

Gold Wing Road Riders Association



Wings of Wesley Chapel

Chapter FL1-L2



New Member Guide

Chapter Director

Rick & Madalena Buck

<http://www.FL1L2.com>



Friends For Fun, Safety and Knowledge

Welcome to GWRRA

It is our pleasure to welcome you to the Gold Wing Road Rider's Association. You may acknowledge with pride that you not only ride the finest motorcycle on the road today, but you also belong to the largest single marquee motorcycle association in the world with members represented in all 50 states, as well as in 58 countries.

GWRRA is proud of its leadership role in pioneering membership benefits and setting standards for other motorcycle organizations to follow. Of all the benefits, the local Chapter is the greatest single benefit of GWRRA. Through the "Chapter concept," we offer a non-political environment to meet new friends; to enhance your motorcycle skills and knowledge; and an opportunity for you to join us in improving the image of motorcycling.

History

Founded in 1977, with a group of seven people, GWRRA has grown to more than 78,000 U.S., Canadian, and International members. Over 850 active Chapters, managed by 4,000 volunteer officers work with members to foster safe, enjoyable riding while also working to improve the public image of motorcycling. The Association is built on 4 simple ideals:

1. Promote "safety" for enjoyable riding.
2. Promote "friendship" among all motorcyclists.
3. Promote the "positive image" of motorcycling.
4. Promote "fun" which is the common thread that runs through the Association.

Benefits

There are many benefits to GWRRA membership. Our members enjoy the camaraderie, fellowship and prestige of belonging to the largest "family" of Gold Wing owners. The individual and family members are guaranteed to receive:

- Wing World Monthly Magazine
- Gold Book Service Directory
- Rescue Plan Emergency Roadside Assistance
- GWRRA exclusive satisfaction guaranteed or your money back.

Additional benefits available to all members are:

Chapter Life, Leadership training, Rider Education, Group Motorcycle Insurance, GWRRA Official Products, Web Site, Honda Dealer, Campground, Motel/Hotel, and Travel Agency Discounts.

Structure and Organization

The GWRRA's support structure is almost entirely made up of appointed, volunteer leaders. At the Association's Home Office, in Phoenix, Arizona, there is a small, paid staff; the Executive Director; Chairman of the Board, and office personnel. The Home Office takes care of the day-to-day business activities, prepares the monthly Wing World magazine, publishes the Gold Book service directory, fills orders for the GWRRA Official Products and plans, manages and promotes Wing Ding, GWRRA's annual gathering.

Reporting to the Executive Director are four divisions headed by a Director, who is an appointed, volunteer leader.

Operations Division - There are more than 850 Chapters, 60 Districts, and 12 Regions throughout the U.S., Canada, and 58 other countries. Each of these are led by appointed, volunteer Directors and Assistant Directors, who make up the Operations Division.

Membership Enhancement Division (MED) - The Membership Enhancement Division focuses on the "Friends for Fun" aspect of our motto. It oversees various programs including: Public Relations, Couple of the Year, Fun Activities, Recruiting/Retention, Membership Enhancement, and the Special Interest Groups.

Rider Education Division (RED) - The purpose of the Rider Education Division is to make the motorcycle environment safer by increasing skills and awareness. It focuses on the "Friends for Safety" aspect of our motto. This Division provides rider education seminars, courses and maintains a close working relationship with the Motorcycle Safety Foundation. It provides a "Rider Education Program," whereby Members can achieve advancing levels of rider safety and education. Motorist Awareness and Drill Teams are part of the Rider Education Division.

Leadership Training Division (LTD) - The Leadership Training Division provides formalized training programs that provide opportunities for new learning experiences and personal growth to any of our officers and Members who wish to take advantage. This Division is responsible for the "Friends for Knowledge" aspect of our motto.

"Officer" - refers to the Region, District and Chapter Directors and Assistant Directors in the Operations Division; to Educators in the Rider Education Division; and to each of the Division Directors on the National Staff.

Chapter Life

First of all, you don't "join" a Chapter. You are a Member of GWRRA and a participant of any and all Chapters. You can participate in as many or as few activities and Chapters as you wish! There are no applications or fees needed to participate in a GWRRA Chapter.

Chapters are self-supporting and do not receive any portion of your annual GWRRA membership dues. Because most Chapters incur expenses (e.g., printing newsletters, annual ride schedules, event flyers, etc.), various methods of raising funds are found. In addition to "50/50" tickets, other events, such as craft and bake sales and raffles are conducted by the Chapter and there is no obligation to buy anything in order to participate.

