

LOUISIANA GAME WARDEN

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
THE LOUISIANA WILDLIFE
AGENTS
ASSOCIATION

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Louisiana Game Warden
is published quarterly by the
Louisiana Wildlife Agents
Association
P.O. Box 15239
Baton Rouge, LA 70895
to provide regional coverage
of the activities of Louisiana's
wildlife agents. the nonprofit
LWAA fosters, protects and pro-
motes the welfare and interest
of all classified commissioned
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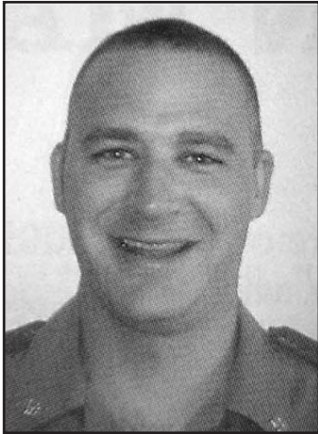


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Vice-President's Message



SGT. RICHARD PURVIS
VICE-PRESIDENT, LWAA

If you are a member of the LWAA and are reading this article, you are probably asking yourself "How in the world did this happen!?" "I never voted for Richard to do anything!" Well, have no fear, this is just temporary.

Most of you already know that our president, Darryl Moore's Air National Guard unit was called to active duty. Therefore, our vice-president, Remy Broussard has taken over the duties as President of the LWAA. According to the by-laws, Remy had to appoint someone to be vice-president until we could hold an election at our statewide business meeting. Remy asked me to try and fill in just until you guys could find a competent replacement. Hopefully, I won't do anything to have the membership calling for my head on a platter until the July convention.

I know that you haven't seen a magazine in a while.

This has been a struggle for the association for the past five years. We have been searching for a publisher and an advertising solicitor for some time. We have tried a few different companies over the past few years, but never have found the right fit. As someone jumping back into a position on the association board I am playing catch-up. What I have seen so far, this new company seems to have its act together and is selling ad space like crazy. Let's hope that this is finally the right fit. If we can finally get our magazine back on track, the association can move on to bigger and better projects.

We all know that our coastal regions took a hell of a lick this past hurricane season. I personally live in Terrebonne Parish and lost my home in Katrina. My point being that I want to thank all the agents who came down to help us in our time of troubles. I can't begin

to express how much your support helped me and all of us down here to get through that disaster. I want you all to know how proud I am every time I hear citizens and other emergency responders talk about the job we did during the rescue operations. If they didn't know us before, they sure do now. Not only have you guys earned their respect, but you are now the standard that other agencies hope to achieve. This is a direct reflection of each and every agent personally. Our department is only as good as the men and women who wear the uniform. In this case, the cream really did rise to the top. Each and every agent put forth every ounce of effort into saving the lives of the people trapped in the flood waters. For everyone here, THANK YOU!!!

Until next time, be safe.

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Headquarters



LT. JAY DIEZ

Update

by Lt. Jay Diez,
Headquarters
Representative

After nearly ten years in the Enforcement Division, it is my honor and privilege to serve as the new LWAA representative for the association. Since 1997, I have been assigned to the "Special Investigations Unit", which has afforded me the opportunity to work throughout the state and interact with many

of the agents. I am looking forward to the challenges ahead.

Back to Work

After being on active duty for two and a half years with the Army Reserves, Senior Agent Louis Burnett returned to the "Special Investigations Unit" on August 22, 2005. We are glad to have him back and we are thankful for the job well done in serving our country.

Congratulations

On September 30, 2005,

Captain Robbie Duthu retired with over 24 years of service with the Enforcement Division. For the past 15 years, he has served as the boating education administrator for the enforcement division in headquarters. Thank you Robbie for the many years of state service and your friendship. Congratulations and best wishes for a long and enjoyable retirement.

A Distinguished Career By Lt. Jay Diez

On May 5, 2006, Major Sandy Dares retired from the Enforcement Division with 25 years of service.

Major Dares began his career in May of 1975 where he worked as a student with Fur and Refuge Division for three years on Rockefeller Refuge and Salvador W.M.A. He was attending Tulane University during this time and in 1978 earned a Bachelors of Science in Civil Engineering.

On June 15, 1981 he started full time in the Enforcement Division assigned to Jefferson Parish in Region 8. He was promoted to Sergeant in 1986. In 1989 Region 8 was divided into two regions, Region 8 and Region 9. In January of 1990, Sandy was promoted to Captain over Region 8 where he served as the Region supervisor for 12 ½ years. In July 2002 he joined the Headquarters staff in Baton Rouge and was promoted to the rank of Major. As a Headquarters Major, he was in charge of all coastal operations and supervised Regions 5, 6, 8 and 9. He

also supervised Strike Force, S.W.E.P. and Communications for a period of time.



