



The LA-O Report



FRANKLINTON, LOUISIANA

Chapter O - Louisiana District – South Central Region H

OCTOBER 2009

“Friends for Fun, Safety, and Knowledge”

Vol. 5, Issue 10

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April 8-9-10, 2010

LA District Rally

From the Chapter Director...

Ernest and I will be going to the Mississippi District Rally on Thursday, October 15, so let us know if you're going to Tupelo and want to ride with us. Also, we're planning the October Chapter ride to be a leisurely one for lunch at Vine's Restaurant in Centreville, MS, on Saturday, October 24. AND, Ernest and I will participate in RIDE FOR KIDS in Lafayette on SUNDAY, October 25. Let us know if you're interested in going with us. It's lots of fun and supports a great cause!

This month will likely have some great days for riding. The temperature will be cooler and the Fall colors are starting to show up, so we hope you'll have a chance to enjoy a ride with some of your Chapter O family.

Erroll and Nancy Pellegrin, District's Membership Enhancement Coordinators, visited Chapter O last month. We'd like to thank them for coming and talking with us about GWRRA's efforts to enhance member recruitment and retention. Every GWRRA member is important and if you aren't a GWRRA member, let us know. We can hook you up!

We're looking forward to sharing some great riding days as the cooler Fall days arrive. 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.

GLADYS and ERNEST

October 15-17—Mississippi District Rally in Tupelo. We'll be heading up on the 15th. Let us know your interest in traveling together and we'll coordinate dates, times, etc.

October 24—Chapter O lunch ride to Vine's Restaurant, Centreville, MS. Leave Franklinton Winn Dixie at 9:15 a.m.

October 25—Ride for Kids. We will meet interested riders in Port Allen about 8:15 a.m. to allow time to get to Lafayette, register and have free beverages/breakfast pastries before the scenic, escorted ride starts promptly at 10 a.m., rain or shine.

THANKS, JOYCE. PETUNIA'S WAS GREAT!

We continue to send Get Well wishes to Pam Jastram, Huey and Hilda Duncan and, of course, Jim Cothorn, LA-O's Assistant Chapter Director. And, we can't forget Bonnie, who's taking care of Jim. We also hope Nelda Stanley continues her excellent recuperation.

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

2009 Ride Captains

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 for an application**

What a great group - 44 attended
LA-O's September 2009 Meeting

WELCOME TO VISITORS

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

GET WELL WISHES
Daniel & Janet Brock
Kelly & Laura Crain
Jack Sparks & Nell Baham
Jim & Bonnie Cothorn
Huey & Hilda Duncan

September 25/25/25 WINNERS

Frank Gendusa -- Jim Cothorn -- David Jenkins
Jimmy Oalman won the Goldwing travel bag door prize
which was donated by Russell & Ginger Butler

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. 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 backbone of GWRRA is the Local Chapter. Without the Chapter there would not be a National, Region or District, so we must foster and help the "Chapter" to grow and prosper! This is Phase 4 and 5 of a series on How a GWRRA Chapter is organized. The content below can be found in the Officer Guide Book on page D-2 and D-3. This is the final article in a series. Now get out there and help get New Chapters Organized.

HOW A NEW GWRRA CHAPTER IS ORGANIZED

The Proactive Approach to Chapter Formation

PHASE 4: First Informational Meeting

- The first meeting is crucial. Make everyone feel welcome. Thank everyone for taking their time to attend the meeting. Provide a sign-in sheet for all attendees. (<http://med.gwrro.org/guides/ProactiveApproach.pdf>)
- The facilitator should get everyone talking by asking them to give their name, city, bike information, or anything else that will help put everyone at ease with the other attendees.
- Topics of conversation should include Chapter fun, activities, staff requirements and positions, newsletters, funds, and *even more fun activities*. Fully-informed people are more likely to get excited about a new idea.
- Always welcome questions. Questions usually lead to the person who will be interested in becoming Chapter Director. Give a copy of "What is Expected of a Chapter Director" to anyone that has an interest in becoming a Chapter Director. (<http://med.gwrro.org/guides/ProactiveApproach.pdf>)
- A favorable response and attendance will prompt the announcement of the second meeting to be held in one month. The facilitator may even try to organize a ride (dinner or short trip) before the next meeting.
- Make sure everything has a positive note. Everyone should be thanked again for attending. Never make the statement "I wish we had a bigger turnout," since that statement is a real slap in the face to those that took the time to attend.
- A statement needs to be made that the District will support up to three meetings. By that time, someone will have to step forward to become Chapter Director and take over the monthly gatherings. "The Chapter belongs to the Participants, not the District."

PHASE 5: Set up Second Meeting

•The District Membership Enhancement Coordinator reports the outcome of meeting to District Director, then sends out a letter to everyone on the list giving results of first meeting and inviting them to the second meeting (<http://med.gwrra.org/guides/ProactiveApproach.pdf>)

Same actions are taken for the third meeting.

