



The LA-O Report



FRANKLINTON, LOUISIANA

Chapter O - Louisiana District – South Central Region H

JULY 2009

“Friends for Fun, Safety, and Knowledge”

Vol. 5, Issue 7

LA-O Staff

Chapter Director

Gladys & Ernest Vernon
(225) 683-5636

clinton70722@yahoo.com

Assistant Chapter Director

Jim & Bonnie Cothorn
(985) 732-3225

jcothorn@wste.coop

Ride Coordinator

2009 Couple of the Year
Wendell & Marie Vince
(985) 848-2926

maivusal@yahoo.com

Secretary

Joyce Netherland
(985) 886-5814

jcnland@att.net

Treasurer

Mitch & Marie Kilgore
(985) 848-0005

marie.kilgore0303@gmail.com

Rider Education

Frank & Tammy Gendusa
(985) 893-5056

fgendusa@gwrra-la-o.org

Newsletter Editor

Gladys & Ernest Vernon
(225) 683-5636

clinton70722@yahoo.com

DISTRICT website

www.gwrra-la.org

Chapter O website

www.gwrra-la-o.org

From the Chapter Director...

First of all, with the HOT HOT weather upon us, we want to encourage everyone who is brave enough to ride, to be careful in the heat. Be sure to drink and carry plenty of water and wear light-colored, vented clothing or evaporative cooling gear and take plenty of air-conditioned breaks.

2010....does that seem far off? It certainly seemed way off when Ernest and I became Chapter Directors a year and a half ago. But, in five short months, it will be time to start working with a new Chapter Director and other officers. January 2010 will be time for new leadership and new ideas, which is why GWRRA encourages leadership change. Are you interested in becoming Chapter O's new CD or in any other position? Please, think about it, and let us know of your interest in serving. We will, of course, be available to assist the new officers in any way and to answer any questions. Also, we encourage your participation in the Horizons Program scheduled August 7-8-9. It's great training for everyone but is very valuable to new officers or to those who want to become officers. *GLADYS and ERNEST*

Dale and Kim Jenkins' June ride was cancelled due to the excessive heat. We'll plan for their picnic when the weather cools off. Of course, we may have to do without the watermelons.

Mitch and Marie have this month's ride. Their plans will be announced soon. I know they'll try to schedule something cool and refreshing.....any ideas?

The new Chapter shirts [available in polo style and tee-shirt] are beautiful. You'll be proud to wear them, so order today if you haven't already done so. See or call Marie Vince @ 985-848-2926.

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

2009 Ride Captains

June	Dale & Kim Jenkins
July	Mitch & Marie Kilgore
August	Larry & Marsha Spring
September	Joyce Netherland
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.**

GET WELL WISHES
Daniel & Janet Brock
Kelly & Laura Crain
Bonnie Cothern
Jack Sparks & Nell Baham

22 attended June 2009 Meeting
25/25 WINNERS
Ham Martin
Jim Cothern
Door Prize Winners
Leisa Rawls - Blueberries
Anita Jones - Blueberries
Jimmy Oalman - Keychain

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.

From the Assistant Chapter Director

Hi everyone!! Hope this article finds everyone in good health and doing well in this extreme heat. HOT HOT HOT is all anyone can say about this weather. Hope if you do decide to ride that you keep yourself hydrated with water and protect your skin from the sun.

Although we didn't ride as a group this month because of the heat, we still maintained our integrity as a group by staying in contact with each other. That was really shown by all who attended Gladys's Mother's wake and funeral on June 27. It showed what we have been saying all along, that the group is an extension of our family and that we truly love each other.

Just remember, this is only June and we have had consistent days with the heat index at 105 to 115 with really very little relief in the mornings or afternoons. Please be careful if you decide to ride.

Please remember to contact Bonnie @ 985-732-3225 if you have an illness or death in the family so she can get the news out and send a card.

