel reservation at the host hotel, the Hyatt Regency! The Hyatt is connected to the convention center! Go to ewma-world.org to get more information and to register! The International Team has listened to your input and suggestions for next year and we have taken a lot of them and are running with them! Next year's Rendezvous will be bigger and better than this year's so make your plans and reservations and get registered!

Since the Rendezvous, Cheryl and I have attended and had **FUN** at the Georgia District Ride-In in Dillard GA. There were great rides of course but we were fed a delicious spaghetti dinner on Friday and an equally delicious Pancake breakfast on Saturday! At closing ceremonies Cheryl WON the Region A 50/25/25! That's right; she won both of the 25% prizes! She gave one of them back to Region A Director Jim Jackson to put into the Region coffers. She's such a sweetheart! Next year's GA Rally will be in Dillard again, but this time, at the Dillard House on June 13th – 15th, 2024! The Inaugural Region A Rally for 2024 is in conjunction with the GA Rally! Cheryl and I have already registered and reserved our campground site at Willow Valley RV Resort, the host campground. You can make your reservations at the Dillard House, the host hotel, also.

From there we will be going to the North Carolina Rally, Wings Over The Smokies, in West Jefferson, NC on September 22nd – 23rd. After the NC Rally, we will be heading over to the Alabama Rally in Eufaula from September 28th – 30th and then we will head back to South Florida. Hopefully, it won't be as hot as it was when we left there at the end of July! On our travels this summer the temperatures have been very pleasant having lows in the high 50's to 60's and highs in the 70's and low 80's!

Unfortunately, this summer we have lost several of our Florida members. I won't list them here for fear of not mentioning someone, but let's keep our friends and family in our thoughts and prayers always. To those who lost a loved one, just know we are here to help in any way we can so just reach out and we will be there.

Now, let me tell you about some very important stuff – the 2024 Florida District Rally! Come on out and have **FUN** with the TV Shows of the 50's, 60's and 70's at our Gathering of Friends for **FUN** on March 14th – 16th, 2024! This year we have moved to Gainesville where the riding is fantastic right from the hotel and there's a Dairy Queen right down the block! We will have plenty of vendors as well as Indoor and On Bike Games to play. There will be Presentations and Forums and BINGO! New this time, we will be offering a First Aid / CPR class on Wednesday March 13th for the

fully pre-registered delegates. You must be pre-registered and send in a separate check for \$25.00 or \$35.00 to hold your spot. The class is limited to 20 people and I know some spots are already taken; so, make your plans and register ASAP. See the Rally Flyer for details. Another thing new is you get your choice of meal for the formal sit-down dinner on Thursday, so make your selection(s) on the Rally Flyer before you send it in. We are also trying to get a 15-passenger van to take those not going on a ride to spots of interest in Alachua County such as the town of Micanopy to shop and have lunch or the Butterfly Gardens at the college, etc. Make your hotel reservations right away, because they are going fast and you have a better chance to get the room of your choice when reserving early! The Official Rally Shirt is now available to be seen and ordered on the District website. You can order directly from our vendor to get it delivered to your home or picked up at the Rally or you can still order right from the Rally Flyer to pick them up at registration. Rally shirts will NOT be available on site. Go to the Florida District website, ewma-florida.org, and go to the 2024 Rally page to get more details and the Rally Flyer!

Ride safe & see you soon!

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



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

Greetings to all! The first annual Eagle Wings Motorcycle Association Rendezvous is in the history books now.

With much regret, we missed the event. Hurricane Idalia had other plans for us here in Tampa. We live next to the bay and there was a predicted 12-14ft storm surge possibility. Our house is only 9 ft above sea level, so we had no choice but to stay home and hope for the best. We experienced no damage from the storm.

There are many events coming up for us and anyone else that was affected by Idalia. We will be attending the upcoming rallies in North Carolina, Alabama, and Mississippi. Hope to see you there.

