



# THE SCRATCH SHEET

Ocala, FL

Horse Country Cruisers

August

2021



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#### Asst. Chapter Directors

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Rick & Amy Jenkins  
352-350-4886

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#### Ride Coordinator

Mike Sadlon

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Fred and Joanne Spoering

#### Membership Enhancement

Fred Spoering

#### Couple of The Year

Paul and Jane Davis

#### Person of The Year

Amy Jenkins

#### Special Functions Coordinator

Frank and Diane Farkas

#### CSEA

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Many Members have been taking advantage of the sunny weather and having awesome vacations.... Stories Inside.....



### CHAPTER MEETING

Chapter Gathering/Meeting –  
See the Monthly Calendar for Details

### KICK TIRE @ WENDY'S

Every Friday @ 6:00 PM  
3001 E. Silver Springs Blvd

Visit our chapter website at: [www.fl1-f2.org](http://www.fl1-f2.org)



#### DIRECTORS OF GWRRA

Jere & Sherry Goodman

#### DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANTS

Bob & Nancy Shrader

## GOLDWING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION

Friends for Fun, Safety & Knowledge

#### FLORIDA DISTRICT DIRECTORS

Bill & Cheryl Smith

#### FLORIDA ASSISTANT DISTRICT DIRECTORS

Geno & Kathie Jette





**Notes: We Are Going To Try For Turnpike Mike's Again – Come Join Us!!**  
**Watch Your Emails For Updates and Cancellations!! Ride Safe and Stay Healthy!!**

August 2021		Horse Country Cruisers Ride & Event Calendar			August 2021	
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4 Team Meeting YMCA @ 6 PM	5	6 Kick Tire Wendy's 6:00PM	7
8 Breakfast Ride to Chicken King: Hernando Shell KSU 8:30AM	9	10	11 Cheddars Hwy 200 Meet There 5:30PM	12	13 Kick Tire Wendy's 6:00 PM	14 Ride to Turnpike Mike's in Summer Glen: Shell: 10:30AM: Jim
15	16	17 Gathering/Meeting Golden Corral: Eat at 5:30PM Meeting at 6:30PM	18	19	20 Kick Tire Wendy's 6:00 PM	21
22 Lunch Ride to Angelo's: Inverness Shell KSU 10:30AM	23	24	25 Brooklyn's Backyard Meet There 5:30pm	26	27 Kick Tire Wendy's 6:00 PM	28 Lunch Ride to Crafty Bastards Pub: Gainesville: Publix KSU 10:30AM
29	30	31 Mike O'Neal Ride: Brown Bag Lunch: Russell Stovers: Shell 10AM: Ralph	1	2	3 Kick Tire Wendy's 6:00 PM	4

BP Gas US 441 & SE 52<sup>nd</sup> St  
 Shells (Kangaroo) SW 60<sup>th</sup> Ave & SR 200  
 Lowes 4600 Silver Springs Blvd  
 Publix US 27 & 49<sup>th</sup> Ave  
 Race Track 475-A & 484  
 Winn Dixie US 441 & SR 326

CHAPTER WEBSITE = <http://www.fl-12.org>  
 Chapter Gathering: Golden Corral: 2111 SW College Rd.  
 Webmaster: Steve and Sophie Rabau [srabau@comcast.net](mailto:srabau@comcast.net)  
 Newsletter Editor: Amy Jenkins: [bellbrookgal@gmail.com](mailto:bellbrookgal@gmail.com)  
 Kick Tire @ Wendy's @ 3001 E Silver Springs Blvd  
 Team Meeting @ YMCA @ 3200 SE 17<sup>th</sup> St.

Ralph Lambert 410-299-7684  
 Marion Duncan 352-598-9248  
 Rick & Amy Jenkins 352-350-4886  
 Mike Sadlon 352-694-4723  
 Rose Cobb 573-528-3682  
 Barb Funk 352-875-4329



**Notes: Happy Fourth of July! Safe Vacation Travels Everyone!! Kingdom of the Sun Concert - July 18<sup>th</sup> - Come Join Us!! Watch Your Emails For Updates and Cancellations!! Ride Safe and Stay Healthy!!**

