

# BAMA WINGS

## Chapter Team

### **Roy & Diane Beall**

Chapter Directors  
205-393-2653

### **Roy & Kathy Giles**

Assistant Chapter Directors  
205-339-5028  
205-393-9422(cell)

### **Greg Murphy**

Assistant Chapter Director  
205-242-6990

### **Diane Beall**

Chapter Educator  
205-393-2654

### **Larry & Diane Lewis**

Treasures  
205-345-1161

### **Lewis & Sabra Rager**

Membership Enhancement  
Coordinators  
205-292-6254



**Sharing Quality Riding Time  
with Good Friends during Great  
Weather in January**

**Next Meeting  
February 3 2017  
Front Porch Restaurant  
Highway 43N  
Northport, AL  
6:00 to eat; 7:00 to meet**

**Chapter Team****Lehman & Kaye Jagers**

Eldridge Children's Home

Coordinators

205-349-4207

**Roger & Helen Lucas**

Chaplains

205-333-003

**Charles & Margaret Rains**

Birthdays

2016 Couple of the Year

205-556-7054

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**Chapter J Traditions**

Danny &amp; Rayma Mullenix

Greg &amp; Sally Murphy

Roy &amp; Diane Beall x2

Jonny &amp; Jean Koontz

Baxter &amp; Wanda Pate

Van &amp; Peggy Kelly

Larry &amp; Pat Davis x2

JR &amp; Betty MaHarrey

Marshall &amp; Sue Small

Dwight &amp; Judy Kizziah

Dewey &amp; CJ Williams

**Director's  
Corner**

I can't believe February is here already. January gave us our typical Alabama weather. We cancelled our January gathering due to snow and ice and the following weekend, we had a large turnout for a ride on a gorgeous sunny 70-degree Sunday afternoon. We had a great time with our friends and riding our rides. We will try to plan a ride in February if the weather permits.

At our February gathering, we will discuss the AL District Rally in May. In addition, we will talk about the chapter fund raiser in June. Chapter J's official riding season starts next month. We will ask for ride guide volunteers at the gathering too. Remember, as a ride guide, the only thing required of you is to plan a ride. If you do not want to lead the ride, we have several who will lead for you. Saying that, there is no guarantee of "No turnarounds." This is your Chapter and your participation and ideas are what makes it all worthwhile. With your help, we will have something fun for everyone.

In closing, I would like to share my reason for being a GWRRA member and part of the Chapter J family since 1996. While I know there are several benefits of being a GWRRA member, the first and foremost reason I'm part of this organization is I enjoy the camaraderie and fellowship with other members of the organization. I enjoy the pleasure of riding motorcycles with others like me. It does not matter what you ride, as long as you enjoy your ride and enjoy time spent with friends. Rider Education is another reason. GWRRA offers the best rider education in any organization. With your membership, GWRRA offers rider education courses and training at a minimum cost. Remember the GWRRA Motto; Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge.

I'm looking forward to a great 2017 as your Chapter Director, friend and riding buddy.

My best, and ride safe,

Roy Beall  
Chapter Director

## Birthday and Anniversaries

### February - 2017

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- 9, Thu - Marvin & Lillie Henry's Anniversary
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- 15, Wed - Charles & Margaret Rains' Anniversary
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- 19, Sun - Mike Meyers' Birthday  
- Jeri Dunkin's Birthday

### February - 2017

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- 1, Wed - **Chapter Ride -- Lunch Ride-Jacks, Hwy 43, Northport-10:00am**
- 3, Fri - **Bama Wings gathering -- The Front Porch Restaurant, Hwy 43 north, Northport. Eat 6pm / Meet 7pm**
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- 8, Wed - **Chapter Ride -- Lunch Ride-Jacks, Hwy 43, Northport-10:00am**
- 10, Fri - **Chapter Meal -- Chick-fil-a, Skyland Blvd, 6:00pm**
- 11, Sat - **District Event -- Chapter AL-N Chili Cook-off, Rainbow City Community Center-Leave RNC Bank, Skyland Blvd-3:00**
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- 15, Wed - **Chapter Ride -- Lunch Ride-Jacks, Hwy 43, Northport-10:00am**
- 17, Fri - **Chapter Meal -- Dairy Queen, Northport, 6:00pm**
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- 20, Mon - **President's Day**
- 22, Wed - **Chapter Ride -- Lunch Ride-Jacks, Hwy 43, Northport-10:00am**
- 24, Fri - **Chapter Meal -- Mr G's, Northport-6:00**

All times are 'kick stands up'. Come Hydrated, Bladders Empty, and Tanks Topped Off. If weather is fitting for a ride, call someone. Chances are they want to ride also



### **QUICK TIPS: MSF's Guide to Group Riding**

Motorcycling is primarily a solo activity, but for many, riding as a group – whether with friends on a Sunday morning ride or with an organized motorcycle rally – is the epitome of the motorcycling experience. Here are some tips to help ensure a fun and safe group ride:

**Arrive prepared.** Arrive on time with a full gas tank.

**Hold a riders' meeting.** Discuss things like the route, rest and fuel stops, and hand signals (see diagrams on page 3). Assign a lead and sweep (tail) rider. Both should be experienced riders who are well-versed in group riding procedures. The leader should be aware of each rider's skill level before the ride and monitor the riders during the ride.

