

"The Buzz"

GWRRA Sun Sphere Wings Chapter B Knoxville Tennessee June 2017 Newsletter



Tennessee Chapter B
Chartered December 14th 1982
Home of the 1982 Worlds Fair

Appalachian Region N www.region-n.org

Glenda & Alan Keough Region N Directors www.gwrraregndir@yahoo.com

Gary & Patti Hamilton
Tennessee District Directors
wwww.tngwrra.org







Senior Chapter B Director Tom Peck

You can reach me at home 423-907-9712 or email: tomkatpeck@msn.com



Gold Wing Road Riders Association GWRRA Director: Ray & Sandy Garris National Web site www.gwrra.org Friends For Fun Safety and Knowledge



Volume 36: Number 6

Chapter B Web Site www.tn-b.org

Newsletter Editors: Tom Peck tomkatpeck@msn.com

Join us the First Tuesday each month at Shoney's Restaurant 2405 Andersonville Hwy, Clinton, TN 37716, Exit 122 off I-75 (Rt. 61 Museum exit) Just north of Knoxville, Ph. 865-494-7295 Eat at 6:00 PM & our social starts promptly at 7:00 PM

Chapter B has the Tennessee
Traveling Plaque and the
Region N Wanderer Plaque
Come out and see if you can
claim the plaque for your
chapter. The plaque will be
available this Tuesday June
6th at 7:00 pm. Hope to see
you there.



Assistant Chapter B Director







A STORY TO LIGHTEN UP YOUR DAY

Hi Everyone! For the next few articles I thought it might be interesting to give you tidbits of history for our beloved Goldwings. And by the way, if you all know of someone that has a GL1000-GL1800, I have some boxes of parts (mostly new in package) that was originally purchased at the auction when a Honda store in Knoxville closed. Most of the parts are for the older bikes, but some will fit the GL1800.

History of the Honda Goldwing - (First of series)

The **Honda Gold Wing** (colloquially **Goldwing** or **GoldWing**) is a series of <u>touring</u> <u>motorcycles</u> manufactured by <u>Honda</u>. It was introduced at the <u>Cologne Motorcycle</u> <u>Show</u> in October 1974, and went on to become a popular model in North America, Western Europe and Australia, as well as Japan. Total sales are more than 640,000, most of them in the U.S. market.

The <u>Society of Automotive Engineers of Japan</u> (**Japanese**) includes a Honda Gold Wing GL1000 manufactured in 1974 as one of their *240 Landmarks of Japanese Automotive Technology*. ^[8] Through 2012, Honda GL models have appeared eighteen times in the *Cycle World* list of Ten Best bikes. ^[9]

Over the course of its history, it has had numerous changes to its design and production. In 1975 it had a 999 cc (61.0 cu in) <u>flat-four engine</u> and in 2001 it had a 1,832 cc (111.8 cu in) <u>flat-six</u>. By 2012, the model had a <u>fairing</u> with <u>heating</u> and an adjustable <u>windscreen</u>, <u>panniers</u> and a <u>trunk</u>, a seatback for <u>pillion</u> rider, satel-

lite <u>navigation</u> and <u>radio</u>, a six-speaker audio system with <u>MP3</u> and <u>iPod</u> connectivity, anti-lock braking, <u>cruise control</u>, electrically assisted reverse gear, and an optional airbag. [11]

Gold Wings were manufactured in Marysville, Ohio from 1980 until 2010, when motorcycle production there was halted. Production resumed in Kumamoto Prefecture, Japan in 2011 using tooling transported from the old plant. The 2011 model year was not produced.

Chapter B Staff

Senior Director

Tom Peck 423-907-9712 tomkatpeck@msn.com

Assistant Director

Vickie Litterell 901-598-0205 valitterell@gmail.com

Treasurer

Joann Smith 423-562-2876 memories1962@comcast.net

"Couple of the Year" 2017

Jerry and Irene Ciesla

"Individual of the Year" 2017

Josh Manis

Chapter Educator

Jerry Ciesla (Irene)

Ride Coordinator

Wally Maliskey 865-617-4251

Membership Enhancement

Bobbie Beeler 865-247-6247 bebeeler@comcast.net

Chapter Store

Pat Talley (Chuck) 423-562-1962 talleylakeside@gmail.com

Game Night Coordinator

Linda Bridges (Mike) 865-922-9266 redsmycolor@live.com

Sunshine

Emily Lewis 865-938-8223 mawmawx3tce@gmail.com

Technical Advisor

Roy Jennings 865384-6982

Awards Coordinator

Debbie Rhoads 865-945-3894 debrhoads@yahoo.com

Web Master / Newsletter Editor

Tom Peck 423-907-9712 tomkatpeck@msn.com

From Your Senior Chapter B Director Tom Peck





Hi Everyone,

First of all I would like the thank all my Goldwing family for all their prayers and support during this difficult time in my life. The death of my beloved wife Kathy was very unexpected and shocking. I miss Kathy more than I can explain. Trying to put this newsletter together is going to be quite a challenge without the help of Kathy, she always made sure to correct my grammar and had a special touch when it came to the layout and overall appearance of our monthly newsletter publication. Kathy always loved doing it.