July 2021		Horse Country Cruisers Ride & Event Calendar			July 2021	
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28	29 <u>Mike O'Neal Ride:</u> <u>Brown Bag Lunch:</u> <u>Russell Stoggers: Shell</u> <u>10AM: Dan</u>	30 <u>LaHacienda</u> <u>5:30PM Meet There</u>	1	2 <u>Kick Tire</u> Wendy's 6:00PM	3 <u>Breakfast Ride to Ted's Restaurant in Citra:</u> Lowes: 8:30AM: Dan
4 <u>Fourth Of July Holiday</u>	5	6	7 Team Meeting YMCA @ 6 PM	8	9 <u>Kick Tire</u> Wendy's 6:00 PM	10 <u>Off-Duty Tavern for Lunch:</u> 1011 NE 14 <sup>th</sup> St. 11:30AM: Meet There
11	12	13 Lunch Ride to Blue Gator in Dunnellon: Shell: 10:30AM: Ralph	14	15	16 <u>Kick Tire</u> Wendy's 6:00 PM	17 <u>Breakfast Ride to Rose Garden in Astor:</u> Lowes: 8:30AM: Ralph
18 <u>KOS Concert @ MHI:</u> 1614 E. Fort King St. 2:30PM: Meet There China Lee Afterwards	19	20 <u>Gathering/Meeting Golden Corral:</u> Eat at 5:30PM Meeting at 6:30PM	21	22	23 <u>Kick Tire</u> Wendy's 6:00 PM	24
25 <u>Breakfast Ride to Golden Spoon (SR 200):</u> Shell: 8:30AM Steve	26	27 <u>Mike O'Neal Ride:</u> Brown Bag Lunch: Russell Stoggers: Shell 10AM: Ralph RSVP El Mezcal 6PM	28 El Mezcal: Mexican Cuisine: 5:30PM: Meet There	29	30 <u>Kick Tire</u> Wendy's 6:00 PM	31 <u>Breakfast Ride to Greg's Haystack:</u> Umatilla: Lowes: 8:30AM Dan/Ralph

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## Chapter Director's Message Ralph A. Lambert



Hello Everyone!! Hope your summer is going well.. I just returned from my trip to Maryland to visit friends and family. Did some sailing and also got in some fishing on my cousin's yacht. Got to visit with everyone that I missed last year due to the COVID monster. LOL.. I know Mike and Sue Sadlon are doing well – they called me the other night to give me an update on their travels. If you are traveling now or will be soon please be careful on the roads. The crazies are out there!!

We have plans developing for our Christmas Party and for another Ice Cream Social this fall. As mentioned last month we also have dates set aside for a First Aid/CPR class on October 30<sup>th</sup> and a Motorcycle Tech Day at Steve and Sophie's home on October 23<sup>rd</sup> – so pencil these into your long range calendar and we'll get you more detail as we get closer to the dates.

There are a number of wonderful GWRRA events that were cancelled last year but are back on this year.. We announce these events with details and flyers regularly - BUT – we also would like to refer you to our website: [www.f11-f2.org](http://www.f11-f2.org) . Steve and Sophie have done a wonderful job of updating our site and including links to all the surrounding District Websites. So – you should be able to find any information you are looking for from our own site.

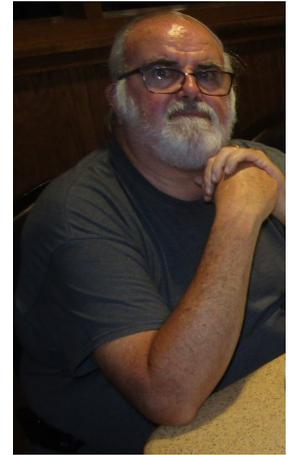
As an added incentive we are offering a prize of five Gold Wing Tickets if you locate your GWRRA number on our website and contact Steve within the time limit. I have been to the site and the number is there as promised. NO – I am not going to tell you whose number it is or where it is. You have to find your own number. So, go have a look and if you find your GWRRA number call Steve right away and tell him where on the site you found it. You have until the start of the July Gathering to contact him in order to win.. No cheating folks – if you find the number and it is not your number – don't say anything.. But please do enjoy all the nice things that are on the website.. If you have something to sell we have a For Sale Section – call Steve to find out how to get your items for sale posted. Also, feel free to contact Steve and Sophie with any content for the site or with suggestions.

In Rose's absence I have the chapter stock of Gold Wing Tickets should you need more. We have won the award for most tickets sold twice now – wanta go for three times?? LOL.. If you need any tickets then let me know..