As with many organizations, a Chapter is comprised of a number of volunteers that keep the Chapter having fun and driving safe. Here are descriptions of key positions within the Chapter organization:

Chapter Director (CD) (officer position)

- Serves as Staff Member to the District Director (DD).
- Assumes organizational and advisory control of the chapter.
- Arranges for a place to hold chapter meetings/gatherings.
- Appoints Members to serve as Chapter Staff.
- Directs activities and programs through the Staff.
- Sees that a newsletter is sent to all interested participants .
- Makes an annual report to the DD on activities, and an annual report on finances.

Assistant Chapter Director (ACD) (officer position)

- Assists the CD in an effort to bring about a well-coordinated, fun, active, Chapter.
- Works with Staff Members.
- Assumes CD's duties in his/her absence.

Chapter Ride Educator (officer position)

- Promotes GWRRA's Rider Education Program.
- Relays information to chapter participants from District Educator.
- Provides regular articles in the newsletter regarding safety.
- Set up classes in safety (CPR, first aid, Road Captain, etc.).
- Provide Rider Education talk at each monthly gathering.

Treasurer (Can not be related to CD or Assistant CD)

- Keeps a record of finances and make available to all interested parties at all chapter meetings.
- Writes checks for expenses at the direction of the CD.
- Assists CD in establishing prudent, reasonable, and fair fiscal policies.
- Submits Annual Financial Report to District Director by 1/5 upon review of CD.

Besides the four positions described previously, the following are a few of the other positions Chapters may have:

Membership Enhancement Coordinator: Utilizes the Chapter roster to remind Members of their expiration dates and identify new members who have not attended a meeting. Makes visitors, guests and new Members feel welcome and "at home." Encourages members to recruit others to join the Association.

Ride Coordinator: Instructs, informs and assists the Road Captains, Group Leaders and other participants in group riding. Plans and directs group rides to (and sometimes from) the destination point.

Phone Tree Coordinator: Maintains a phone tree among the Members. Put out information and reminders to the Membership, of special activities and meetings.

Couple of the Year: Male and Female (one of each), Full Members in good standing. Able or willing to attend the District competition if selected as District Couple of the Year will compete in Regional competition (this is not mandatory).

Other positions to be considered are Goodie Sales, Newsletter Editor, Webmaster, Activities Coordinator, etc. How many positions a Chapter decides to fill are determined by what positions a CD wants to have and if there are volunteers to fill them.

Rider Education

GWRRA has an outstanding Rider Education program. We are very fortunate in Florida to have a Rider Education program that ranks **#1** in the Association. Through the efforts of our great District Staff, courses are offered to Florida GWRRA members totally free of charge.

GWRRA promotes safety and knowledge for all of its Members throughout the Association. As such they have developed a Level's Programs that is available to all its' members.

Level I "Safety Through Commitment"

Commit to being a Safe Rider or Co-Rider and display patches as an outward sign. Receive "Safe Mile" patch, rocker & mileage pin.

Level II "Safety by Education"

Must be a current GWRRA member, enrolled in Level I. Rider must have a current motorcycle endorsement on their license. Rider must have completed an approved Rider Course, within the last two years. Co-Rider must have completed the above or have attended a Co-Rider seminar within the last two years.

Level III "Safety by Education"

Must be a current GWRRA member, enrolled in Level I. Rider must have a current motorcycle endorsement on their license. Rider must have completed an approved Rider Course, within the last two years. Co-Rider must have completed the above or have attended a Co-Rider seminar within the last two years.

Level IV "Safety by Enhanced Commitment & Preparedness"

Must be a current GWRRA member, enrolled in Level III for at least one year. Must have driven (ridden for Co-Rider) at least 25,000 safe miles. Rider (Co-Rider) must have a current CPR and First Aid card. Must meet certifications and specification of all previous levels.

Along with the level's program Members have the opportunity to participate in Rider Courses, First Aid and CPR. Anyone interested in participating in the Rider Education program just needs to contact the Chapter Ride Educator, CD or ACD.

Terminology

As with any organization, there are terms you will hear which may be new to you or may have some unique meaning within GWRRA. We've attempted to identify and define some of these. However, if you hear something and are not sure, just ask.

Chapter Gathering or Meeting: This is a monthly get-together where the CD takes the opportunity to discuss what the Chapter had recently done along with upcoming schedules. Normally during this time there will be a Rider Ed presentation. Most of all, the CD will try and keep this event fun.

50/50: To help fund expenses, tickets are sold and are based on a random drawing. Half the money (50%) is given away, and the other half (50%) is deposited into the treasury.

Poker Run or Rally: Normally serves as a fundraiser for the Chapter, District or Region. There are many formats, but during the "poker run," you may be required to stop at certain checkpoints and draw a card or draw all your cards at the end of the ride when you check in.

Kick Tire: The Chapter normally meets twice a month at a designated location for a social event.

