



The LA-O Report



FRANKLINTON, LOUISIANA

Chapter O - Louisiana District – South Central Region H

April 2009

“Friends for Fun, Safety, and Knowledge”

Vol. 5, Issue 4

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Chapter O website

www.gwrra-la-o.org

DISTRICT RALLY

April 16-18, 2009

From the Chapter Director...

It's RALLY TIME...Do you want to travel together?

We will travel to Lafayette on Thursday morning, April 16, arriving about noon. We have security duty at 2 p.m. We also will need assistance for registration on Friday and Saturday. Call us on our cell if you want to get together and/or if you can help...225/719-0182. MOST OF ALL, however, we need your support for *Wendell and Marie during the Couple of the Year selection at 10 a.m. on Friday morning. Be sure to plan on attending this event!*

Come join the RALLY FUN, meet old and new friends, and take advantage of opportunities to improve your riding skills. The Rally will offer numerous seminars for safety education training but will also offer opportunities for FUN, FUN, FUN. Come join us.

We want to thank Jim and Bonnie and Larry and Marsha for taking care of business for us at the March meeting. As it turns out, due to problems with our bike, we were unable to attend Safety Weekend as planned. We managed to get to the meeting just as they got things started....and they did a great job.

We're now looking at the first weekend in June for LA-O's garage sale. Start sorting your stuff! Thanks to Kay Dodds for offering us her yard on Hwy 21, Bogalusa.

GLADYS and ERNEST

Thanks to Jim and Bonnie Cothorn for a great ride on Saturday, March 28. The weather cleared and turned into a beautiful day....if you weren't some of the folks fighting the rising water. We saw plenty of people moving to higher ground. Let's keep those folks in our prayers as they deal with the threat of water in their homes and businesses and/or as they begin the process of clean-up.

Pat and Pete Bennett have the April Member Ride. I believe they are planning to ride on April 25 since Easter and the District Rally take up two weekends this month.

UPDATE ON NEW CHAPTER SHIRTS – we are in the process of selecting a new vendor for our Chapter shirts and to print the new logo on our shirts. Thanks again to Wendell and Marie, and Joyce Netherland for their efforts in this project. I feel certain we'll have the shirts in time for the Rally!

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

2009 Ride Captains

April - Pete & Pat Bennett
May - Wendell & Marie Vince
June - Dale & Kim Jenkins
July - Mitch & Marie Kilgore
August - Larry & Marsha Spring
September - Joyce Netherland & Allen and Amy Strain
October - Ernest & Gladys Vernon
November - Holiday events
December - Holiday events

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

District Membership Enhancement Director Errol Pellegrin indicates he is getting a very positive response from new GWRRA members when he makes contact. He continues to meet with other Districts to discuss retention and recruitment ideas for GWRRA members.

27 Attended March 2009 meeting

Guests included Huey Duncan, Eric Ingram, Dale Lott and Hilda Oalman

25/25 Winners in March

David Jenkins

Jimmy Oalman

Get Well Wishes

to

*Wendell Vince, Hilda Oalman,
Jack Sparks, Nell Baham,
Daniel & Janet Brock, and
Kelly & Laura Crain*

CHAPTER LA-O Motto

**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.**

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From the Assistant Chapter Director

Hi everyone. Hope this article finds everyone in good health. Even though I didn't make the ride, I understand that Larry and Marsha led you guys and gals on a great trip on the 21st. I really had reservations on whether we would be able to ride on the 28th as planned. The weather was ominous all week leading up to that Saturday. In fact I talked to Gladys as late as Friday AM on making the call on whether to ride or not. And what a day it turned out to be. The clouds parted and the sun came out and except for wind, everything was perfect. We left Franklinton about 10:15 and rode to Duvall's in Bogalusa for about 10:45 and picked up the crew waiting there for a total of 12 bikes. We took 26 to Poplarville, then 53 to 49 and 49 to Barnhill's where we had a great buffet lunch. After lunch we rode 49 to Gulfport, then down the coast through a wind/sand storm to Biloxi and I-110. We went north on I-110 until it turned into 15 and traveled on it to 26 where we turned left and headed for home. We made a necessary pit stop in Wiggins for bathrooms and in some cases, ice cream. We picked up Wendell's brother, his wife and another friend at d'Iberville and they rode with us to Wiggins. Really enjoyed their company. Hope they join us again. The Louisiana District Rally is here. Please plan to attend and pass a good time with your fellow GWRRA members from Louisiana and throughout the southeast. Please continue to let Bonnie know if you have an illness or a death in your family so she can get the proper card mailed out. She can be reached @ 985-732-3225. God Bless You and Yours,

