

Director  
Jere & Sherry Goodman

Director Assistant  
Bob & Nancy Shrader

Florida District Director  
Bill & Cheryl Smith

Asst. District Director  
Rick & Madalena Buck

Chapter FL1-A Team  
Senior Chapter Director

Nan Shrader  
352-668-3164

Asst Chapter Director  
Vicki Cummings  
727-514-9070

Membership Enhancement

Bruce Schlimme  
352-533-1826

Motorist Awareness

Ride Coordinator  
Bob Shrader  
352-668-3164

Senior Treasurer

Debbie Brunelle

Florida District Educator

Skills Enhancement

Coordinator

Dominick Desiato  
813-927-0120

Goodies

Diane Desiato  
813-417-1226

Newsletter Editor

Ways & Means

Jake & Joanne Jacob  
352-668-3184

District Couple of the Year

Dom & Diane Desiato

Chapter Couple of the Year

Al & Tania Almond

Media Coordinator

Tania Almond

# GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSN

## CHAPTER FL1-A

### TAMPA, FLORIDA

### JULY 2021



## Florida District 2020 #1 Newsletter

Congratulations to Mark Lussier for his winning caption for June's picture:

*Dang ladies, it sure is hot out here. Mind if I take a few things off?*

*I forgot to bring the other witty submissions to the Gathering. Here they are:*

Hell no, I won't go!

Do I look like Sampson?

Chapter Muscle Man

Dom doing the cha cha

Dom doing reverse strip tease

Lou Ferrigno has nothing on me.

I'm strong like bull!



Here's July's picture. This was actually seen here in Florida!

**Please email or text me with your caption!**



*Friends for Fun, Safety  
& Knowledge*

**Gathering held at Mission BBQ, 5602 W Waters Ave, Tampa  
Saturday, July 17, 2021 Eat @ 6, Meet @ 7PM**

# SENIOR CHAPTER DIRECTOR



Senior Chapter  
Director

Nan Shrader

## *Joke of the Month*

What did baby corn say to  
Mama Corn?

"Where's Popcorn?"

## *Quote of the Month*

The American Dream is inde-  
pendence and being able to  
create that dream for your-  
self.



Hello Everyone! What a great month July is. It is summer, school is out, it's Wing Ding month and lots of other great rides coming.

I said I would report on Jensen Beach for our annual Memorial Day outing. It was as much fun as always. We swam, played cards, barbecued, talked, laughed and had a great time. We took a pontoon ride on the Indian River and then had dinner at Conchy Joe's. We have even more folks joining us next year and we are close to taking the entire motel over for three days!

We weren't able to ride the Florida Mine Ride but we will in the future. The rainy season is here and we have to dodge around the rain so we may have to alter some rides, but ride we will.

John and Margaret were wonderful hosts for our scalloping trip. We had a fantastic time and loved the River Inn and Marina in Steinhatchee. It was a small motel with a river view, a pool, picnic tables, dog friendly and small suites. It would be a great place for a Chapter over-nighter. They have boat rentals, kayaking and all sorts of stuff across the street. It is a sleepy little town and we loved it.

As you read this, Wing Ding will be well under way. It will be Bob's and my 26<sup>th</sup> Wing Ding. We have always had a great time and I know it will be the same this year. Of course last year's was cancelled due to COVID, but it is back this year! I am sure some good money will be spent. More on that next month.

Vicki has been able to join us on some of our dinner rides and we are so glad to see her. Keep the healing up, Vicki, and soon you will be back in the saddle!

Chapter FL1-L2, Wesley Chapel visited us at our Gathering in June. It is nice to get back with our neighboring friends and a very long year of not doing so. Thanks to them for joining us for some fun.

Coming up are weekday rides, picnics, ice cream and overall fun.

I wish you a very Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July. We live in the best country in the world and I know we all cherish it.

*Nan*



**Assistant Chapter  
Director  
Vicki Cummings**

## ASST CHAPTER DIRECTOR

I'm sure all of you have heard that I got into an accident on my way back from Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. Recovery has been slow but I'm getting out some.

I have to say that ATGATT (All the gear all the time) saved me! No one ran into me, no one cut in front of me; I just passed out. No one can explain why.

So, my word to you is wear all your gear all the time. I came out of this with a broken back and neck. If I haven't had my helmet on I would of been a lot worse, but I did also wear boots, jeans, jacket and gloves, which also accounted for the fact I had no road rash.