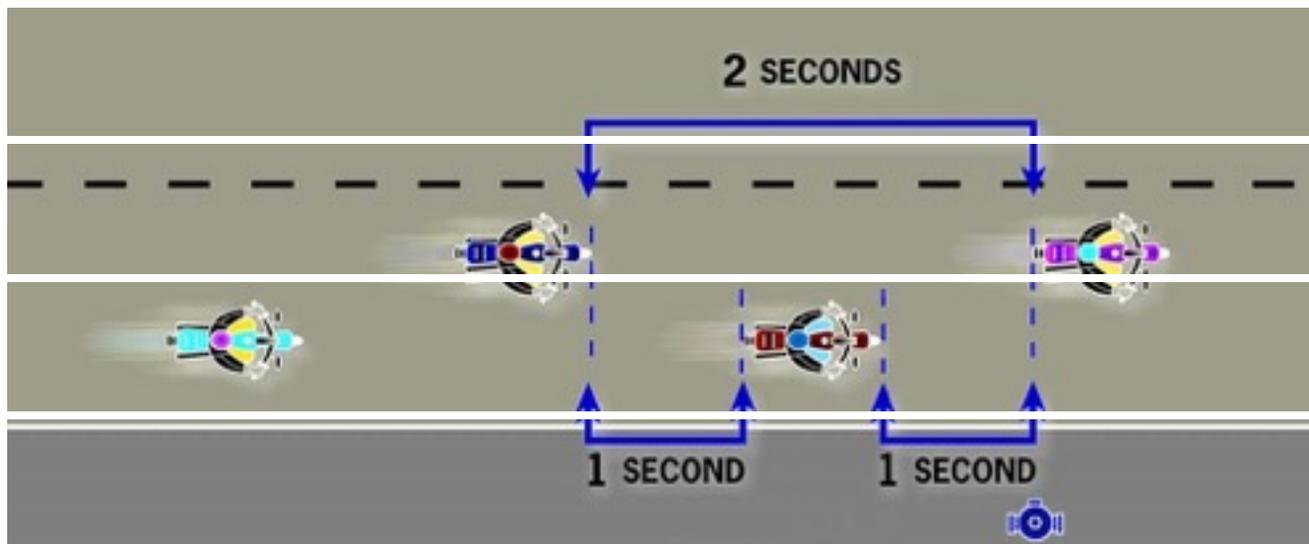
**Keep the group to a manageable size,** ideally five to seven riders. If necessary, break the group into smaller sub-groups, separated by a few seconds, each with a lead and sweep rider.

**Ride prepared.** At least one rider in each group should have a first-aid kit and full tool kit, and all riders should carry a cell phone, so the group is prepared for any problem that they might encounter.

**Ride in formation.** The staggered riding formation (see diagram below) allows a proper space cushion between motorcycles so that each rider has enough time and space to maneuver and to react to

hazards. The leader rides in the left third of the lane, while the next rider stays at least one second behind in the right third of the lane; the rest of the group follows the same pattern.

A single-file formation with a minimum 2-second following distance is preferred on a curvy road, under conditions of poor visibility or poor road surfaces, entering/leaving highways, or other situations where an increased space cushion or maneuvering room is needed.



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**Avoid side-by-side formations**, as they reduce the space cushion. If you suddenly needed to swerve to avoid a hazard, you would not have room to do so. You don't want handlebars to get entangled.

**Periodically check the riders following using your rear view mirrors.** If you see a rider falling behind, slow down so they may catch up. If all the riders in the group use this procedure, the group should be able to maintain a fairly steady speed without pressure to ride too fast to catch up.

**If you're separated from the group**, don't panic. Your group should have a pre-planned procedure in place to regroup. Don't break the law or ride beyond your skills to catch up.

**For mechanical or medical problems**, use a cell phone to call for assistance as the situation warrants.

**If a rider leaves** during the ride, the rest of the group should re-form the staggered formation by criss-crossing into the next vacant position. Although it would seem more efficient for the column directly behind the missing rider to move up, we do not recommend it because passing another rider within a lane can be risky.