Trying to move on and remember all the good times, which were many. My Goldwing family has always been a big part of Kathy's and My life and I expect that will continue. Again thank you for your continued support.

Sure made me proud as we had a great weekend at the annual Steak Out at Roan Mountain.. Not only did our chapter members show up in force, we won lots of WOOD. We had the largest chapter in attendance as well as capturing the Region N Wanderer plaque and the Tennessee Traveling plaque. Barbara Souder put some icing on the cake by winning 1st place in the famous rolling pin toss. Congratulation to all our Chapter B membership who made this possible.

Spring Fling plans are being made for 2018 so make sure to see Pat Talley so you can make sure to get your name on the list for accommodations at next years Rally.

Hopefully you have considered going to our big Convention "Wing Ding" being held this labor day week in Grapevine Texas. Several are riding out together so there is plenty of time to reconsider and join us. Dave Roberts and Brian have all the details and travel arrangements so go ahead and jump onboard and join us. We signed up for both the Desert Disco Ball and the BBQ Dinner. Wing Ding only come around once a year so you might as well pull out all the stops!!!

Tom

TN-C Roan Mountain Steak-Out ride Submitted by Brian Richards

Loretta & I rode up to the Roan Mountain State Park Saturday morning, May 20th to attend chapter TN-C's 34th annual Roan Mountain Steak-Out. To be honest, I've lost count of how many of these we have attended over the years. They have always been a good time, but this year was special ... as far as I can remember, this is the FIRST year we attended the activities on Saturday that it did NOT rain. What a surprise, it was an absolutely fantastic day.

We got there in plenty of time to join in on the guided ride, and the TN-C member that led us, his first name is Jay and I neglected to get his last name, led us on a really nice route;

lots of neat scenery, some nice curvy roads, the sunny weather, who could ask for anything more.

could ask for anything more.

that rolling-pin. Barbara Sowder won with ond place lady threw only .4 inches shorter

And speaking of TN-B winning, TN-C

had the Region N, Tennessee and East Ten-

We got back from the ride in time to join our friends from the TN-B

Knoxville chapter (see picture) for some camaraderie and the start of a card game. But then we got pulled away from it to participate in some of the other activities. Members of TN-B had signed up for the horseshoe tournament, the corn-hole tournament, and the rolling-pin toss, and Loretta also signed up for the rolling-pin toss. Loretta didn't do too bad tossing the longest toss, but it was close, the secin distance.

had several of the Traveling Plaques, they nessee Traveling Plaques. The Region N

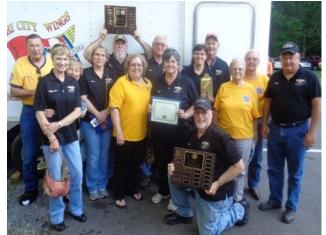
and Tennessee Plaques are awarded to the chapter with the most miles getting to the event, the miles being determined from the chapter's gathering place to the event, and for any member that rode their bike, they get double miles. Well, TN-B had 14 members there and 12 of them rode, so they had quite a few total miles, and they won both the Region N and Tennessee Plaques.

The East Tennessee Traveling Plaque is by a ticket draw, every member of every chapter in attendance gets one ticket, and a ticket is drawn and that ticket holder gets the plaque, and we were hoping that either Loretta or my ticket would be drawn. But darn, they missed us by 2, the plaque was won by a member of TN-F, Morristown.

We rode home Saturday evening after everything was over, with our TN-B friends, and it was a nice ride home, even though we didn't actually get home till after 10pm. All-in-all it was a very nice day. Hopefully next year we can get some of our fellow TN-M members to join us. Unfortunately for many members, the timing for this event is just a little off, we know that some members that would have liked to have joined us, instead were committed to going to graduations, which this is the time of year they happen.

We most definitely have to say that the members of TN-C really work hard setting this event up, and they do a fantastic job. We don't know how many people were in attendance this year, but think of all the work involved, cooking the required number of steaks, and baked potatoes, making all the desserts, etc. And of course it is for a great cause, the proceeds are part of what TN-C donates to St. Jude.