God Bless All,

Jim and Bonnie

ITEMS FOR SALE

1998 VALKARIE MOTOR TRIKE, 26k MILES. Pearl White/Blue FLAMES

Mustang Seat. \$13,000. Call 985-848-9970

Summertime usually means vacation time. If you use your motorcycle for touring, you may need to bring extra gear. Here are a few tips on "CARRYING LOADS". **Don't exceed manufacturer's maximum load specifications. To determine how much you can carry, subtract the weight of rider and co-rider fully dressed from the maximum load limit. ** Weight should be balanced side to side and kept low and to the center. Never pile loads against a sissy bar – it will raise the cycle's center of gravity and disrupt its balance. ** Never strap things to the handlebars or front fender – steering and engine cooling will be affected. **Fasten your load securely and check it frequently.

From the Chapter Educator

The following information was sent from District and Region Rider Educators. See me if you have any questions. Please share this information with others who are interested.

TO: Louisiana Chapter Directors and Educators

If you or any of your chapter members are interested in becoming a trike instructor, **now** is an opportunity to become one. Chapter Educators and Chapter Directors, please get the word out to all your members. Act fast so that anyone interested will have time to get in his application. Below is an email from our region educator, John Bourg, with the details. You can see that it takes time and money to become a trike instructor. You will have to spend 5 days in Marshall (two different trips) and of course you will have expenses for motels and food. There is also a \$100.00 fee to attend the course. Applications must be first sent to me for approval. Like John's email says, there also needs to be an opening.

As you can see, to become a range instructor, it takes a person who spent at least \$500 out of his own pocket and a lot of his personal time getting training. Next time you take a GW course, you might just want to thank your instructor for his dedication toward motorcycle safety.

Mike Jastram
La District Educator

John Bourg, GWRRA Region H Educator
educator@gwr-ra-h.org
Senior Master # 4647

From: jbourg@omsi.net
To: de@gwr-ra-h.org
Sent: 6/18/2009 12:24:31 P.M. Central Daylight Time
Subj: Region H RCICP

District Educators -- We've finally acquired facilities to hold the RCICP in Region H. The CIDM will be held on Saturday August 8th in Marshall Texas. The RCICP will be held on September 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th in Marshall Texas. This RCICP will be for the GWRRA Trike Course. Harry Dollarhide will be our MIT for both the CIDM and RCICP.

If you have anyone interested in becoming an Instructor (who has not already put in their application), please have them fill out the N.13A application http://www.gwr-ra.org/regional/ridered/Forms/N%2013A_Rider_Course_Instructor_Certification_Program_Application_New_4_30_08.doc and along with a check for \$100 made payable to Robert Berry (the details are at the bottom of the N13A application). Applications must be signed by the District Educator then mailed to me for signature, I'll then forward all application on to Bob Berry.

Also please let me know ASAP so we can make sure we have an opening for them. Anyone interested in becoming a Rider Course Instructor should read the information at the bottom of the Rider Course Instructor website <http://www.gwr-ra.org/regional/ridered/ridercourse.html>.

Frank & Tammy Gendusa

From the Couple of the Year

Hello Wingers!

We hope everyone had a great 4th of July! We all need to thank God for our freedom, and remember "Freedom Isn't Free". The price has been paid by many soldiers over the years. Thanks to all our veterans and service men and women.

Our condolences to Gladys on the loss of her Mother. Our prayers are with you.

June has been a slow, hot month, with not much going on. We took a Sunday ride on the 7th with Herman & Barbara Ingram (Marie's brother), Carl & Dianne (Wendell's brother) and Alfred Ingram, but it was almost too hot to enjoy.

We just returned from Wing Ding great time. The rally was very present from all over the country. Mitch and Marie every day, but away and do some chrome



several leadership seminars that were offered. Mitch and Marie made a lot of contacts with District Directors for future purchases of trophies and plaques. We had a good week. Marie's Dad, Alvin joined us on the trip since we went "wingless".

31 in Tulsa, OK. We had a large and lots of wingers We worked in the booth with we found a little time to slip shopping!!! We also attended

We hope everyone has a safe and happy month. Review your material on "Riding in the Heat" before you set out and keep yourself hydrated and protected from the sun. Keep our safety training in mind each time you ride and you will be rewarded with bigger smiles and more miles!

