

Chapter “J” Gator News



LA District

Friends for Fun, Safety & Knowledge

January 2019

Chapter Director’s Letter

Hello LA-J!

I sure hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas Holiday! We sure have.

A few of us had an opportunity to make a ride to the Pickett House in Woodville, TX. It was a really neat place, good restaurant, and a nice ride too! We will surely be planning another trip there!

Looking back on last year, I am amazed at what great times we had. Great Rides, Great Socials, Great Friends! From our Valentines party in Beaumont, to our awesome Colorado vacation! It’s been a spectacular year!

I’m sure looking forward to making 2019 even better! Our ladies will be kicking off the new year with a weekend get-together at the Stahl’s camp at Toledo Bend on January 11–13th! Then, we’ll be attending the Valentines party this year that will be hosted by our friends in DeRidder, LA-M. After that, we’re looking at the LA District Rally in Lafayette and a ride to West Texas for the bluebonnets in April, the LA-M Mudbug Rally is scheduled in May, and a trip to the Smokies in September! Along with all of our other gatherings and events, it ought to be awesome!

January usually doesn’t present too many opportunities for rides but you never know. It will surely be a good opportunity to do some maintenance on the bikes. Randy and Julie Fontenot have been discussing an impromptu ride to Arkansas sometime in January or early February. Let’s hope the weather will cooperate!

Remember, our next meeting at Seafood Palace will be on Tuesday, January 15th. Looking forward to seeing y’all there! We’ll discuss a few changes in chapter staff as well as planning our new year!

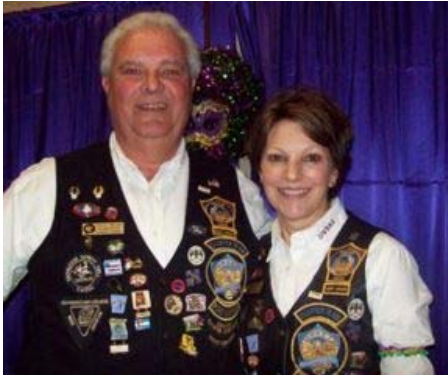
Your Chapter Directors

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>January 2019</h1>						
		1 	2	3 Larry Louviere Birthday	4	5
6	7	8 Kathy Gary Birthday	9	10	11 Chapter LA-J Ladies Weekend at Toledo Bend	12 Chapter LA-J Ladies Weekend at Toledo Bend
13 Chapter LA-J Ladies Weekend at Toledo Bend		15 LA J Meeting Seafood Palace (5:30 pm dinner, 6:30 pm meeting) Mary Jane Racca Birthday	16	17	18	19 Louisiana District Business Meeting
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



DISTRICT DIRECTORS



Hello Louisiana

We hope your Christmas was fantastic and your New Year's great. There are some new things coming for 2019 and we are very excited about it. All will be revealed at the January business meeting. Don't forget, the business meeting will be on Saturday January 19th at the Garden Plaza Hotel starting at 8:30am. If you are staying at the hotel Friday night, the room rate will be the same as the rally rate.

Chapter Directors, here is a list of things that are needed for the business meeting:

Have all of your finances ready.

We would like all out going and in coming Chapter Directors present.

Bring all of your Team, especially your new Team members so that we can swear them in and sign an MOU.

Please invite all members of your Chapter so they can see what goes on at the business meeting.

We will also be letting you know what is going on with the rally and the 3 day guided tour after the rally.

All of our team members will be taking time to explain what is new and any news from GWRRA.

We will be putting together some exciting rides and events for all members this coming year.

As always if there is anything that we can do for anyone in Louisiana, please do not hesitate to ask.

Again from all of us, Fritz, Johnette, Mike and Pam

Please have a safe and Happy New Year.

Riding in the Cold

I have been reading Facebook posts from our fellow Gold Wings up north about winterizing their Gold Wings. Some even rent temperature controlled storage facilities at their local Honda dealers. Those of us down here in God's country, the good old deep south, don't have this problem. For the most part we can ride year round.

Does it ever get too cold to ride in Louisiana?

The answer to that would be of course it does. There are some days I would not venture out on a ride. I have ridden comfortably with temperatures dipping into the teens while dressed in layers and looking like Ralphie's little brother in



“A Christmas Story”. We all know if ice and snow are involved, don’t ride, even if you are on 4 wheels. If you do plan to do some cold weather riding this winter, how do you prepare yourself?

Winterize your body, your bike and your brain! Layers of dry clothes, heated clothes, heavy duty gloves and leather boots, turtle fur over the head and full face helmet for the body. For the bike: wind wings, heated handlebar grips, heated seats. Finally the brain. Stay alert and sharp. Familiarize yourself with cold riding skills, because riding in cold conditions has its risk - hypothermia.

Hypothermia happens when the body core gets cold and circulation to the extremities begins to shut down. The hands and feet get cold. Muscles become stiff and unresponsive. Under these conditions, you will lose control of your bike. Your brain switches off and you may be totally unaware all this is happening. Here is another one of my personal stories:

About 15 years ago, prior to getting involved with GWRRA, I decided to take a fall foliage ride into Arkansas. The day I left it was raining. But hey, that was okay because a friend had loaned me his snowmobile suit. I took off knowing it was just a light rain and would only last for about an hour. I put on the snowmobile suit, my nylon gloves and half helmet and hit the road. In about an hour, I pulled into the Arkansas Welcome Center to visit the “facilities”. When I got off the bike I noticed my suit was soaking wet. My hands were soaking wet as well and they were very cold. As I dismounted and headed to the restroom I began to shiver. A minute or two later, I was shivering uncontrollably. I got out of the wet coveralls as quickly as I could and began to walk briskly to the warm Welcome Center Office. It took several minutes and several cups of coffee to get my body back to normal. All this had happened over that one hour ride and I had no idea it was happening! Three of the contributors to hypothermia are cold, wet and wind. It was raining, it was early November in Arkansas and I had a 60 mile per hour wind in my face.

So, do you know how to prepare your body, bike and brain for cold winter rides? GWRRA University has a module for just this purpose. It’s entitled “Brrr, It’s Cold!” If you are interested in having this module presented to your chapter, give our District University Coordinator or me a shout and we will “hook you up”.

Have fun, Ride Safely

Reba and Jim Berry

LA District Educators



Chapter LA-J members rode to the Sulphur Pitt Grill for the December Ride and Eat





Chapter LA-J had fun and fellowship at our 2018 Christmas Social. There was tasty food and everyone enjoyed the festivities, especially the White Elephant game.



Lyla took her favorite throw home with her

Chapter LA-J members rode to Woodville, Tx to eat at the Pickett House



Upcoming Events

Jan. 5....."Wings -N-Waves" Carribean Cruise

January 11-13...Chapter LA-J Ladies Weekend

January 19....Louisiana District Business Meeting

Valentine Banquet..(TBD)

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

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

May 30-June1..2019 Missouri District Rally, Brason, MO

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

Next Meeting

January 16th 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>
TSHIRTS		1	2	2	1	1
POLOS		2	1	2	2	1
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
TOTALS		3	3	4	3	2

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
Aleta Benoit
337-485-2835



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
Katie Soileau
337-515-0859



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



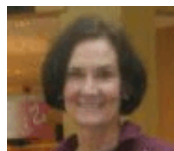
Benevolent
Kathy Gary
337-794-8326



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

January 2019

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**Tommy and Aleta Benoit
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Lake Charles, LA 70611**

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