Chapter Educator Section



It's important to realize that no matter how long we've been riding, or how good we are, we're still very vulnerable on the roadways. All motorcyclists are more likely to be injured in a crash due to our exposure and being separated from our vehicle upon impact. Car drivers have the protection of being strapped into a steel cage with airbags offering greater protection from injury.

Old timers say there are two kinds of motorcyclists - Those that have crashed and those who will! Most of us who have crashed know the value of quality protective gear. Yeah, there I go again barking about wearing all the protective stuff, even when it's 90 degrees out there. Well, I'll tell you what folks, the days of "skin to the wind" and attentive drivers were left back in the 1970's! For those of you who have participated in an ARC or TRC event know the importance of The Motorcycle Safety Foundation advising that you should cover up any of your body parts that you would like to use again. Whether you are talking asphalt or concrete when you hit the pavement, the bare skin of gloveless hands or t-shirted forearms is scraped off like cheese against a metal grater. The folks you see riding in shorts and flip-flops are probably better off leaving the gene pool.

Keep this in mind: Age and physical condition make a big difference in how you'll come through a crash. Young, fit people often bounce, while us older, less fit folks tend to crunch. Bones become more fragile as we age, especially after 60. Keep yourself in reasonable shape and wear protective gloves, a good helmet, armored protective jacket, protective riding pants, along with good riding boots to try and have an edge on surviving a crash where you may become separated from your bike. Remember, bike parts are cheaper and far less painful to repair or replace than people parts.

Until next time, ride safer

Jerry





NEW BAKER BUILT CHROME RIDE OFF STAND FOR GW 1800 two wheeler COST \$289.99, SELL FOR \$250 or Make offer

Call Chuck for further information CHUCK TALLEY 423-562-1962.

Contact: Brian Richards about any of the items listed below unless otherwise noted. 865-816-8212 barljr@att.net



Bilt Spirit H2O jacket, lady's size large, brand new, MSRP \$299.99, asking \$125.



Men's Tour Master Venture Air Mesh Riding Pants, Size 38-40, worn once, \$195 new, asking \$50



2012 GL1800 16" rear wheel and Avon Cobra AV72 tire (tire has 5,000 miles), asking \$100



J&M PSCR-GL1800 Passenger Audio Controller and CB Push-to-talk, almost new, MSRP \$199.99, asking \$75/obo



Flash2Pass garage door opener set, brand new, MSRP \$140, asking \$50



(1 set) Hyper Lights Brand new, MSRP \$100, asking \$50



Dyna Beads for tire balancing, new, (with TPMS system in our bike, we can't use these), asking \$10





Tour Master Riding Boots size 12 or 46. Contact Merrilee Deguire to make offer 865-256-1250

SPRING FLING IN PIGEON FORGE, APRIL 12,13,14, 2018

Hoping to have enough interest so that we can reserve a 15-bedroom cabin for Spring Fling next Apr.

Each bedroom has private bath, plus 3 common bathrooms. Check it out on the internet, TIMBER LODGE, PIGEON FORGE.

Cost per bedroom is \$319 for the three nights. 11 bedrooms are like master bedrooms and 3 other bedrooms have 2 sets of queen bunks, 1 more bedroom with just one queen bunk. Several members might consider sharing a room and cost. Right now, we have 7 bedrooms spoken for. There is a 30-day cancellation policy prior to the reserved date, and a \$75 cancellation fee. No cancellations after that.

To keep the cost at \$319, we need to have all bedrooms reserved. Would like to be able to reserve as soon as possible to secure our date.

Cabin rents for \$3540, plus \$522.93 tax, and various fees, (cleaning, admin. damage) brings total to \$4,796,93.

Let me know, ASAP, if you're interested so that we don't miss getting it, if it's still available.

Pat Talley 423-562-1962.

http://www.yourcabin.com/cabin-rental/timber-lodge/, please check it out, it is nice







Make sure to get with Pat to make your reservations for next year. We will need to collect the down payment and get it in right away while the beautiful unit is still available. Very reasonable compared to the Pigeon Forge area for lodging.

Timber Lodge is a magnificent 3 story log cabin in Pigeon Forge with 15 bedrooms that can sleep up to 50 guests. Each bedroom has its own private bathroom and 3 additional bathrooms in the common areas. There are 11 bedrooms designed for couples, with stylish king beds and their own cable TVs. There are 4 bedrooms designed with bunk beds, three of which have 1 queen bunk and 1 full bunk in each, and one that features 1 queen bunk bed.

