



Friends for  
FUN, Safety &  
Riding

FUN in Florida is # 1

www.ewma-florida.org

# Florida District FUNshine Times

CEO of EWMA  
Anita Alkire

President of EWMA  
Bruce Beeman

Sr. Vice President of EWMA  
Bob & Nan Shrader

Vice President of Operations  
Don & Rhonda Weed

Region A Directors  
Jim & Sue Jackson

District Directors  
Bill & Cheryl Smith  
fidd2018@gmail.com

Assistant District Directors  
District Rally Hospitality  
Harry & Lynn Anderson  
flaadd@yahoo.com

Assistant District Directors  
District Rally Coordinators  
Webmaster  
Rick & Madalena Buck  
rmbuck@tampabay.rr.com

Assistant District Directors  
Rally Registration Coordinators  
Goodie Sales Coordinators  
Geno & Kathie Jette  
addgeno@yahoo.com

Assistant District Directors  
Motorist Awareness Coordinators  
Fred & Karen Kennedy  
fredandkaren@cox.net

Assistant District Director  
Carl Williams  
carlmwill@yahoo.com

District Safety / Ride Coordinators  
Dominick & Diane DeSiato  
dominickfde@gmail.com

Assistant Safety / Ride Coordinator  
Claudia Vega  
rvega19854@gmail.com

Assistant Safety / Ride Coordinators  
Ed & Jeanette Carr  
gwwroadrider@gmail.com

Assistant Safety / Ride Coordinator  
John Cain  
jcain16@gmail.com

District Treasurer  
Pat Van Lengen  
treasurer@gwrraflorida.com

Newsletter Editor  
Carlos Lozano  
carlos@cmlozano.com



**From Your  
Florida District Directors  
Bill and Cheryl Smith  
(FL2-A, FL2-O, FL2-R)**

**Welcome** to June! Welcome to Hurricane Season! Welcome to the Rainy Season in Florida! Welcome to the close of Snowbird Season in Florida! Good thing about Seasons in Florida is it's always Riding Season! You just adjust your rides to what the weather has in store. Summertime riding times and destinations are different than the rest of the year. The good thing is, WE CAN RIDE ALL YEAR!

**Hopefully** Cheryl and I will see some of you at the TR Ranch for the South Carolina District Rally! It's June 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> in Travelers Rest S.C. which is close to Greenville. This will be Cheryl and my last Rally

attendance until the Eagle Wings Rendezvous August 31<sup>st</sup> – September 2<sup>nd</sup> in Knoxville Tennessee! Thank you Florida – so far we have the most pre-registrations sent in to attend the Rendezvous, the inaugural EWMA International Rally! Keep sending them in! We will need your help to volunteer at the event. We will set up a schedule once we have been told where and what times need to be covered by the Florida District. The hotel discounts and campground information should be out very soon and we will pass on that information as soon as it is released.

**EWMA** just entered a new information platform. You should have received an email giving you a member's user name and password to sign into the EWMA website. Once there you can reset your password and user name and you need to go to select chapter. Once there you can select a chapter (we don't assign chapters) and you can select as many as you want to follow wherever they are, any District, Region or Country! Once signed in, please explore and check out all of the things you can do. There are more details in the latest May On The Fly Newsletter that recently came out.

*(Continued on page 2)*

*(Continued from page 1)*

**We** are still working on getting a location and date for the 2024 Florida District Rally, so thanks for being patient. We will have something settled soon and get the Safety Raffle Tickets out to you so you can buy and sell them!

**Something** we want to encourage everyone to do is

stop doing the same old, same old and do some stuff that encourages others to join in on the Ride! The Eagle Wings Rendezvous is being said to be a different kind of Rally. Let's work on making our Chapter Events a different kind of Gathering and Ride. We could all use new members, so go out and invite others to join us! Find out what they are looking to do and give it a try!

**Remember**, all brands of motorcycles are invited. We could all use more Like Minded Motorcycle Enthusiasts to have **FUN** with!

**Happy Father's Day** to all Dad's!

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



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

**Hello** and welcome to the onset of the coming summer. Bet those of us from Florida are dreading the coming heat. But I wonder??? Would you really change it?

**Just** what would you change if you could? If you did go back and change something, what would it be?

**Would** it be maybe some unkind word or action to a classmate? Or could it have been some deep guilty secret that you truly wish you could go back and change. Maybe, just maybe, you talked back to your parents... NO WAIT...

