

FL2D



Newsletter of Harbor City Wings Melbourne, Florida

Aug 2011

Gold Wing Road Riders Association

As you know by now, Ray Mercier stepped down as Chapter Director for health reasons. At the time of this writing, he is home from the hospital and by the end of June, expects to be able to take calls. He and Diane express thanks for your cards and letters.

Ray will be selling his Goldwing Trike and it is listed on the Sale Item page. I am sure he would appreciate your advising anyone you may know that might be interested.

We appreciate Steve and Barb Squires agreeing to step up and take over as Chapter Directors. We look forward to supporting them in this position.

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Bob & Nan Shrader

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321-557-7762

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321-952-4487

Meetings - First Tuesday of each month. Currently meeting at : MeMaws on Babcock in Palm Bay. Eat, Chat and Mingle at 6:00pm. Meeting starts at 7:00 pm

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**He's got a blooming forest fire going on there!
Maybe a little more air to the rear shock to accommodate
that Load!**



Man calls home. Maid answers phone. He says, "Can I speak to my wife?" She says, "No, she's upstairs in bed with her boyfriend." He's mad--says, "Ok, go to the hall closet and take out my shotgun. Go upstairs and kill them both." Being the loyal maid, she says, "Ok." 5 minutes later she picks up the phone and says, "Ok, they're both dead. What should I do with the bodies?" He says, "Throw them in the pool, and I'll take care of them when I get home." She says, "We don't have a pool." He asks, "Is this 555-1234?"

The Pope met with the College of Cardinals to discuss a proposal from Shimon Peres, the former leader of Israel. "Your holiness," said one of the Cardinals, "Mr. Peres wants to determine whether Jews or Catholics are superior, by challenging you to a golf match." The Pope was greatly disturbed, as he had never held a golf club in his life. "Not to worry," said the Cardinal, "we'll call America and talk to Jack Nicklaus. We'll make him a Cardinal, he can play Shimon Peres... We can't lose!" Everyone agreed it was a good idea. The call was made and, of course, Jack was honored and agreed to play. The day after the match, Nicklaus reported to the Vatican to inform the Pope of his success in the match. "I came in second, your Holiness," said Nicklaus. "Second?!!" exclaimed the surprised Pope. "You came in second to Shimon Peres?!!" "No," said Nicklaus, "second to Rabbi Woods."

2011 FLORIDA GWRRA EVENTS

Aug 20 - 21	Officer Certification Program	Kissimmee
Sep. 15 – 17	Region “A” Rally/Convention	Eufaula, AL
Oct. 8	FL1- Poker Run	Tampa
Oct. 15	FL2-G Pancake Breakfast	Fort Myers
Oct. 13 – 15	Mississippi District Rally/Convention	Tupelo, MS
Oct 22-23	Horizon Program	TBD
Oct 29	FL1-D Green Frog Getaway	Bear Lake
Nov 12	FL2-A, R & E Multi-Chapter Lunch	Clewiston

2012 FLORIDA GWRRA EVENTS

Jan. 7 & 8	Chapter Conference	Kissimmee
Jan. 14	FL2-L Cowboys & Indians Rally	Lakeland
Jan. 21	FL1-O Annual Chili Run	DeFuniak Springs
Jan. 29	FL2-D Multi-Chapter Breakfast	Melbourne
Mar 22–24	Florida District Rally/Convention	Kissimmee
Apr. 19-21	Alabama District Rally/Convention	Mobile. AL
Apr 26-28	So, Carolina District Rally/Convention	No. Charleston
Apr. 28	FL1-W Green Eggs & Ham	Orlando
June 14-16	Georgia District Rally/Convention	Dillard



GWRRA MOTTO: Friends For Fun, Safety and Knowledge

When the waitress in a New York City restaurant brought him the soup du jour, the Englishman was a bit dismayed. "Good heavens," he said, "what is this?" "Why, it's bean soup," she replied. "I don't care what it has been," he sputtered. "What is it now?"

