





# FL2-O Monthly Gatherings Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday Southern Pig & Cattle Restaurant 2585 SE Federal Highway, Stuart, FL Dinner 5:00 - Meet 6:00



Chapter Directors

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### The FL2-O Team

John DuBose
Ride Coordinator
Jim Rich
Asst. Ride Coordinator
Sandy Pisano – Spirit Team
Percy Comstock – 50/50
John DuBose
Newsletter Editor

Joe Trotta Chapter Treasure



# **Important August 2025 Dates**



## **August Birthdays**

Willard Hackett 8/23

Beth Daniels 8/28

Christine Autorino 8/28



**August Anniversaries** 

None

# **Alien Space Station Ride Report**

Rich's Rebel has not ridden in over a month and I was afraid the tires would melt to the garage floor. The solution was to pull it out of the garage and head north across the Jupiter bypass to County Line Road so we could stop by the Alien Communications Center and see if there were any updates on when they planned to invade planet earth. Since there were no updates the Rebel and I proceeded east to Teguesta and then weaved through the back streets back to Loxahatchee River Road and home. Only rode 28 miles, but it was enough to reconnect with the Rebel and appreciate how much fun it is to ride.



July 23, 2025



## BIG NEWS! THE NEXT FL2-O NEWSLETTER WILL BE EARLY SEPTEMBER!

John DuBose, FL2-O Newsletter Editor



# August, 2025 Florida District Safety/Ride Coordinators Safety Article

### STEERING HEAD BEARINGS CHECK ON YOUR MOTORCYCLE

Have you checked the Steering Head Bearings on your motorcycle lately? Do you know how to check the Steering Head Bearings on your bike? You don't have to be a "Master Mechanic" to do a self-check on your motorcycle's Steering Head Bearings. Sit on your bike and turn the handlebars full lock left and then full lock right. Feel if the movement is smooth. If the front wheel is hard to steer or you feel any roughness or hear any clicking when you turn back and forth, chances are your Steering Head Bearings are worn. Make sure your front tire is aired up to the recommended proper air pressure before you attempt this test. If the front tire is low on air, the front wheel could be hard to steer only because of the low air pressure.

Steering Head Bearing failure is probable going to happen on a bike that has 100,000 miles or more on it. It could happen to a bike with less mileage if the rider is a normally aggressive rider. The factory Roller Bearings that Honda originally installed on 2001-2017 Gold Wings were inadequate for the size and weight of the bike. To probably save on production costs, Honda installed the same size bearings on several model bikes, with the other models being smaller. This could also be true with other Motorcycle Manufacturers.

The preferred replacement bearings are "Tapered Bearings". The same type of bearings used on the wheel axles of motorcycles and cars. If you have had a Trike Conversion Kit installed on your motorcycle with an Easy Steer kit installed, chances are the Steering Head Bearings were changed to Tapered Bearings at that time. You will mostly find failing Steering Head Bearings on high mileage two-wheel motorcycles.

There is an excellent video by Partzilla on YouTube that shows you step-by-step on how to change the Steering Head Bearings. This repair should only be attempted by you if you are a "Gear-Head" and have the proper tools. I you are not going to attempt the repair yourself, at least by watching the video you will have an idea of how complicated the repair is and why your bill from the Motorcycle Shop was so expensive.

Riding with worn Steering Head Bearings is dangerous and will compromise motorcycle handling and your ability to steer safely. If your bike fits the criteria I have described, do the Steering Head Bearing self-check just to be sure.

Ride safe, Dominick & Diane