



On The Fly

March 2023

Eagle Wings Motorcycle Association

From our Team to You
Welcome to the Family!

Founders notes By EWMA Founder and CEO Anita Alkire

We've had a great kick-off!

Bruce and I are humbled by the tremendous support we've had in starting EWMA. To the time of this writing, we are at 2593 households and 4539 members! That is just amazing for 7 months. We thank each and every one of you for your membership.

As we move forward into 2023, we are looking at events from Chapter, District, Region and International. We have set our sites for our International Rally and will announce very soon. It's great to see the other events filling our calendars. Our goal is to have 3 International events per year although 2023 will only have 2. We are embracing the February Winger-N-Waves cruise, our International Rally and an International Ride-In. Each has its own flavor and appeal.

The cruise we just went on gave us the opportunity to interact with the membership in a very different way. More relaxed and social event.

Our other 2 events will focus on our core of riding. Watch the On The Fly attachments or the announcement emails for more information on these events.

We are at that stage of our growth where things are settling in and before we get too comfortable, let's plan our next stage of growth. It's time for us to fully embrace that we are an association for all bikers who have the same mind set that this association stands for. If you know of a bike group that doesn't necessarily affiliate with another association, reach out to them. They can come in all together as a group. They may or may not be part of your chapter, they may stand alone but will be under the eagle's wings as part of the family. Diversity is always fun, and through it, we embrace our new identity together.

Change is always a challenge, let's embrace it, make it fun and do it together.



Special Points to Know

- * We have 30 Districts and 3 Canadian Regions.
- * 160 Chapters
- * Members from 5 countries
- * We are at 2593 Households
- * With 4539 Members
- * Our 1st Ride-In Annual Rally, 'Eagle Wings Rendezvous', will be Aug 31st to Sep 2nd. Locations to be announced soon. Stay tuned!
- * Charter Members patches are shipping now.

Anita and Bruce are pleased to announce new additions to our Team!

New VPs of Safety and Ride Coordination
Bob and Renae Hicks

New VP of Operations
Chris Toomer

Promoted to VP of Member Development
Bill and Cheryl Smith

EWMA International Team

Founders

Anita and JR Alkire
Bruce and Barb Beeman

Officers

Anita Alkire, **CEO**
Bruce Beeman, **President**
Bob & Nan Shrader, **Sr. VP**
Patti O'Neill Esposito, **CFO**

Vice Presidents of Ops

Don & Rhonda Weed
John & Yvette Moravec
Chris Toomer
Chantal & Francois Seguin,
(Canada)
Alessandro Boveri & Maria
Rosa Bruzzone, (Overseas)

VP of Member Development

Bill & Cheryl Smith

VP of Safety and Ride Coordination

Bob and Renae Hicks

VP of Finance

Randall and Janet Drake

VP of Special Operations

Bruce & Tina Gebhard



On The Fly

www.ewma-world.org

EVENTS in 2023

MARCH

3/16-18/23 FL District Rally

3/17-18/23 Missouri March Into Spring

APRIL

4/1-8/23 Italy's Amalfi Coast and Southern Italy Tour

4/20-22/23 LA District Rally Mardi-Gras

4/27-29/23 TN District Spring Fling

MAY

5/18-20/23 WI Dust Off 2023

More events are located on our website at www.ewma-world.org.

If your event is not listed, please email Mike at eaglewings.web@gmail.com

TIME IS RUNNING OUT, WE NEED YOUR CREATIVE IDEAS NOW!
DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS 3/15/2023

Create the Logo for Eagle Wings Rendezvous!!

Get your ideas on paper, stick figure to full graphics and submit them to ewmamembership@gmail.com

Winner receives a registration for 2 and 4 nights hotel stay for our rally!

Thank you for helping us grow!

We have an incentive program for you starting

NOW thru 3/31/2023!!!

For every paid household you bring into the EWMA family we will reward you with a 1 month extension to your membership to a max of 6 months as a thank you.

Just be sure your name and member # are on their application when they submit it by mail or online

Greetings from Bill and Cheryl Smith

Was VP Of Ride Coordination and Safety NOW VP of Member Development

Greetings everyone! For 6 months Cheryl and I have been working hard for you in the position of VP of Safety / Ride Coordinator. Our Team has done a great job creating 30 minute and 10 minute Safety Presentations that anyone can present at a Rally, Chapter Social or a Safety Tip before a Ride! EWMA had become a HSI Training Center and Todd Stark is doing a great job of trying to get as many First Aid / CPR Instructors as possible to present the courses around the Association under the EWMA Banner.