Whenever we have rides or events we ask someone to write an article for the newsletter about the event. As a reward and also an incentive we will be giving away (free) two ride lotto tickets to anyone who writes an article that is published in the newsletter. So – please consider writing one when asked.. And good luck with the drawing!!

Checkout the Chapter Calendar of Events and Come and Join Us in Some Great Fun!  
Take Care - Ride Safe and Stay Healthy!!

**Membership Enhancement  
GWRRA August Anniversaries  
Fred Spoering**



Hello everyone, Hope everyone enjoyed their July 4th celebrations. A lot better than last year. We were up in Maryland visiting the kids and granddaughter. We got there June 8th and got back home June 23rd. Was nice seeing them face to face, been almost 6 months. As always, I can be reached at [fud11735@aol.com](mailto:fud11735@aol.com), or by phone at 516 567 8781. Have a nice rest of the month.

Jane VanTol	Member since 2014	7 years
Vicki Watson	Member since 2019	2 years
Craig Goodwill	Member since 2019	2 years
Paul Davis	Member since 2014	7 years
Barbara Broadfield	Member since 2005	16 years
Frank Farkas	Member since 2001	20 years
Cathy Stuart	Member since 2015	6 years
Joanne Spoering	Member since 2013	8 years
Alana Forte	Member since 2003	18 years
Tom Northey	Member since 1998	23 years
Marion Duncan	Member since 1983	38 years
Carol Hill	Member since 2008	13 years





## 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 5 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 between 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 bought 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 1/5th 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 1/2 the cost of a new conventional Gold Wing Trike. There a 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. About \$25,000.00. 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.

*A couple that Rides together.....*



*Stays together....*



### July Anniversaries



Don & Martha Ford	5th
Frank & Naida Rasbury	5th
Red & Cora Robinson	13th
Terry & Vicki Watson	13th
Tom & Wanda Northey	21st
Rolf & Sioux Olson	22nd
Jack & Pat Carson	25th
John & Margaret Villa	26th



### July Birthday Stars!



Jayne VanTol	2nd
Vicki Watson	3rd
Craig Goodwill	5th
Carol Hill	8th
Paul Davis	10th
Barbara Broadfield	11th
Frank Farkas	13th
George Murphy	13th
A J, Johnson	14th
Cora Robinson	15th
Cathy Stuart	16th
Cathy Goodwill	16th
Richard Burmeister	16th
Moe Arneja	21st
Joanne Spoering	24th
Alana Forte	25th
Tom Northey	27th
Marion Duncan	28th

## **Trike for sale**

2006 1800 Goldwing 36000 mi

**\$18,000.00 OBO**

**Dennis or Sue Lomax 352 / 873-1623**

*All the basic Goldwing accessories plus*

Lehman Monarch II trike conversion  
Passenger audio/CB controls  
Dual USB power port  
Trailer Hitch      2 Helmets

Ride sofa seat  
Butler Cup holders  
X -Grip Phone holder  
Full Cover

J&M Digital Music Player  
Markland back rest  
Pingel easy Shift electric shift  
Factory Manual



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**For Sale motorcycle Trailer!  
Triple Crown utility trailer with storage  
box and spare tire, and ramp access.  
GVWR is 2750 lbs. will carry any Trike or  
motorcycle.  
Asking \$1250, Call 352-362-9037**



**Jim Van Zandt**

# Getting To Know You---Billy & Sandy Boone

By Mary Wilcox

We met Billy and Sandy when we first moved to Florida. Billy was outside in his driveway working on his bike when we went by. Ralph noticed it was a Goldwing and immediately turned around. We stood and talked for awhile admiring his bike, then Sandy came out and showed us her bike. Their bikes are AWE-SOME, and beautifully detailed. They invited us to go to the Goldwing chapter gathering with them, and that's how we joined FL1-F2.



They have quite a long history between them, and I thought it would be great for you to hear their Life and Love Stories.

Billy and Sandy grew up as boyfriend and girlfriend at the ages of 8 and 10 years. Their parents were friends, and ran around together, so they spent a lot of time together.

Billy's family owned Boone's Honda Sales in Owensboro, and it was the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest dealer in the state of Kentucky. Sandy's Dad worked for them as a salesman, until he was offered a job to bring a new motorcycle to Kentucky. Her Dad then became the representative for Kawasaki Midwest out of Grand Rapids and he set up Kawasaki dealerships for the states of Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana, Illinois and parts of Ohio.

