



The LA-O Report



FRANKLINTON, LOUISIANA

Chapter O - Louisiana District – South Central Region H

MAY 2009

“Friends for Fun, Safety, and Knowledge”

Vol. 5, Issue 5

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www.gwrra-la-o.org

From the Chapter Director...

Our thanks to everyone from the District Staff to Chapter Members for their work at the 2009 District Rally. It was great. Over 700 attended and participated in the FUN, training, education, and FUN!

Chapter O's Banner placed second in the Chapter competition.

Congratulations to Linus Magee for achieving his Level III, which made him eligible for a set of tires, WHICH HE WON!

Congratulations to Wendell and Marie Vince. We are so proud of them! Chapter O members know what a great couple they are. Now, the rest of the District knows it too. They were excellent representatives of Chapter O in the Couple of the Year selection. And, we offer our congratulations to Steve and Faye Alexander of LA-D for their selection as District Couple.

The Chapter Booth competition was excellent. ALL were winners in my opinion. They had some great ideas and booth decorations were superb. Chapter O members really helped Chapter F with their "jail".....Ernest was arrested about six times.....he just had trouble getting people to bail him out!

Thanks also to Mitch and Marie Kilgore for representing Chapter O, even while being a vendor. Their WoodWing art is very popular and WoodWing trophies were presented to Bike Show winners at the rally this year. Hope their success continues.

Again, THANKS to all the Chapter O members who helped with our Rally security duties and then helped other chapters as well.

We had a good turnout at the May 1 meeting. Our new Chapter shirts are ready and Marie Vince will be handling the distribution. Give her a call if you want to pick up your shirt.

If enough members can participate, we're now looking at June 13 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 Pete and Pat Bennett for leading the April 25 ride to Laurel and back. It was a beautiful day and a great turnout with 13 bikes and 17 people. Pete found a great place to eat, as usual. Remember though the rides don't have to be all-day events, and remember too that you can return home whenever you need to do so.

Wendell and Marie Vince have the May 16 ride. Listen for the calling post announcement with the details. Everyone needs to meet in Franklinton. We will leave Winn Dixie at 8 a.m. on May 16.

If you have any questions or if you need help with your items for the Yard Sale on June 13, contact Ernest and Gladys

UPDATE ON NEW CHAPTER SHIRTS – THE SHIRTS ARE DONE. Marie should have them in her hands by now. I'm told they look GREAT. Contact Marie if you want to pick up your shirt....or plan on getting them on the May 16 ride or at the June 5 meeting. Thanks again to Marie for all her work on his project.

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

2009 Ride Captains

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.

**39 Attended May 1 meeting
Guests included Keith and Sandra McDaniel and Huey Duncan,
31 attended April 6 meeting
Guests included the McDaniels, Eric Ingram and Dale Lott**

FOUR 25/25 Winners in APRIL

Mitch & Marie; Wendell & Marie;

Linus & Libby and Kay Dodds

THREE 25/25 Winners in MAY

Huey Duncan; Ralph Stogner;