Jim and Bonnie

ITEMS FOR SALE

**2006 YAMAHA Road Star--Red; Saddlebags, Windshield, Back rest and MORE -- Only 7000 miles [health issues]. \$7500. Wilbert Thompson
Cell: 225/439-0584 Home: 225/667-4867**

**1998 VALKARIE MOTOR TRIKE, 26k MILES. Pearl White/Blue Flames.
Mustang Seat. \$13,000. Call 985-848-9970**

LADIES BLACK LEATHER JACKET with Studs and Fringe on Yoke. Size XL. \$100. See: Marie Vince or call 985-848-2926

From the Chapter Educator

Hello my friends, I hope that this month's letter finds everyone in good health. I would like to start off by saying I think that the 2009 Louisiana Safety Weekend was a BIG success. I saw members from chapters all over the State. The location was perfect for such an event. We had plenty of classroom space and the range area was huge, especially the ARC area. It had really smooth concrete with plenty of grip. You could really put your bike to the cornering test. The trike course area was abuzz with trikes running around the course. At times it looked like they didn't know which way to go, but I'm sure that it was under control over there. Let's give a great big round of applause to the Louisiana District staff for their countless hours of work to make this event happen. Also thanks to the Region staff members as well as the instructors who came from other districts to help make this a success. Those attending with me from Chapter O included: Joyce Netherland; Allen and Amy Strain; Ron & Virginia Dixon; Pat Dixon. Ernest and Gladys had mechanical problems with their bike and had to be "rescued" in Livonia, so they didn't get to participate.

Don't forget to forward the proper paperwork to your Chapter Educator if you attended any of the classes, so that levels program can be update

Frank and Tammy Gendusa

District Educators Mike & Pam Jastrum and Lucky report.... the first things that Brent/Roxie told Pam and me after we were appointed as the District Educator was that they wanted the Louisiana District to have a Safety Weekend. Their words were something like "make it happen." With a lot of help from a lot of folks it did happen on March 7th. The weather was perfect, and the folks at Esler National Guard couldn't have been nicer. What a facility we had use of. We had about 70 people attending, taking the first aid course, trike course, advance riding course, parking lot practice, rider education seminars and LTD seminars. Admittedly, we had plenty of room for more to attend the seminars but the two range courses were completely full. Thanks to all who came and attended any part of our event. We even got two new trike instructors as a result of the event, Rodd Polk and Buster Hendrick.

Rider Education Courses/Seminars for the Louisiana District Rally April 16-18. Check Rally schedule for exact time and places.

Rider Ed Seminars held both Friday and Saturday.

1st Aid/CPR \$20.00 3 hour refresher course held on both Friday and Saturday.

Trike Course \$30.00 Friday. Limited to 12 Trikes.

Please support Rider Education by buying a rally ticket at the rally. We are having two raffles. One for a set of tires and the other for a ladies pendant. Tickets are \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00. You do not have to be present to win. Some of the chapter educators have tickets to sell at your chapter meets. Thanks again to all that helped with the safety weekend and all the support we have gotten this past year.

From the Couple of the Year

Hello Wing Family!

It looks as though spring is on the way! Yeah! Cold weather is once again behind us...now we just have to stop all of this rain! We are looking forward to riding weather again.

With that said, Spring brings rallies. Wendell & I are looking forward to seeing all of you at the 2009 LOUISIANA District Rally... "WINGS OVER THE BAYOU", April 16, 17 & 18th in Lafayette. We will be as your 'Couple of the Year' so we can get! Come on over and cheer us and reservations now!



representing Chapter O need all the support we on. Make your plans

Wendell & I, Allen & Amy Strain and attended the Region H Rally in

19-21st. The Rally was great, but the weather was absolutely phenomenal. Best riding days we have had in a while! Mitch & Marie were there as vendors for their WingWood Art, but still enjoyed the rally. We hope they had a successful weekend! We also attended the Region H Couple of the Year selection, which Wayne & Joyce Brewer competed in from our District. Mandy & Fred Mew from Texas won the honors. They all did a great job. We also enjoyed the "Talent" show.

Mitch & Marie Kilgore
Marshall, TX on March

If you didn't ride with us on March 28th to Gulfport, with Jim & Bonnie leading our ride, you missed out on a great day to ride! Had lunch at Barnhills, followed by a ride through DeSoto National Forest. Just breathtaking! We had 12 bikes and 19 riders. We will definitely plan to ride that road again. Next month's ride will be led by Pete & Pat Bennett.

