



The LA-O Report



FRANKLINTON, LOUISIANA

Chapter O - Louisiana District – South Central Region H

NOVEMBER 2009

“Friends for Fun, Safety, and Knowledge”

Vol. 5, Issue 11

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Chapter O website

www.gwrra-la-o.org

April 8-9-10, 2010

LA District Rally

From the Chapter Director...

October offered some great days for riding. Hopefully, you had a chance to enjoy some of them. We really enjoyed the Mississippi District Rally in Tupelo. Though we had a rainy ride to Tupelo, we were in great company so we still had a great time. It also turned cold, but we enjoyed the rally and had a beautiful day to return home. The facility was great, the Mississippi District Staff did a great job, and we got to see old friends and to make new ones. We also had a great ride to Vines for lunch with Chapter O before we headed to Lafayette for the RIDE FOR KIDS.

We want to thank Frank for his efforts in scheduling the Parking Lot Practice for us on November 7. Regretfully, our turnout was small, but those who attended all benefited from the safety techniques we practiced. We also would like to extend our thanks to Cleco for allowing us the use of their facility. We'll try to schedule another session in the Spring.

The rest of the year will also offer some great riding days, and we're looking forward to sharing them with you. If you have a route you'd like us to ride, give Wendell a call and he'll help set it up. Until then, ride safely.

We'd like to extend our best wishes to everyone for a Happy Thanksgiving. We should all be thankful for our many blessings.

GLADYS and ERNEST

- The January 16, 2010, Louisiana District Staff meeting is a must for all Chapters to attend. Where: Lafayette Holiday Inn & Convention Center. Time: 8:30am- 5pm. All CDs, Treasurers, ACDs, Ride Educators, MEC Coordinators, COYs, LTD trainers should attend. Of course, all Chapter staff members are welcome.
- MARK YOUR CALENDARS and plan to attend.

THANKS, FRANK! You're a great Rider Educator

Chapter O extends a sincere **THANK YOU** to EJ and Cathy Oalman and Jimmy and Hilda Oalman and to everyone else who had a part in the October 31 Cookout. The company, food, and fellowship were awesome!

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

21 attended the October meeting

50/50 winners
Patricia Thomas
Sandra McDaniel

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

Keith & Sandra McDaniel
won the GoldWing Travel Bag
donated by Russell & Ginger Butler

Thanks for Visiting Chapter O

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

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

Happy Thanksgiving



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

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

From the Assistant Chapter Director

No article from Jim this month. He's recuperating! He is back at work part-time so is making progress in his recovery. He and Bonnie will be in Hattiesburg November 14 so will be unable to attend the November Meeting and Luncheon.

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

From the Couple of the Year

Hello Fellow Wing-dingers! This has been a beautiful month, Huh? Hope everyone has been taking advantage of the cooler weather. Regretfully, we haven't gotten to ride much, due to Marie's illness, but she is feeling much better now, so FIRE UP THOSE STEEL PONIES!!!

Chapter O has had a busy month beginning with the Mississippi Rally. Many of our members attended and had a great time and enjoyed the ride. We really enjoyed our ride with Gladys & Ernest to Vine's on the 14th. I think Ernest must have been really hungry. We've never seen him drive that FAST! Dinner was great, weather was beautiful, company was pleasant, what more could you ask for? If you didn't make it, you missed out!

Our special thanks to EJ & Cathy Oalman and Jimmy & Hilda Oalman for hosting the Halloween Food Fest...and that's the best way to describe it. There was more food than we could possibly eat. Everything was wonderful and bountiful. THANKS FOR A GREAT JOB! If you every need a thrill ride, just talk to EJ. He can certainly hook you up! AND, they say MULES can't fly.....

We apologize for missing the parking lot practice on November 7. Our hearts and minds were with you, just not our bodies. We were both under the weather [cough cough]. We know Frank did an excellent job setting everything up. We should all let Frank know how much we appreciate his efforts as Ride Educator. He does a great job. Our congratulations to Frank for achieving Level 4 status.

We will host the Chapter O Christmas Party at our home on December 12. The meal will be served at noon, so come on over around 11 and enjoy the fellowship. If you need directions, call us at 985-848-2926. We will have signs out also. Our address is 26327 James Creel Road, just off Hwy 436 near Pine. We will be hosting a food drive again this year, so please bring a bag of non-perishable items. We will also want to play the Sneaky Santa game. If you would like to participate, bring a \$10 gift [ladies bring a gift for a lady; men bring for a man].

We are still working on the Leadership Training class, hopefully to be held in late January or early February. We will let you know the date.

We sincerely wish all of you a very happy and safe Thanksgiving. Remember to thank GOD for all his bountiful blessings.

Marie & Wendell, COY '09



Thanksgiving

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.

*November 2009
Happy Birthday*

*4th
16th
30th*

*Bob Turner
Alfred Ingram
Gladys Vernon*

Happy Anniversary

*11th
19th
25th*

*Bob & Irma Turner
Ernest & Gladys Vernon
Pete and Pat Bennett*

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.

Friends and Guests are always welcome on LA-O rides
and events

Russell Butler joined us, Dale & Kim, and Joyce for the
Parking Lot Practice on November 7

NOVEMBER 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
1 Daylight Savings Time Ends	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14 <i>Chapter O meets</i>
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Thanks- giving Day	27	28
29	30					



REMEMBER OUR VETERANS
SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

DISTRICT NEWS ... Guidelines for the Couple Baskets for District Rally

were published last month. Chapter O's theme for the 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. Chapter members will need to help our Chapter Couple sell tickets Thursday, Friday and till 2 pm on Saturday at Rally, as our Couple may also be busy selling 50/25/25 and Grand Prize tickets. A COY table will be set up to display 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.

Happy Holidays Goldwingers! Roxie and Brent wish all GWRRA friends and family a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, a truly Blessed 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 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 @ gwrro.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

As some chapters begin their search for a new Couple of the Year, District COY Coordinators Beverly and Merlin Mayon, remind us of the Requirements of a Chapter Couple of the Year.

1. The Couple must consist of one male and one female.
2. Both male and female must hold Individual, Family, Associate Individual, or Associate Family Membership in GWRRA. (Note: Associate Members are eligible to participate in the Couple of the Year Program at the Chapter level only.)
3. Membership must be valid through the term of the Chapter Couple of the Year position (one year).
4. The Couple must have completed at least 3 months membership in GWRRA prior to being named Chapter Couple of the Year.
5. In order to provide an opportunity for other deserving couples, the same Couple shall not be named as Chapter Couple of the Year for more than two consecutive years.

This information was taken from the Couple of the Year Program Manual. You can contact us at merlinmayon@att.net 985-384-2673 home; 985-519-1524/1523 cells.

District Leadership Trainers, Gene and Nelda Stanley, 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.



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

The LA-0 Report
FAIR CITY WINGS

FRANKLINTON, LOUISIANA

Chapter Directors & Newsletter

Ernest & Gladys Vernon

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