**At** our age, our generation knew better than to talk back to our parents. (That's why we have lived so long.) O.K., how about that high school sweetheart... If you could go back, you would probably end up marrying her. For those of you who didn't, just remember... Some of God's greatest gifts are unanswered prayers. I'm sure there are a lot more subjects to explore on this matter and I am sure there have been times that many of us have often thought of the same question throughout the years.

**But**, I have come to the conclusion that by changing things, it may totally change our future. I really and truly am glad I am where I am today. My health may not be the best, but I have lived a good life and am so glad for the things that make me look to the future: a wonderful husband who takes special care of me, loving me and keeping me up with my many appointments. Two children, grown but in my mind two toddlers (which they hate), two grandsons, well, all I can say is: I do not envy the world they are facing. NOW THAT IS SOMETHING I WOULD CHANGE IN A HEARTBEAT

**Think about this:**

**If** you could erase all the mistakes of your past, you would also erase all the wisdom of your present. Remember the lesson, not the disappointment.

**Join the  
FUN!**



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

### **SURVIVING THE RAIN**

**It's** going to happen. You are going to get caught riding in the rain. But when it rains and you are riding your motorcycle, all bets are off. Suddenly, the world becomes more dangerous and a much scarier place. Suddenly, traction becomes sketchy; your safety feels more tenuous; it's often cooler; and fear becomes a dominating factor.

**It's** not so bad if you are riding out in the country or on less-traveled roads. There you can move at a speed that matches the more limited grip you know your tires now have. You can choose where you want to ride in your lane, and not be pushed by traffic behind you.

**But** in the city, it is often ugly. There you're dealing with cars and trucks in close proximity (few of their drivers feel the need to slow down for the wet conditions) who have better

traction than you do. Slippery painted lines; a layer of oil and grease on the tarmac; often-limited visibility; and all sorts of slippery little surprises are now affecting you on your motorcycle but not other vehicle drivers. All this coupled with the fact that the four-wheel drivers are often distracted and not paying attention.

**Having** the proper rain gear matters. Wear highly conspicuous color-wise to other drivers in the rain and gear that is also bad-weather friendly. Getting caught by a surprise downpour is one thing, but heading out into rain from home without the right gear is quite another. Being wet and cold while trying to stay on top of things on the bike can be a big distraction, and one you don't need when you're dealing with the variables of a wet ride. Your helmet is key to all this, and primarily the face shield. Do you even have a face shield? You'll want an anti-fog face shield if possible, or a face shield you can easily crack open to allow outside air to clear off the fog from within.

**What** is the condition of your tires? Knowing what kind and how much tread you have on your tires should dictate how you will be riding in the rain. Touring, sport-touring, adventure-bike and most retro-bike tires are designed to deal with water dispersal, and if they

are in good shape you're ahead of the game when it comes to wet-weather traction. Many sportbike tires however, trade grooving for maximum slick-like surface area, which improves traction on a dry roadway—a good thing—but does nothing for water dispersal, and can lead to hydroplaning on a wet roadway—a bad thing.

**Operating** your motorcycle smoothly and without any jerky inputs on the handlebars controls and foot pegs are of supreme importance when riding on wet surfaces. The reason for this, of course, is the limited traction your tires' contact patches are dealing with in wet conditions, as abrupt movements can easily overwhelm that less-than-dry pavement traction quotient and cause hydroplaning and an often-abrupt loss of traction. Be aware of now slippery surfaces such as any painted lines like crosswalk lines, manhole covers, leaves, puddles, asphalt ridges, and potholes, etc. Intersections are extra ugly due to automobile oil droppings at stop bars.

**Increase** your following distance even though the vehicle behind you will probably be tailgating you. Apply your brakes more gently and do not use engine braking combined with the use of your brakes when stopping. Engine braking

*(Continued on page 4)*

(Continued from page 3)

puts extra stress on your rear tire when combined with using your rear brake. This increases the chances of sliding your rear tire on a wet road surface. Take off from a stop smoothly

to prevent slipping your rear tire. All control input should be gradual. This again is the reason for the extra following distance you should give yourself. Practice makes perfect. Pretend the road is wet and practice taking off and

stopping smoothly so you are ready for the rain.

**Stay** relaxed. Keep your cool. And survive riding in the rain.

**We** are here to assist you with your training needs.

**Ride Safe!**



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

**If** you watch TV news, then you probably have heard some of the recent attention given to "artificial intelligence (AI)". Not knowing much about it myself, I thought I would try to use it to write my monthly newsletter article. It couldn't be any worse than my writing. Right?

