

## **A MATTER OF INTRODUCTION**

Hello to our Florida GWRRA family. Allow me to introduce your new Florida District Rider Educators. I am Joe Mazza and my wife is Jan "Gracie" Mazza. More on the "Gracie" nickname later. We are transplants from New Jersey where we held various positions in the field of education.

We became part of GWRRA in 2002 when we joined Chapter F1 1-T in Inverness. We owe a large part of our decision to join to Rich Broeker and Patti Poock, who at the time were Assistant Chapter Directors. At the first meeting we attended, they were very warm and friendly and epitomized the type of welcoming attitude newcomers are exposed to throughout our organization.

A short time later we filled the vacant position of Chapter Educators. Rich told us we would have a lot of fun and would meet with little resistance when dealing with motorcycle safety issues. Right!!!.. Actually it was fun and very informative. Once again, the "teachers" learned as much as the "students."

We are honored to be asked to fill the shoes of Bob and Barbara Groff. Of course, when I mentioned this to Bob, he said the shoes were high heels, and "don't forget the fishnet stockings". Seriously, we are very impressed by the Groffs' enthusiasm and organizational skills. Florida's Rider Education program is the best in the country, and, with your help, we will do all we can to keep it that way.

As Chapter Educators we enjoyed researching motorcycle safety materials to present to our members. We will continue to do so as District Rider Educators and hope we can help you attain both your personal goals in the area of safety and those of your chapter.

We are looking forward to both local and district events in the coming year and hope

you will join us at many of them. The Rider Ed Fair will be held in St. Petersburg on Saturday, November 4, 2006. Fliers will be sent to you as soon as they are printed. It is an opportunity to attend first Aid and CPR seminars and take E.R.C. and T.R.C. training free of charge. We are adding a trailering course this year. Hope to see you there.

Again, we want to thank Bob and Barbara for the incredible job they have done and for sharing their ideas with us. We are looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible and to continuing this wonderful and informative rider Education program.

Ride safe and have fun.

Joe and Jan Mazza

Florida District Rider Educators

PS: Gracie is a nickname Jan picked up because many of her comments are reminiscent of those made by Gracie Allen during the "Burns & Allen" show. "Say good night, Gracie".