



Chapter “J” Gator News



LA District

Friends for Fun, Safety & Knowledge

October 2019

Chapter Director’s Letter

Hello LA-J

As I’m writing this I’m looking forward to Leo’s BBQ this afternoon. I know it will be a feast! We are so fortunate and blessed to have found such great friends as the Thibodeaux’s. They have put great efforts into this group, hosting events at their home and planning rides. We also need to remember Leo’s loss of his brother recently, so we’ll keep Leo and his family in our prayers. We also need to keep Scott Lalonde in our prayers as he was recently injured in a fall.

I want to take a minute to welcome our new members Tim and Michelle Racca. When you get a chance, please tell them Hi and welcome them to our chapter family.

This month brings us the Arkansas Ride, the Zwolle Tamale Fiesta, the Mississippi Rally, and the Sweet Dough Pie Festival followed by Halloween fun at the Rudisill’s. Plenty of opportunities to get together and ride!

Your Chapter Directors,

Tommy and Aleta Benoit

Meetings held the third Tuesday of each month Seafood Palace on Enterprise Blvd in Lake Charles 6:00 pm (eat at 5:00)



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>October 2019</h1>						
		1 Keith & Katie Soileau Anniversary Ride & Eat Fox's Pizza Moss Bluff, LA 6:00pm	2	3	4 Hot Springs Village Ride Oct 4 th thru Oct 7 th LEAVE Exit 36 truckstop 7am sharp	5 Mike Vincent Birthday Scott & Sheryl Wilkerson Anniversary
6 Hot Springs Village Ride Oct 4 th thru Oct 7 th	7 Hot Springs Village Ride Oct 4 th thru Oct 7 th	8	9	10	11	12 Darmie & Karen Rudisill Anniversary Zwolle Tamale Fiesta
13	14	15 LA-J Monthly Meeting Seafood Palace (5:00 dinner; 6:00 Meeting)	16	17 Mississippi District Rally Gulfport, MS	18 Mississippi District Rally Gulfport, MS	19 Mississippi District Rally Gulfport, MS
20	21	22 Candy Thibodeaux Birthday	23 Brenda Johnson Birthday	24	25	26 Sweet Dough Pie Festival, Grand Coteau, LA Rudisill Halloween Party
27	28	29	30	31 		

CONGRATS!
THE WINNER IS...

50/50 Winner

Door Prize Winners

Kathy Gary

Scott Wilkerson
Charles Savant
Brenda Woodall
Don Davant

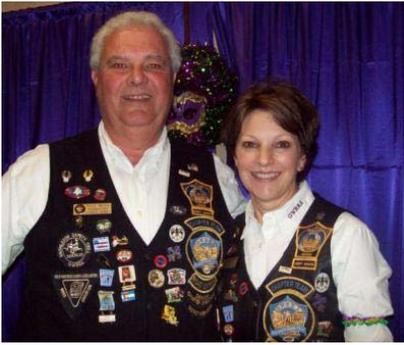


Seafood Palace Gift Certificate Winner
Patty Savant

Chapter M Mudbug Rally Gift Card
Winner
Sheryl Wilkerson

New GWRRA Members
Tim & Michelle Racca

Guests
Chapter M Members



DISTRICT October 2019



Hello Louisiana

The next few months we will be posting information from the Officers Hand Book of GWRRA. This will help all members better understand what we do for you. This may inspire one of our members to become an Officer or other position in GWRRA. Remember, the more you participate, the more fun you will have. All information will come directly from the GWRRA Officers Handbook.

NEW CHAPTER POSITION IN GWRRA

CHAPTER SKILL ENHANCEMENT ADVISOR

Job Summary

- The role of Chapter Skill Enhancement Advisor (CSEA) is to proactively support Member / Participation by providing them with information they can consider on ways to become skilled, prepared and safer riders and co-riders.
- Encouraged Responsibilities
- Serve as an example by being actively engaged in the Levels Program.
- Monthly, or as often as possible and weather permitting based on Members interest, put on an on-bike skills day with skill practice, bike games for riders and co-riders.
- Team with the Chapter Ride Coordinator to promote the importance of best riding practices at chapter gatherings, rides and events.
- Utilize the quarterly Chapter Levels Report provided by the District Educator to support the Members and assist them in achieving milestones and earning recognition.
- Communicate directly with the District Educator to advocate for classes and courses to serve any chapter participant with an interest in progressing in the levels program, becoming a more proficient rider and being better prepared to respond to emergency situations.

