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

APRIL 2020



**VISIT OUR WEBSITE
WWW.FL1A.ORG**

**NO MONTHLY GATHERING
IN APRIL**

Stay Safe, Everyone!

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 next event we are able to hold.

Friends for Fun, Safety & Knowledge

SENIOR CHAPTER DIRECTOR



**Senior Chapter
Director**

Joke of the Month

Employee: My wife said I should ask you for a raise.

Employer: I will ask my wife if I can give you one.

Quote of the Month

The only good view of a thunderstorm is in your rear view mirror.



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Chapter FL1-A Tampa "A" Team Gold Wing Road Riders

Well, we start another month of uncertainty but I know we will survive this. I hope that anyone who has contracted the virus recovers quickly and that no one else has to endure the illness.

We have had a good month otherwise. We did not have a meeting in March and unfortunately the Florida District Rally had to be canceled. We will keep all of our props, skits and other paraphernalia for next year. We will really be prepared then! All of the other District Rallies in the next couple of months have also been canceled so we will look forward to them next year. Our own Chapter Rally has been postponed until a later date.

We had a some good functions in March. We started with Stumpknockers on the first but ended up at the restaurant next door due to a lack of servers at Stumps; eight members went to Daytona and had a great time, nineteen of us attended our Friday night dinner meet at 4 Rivers BBQ. We did draw some attention and had some folks asking who we were. Also good attention getters are we! Twenty of us rode to Peck's to celebrate Jeff and Debbie's wedding anniversary. It was super busy there but they took care of us. The parking lot looked like a motorcycle rally when we came out to the parking lot. It was such a lovely day everyone was out riding.

Fourteen of us did go to Crystal River and spend a couple of nights at the Port Hotel. We had a fantastic time. Great food, lots of laughs, great card, a terrific boat ride that Dom captained and just plain fun. We had the dogs Chevy, Dasher and the newbie, Teddy. Vicki picked a winner when she picked Teddy. We had a great time with all of them.

Since all of the restaurants are closed for the time being we will still be riding. Just be prepared to pack a lunch and then off we will go. There are lots of great parks around us and we will utilize them for sure.

At this time there will be no April meeting unless things change. Of course we will keep you posted.

Stay well and wishing you a Happy Easter.

Nan



ASSISTANT CHAPTER DIRECTOR



**Assistant Chapter
Director
Bud & Ginger Marion**

Boy what a month this has been, with the virus going around it sure has changed everything. First with the canceling of the District Rally, and us having to cancel our poker run, then all the other things have been shut down. It sure makes it hard on people who depend on restaurants for meals, when the wife doesn't cook. I'm sure Pach's along with all the other restaurants in the area are closed unless they offer carry out. It sure gets tiring having pizza three times a week! Thank God we were able to do some shopping for real food; we have loaded the freezer with a lot of different meat, just hope it lasts for a couple weeks. Our community is more or less shut down as all activities are canceled till further notice.

We were able to do a couple of rides but not all that was on the schedule. As we all know we ride to eat, so it does make it difficult to find a place to go. Last weekend's plans ended with a bust: after we got back from our boat adventure, we found that all the restaurants in Crystal River were closed so we ended up with — you guessed it — PIZZA. So we all headed back home on Saturday, instead of Sunday as planned. At least the motel did refund our third night's stay. But all in all we did have a nice time, even played cards on Thursday and Friday night.

Well, here is hoping that they get this under control so we can get back in the saddle again. I understand the President says things will be back to normal by Easter, let hope and pray that is true.

This is short as there is not too much to write about.

Till next month,

Bud & Ginger



**Membership
Enhancement
Bruce Schlimme
Vicki Cummings**

MEMBERSHIP ENHANCEMENT



In this difficult time we have managed to stay connected. We have gone on a few rides and spent a weekend with Chapter friends. We are not hugging or shaking hands, and are trying to stay six feet apart. We feel it's very important to stay a safe distance but stay together.

Remember, GWRRA is a family organization and together we will get through this.

Ride safe,

Bruce and Vicki



Dominick & Diane
Desiato
District
Educator

DISTRACTED DRIVERS



The legendary Hurt Report (1981) listed the primary causes of motorcycle crashes. The present-day MSF Courses still use the Hurt Report findings to develop the riding curriculum used in their classes today. In 1981 there were fewer than 5% of motorcycles being rear ended. It seems funny that back then most motorcycles had only one small tail light but getting hit from behind was not a major issue. Today most motorcycles are lit up like a Christmas tree but are getting rear ended more often. A recent study by the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute with the Motorcycle Safety Foundation shows there has been an increase to 7% for motorcycles being struck from behind. We all know the reason for the increase in rear end collisions, motorcycle or cars, and that is the use of cell phones.

Florida recently passed a law that makes texting while driving a primary offense, which means an Officer can stop you if he sees you using your cell phone. However, the way the law is worded there are loopholes in it. Most police officers are not enforcing the new law. It was a "feel good" law without any teeth, so don't relax your guard at all thinking the new law is helping your safety.

When you are coming to a stop, look behind you to make sure the car behind you is also slowing down to stop. Leave plenty of space between you and the car you are stopping behind. Position yourself offset left or offset right so you have enough room to escape to either side of the car in front of you should you notice that the car approaching you from behind is not stopping. Don't be in a hurry to pop your bike into neutral as you normally would at a long red light waiting for the light to turn green. If the car behind you does stop don't relax yet. Wait until at least one more car stops behind the car behind you, giving you an extra buffer should a third car strike the second car. You're not done relaxing yet. When the light turns green, quickly look behind you to make sure the driver of the car isn't looking down at their phone. I know firsthand of crashes where the driver is texting at the red light, looks up just long enough to see the light had turned green and immediately put their foot on the gas, striking the stopped motorcycle in front of them.