I'm very glad I have SkyMeb. They transported me and my guardian angel Carol Parham to three different hospitals and delivered my bike to Bikes To Trikes in Clearwater.

My advice to everyone: wear all your gear all the time. You never know what can happen!

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE  
[WWW.FLIA.ORG](http://WWW.FLIA.ORG)**

*Vicki*



**Membership Enhancement  
Coordinator  
Bruce Schlimme**

## MEMBERSHIP ENHANCEMENT

**Editor's Note:** Bruce is unable to write an article right now, so we have reprinted the Florida District MED Coordinator's (Rick & Magdalena Buck) article from the June 2021 Florida District Newsletter:

Recently we received an inquiry as to the type and cost of membership and thought this would be a good time to review GWRRA Membership. There are now only two types of memberships in GWRRA. The following is a breakdown of the two memberships:

- Individual Membership: For individual Members only. The Individual Membership fee is \$55 for 1 year (\$105 for 2 years, \$150 for 3 years).
- Family Membership: For families with two or more people in the same household. The Family Membership fee is \$65 for 1 year (\$125 for 2 years, \$180 for 3 years).

**The** above membership fees are for members that have completed up to 20 years in the association. Those individuals who have been Members of GWRRA for 20 consecutive years will pay a nominal annual membership fee of \$20 per year. This is considered the New Life Membership Program.

The member receives Rescue Roadside Assistance as part of their membership. Rescue provides up to 35 miles of free towing for the motorcycle owner. A GWRRA member also has the option to upgrade the Rescue to Motorcycle Plus, Rescue Plus or Rescue Plus Premium for extra charge. You can find more information on Rescue at [http:// roadridersrescue.com/](http://roadridersrescue.com/).





District  
Educator

Dominick & Diane  
Desiato



# THE THREE-WHEEL ALTERNATIVE

There comes a time when all of us two-wheeled riders will have to make the decision: Do I stop riding entirely or do I switch to three wheels? There are basically five different categories of three-wheeled vehicles to choose from. The conventional Gold Wing Trike (two wheels in the rear), A Gold Wing with a Sidecar (third wheel being on the sidecar), the Can Am Spyder (two wheels in the front), the Reverse Trike kit for the Gold Wing (two wheels in the front) and the Slingshot (side by side seating with two wheels in the front). There are many brand names in each category. I am not trying to be brand specific but concept specific. There is also a vast difference in cost among the different categories.

I would like to give you my opinion on each of the units in order to help you make a choice should you decide to move to a third wheel. I am a certified instructor for all of the listed machines so I know exactly the pros and cons of each, how they ride, handle, and cost.

The conventional Gold Wing Trike (two wheels in the rear) is the most expensive way to go, if you buy an entirely new unit. However, you can buy a pre-owned one at a reasonable price if you can find it. They are very comfortable and stable. The amount of stability is determined by the distance the two rear wheels are spaced center-to-center from each other. There are many manufacturers of those kits and the rear wheel center-to-center dimensions vary. The further apart the rear wheels are from one another the more stable the Trike is. With the newer better kits, the rear ends have a limited slip differential, which reduces the chance of lifting an inside wheel in a sharp turn.

Putting a sidecar on your Gold Wing can be about one-fifth the cost of the new conventional Gold Wing Trike (you put the sidecar on your existing Gold Wing). Your passenger can be protected from the elements in the sidecar or still ride on the back of your bike. A form of air conditioning can be added. You can transport children safely in it. The sidecar can be easily removed should the bike need to go into the shop for repairs. There are limitations on how you take a right turn, but this can easily be taught to you in one of our sidecar courses.

The Can Am Spyder is about one-half the cost of a new conventional Gold Wing Trike. There are lot of sophisticated devices built in to its system. You can't accidentally lift an inside wheel in a turn. The two wheels in the front are a more stable platform regardless of technology.

A Reverse Trike kit like the "Endeavor" added to your existing Gold Wing costs about \$10,000. It does not have the advanced technology the Spyder has, but you still have a very comfortable Gold Wing ride with this conversion.

The Slingshot is basically a three-wheel sports car costing about \$25,000. They are a lot of fun to drive but as you would enjoy a sports car, not a motorcycle. Florida has categorized them as a car so no motorcycle endorsement is needed to operate one.

I hope this article has given you some useful information should you ever decide to switch from two wheels to three wheels. If you were to switch to one of the three-wheel motorcycles listed, you should take one of our riding courses for that particular unit. Each category has specific things you need to learn and experience on a safe range before you take it out on the open road. I am here to assist you should you have any questions on any of the machines.