The lowest level features a common area, for the kids, furnished with a comfy couch and a TV with DVD player, cable and easy adapter hookup for games. This level features 3 bedrooms with two sets of bunks and a private bathroom in each, there is also a kitchenette and a bathroom in the common area and a stack washer/dryer in the hall closet.

A newly added Home Theater Room with a 19 ft. state-of-the-art projector screen, surround-sound and first-class theater seating, will accommodate up to 54 guests which makes Timber Lodge the ultimate in group destinations.

Located outside this level are two large hot tubs for fun and relaxation.

On the main level of this 15 bedroom cabin in Pigeon Forge are five fully appointed king master suites and one bedroom with a queen bunk. The game area is located on this level and features a pool table and an air hockey table. The smaller game room features a Foosball table and an exciting arcade table with 39 games for 1 or multiple players.

The technology room is set up with 2 desks and a computer with free wireless internet throughout, so you can stay connected for work or play. The living room is furnished with a 65 inch HDTV with a Blu Ray DVD Player, cable and a sports package above the two sided gas log fireplace, four fashionable couches and a love seat for ultimate comfort.

The fully equipped kitchen has two refrigerators, two stoves, two dishwashers and two microwaves, so you can make homemade meals and enjoy spending time all together in the cabin. There is table seating for at least 40 guests at the 4 wooden, log tables and there's enough counter seating for any remaining guests. There is a second stack washer and dryer in the hall closet for your convenience as well.

The upper level has six bedrooms, each with a private bathroom. Two bedrooms are adjoining; you enter through one bedroom to get to the other. There is a comfortable sitting room on this floor as well.

The Timber Lodge 15 bedroom cabin in Pigeon Forge offers a welcoming atmosphere to bring together a large group in comfort and enjoyment with spectacular mountain views. Located in the heart of the Great Smoky Mountains, near Dollywood, Splash Country, local entertainment, great food and outlet shopping, there is something fun for every age group.

Impromptu Ride

On Tuesday, May 30, we decided to take an impromptu ride (seems that we do better with minimal planning) on the Cherahola Skyway. After meandering along Pelissippi Parkway, Hardin Valley, Lenore City, etc. etc. we made it to Tellico, where the temperature was 84*. By the time we got to the top of the Skyway, it was 64*! The sky was sunny and the air was clean and sweet smelling, making us want to channel Louie Armstrong singing 'What A Wonderful World'! The only wildlife that we saw was a black snake, a fox crossing the road and a lot of Harley's! Apparently the wooly ash borer, the insect that's the scourge of the Smokies, hasn't impacted these beautiful mountains. When we came to Robbins, NC we had to decide to go back home the way we came or across the Dragon. Our choice was the Dragon, another great ride with very few bikes on the road. We ran into rain coming back just past the airport on 140, but ran out of it in about 10 miles. It was a wonderful day and a great ride! Ride safely and



Revised Ride Schedule

Ride Coordinator : Wally Maliskey 865-617-4151

June

Friday-Sunday 6/2-4—Air Force Museum, Dayton, OH (Wally) postponed to a later date.......

Tuesday 6/6 Club meeting at Shoney's, eat at 6 pm, meeting at 7 pm.....major topic Spring Fling cabin rental, bring check book.....

Friday 6/16—Smokies Baseball (Jerry Ciesla), Exit 398 Strawberry Plains exit, at East side of Cracker Barrel, (clean restrooms) meet at 5 pm, leave for stadium at 5:30 pm, tickets to be given out at 6/6 meeting

Saturday 6/24—Ride to Green Tomato Restaurant, Mooresburg, TN

July

Tuesday 7/4 Regular Club meeting (to be discussed whether to cancel or not)..... Saturday 7/8—Picnic on the Pinnacle (Cumberland Gap)

Friday-Sunday 7/14-16—North Carolina Ride (Lake Lure, Hot Springs, Chimney Rock, Bat Cave, Highlands) TBA

Tuesday 7/18—Dinner Ride, Old Mill Restaurant, Pigeon Forge, 7 p.m.

Saturday 7/29—Ride to Farmer's Daughter Restaurant in Greenville, TN

August

Tuesday 8/1 regular club meeting, same time same bat channel.....

Thursday-Sunday 8/3-6—Blue Ridge Parkway Ride (Tom Peck) TBA

Tuesday 8/15—Dinner Ride, Captain's Galley, Dandridge, TN

Friday (pm)-Sunday 8/18-20—Ride to Cave City to Mammoth Cave and KY Rally

Tuesday-Saturday 8/29-9/2—Wing Ding, Grapevine, TX (Note: Tom plan to leave on Saturday 8/26 and return on Tuesday 9/5, with 3 days travel each way)

September

Tuesday 5th regular club meeting at 7 p.m.

