

Florida District FUNshine Times

EAGLE WINGS MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION

FEBRUARY 2026



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 from the frigid North! (North Florida that is!!!)

We've been enduring some very crisp weather up here the last few weeks and I am so ready for spring to arrive! Riding in the cold is about as pleasurable as riding in the rain, so I don't do it very often.

We hope everybody had a **FUN** and safe New Year's celebration. We enjoyed the company of over a hundred fellow members at the "Shrimps R Us Ride In", in Welaka on New Year's Day. There was plenty of fresh, hot and delicious seafood, chicken with all the fixings! We also gave away several cash prizes! Overall, the weather was nice, the food was great, but the camaraderie was the best part! We

had such a good time, we are already looking forward to next year.

Are you getting excited about the upcoming Florida District Rally? Well, we only have a little more than 5 weeks until the **FUN** begins and there are still a few rooms available. We do anticipate filling the hotel, so, if you try to get a room and none are available, there will be a waiting list, where rooms will be reallocated if a cancellation occurs. You can avoid being on that list by making your reservation soon! Also, you must use the EWMA26 code to reserve your room, or else you may be told that no rooms are available, even though there might be some. We don't want anyone to miss out on all the **FUN** that we have planned, so be sure to make your reservations quickly and send in your registration so we can better estimate the number of meals for the dinner. We are excited to celebrate this nation's 250th Birthday with all of our members!

As I mentioned above, the weather has been very chilly for most of Florida and I am hoping that Punxsutawney Phil doesn't see his shadow on Groundhog's Day and spring will come soon... I'm tired of the cold and ready for warmer weather.

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We hope that everybody has a very Happy Valentine's Day and are so looking forward to seeing everybody very soon in

Gainesville and having Tons of **FUN!** And don't forget your patriotic outfits!

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!



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

It's been a good run!

This 2026 Florida District Rally will be my last as the Assistant District Safety/Ride Coordinator for Safety Presentations. I have been honored to have served on the great district team for some five years in this or similar rider education and safety roles. I believe that now is the time for

me to voluntarily step down and give someone else the opportunity to serve and help advance safety awareness within EWMA.

Please consider your own capabilities and interests in promoting motorcycle safety and volunteer to be considered for the job! The

District Directors, Fred and Karen Kennedy, and the District Safety/Ride Coordinators, Dominick and Diane DeSiato, will make the final selection. Ideally, a single person or couple will be selected before the March 14-16 rally in order observe firsthand the primary job responsibilities.

Generally, the job involves assisting the district safety/ride coordinators in promoting motorcycle safety through safety presentations. Specifically, the

primary responsibility involves managing the safety presentations at the annual district rally in terms of who, what, where, when and how. The job requires above average (or quick learning) technical expertise with electronic presentation equipment including computers, software, projectors, remote controls, and sound. This skill carries over to presentations support at other events throughout the rally and to chapter directors throughout the year as needed. Other duties involve providing a monthly newsletter article on motorcycle safety.

As with any job, it is what you make of it. New ideas and techniques are welcome. Now is your time to shine! Go for it!

Ride Safe!



Coming February 2, 2026!!!
Will he see his Shadow???



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

PLAN AHEAD/LOOK AHEAD

Over the past few years there have been about a half a dozen crashes that I am aware of where one of our members strikes the rear of the bike in front of them with their bike while on a group ride. Some of the impact has been minor and some of impact has been major such as a Trike flipping upside down.

There are some common reasons these crashes have occurred and some common solutions that might help prevent them from happening:

Situation #1: A bike rear ending another bike when catching back up to the group:

When you are catching up to the group during times such as

after taking off from a stop, pace your slowing when you catch up to the group to be gradual. If you pull up fast and slow fast, the motorcycle behind you has to slow even faster than you did. This starts a chain reaction where the last bikes are stopping too abruptly and thus adding to the possibility of a rear end collision. If you slow gradually the bikes behind you will do the same and thus reduce the chance of a rear end collision. Because you know the possibility of a rear end collision exists during these times, keep an eye in your rear view mirror and leave enough space in front of you for an escape path just in case you have to get out of the way of a bike coming up from behind you that looks like it cannot stop without hitting you.

Situation #2: A bike rear ending another bike when pulling out when making a right turn:

When you are behind other bikes taking off from a stop making a right turn your primary attention should be on what the bike in front of you is doing and not the approaching traffic.

What has happened often times in this situation is that the

second bike rider is also looking for a gap in the approaching traffic to pull out. They see an opening and see the bike in front of them begin to move. They think the bike in front of them is going to continue to move forward to enter traffic but for whatever reason abruptly stops. Because the second rider is still looking back at approaching traffic, they strike the rear of the bike in front of them. If you are the second bike in this situation, before you continue to move, look back at the bike in front of you to make sure they are continuing on their way before you continue.

Remember every rider has a different skill level and risk level. Just because you feel there is enough room to safely pull out the other rider in front of you may not. If you keep these facts in mind it might just save you from a mishap.

