

District Rally

It seems like just yesterday that I was writing the March newsletter article and here I sit already writing the April newsletter article. Yes, March has come and gone and so has the District Convention and what a great convention it was! Judy and I truly enjoyed our first convention as your District Educators, and we want to thank all those that jumped in and helped us put things together. First, a special thanks to our Rider Ed Administrative Assistants Mike and Bobbie Roy, as well as, Joe and Jan Mazza for all their advice and suggestions: thank you Mike, Bobbie, Joe & Jan. We also can't forget our area coordinators as well as our chapter educators that helped us out at the rider ed table. Thank you all! Without you we couldn't have gotten through this convention.

The convention was a huge success with over thirteen hundred members attending. I know that things started out badly Thursday and Friday with all the rain and wind; I truly felt sorry for the fifty three vendors outside, but on the bright side of it, since the attendees couldn't spend time in the vendor area they came inside and took advantage of our many seminars made available to them. Those of us at rider ed presented some 14 seminars with terrific attendance each day. We presented two Road Captains courses and certified twenty two new Road Captains. Medic First conducted two classes on Friday and two classes on Saturday and certified over one hundred members. Our Co-Rider-Trailer - Mature Rider and First on Scene Accident Management seminars were full also. All in all we presented these seminars to a total of three hundred and eighteen members, and by doing this we certified fifteen of our new seminar presenters.

The Rider Ed and Motorist Awareness tables had a very successful run at their raffles with some great gifts to be won, and the few times that I ventured out passed the game room it looked to be very busy.

Let's talk about closing ceremonies. Bill and Gina did a great job of bringing things together and everything went well. Rider Ed recognized eighteen chapters, as well as, Curtis Palmore for selling one thousand tickets or more. The top three ticket sellers were FI2-E Miami with 3000 tickets sold then FI2-G Ft. Meyers with 3100 tickets sold and the top seller for the second year in a row, FI2-W Winter Haven with 6100 Tickets. Congratulations to all of you for a job well done! Following this recognition, we went on to recognize Mike Duquette of FI2-D Melbourne as the educator of the year. Mike has been the educator of FI2-D for nineteen years and truly loves rider education.

We recruited Jill Urseni of First Coast Honda to draw the tickets for motorcycle second and third place. The third place winner was Sgt Kenneth Henn from San Marcos, CA. Second place went to Florence Bradley of Jacksonville, FL and the winner of the motorcycle was Janet (Sue) Wiseman from South Ft Meyers, FL. Believe it or not this is the second year in a row that the big winner bought just one ticket. I guess you can call that the luck of the Irish.

In closing, I just want to remind you to pack your rain gear and be prepared to ride in the rain as April showers brings May flowers. Don't forget your T-Clocks and ride safe.

Till next we meet
Keep The Shiny Side Up
and The Rubber On The Road

Don & Judy Danbury Master Tour Riders
Florida District Educators