To be a successful chapter, remember the team concept, it takes:

T - together

E - everyone

A - achieves

M - much

May each of you be blessed with good health, lots of friends, both old and new, and a spirit to have lots of fun while you can. Until we meet again, keep smiling, riding and by all means be SAFE!

Marie & Wendell
COY '09

REPORT on Safety Weekend

On the way up to safety weekend Gladys and Ernest had to drop out due to mechanical problems. We really missed having them with us. However, we're glad they managed to make it to the chapter meeting that night.

Amy and I had a great weekend in the Pineville area. We were scheduled to take two classes each and ended up taking five classes together (Road captain, co-rider, Horizons overview, leadership training overview, and member benefits). Joyce Netherland, Frank Gendusa, Ron and Virginia Dixon, and Pat Dixon joined us at the safety weekend. Ron and Frank took the parking lot course while Joyce took the trike course. Pat took another riding course. It was an informative weekend for all that attended. The instructors were all very informative and knowable in their respective fields. We enjoyed the fellowship of new and old friends throughout the state.

REPORT on Region H Rally in Marshall, Texas

Amy and I enjoyed our four days in Marshall spending time each day at the rally and also sightseeing in the surrounding area. We got to see Ron Dixon, and had a wonderful evening with Marie and Wendell Vince, and Mitch and Marie Kilgore at Bodacious BBQ followed by ice cream at the Creamery. We were pleasantly surprised to be able to watch the light parade as it passed in front of the Creamery. I think we speak for all when we say you **MUST** try Bodacious BBQ!! We enjoyed seeing all that the vendors had on display and spending way too much money! We also enjoyed watching the talent show and other events. We are looking forward to the Louisiana Rally next! We are also looking forward to spending time once again with all of our new and old friends. Come and join us! A good time is to be had by all.

Amy and Allen Strain

*April 2009
Congratulations*

Happy Birthday

4th

7th

14th

Kay Dodds

Delaine Thomas

Virginia (Gin) Dixon

*Belated Greetings to Joey Rawls who celebrated his birthday on
March 29*

*Happy Anniversary
None listed*



APRIL 2009

MEMBER RIDE CAPTAIN – Pete and Pat Bennett

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 April Fools	2	3 Chapter O meets	4 Strawberry Festival
5 Palm Sunday	6	7	8	9 Passover	10 Good Friday	11 .
12 EASTER	13	14	15	16	17	18
				Louisiana District Rally Lafayette Holiday Inn		
19 Orthodox Easter	20	21	22 Earth Day & Admin. Professionals Day	23	23	25 Pete & Pat's Ride
26	27	28	29	30		
2009 UPCOMING				EVENTS		

April 16, 17, 18

2009 Louisiana District Rally...
"WINGS OVER THE BAYOU"

April 20 – May 4

NHTSA Motorcycle Awareness

April 25

Chapter LA-J Gator Run, Lake Charles

May 14, 15, 16

Texas District Rally, Amarillo

May 21, 22, 23

Arkansas District Rally, Rogers

June 6

LA-A TailGate Party, Greenwell Springs

July 2-5

Wing Ding 31, Tulsa, OK

August 28-29

Kansas District Rally, Abilene

October 22-24

Oklahoma District Rally, Muskogee

DISTRICT NEWS District Directors Brent and Roxie Comeaux report

IT'S RALLY TIME, FOLKS! ARE YOU READY FOR A GOOD TIME? Lafayette, April 16, 17 & 18, Thursday, Friday, & Saturday, is **WHEN & WHERE** the **GWRRA LOUISIANA DISTRICT GOLDWING RALLY** is going to be. The site is the Holiday Inn & Convention Center, 2032 NE Evangeline Thwy. Come celebrate "Mardi Gras Madness" with us and have some **FUN!**

Thursday: We open at noon with vendors. Vendors for Pinstripe, LED Lights, Installs, Customize your Wing Seat, T-shirts, Leathers, Jewelry, Clothing, Custom Trikes, Chrome, Pictures with your Honey or your Wing or Both? Latest in Helmets, Bluetooth anyone? Wing Fashion and Accessories of all kinds. You don't want to miss this Show, all 3 Days of our Rally! Register on site for all 3 Days and save or get a Day Pass. **Opening Ceremonies, You don't wanna miss**, 6 pm in the Outdoor Vendor Area, we start with a **Live Cajun Band and Dance, Root Beer Floats, 5/25/25**, and finally a **Bike Light Show! That is just the Start of the Fun to Come This Weekend! BE THERE!**

Friday & Saturday is full of Entertainment and FUN! If you don't come for the entertainment, come fellowship with all your friends and Chrome Up your Bike and then show it off in the Bike Show for a Trophy!