IDLE THREAT

Sitting idle waiting for the traffic light to change green may be revving up your risk of being struck from behind. The legendary Hurt Report (1981) covered motorcycle accident cause factors and identified if

any countermeasures could have been used by the motorcyclist to avoid the accidents. The report listed by category the type of accidents the motorcycles were involved in along with the percentage of each separate category. Rear end accidents only accounted for about 3% of all accidents where motorcyclists were struck from behind. A recent study conducted of Florida crashes showed motorcyclists are now being struck from the rear 29% of the time. The Hurt Report also showed that 80% of the time the motorcyclists did not do anything to avoid the accidents.

What has changed? Motorcycle and car technology has gotten better, hasn't it? Mechanical technology has gotten better, but people have gotten worse. What has gotten worse is cell phone use, including texting. The new-normal drivers simply aren't paying enough attention. They aren't recognizing traffic slowing ahead until it's too late. Bad news for you on your motorcycle when you are the next vehicle in front of the distracted driver. In addition to increasing your conspicuity with hi-viz clothing and products like brake light flashers, here are some recommendations on how to deal with distracted drivers.

Slow gradually. When you anticipate a changing traffic light or see a stop sign ahead, take your time getting to the stop. Slow gradually instead of

carrying speed right up to the intersection. You'll have a better chance of getting that distracted driver to slow down with you rather than relying on them to suddenly react to you. That way you will spend less time actually stopped and vulnerable to being hit. When you are actually stopping, position your motorcycle either offset left (preferably) or offset right of the car in front of you, far enough back so you could use either side of the car in front of you as an escape path should the car behind you fail to stop. Once you come to a standstill, maintain a "tactical ready position", keeping your bike in first gear, your hands on the controls and an eye on the mirror. Keep an eye on the car behind you that it isn't creeping forward because the driver is looking down on the phone. When the light turns green, check the mirror to make sure that the car behind doesn't begin to move forward before the traffic in front of you and you have begun to move.

We are not going to be able to get the car drivers off of their cell phones. The only thing we can do is to be aware that this potential danger is real to us, the motorcyclists, and take proper counter measures to deal with this danger.

Ride safe, and keep one eye behind you!



**Ed & Jeanette Carr
Assistant District Safety /
Ride Coordinators /
District Rides**

**BIKE GAMES @ EWMA
RENDEVOUS 2023**

By Jeanette Carr

Smiles, laughter, and teasing greeted me as I arrived at the hilltop parking lot where the riders were in the middle of the 1st event – Bra Toss. One flip



ended with the bra on the antenna of one trike instead of the high line. After several



unsuccessful attempts by all participants, one rider/co-rider team switched places and was – “a winner”!

Next was Toilet Roll Collecting. The driver on his *Trusty Stead*



couldn't stop while the co-rider used a long pole (like a knight's



lance) to collect rolls. The facilitators joined in the **FUN** by teasing each other during the demonstration. “Hey! Be careful where you are swinging that pole!”

The last event was Roadkill. The co-rider used a snatching tool to collect and hold all animals to be counted when the time was up. Sad to say –



several animals were run over again. Double Road Kill !

True to Eagle Wings Motorcycle Association's motto, all participants are always welcome, no matter the ride. One participant enjoyed the events from his motorized wheelchair.



In the fall of 2022, I observed the bike games at the Alabama EWMA District Rally. At that event there were bean bag toss and tennis ball placement events. All great **FUN** and enjoyed by participants and observers.

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When you attend another EWMA Rally, be sure to participate in or cheer on the event. You are sure to leave with a smile on your face.

Micanopy

By Ed Carr

The Town of Micanopy encompasses 1.03 square miles near the Alachua-Marion County

line in rural north-central Florida between Gainesville (home of the University of Florida) and Ocala (Horse Capital of the World[®]). Micanopy's 669 residents occupy 300 residences. Our beautiful southern community was named for Seminole Chief Micanopy (ca.1780-1849).

