



# Chapter “J” Gator News



LA District

Friends for Fun, Safety & Knowledge

March 2019

## Chapter Director’s Letter

Hello LA-J!

Wow, March is already here. Sure hoping March will bring us some nicer weather. Should be getting a little warmer and hopefully a little drier too. We need to get them bikes out on the road!

We really enjoyed the Valentine’s Banquet at DeRidder with LA Chapter M and TX Chapter J. Thanks to all who attended and made an impressive showing for LA-J. We had 8 bikes and 23 people from LA-J. We passed out roses to the women and monogrammed pencils to the guys. Good food and the games were a lot of fun. Thanks Chapter M for hosting! Plans have begun for our chapter to host the February 2020 Valentine’s Banquet for our local chapters. A committee will need to be formed in an effort to set up a venue, plan the meal, coordinate decorations, and begin collecting supplies.

The Colors Ride this year is scheduled for Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is asked to bring their own lunch this year as well as chairs, games, etc. if you want. Cokes, diet cokes, and water will be provided by the district. We need to let them know how many plan to attend and what drinks will be needed by March 13<sup>th</sup>. The north group, Chapters M, J, E, D, and C, will be meeting Mickey Searels at the Shell Y Not Stop at 8091 Hwy 71 South in Alexandria, La. Meet at 9:30 am and depart at 10:00 am. We haven’t set up a time and place for our group to meet yet. We’ll let you know.

Again, the District rally is coming up April 4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup>. It’s going to be a lot of fun, so send in your registrations and get your rooms booked! Early registration ends March 1<sup>st</sup>. If you need a registration form, you can download one from the district website, [www.gwr-ra-la.org](http://www.gwr-ra-la.org).

Remember to book your rooms for the Bluebonnet (April) and Smokey’s (September) rides if you haven’t already! If you need some information, please let us know! They are going to be great adventures!

Your Chapter Directors,

Tommy and Aleta Benoit



*Meetings held the third Tuesday of each month Seafood Palace on Enterprise Blvd in Lake Charles 6:30 pm (eat at 5:30)*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<h1>March 2019</h1>						1	2  <b>Mike Woodall Birthday</b>
3	4	5  <b>Ride &amp; Eat Maplewood Burgers 4453 Nelson Rd. 6:00 pm Debbie Ogea Birthday</b>	6	7	8	9	
10	11	12  <b>Randy &amp; Julie Fontenot Anniversary</b>	13	14	15	16  <b>Colors Ride</b>	
 17	18	19  <b>LA J Meeting Seafood Palace (5:30 pm dinner 6:30 pm meeting)</b>	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28  <b>Ray Sullivan Birthday</b>	29	30	
31							

# Door Prize Winners

**Candy Thibodeaux  
Karen Rudisill  
Mike McDonald  
Carl Webb  
Mike Vincent  
Randy Fontenot  
Sue Stahl  
Jerry Racca  
Don Davant  
Julie Van Winkle**

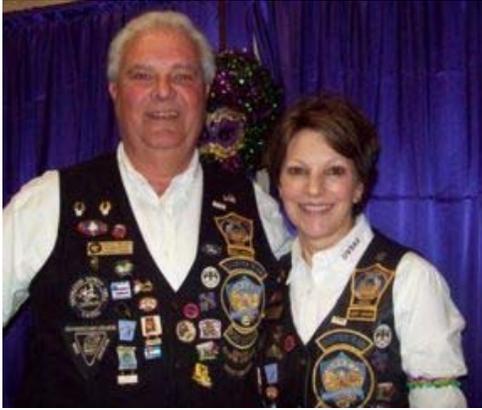
# 50/50 Winner

**Darmie Rudisill**



**Seafood Palace Gift Certificate Winner  
Sheryl Wilkerson**





## Hello Louisiana



Here it is March and all of the final details for the rally are coming together. Your Louisiana Team is working very hard to make this another great rally.

The rally schedule and current vendor list are on our website on the rally page. One of the things that has sparked a lot of interest is the Thursday steak night. The hotel will cook to order 8oz or 12oz steaks for a \$1 an ounce. This will be available from 4 till 8pm.

There will be plenty of things to do for the whole rally including live gators, COY competition, a 3 day pin swap table, shirt competition and our world famous Mardi Gras Madness Ball Friday night.