Billy and Sandy both learned to ride motorcycles on a 50 Cutaway Honda at his Grandmother's farm. Sandy was 6 and Billy was 8, which means they were riding motorcycles when their peers were learning to ride tricycles.

Billy's first bike that he owned was a blue metal flake 160 Honda that He and his Dad built from a couple wrecked motorcycles that were traded at his Dad's Honda shop. It was a Dad and Son project started when Billy was 15. Sandy's first bike was a 125 Kawasaki that she purchased at cost from her Dad when she was 17.

In Billy's younger years, he was a Professional Flat Track Motorcycle racer, and finished 10<sup>th</sup>. In Western Kentucky after only completing half a year. In his second year of racing, he finished first in the Nation. For several years he held the Regional title, and many track records. At that time in his racing



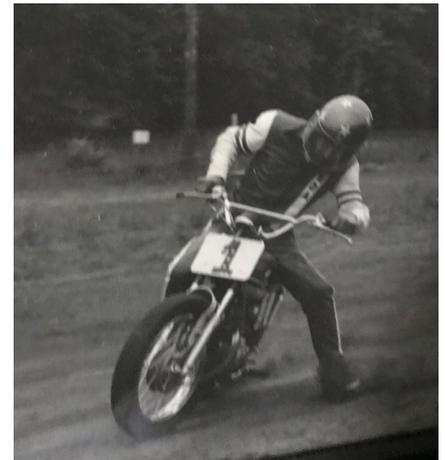
career, his parents sponsored his racing career, but decided to sell their Honda dealership. Finding sponsors was impossible for him, and he was married and had a son to raise, so Billy ended his racing career. In later years, Billy's Dad restored his first racing bike, and it is a treasured part of his Man Cave in his home in Ocala along with many trophies, ribbons and pictures.



Sandy and Billy had gone their separate ways, but met again when Sandy went to visit Billy's Mom in the hospital. They realized they were both going through bad divorces, and they began leaning on each other for support. Eventually they rekindled their "Puppy Love", and it became a strong true love.

Sandy had spent her life as a stay at home Mom, raising her boys for years, but during that time she helped her Mom open a consignment shop and get it up and running.

After her boys left home, Sandy and Billy both spent 10 years working at the Kentucky Motor Speedway-where Darrell & Michael Waltrip, Jeremy Mayfield, and Jeff and Mark Green began their racing careers. Sandy was the Head Scorer and Points Secretary, and Billy was the Infield Coordinator and Track Official.



Billy retired from Aleris Aluminum after 42 years, and Sandy retired from being an Allstate agent after 20 years.

They moved to Ocala and Billy enjoys bowling and has had 3-300 games with rings and trophies to show for it. He also plays volleyball, corn hole and bocce. Sandy plays Mexican Train, Samba and cards. She can also be found at tag and garage sales.



Billy and Sandy have 4 grown sons, a 29 year old granddaughter, 2 grandsons ages 13 & 6, and 3 great grandsons.

As you have learned, Billy and Sandy are experienced motorcycle riders, and they enjoy riding. You can't miss their bikes when you see them, caused they are decked out in lights. Billy rides almost every day on his 2008 Goldwing, sometimes riding 200+ miles in a day, he has 126,000 miles on his bike. Sandy doesn't ride her 2007 Honda VTX 1300 Retro as much, but when she does, her smile is ear to ear.



**Billy joined GWRRA on 8-28-07. A guy gave him a card a month before when he had a flat tire in Tennessee pulling a trailer on vacation, so he called the guy and he set everything up for Billy to get him fixed up and on his way home. As Billy says, Another great time for being a member of GWRRA.**



**Billy and Sandy are devout Christians and they show it daily by helping anyone who needs it With smiles on their faces.. Billy and Sandy are great pet sitters, and they helped me out for weeks so I could be at the hospital. Billy is a great mechanic, and has worked many times on Ralph's bike, and is willing to work on bikes if needed**

**Billy and Sandy consider themselves Blessed with their life and love story. But We are Blessed to call them Friends and Fellow Goldwingers.**



**Early Registrations help our District!**  
**We'd love to receive yours soon!!!**  
**The 42nd Florida District Gathering of the Wings is**  
**March 17 - 19, 2022**