Saturday 9/9—Ride to Natural Tunnel and Amis Mill Restaurant

Tuesday 9/19—Dinner Ride, Hot Rods in Maryville, TN, 6:30 p.m.

2017 Ride for Kids

Date of RFK's is Saturday October 7th, 2017, UT has a by-week...so no game....time not set yet....mark them calendar's....

This is the old Knoxville Ride for Kids changed to "Deals Gap Ride for Kids 2017" Deals Gap Resort has graciously taken over the East TN RFK...going to be big....more info to follow as it gets firmed up...

2017 Deals Gap Ride for Kids

Deals Gap Motorcycle Resort 17548 Tapoco Rd Robbinsville, NC, 28771





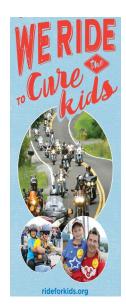


\$35: Deals Gap/Ride for Kids T-shirt (shipped within 4-6 weeks) Deals Gap Ride for Kids Sticker (limited to the first 500 \$35 donors)

Deals Gap / Ride for Kids Commemorative

Poker Chip (limited to the first 500 \$35 donor

The Deals Gap Ride for Kids will be unlike any event you've ever attended. "The Dragon's" 318 turns in eleven miles present a challenge for the most seasoned riders. Instead of organizing an escorted ride, we decided to let everyone enjoy the day at their own pace.









Jason's vision is to transform the CB1100 into a modern representation of -- and homage to -- the iconic Honda race bike Dick Mann rode to victory in 1970 at the Daytona 200, the CR750

Enter our drawing to win a one-of-a-kind CB1100 donated by <u>American Honda</u> and rebuilt as a homage to the iconic Honda CR750 Dick Mann rode to victory at the 1970 Daytona 200.. Tickets \$5 ea go to this web site to order your tickets http://www.cycleworld.com/ride-for-kids







On Saturday, May 13th, 9 members of TN-B Knoxville, 11 members of TN-M Lenoir City and 4 members of TN-T Knoxville started out on a combined ride to Chattanooga for a lunch at an unusual restaurant, Bea's, which is now running under the 5th generation of family ownership. What makes Bea's unusual is that you sit at round tables with the center of the table elevated on what could best be described as a "Lazy Susan", the food is served family style and put in bowls on the lazy Susan and the eaters spin it around to bring the dish they are interested in, so it is in front of them to serve themselves. (See the pictures below.) The staff is extremely attentive and keep renewing the dishes as they get empty, as it is all you can eat, and there is quite a selection of dishes to choose from. Everyone seemed to enjoy their meal.

Following lunch, the ride continued to Dunlap to the Cookie Jar with the intention of getting dessert. We were joined there by 2 more members of TN-M and 4 more members of TN-T. We were discouraged to learn as we got there that, sacrilege, they did not have ANY ice cream! Well, that just was NOT acceptable, so we got our heads together to figure where else we could go, and quickly came up with the idea to go to the Dairy Barn in Athens. After figuring out a new ride route to get us there, we headed out. Well, we all got to the Dairy Barn, and everyone had their ice cream fix. After relaxing a bit, along with more camaraderie and laughter, we all split off in different directions to head to our respective homes.

This whole day originally started out as a planned TN-B ride to Chattanooga followed by riding to Dunlap for dessert. As it happened, TN-M also had a ride planned on the same day to Dunlap. So Brian Richards, TN-M CD discussed combining the rides with Tom Peck, TN-B CD, and they both decided it would be a nice idea. Each brought it up to their members, who agreed, and it was set. When discussing the final plans during a TN-B chapter gathering where Brian & Loretta were also in attendance, Bobby Cash, TN-T CD and some of the TN-T members happened to also be in attendance, they asked if they could come along and were energetically encouraged. Previously, Brian, had brought up the idea

of combining rides with Tom, Bobby, Jim Joyce the TN -A2 CD and Lizz Smith, the TN-F CD, and they had already been discussing sharing their perspective ride calendars, etc., and letting their members know what the other surrounding chapters are doing. This ride was the first "combined" ride to actually occur and served very well as a test to see how they would work out. Starting out on the ride, the

TN-B members met up in Oak Ridge. The TN-T members met at their local area and rode to Oak Ridge to combine with the TN-B group. The combined TN-B/TN-T group rode from Oak Ridge to a riverside park in Kingston. The TN-M members met at their local area and rode to the

Kingston riverside park to meet up with the rest. Once we were all together, we had 15 bikes, so we split into 2 groups. As it had been originally planned, David Underwood a member of TN-B subbed as their Ride Coordinator and he and Brian had worked together to design the route for the ride. Since each of them knew how the ride was planned to go, each of them led half the group of bikes, with a slight gap between, for safety purposes.

