



The LA-O Report



FRANKLINTON, LOUISIANA

Chapter O - Louisiana District – South Central Region H

DECEMBER 2009

“Friends for Fun, Safety, and Knowledge”

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Chapter O website

www.gwrra-la-o.org

April 8-9-10, 2010

LA District Rally

From the Chapter Director...

Once again, the year has flown by. It's been a good one, but we're looking forward to 2010, not only because of our first grandchild, but because we will enter our third--and final--year as Chapter CD. Officers are volunteer leaders and these volunteers change within the Chapter to keep things fresh and interesting for the members. Changing officers expands opportunities for leadership and staff participation to other interested members. The change of officers keeps leadership motivated to better serve the members and increases opportunities for personal growth and reduces "burn out" of volunteer leaders. Changes also reduce "stagnation" in chapters. So, be in thought on changes you would like to see in 2010. AND, give some thought on where you might like to serve.

As the New Year approaches, let's renew our commitment to riding safely. This starts out with a simple, personal commitment that YOU will ride safely. That's all there is to it. Frank can sign you up - it's FREE! Levels 2 and 3 offer courses that give you skills to become better riders and co-riders, as well as CPR/First Aid. The Level 4 commitment sets high standards and not everyone wants to commit to those standards. SO, it's up to you to find the level you're comfortable with. Somewhere between Level 1 and Level 4, there's a place for you.

We send our best wishes to everyone for a Blessed Holiday Season.

GLADYS and ERNEST

- The Saturday, January 16, 2010, Louisiana District Staff meeting is IMPORTANT. Lafayette Holiday Inn & Convention Center. Time: 8:30 to 5 pm. All CDs, Treasurers, ACDs, Ride Educators, MED Coordinators, COYs, LTD trainers should attend. Of course, ALL members are also welcome. MARK YOUR CALENDARS. Plan to attend.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



Chapter O extends a sincere **THANK YOU** to Mitch and Marie Kilgore for welcoming us to their home and to everyone who attended and took part in the November meeting and fellowship. It was awesome!

Come join the fun and invite someone to come with you to the Chapter O meetings and on our rides.

31 attended the November meeting
50/50 winners
Patricia Thomas
Larry Spring

Ask Frank Gendusa, Patricia Thomas, Marie Vince, Linus Magee, John Blackwell and Jimmy Oalman about the fun they had -- and about the prizes they won at our fun-filled meeting.

GET WELL WISHES
Daniel & Janet Brock
Kelly & Laura Crain
Jack Sparks & Nell Baham
Jim & Bonnie Cothorn
Theresa Dufrene

Check your membership cards and stay current with GWRRA.
Not a GWRRA Member?
See the CD for an application

Thanks for Visiting Chapter O

Karl & Jeannine Bickham
Charles & Verdel Brumfield
Steve & Jan Kerbow
Philip & Sonja Kerbow
Glen & Patricia Thomas
Jimmy & Sharron Wallace

Chapter O's theme for the Louisiana District Rally COY basket is BAR-B-CUE. YOU can participate either by giving items related to a BAR-B-CUE or donating money to purchase items or by having businesses donate items for the baskets. A table will be set up at LA Rally to display Chapter Baskets and tickets will be sold at that table. The Baskets will be given away at closing and monies raised by each participating Chapter will be distributed by the number of tickets sold for their basket.

MOTORCYCLING is a constant learning experience!
You'll never know all there is to know about riding,
but a year from now,
You'll know a lot more than you know now

The "By the Book" articles are intended to help familiarize Volunteer Leaders and GWRRA Members with the guidelines, policies, procedures, and information contained in the GWRRA Officer's Guidebook. The Article for December was not available to the Editor at the time of printing. Watch for the January article.