Don't forget there will be Group Rides at our Florida District Rally on March 12th-14th. Come join us for a great time.

**Ride safe and enjoy those
group rides with other
members!**

You make

EWMA FUN!



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

HAPPY Valentine's Day to you all. Yes, it is February already; see that is just how time flies. By the way... for those of you that missed the annual New Year's Shrimp-R-US, TOOO BAD!!! YOU LOST OUT... BIG TIME. Nuff said.

OK, let me tell you a story to get to the "meat" of my subject. Harry and I had probably been married, oh, about a year, maybe two, when I met Barbara who lived just behind our small

apartment. We had moved from Michigan back to Pennsylvania for Harry to become a PA State policeman. Anyway, over the months while he was at the academy, Barb and I began a close, funny and understanding friendship. She often was at our house with her young daughter for dinner.

Now, this next part... don't ask me what I was thinking or why. Dinner eaten, Harry went to talk to a neighbor, Barb and I were doing the dishes. The sink is next to the back door. Harry comes through the door and (Lordy) I threw the pan of dish water in his face. "RUN BARB" I screamed.

She ran out the front, I hid behind a huge wing back chair. Harry wiped his face and headed for Barb, caught her and handcuffed her to her father-in-law's flag pole. ME??? I'm out the back door, crawling through

a neighbors dining room. Short ending, I got caught too. Now to the 'MEAT' of this crazy article: Sixty years later Barb and I are still friends. We've made memories that have lasted and ALWAYS been there for each other. Good friends are to find, True friends even harder, but LIFELONG friends... rare, so very rare.

I hope there are those of you that have such a friend. To me this is something that can keep you young, not physically maybe, but going back in time mentally will keep you young. Well maybe middle aged.

Remember: you have two people in your life:

Those that look into your cup, to see if you have more than them, AND those that look into your cup, to see if you need more.

Until next time...



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

Hello everyone!

Well, it's getting to be that time of year to start planning for Rallies to attend in 2026, and Your Florida District Rally is fast approaching. IF you haven't already marked your calendar and booked your room, what are you waiting for March 12-14-2026 will be here before you know it.

Rooms are going fast, so don't get left out of the fun, be sure and join us. We are working

hard trying to bring good quality vendors to the Rally and have a few new vendors lined up. We will surely miss Sierra Electronics as they have been a big sponsor and supported our rally for many years. I have talked about the importance of doing business with our vendors before and losing a Quality company like Sierra goes to that point.

Well, I'll get off my soapbox for now. Please check out the 2026 Rally Schedule.



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

World Pizza Day

February 9, 2026

World Pizza Day is an unofficial holiday celebrated annually on February 9th. Its goal is to celebrate one of the most popular and beloved dishes in the world — pizza.

History of the holiday

This day was proposed in 2009 in Italy, the country where pizza has a long history and is an important part of the national cuisine. World Pizza Day was created to highlight the global recognition and love for this dish, which has become an integral part of global gastronomic culture.

How the holiday is celebrated

World Pizza Day is celebrated worldwide. In some countries, this day is accompanied by various promotions and discounts in pizzerias, as well as tastings. In some places, competitions for the best pizza preparation, workshops, and

other events related to making this dish are organized.

Characteristics of pizza

Pizza exists in different variations, and each region can offer its unique interpretation of this dish.

Popularity of pizza

Pizza has become not only a national dish of Italy but also an international symbol of comfort food. It easily adapts to different tastes and preferences, making it universal. Pizza is prepared and eaten in various parts of the world, and every year this holiday gains more popularity.

It's A 250th Birthday Party!!!
The Florida District
Gathering of Friends for FUN
March 12 - 14, 2026 - Gainesville, FL
Don't miss out on this FUN rally!!!

FLORIDA DISTRICT HAPPENINGS FEBRUARY 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 FL2-A, West Palm Beach	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
4	5 FL1-K, Palm Coast	6 FL2-H, Wauchula	7 FL1-D2, New Port Richey FL2-O, Stuart	8 FL1-B, Brandon FL2-P, Lake Placid	9	10 FL1-A, Tampa FL1-D, Pensacola
11	12	13 FL1-F2, Ocala	14 FL1-H Daytona Beach	15 FL1-M, Clearwater	16	17 FL2-B2, Sarasota
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 FL2-G, Ft Myers
25	26	27	28	<u>Please verify with an individual Chapter 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

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
Sept 24 - 26, 2026	North Carolina District Rally <i>"Wings Over The Smokies"</i>	Sylva, NC
Oct 15 - 17, 2026	Mississippi District Rally <i>"AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL... Land That I Love"</i>	Biloxi, MS

FUN in Florida is # 1



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.



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
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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	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Total</u>
Must be postmarked by 2/16/2026			
EWMA Members	\$40	_____	\$ _____
Non- Members	\$55	_____	\$ _____
Light Dinner on Thursday Night	\$35	_____	\$ _____
Dinner on Saturday Night	\$45	_____	\$ _____
<i>First Aid/CPR—Friday</i>	\$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	_____	\$ _____
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: _____