**There** are several free AI programs accessible on the Internet. I chose ChatGPT (Chat Generative Pre-Trained Transformer) at <https://chat.openai.com>. I typed in "Write a short essay on motorcycle safety education." Here's what I got:

### **"Title: Motorcycle Safety Education: Riding Towards Responsible Adventures**

#### **Introduction:**

**Motorcycles** offer an exhilarating sense of freedom and adventure on the open road. However, this freedom comes with increased risks and responsibilities. Motorcycle safety education plays a vital role in equipping riders with the knowledge and skills needed to navigate the roads safely. By promoting awareness, teaching defensive riding techniques, and emphasizing the importance of protective gear, motorcycle safety education ensures that riders can fully enjoy their two-wheeled adventures while minimizing the potential for accidents and injuries.

#### **Awareness and Education:**

**One** of the primary goals of motorcycle safety education is to create awareness about the unique challenges faced by riders. Motorcycles are smaller and less visible than other vehicles on the road, making them more susceptible to accidents caused by unaware or

inattentive drivers. By educating both motorcyclists and other road users about sharing the road responsibly, safety courses aim to reduce the number of collisions and close calls.

#### **Defensive Riding Techniques:**

**Motorcycle** safety education emphasizes the development of defensive riding techniques. Riders are trained to anticipate potential hazards, such as sudden lane changes, turning vehicles, or unexpected obstacles. By learning defensive maneuvers, such as evasive braking and swerving, motorcyclists can react quickly and effectively in dangerous situations, potentially avoiding accidents altogether.

#### **Emphasis on Protective Gear:**

**Motorcycle** safety education places a strong emphasis on the importance of wearing proper protective gear. Helmets, gloves, boots, and protective clothing can significantly reduce the severity of injuries in the

(Continued on page 5)



(Continued from page 4)

event of an accident. Safety courses educate riders about the different types of gear available and provide guidance on selecting the right equipment that meets safety standards. By instilling the habit of wearing protective gear, motorcycle safety education aims to save lives and prevent serious injuries.

### Lifelong Learning:

**Motorcycle** safety education is not limited to new riders alone. Lifelong learning is encouraged to enhance riders' skills and knowledge continuously. Advanced courses are available for experienced riders to refine their techniques, improve situational awareness, and stay updated on the latest safety practices. By promoting ongoing

education, the motorcycle community can foster a culture of continuous improvement and responsible riding.

### Government and Community Initiatives:

**Governments** and local communities also play a crucial role in promoting motorcycle safety education. They can support the development of comprehensive safety programs, offer incentives for riders to participate in safety courses, and invest in infrastructure improvements that cater to the unique needs of motorcyclists. Collaborations between motorcycle clubs, safety organizations, and government agencies can create a synergy that enhances motorcycle safety education efforts.

### Conclusion:

**Motorcycle** safety education is a vital component in ensuring the well-being of riders and reducing the number of motorcycle accidents. By raising awareness, teaching defensive riding techniques, and emphasizing the importance of protective gear, safety courses empower motorcyclists to make responsible decisions on the road. Through ongoing education and community initiatives, we can create a safer environment for both motorcyclists and other road users, allowing everyone to enjoy the thrill of motorcycle riding while minimizing risks. Remember, safety should always ride alongside adventure!"

Friends for **FUN, Safety &**  
Riding.





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

**We** will be riding to TR Ranch in June for the South Carolina Rally the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> of June and we expect to have loads of **FUN** with Don & Rhonda Weed and their Tribe.

**After** the rally, we will head up to Indiana for some well needed R&R. After spending two weeks with Family Reunions, High School Reunions and Chapter Visitations, home we will travel back to the daily afternoon thunder boomers. Some other ideas for rides this summer are:

### **Salute to Veterans Poker**

**Run** - If you have \$20 to spend and a yen for a good time in the support of a great cause, venture over to the VFW in central Florida's Dade City for the Salute to Veterans Poker Run, the highest paying Poker Run in the area. You'll score a long sleeve T-shirt, lunch, and a chance at winning enough cash for a **bodacious** Christmas shopping spree. Did you happen to get that JJ Jackson? If you don't have a ride, note that this Poker Run isn't just for bikes—and if it's raining, most will drive instead of riding. Cars, pick-ups, SUVs and even motorized Amish Buggies are welcome. You'll stop at five designated stops on the route where you'll draw a card. The person drawing the best five card draw hand is the winner.

