



The article below appears on the home page of *Gainesville Harley-Davidson & Buell* in support of Art's ride. . . .

Art Pina is riding cross country for the cause. This is the second year that Art has undertaken this lengthy ride to raise money and awareness for the Military Support Group of Alachua County (MSGFAC). The Military Support Group of Alachua County is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that provides support for armed forces personnel serving overseas and the families they leave behind. The group sends care packages on a bi-weekly basis to the service members and organizes a support meeting and pot-luck dinner every other week for the families. The MSGFAC provides the items for the care packages and covers the cost of shipping these packages around the world. This takes money and the Military Support Group of Alachua County relies solely on donations to complete their mission.

This is where Art and the rest of us come in. Art is leaving *Gainesville Harley-Davidson® & Buell* at approximately 10:30 in the morning on Saturday May 2nd. Art will head for California and join up with other riders who are participating in "The Run for the Wall". The group will then ride to Washington, D.C. where Art and the others will be part of Rolling Thunder. If you are not familiar with Rolling Thunder it is a motorcycle function publicizing POW/MIA issues and supporting American Veterans of all wars. Art who also volunteers his time to the MSGFAC is financing the trip out of his own pocket.

Our part in this is to dig into our pockets and drop a buck or two maybe a little more if we can into the MSGFAC donation jar at *Gainesville Harley-Davidson® & Buell*. Nearly everyone knows someone serving in the military; many have family members who have been away from home for far too long. Like Art we might be veterans of the various branches of the armed forces and we know firsthand the pain and anxiety caused by long separations from our loved ones and the disruption this brings to the everyday lives of the family. We also remember those days that a battered package or a crumbled letter would arrive at mail call and how a box full of cookie crumbs or a wrinkled piece of paper from someone back home could lift our sagging spirits. So please come to *Gainesville Harley-Davidson® & Buell* Saturday May 2nd, 2009 and give Art a proper send off as he gets his mission underway. We can help Art give a little comfort to a service member stationed far from home and their family the support of our community.

Donation jars can also be found at the following locations - - (with more to come)

- *Bennett's True Value, High Springs
- *High Springs Family Chiropractic, High Springs
- *Tackle Box, Gainesville
- *West End Barber Shop, Gainesville
- *Newberry Animal Hospital, Newberry
- *Trenton Elementary School, Trenton
- *Alachua County Administrative Services, Gainesville

PLEASE HELP SUPPORT THIS WORTHY CAUSE EVERY PENNY COUNTS