From the comments heard while sitting and enjoying the ice cream at the Dairy Barn, all the members were very pleased with the day and how it had all gone. The weather was very nice, we did mostly secondary roads (some members were pleased to state that we had taken them on roads they had never been on before). And of course there WERE a few "Swing Arounds", so it was definitely an official GWRRA ride! The riders all thought this combined ride was a great idea and hoped we could do it again and more often. That is the plan, so we will continue to review rides, share information, and continue the camaraderie between chapters







GAYLORD TEXAN RESORT HOTEL & CONVENTION CENTER:

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- · Promoting a Positive Image For All Touring Motorcyclists
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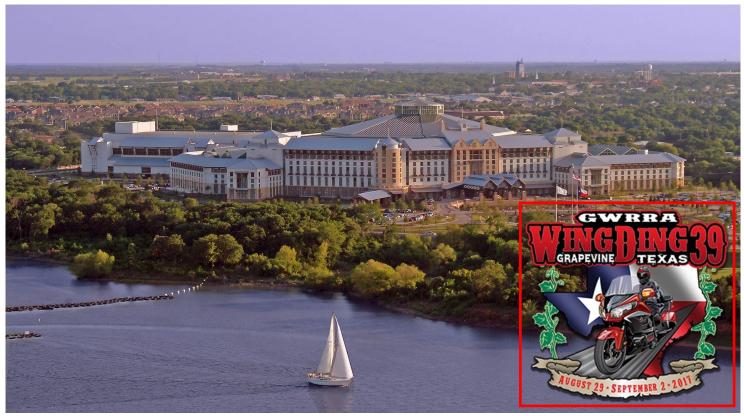
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Play Together...
Laugh Together...

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Greetings to all GWRRA Members! Please read the following information for important details regarding parking and pets at the Gaylord Texan!

PARKING: If you are staying at the Gaylord Texan, there is a \$10 parking fee in addition to your room cost. That parking fee has been negotiated down from \$18.50/day to \$10.00/day. This is a great deal! As you likely know, this caliber of a resort is usually well over \$300/day plus resort fee plus parking fee, etc., but your Wing Ding rate is just \$159 plus the discounted \$10 parking rate. You will simply use your room key to gain access to the parking areas! For those who are not staying on the property (perhaps staying at another hotel or camping nearby), the current Gaylord Texan parking fee structure states that you would pay \$10.00 each time you entered the lot. According to this structure, you would be charged \$10.00 every time you returned to the lot from a ride, re-entered the lot after taking your bike into the building for service, etc.

We, GWRRA, felt this was unfair to those choosing to stay at another location, and negotiated an **option** for you to purchase a parking pass for \$50.00, good for the duration of the event. This parking pass will allow you to enter and exit the lot as many times as you'd like throughout the event, August 29 - September 2. This parking pass, and price, was negotiated with our Members' best interest in mind, giving you the best possible option under the circumstances. These parking passes (\$50.00) can be purchased at the Valet Desk inside the Lobby of the Gaylord Texan.

All parking fees are imposed by the Hotel Parking Management, not GWRRA.

PET POLICY We love our fur babies as much as anyone, however, the Gaylord Texan also has a strict "No Pets" policy. Service animals will be permitted, but proper documentation will be required. Please plan for this accordingly.

To get a complete schedule of events etc at Wing Ding you can visit this web site: http://wing-ding.org/

You can scroll down and fine the schedule and other things that you may be interested in. As for now the group will be arriving in time to be at the Couple of the Year selection Tuesday August 29th at 1 pm till 5 pm in the Texas Ball room, Convention Center 3rd floor. Following the Couples selection there will be a Grapevine welcome party from 6 pm to 9 pm location to be



"Chapter Visitation"



Chapter **B** meets the **1st Tuesday** each month at **Shoney's** Clinton Exit 122 off I-75 North Eat at 6:00 pm meeting at 7:00 pm. Call Tom & Kathy Peck 423-907-9712

Chapter **M** meets the **2nd Tuesday** each month. Eat at 6:00 pm meeting at 7:00 pm.. Chapter M meets at 550 Fort Loudon Medical Center Dr in Lenoir City. CD Brian & Loretta Richards 865-249-6173