Amy Strain

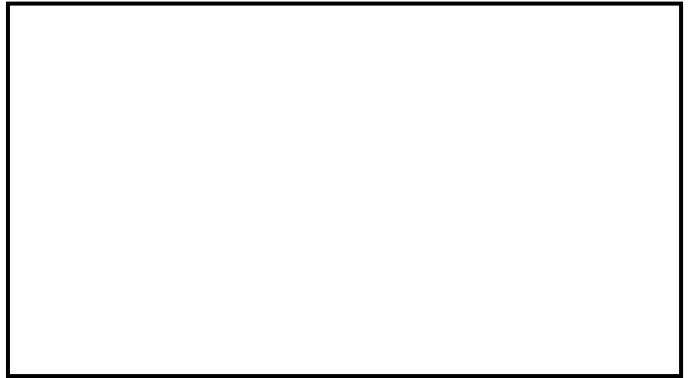
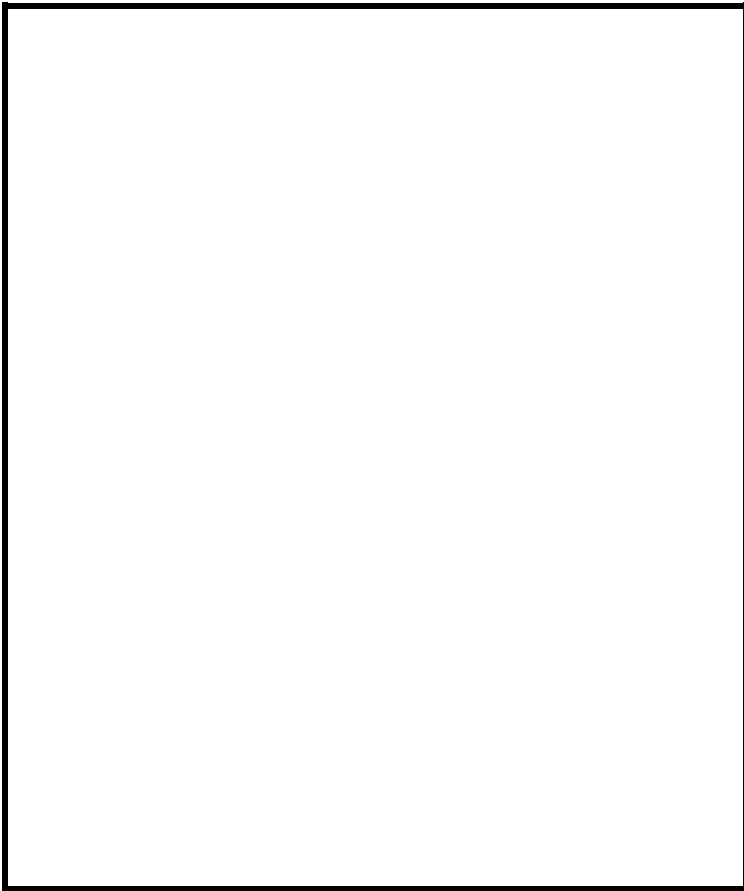
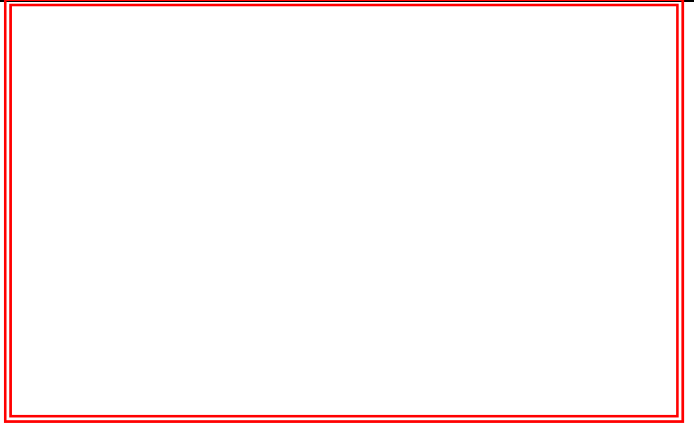
Get Well Wishes to Jack Sparks, Nell Baham, Daniel & Janet Brock, and Kelly & Laura Crain

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. The weather is here to ride and to ride safely is our goal. We all want to enjoy the rides as we go through the summer months together.

Wow, what a month. It started with a great meeting on Friday, April 3, and has continued to improve throughout the month. We had a great rally on the 16th through 18th, although half of our Chapter Director duo was ill for almost the entire rally. Gladys is better per Ernest, but she did miss the ride on the 25th, which is definitely out of character for her. I can't mention the rally without mentioning the great job that Wendell and Marie did during the competition for state COY. For their first competition, they did an outstanding job and everyone there was impressed with their competitive nature. Great Job!!

On the 25th, Pat and Pete led us on a great ride through the hills and back roads of Mississippi. Beautiful weather greeted the 13 bikes with the 17 riders and co-riders as we left Franklinton with a stop in Bogalusa to pick up the eastern crew. We lunched in Wiggins at the Western Sizzler, then continued up Hwy 29 out of Wiggins to Hwy 98 and then over to I-59 and south to Purvis where we took another break. We hit Hwy 11 and headed south to Hwy 26 and then west to Bogalusa and Home. Again, a great job by Pat and Pete.

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

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 fellow wingers. I hope that you were able to attend the LA District Rally. District staff did an outstanding job making sure that the rally was a positive experience for everyone who attended. I think that the chapter booths were a big hit.

There were also plenty of seminars to attend. I hope that you had the opportunity to attend one of the seminars to freshen up on the different skills. It is always good to refresh the mind of the skills necessary to ride safely.

I noticed that the vendor that was selling tires was very busy. Fellow wingers took the opportunity to put some new rubber on the road. Always be sure to check the air pressure and the condition of your tires before every ride! It could save your life.

Let's get out there and enjoy the nice weather that we have had and do some riding. Also remember to wear your protective clothing; this too could also save your life!!

Frank and Tammy Gendusa

BY JUNE 1

Just a note regarding the proposed YARD SALE on June 13.....The sale is proposed as a way to raise funds for Chapter O --- We don't need money for anything specific at this time. The funds would be used solely for functions for the members!

When the Yard Sale was first mentioned, I thought there was interest for one, but now I need to know for sure if you're interested. Call @ 225-683-5636 or e-mail at clinton70722@yahoo.com to let me know (1) if you are interested in having a Chapter Yard Sale, (2) if you will have items to donate for sale. (3) If you need help getting the items to the sale. (4) Also, most importantly, I need to get your commitment that you will be AT the yard sale to assist in set-up, sales, and to pick-up at the conclusion of the sale.