"LEARN SOMETHING NEW AND THEN TEACH SOMEONE"

Motorcyclists' Prayer

O Lord; I thank you for the marvel of a motorcycle, alive and powerful at the touch of my hand and feel; a thing of tremendous possibilities, wonderful or terrible. Help me to achieve the skill that will control it completely and wisely like a tool shaping a better life for me and those around me. I thank you for the promise of adventure that is mine each time I start; the thrill of open roads to places, strange sights, new neighboring. Make me aware, as I drive the streets of my town, signaling, stopping, waiting, turning and zooming ahead, that I do not have to deal merely with trucks, taxis, cars, bicycles or pedestrians, but with people. People such as I know and touch as I walk the sidewalks and enter the homes of my neighborhood. People such as I am, making mistakes perhaps, but not really wanting to. Because I like people and know how important their happiness is, and how precious they are to you, let me be alert, courteous, patient, considerate of the rights of others on the road, gracious enough to give up some of the rights of my own and always careful, realizing that another loss would rob my gain, and the life I save is just as precious as my own. Amen

author unknown

FOR SALE--- '97 GoldWing Aspencade, 1500, Maroon, Pin striping, air horn, CB, loaded with lots of extras, and 2 helmets w/intercom, \$8,500. 985-516-4680

FOR SALE--- 2002 VTX Honda 1800 cc. 18,000 miles \$6,000 firm. Tommy @ 985-373-6612

FOR SALE --- 2007 Honda 1100 Shadow Sabre & 2 full face helmets, \$7800 Jimmy Scroggs @ 985-735-6810. Call for details

1998 Pearl White GL 1500. Under 16K miles. Good Tires. Runs Great. Asking \$8,000. Call Bob Jackna (Shreveport area) at 318-683-4995 (H) or 727-798-2007 (C).

From the Assistant Chapter Director

No article from Jim this month. BUT, he's back at work and doing pretty well. He and Bonnie both greatly appreciate the calls, cards, visits, and support shown them during Jim's recuperation. The doctor has not yet released Jim to ride his Wing, but Jim's ready when the doctors give the "go-ahead." Until then, he'll ride in the 4-wheeler.

Jim and Bonnie extend their "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year" wishes to LA-O.

As always, remember to call Bonnie if you have someone sick or in the hospital so she can get a card out to them. She can be reached @ 985-732-3225. If no one's home, please leave a message. God Bless.

Gladys for Jim and Bonnie

December 2009 Happy Birthday

13th
19th
27th

*Katie Barrios
Joyce Netherland
Charles Jenkins*

Happy Anniversary

1st
26th
28th

*Tommy & Trudy Oalman
Joby & Deannie Willis
Jerry & Sylvia Ledet*

From the Chapter Educator

I thought that this was an interesting list of facts for the car driver to remember about the motorcyclists. Ride Safe-Be Seen

Frank Gendusa, MasterTour Rider #7595

IRVINE, Calif., May 5, 2009 - The Motorcycle Safety Foundation's mission is to make the nation's streets and highways safer for motorcyclists through rider training programs, operator licensing programs, and public information campaigns. While these priorities continue year-round, May is designated Motorcycle Awareness Month, which provides the MSF an additional opportunity to enhance drivers' awareness of motorcyclists who share the road with them just as the spring riding season kicks off.

"It's a fact that car drivers and other motorists are at fault most of the time in multiple-vehicle crashes that involve a motorcyclist," said Motorcycle Safety President Tim Buche. "That's why we've initiated several public outreach tools specifically targeting the driving community. MSF has life-saving messages for everyone, whether they are behind a handlebar or behind a steering wheel."

MSF launched a new website, forcardrivers.com in 2007, with safety tips, video instruction, and other resources to help car, truck, and bus drivers learn how to safely interact with motorcyclists on the nation's streets and highways. MSF offers these timely guidelines from forcardrivers.com:

10 Things Car, Truck, and Bus Drivers Should Know about Motorcycles

1. Over half of all fatal motorcycle crashes involve another vehicle. Most of the time, the motorist, not the motorcyclist, is at fault. There are a lot more cars and trucks than motorcycles on the road, and some drivers don't "recognize" a motorcycle - they ignore it (usually unintentionally).
2. Because of its small size, a motorcycle can be easily hidden in a car's blind spots (door/roof pillars) or masked by objects or backgrounds outside a car

(bushes, fences, bridges, etc). Take an extra moment to look for motorcycles, whether you're changing lanes or turning at intersections.

3. A motorcycle may look farther away than it is. It may also be difficult to judge a motorcycle's speed. When checking traffic to turn at an intersection or into (or out of) a driveway, predict a motorcycle is closer than it looks.

