

# 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**

Treasurers  
205-345-1161

**Lewis & Sabra Rager**

Membership Enhancement  
Coordinators  
205-292-6254

**Lehman & Kaye Jagers**

Eldridge Children's Home  
Coordinators  
205-349-4207



## Congratulations to our 2017 Couple Of the Year Larry & Diane Lewis

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

## Chapter Team

**Billy & Lisa Bagwell**

Ride Guides

205-342-3616

**Roger & Helen Lucas**

Chaplains

205-333-003

**Charles & Margaret Rains**

Birthdays

2016 Couple of the Year

205-556-7054

**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****Happy New Year!**

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas. I know Diane and I did. We enjoyed having family time with Brad and his family. The rain did not dampen our spirit in the Eldridge Toy Run. Chapter J had a great time watching the children open their Christmas gifts. Thank you Chapter J for your contribution and time to help make this event a success.

At our Christmas Party, we honored a couple who well deserves to be our 2017 Couple of the Year. Larry and Diane Lewis take pride in what they do for Chapter J. As financial officer, Larry prepares the financials without errors. Our District Team appreciates Larry for having the financials in excellent order and submitted on time. We always turn to Diane L. to help with our Christmas party preparation. My Diane could not help with shopping for the party so Diane L. handled everything. Larry and Diane always step up to the plate when called on. Thank you for all you do for Chapter J.

Chapter J is so blessed when we give back to our community. Our Christmas Family had a special blessing this year, the birth of their daughter. The father did attend the party and was very thankful for Chapter J making their Christmas special this year. Thank you Chapter J for the delicious food, to Diane Lewis for the decorations, and to everyone who helped set up for the party. But most important of all, everyone had a great time in fellowship with one another.

Our monthly gathering is Friday, January 6, at the Front Porch Restaurant in Northport. During January and February, we will try to plan rides as the weather permits. If a ride is planned, an email will go out to let you know the details.

CHECK THE CALENDAR for other events that include Friday night meals and other activities. Remember 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.

My best, and ride safe  
Roy Beall  
Chapter Director

## RIDER ED 'GIMME 5'

### TOPIC: THE INVISIBLE MOTORCYCLIST

"I never saw him. He came out of nowhere!" That's probably the most common statements heard at a collision between an automobile and a motorcyclist. They're usually made by the operator of the auto because the motorcyclist is unconscious (or worse).

As riders we wonder, "How can *they* NOT see us? Are *they* just not looking?"

A lack of attention on the part of the driver does explain some of the car/bike collisions; the distracted driver, cell 'phones, unruly children, etc. All these can contribute **BUT** some responsibility belongs to the motorcyclist as well.

I know. I know. That's heresy. Let me explain.

- Motorcycles make up about 3% of the "normal" traffic flow.
- People "see" what they expect to see; things like cars and trucks

Unless the rider does something to visually stand out, he can be easily overlooked.

- Motorcycles **ARE** much harder to see than cars/trucks because of their smaller size. A motorcycle can easily be "lost" in the background even with the headlight on.
- Many motorcycles are colors that lend themselves to blending into the environment. Particularly dark colored machines (black ■ is the color of pavement after all).

Many motorcyclist wear dark colored helmets (or ■ no helmet at all, but we won't discuss those here) AND dark colored clothing. A number of studies in the US and abroad have shown that a light colored (white, silver, yellow) helmet is more noticeable (during daylight hours) than a dark colored (black, dark red, dark blue) helmet. Why? The driver sees this bright colored "orb" floating above the traffic (most riders heads are higher than the hoods/windshields of cars). It's DIFFERENT.

Lastly (and sadly), most motorcyclists are not skilled in emergency maneuvers. Over 13% of the motorcyclists involved in fatal crashes made NO effort to avoid the collision. They didn't brake, they didn't swerve, they just rode right into the collision. That's because, after they've gotten their license, they don't practice those kinds of maneuvers regularly (or ever). Motorcycling is a SKILL. It takes practice.

So how can you NOT be the Invisible Motorcyclist?

- Position your bike so it can be seen and identified in the traffic stream.
- Wear bright colors
- Consider getting a brightly colored bike
- PRACTICE your emergency maneuvers

Or you could take the advice I got once from a very experienced rider. He told me not to "ride like I was invisible." He told me to ride like they can see me and are actively planning to do something to take me out."

This article taken from GWRRA website: "Give me 5" Monthly Chapter Talks Topics

## Birthday and Anniversaries

Birthdays / Anniversaries	
<b>January - 2017</b>	
4, Wed	- Bama J Wings -- Charter 34th Anniversary
12, Thu	- Ann Coats' Birthday
17, Tue	- Robert Nix & Cindy Walker Anniversary
24, Tue	- Lehman Jagers' Birthday
27, Fri	- Roger Lucas' Birthday

## Chapter Calendar

### January - 2017

5, Thu	<b>--T-O-D-A-Y--</b>
6, Fri	<b>- Bama Wings gathering -- The Front Porch Restaurant, Hwy 43 north, Northport. Eat 6pm / Meet 7pm</b>
11, Wed	<b>- Chapter Ride -- Lunch Ride-Jacks, Hwy 43, Northport-10:00am</b>
13, Fri	<b>- Chapter Meal -- Buffet City, Skyland Blvd-6:00pm</b>
16, Mon	<b>Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday</b>
18, Wed	<b>- Chapter Ride -- Lunch Ride-Jacks, Hwy 43, Northport-10:00am</b>
20, Fri	<b>- Chapter Meal -- McAllister's Northport- 6:00</b>
25, Wed	<b>- Chapter Ride -- Lunch Ride-Jacks, Hwy 43, Northport-10:00am</b>
27, Fri	<b>- Chapter Meal -- Baumhowers Wings, Skyland Blvd, 6:00</b>

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