FOOTNOTE: Goals of the Meetings

The goals of the three meetings are to be informational in nature, providing information regarding GWRRA Chapter formation and Chapter life. The group will become a Chapter before they know it. Don't be afraid to repeat information at each meeting to educate new attendees. All that is left is a Chapter Director to pull it all together, and it must be the right person to make it all work. It is the responsibility of the District Director to appoint the Chapter Director. Anyone showing interest should be noted for the District Director to contact. No one should be told they have the position until appointed by the District Director and approved by the Region Director. The Proactive Approach is a proven method of fostering new Chapters. If you have areas with GWRRA Members and no Chapters, give this a try. It is a "Win-Win" proposition: the new Chapter and Participants, the District, Region and GWRRA Organization.

"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

From the Assistant Chapter Director

No article from Jim this month since he's recuperating! I'm happy to report that Jim is now home after spending several days at St. Tammany Hospital - AGAIN. He suffered a stroke but is now under Bonnie's care at home and making good progress with therapy, etc. They welcome visitors but you might want to check with Bonnie prior to your visit so she can tell you what's on their schedule. Keep them in your prayers!

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

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

Joyce's Ride to Petunia's Place

At 9:45 a.m. on September 19, twenty-six (26) bikes left the Winn Dixie parking lot in Franklinton. Leader: Joyce Netherland. Destination: Petunia's Place in Mandeville, via the back roads. Purpose: LUNCH and a good time. MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!

We arrived at Petunia's at 11 a.m. where we were greeted by the proprietors of the establishment and a terrific staff. Everyone ordered his or her choice from the menu of delicious choices. Service was great considering there were forty people present; thirty members and ten guests, including Allen and Amy Strain, newly appointed COY and Assistant Chapter Directors of LA-F, Slidell.

After stuffing ourselves and feeling like PETUNIA PIG AND THE WHOLE GANG, everyone boarded their bikes. Some rode toward the Mississippi Coast, some rode to the Lakefront in Mandeville, while others left for home.

Everyone enjoyed the ride, the company, and last but not least, the food!

Joyce

From the Chapter Educator

Hello, my friends and fellow Wingers. I hope that everyone is doing well. I know that there are some of you out there who have been fighting with the different illnesses that have been going around. Take care. I would like to send out a special get well to our Assistant CD, Jim Cothorn, who has been in the hospital recently.

This month I would like to tell you about a big surprise that I received at Chapter O's August meeting. I went to the meeting prepared to discuss the Rider Education Program for the benefit of some of our new members. When I walked in the door of the restaurant I noticed Mike Jastram sitting in the crowd. I didn't think much of it because he visits the different chapters on occasion. When the meeting was called to order Mike was introduced and he advised the members that he was there to present me with a Master Tour Rider Patch. What a surprise to me; I had forgotten I had even applied for it. I was very surprised, but also very PROUD.

I had worked really hard to meet the requirement to attain the Level 4 because I believe that being a Chapter Educator requires me to be a leader, and a leader must lead by example. How can I expect my fellow members to want to excel in the program and I not do the same?

So, here is a challenge for Chapter O - continue to work hard and practice, advance in the Levels program, get your Master Tour Rider patch and I guarantee that you will be as proud of yours as I am of mine.

Ride Safe, Ride Often.

Frank Gendusa, MasterTour Rider # 7595



From the Couple of the Year

Happy Fall Ya'll! Well, hasn't this weather been just gorgeous?!!! Great riding weather. Fall has arrived. Hope you are taking advantage of every opportunity to get on your bike and RIDE!

We sure enjoyed our ride with Joyce to Petunias. We had a really great crowd. Lots of visitors. Thanks for riding with us! This was probably one of the biggest groups we have ever had. We had 40 people at the restaurant. The meal and the service were outstanding. If you didn't ride with us, you really missed a treat. Make your plans to ride with us next month; you never know where we will end up. Some of us rode over to the coast after lunch, some to the Lakefront, some went to family reunions and some went home. It was a perfect day to ride!

We all were really disappointed that the LA-E pig roast was Alexandria. We were looking forward to the ride and the day. We re-schedule it soon.



cancelled in hope they

Next month Ernest & Gladys will be leading our ride. I'm sure they announce it tonight at the meeting. Make your plans to come ride always have a great time.

will with us. We

Our Asst. Director, Jim, spent a week in the hospital. Glad he is home and doing much better. Bonnie has been such a good nurse!

Our congratulations go out AGAIN to Allen & Amy Strain. They have been named Asst. Chapter Director of Chapter F. Way to go Allen & Amy!! Also, we send our congratulations to Kelly & Laura Dell Crain who celebrated their 50th anniversary last weekend. Wow, what a milestone!

We are still working on the Chapter Leadership Skills class, trying to decide when and where to have it. If you are interested in attending, please check with Marie after the meeting. It will be about a 4 - 5 hour day to cover all the classes. It will go much faster than the seminars at the rally, plus we can cover them all at one time! It's educational and very interesting.

Linus & Libby have returned from their trip to the Grand Canyon. They had a fantastic time, but were glad to be back home. Hope they brought pictures!!!