Once a critical hub for commerce in Florida, "The Town

that Time Forgot" is now known for its 19th-century buildings offering visitors antiques, art, food, music, and hospitality under the shade of enormous oak trees. Many Micanopy families trace their roots to the early days of railroads, agriculture, and small industry. At its heart, Micanopy remains a dynamic community contributing to the richness of north-central Florida and beyond.

You make EWMA FUN!



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

World Smile Day

October 6, 2023

World Smile Day celebrates the simple and powerful act of smiling as a means of spreading kindness and positivity. The focus of this observance is to encourage people to engage in acts of compassion and promote happiness by sharing smiles with others. The intention behind World Smile Day is to highlight the significance of

bridges of understanding that a simple smile can create, transcending cultural, linguistic, and geographical barriers.

The origins of World Smile Day can be traced back to commercial artist Harvey Ball, who created the iconic yellow smiley face in 1963. Initially intended as a cheerful symbol for an insurance company's internal morale-boosting campaign, the smiley face soon became a cultural phenomenon and an enduring symbol of happiness. In 1999, Ball established World Smile Day to remind people of the profound value and impact of smiles in fostering goodwill and human connection. This observance holds particular significance for Americans, as the smiley face is a widely recognized symbol of American popular culture and has inspired countless imitations

and variations, including the use of emojis in digital communication.

In America, World Smile Day is observed in various ways, ranging from organized events such as smile parades or flash mobs, to simple acts like giving compliments and friendly gestures throughout the day. Many people choose to volunteer or donate to charitable organizations, supporting causes that promote happiness and well-being in their communities. World Smile Day is celebrated on the first Friday of every October.





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

WELCOME FALL...

Next to December, I think October is one of the greatest months and time of the year. For those of us who live in Florida, we can only tell by the calendar. But, pumpkin spice and fall decorations let us feel the joy of the changing season. Moving on...

Friends know ALL your stories. BEST friends, helped make those stories!

Is this true with your best friend? Do you still have your best friend from High School, Jr. High, Grade School? A best friend that is still part of your life? Maybe not in your life now, but do you look back and think of them. Think of the laughter, tears, drama and maybe stupid tricks you two made up.

I had a great deal of friends through the years, but didn't meet my BEST friend until after my marriage. That was fifty four years ago.

But, there is a small shift where Barb and I lost touch for twelve years. This rift was caused when I moved to Florida. Don't ask me why. But time, days, weeks and years passed. One night while talking to my son, he said "hey mom, Michael S___ called me". Instantly my mind flew back over the years and I realized I had left my BEST friend behind with all the time we had spent together. Coffee

chats, Making four hundred chess pies each Christmas. It took about a week to locate her and find her phone number. Let me tell you, from her first "Hello" the years dropped away and the lost years never were. Now, we do a lot of "REMEMBER WHEN" over coffee over the phone. But, the closeness is there and, yes, my BEST friend did help me make those "stories" and we enjoyed every minute. Yes, I have my friends in Florida that I enjoy and love to be around. So, if you have a "best" friend, give them a call and laugh, cry, and shake the dream dust off those memories. Trust me, it really, really feels great.

Think of this: If you have nothing in life but a best, true, and honest friend, YOU ARE RICH!!!

To our riding friends, **THANK YOU!**

*Please make plans to join us for the
 "2024 Florida District Gathering
 of Friends for FUN"*

Gainesville, FL
 March 14-16, 2024!