Technology for cars is getting better with warning collision sensors that will automatically brake for the inattentive driver. Don't rely on that technology just yet. It will take many years before every car behind you has that type of system. Unfortunately, we must be more on guard today than ever before for distracted drivers.

Ride safe,

Dominick and Diane



SKILLS ENHANCEMENT COORDINATOR



**Skills Enhancement
Coordinator
Dominick
Desiato**

Technology is a wonderful thing. GPS, satellite radios, answering your cell phone. along with other Bluetooth devices are great for traveling. We are repeatedly warned about looking out for distracted drivers, but don't become a distracted rider yourself.

The more gadgets you have on your bike the easier it is to compound your risk factor when the gadgets become your focus of attention rather than the roadway. Do not fixate on electronics while riding. Adjust your gadgets before you take off and pull over if further adjustments are necessary during your ride. Locate your gadgets within your line of sight with the roadway so you do not have to look down to view them. Before you take off check your gadgets' mounts so they don't fly off if you hit a hard bump.

When we are on a riding adventure we should not increase our risk factor by looking at our electronic gadgets.

Ride safe,

Dominick

FROM OUR MEMBERS TRACY & SHARON DUNN

We have been together for 34 years and married for 27 years. We have an adult daughter who is a teacher and an adult son who is in management with Carrier AC. We also have 3 grandchildren. Twin 12 year old grandsons and a 14 year old granddaughter.

Tracy is retired from Florida Power/Progress Energy after 39 ½ years (lineman and relay technician). Sharon is a retired Registered Nurse (graduated Nursing School in 1969...51 years ago). Both of us grew up in Pinellas County, Florida (St. Petersburg area) and still reside there.

We joined GWRRA in 1999 and are Life members. Tracy currently rides a 2010 Goldwing but also has a 1976 Goldwing, 1978 Goldwing and a 1984 Goldwing. Having bought the 1976 NEW shortly after the Goldwings first came out on the market in 1975. All are naked Goldwings except for the 2010.

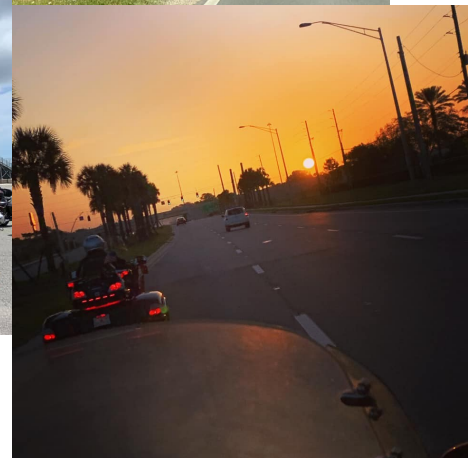
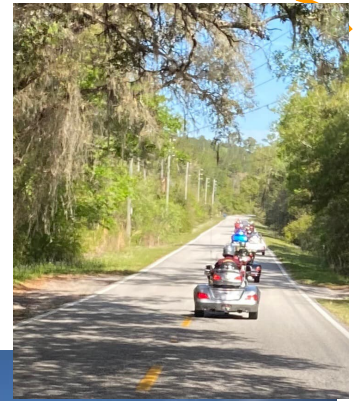
Sharon co-rode with Tracy for 20 years before getting her motorcycle endorsement in 2005. She rode a 2006 Goldwing trike until last year when she sold it due to an upper extremity injury.

We have held multiple positions within GWRRA.....Assistant Chapter Directors, Chapter Directors, Chapter Educators, Database coordinators, MEC, GWRRA University Instructor/Rider Ed Instructor, MFA Instructor for CPR/First Aid, 2006 Couple of the Year, etc.

We have made lots of friends in the 21 years with GWRRA and hope that continues.

Tracy & Sharon


March Mania





APRIL 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>Weekday Ride</u> <u>KSU RaceTrac @</u> <u>SR 56 @</u> <u>10:30AM</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u> <u>Dinner Ride</u> <u>KSU McDonalds</u> <u>@ FL & Bearss</u> <u>@ 7PM</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>12</u> 	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u> <u>Weekday Ride</u> <u>KSU RaceTrac @</u> <u>SR 56 @</u> <u>10:30AM</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u> <u>Dinner Ride</u> <u>KSU McDonalds</u> <u>@ FL & Bearss</u> <u>@ 7PM</u>	<u>18</u>
<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u> <u>Dinner Ride</u> <u>KSU McDonalds</u> <u>@ FL & Bearss</u> <u>@ 7PM</u>	<u>25</u>
<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>		

CALENDAR WILL BE UPDATED AS CONDITIONS DICTATE

2020 Upcoming GWRRA Events

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

April Chapter Celebrations



Jake Jacob	April 2
Sebastian Li (Prado)	April 14
Curtis Matthews	April 27



Russell & Mary Ann Skals	April 14
Jake & Joanne Jacob	April 23
Pedro & Vanessa Prado	April 29

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.

Bud Marion
Mike & Susan Ralph

- New Vehicles
- Pre-Loved
- Financing
- Rentals
- Shop On-line

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