Chapter F meets the **3rd Thursday** Golden Corral, 2905 West Andrew Johnson Highway, Morristown, TN 37814. Eat 6:30 pm/Meet 7:30 pm CD Elizabeth & Earl Smith 585-737-9823

Chapter C meets the **3rd Tuesday** each month at MaMa's House Buffet 2608 N John B Dennis Hwy. Kingsport, Eat at 6:00pm and start the Gathering at 7:00pm. TN Call Richard & Connie Pen**dleton**, 423-245-8484

Chapter **A2** meets the **3rd Monday** each month at Shoney's 1021 Lamar Alexander Pkwy Maryville, Eat at 6pm Meeting at 7pm. CD Jim & Joyce Hunsley 217-412-9986

Chapter **T** meets the **4th Tuesday** Each month at the Shoney's 315 Emory Rd, Powell Eat at 6:00 pm/Meet at 7:00 pm CD: Bobby Cash 865-705-7657

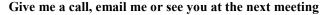
Lets go Visit!

Chapter **C2** meets the 3rd **Saturday** at Shoney's, 4148 US 127, S Crossville, Eat at 9:00 am Meeting at 10:00 am CD Buddy & Brenda Turner, 931-484-7337



New Chapter Golf Shirts see Pat

Chapter "Bee" Embroidered Hats: \$12 Place you Order with Pat Talley





INVENTORY CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING:



We can order so many more goodies - such as - a GWRRA Mouse Pad for your computer, GWRRA Ball Caps in various colors, Coasters, Earrings, Logo Vest Clip Chains, License Plates, Bolo Ties, Happy Face Antenna Ball - and so much more (just too much to list here).

LET'S GO SHOPPING!

See the "Quarter Master"
Pat Talley

423-562-1962 or talleylakeside@gmail.com





Earl Degley 6//12 Margret Degley 6/14 John Hooper 6/6 Betty Roberts 6//8 Scott Seal 6/13



Kyle & Bobbie Beeler 6/15 Troy & Maryjane 6/25

Blue Ridge Parkway weekend ride Submitted by Brian Richards

Well, we had the plan all set for the chapter's weekend ride up the Blue Ridge Parkway, and put the word out to the chapter to see who was going to join us. Got a reply back from Mel & Renee that they were looking forward to a fun weekend.

We talked with Mel and decided it didn't make much sense for us to ride from our home west to Lenoir City, nor for them to ride up into Lenoir City, to meet up to start the trip, so we figured out the best thing for both of us was to arrange to meet up at the Sugarland Welcome Center off the Pigeon Forge/Gatlinburg Parkway, which we did. That way Mel & Renee totally bypassed going through Pigeon Forge (always a good thing), and we were able to ride around most of Pigeon Forge on the Veteran's Blvd instead of riding through the main drag through the busy center of everything in Pigeon Forge. When Loretta & I got to the Welcome Center, we waited about 10 minutes, and Mel & Renee got there. After using the facilities, and discussing what we wanted to do, we got on the road, rode on to near Cherokee and to the south end of the Blue Ridge Parkway to start our fun weekend. The weather was extremely favorable, so we were looking forward to a great time.

We made it a nice, leisurely ride, kept the cruise-control at 40 mph or less, and made several stops at lookout points along the way, including at the spot of the highest elevation on the parkway, where a fellow biker was kind enough to take a picture of the four of us (you don't usually see me in any of our pictures, as I'm always taking them, LOL).

A fellow member had mentioned that a spot they like to stop at for lunch is the Pisgah Inn on Mt. Pisgah. Well, it sounded like it was a good idea, and we had not made any other specific plans for a lunch stop, so why not? We arrived at the Pisgah Inn and were seated right away. We had a really nice lunch, good food. After lunch we went out on the Inn's porch to admire the views. So far we were really enjoying the viewing all along the parkway, the ride itself on a really nice, fun, curvy but not obnoxious road, and thankfully the weather, which was absolutely fantastic for riding.

Based on suggestions from other members that a good place to stop for the night would be Little Switzerland, I had looked into it, and a good friend of ours from another chapter strongly recommended a "Mom & Pop" place called the Alpine Inn. I contacted them and although they normally had a 2-night minimum, they gave us a break and allowed us to book only the one night. We stayed in quaint rooms in a very picturesque inn, went to a nice restaurant they recommended for a nice dinner, then came back and sat around a fire outside and laughed and talked with some of the other guests as well as Ron & Sue, the proprietors/owners – a really nice couple that are extremely focused on customer service and went way beyond to make you feel comfortable and welcome. They have created a very friendly atmosphere at a nice place to stay. An interesting side effect of staying at the Alpine Inn is that it sits on another one of the "special" motorcycle roads that we enjoy so much here in our area of the country, called the "Diamondback", which is 200 curves in 11 miles, and going to the restaurant and back to the Inn, we were able to ride a good part of it, so another adventure and we hadn't even planned for it.