Friday will also have two firsts. At 12:30 we will have a cooking demonstration by Pam Jastram called "Cooking with Pam". You don't want to miss that. The 2nd first will be at 2pm and will be a cookie bar competition put together by Johnette Beter. (There is no shortage of judges for this one.)

Saturday afternoon will be the Louisiana Chapter Challenge in the Atrium. This year it will be "Chapter Feud" (our take on Family Feud). You don't want to miss that. Let's not forget about the two \$500 Grand Prizes that will be given away at Closing Ceremonies.

Last but not least, starting Sunday morning after the rally is our 3 day Cajun Guided tour. This tour is a bunch of back roads through Louisiana and a day ride into New Orleans for poor boy sandwiches and beignets.

Please join us for all of this fun and some great riding after the rally.

Fritz & Johnette Beter / Mike & Pam Jastram

Louisiana District Directors

[dd@gwrra-la.org](mailto:dd@gwrra-la.org)

## My Gold Wing Inventory

Punxsutawney Phil did not see his shadow back on February 2, so spring is just around the corner. It will be riding season soon! Because we had a GWRRA Trike and Trailer Course in late February, and I hadn't ridden but 1 day in the last 4 months, I felt it necessary to give the trike the ole once over. I used the new N17, Vehicle Inspection Sheet which was real easy to follow and discovered I had a tail light out. So, I looked up a video on YouTube (Google is our friend) and specifically heard the warning to be very careful when removing the nuts that held the tail light assembly in place. The whole mechanism is plastic and over time becomes very brittle. I got it changed successfully and completed the vehicle check list. Why were there 2 lines for front tire psi and 3 for rear tire psi? Because this is an all vehicle check list and some trikes now have 2 front wheels and some add-on kits have 3 in the rear.



While attending the rider course conducted by Beverly and Merlin Mayon, we discussed the Three P's. Proper You, Proper Gear and Proper Equipment. This encouraged me to make plans for what I now call my "Goldwing Inventory", to be conducted each winter. Here is what I will be inventorying:

Proper Me - Have I had my annual physical? How are my meds working for me? Am I in good condition to ride both mentally and physically? If not, see my doctor.

Proper Gear - Starting from the top down, does my helmet fit properly? Is it in date? Is it damaged in any way? Do all its parts work properly? Are my riding jacket, gloves and pants in good repair and as every Gold Winger must ask, do they still fit? What about those boots? Did I put them away wet and now they are moldy? Check the soles to see if I have any worn spots that may cause footing issues. Are all the parts to my cooling gear, wet weather gear and cold weather gear there? Can I find all those heated gear controllers?

Proper Equipment - Walking my way from front to back: Do the tires have adequate tread depth and are they free of cracks? What the manufacture's date of the tire (think about replacing it if it is over 5 years)? Is the front fender securely in place and not cracked? Is the windshield securely in place and not causing any visual problems? Are my air wings secure and not cracked? I wouldn't want one of them flying up and hitting me in the face. The same applies to all those gizmos I have attached to my handle bar area (phone holder, cup holder, gps mount, etc.). How are my seats, backrest and arm rests? Those things get loose all the time and at the most inopportune time. Make sure the luggage rack on the trunk is secure and that all trunk and saddlebag latches are working properly. What about the rubber seals. A leaking trunk is always a nightmare. Now I can get Reba to slide under the bike and check out that trailer hitch! I need to do basically the same things to my trailer.

These are just some of the items I will be looking for. There are always loose nuts and connections to be tightened, replaced or sealed. Use the N17 as well. Make a prioritized punch list. Some items I can fix, others I might need to take to a professional. And, I can make a shopping list for rallies and Wing Ding shopping. Now, shouldn't that big summer ride be more pleasant?

Reba and Jim Berry Louisiana District Educators

Chapter LA-J rode to Southern Spice for the February Ride & Eat



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The 2019 Valentine Banquet was hosted by  
LA-M DeRidder





## **Upcoming Events**

**April 4-6.....2019 Louisiana Mardi Gras Madness District Rally**

**April 4-6.....Texas Chapter O Bluebonnet Rally, Fredericksburg, TX**

**April 11-15....Bluebonnet Ride, Kerrville, TX**

**May 4.....Chapter LA-M MudBug Rally, DeRidder, LA**

**May 30-June1..2019 Missouri District Rally, Branson, MO**

**August 27-31..Wing Ding 41, Nashville, TN**

**August 31-September 14..Smokey Mountain Ride, Maggie Valley, NC**

Next Meeting

March 19<sup>th</sup> Seafood Palace

Dinner 5:30 pm

Meeting at 6:30 pm

See y'all there.....you hear!

