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Couple of the Year
Dom & Diane Desiato

Website Administrator
Tania Almond

GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSN CHAPTER FL 1-A TAMPA, FLORIDA

MARCH 2020



VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE
WWW.FL1A.ORG

NOTE: ONE WEEK EARLIER THIS MONTH

MONTHLY GATHERING

Saturday, March 14th

Eat @5:30P, Meet @7:00P

PACH'S PLACE

**601 S Dale Mabry, Tampa
(Inside the Tahitian Inn)**

Editor's Note: Look in this newsletter for a GWRRA membership number. First person who emails me with the number gets a prize at the gathering.

Friends for Fun, Safety & Knowledge

SENIOR CHAPTER DIRECTOR



Senior Chapter
Director

Joke of the Month

What do you call a fake
Irish stone?

I don't know.

Quote of the Month

People are like
motorcycles, each are
customized differently.



Like us on
Facebook

Chapter FL1-A Tampa "A" Team Gold

It's March Madness month but it is not going to be basketball madness; it will be madness Chapter FL1-A style! We are going to have another great month!

As you read this we will have just arrived back from our Wingers-and-Waves cruise. What happens on the cruise ship stays on the cruise ship!

We had another weekday ride to Goodson Farms. The strawberries were even better than last month. Very sweet and huge. It was a beautiful day for a ride and let me tell you, strawberry pizza is delicious.

Our Gathering in February was fun. We had not one, not two, but three brown bags. We have great sports in our Chapter. John and Shelley, Tania and Al's friends, were lots of fun and accepted the brown bag with lots of cheer. I figured friends of the Almonds were going to be fun and I was right.

Twenty members enjoyed our Valentine's Day dinner at Catches. It was fun to spend the evening with everyone and we had a good game of "stack the hearts with chop sticks." Tania won with 7 stacked. It was not as easy as it may sound. Diane, Ginger, Jake, John and Bruce also played. They all did well and they each got a prize. You never know what game we may play.

We have an excellent Talent Show presentation for the District Rally, along with a Chapter Pride skit. We have our new banner (thanks to Jake and his friend) to compete with and we will have a collage to participate with in the collage competition. We will also participate in the Chapter Shirt Contest. Don't forget that on Friday morning our very own Couple of the Year, Dominick and Diane, will be in the Couple of the Year Selection Process. I have noise-makers for all of us to use so come on out and cheer them on. Let's show them how much noise we can make and how much we support our Couple of the Year! District Rallies are always a great time and the more the merrier and you won't regret it.

Great stuff going on this month and always. Come and join in!

Nan



ASSISTANT CHAPTER DIRECTOR



Assistant Chapter
Director

My goodness another month has already gone by. Spring will be here very soon and the time will be changing. We get to lose an hour's sleep in a couple weeks and will have more daylight to ride in. About time!

Well, eleven of the wives and girl friends will be going on their cruise this next Sunday, so the guys can have some fun, as I'm sure the girls will be having their fun!

We have been on some nice rides this past month and had a nice turnout for the sweetheart dinner last Friday and had a great turnout for the Lakeland rally. Several chapter members won some nice prizes. Some of us are not as lucky as others. :(

Well we are hoping when Ginger goes back for her next checkup she will be allowed to get back on the bike. She hasn't ridden since December 21st, even longer as I had my ear surgery on December 4th. Last Wednesday was my first time back, but as usual the bike did not let me down. It fired right up after sitting for ten weeks, with no problems to speak of. Just checked the tires and added some air but everything worked fine. Here's hoping we ²⁹⁹⁴¹⁸ can finally get back to normal and join you on rides.

Please remember to bring your gift cards to the next meeting for our poker run. We would like to have them by then if possible. Thanks to those who have already brought them.

And yes, I'm still looking for volunteers for working the games and other things at our upcoming poker run, so let me know if you will be willing to do something to help.

