

Florida District FUNshine Times

EAGLE WINGS MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION

AUGUST 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 All!

The Dog Days of summer are upon us and it is HOT! I hope everybody will heed all the information that's been provided on how to avoid heat related issues and illness.

July was like a vacation for us, as there was not a single Region-A Rally to attend, but thank goodness we have a rally this month, because we were getting a little bit bored. What rally? Why the 3rd Annual EWMA Rendezvous, that's what rally!!! This year it is being held in Ft. Smith, Arkansas on the 28th, 29th & 30th of August. I can't wait to get there and see what the area has to offer, like historical sites, tourist souvenir shops and eating experiences, not to mention all the events scheduled at the rally itself. I've also heard that the accommodations are awesome, so we are eager to get there and see all there is to offer! I'm especially excited to participate in the Baseball Cornhole Tournament!

If you are attending or planning to attend and would like to volunteer to work the registration booth on Thursday, August 28th, or willing to assist in another volunteer position, please email me at EWMAFLDD@gmail.com. Help make this year's event a success by donating a little bit of your time and have **FUN** doing it!

On a sad note, our home chapter (FL1-D Pensacola), recently suffered the loss of a member due to injuries received in a low speed (single vehicle) motorcycle accident. Even though he was only traveling between 20 and 25 mph, the injuries he suffered were quite significant. I would have never thought that a wreck at such a slow speed could be so devastating. We've chosen a wonderful and exciting sport as our hobby, but it is one that is not without danger. Always be careful and be aware of your own abilities and condition, especially during this period of extreme heat. Even a moment or two of dizziness can result in tragedy, so hydrate, hydrate, hydrate and stop often to cool off and know when to say pull over if you feel ill.

Please be safe.

Hopefully, we will all be together safely soon!

Until that time arrives...

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!



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

STEERING HEAD BEARINGS CHECK ON YOUR MOTORCYCLE

Have you checked the Steering Head Bearings on your motorcycle lately? Do you know how to check the Steering Head Bearings on your bike? You don't have to be a "Master Mechanic" to do a self-check on your motorcycle's Steering Head Bearings. Sit on your bike and turn the handlebars full lock left and then full lock right. Feel if the movement is smooth. If the front wheel is hard to steer or you feel any roughness or hear any clicking when you turn back and forth, chances are your Steering Head Bearings

are worn. Make sure your front tire is aired up to the recommended proper air pressure before you attempt this test. If the front tire is low on air, the front wheel could be hard to steer only because of the low air pressure.

Steering Head Bearing failure is probable going to happen on a bike that has 100,000 miles or more on it. It could happen to a bike with less mileage if the rider is a normally aggressive rider. The factory Roller Bearings that Honda originally installed on 2001-2017 Gold Wings were inadequate for the size and weight of the bike. To probably save on production costs, Honda installed the same size bearings on several model bikes, with the other models being smaller. This could also be true with other Motorcycle Manufacturers.

The preferred replacement bearings are "Tapered Bearings". The same type of bearings used on the wheel axles of motorcycles and cars. If you have had a Trike Conversion Kit installed on your

motorcycle with an Easy Steer kit installed, chances are the Steering Head Bearings were changed to Tapered Bearings at that time. You will mostly find failing Steering Head Bearings on high mileage two-wheel motorcycles.

There is an excellent video by Partzilla on YouTube that shows you step-by-step on how to change the Steering Head Bearings. This repair should only be attempted by you if you are a "Gear-Head" and have the proper tools. If you are not going to attempt the repair yourself, at least by watching the video you will have an idea of how complicated the repair is and why your bill from the Motorcycle Shop was so expensive.

Riding with worn Steering Head Bearings is dangerous and will compromise motorcycle handling and your ability to steer safely. If your bike fits the criteria I have described, do the Steering Head Bearing self-check just to be sure.

Ride Safe!

EAGLE WINGS MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION



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

**Florida District
"Gathering of Friends
for FUN!"**

March 12 - 14, 2026
Gainesville, FL



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

Distracted Driving - Double Jeopardy!

NHTSA – National Highway Traffic Safety Administration statistics show that distracted driving is a top cause factor for motor vehicle accidents. Distracted driving is defined as operating a vehicle while engaging in an activity that has the potential to distract the driver from the task of driving. Here is the NHTSA short list of top distractors in no particular order:

- Adjusting bike equipment: navigation, communication, mirrors, etc.

- Cell phone use
- Eating or drinking
- Lost in thought
- Concentration on an outside, distracting event, person, object, i.e. rubbernecking
- Co-riders, other vehicle occupants

Distracted driving is a threat to safety for two reasons, thus Double Jeopardy! First, we must be on the alert for and evade distracted drivers in other vehicles. Defensive driving/riding is perhaps the best countermeasure for dealing with the other distracted drivers. Expect the unexpected. Keep those escape paths open!