We hope to see you at Wing Ding!

*Dominick & Diane*





**Skills Enhancement  
Coordinator  
Dominick &  
Diane**



# GET READY FOR THE RAIN

It's that time of year again — afternoon showers. Be prepared! Make sure you pack a rain suit in your bike or bikes, if you have more than one. It is easier to put a rain suit in each bike than having to transfer your rain suit each time you change bikes. There is too much of a chance that you might forget to do so.

Alter your riding habits when it is raining. Slow down! Visibility is limited when the rain is hitting you in the face. The water staying on your windshield, face shield and/or glasses is limiting your ability to see as far as needed to avoid obstacles.

Increase your following distance. You don't want to have to stop in a hurry and risk sliding on the wet roadway. Remember when you do stop or slow around intersections there is a buildup of oil in the center of the lane that floats to the surface when it rains. This area is extremely slippery, especially at the beginning of the rain. If you have to ride on the interstate use the right lane so the high-speed idiots (cars, trucks or motorcycles) can go flying by you. Expect to get splashed as they pass so you are not caught off guard. Ride in the center of the right lane. Thanks to the heavy trucks, the center of the right lane is the highest point with no or less water so that is where you need to be. A two-wheel motorcycle or trike can hydroplane. Don't let this freak you out if it happens. If it does happen, don't go for the brakes. Just roll off the throttle and let your machine settle itself down and regain traction.

Remember, most Florida rains have a short part that is a heavy downpour. It is best to pull into some shelter and wait out the heavy stuff. Your cell phone is a good source to look at the weather Doppler and plan your route accordingly. Sometimes you can go a few miles out of your way and avoid the rain altogether.

Expect to get caught in afternoon rains this time of the year and plan and ride accordingly.

Ride safe,

*Dominick & Diane*





# JULY 2021



<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
				<u>1</u>  <i>Wing Ding Springfield, MO Through 7/3</i>	<u>2</u>  <i>Wing Ding Springfield, MO Through 7/3</i>	<u>3</u>  <i>Wing Ding Springfield, MO Through 7/3</i>
<u>4</u> <u>Independence Day Party @ John &amp; Sheila Taylor's house. RSVP pls. Meet there @ 2PM. Bring dish to pass &amp; bathing suit</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u> <u>Dinner TBA</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u> <u>Weekday Ride KSU RaceTrac @ SR52 &amp; I75 @ 10:30AM</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u> <u>Dinner @ Yannis, 512 Do- docanese Blvd, Tarpon Springs. Meet there @ 7PM</u>	<u>17</u> <u>FL1-A Gathering Mission BBQ Eat @ 6PM Meet @ 7PM</u>
<u>18</u> <u>Ice Cream @ Or- ange Cycle Cream- ery, Tarpon Springs. Meet there @ 7PM</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u> <u>Weekday Ride KSU RaceTrac @ SR52 &amp; I75 @ 10:30AM</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u> <u>Dinner @ Whiskey Wings, 4013 Tampa Rd, Tampa. Meet there @ 7PM</u>	<u>24</u>
<u>25</u> <u>TBA</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u> <u>Weekday Ride KSU RaceTrac @ SR52 &amp; I75 @ 10:30AM</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u> <u>Dinner @ Ballyhoos 7604 Ehrlich Rd, Tampa. Meet there @ 7PM</u>	<u>31</u>

**Gathering held at Mission BBQ, 5602 W Waters Ave, Tampa**

# JUNE JAUNTS





# Upcoming GWRRA Events



June 29— July 3	Wing Ding 42	Springfield, MO
Sept. 2— 4	Wings Over the Smokies North Carolina District Rally	Waynesville, NC
Sept. 16 - 18	3rd Annual "Come Ride With Us" Georgia District Riding Rally	Dillard, GA
Sept 30—Oct 2	"Monster Mash" Alabama District Rally	Eufala, AL



Debbie Brunelle	July 8
John Taylor	July 10
Vicki Cummings	July 13
Bob Lehmann	July 14
Russell Skals	July 15
Nan Shrader	July 17
Paul Lewis	July 25
Ginger Marion	July 31

Keith & Barbara Huskey

July 13

## Happy GWRRA Birthday!

*If only one person is listed, his/her spouse joined on a different date and will be listed during the appropriate month.*

Al & Tania Almond  
Jerry & Karen Bradford  
Jeff & Debbie Brunelle  
Joe & Jan Mazza  
Denny & Jo Lea Shadley



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