### **The National Biketoberfest**

This major four-day rally lights up Daytona Beach with smoking hot outdoor concerts, demo rides, bike shows, vendors and

rides that include **The Loop** a 30-mile jaunt famed for its verdant canopies of live oaks and picturesque river and marsh views; the **Iconic Hwy US1 Ride** featuring notorious haunts like the **Iron Horse Saloon** and **Broken Spoke** as well as the "World's Largest Harley Dealership" at **David Morse's Daytona Harley-Davidson**; and the **National Seashore Ride** that winds through New Smyrna Beach to the pristine sands of **Canaveral National Seashore**.

**Thunder Beach Rallies** - The smaller of the two Thunder Beach Rallies, this gala still qualifies as a mega-event, and like its sister rally in the spring, is staged next to the sparkling sugar sands of **Panama City Beach**. Likewise, you won't find gate or parking fees, but you will find sizzling live entertainment; vendors; food and drink.

**Have FUN** everyone and be safe out there.

***"2024 Florida District Gathering  
of Friends for FUN"***

**Our Location should be announced  
soon! Stay Tuned!**



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

**National Cheese Day History**

**June 4** is National Cheese Day. Not to be confused with other popular cheese related holidays like grilled cheese day, cheesecake day, or mac and cheese day. This day is in reverence of the queen of all dairy, the big cheese.

**National** Cheese Day celebrates and acknowledges

cheese all over America. Cheese is one of the most consumed foods in the world. There are more than 900 cheese types, classified by taste and texture. According to The New York World's Fair, the world's largest cheese was put on display on this day in 1964. It weighed over 34,000 pounds.

**The** most popular cheese of all is (obviously) mozzarella. This delicious and pizza topping cheese was first created near Naples from the rich milk of water buffalos. At the time, it rarely left its home near Naples, as it was made from pasteurized milk, and a lack of refrigeration meant it had a very short shelf life. As both cheese technology and refrigeration systems advanced, this delicious cheese left the southern region of Italy and found itself traveling around the world.

**There** are two types of mozzarella produced within the United States — low moisture and high moisture. Low moisture mozzarella has a moisture content less than 50% while high moisture has a content of over 52%. Low moisture is made specifically for transportation and mass production as the lack of moisture gives it a longer shelf life.

**Today**, cheese dishes can be found on every continent served savory, sweet, melted, deep fried, and even chilled in ice cream. This household staple can still satisfy any craving after thousands of years.



**Hope to see you in... Knoxville!**





**Fred & Karen Kennedy**  
**Assistant District Directors**  
 (FL1-D, FL1-E2)  
**Motorist Awareness**  
**Coordinators**

**Greetings all!**

**We** really enjoyed the month of May! We went camping with some of our fellow FL1-D members. While the weather wasn't exactly ideal (it rained heavily every afternoon), the company and camaraderie were second to none. Our Chapter Directors, Bill & Cynde Nipple



finally joined our group in their new camper and they are hooked! We stayed at the Coldwater Creek Equestrian Campground and other than the rain, the weather was very comfortable. We had 6 RVs and 11 camping enthusiasts. We also hosted a Chapter picnic,

where our chapter provided the meat selections (smoked pulled pork, smoked pork loin, hamburgers, hot dogs and sausages), while members brought all the accompaniments such as potato salad, Cole slaw, baked beans, Mac and cheese, etc... tons of delicious desserts and drinks. We were also very pleased that several members from FL1-E2, Ft. Walton Beach, came and spent the day with us too. All in all, we had a great day, gave away a lot of really nice door prizes as well as a 50/25/25. Danny and his group enjoyed themselves immensely. We are very excited about our next outing, which will be to Marianna Caverns State Park in July and we also have several other trips already booked for the cooler months. We are really thankful for our Official Camp Master, Paula Bankster,

*(Continued on page 9)*





*(Continued from page 8)*

for keeping our camping group busy with great destinations and adventures for our enjoyment.

**May** was National Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month and I hope everybody took the opportunity to use your resources to spread the word about Motorcycle Safety Awareness. We live in a state that leads the nation in Motorcycle deaths, with 559 in 2019. Getting people to pay more attention while operating a motor vehicle is not a waste of time, no way! I see so many people texting while they attempt to navigate around our city and it infuriates me to see them flaunt the law. Florida considers texting while driving a primary offense, which means they can pull you over and write you a ticket for doing so. In my humble opinion, FHP, Municipal Police Departments and Sheriff's Offices don't write nearly

enough tickets, because violations of this law is both rampant and flagrant. Perhaps, one day, phone manufacturers will finally incorporate safety rules that will prevent texting while driving, however, until that time occurs, we must keep getting the "Don't Text and Drive" message out to anybody we can, especially our children and grandchildren. Start by leading by example and don't do it yourself. Remember, sending or reading a text takes your eyes off the road for at least 5 seconds. At 55 mph, that's like driving the length of an entire football field with your eyes closed...that's 100 yards or 300 feet! Lots of bad things can happen in that 5 seconds! Keeping up to date with friends by the second is just not worth it!