The next day we got back onto the Blue Ridge Parkway to continue our trip, and we were blessed with another really glorious day, and more awesome, fantastic scenery to enjoy. We rode along the parkway for the day, once again enjoying many stops at lookout points along the way. A side trip off the parkway to the town of "State Road" NC found us at a nice café for lunch. Back to the parkway for the rest of our second day's ride, ending up in Roanoke, VA for the night.

On the second day of the trip, one of the stops we made was at the lookout point for the famous viaduct that is shown in just about all the brochures and flyers about the parkway, so we had to stop and take our own pictures of it. While there, we got in the middle of almost a riot of people stopping ... somehow the word had gotten out, how we have absolutely no idea, but "birders" from all over were rushing to this overlook, an extremely rare bird had been spotted sitting in a tree right in that area, and there was already a ranger and a bunch of people all gathered around with their binoculars, telephoto cameras, etc., and as we walked back to our bikes, a bunch of cars were all pulling into the overlook parking area, all with their cameras and binoculars wrapped around their necks, and rushing to get to the point to see this bird. Unfortunately I can't remember the full name, I just remember it was some rare species of warbler. Mel and I did actually see it flit from one branch to another, but that was it.

Sunday morning, back onto the parkway, the weather was not as kind to us, it was overcast, but oh well. Eventually we got into what is calmly called "low-hanging clouds", or as we all commented, we now had "our heads in the clouds". Soon the clouds were so dense that we were getting wet just from the condensation, so a quick stop at an overlook and on went the rain gear, thank goodness, because not long after that we got into actual rain. The rest of the trip on that last portion of the parkway we rode in the rain. But it didn't dampen our spirits, we were still thrilled with all the wonderful sights we had seen the previous 2 days. We reached the end of the parkway, and stopped to take a picture of the sign showing the start of the Parkway from the north direction, if we had been going south.

We had been considering, off-and-on during the day, whether to continue the ride after finishing the Blue Ridge Parkway and also ride the Skyline Drive, or turn east and head back towards home on the interstate. Due to the weather, we decided it wasn't much sense in riding Skyline Drive as we couldn't really see anything anyway, so we got off the parkway end and headed into Waynesboro. We stopped at a nice little eatery in Waynesboro for lunch, and while we were eating the local weather cleared up (it still looked not so nice north of us), and we headed east towards I-81 to just have a straight ride back home.

We rode south on I-81 to back near Roanoke, stopped for the night, then continued on the rest of the way home on Monday. We did do another side trip along the way, riding south on I-81, I noticed a road sign for an upcoming attraction that I thought we would all enjoy, so off we went for a visit to see the Natural Bridge. Spent some time there, walked under the Natural Bridge, got wet cause it was drizzling, but what the heck. Got back up to the top and spent some time in the gift shop, bought some souvenirs, got a picture taken with the bear, and got back on the bikes, but took a different route back to I-81, that allowed us to ride OVER the Natural Bridge, so we were able to walk under it and also ride

A few photos from the Blue Ridge Parkway weekend ride











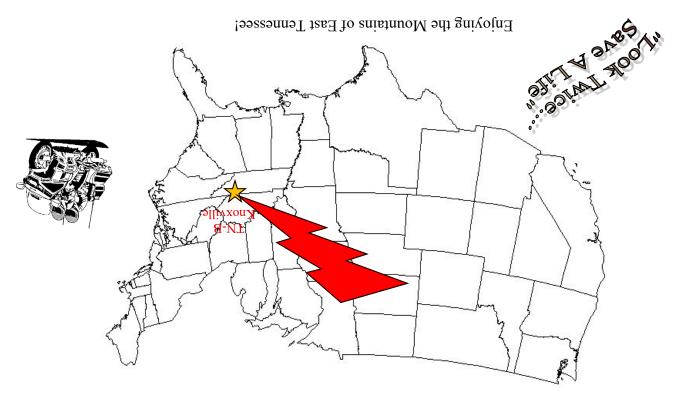












Gold Wing Road Riders Association





Knoxville Sunsphere Wings GWRRA Chapter TN-B Senior Director Tom Peck 153 Deerwood Lane Lafollette, TN 37766 tomkatpeck@msn.com

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Ride Safe! & Ride Aware



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