Claudia Vega
**Assistant District Safety /
 Ride Coordinator /
 First Aid/CPR**

**THE INAUGURAL EAGLE
 WING MOTORCYCLE
 ASSOCIATION
 RENDEZVOUS IS IN THE
 BOOKS!**

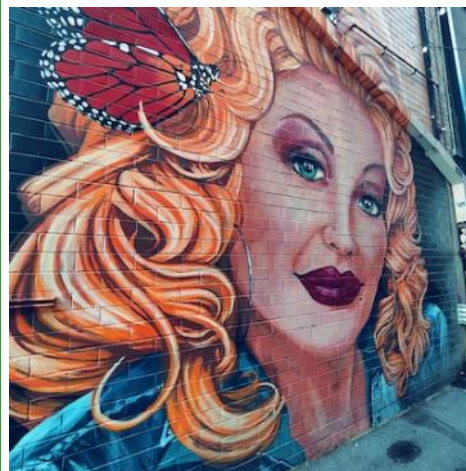
I had the opportunity to attend this 1st Annual event and I have to tell you, I had an absolutely great time. So much so, that I have registered for next year's Rendezvous in Green Bay, WI. I have never been to Wisconsin, so I am really looking forward to this event.

The Rendezvous opened on Thursday at noon and gave us a chance to pick up our registration packets and say hello to all our friends. There was a "Meet the Founders" forum and of course the vendors were open. Thursday evening, Opening Ceremonies was held, with a party after dinner, which was pretty good.

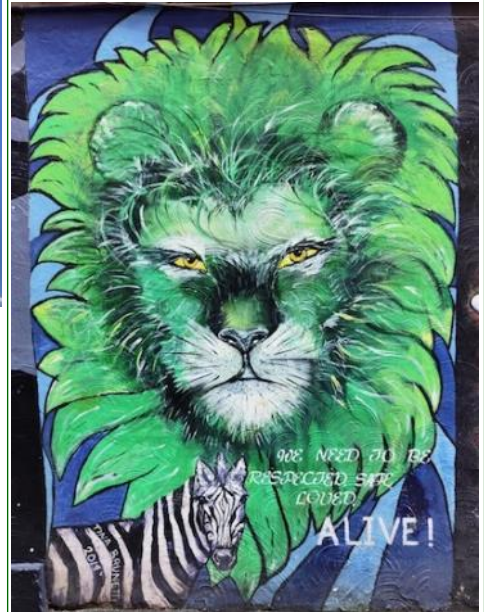


Friday was a busy day for me, as I was scheduled to teach the HSI First Aid / CPR course first thing in the morning. This was the new version of the course and my first time teaching it. Needless to say, I was nervous; but I had a great time teaching. Afterwards it was another trip to the vendors and then a meet up with Chapter FL2-A for dinner before the Ice Cream social.

Saturday morning, we stopped at a farmers market that Robert found downtown, just 2 blocks from the Convention Center. What a great farmers market! If I could have figured out how to bring any of those great



looking fresh veggies home, I would have. Robert also found this one alley that was lined with paintings. It was great.



Once I got to the Convention Center, I decided to sit in on one of the Focus Group discussions. When I walked in, I saw that the facilitator had not shown up yet. Since this discussion was based on "how do we reach riders of other brands?", and I happen to be on



the National Focus Group working on this topic, I asked

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the participants if they would mind if I headed up the discussion. I was lucky as most of the participants were from Florida and knew me, so it was easy to get the discussion going. We held a round robin discussion for an hour and half and heard a lot of good ideas.

Afterwards was a final trip to the vendors, then getting ready for the Closing Night dinner and Ceremonies. One of the things throughout the event that was different (and I think interesting) was that there were a lot of guest speaker forums and focus groups instead of just safety presentations. I hope they continue to have these.

As you can see, I had a great time! Can't wait for next year!

Since this trip was also my vacation and I think I stated previously that I wanted to work on some of my photography, I have to say that Robert was good to me and drove through the Smokey Mountains for me.



I was able to get some photos that, in all the different times I have been in the Smokey's, have not gotten before. I also

had the opportunity to visit the International Towing Museum in Chattanooga on our way to Knoxville.



Fall Rally Season is upon us.