Qualifications and Skills

- The Chapter Skill Enhancement Advisor:
- Is not an officer; and the position is not mandatory.
- Has a basic knowledge of the GWRRA Rider Education Program
- Is appointed by the Chapter Director

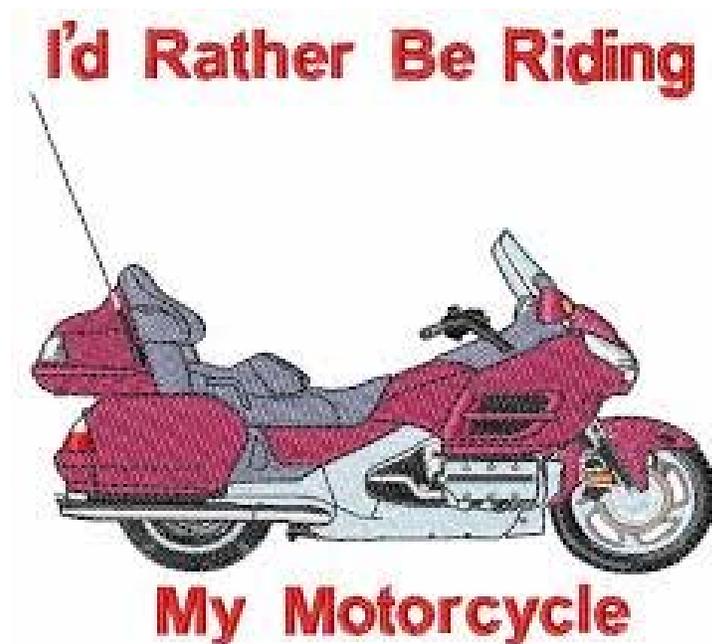
- Is interviewed by the District Educator
- Completes a Confidentiality Agreement
- Is a current Level II or higher Rider or Co-Rider
- Receives guidance and support from the District Educator
- Communicates with the District Educator directly, keeping the Chapter Director in the loop

- To assure the needs of the chapter participants are met. Remember, the Chapter Skill Enhancement Adviser is an active participant on the Chapter Team and primary direction comes from the Chapter Director.
- Does not have access to the RE database and relies on the District Educator for the information.

- Goal: To provide the membership with the basic support needed to participate meaningfully and successfully in the GWRRA Rider Education Program at the Chapter level.

Susan Huttman-Director RE Program, Approved by GWRRA August 28, 2019

Fritz & Johnette Beter / Mike & Pam Jastram
Louisiana District Directors
dd@gwrra-la.org



Upcoming Events

October 4th - 7th Hot Springs Village Ride, Hot Springs,

October 12thZwolle Tamale Fiesta, Zwolle, LA

October 17th - October 19thMississippi District Rally, Gulfport, MS

October 26thSweet Dough Pie Festival, Grand Coteau, LA

October 26thHalloween Party, Darmie & Karen Rudisill's

December 10thLA-J Christmas Banquet, Lakewood Fellowship, Lake Charles, LA

February 15th2020 Valentine Banquet, Hosted by Chapter LA-J, Lake Charles, LA

March 26th -March 29thLouisiana District Rally, Houma, LA

April 30th -May 2nd Texas District Rally, Kerrville, TX

May 16thChapter M Mudbug Rally, DeRidder, LA

Next Meeting

October 15th Seafood Palace

Dinner 5:00 pm

Meeting at 6:00 pm

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

Smokey Mountain/Maggie Valley Ride

This was another great ride with some of our LA-J members. We started our trip to Maggie Valley, NC on August 31st. The first night on our drive we stayed in Attalla, AL and had a breakfast for supper at Waffle House across the street from the hotel. We left the next morning and on the way we saw a cave called the Lost Sea, so we went in there. We used this experience to overcome Julie's fear of confined spaces and had a good laugh at her expense, but she was a good sport and responded in kind. We continued on to Maggie Valley arriving a little late. We had a late supper at a Mexican Restaurant next to the hotel.

We used the map that Leo had created showing the rides in the surrounding areas. The first one was called Copperhead Road, and as the name suggested, it was crooked as a barrel of snakes. We left Monday morning, Sept. 2nd at about 8:30 for the 110 mile route, but it took us about an hour and a half to get to the start of the ride to Bean Station, TN.

Tuesday the 3rd we started out about the same time of morning headed for the Blue Ridge Parkway. It was a very scenic and curvy ride. We made a stop at Mount Mitchell State Park for photos and tee shirts. We went on from there stopping at various scenic pull offs for pictures. We had lunch at Little Switzerland, NC. We then drove on to Blowing Rock. On the way back we were on Hwy 40. Somewhere along the way I lost my phone and \$500 never to be seen again.