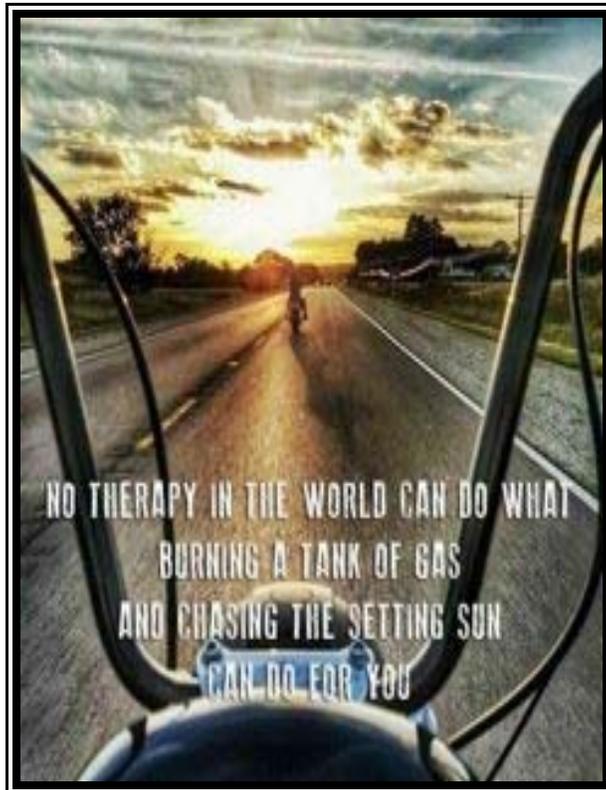
**GWRRRA: LA CHAPTER J**

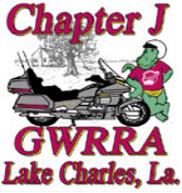
**T-SHIRTS/POLOS: DECEMBER, 2018**

**CURRENTLY HAVE ON HAND:**

	<u>Small</u>	<u>Medium</u>	<u>Large</u>	<u>Xlarge</u>	<u>2</u> <u>Xlarge</u>	<u>3</u> <u>XLarge</u>
<b>TSHIRTS</b>		1	2	2	1	
<b>POLOS</b>		2		2	2	1
	<b>=====</b>	<b>=====</b>	<b>=====</b>	<b>=====</b>	<b>=====</b>	<b>=====</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>		3	2	4	3	1

**Contact Aleta Benoit at 337 488-7274 if you are interested in ordering a chapter shirt**





# CHAPTER J LAKE CHARLES

## TEAM LEADERS



**Chapter Directors**  
**Tommy & Aleta Benoit**  
337-485-2835



**Assistant Chapter Directors**  
**Darmie & Karen Rudisill**  
843-457-3093



**Motorist Awareness**  
**Tommy Benoit**  
337-485-2835



**Membership Enhancement**  
**Julie Fontenot**  
337-526-2448



**Chapter Treasurer, Webmaster**  
**Sheryl Wilkerson**  
337-842-7330



**Newsletter Editor**  
**Katie Soileau**  
337-515-0859



**Scrapbook Editor**  
**Karen Rudisill**  
843-457-3093



**Ride Coordinators**  
**Jerry Racca**  
337-912-8662  
**Randy Fontenot**  
337-526-0079



**Event Coordinator**  
**Mary Jane Racca**  
337-794-0006



**Couple of the Year**  
**Richard & Sue Stahl**  
His 337-377-8317  
Hers 337-540-3276



**Benevolent**  
**Nanette Vincent**  
337-263-3425



**SWLA War Veterans' Home**  
**Brice & Shyla Palmer**  
337-433-6816



**Medic/First Aid Trainer**  
**Donna Mead**  
337-515-7809



# Goldwing Road Riders Association

## Louisiana District

March 2019

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**Tommy and Aleta Benoit**

**597 Anglewood Drive**

**Lake Charles, LA 70611**