

Farewell and Thank You

Before I talk about our departure from the position of District Rider Educator, I would like to share some thoughts and happenings. As I write this, our trike is in the shop in St. Petersburg. On our way to the Rider Ed Fair on Friday the 13th, the fuel injector indicator light came on and the trike completely shut down on route 275. As I was calling Rescue Plus, Curtis Palmore happened by and stopped to help. He was on his way to his “Motorcycle Rider Education of Clearwater” facility to pick up and transport some bikes. This means, not only did he stop to help (he claimed he stopped because of the dumb blonde standing in the road), but he had a bike transportation trailer with him. Talk about incredible luck. We loaded the trike onto the trailer and took it to a dealer for repair. Three days later I had to call Rescue Plus to trailer my car to a local mechanic for repair. Someone said problems like that come in three’s. So what do you think will stop working next? (Not that, I hope)

The Florida Rider Ed. Fair went very well. Don and Judy Danbury did a great job of organizing and overseeing the courses. Don also presented a well prepared PLP Facilitators certification course on Nov. 8th in Plant City. There were 20 members present and all were certified. Don says he has received a number of requests for another PLP course and because of a busy November and December will be addressing that after the first of the year.

Speaking of January, I hope all of you can attend the CD Conference so you can enter the New Year armed with all the updated goals and information Don has planned. I can tell you that Don and I will be giving a seminar presenters certification course in mid February: More on that at the CD Conference.

We would like to congratulate Rick and Madalena Buck and Frank Thomas for achieving 100% Wesley Chapel membership enrollment in our Rider Ed. program. Believe it or not, enrollment of the total district membership in our program is now just under 50%. Don is looking forward to increasing this number significantly with your help next year.

When Jan and I first joined GWRRA in 2002, never in our wildest dreams did we ever think we would someday become officers in a chapter, never mind in the district. It has been such a wonderful experience for us to be able to work with and help so many members over the years. GWRRA has afforded us the opportunity to make new friends throughout the state. They are too numerous to mention, but

cover the state from Miami in the South to Daytona Beach in the N.E., to Pensacola in the West. We leave the Rider Ed. program as we found it: Number 1 in the nation. We hope our efforts have added to the excellence in the program. We know Don and Judy Danbury will continue to keep Florida rider education the envy of all of GWRRA. Jan and I have been asked to stay on as Assistant District Directors by District Directors Bill and Gina Berry. We have accepted and will assume that position right after the CD Conference. Thanks for all your help and participation, and we look forward to contributing to the district in our new position.

Ride Safe, Have Fun
Joe and "Gracie" Mazza
Senior District Educators