Till next month,

Bud & Ginger

DISTRICT RIDE EDUCATOR



Dominick & Diane
Desiato
District
Educator

Wow! What an honor to be selected to serve as Florida District Educators. We were so sorry to hear of Rick Northrop's unexpected illness. We wish him a speedy recovery and continue to keep him in our thoughts and prayers.

I guess some introduction is in order for those of you who do not know me or my wife, Diane. Diane and I are retired from the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office. Diane served for 29 years, with her last assignment being the Coordinator for the School Crossing Program scheduling 273 Crossing Guards. I served for 40 years with my last 22 years being a Motorcycle Officer. I was a Florida State certified Police Motorcycle Instructor and Motorcycle Crash Investigator. I also competed and still do compete in Police Motorcycle Competitions. I have been an MSF Instructor since 1996 and still continue to teach today. I am certified by the MSF to teach BRC & BRC-2 two-wheel motorcycle courses as well as Trike, Sport Bike, Can-Am Spyder and Slingshot classes. I am also certified by Evergreen Motorcycle Training to teach Side Car Classes. Diane was also an MSF Motorcycle Instructor and would assist me with classes.

While I was a Florida State Motorcycle Crash Investigator, I got to see the unfortunate side of riding. It was after investigating numerous motorcycle crashes I realized one of the major findings in the Hurt Report to be true. Most motorcycle crashes could be avoided if only the rider knew what to do to prevent the crash. It was those crash investigation experiences that motivated me to begin to teach riders. Hopefully through my teaching I could prevent some of the preventable crashes from occurring.

We joined GWRRA five years ago after we retired. I am in the process of becoming a certified GWRRA Rider Course Instructor. I will be attending an Instructor's Class on May 30th to become GWRRA ARC certified instructor and another Instructor's Class at Wing Ding in July to become GWRRA TRC certified. I am assisting members now on getting two new ranges certified for our use. One will be in Clearwater and one in Jacksonville. Many of our members need riding classes to maintain their current Levels status. There are also many MFA CPR classes in progress at this time. They are not just for maintaining Levels, but could save the life of a loved one. Check the District Website and Group Works for class listings information.

We are excited about our new position with the Florida District of GWRRA. We have been receiving a lot of welcomed support from Staff and Members which is greatly needed and appreciated. Riding has always been our passion and teaching safe riding our goal. We hope to meet more of you at the 41st Annual Florida District Gathering of the Wings on March 19th-21st in Altamonte Springs.

Ride safe,

Dominick and Diane



MEMBERSHIP ENHANCEMENT

From the Editor: What better way to begin our "Meet Our Members" page than learning about Vicki Cummings, one-half of our new ME Team? Vicki has graciously written her bio for us. Keep them coming, everyone!

I'm a 69-year-old retired widow. My very best friends Carol and Lonnie Parham have helped me through the sad times in my life. They invited me to go to dinners with them to get me out of the house. The dinners were with their motorcycle Chapter FL1-A, and everyone was so nice. I didn't always want to go but they were very insistent. When they went on rides, they always had so much fun. I watched Heidi, their sweet little dog.

Carol saw a Can Am course on Facebook and wanted me to go with her to learn how to ride. In the meantime, Lonnie took us to a parking lot to teach us how to ride his trike. In June of 2018 we took our riding course and had a blast. We passed and the very next day I went and bought myself a pretty red Can Am! With the purchase I also received four free months to GWRRA, which was a real treat for me. Lonnie had to drive it home because I hadn't got my license yet. Now I got to ride with the chapter and I felt great. Everyone in the chapter welcomed me with open arms and they put me in the middle to protect me. I was so proud of myself being 68 years old and just starting to ride a motorcycle. Who would have thought!! My family thought (and some still do) that I have lost my mind.