4. Motorcyclists often slow by downshifting or merely rolling off the throttle, thus not activating the brake light. Allow more following distance, say three or four seconds. At intersections, predict a motorcyclist may slow down without visual warning.

5. Motorcyclists often adjust position within a lane to be seen more easily and to minimize the effects of road debris, passing vehicles, and wind. Understand that motorcyclists adjust lane position for a purpose, not to be reckless or show off or to allow you to share the lane with them.

6. Turn signals on a motorcycle usually are not self-canceling, thus some riders (especially beginners) sometimes forget to turn them off after a turn or lane change. Make sure a motorcycle's signal is for real.

7. Maneuverability is one of a motorcycle's better characteristics, especially at slower speeds and with good road conditions, but don't expect a motorcyclist to always be able to dodge out of the way.

8. Stopping distance for motorcycles is nearly the same as for cars, but slippery pavement makes stopping quickly difficult. Allow more following distance behind a motorcycle because it can't always stop "on a dime."

9. When a motorcycle is in motion, see more than the motorcycle - see the person under the helmet, who could be your friend, neighbor, or relative.

10. If a driver crashes into a motorcyclist, bicyclist, or pedestrian and causes serious injury, the driver would likely never forgive himself/herself.

The MSF is a not-for-profit organization sponsored by BMW, BRP, Ducati, Harley-Davidson, Honda, Kawasaki, KTM, Piaggio, Suzuki, Triumph, Victory and Yamaha. For RiderCourseSM locations, call 800.446.9227 or visit www.msf-usa.org.

From the Couple of the Year

Hello & Merry Christmas to All!!!

I guess no news is good news! It has been a quiet month for us, not much riding going on. We want to thank Mitch & Marie for hosting the Thanksgiving lunch at their home. They did a wonderful job getting everything organized and ready for our feast. A great time was had by all. Thanks for all the games and trophies too!!! We had a ball.

A few of us took a
some curvy country
one other time since
cooperating!



short ride after lunch. Wendell led us thru
roads in Mississippi. We've only ridden
then. The weather has not been

We are looking
our house on the

forward to having the Christmas dinner at
12th. Hope to see everyone there!

Wishing you all a safe and very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Wendell & Marie
COY '09

On behalf of Chapter O, we offer our congratulations to Wendell and Marie as they open their new business -- West Pine Kwik Lube. It is located at 49536 Hwy 436, near Pine. They offer quality car care with pick up and delivery service. Their e-mail is wpkwiklube@yahoo.com. Their phone numbers are 985-848-5598 and 985-516-1910. See their card on the sponsors page.

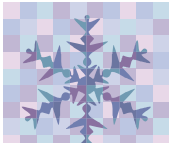
Don't forget, we'll have our December meeting at Wendell and Marie's home on December 12. Their address is 26327 James Creel Road, Franklinton. Plan to arrive at 11 a.m. We'll have a short meeting, with lunch at noon. If you want to play the Dirty Santa/Sneaky Santa game, don't forget to bring a \$10 gift [ladies bring a gift for a lady; men bring a gift for a man] and also, if you want to participate in our food drive, bring \$5 to \$10 worth of food items. Donations will be given to a local church for preparation of food boxes for needy families.



Remember "the Light of the World" this Holiday season

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for a message or drawing.

DECEMBER 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Be SAFE RIDE safe Have FUN		Dress for the weather – Hot or Cold !		Stay Alert when riding		Is Emergency Info on bike
Remember our troops this Holiday Season		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Pearl Harbor Day	8	9	10	11	12 <i>Chapter O meets</i>
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 	22	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26
				Merry Christmas		
27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve		
				Happy New Year		

2010 DATES TO REMEMBER

January 16	LA District Staff Meeting, Holiday Inn	Lafayette
February 20	WINGLESS WEEKEND, National Guard Armory	Alexandria
March 25-27	Region H Rally, March Madness	Marshall, TX
April 8-20	LOUISIANA DISTRICT RALLY	Lafayette
May 6-8	Texas District Rally	Killeen, TX
May 27-29	Arkansas District Rally	Rogers, AR

DISTRICT NEWS ... *Happy Holidays Goldwingers!* Roxie and Brent wish all of our GWRRA friends and family a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year holiday season. Please "Be Safe" in your travels.