If you haven't been through Franklinton lately, make the trip. The fall displays are everywhere and so pretty -- Especially the Courthouse Square.

Have a great month. Hope to see you at the FAIR!!!

Your COY,
Wendell & Marie

October 2009

Happy Birthday

9th

Randy Thomas

12th

Charles Sellers

14th

Jerry Ledet

15th

Hillary Crain

24th

Verdel Brumfield

28th

Daniel Brock

28th

Hilda Oalman

31st

Dale Jenkins

Happy Anniversary

1st

Charles & Anna Sellers

13th

Clyde & Pam Moody

15th

Gary & Becky Bankston

23rd

Paul & Suzie Oulliber


Friends and Guests are always welcome on LA-O rides

SPECIAL GUESTS on September 19th included: Robert Messina; Jewel Thomas; Rusty Batty; Darrell Miley; Keith Summral; Mike Beard; Russell Butler. Come ride anytime!

It was especially nice to have Alan Rauch and Daniel Brock ride with us. They've been unable to ride with LA-O for a while, so they helped make it a GREAT ride on September 19th. Also, Allen & Amy Strain, newly appointed ACD and COY for Chapter F, joined us for lunch, as did Joyce's sister Jane Carr and a friend Dianne Richardson. It was a great group!

OCTOBER 2009

MEMBER RIDE CAPTAIN – Ernest Vernon

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	2 <i>Chapter O meets</i>	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 National Children's Day	12 Columbus Day	13	14	15 16 MISSISSIPPI District Rally Tupelo		17
18	19	20	21	22 23 OKLAHOMA District Rally, Muskogee		24 Ernest Ride to Vines 9:15 am
25 Ride for KIDS Lafayette	26	27	28	29	30	31 
2009 UPCOMING				EVENTS		

October 15-17

Mississippi District Rally, Tupelo

October 22-24

Oklahoma District Rally, Muskogee

October 24

LA-O ride to Vine's in Centreville,
Leave Franklinton Winn Dixie at 9:15 a.m.

October 25

LOUISIANA Ride for Kids 2009, Lafayette
Meet/leave Port Allen at 8:15 a.m.

October 31

LA-DISTRICT AND LA-H Safety Day, Houma

DISTRICT NEWS

... District Directors, the District Couple of the Year, and District COY Coordinators distributed guidelines for the Couple Baskets for District Rally 2010 and encourage EVERYONE to participate.

1. Pick a theme -- either in line with your Chapter (like Chapter A Tigers) or one basic theme (like all things to do with planes or something).
2. Have your Chapter participate either by giving items or donating money to purchase items or by having businesses donate items for the baskets.
3. Wrap your basket where you can see contents and have a list attached to let people know what is inside.
4. Either e-mail Faye Alexander or Beverly Mayon what your Chapter theme is so that two baskets will not be the same (remember 1st come/1st serve).
5. We will need Chapter members to help your Chapter Couple sell tickets Thursday, Friday and till 2 pm on Saturday at Rally, as your 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.
6. 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.
7. Any comments or suggestions please feel free to email Faye at fayealex@netzero.com or Beverly at merlinmayon@att.net . Beverly's phones 985-384-2673 home; 985-519-1524/1523 cells.

District Educators Mike and Pam Jastram announce that Chapter H, along with District Staff, have put together a safety day in Houma for October 31, 2009. An Experienced Rider Course (ERC - two wheel bikes) and a Trike Course, along with two rider education seminars will be offered. Registration form has all the details and is available from LA-O Rider Educator or the LA-O website, or the LA-O CD can send it via e-mail. The form will be posted on the Rider Ed page of District website soon.

For those who want to spend the night, the following motel is recommended: Quality Inn at 210 South Hollywood Rd, Houma, LA 70360. Phone 985-868-5851; Rates: One King or 2 Doubles \$70.00 plus tax. Thanks to Denise DuFrene, Chapter H Asst Director, for setting-up the motel. *Be sure to ask for the GoldWing Motorcycle Group special rate. Comes with a free breakfast. Hessie Cox is the Reservation Manager. You should be able to make reservations by just calling the front desk. If you have any problems ask for Hessie.* **Thank you Chapter H for helping put on this event.**

As some chapters begin the 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.

Erroll and Nancy Pellegrin, District Membership Enhancement Coordinators [MEC], have visited Chapters A, D, F & O. Their goal is to get with all the Chapters and tell them what a MEC is and what the duties are of the position and to have each Chapter appoint a MEC. They plan to meet with all Chapters by the end of the year. Region monthly reports will be sent to each Chapter, providing names and contact information on new GWRRA members, as well as those who have expired memberships. The most important thing MECs need to do is get in touch with everyone on the new members list and welcome them to GWRRA and to keep up with the members with expired dues and try to determine why they let their membership expire and make a note of it and forward that information to District staff. If anyone has any questions about the MEC positions and what to do, please contact Erroll at 985-804-5600 or e-mail him at pelly@mobiletel.com.

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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