Rides: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, Dessert/Ice Cream, Charity, Mystery, Leap Frog and Bug Run are just some of the terms used to describe a ride. Some have a special meaning while others just describe the type of ride.

Council or Staff Meeting: Chapter Officers and selected staff meet to plan one or months Chapter events.

Wing Ding: Is a nationwide rally held during the first week of July (2nd through 5th), complete with vendors, training seminars, bike show, skill events, rides, light parade, drill team performances, Chapter challenges, people games, opening/closing ceremonies, 50/50, talent show, grand prizes, etc., etc. An average of 11,000 Gold Wings attend this rally every year. It is by far the rally of all rallies. The most striking feature of a Wing Ding is how much like a family reunion is it.

Wings of Wesley Chapel Specific

The "Wings of Wesley Chapel" (FL1-L2) is a Chapter within the Florida District, which is part of Region "A". We are located in the west-central Florida area, specifically in the heart of Pasco County. This makes for a good starting point for motorcycle rides throughout the state of Florida.

The first time you join us for a Gathering, Kick Tire or ride, you will be our guest, but if you join us a second time, you become part of our "family". We take great pride in our Chapter family for we truly believe in unity and supporting one another.

We are a very active Chapter that averages 10 events a month. We try to have a good mix of riding, social events and visiting other Chapters. Our normal calendar each month will have the following:

- Chapter Gathering: 1st Tuesday of the month.
- Kick Tire: As shown on the Chapter Calendar.
- Ride scheduled either on Saturday or Sunday (or sometimes both).

We are also active with charity events such as "Ride for Kids" and various charity Poker Runs.

Our Chapter participants are involved with the Rider Education Program. We continue to hone our skills through Parking Lot Practices, ERC's, TRC's and numerous other seminars. We are also proud to boast that our Chapter has been in the top three for the state of Florida in ticket sales four years (2005-1st, 2006-1st, 2007-1st, 2008-2nd) in a row for the annual Gold Wing giveaway at the Florida District Rally.

Calendar

Our Ride Calendar is published monthly in our Chapter newsletter and posted on our web site (<http://www.FL1L2.com>). If an event is posted on the calendar it is consider an official Chapter event.

Chapter Shirts

During any Chapter event we would like to see all Chapter participants wearing a Chapter shirt, however it is not mandatory. You can obtain a Chapter Shirt or other items from the Chapter Goodie Sales.

Chapter Gathering

We gather the first Tuesday of each month. Our gathering location is Amici Pizza in Wesley Chapel at 26525 Wesley Chapel Blvd. As part of the gathering most people eat anytime after 6:00pm with the official Gathering starting at 7:00pm You can find detailed directions on our web site.

KSU (Kick Stands Up)

On our ride calendar you will find a KSU time. This is the time that the Chapter will depart the meeting location for a ride.

Ride Meeting Locations

We use two meeting locations to depart on rides. Our first location, known as the NORTH location, is the Flying J at I-75 and SR-52. Our second location, known as the SOUTH location, is Sam's Club 27727 State Road 56.

Newsletter

Each month we publish a Chapter Newsletter. In the newsletter you will find great information about what the Chapter has done, going to do, and general information. A Chapter participant can receive the newsletter via email or regular mail. Let the CD know which way you would like to receive the newsletter. Any Chapter participant can also submit an article for publishing in the newsletter.

Chapter Participation

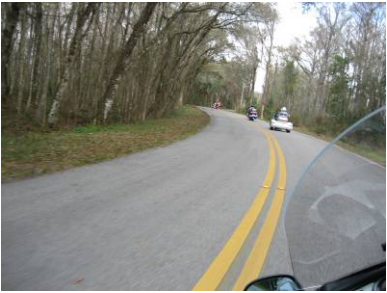
It is up to a person to determine which calendar events they will participate in. Though we encourage everyone to participate in all events, never feel any pressure to participate in something you do not want to.

Riding or Events

We are always looking for new ride ideas or places to visit. If you have an idea or a place you would like to visit, let the Ride Coordinator or ACD know.

The items in this guide are to provide you an overview of GWRRA and the Wings of Wesley Chapel Chapter. If you have a questions, please don't hesitate to ask. We welcome you to our family.

Various Chapter Activities



Points of Contact

Chapter Director
Rick & Madalena Buck
Rmbuck@tampabay.rr.com
(813) 943-5231

Assistant Chapter Director
Howie & Karen Taylor
acd@fl112.com
(813) 505-4126

Chapter Ride Educator
Frank & Marilyn Thomas
fthomas629@verizon.net
(813) 477-5583

Membership Enhancement Coordinators
Howie & Karen Taylor
acd@fl112.com
(813) 505-4126