Please mark your calendars for the following dates in 2010.

YEAR	STAFF MEETING	WINGLESS WEEKEND	LOUISIANA DISTRICT RALLY
2010	JAN 16 LAFAYETTE	FEB 20 ALEXANDRIA	APR 8,9,10 LAFAYETTE

- The Jan 16th Louisiana District Staff meeting is a must for all Chapters to attend. Where: Lafayette Holiday Inn & Convention Ctr. Time: 8:30am- 5pm. All C/Ds, Treasurers, ACDs, Ride Educators, MEC coordinators, COYs, LTD trainers should attend. Of course, all Chapter staff members are welcome.
- Wingless Weekend is an open invitation, **free**, to all current GWRRA members for a FUN Saturday of activities and good food 8am-2pm. Friday evening preview is a **free** social and dinner for all, 6-8pm. Chapter E is Host Chapter. Chapter A (Baton Rouge) is providing their championship-winning recipe for lunch Sat. Chapters will compete for "Number 1" in competition for the Chapter Cup contest. Join us at the Alexandria Armory on Hwy 28
- **Louisiana District Rally** is at the Holiday Inn & Convention Center. Go online @ gwrra.la.org for registration forms. We are introducing "The Fancy Hat Contest" and Crawfish Races, (with live crawfish) for all Chapters to compete for FUN and Bragging Rights. "Bring On" your Fanciest Hat and Best Jockey to be "Number 1!" in the District. More details at the Staff Meeting. We will not do Chapter Booths.

MARK YOUR CALENDERS FOR FUN

District Leadership Trainers, Gene and Nelda Stanley, recently received their Senior Instructor patch at the District Staff meeting in Marshall, Texas, and will also attend training at the GWRRA Leadership Summit 2010 in Phoenix, Arizona. They continue to urge all chapters to participate in the Leadership Skills seminars in addition to Horizons programs, Rider Education training, etc. They challenge every Chapter Director to complete the Chapter Leadership Skills Program series by July 2010/Wing Ding 32. They also plan to schedule an Instructor Development/Certification Program this coming year. These instructors can assist with Leadership Training.

District COY Coordinators Merlin and Beverly will host a COY breakout session during the District Staff meeting on January 16. They will discuss things current COYs need to know and how they can prepare for the District selection if the COYs are participating in that selection, which is scheduled during Louisiana District Rally on Friday, April 9, at 9:45 a.m. The most recent update to the Couple of the Year Program Manual, revised September 2008, can be found at <http://med.gwrra.org/index.htm> on the COY division tab.

District COY Steve and Faye Alexander continue to visit Chapters across the state and report that each Chapter in Louisiana now has a COY. We congratulate Steve and Faye on the arrival of their new granddaughter [Emma Renee].

District Membership Enhancement Coordinators Errol and Nancy continue to visit with Chapters learning how various chapters keep their members happy and informed about GWRRA. Errol then explains what the MEC duties are, asking that MECs contact new members as well as members whose GWRRA memberships have expired. Those contacts are then reported to District MEC. Errol can be contacted at 985-804-5600 or e-mail at pelly@mobiletel.com if anyone has questions.

District Rider Educators Mike and Pam report that the Houma Safety Day was a big success, with 16 bikers completing either the ERC or the Trice Course. Road Captain and Co-rider seminars were also conducted. They extend their sincere thanks for all the assistance given from Chapter H and District Staff and congratulate everyone who participated in the program.

GWRRA is now on **FACEBOOK**.

Check out GWRRA's new Facebook page

and sign up to follow us!

It is easy!!!

THANK YOU to LA-O members who were RIDE CAPTAINS during 2009
David and Charles Jenkins; Frank Gendusa; Jim & Bonnie Cothorn; Pete & Pat
Bennett; Wendell & Marie Vince; Dale & Kim Jenkins; Mitch & Marie Kilgore; Larry
& Marsha Spring; Joyce Netherland; Ernest & Gladys Vernon



**Louisiana's Newest GWRRA Chapter
Organized June 2004**

The LA-O Report
FAIR CITY WINGS

FRANKLINTON, LOUISIANA
Chapter Directors & Newsletter
Ernest & Gladys Vernon
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