Marie & Wendell
COY '09

So, you're the Chapter Couple....Now What? First of all, congratulations, enjoy it! You've been honored by your Chapter....selected to represent your Chapter. As the COY, you simply want to continue doing those special, little things that you did before you were COY. You always volunteered to help; you were always enthusiastic about GWRRA and active in Chapter activities; you are committed to GWRRA ideals and dedicated to safety. And, now, you get to do the same thing AND greet new participants at gatherings, introduce them to others, sell 50/50 tickets, answer questions, spread the word about GWRRA and the Chapter, have fun with the group. Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge. Simple, isn't it?

July 2009
Happy Birthday

1st

David Jenkins

1st

Ernest Vernon

6th

Cheri Spring

16th

Marie Vince

Happy Anniversary

9th

David & Terry Jenkins

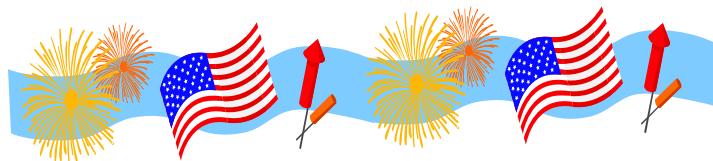
19th

Daryl & Anita Jones

Just a note to say **THANK YOU** to everyone who called or sent a card, e-mail or note, or who visited, or who brought food, or who did a hundred other things for us during the recent passing of my Mother. All your kind expressions of sympathy are greatly appreciated by me and my family.


YOU are awesome. The GWRRA family is awesome.

Gladys



JULY 2009

MEMBER RIDE CAPTAIN – Mitch and Marie Kilgore

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
It's HOT! Ride safely			1	2	3	4 
5	6	7	8	9	10 <i>Chapter O meets</i>	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 '69 First Manned moon landing	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	
2009 UPCOMING				EVENTS		

August 1

RIDE FOR KIDS Bowling Fundraiser

1 - 5 p.m. Tiffany Bowling Alley

4400 Hwy 22, Mandeville

Questions? Anita @ 985-373-6622

August 28-29

Kansas District Rally, Abilene

September 10-12

Region A Rally, Dothan, AL

September 24-26

Wings Over the Smokies, Fletcher, NC

October 15-17

Mississippi District Rally, Tupelo

October 22-24

Oklahoma District Rally, Muskogee

DISTRICT NEWS

A Horizons training program is scheduled for August 7, 8 and 9th in Lafayette at the Holiday Inn. As always, the program will fill-up fast. Space is limited, so contact Gene Stanley at Home Phone 337-478-1670 or at E-mail:

dgstanley1@suddenlink.net if you're interested in participating. If you have any questions, contact Gene or talk to Gladys & Ernest about the Horizons program. It's excellent for Chapter Directors and their staff, or for those interested in leadership roles, but it is also great for any member who wishes to attend and know more about GWRRA.

I have a question for all those that read this article. When does MORE mean LESS? Answer. The more safety gear you wear/use will result in less injuries. This also can apply to actual motorcycle training. More training, less crashes. As more and more motorcyclists are riding with proper riding gear, we are actually hearing stories of riders (and sometimes co-riders) being involved in high speed crashes where the parties involved go sliding down the road and end up with very few injuries. A recent crash victim told me that he lost control of his bike at 65 mph and as he slid down the concrete highway, he could actually see the concrete but his full face helmet protected his face from any injuries. He did have to go buy a new helmet. Another GW member recently told me of a couple he rendered first aid to. The rider was wearing a full face and the co rider only a three quarter. The rider had very few injuries while the co-rider took 47 stitches both to her face and inside her mouth.

Gear that will help reduce injuries are: helmets (hopefully a full face) ; full finger gloves; eye protection; long sleeve shirts (hopefully riding jackets); long pants; boots that cover the ankles.

When you wear the proper ride gear you not only protect yourself and your loved ones, but you may have an effect on others you know. Do you ever think about the influence you have on your family members as well as your friends who buy a motorcycle. Let's say you have a son or grandson who buys a motorcycle. They see you riding yours and it is only natural that they want a motorcycle too. Well guess what, if they see riding without proper gear then they probably won't wear any either.