Second, I, myself, can be the distracted driver! Now, I am a threat to others and myself if I fall victim to one or more of the NHTSA top distractors. The best countermeasure for my own distracted riding is to concentrate on the task at hand and eliminate distractions under my control.

What do you think? How about you go back to the list above

and guess (number) just the top three distractors in order? Hint: One distractor on the list occurs more often than all others combined! Which are your own possible or even likely distractors?

Bet you're surprised at the NHTSA answer! Sorry! No prizes!

ANSWER: The NHTSA says the top distractors are (in order of accident cause frequency):

1. Lost in thought. 62%
2. Cell phone use 14%
3. Concentration on an outside, distracting event, person, object, i.e. rubbernecking. 7%
4. Other occupants, i.e. co-riders 5%
5. Eating or drinking 2%
6. Adjusting bike equipment: navigation, communication, mirrors, etc., 2%
7. Other 8%

**Concentrate. Ride Safe.
 Have FUN!**

You make

EWMA FUN!



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

Well, hello again and my apologies for missing last month. Time really, really past fast and before I knew it I had missed the deadline. BUT I'M HERE NOW!!!

Not to mention age, but I would like to bring up one of the GREATEST comedians of all time and my number one favorite Red Skeleton ... Oh my how I loved him (as I'm sure a lot of you did). So it was a thrill when I found a beautiful piece done on him, on Youtube. Needless to say I saved it and

would like to share it with you now. You know he could entertain you an hour each week and NEVER ONCE use profanity or dirty jokes. Here was his recipe for a perfect marriage:

- 1) Twice a week we eat out. Good food, good drinks and good companionship...I go on Tuesdays, she goes on Fridays.
- 2) We also sleep in separate beds. Hers is in California, mine is in Texas.
- 3) I take my wife everywhere, but she keeps coming back.
- 4) We always hold hands. If I let go she shops.
- 5) She has an electric knife, electric blender, electric bread maker And said there's no place to sit down, so I bought her an electric chair.
- 6) I married Miss. Right. I didn't know her first name was Always.

7) REMEMBER; marriage is the number one cause of divorce.

8) She got a mud pack...looked great, then the mud fell off.

9) The last fight was my fault though. She ask what was on t.v. and I said dust.

10)I haven't spoken to my wife in 18 months. I don't like to interrupt her

That is but a small portion , but his comedy is ageless. He was also a famous painter, but his favorite was painting clowns. Today they sell for many, many thousands,

You know, I can't help but think that the world is a little sadder place without men like Red Skeleton.

Until next time remember: There are two things we get at the start of each and every new day:

A chance and a choice!

We are waiting for your Registration!!!
Florida District Gathering of Friends for FUN
March 12 - 14, 2026?
Don't miss out on the FUN!!!



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

National Relaxation Day

National Relaxation Day is celebrated annually on August 15, encouraging individuals to take a break from their busy lives and focus on relaxation and self-care.

National Relaxation Day was founded in 1985 by Sean Moeller, who was just nine years old at the time. He

proposed this day as a way to remind people to slow down and unwind, emphasizing that relaxation is essential for mental and physical health. The day serves as a reminder to take a pause from the fast-paced lifestyle many lead and to prioritize self-care.

How to Celebrate

- **Unplugging:** Take a break from technology and social media to truly relax and disconnect from daily stressors.
- **Engaging in Relaxing Activities:** Consider activities such as yoga, meditation, reading, or simply enjoying nature. These can help reduce stress and promote a sense of calm.
- **Spa Day:** Treat yourself to a spa day at home or visit a

local spa for some pampering.

- **Quiet Time:** Spend time in a quiet space, whether it's your home or a park, to reflect and recharge.

Importance of Relaxation

Relaxation is crucial for maintaining overall health and well-being. It helps reduce stress, improve mood, and enhance productivity. National Relaxation Day encourages everyone to take a moment for themselves, promoting a healthier lifestyle and preventing burnout.

In summary, National Relaxation Day is a wonderful opportunity to prioritize self-care and relaxation, reminding us all of the importance of taking time to unwind and rejuvenate.



**The 3rd Annual
 Eagle Wings
 Rendezvous
 Fort Smith, AR
 August 28 - 30, 2025!!!
 Hope to see you there!**

FLORIDA DISTRICT HAPPENINGS

AUGUST 2025

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

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

Upcoming Florida EWMA Events

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
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
May 14 - 16, 2026	South Carolina District Rally <i>"Happy Anniversary America!"</i>	Piedmont, SC

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
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: _____