In January Bruce Beeman and Anita Alkire asked us to turn the reigns over to someone new and in the same breath asked us to take on a new position of a very necessary job – VP of Membership Development! We accepted and

thus our new adventure in EWMA begins – again! We want to work on several facets of this position including but not limited to, having the members be able to change their affiliation from chapter to chapter (such as “Snowbirds” where they live in two or more areas throughout the year), developing recruitment and retention materials to use, work on new Benefits for the membership and Marketing / Public Relations / Motorcycle Awareness (all of which are related to recruitment and retention).

We look forward to this new opportunity and challenge to increase the members experience in our association. EWMA all the way!

Editors Note

A quick note to ask for your help.

We need your action pictures. Formats can be flexible (jpg, png, tif, etc, most we can work with). Hi Resolution preferred, but nothing will be turned away. We need pictures, primarily, of motorcycle(s) riding down the road, either from behind, sideways, or in front, preferably moving. Will take group ride images, and any image depicting a fun event. They should be emailed to Mike Melton at eaglewings.web@gmail.com for use on our website, and the On The Fly Bulletins.

Thanks, Rick Elmore

On The Fly

Jim & Sue Jackson here as the Southeast Region 'A' Directors. In Region 'A' we have seven Districts ie AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, TN so we cover the Southeast like the dew covers Dixie and that's every night. We have 60+ Chapters in the Region so we cover a lot of area and that places an Eagle Wings Chapter almost at your doorstep even if you live in a very rural or big-city area.

We in Region 'A' have been very fortunate with our Recruiting Mission that was implemented last September (2022) during the previous Wings Over The Smokies GW Rally in Waynesville, NC. It was our first setup of an Eagle Wings Recruiting Station during a Rally Event. The Recruiting Station was so successful of not only recruiting doz-

From Jim and Sue Jackson SE Region A Directors. AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, TN

ens of new Members, but we also set up a number of Chapters as well and selected the new Eagle Wings North Carolina District Director Libby Jennings. Wow, what a bodacious successful Recruiting Mission this event turned out to be for the Eagle Wings Motorcycle Association and the Southeast Region 'A'.

The main part of this successful Mission was we had the support from every District Director in Region 'A'. Yes, every District Director was on site supporting the Recruiting Station every day of the Rally. And friends this is the kind of support it takes to run a successful Recruiting Mission. Since this Recruiting Mission was so successful, we carried the Recruiting Station to each of the remaining Eagle Wings

Rally Events in Region 'A' ie The Georgia Ride-In, The Alabama District Rally, and The Mississippi District Rally. Of course each District Director in the Region continued their on-site support during each of these Rally Events. The support made each Event a very successful Recruiting Mission with several hundred new Members added to the Eagle Wings Roster along with a number of new Chapters. During 2023, we in Region 'A' will keep the Recruiting Mission alive at each Rally Event.

Jim & Sue Jackson - SE Region 'A' Directors

Eagle Wings Motorcycle Association

Greetings from Alessandro and Mariarosa Boveri VP Overseas

Good morning everyone, let me introduce ourselves: we are Alessandro and Mariarosa Boveri, Vice Presidents Overseas for EWMA. Like many of you we proudly claim our more than twenty years past in the GWRRA and even more proudly we are happy to be able to serve in this new reality. I won't hide from you that organizational issues here in the "old world" are considerable and the mission proved less painless than I had anticipated but luckily, we have some trusted co-worker friends with whom we will

work tirelessly so that our project sees slow but constant growth.

Our motto finds full application in the European spirit, perhaps less interested in courses for different rules of behavior but fun and friendship are certainly the ideal glue for people to whom we address: the pleasure of walking along roads steeped in history and having the possibility of meet typical restaurants in a huge variety of tastes are the scenario of every Sunday around for Italy and, in the next spaces here on "On The Fly",

I hope to be able to offer you some reviews and some photos that I hope will be the object of your curiosity as American or Canadian landscapes are for us overseas

Thank you for your attention and, if you want news or information and even help for your holiday in Europe, we will be at your disposal.

Alessandro & Mariarosa
FB Sandrone Boveri –
alboveri@gmail.com

Patti O'Neill Esposito Chief Financial Officer

Welcome to the Eagle Wings Family. I am excited that you have joined us.

Let me introduce myself. I am the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) for EWMA. I handle anything related to money. I am also working with EWMA to get their 501(c)(4) status. I have many years of experience as a Certified Public Accountant

with a specialty in tax.