**Meet the Team GWRRA 2021**  
**Jere and Sherry Goodman - Directors of GWRRA**

<p><i>Bob &amp; Nan Shrader - Director's Assistant</i></p> <p><i>Kevin Bramhoff &amp; Karin Young - Director's Assistant</i></p> <p><i>Dan &amp; Mary Costello - Director of Member Enhancement</i></p> <p><i>Lorrie Thomas &amp; Dan Clark - Director of GWRRA University</i></p> <p><i>Allesandro Boveri &amp; Mariarosa Bruzzone - Directors Overseas</i></p>	<p><i>Tom &amp; Renee Wasluck - Director's Assistant</i></p> <p><i>John &amp; Shawn Irons - Director's Assistant</i></p> <p><i>Randall &amp; Janet Drake - Director of Finance</i></p> <p><i>James &amp; Freida Clayson - Directors of Motorist Awareness</i></p> <p><i>Susan &amp; George Huttman - Directors of Rider Education</i></p>
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## By Rose Cobb

While at Wing Ding in Springfield, Missouri I heard about a young 35-year-old Chapter Director from Michigan and was intrigued. I knew I wanted to talk to him and pick his brain, so to say- to see what brought him in and encouraged him to take such a leadership role. Edmund McDougale is the son of Eddie and Sharleen McDougale who are currently Michigan district treasurers and Mi-S2 treasurer. He has one younger brother Elliott. Edmund told us that family is very important to him and he is lucky to be in a family of dedicated, safe, motorcycle enthusiasts and active GWRRA members.



He is a software engineer and began his career in California but decided to come back to Michigan. Currently Edmund is working for Tyler Technologies, a vendor for public sector software. I wasn't sure what public sector software was, so I asked. "I'm involved in software like dispatch software for law enforcement and mobile units. Working on reducing the size of the technology-computer officers are having to use in their mobile units is one example". Edmund has been continuing his education and training moving toward iCloud engineering in addition to his work schedule. Even with this busy schedule, Edmund loves to ride!

He has been riding for about 7 years and has put about 40,000 miles on 2 wheels. His first bike was a 1975 Honda CB 500 F, he put about 300 miles on it before moving to a larger bike, the Honda ST 1300 which he had for 5 yrs. Edmund now has a 2004 GL 1800 and is loving every mile! His very first time riding a Goldwing was when his family was in Alabama. Edmund was trying to pick up Alabama and Mississippi, because he tracks the states he's ridden in. He convinced his dad to allow him to ride to Columbus, Mississippi on his dad's Goldwing. That's what convinced him to get an 1800.

***What was your longest trip?*** "We took a 6-day 2,300-mile trip through 16 states and Canada and spent 2 days at Americaid." What was the most miles in one day? "Longest one day was almost 700 miles."

***Have you ever had to use the Gold Book?*** "Yes, we were in a situation where we kind of got turned around, three of the riders had Gold books. One phone call got us back on the right track. I'm in the Gold Book so if anyone needs help in the area just look me up."

***What rallies have you attended?*** "Naturally the Michigan District Rally, this is my 3<sup>rd</sup> Wingding, Americaid twice and once to the National Bikers Round Up. That was my first long distance ride. I got swimming pants on the stretch from Effingham to AK. All kinds of bikers are there. I was thinking the rain was going to miss us and decided not to put my raingear on. Little did I know it was going to rain from Effingham until we crossed the Arkansas border. That was our longest road time and we ended up on the side of the road for 5 hours. Someone in our group had blown a tire and we tried to patch it, but it didn't work."

We got lucky a group of guys were coming through with a trailer. They pulled over and took their bikes off the trailer and let the guy with the blown his tire drive the rest of the way, it was about 90 miles. These other guys rode their bikes. We didn't know them, they were not Goldwing members, but they saw our stuff and pulled over and let our friends load their bike on the trailer and drive the truck to the rally."

***Have you ever ridden yourself dry?*** "YES!"

When asked if he prefers camping or hotel, a big grin crossed his face. Nodding he admitted that, if possible, he'd rather camp in either a camper or a tent, but not opposed to the hotel options too. "My friend said if the RV is out, I'm invited.... I get the couch. But I have a tent too."

Let's talk ice-cream. "I love ice-cream rides. We have taken a 50-mile ride just for ice-cream." ***What is your favorite ice-cream?*** "It's a tough choice between Dairy queen & Culvers. At DQ, I get the double fudge cookie dough blizzard and I ask them to add brownie dough to it. At Culvers I typically do the flavor of the day and have never been disappointed. You know, they gave us the Culver's coupons for a free scoop at the [Wingding] registration counter. I ended up getting like 20 of them to share. We've been going every day for ice-cream. Yes, I do share them. I kept 2 for myself and gave the rest to my mom to pass out to the group."