Sandy has attended numerous law enforcement schools including The Law Enforcement Institute, a prestigious 12-week course, graduating at the top of his class. On January 15, 1993, Sandy earned a Certificate in Supervisory Techniques (CST). On March 1, 1996, he earned a certificate as a Certified Public Manager (CPM), becoming the only

LDWF employee at that time to receive both certifications. Sandy has been married to his wife, Elaine, for 23 years and resides in Harahan, Louisiana. Elaine is employed at Tulane University. They have two daughters, Danielle, 19, and Jene, 21, who is a junior at Ole Miss, studying Forensic Chemistry.

Sandy grew up with Wildlife and Fisheries in his blood. His dad, Irvin Dares, Jr., was employed with the Department from 1964 until he retired in 1996. Mr. Irvin Dares, Jr. career included 6 years in the enforcement division and in 1968 transferred to the Fur and Refuge Division as a supervisor over the Salvador W.M.A.

Sandy plans on continuing to enjoy the outdoors and spending time hunting and fishing.

Thank you Major Dares for the many years of state service and friendship. Congratulations and best wishes on a long and enjoyable retirement. *(continued on following page)*

- Col. Winton Vidrine
- Lt. Col. Keith LaCaze
- Lt. Col. Brian Spillman
- STAFF**
- Maj. Jeff Mayne
- Maj. Joey Broussard
- Capt. Ronald Morris
- Lt. James Carter
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- Sgt. Brian Marie
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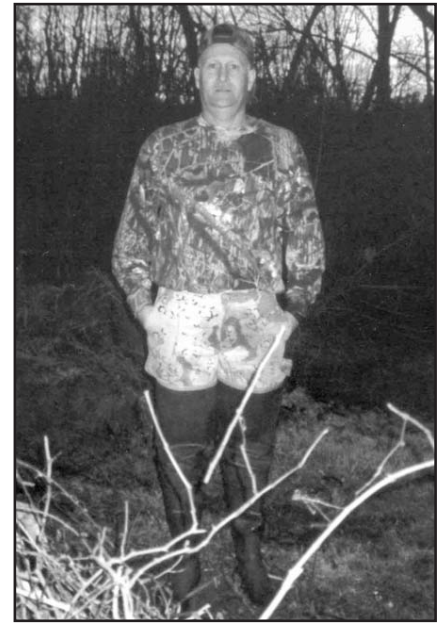
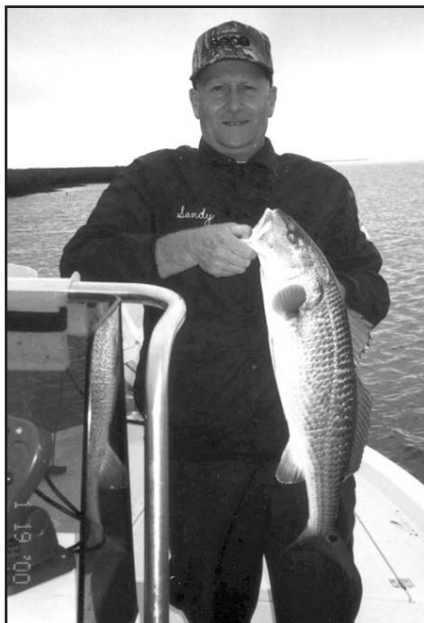
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May 19, 2006

Colonel Winton Vidrine
Enforcement Division
Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
P. O. Box 98000
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000

Dear Colonel Vidrine:

In 2005, our citizens endured the worst hurricane season in this great state's history. The men and women of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, led by Enforcement Division personnel coordinating the agency's search and rescue efforts, represented this state in exemplary fashion as first responders following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

With minimal or no communications capability in the recovery areas following each storm, amid environmental conditions that presented uncertain threats to personal safety, and with security questions ongoing in locations cut off from local law enforcement, Wildlife and Fisheries personnel led the way on the water bringing those in need to safety.

The effectiveness of this agency, in numerous recovery mission situations, could not be questioned even by Congressional review panels that looked closely at the overall state response to both storms.

Thank you again on behalf of all the citizens of Louisiana. It is comforting to know that Wildlife and Fisheries is ready to answer the call when needed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathleen Babineaux Blanco".

Kathleen Babineaux Blanco
Governor