Friends, we have something for everybody, Live Music, Dancing, Cajun Dance Classes, Many times to **WIN MONEY!** 50/25/25 Thur, Fri, & Sat, Grand Prize, Bingo, Game Show, Plus many Door Prizes. For your knowledge, we have Rider Education & Leadership Training Seminars, Plus a Trike Riders course and CPR/First Aid Renewal.

Fellowship with your friends for the "Couple of the Year" selection and the Rider Education Level IV Breakfast.

Assistant District Directors Wayne and Joyce Brewer report We had a fantastic weekend in Marshall, and would like to congratulate our new 2009 Region Couple of the Year, Fred and Mandy Mew of Texas. We know they will represent Region H well during the upcoming year and congratulate all of the District Couples. Next on the horizon is the LA District Rally and hosting the 2009 District Couple of the Year Selection. The following Chapters will be represented this year by these very worthy and qualified Couples:

Chapter A - Baton Rouge - Dennis & Bobbie McGee
Chapter C - Shreveport - Buster & Carolyn Henrikson
Chapter D - Monroe - Steve & Faye Alexander
Chapter E - Alexandria - Leon & Sharon Keel
Chapter M - DeRidder - Paul & Linda Whittington
Chapter O - Franklinton - Wendell & Marie Vince

The 2009 LA District Couple will be selected on Friday morning, April 17th at 10 a.m. Your support is very important, so please plan to be there to cheer them on! Good Luck to all of our Couples!

BY THE BOOK

By: Dale Wingrove / Harry Dollarhide
Region H Trainer / Region H Director

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. Any quotes or references to topics contained in our OGB should not be taken “out of context”. Please feel free to reprint these articles in Region, District and Chapter newsletters.

The change in the officer appointment process that occurred a few years ago raised some questions and perhaps misunderstanding. The “old” process was one that used the Chapter, District or Region Director to appoint their Rider Educator, Leadership Trainer, Membership Enhancement Coordinator, etc. with the concurrence of the District, Region, or National Director of that division. A change was made because national believed it would improve the process by selecting the best member for the program, not necessarily the member who the appointing officer wanted on their staff. Too many times a member was appointed as a method of placing friends on staff for other purposes, not in the best interest of the respective program. The “new”, (current) process is the district, region or national director of Educator, Leadership Trainer, Membership Enhancement Coordinator, etc appoints with the concurrence of the operations officer. Make no mistake, the operations officer still has a big say in the appointment process. The appointment must be someone who the operations officer can work with and will be part of the chapter, district or region team. Every person on a chapter, district or region director’s staff answers ultimately to the *operations director* as well as the division appointing officer. Yes that creates a “two boss” situation. However, think of it this way; for program purposes the boss is the appointing officer. For the staff the boss is the operations director. Can you serve two bosses? YES if you are working as a TEAM. Working for the members’ best interest as a TEAM will and does work. Working only for your program interest or just for your staff interest will be conflicting. Think TEAM and be successful.

The following is direct quotes from the RED Handbook and the OGB.

Officer Appointment

The next paragraph is taken from the RED Handbook Section E Page E1

In any instance where there is an Educator in office and a new operations Director is appointed or being considered for appointment, the Educator at the next higher level must again gain concurrence and agreement that the incoming *Director* and the Educator can work together constructively and cohesively.

The next Paragraph is taken from the RED Handbook Section E page E2

The tenure of the Chapter Educator position is not tied directly to the “time in office” of the Chapter Director. This means that the Chapter Educator remains in office even when the Chapter Director steps down. The Chapter Educator “serves at the pleasure” of the District Educator and their performance is reviewed annually. In the event that a Chapter Educator position is vacant, the District Educator will request a recommendation from the *Chapter Director* on a prospective candidate for the Educator position. It is important to note that the District Educator will always seek concurrence with the *Chapter Director* on the Chapter Educator position to maintain harmony within the chapter. If the Chapter Director doesn’t have a candidate in mind the District Educator will select a qualified candidate for the chapter.

The next section is taken from the OGB Page C-4

CHAPTER STAFF ORGANIZATION

1. All Operations Officers within a particular Chapter comprise the Chapter Operations Staff. (i.e. Assistant Chapter Director, Rider Education, Leadership Training, Membership Enhancement, Treasurer)

“If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.”

T-E-A-M: together Everyone Accomplishes More!



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

The LA-O Report

FRANKLINTON, LOUISIANA

Chapter Director & Newsletter

Ernest & Gladys Vernon

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