I need this information no later than June 1. If we do not receive enough support, we will cancel the sale.

From the Couple of the Year

Hello Louisiana GoldWingers!

Well, all I can say I “WOW” what a rally! The Louisiana District Rally was really a blast. I can truly say we took full advantage of everything they had to offer this year. What fun we had!

We competed in the COY selection on Friday morning. We were a little nervous but glad we had the opportunity to be the first couple to represent Chapter O in the selection since the organization of the Chapter. It was a very good experience for both of us and we look forward to doing it again next year. A special thanks to all our “PEEPS” (you had to be there), who came to cheer us on! I think they were the loudest group!!! We had quite a turnout. Thanks for all your support! We were sorry Gladys wasn't feeling well for part of the rally. We sure missed having her around. Glad she is feeling better.

We are sorry we weren't able to make Pete's ride on the 25th. Wendell had to work that day and didn't get home in time. We heard great things about the meal and the ride. Happy to hear everyone had a good time a good ride. We did, however, make an afternoon run to Columbia with Linus and Libby for supper at Jacks.

We made an impromptu ride on the 4th down to Foley to have lunch at Lamberts. Talk about food!!! No one person should eat that much. Following our meal, we rode on down to Gulf Shores and walked on the beach....trying to walk some of that food off! It was a beautiful day.

Mitch and Marie are in Branson this weekend for the Missouri District Rally. We hope they have a good weekend and a safe trip home.

We are planning to go to the Arkansas State Rally in Rogers on May 21 and 22. Anyone wanting to go needs to make your reservations ASAP. Rooms are limited. We are at the Hampton. The phone number is 479-986-0500, conference code MCC. The rooms are \$69.

We will host the May ride on the 16th. Destination is still not confirmed, but we are sure you will enjoy it. We are looking forward to many riding days this Summer. As you make plans for your adventures this riding season, please include plans to RIDE SAFE and LOOK OUT for the other guy!

Marie & Wendell
COY '09

May 2009
Happy Birthday

5 th	Robert Stringfield
11 th	Randy Miley
12 th	Bruce Adams
25 th	Wendell Vince
27 th	Melaney Erwin
30 th	Jimmy Oalmann

Happy Anniversary

16 th	Mike & Theresa Dufrene
17 th	Allen & Amy Strain
24 th	Ron & Virginia Dixon
26 th	Linus & Libby Magee

Graduates

Colby Lee Kinchen, Franklinton High School
grandson of Jim & Bonnie Cothern,
1404 Avenue K, Bogalusa 70427

Jeffery Kelly, Varnado High School

grandson of Pete and Pat Bennett,
 1301 Lee's Creek Road, Bogalusa 70427

MAY 2009

MEMBER RIDE CAPTAIN – Wendell & Marie Vince

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
MAY is Motorcycle Awareness Month					1 <i>Chapter O meets</i>	2
3	4	5 Cinco de Mayo	6	7	8	9 .
10 Mothers Day	11	12	13	14	15	16 Armed Forces Day
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
				Arkansas District Rally, Rogers		
24	25 Memorial Day Observed	26	27	28	29	30 Traditional Memorial Day
31						
2009 UPCOMING				EVENTS		

- | | |
|----------------|----------------------------------------|
| 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 over 700 participants at the 2009 District Rally. We join District Staff in sending thanks to all volunteers that had a part in putting the Rally together. The Chapter Booth competition was great. Chapter LA-B's "pirates" were Best of Show/1st Place. Congratulations to Gerald & Nolie Lavergne. LA-F's "sheriff and deputies" gained a few dollars with their "jail" and won 2nd place. LA-E's "Hugs and Pins" were terrific also, placing 3rd. Congratulations to all chapters who participated in the booths. They gave us some good ideas for next year!

Assistant District Directors Wayne and Joyce Brewer report The following Chapters were represented this year by these outstanding 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

We extend our congratulations to Steve and Faye Alexander of Chapter D, Monroe, for their selection as District COY.

Mike and Pam Jastram, District Educators, report that the Rider Education programs were well attended and thank everyone who assisted with these courses.

District Trainers Gene and Nelda Stanley report that 116 participants attended the Leadership Training seminars at the Rally. They also asked that we remind everyone that most all seminars are free. All you need to do is attend. And, an opportunity is coming up in August! A Horizon 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 will be limited, so e-mail Gene at trainer@gwrra-la.org or phone him at 337-478-1670 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.

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**

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FRANKLINTON, LOUISIANA

Chapter Directors & Newsletter

Ernest & Gladys Vernon

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