Wednesday the 4th we started out to ride the Gauntlet. Several of us thought that this was our favorite ride of the trip. It was a very curvy road like most of the other rides, but the curves were banked more and it felt like riding a roller coaster back and forth, up and down. We stopped in Helen, GA for ice cream, then on to River Falls at the Gorge.

Thursday the 5th we left for the Upper Moonshine/Tail of the Dragon at Deals Gap where we ate lunch and purchased tee shirts. We rode up the Dragon, that has 318 curves in 11 miles. Several roadside photo companies took pictures of everyone as they passed. When we reached the top we drove back down separately with Leo and Mike Vincent followed by Jerry and Mary. About halfway down we discovered that the frame of our bike touched the road before the foot rest. We drug sideways some, and an angel put us back on two wheels because I don't have that much skill. We made it the rest of the way down without incident.

Friday the 6th we left for the Cherohala Skyway/Clingman Dome. We stopped off at Bald River Falls then on to Clingmans Dome. We arrived back at the hotel very late.

Saturday the 7th we set off for Lower Moonshine/Bridal Falls. We passed up Dry Falls so we stopped at a pull off area that was steep and rough. Aleta decided to fall off their bike causing it to fall over. We moved on to Bridal Veil Falls where we were able to walk behind the falls for great photo shots. We stopped for lunch at a roadside restaurant. On the way inside Mike Vincent was talking to two police officers. They told him there were many accidents leaving this place because of the steep driveway. They said to call them when we left the restaurant, and they would come and stop traffic both ways for us. We finished lunch, called and they arrived and stopped all traffic so our group and several other bikers could get out safely. We ate supper and prepared for the next day.

Sunday the 8th we took a day off riding. Leo, Candy, Don, Mary and I left in the truck before daylight going to a NC State Park in Cherokee, about a 45 minute drive. We saw several female and young elk with one bull elk that we thought was big. About 10 min. later a monster elk came out and it came right up to our truck while eating, and we were able to get close up photos and video. Everyone was excited to get this close without him hitting my truck. We went back to meet the rest of the sleeping crew to go to Helen for shopping and lunch. Some of the guys sat on benches under a bridge while the women shopped. We returned to the hotel and celebrated Leo's birthday with a cake.

Monday the 9th was a trip to the Bush Bean Museum and then to the ride called the Rattler.

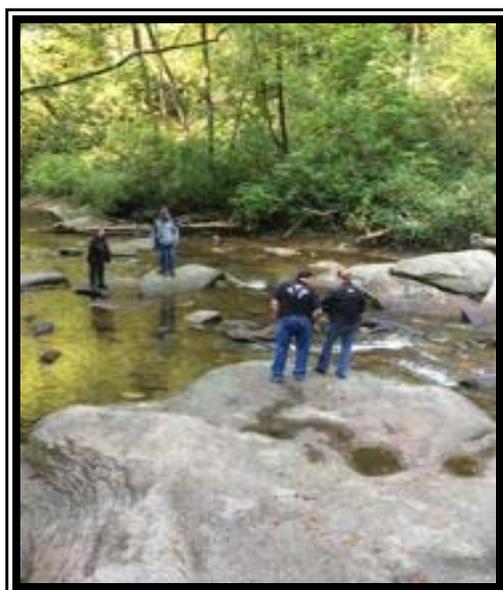
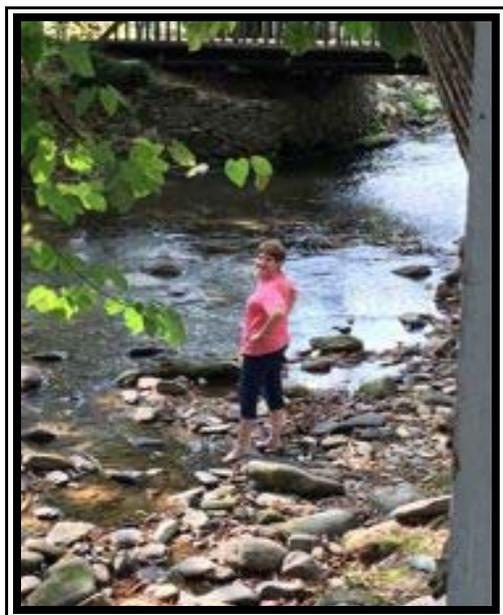
Tuesday the 10th we went to Dracula's Driveway to Looking Glass Falls and Sliding Rock which was our last riding day on the bikes. After supper we went and played a round of putt putt golf. Mike Vincent and Tommy tied for the best score of 42. Mike's team won overall though.