Safety Educator



Using a GPS and Motorcycle Safety

Have you been paying attention to your brake? If you haven't tried it, please give it a try. From comments I have heard and from my own experience, it sure has made a difference in my driving and riding skills. If you don't know what I am talking about, please ask me to explain the next time we meet.

As most of you may or may not know, one of my favorite sayings is "Smooth Transitions". Whether riding in a group, or riding alone, one of the biggest keys to survival is making smooth transitions. Panic or sudden unexpected moves may get you or your group into a situation you do not want to be in. So what does any of this have to do with Safety and using a GPS?

When Mike Duquette first suggested the topic to me, I immediately said no way! There is no way you can include the virtues of a GPS in any motorcycle safety discussion. I have thought endlessly about how to present the virtues of having a GPS while operating a motorcycle and realize that it is a topic that should be covered. Motorcyclist will have GPS's and will ride and operate their GPS at the same time, but are they safe devices?

In my opinion, no. Any device that distracts the rider from the risks along the road is an unsafe device. Are there positives to using a GPS? Yes, but in my opinion, only if you are prepared and properly trained. Prepared and properly trained to use a GPS? Yes and No.

No: The first step to using a GPS on a motorcycle is to first learn to ride a motorcycle without the GPS. There is nothing more important than the basics and polishing your motorcycle riding skills. Those of you who have ridden well before all of these fancy electronic devices were available know full well that the first priority in riding a motorcycle is attention to your surroundings at all times. The information learned in BRC:RSS (The beginner riding class) and subsequent ERC's (experienced rider class) is critical. Even more paramount to taking the rider classes, is practice, practice, practice. Practicing the lessons learned until they become second nature. Taking more classes, and practicing more and more and more. The riders reactions to situations has to become second nature to insure that the risk of riding a motorcycle is reduced and is truly enjoyable.

Why does this matter? A truly skilled rider will not allow distractions to influence their riding. The truly skilled rider will pay attention to their surroundings no matter what is playing on the radio station, what the weather is doing, or what the conversation is on the CB or what the Co-rider is saying unless it is important or critical to the current situation. The skilled rider will only take in information that is important to the safe operation of the motorcycle insuring the safety of him/herself, co-riders, and those in the group. The skilled rider will not hear "ReCalculating!!!" in times when a high degree of attention to surroundings are required. Wonder why there are laws circulating for beginner drivers, such as, only having one underage passenger? For the very same reason in learning to drive first so that the driver is attune to driving conditions and not distractions.

Yes: Now that you are a fully skilled rider, with many, many, many miles of experience under your belt, and do not allow distractions to influence your riding, the next most important thing is how to use the GPS. Never ever try to program the GPS while riding the motorcycle, or car for that matter. The first rule is learn how to program your GPS from your couch. Learn how to turn it on. Learn how to set the volume. Learn how to check the route it has picked and make modifications to the route if needed, all from the comfort of your couch or sitting on your bike in the garage if you have a built in unit. Just as it was in the "old" days when a group of riders got together and planned a trip or destination using a map, the route was planned and discussed before the bikes were started. There is no difference with using a GPS. Do not leave the couch until the route is planned and

T-CLOCK CHECK : Tires and wheels, Controls, Lights and electrics, Oil and fluids, Chassis, Kickstand.

programmed to your satisfaction. If riding with a group, make sure the group understands what the route is and where and when the stops will be, and so on just like a ride without a GPS. In the event of a change in direction during the ride, do not re-program the GPS while riding. Pull off the road in a safe location and re-group/re-program. Just like using a map.

Are there advantages to using a GPS? Yes. As I stated in the beginning of this article, “Smooth Transitions” is one of the main advantage of using a GPS. If the lead bike of a group is a skilled rider, and knows the route, the GPS will warn of upcoming turns or lane shifts. This information can be relayed to the other riders over the CB so that there are no knee jerk reactions during the ride. A solo ride, or a group ride should always be composed of smooth transitions along the route and a GPS can aid in this by warning a head of time of upcoming transitions.