I never wore seat belts until about 1986. My oldest daughter was about 12 at the time and I wanted her to wear seat belts so I started buckling up. When she started to drive she used her seat belts as did my two younger children when they started driving.

Mike and Pam Jastram, District Educators

So, it's simple, LEAD BY EXAMPLE

And, YES, it's hot, but protection is needed even in hot weather!

Editor

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. Please feel free to reprint these articles in Region, District and Chapter newsletters. The following was taken from the Officers Guide Book page-13 & 14.

THE PHANTOM MEMBERS

(Sometimes called "Hitch-hikers")

After 30 years of successful growth, GWRRA has caused a peculiar phenomenon. We caused it by being TOO friendly! An explanation is in order. We have always understood that GWRRA's organization and its benefits are exclusively for its Members. However, our meetings, and many times our events, have always been for Members and their guests. Obviously, we do this to give potential Members a chance to look us over and, hopefully, they will join our family. Our friendliness also extends to former Members; much to our credit... again hoping they will re-join our family. However, and this may be hard to believe, there seem to be some folks who see no reason to rejoin us. Not because they don't like us, but because they have seen the FUN we have, is an "open door and they don't feel that "Membership" is necessary to take advantage of these important benefits. We all know that two of our most important benefits are namely, the Chapter and the wealth of activities that constantly go on within GWRRA. Some of these Phantom "Members" have friends who give them old copies of *Wing World* magazines and sometimes an old Gold Book for when they travel. Many dues-paying Members ask, "Aren't we being too kind?" Many wonder how some of these folks can see no reason to REALLY belong to GWRRA. They also wonder why a Phantom Member takes free what others are paying for. Understand, we are not talking about our guests here; we're talking about those who once were part of us and now (for whatever reason) are not. Yet they continue to participate in the fellowship and friendship of something that was created for "Members Only". We know that many of our Officers do not believe they have this problem. If so, that is good for you, your participants and GWRRA. However, if you're like some, there could be as much as 33% of your Chapter that are phantoms. Be aware, that if this trend continues, your Chapter will eventually cease to be, and a Club will be born. Here is our dilemma. We don't want to be "snobbish" or rude, but we need to help these folks understand the reasons and advantages of true Membership in our family. They need to understand the difference between Membership, friend or guest. Several Chapter Directors have dealt with their problem through the Phantom's wallet i.e. most Chapter events use "sign-in" sheets (<http://www.gwrro.org/oconnect/documents>). All participants show their GWRRA Membership Card. The expiration date can usually be verified. No card? That's okay, BUT coffee, pie, 50/50 tickets, etc. etc. Maybe you could have a surcharge for all "non-Members." Perhaps you could have a supply of paper name tags saying, "Hi - I'm XXXX, a visitor". This would serve two purposes: 1) identify the guest (or the former Member) for special get-acquainted-type actions or friend-making, and 2) help them understand how special Membership in GWRRA really is. We suggest allowing non-members to attend three gatherings before joining. All our events already charge a different price for non-Members, if for no other reason, to identify the benefits of GWRRA Membership and because GWRRA activities are primarily for GWRRA Members. We're not suggesting that money is the answer or even the proper tactic. Some have used these methods with a certain degree of effectiveness. Obviously, there are other things that can be done to help us regain our Members. Maybe you will have to delve more deeply into why they have chosen to alienate themselves from us and see if there is something we can do to make them feel better about GWRRA. Many times you will find that miscommunication is the prime difficulty. As already stated, if this is not a concern for you, then continue your path of success. If this is starting to be a problem, then be alert for these phantoms - be diplomatic - be kind. If necessary, you may have to limit their "activities" with us, but don't let these folks "steal" (so to speak) that which is only for our GWRRA family. If you need more ideas or have other concerns, talk it over with your appointing Officer or your staff. In any case, ALWAYS try to find the Win-Win answer.

"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**

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FRANKLINTON, LOUISIANA

Chapter Directors & Newsletter

Ernest & Gladys Vernon

10727 Highway 961

Clinton, LA 70722