**Please show your support to neighboring
Districts by attending a rally or two, if
you can!**

FLORIDA DISTRICT HAPPENINGS OCTOBER 2023

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

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

Upcoming Florida EWMA Events

Oct 26 - 28, 2023	<p>Mississippi District Rally Link to Rally Flyer</p>	Biloxi, MS
March 14 - 16, 2024	<p>Florida District Gathering of Friends for FUN <i>"FUN with 50's, 60's and 70's TV Shows"</i> Link to Rally Flyer</p>	Gainesville, FL
April 25 - 27, 2024	<p>Tennessee District Rally - Spring Fling <i>"Banjos & Barbecue"</i> Link to Rally Flyer</p>	Johnson City, TN
May, 17 - 18, 2024	<p>South Carolina District Rally <i>"Home Town USA - Red, White & Blue"</i> Link to Rally Flyer</p>	Newberry, SC
June 13 - 15, 2024	<p>Georgia / Region "A" Ride-In <i>"A Riding Rally"</i> Link to Rally Flyer</p>	Dillard, GA
August, 29 - 31, 2024	<p>2024 Eagle Wings Rendezvous Link to Rally Flyer</p>	Green Bay, WI

FUN in Florida is # 1



EWMA Florida District

Bill & Cheryl Smith
 District Directors
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 E-mail: fdd2018@gmail.com
www.ewma-florida.org



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Gainesville, FL 32606-3742

Rate **\$139.00** (including buffet breakfast for 2)
Reservation call **352-331-3336**
Group Code: **EWMA2023**



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- 1st Drawing - \$5,000 Cash
- 2nd Drawing - \$ 500 Cash
- 3rd Drawing - \$ 250 Cash

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Alachua County, FL

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Alachua County

Need not be present to win
Proceeds support EWMA Florida District Safety Program



EAGLE WINGS MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION



Florida District Gathering of

Friends for FUN

March 14th - 16th, 2024

**FUN WITH 50'S 60'S 70'S
TV SHOWS**



Florida District Rally (March 14 -16, 2024)

Opens daily at 9:00am

Florida District Directors

Bill & Cheryl Smith
(561) 445-4270

fldd2018@gmail.com

FIRST AID/CPR CLASS OFFERED

Wednesday 03-13-2024 – 11am – 5pm

Limit 20 people Must Be Fully Registered

FL EWMA MEMBERS \$25. (returned upon completion)

NON-FLORIDA EWMA MEMBERS \$35.00

SEPARATE CHECKS NEEDED PAYABLE TO

EWMA FL DISTRICT

Contact Claudia Vega for availability

561-722-0632 rvega19854@gmail.com

Preregistrations must be postmarked by March 1, 2024

**No refunds after February 25, 2024.
After March 1st Registration is \$5.00 higher**

\$15 Day Passes will be sold onsite and are good for all events the day of purchase **except Thursday night dinner**

Submit Registration Forms to:

**Geno & Kathie Jette
114 Canis Dr E
Orange Park, FL 32073**

Make check or money order (US dollars 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 1st, 2023** 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>

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	x	_____	=	_____
Non-Member Registration	\$40	x	_____	=	_____
Under 12 (Dinner on Thursday extra, See below)	Free	x	_____	=	_____
Sit Down Dinner - Thursday Night	\$30	x	_____	=	_____

***** Fully registered attendees only *****
Dinner choices - Circle One for each attendee:
Pineapple Seared Chicken, Seared Mahi Mahi, Manacotti w/
red sauce or spinach cream sauce (pick one)

Ticket Sales

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

PRE-ORDER ONLY SHIRT SALES

Polo Shirt	S	M	L	XL	\$22	x	_____	=	_____
Polo Shirt	XXL	XXXL		XXXXL	\$25	x	_____	=	_____
T-Shirt	S	M	L	XL	\$18	x	_____	=	_____
T-Shirt	XXL	XXXL		XXXXL	\$20	x	_____	=	_____
Long Sleeve	S	M	L	XL	\$20	x	_____	=	_____
Long Sleeve	XXL	XXXL		XXXXL	\$22	x	_____	=	_____

TOTAL ENCLOSED (US Dollars Only) \$ _____

RALLY SHIRTS NOT AVAILABLE ON-SITE. PRE-ORDER ONLY