I know guidelines will be released in the future about the use of GPS’s and motorcycling, but here are some of my suggestions and recommendations.

Be a highly skilled rider before using a GPS.

Be an expert with the GPS before attaching it to the motorcycle. Get plenty of couch time with your GPS.

Never re-program the GPS while operating a motorcycle.

Program the route before the key is inserted into the ignition (or before bike is started if you have a built in unit) and make sure you know the route better than the GPS. Never trust the GPS to be absolutely correct. Pull off the road safely and recheck the route if the GPS “Wandering Wanda” voice is giving incorrect information.

Ignore the GPS during high traffic, high risk situations. U-turns are good practice exercises.

Place the GPS so that it does not obstruct your view, interfere with the operation of the motorcycle and is positioned such that you do not look down. Remember that at 70mph on the highway you are traveling roughly 102 feet every second, which is longer than an 18 wheeler. The GPS position should be such that if something occurs ahead, you are alerted to it during your glance to the GPS, just like using your mirrors.

If riding in a group, only the lead bike should be using a GPS. The other riders in the group can have them, but do not use them. Your friends ahead and behind you depend on you paying attention to the surrounding conditions for their safety. The lead bike is the leader, not your GPS if you are not the lead bike. Turn the sound off, and enjoy the ride, would be my suggestion.

If your GPS is an add on unit, pay the extra money and integrate the system into your headset so that you can hear directions without having to take your eyes off of the road. (I’m still trying to get Deb to budget this into my GPS purchase. Maybe Santa will understand)

If your GPS ever says “In point 3 miles, turn right off-road”, throw it in the nearest garbage can and buy the upgrade version.

Smooth Transitions Mo...

Mike & Pat Duquette
Sr. Chapter Educators

Mo & Deb Dalton
Asst. Chapter Educators



Birthday's

Anniversaries

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**



8/6	Gale Furthmiller
8/13	Bob Bickman
8/29	Bob Copper
8/29	Margie(Hawkes) Zarro
8/30	Trish Rudden

8/5	Hal & Lee Blackwell
8/5	Joe & Ann Cody
8/12	Harold & Debbie Brown
8/16	Joanne & Charlie Davies



Marriage Counseling

After 35 years of marriage, a husband and wife came for counseling.

When asked what the problem was, the wife went into a passionate, painful tirade listing every problem they had ever had in the years they had been married.

On and on and on: neglect, lack of intimacy, emptiness, loneliness, feeling unloved and unlovable, an entire laundry list of unmet needs she had endured.

Finally, after allowing this for a sufficient length of time, the therapist got up, walked around the desk and after asking the wife to stand, he embraced and kissed her long and passionately as her husband watched -with a raised eyebrow.

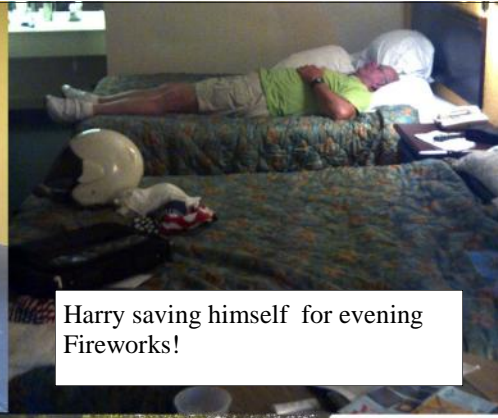
The woman shut up and quietly sat down as though in a daze.

The therapist turned to the husband and said, 'this is what your wife needs at least 3 times a week. Can you do this?'