So after 7 months on the Can Am I decided maybe it was time to look into getting a Gold Wing trike and join the big boys! I went to Bikes to Trikes with Bruce Schlimme just to look, but in the middle of the showroom there was a pearl white Gold Wing trike that caught my eye. So after Bruce checked it out, I bought it! Of course, Bruce had to drive it home because I didn't know how to drive a trike yet.

My experience with GWRRA and Chapter FL1-A has been very rewarding. I am with the most caring and nicest people. I've been so happy, and having so much fun and I love riding. Nan and Bob Shrader are the best leaders and wonderful people.

So if you think that you are too old to learn something new, DON'T! I did it and am loving every minute of it.

Vicki



**Membership
Enhancement
Bruce Schlimme
Vicki Cummings**

February Fun



Note from your editor: As the saying goes, "What happens on the cruise stays on the cruise,"
BUT I can be bribed!



MARCH 2020



<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u> <u>Dinner Ride</u> <u>TBA</u> <u>KSU McDonalds</u> <u>@ FL & Bearss</u> <u>@ 7PM</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>8</u> <u>Back Road Ride</u> <u>KSU McDonalds</u> <u>@ Fl & Bearss @</u> <u>10:30AM</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u> <u>Ride to Daytona</u> <u>Bike Week</u> <u>KSU RaceTrac @</u> <u>I75 & SR50 @</u> <u>8AM</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u> <u>Dinner Ride</u> <u>Pete & Shortys</u> <u>KSU McDonalds</u> <u>@ FL & Bearss</u> <u>@ 7PM</u>	<u>14</u> <u>FL1-A Gathering</u> <u>Pach's Place</u> <u>Eat @ 5:30PM</u> <u>Meet @ 7PM</u>
<u>15</u> <u>Brunelle Anniver-</u> <u>sary Ride (Their</u> <u>Choice)</u> <u>TBA</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u> <u>FL DISTRICT</u> <u>RALLY</u> <u>Altamonte</u> <u>Springs</u>	<u>20</u> <u>FL DISTRICT</u> <u>RALLY</u> <u>Altamonte</u> <u>Springs</u>	<u>21</u> <u>FL DISTRICT</u> <u>RALLY</u> <u>Altamonte</u> <u>Springs</u>
<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u> <u>Weekday Ride</u> <u>KSU RaceTrac @</u> <u>SR 56 @</u> <u>10:30AM</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u> <u>Dinner Ride</u> <u>TBA</u> <u>KSU McDonalds</u> <u>@ FL & Bearss</u> <u>@ 7PM</u>	<u>28</u> <u>TBA</u>
<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>				

Gathering held at Pach's Place, 601 S Dale Mabry, Tampa (inside Tahitian Inn)

2020 Upcoming GWRRA Events

March 7	FL1-H Daytona Beach Bike Week Breakfast	Ormond Beach
March 19-21	41st Annual Florida District Gathering of the Wings	Altamonte Springs
April 16-18	South Carolina "Sweet Dreams ... & Nightmares"	Clemson, SC
April 25	FL1-A Tampa Celebrate American Freedom	San Antonio
June 30-July 4	Wing Ding 42	Springfield, MO
September 24-26	North Carolina Wings Over the Smokies	Waynesville, NC
October 1-3	Alabama Monster Mash	Eufaula, AL
October 8-10	Georgia 2nd Come Ride With Us	Dillard, GA
October 15-17	Mississippi Medieval Madness	Gulfport, MS

March Chapter Celebrations



Dominick Desiato	March 4
Denny Shadley	March 5
Jerry Bradford	March 6
Jan Mazza	March 15
Bud Marion	March 16
Tina Lewis	March 25
Vanessa Prado	March 27

Jeff & Debbie Brunelle	March 15
Bob & Debbie Lehman	March 31

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.

None



CELEBRATE AMERICAN FREEDOM WITH CHAPTER FL1-A

WHEN: SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2020

FROM: 11:00AM TO 3:00PM

WHERE: ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA PARISH HALL

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