***Hobbies;*** I LOVE motorcycling, fishing and slower paced things; I'm building a woodshop. I built a bed frame from scratch. I really enjoy that because I did it, I made mistakes then problem-solved it. I also have a small garden with tomatoes, spinach, and other greens.

***Other Interests;*** Technology naturally but when I need a work break, I do puzzles. Sometimes the answers come to me when I'm working on a puzzle. When you step back and take a break the answer comes to you. I like DIY projects, I just put all new locks on my house and rekeyed them so one key fits all. It was a little challenging when a spring popped on the digital keypad lock I got. I thought Oh no, here's a \$200 lock I won't be able to use my key on, but I got it figured out."

Edmund has been active in his chapter filling in wherever needed and held positions like ride coordinator. "They are still strongly encouraging me to take the course instructor trainer training to be a course educator. Work prevented it from happening, but another training is coming up to become a district course instructor and I hope to take that one." January 2021, Edmund became Chapter Director for Oak Park MI- S2 Motor City Wings,

What do you hope for as CD? I'd like to see our chapter continue to be a family. When members decide not to ride anymore, I want them to come and stay in touch. We still love you the same and want you around. I do want the team to look at and focus on what we need to do and provide for our members, to let them know they are

appreciated. If they want more dinner rides or ice-cream rides...we do them. If they want to do service rides, we can provide a way to provide it. I'd like to see the chapter do more service events.

I want to find local events to show people what GWRRA really stands for. Fun, Safety, Knowledge and Friendship. We like to ride, but we're not a motorcycle gang or club. We are an organization, and we do charitable things and bring awareness to learn better skills and enjoy riding and how to navigate certain situations that may arise. "Sometimes it seems like people have the idea that we are a gang or motorcycle club or they think it's just for old retired people. Then I tell them it's about getting to know how to ride safely. As riders we have duties and responsibilities. People are like Oh, I didn't know that.

***Ok.... How do we attract young people like you?***

First is Representation- to see who resembles me [my generation] in your organization? Break the stigma of a bunch of retirees and that a Goldwing is an old person's bike. Second is Awareness- let young riders know about the organization, provide skills training and PRACTICE. Especially riding in the cold, dark, heat or in the rain.



Finally emphasize the fellowship and support – gather and talk about bikes, invite young people to your events. Have events like- The Field in Detroit, unofficially on Sunday motorcycle people would gather, meet, and talk about bikes. Things like this bring visibility to the organization.

**What do you think Phoenix should do?**

- \*I think the 4-Month free membership is a great idea.
- \*Facebook and social media are where everything is happening. Create bite size pieces of information to peak interest. Attention span is short for our generation. Give them a way to reach out when they want to know more.
- \*Get someone to be the face of younger riders too
- \*The design of the Goldwing has changed, looks sportier. It's like refining the brand. Most organizations go through rebranding periodically. If a company wants to stick around and grow it must evolve. Stick to the core values, beliefs, and philosophy, but speak to the audience you want to attract.

If you plant a plant and do nothing what happens? There was a pause.... But if you pay attention to it, nurture and tend to it, it will grow. I feel it's the same way, we have a good root and can spread out with new branches. The bike has evolved, and the organization can too.

Bring the visibility to the Younger Generation.

## Ron and Chris Johns

We currently live in Stone Creek, transplants from Nebraska. Chris and I will celebrate our 40th anniversary in July. I'm amazed on a daily basis how she has tolerated me for so many years. It's been a long and interesting journey to get here—even more amazing for a guy born and raised in a small town (population 70) in the middle of Nebraska.

After some false starts, I got my college degree and joined the family profession—teaching, following my mother, brother, and sister. I taught high school English in a small school not far from where I grew up. Although working with the kids was immensely rewarding, I found that I couldn't deal with the administrators and parents. In an effort to get as far away as I could from the academic world, I resigned and became a cement finisher. After four years in city paving and six years building concrete swimming pools, I decided that I definitely didn't want to be doing that when I was 50 (like some of the guys I worked with.) Concrete work is certainly an art, but in the end, it's 98% back-breaking physical labor.