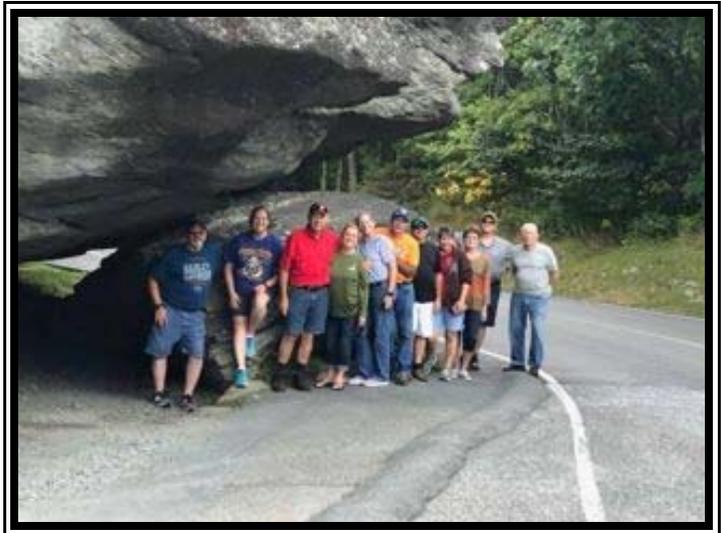
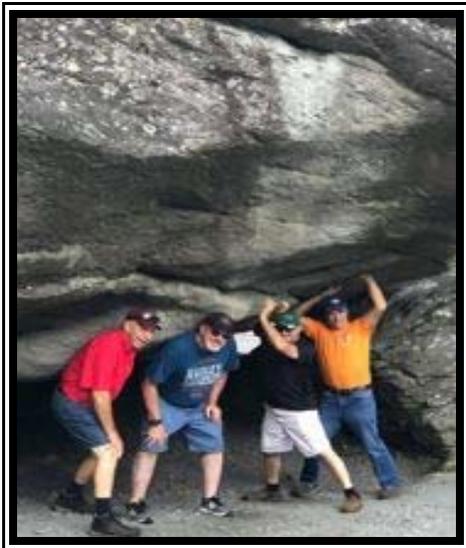
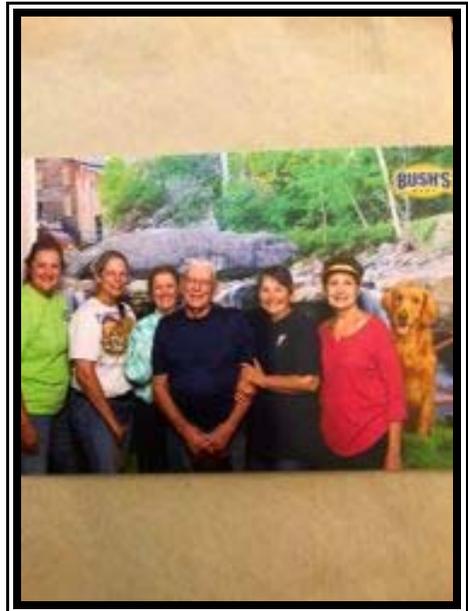
Wednesday the 11th we went to Grandfather Mountain in the trucks. It was very scenic and steep switchback roads that would have been very challenging riding two up. We walked across a suspension bridge that was one mile high. Then on to lunch at the Peddling Pig and to Linville Caverns.

Thursday the 12th we went to Gatlinburg, TN to the sky lift and sky suspension bridge, ate lunch at Five Guys Burgers. The ladies shopped and the men minus Randy and me did a whiskey tasting. They stumbled back to the trucks, and we drove back to the hotel to prepare for leaving the next morning.

Friday the 13th we left at 7:00, drove to Birmingham, AL. Aleta, Tommy, Don, Mary and I stopped at the Barber Motorcycle Museum for about 3 hrs. We had to drag Tommy away then drove to Hattiesburg, MS for the night.

We drove home the next day tired but glad we went.







2019 Wing Ding was held at the Gaylord Grand Ole Opry Resort in Nashville, TN

Chapter LA-J rode to Lagunas Mexican Grill & Cantina for the September Ride & Eat



Leo and Candy Thibodeaux graciously hosted a delicious BBQ for members of Chapter LA-J and guests.



GWRRRA: LA CHAPTER J

LA-J Items for Sale:

T-SHIRTS/POLOS:

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>
TSHIRTS		1	2	1		
POLOS		2		1		
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
TOTALS		3	2	2	0	0

LA-J CAPS: No caps available at this time

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



Event Coordinator
Mary Jane Racca
337-794-0006

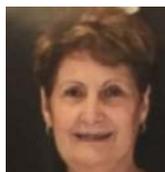


Couple of the Year
Mike & Nan Vincent

His 337-263-3426
Hers 337-263-3425



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

October 2019

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Tommy and Aleta Benoit

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