My husband and I joined EWMA because we were looking for an organization which would provide us the benefits of belonging to GWRRA (Friendship, Fun, Safety) without the other stuff. We are convinced that EWMA will meet that need. We are looking forward to participating in rides and events,

while contributing to the growth and success of this new organization.

Please feel free to reach out to me or any other officer of EWMA if you need anything. We are here to serve you.

Why I joined EWMA By Garvin Cole—EWMA Member #785

Why I Joined EWMA

Like most good stories, there is a bit of a buildup before the hero emerges and saves the day. Please bear with me for a few paragraphs as I set the stage and give you some background.

I had been a longtime GWRRA member. I believe I joined in 2005. My last membership year was 2019. Like many others, I just *lost that lovin' feeling* with the organization. The organization... not the people... with whom I had friendships. It did pain me to drop my membership, but I did feel that the organization no longer fed my soul.

I tried to be a part of another motorcycle organization. No cost membership fee, a local group, part of a national organization and a host of regional and national events. I gave it a try. Nice folks, but something was missing for me.

In the fall of 2021 we moved from Ontario to Alberta. Shipped the household furniture and drove the car across the country. Stored my motorcycle and trailer and flew back to Ontario in the late spring of 2022 and began the bike ride to our new home in Alberta.

I had decided to travel through the US, as the weather going north through Canada at the end of May was still a bit too cool. Also, as I would not be coming back east for a while, I needed to see a few places that I had missed on many of my past trips. One of these places was Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. You see, I needed to have a chat with Phil. I felt he needed some encouragement to up his weather forecast accuracy. However, he was sleeping and didn't have the courtesy to get up to see a Canadian who had been a big fan for many years. I guess you can't expect much from a groundhog!

From Punxsutawney I rode further south, avoiding storms, via West Virginia and Kentucky. Finally, onto Interstate 64 towards St. Louis.

At this point, my trip took a major turn for the worse. About 10 miles east of Mount Vernon, Illinois on I-64 in a construction zone, I hit a couple of bumps in the highway. The trailer hitch on my



VTX1800R was installed on the inside of the rear fender of the motorcycle, fastened with three bolts on each side at the top. The right-side bolts sheared and the right side of the hitch dropped and contacted the top edge of the rear tire. The tailgating traffic fell



back in the cloud of burning rubber. I smelled nothing and only saw the cloud in my mirrors. I drove carefully (?) to the Goshen Road rest stop in the westbound lanes. That was the longest mile I have ever ridden! Stopped safely as shredded rubber fell to the ground from the inside of the rear fender. Tire still held air. I guess Bridgestone is now my favorite brand!

A call to AAA brought a flat-bed tow truck and a search of bike shops in Mount Vernon area lead me to a place listed as House of V-twin on Perkins Avenue and Billy, 618-237-5959.

Billy and his staff waited past closing time to get the motorcycle and trailer off the flat-bed and safely into his shop and we chained up the trailer outside. Tire was on order with a two-business day delivery.

With a great hotel recommendation from Billy, I was off to what would be my home for the next five nights. You

see, the weekend was coming and the two-day delivery was business days so the weekend wouldn't count.

Once the tire arrived, Billy and the team removed the damaged hitch from the motorcycle, installed and balanced the new Bridgestone rear tire and I was on my way. I left the trailer with the promise to return to get it.

With my trip now five days extended and a need to get home, I took a more direct route. Three days and thirty hours later I was home. I realized that a six day and sixty hour return round trip was going to be difficult to execute.

For GWRRA members I think it would be a simple task of looking through your Gold Book and finding someone to help at least retrieve your trailer from the motorcycle shop. I wasn't currently a GWRRA member, so I emailed a contact I found with the other motorcycle group I had joined. No response. I waited but nothing happened. Nothing ever happened.

I decided that it would be worth a try to see if I could find a GWRRA member who would help out an ex-member. I looked through the online Gold Book and there were a couple of chapters close to Mt. Vernon. As I didn't know which to call I decided to call the GWRRA District Director for Illinois, Bob Adams.

I called the number listed and got Bob's voicemail. I left a message and really didn't expect much. To my surprise and delight, Bob called me back within 10 minutes! We had a great conversation about GWRRA and this new initiative called EWMA. Bob was excited about the future with EWMA. Bob was also willing to help me out.

Within a few weeks my trailer had a new home, the gear I had left in the trailer that I couldn't strap on the back of my motorcycle was shipped back to me and I now have new friendships in Illinois.

You see, GWRRA for me was always about the people. Now with EWMA I have that people thing back. People willing to help, to extend a hand to someone in need, to be a kind human.

And that is why I joined EWMA.