**Now**, a little bit of bad news... my beloved 2010 Goldwing has developed the dreaded Ghost Shifting issue, so our riding

season has come abruptly to an end, as it is parked in the garage until I get a call from JustWings in Zephyrhills telling me it's my turn to get it fixed. I'm going to miss riding it to some of rallies where we've registered, but we still plan on attending via my truck. It will likely be several months before I enjoy the feeling of wind in my face while riding my trike... I miss it already.

**The** month of June has a lot of observances of note, like it being National Camping Month!!!! Or how about National Country Cooking Month, National Safety Month and everybody's favorite, National Candy Month!

**No** matter which observance you attend or wherever you go this summer, please be safe and remember to Share the Road!!!

**See** you soon!

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

**The Place for FUN:  
Eagle Wings Motorcycle Association!**

**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY**



Claudia Vega  
**Assistant District Safety /  
 Ride Coordinator**  
 Chapters FL2-A, D, F, G, O, R

### WHERE HAS THIS YEAR GONE?

**It** is hard to believe that it is June already and we are in the heart of our riding season around the country – here in Florida it is riding season all year long – YEH!

**Though** this should be a mantra all year long, it is especially important as the weather heats up. And what is this mantra? HYDRATE – HYDRATE – HYDRATE!

**I** have had a couple of chapters state that they would like a FA / CPR course, but no one has contacted me regarding a class. The procedure in Florida is still the same. The Chapter needs to contact me with their dates, time, how many participants and location so that I can set up instructor(s). Paperwork still

needs to be filed. So please let me know when you would like a class set up.

**This** article may not be directly related to FA / CPR but it is very important to our health and riding ability. While this article is a AAA article and is written for car drivers it still applies to us in general. Just think what being an impaired rider could mean on just 2 or 3 wheels versus 4 wheels. Also remember that being dehydrated compounds the effect of your medications. It is so important to stay hydrated while riding.

### YOUR MEDS MIGHT MAKE YOU AN IMPAIRED DRIVER.

**In** a recent survey of drivers by the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, nearly half the respondents said they'd taken one or more potentially impairing medications in the past 30 days. Some had taken multiple medications, ranging from over-the-counter antihistamines and cough syrups to prescription antidepressants and stimulants such as Adderall. The drivers were not necessarily impaired; many of these medications merely have the potential to impair. However, most of the drivers were unaware of their medications' possible side effects – including sleepiness and blurred vision – and that taking them could impair their driving.

**"Our** research finds that many drivers are taking one or more potentially impairing medications before getting behind the wheel," said David Yang, PhD., executive director of the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety in a AAA Newsroom article. "It is important for medical professionals to offer clear consultation to their patients of the possible risks and ensure they understand them"

**If** you take medication regularly, read the label as well as the information that comes with the medication. Consult your physician or pharmacist if you have questions about dosage, timing or options for less-impairing alternatives. For more information visit [AAA.com/ImpairedDriving](http://AAA.com/ImpairedDriving).

**Do** you read labels on your over-the-counter medications? Do you read the paperwork that comes with your prescription medications? Many be one of the meds you take has not affected you, but what happens when you have to take multiple medications – can they make you sleepy, dizzy or blur your vision?

**I** have to say that I do read my paperwork, especially new medications. Please do the same. We want you to be safe on the road and enjoy your ride!

# FLORIDA DISTRICT HAPPENINGS JUNE 2023

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

Please verify with an individual Chapters 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**

Jun 1 - 3, 2023	South Carolina District Rally	Travelers Rest, SC
Aug 31 - Sep 2, 2023	EWMA Rendezvous	Knoxville, TN
Sep 15 - 16, 2023	Georgia District Fall Mountain Ride and Reunion	Dillard, GA
Sep 22 - 23, 2023	North Carolina District Ride	West Jefferson, NC
Sep 28 - 30, 2023	Alabama District Rally	Eufaula, AL
Oct 26 - 28, 2023	Mississippi District Rally	Biloxi, MS

**FUN in Florida is # 1**



**EWMA Florida District**

**Bill & Cheryl Smith  
District Directors**

Phone: (561) 445-4270

E-mail: [fdd2018@gmail.com](mailto:fdd2018@gmail.com)

[www.ewma-florida.org](http://www.ewma-florida.org)