During this time, I turned my hobby into a profession and became a scuba diving Instructor. Part time scuba instruction proved to be fun and exciting; so much so, that Chris and I eventually opened our own scuba diving business, offering instruction, sales, rentals, repairs and travel. A scuba business in a small town (population 30,000) in the middle of Nebraska required resolve that we didn't even know we had. Chris worked in real estate while I spent my time striving to make the business a success—much of it through sheer will and many 18-hour days and 7-day weeks.

Occasionally, light commercial diving jobs provided needed income—anything to make a buck. One of the most memorable jobs required the removal of five sets of pilings that had supported a railroad bridge spanning a river. The pilings were wood, but there were ice breakers on the upstream side. They were built from 16-inch steel I-beams with 1-inch steel plates welded on to form a vee shape protecting the wooden piling. All this had to be removed down to the mud.

The contractor hired a licensed explosives expert since my expertise extended only as far as cherry bombs. He would estimate the charge necessary for the job, rig it, insert the fuse, and tell us “it's a 10-minute fuse”. Securing the charge to the piling required diving to the bottom in 40-degree water, with chunks of ice floating down the river, heavy current from the spring thaw, in zero visibility (everything had to be done by feel). Then, I would climb back in the boat, light the fuse, and run downstream to watch. What a sight—500-pound pieces of twisted steel flying 250 feet in the air! Then, an inspection was required to make sure the job was done.



Many times, it had to be repeated, sometimes more than once, with increasingly larger charges. It took 5-1/2, eight-hour days to complete the job.

Over the years, I added to my credentials, teaching beginners through Instructors, Public Safety Divers (they comprise Dive Rescue teams for fire departments, Sheriff departments, etc.) and technical divers (diving to depths of 330 feet using several different gas mixtures, and advanced decom-

pression procedures).

Chris and I have taken groups all over the world to dive: Great Lakes shipwrecks, everywhere in the Caribbean: the west coast from Vancouver, British Columbia, to La Paz, Mexico, including Guadalupe Island, diving with Great White Sharks; the western Pacific, including Australia, Fiji, Tahiti, Palau, Chuuk, The Philippines and Hawaii. Diving in all these locations is truly unforgettable. But maybe the best part of travel abroad, experiencing other cultures, is the appreciation you develop for what we have in the United States.

As for motorcycling, it's more recent. Diving friends from Omaha are long-time bikers and constantly encouraged us to join them. We resisted for years. After making the final payments on our house and our store building, Chris mentioned one day in passing, that 'maybe we should get a motorcycle'. I brought one home the next day. This was after a 35-year hiatus from riding, so I had to learn all over again. We especially enjoyed annual trips with our friends to Arkansas to ride the twisty roads in the Ozarks.

Starting out on a Kawasaki, we eventually moved on to Goldwings for a far more comfortable touring experience. Next came a Spyder and now a Slingshot. It's a great thing that the Horse Country Cruisers welcome any kind of vehicle—two, three or four wheels. Some groups aren't nearly so welcoming.



## Shrimp Landing Breakfast Ride

Submitted by Ron Johns

On May 16th, a beautiful Florida morning, 14 of us met at Shell for a breakfast ride to Shrimp Landing in Inglis: Marion Duncan, Fred Spoering, Jim and Dorothy Serio, Jim and Terry Van Zant, Andy Katz, Steve and Sophie Rabau (and mom—Lydia), Dave and Vicki Hutchinson, Ralph Lambert, Ron Johns.

Ralph led the ride with Fred sweeping. It was an exceptionally pleasant morning for a ride: temperatures were just right. As usual, Ralph mapped out an excellent route to Inglis. There are only so many ways you can get there, but he never disappoints.

As usual, at Shrimp Landing, the food and service were excellent. It's a favorite place for breakfast. I've been there many times and have never been disappointed.

Of course, Ralph had mapped out a different course for the ride home. He managed to get us on CR 39, one of my favorite routes back to Ocala.

Join us for a future ride. It's always a scenic trip, excellent company, and good food.