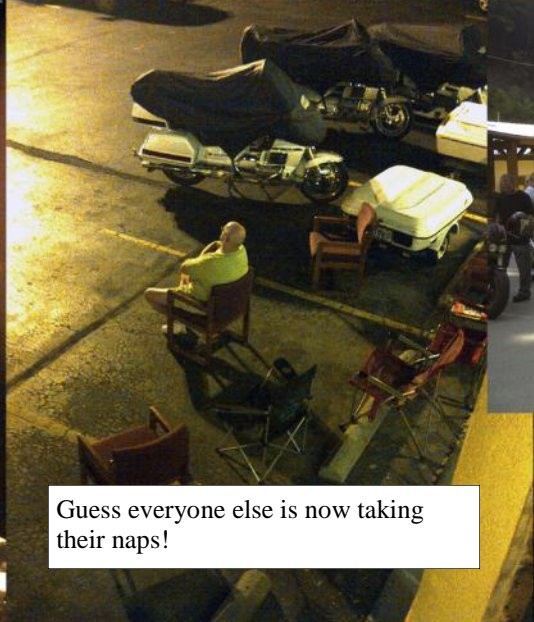
'Well, I can drop her off here on Mondays and Wednesdays, but on Fridays, I fish.'



Trip to Wing Ding 2011



Harry saving himself for evening Fireworks!



Deals Gap, NC

Guess everyone else is now taking their naps!

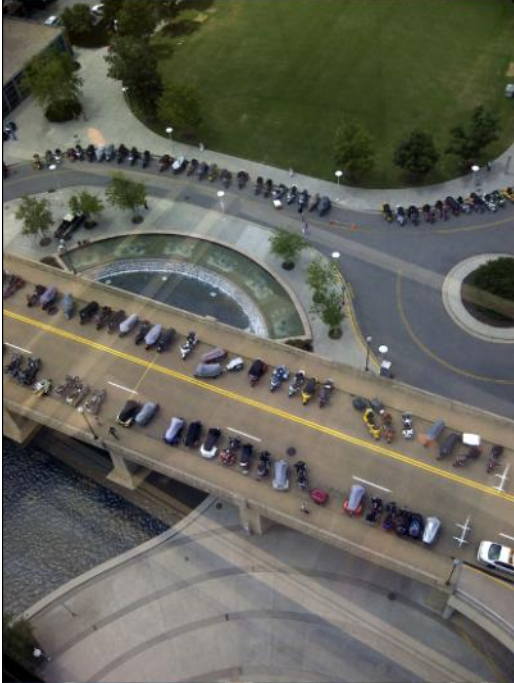


MO! STOP THAT!



Deals Gap "Chicks"





Thanks for the pictures MO!

Kick Tire





Think he went that way, well maybe the other way, but then again, maybe this way...

A married couple was in a terrible accident where the woman's face was severely burned. The doctor told the husband that they couldn't graft any skin from her body because she was too skinny. So the husband offered to donate some of his own skin.

However, the only skin on his body that the doctor felt was suitable would have to come from his buttocks. The husband and wife agreed that they would tell no one about where the skin came from, and requested that the doctor also honor their secret. After all, this was a very delicate matter.

After the surgery was completed, everyone was astounded at the woman's new beauty. She looked more beautiful than she ever had before! All her friends and relatives just went on and on about her youthful beauty!

One day, she was alone with her husband, and she was overcome with emotion at his sacrifice. She said, "Dear, I just want to thank you for everything you did for me. There is no way I could ever repay you."

"My darling," he replied, "I get all the thanks I need every time I see your mother kiss you on the cheek."



A special thanks to our members who submit articles. We love the support and the good information. Send them to Richard Mitts rm32904@yahoo.com

May I have your attention please!.....

A Very Special Thanks to Charlie Davies and Joanne Davies.

They take this publication, make it web ready, and then put it on our Web Site. Without them, we would not be able to enjoy this on our computers. Many thanks for a fantastic job.



MEMBER ITEMS FOR SALE

For Sale:

2006 Goldwing, Roadsmith Trike, Titanium color, low mileage (16,400), with many extras, plus a black fiberglass trail-master trailer. Asking \$26,000 for all.

Contact Ray Mercier

321-724-6375



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