

AHOY Me MATIES..... AAARRRRRGGGGGGGGGG..... Are ye full of the FUN and excitement from the “Pirate Parley” If not, ye missed one of the best times ye could have had!!

WOW!! What a great District Rally/Convention!! Pam and I arrived Tuesday evening with 2 trailers, my bike and her car full of the Rider Ed stuff, wondering if we forgot something. I was very apprehensive about the whole weekend ahead. However, as we began getting things set up Wednesday morning, it seemed like everything was falling into place. We had some very nice door prizes to offer, scratch off ticket lotto and of course, the bike raffle tickets. All seemed to go very well.

AND THE WINNERS ARE: 1<sup>ST</sup> Place; Ron Lindblad of Port Orange, FL is the proud owner of a new 2012 GL1800 Gold Wing. 2<sup>nd</sup> Place; Ali Housemand won \$1000 and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place; Juan Evans of Jacksonville, FL won \$500.

CONGRATULATIONS!

The dinner on Thursday evening was very good and I do believe everyone enjoyed the Talent Show and ice cream Friday evening. The Talent Show had several great serious presentations and some very, (hmmmmm how does one describe it???), cool/neat/funny/hilarious acts. They were all great! Our National Anthem led by Denny Adkins, stirred everyone’s heart.

Of course, one of the biggest attractions was the vendor area where we could find all the “Safety Chrome” we all so desperately needed as well as getting our bikes worked on. There were also a lot of very nice, not so “bike”, items and articles like jewelry, clothing, etc. You know, stuff for Pam!?!?

We had 147 participants attend the Rider Ed Seminars and 61 participants in the Medic FA classes. Someone asked why the numbers were down and I explained that we now have over 54 Seminar Presenters and over 18 Medic FA Instructors that are at the chapter level, presenting these seminars and classes, therefore, members do not have to wait until the district convention to get their training. In all actuality the numbers are up!

We appreciate each and every one that helped us out at the RE booth this year. It sure made our job a lot easier and gave us a little break every now and then.

I had the opportunity to evaluate several candidates crossing over from Leadership Training to Rider Ed Seminar Presenter. Welcome aboard! That means even more members will have more opportunities to receive more KNOWLEDGE to become a SAFER motorcyclist in order that they can have more FUN with their FRIENDS!

Well, now that the District Rally is behind us, I find it is back to business. Team Educators, once again I want to thank you for all your hard work. For 2012 we have had 100% monthly reporting. You are the greatest! That is why Florida Rider Ed is # 1!! I also want to commend all our Seminar Presenters, PLP Facilitators, Membership Awareness Coordinators and MFA Instructors for all your dedication and time. I know, first hand, how much time you sacrifice away from your families, to do what you do for the membership of GWRRA. Thank You!

Seeing that FL2-G, Ft Meyers, was the highest in ticket sales, guess what color the new tickets will be. YUP, YELLOW.... I will have them ready for disbursement by April 1<sup>st</sup>. NO FOOLIN Really!

Ride Safe, Ride Aware,

Rick and Pam Northrop, District Educators