Upcoming Florida GWRRA Events		
June 3 - 5, 2021	"Sweet Dreams... and Nightmares" South Carolina District Rally - <b>CANCELLED</b>	Clemson, SC
June 29 - July 3, 2021	<i>Wing Ding 42</i>	Springfield, MO
Sept 2 - 4, 2021	"Wings Over the Smokies" North Carolina District Rally	Waynesville, NC
Sept 16 - 18, 2021	3rd Annual "Come Ride With Us" Georgia District Riding Rally	Dillard, GA
Sept 30 - Oct 2, 2021	"Monster Mash" Alabama District Rally	Eufaula, AL
Oct 21 - 23, 2021	"Pajama Party" Mississippi District Rally	Gulfport, MS
Nov 11 - 13, 2021	Louisiana District Ride-In	St. Francisville, LA

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## Blue Gator Lunch Ride by Dorothy Serio

On Tuesday July 13th, eight of us met at the Shell parking lot for our ride to the Blue Gator Restaurant in Dunnellon. Since our Chapter Director was unable to join us, Dan Lindsey graciously stepped up as our ride leader with Neil Rehse as our sweeper. We had 2 trikes, 2 SlingShots, a VanderHall and a staff vehicle on our ride. My husband Jim was not able to go today as he was waiting at home for a roofing company to give us an estimate to replace the roof on our house.



He handed me the keys to our SlingShot and said "go have fun"! Barb Funk courageously rode with me on my solo voyage! I got us there and back without any mishaps. Yeah! When asked how she liked the ride she commented... "awesome ride" so I guess I passed the test. Makes me wonder if she and Dan will also be getting a SlingShot! hmmm???. Also riding with us today was Ron Johns, Mike Schroder and his grandson Elijah, and Andy Katz.

Upon our arrival at the restaurant we were joined by Ellen Bollas and Dave McPherson.

We were promptly seated, our drink orders taken and soon delivered. The food was delicious and the meal portions generous, however the service was less than desirable. Several of our members got their orders while the rest of the table waited patiently for ours to arrive after a lengthy delay. One member's meal did not arrive until most of the group had finished. Even with the slow service we all enjoyed the food and especially the camaraderie.

We took a direct route back to Ocala as the threat of rain was on the horizon and most of the group had daily activities to take care of.

Many thanks to Dan for stepping up and guiding us to and from our lunch location!

## Man, Mountain and Machines by Dorothy Serio

On June 22nd, Jim and I departed Ocala heading to our favorite place in North Carolina. We have been renting the same chalet cabin just outside of Murphy, North Carolina for the past 9 years now. We were so very fortunate to find such a lovely house perched at the top of a mountain.

All paved roads to the place, gated community and use of a 2 car detached garage. With our trike in tow we were looking forward to riding the mountain roads and enjoying our vacation. We rode some familiar roads but each day we would deviate from the normal ride and find backroads that we have never ridden before.



Our travels found us some of the most interesting pastures, farms and sites to see. We managed to catch glimpses of some of the local wildlife...several beavers, wild turkeys and a lot of deer and an occasional brown bunny. Riding the roads, smelling the wild laurel, breathing the crisp mountain air was so refreshing that it made all the worries in life fade.

On day 8 of our vacation we left Murphy and relocated to Hendersonville, NC. We had lunch with our dear friends Marion Duncan, Andy Katz and Marion's sister. Andy was staying in Maggie Valley and rode over for the day. Marion graciously gave us use of her darling place for the rest of our vacation stay.

On Memorial Day we rode out to Bat Cave, Chimney Rock and Lake Lure (the place where the movie "Dirty Dancing" was filmed). It was remarkable to see how many little communities recognized and celebrated all the fallen soldiers that gave their lives so we could be free. Their sacrifices did not go unnoticed! It brought tears to our eyes as we drove past so many white crosses adorned with the names and wars that these brave men and women who fought for our freedom! They may all be gone but not forgotten!

On Tuesday we drove our trike over to Maggie Valley to meet up with Andy and attend the Sling Shot Rally. We were disappointed that so few vendors were present. We had expected more but were at least glad that Jim finally saw and heard the exhaust that he wanted to put on our Sling Shot.

After Andy had a little modification done to this Sling Shot, we ate lunch at a little sandwich shop close by. We then decided to go on a ride. We drove south out of Maggie Valley, got up on the Blue Ridge Parkway and rode over to where it begins just outside of Cherokee. We rode through Cherokee, got back on the Parkway making our way East. We then took a 2 lane backroad that led us from one turn right into another winding our way back to Waynesville. I was so glad that both Andy and Jim thought it was a great ride!

We spent the next couple of days exploring the roads around Hendersonville. We loved the area and can't wait until we can visit again. We can't thank Marion enough for sharing her vacation home with us!

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Many Thanks to Ocala Copy Center Robert Heagy  
for printing our newsletter each month!

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