



# 'The Buzz'



## SunSphere Wings Knoxville Tennessee Sept 2022 Newsletter

**Gary & Patti Hamilton**  
Tennessee District Directors  
Eagle Wings Motorcycle  
Association

**Directors**  
**Tom & Merrilee Peck**  
You can reach us at home  
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**SunSphere Wings**  
Started as a Motorcycle riding  
group on December 14th 1982  
In Knoxville, Tennessee  
Home of the 1982 Worlds Fair



**Volume 40: Number 9**

**Chapter B Web Site**  
[www.tn-b.org](http://www.tn-b.org)

**Tom & Merrilee Peck**  
Newsletter Editors  
[tomkatpeck@msn.com](mailto: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*

As we move forward as a Chapter within the State of Tennessee now that the Gold Wing Road Riders Association no longer exists, now an organization has emerged to take up where GWRRA left off. Many of you have wondered who will take on this responsibility, what would the structure of a new organization look like etc., etc., etc.

Well, it looks like our District Director Gary Hamilton has made the decision to go with a group of well informed and dedicated officers from the previous association and use their experience and expertise to grow a new motorcycle association. The Eagle Wing Motorcycle Association EWMA was created to continue and grow our group of States and Regions much as it used to be but tailored to make things more simple and concentrate on our top priority and that is riding our Motorcycles and socializing with our family of friends we have grown to know over many years. Even though there will be some growing pains with a new organization most of you will not notice much of a change at all from the way things operated in the past. Much more info. to follow in the future.

# Staff

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## Tom & Merrilee Peck Chapter B Directors



Hi Everyone,

I think some of the very hot weather is cooling down now that September is just around the corner. Now is when the riding season kicks into high gear. With the abbreviated ride schedule we had there has been several impromptu ride to fill things in, hope many of you have taken advantage of some of these rides, I wanted to thank Stanley, Chris and others who stepped up to fill in the gaps. From all I heard these rides, even though last minute, were great and the weatherman cooperated for a change. Been a lot of discussion about what now with the closing of GWRRA, well we now have some direction you may want to consider. The Eagle Wing Motorcycle Association is off and running. I will have some application forms you can fill out and our Chapter B will be joining the rest of our Tennessee group and will be signing up. Our structure will remain much as it was in the past and the District will contribute a portion of our Chapter registration fee. I know there will be a lot of questions as we move forward and over time they will all be answered as clear as can be as the new association grows. Many States still have events and rallies scheduled and our Spring Fling is going to be held in Johnson City next April, flyers are out and can be accessed on the Chapter Web site as well as the District Web site. Stay tuned for more information as it comes along. Communication will be important so make sure your email address is current and working well. Check the sign-in roster and let me know if there are any changes in your info. listed, then follow up the next month to make sure I got things updated correctly. Our raffle will be held at our September 6th meeting and the lucky winner will be announced, make sure all monies and tickets are turned into Scott & Amy as soon as you get to Shoney's next week, see you all then.

TOM

# Assistant Directors



Assistant Directors

*Stanley & Patty Rinehart*



September, wow hard to believe that we are nearing fall, and ashamed as I am to say it Patty and I just got our first two rides in, OF THE YEAR. Seems like the ride schedule was thinner this year than in previous years and when rides did come up life kept getting in the way. There are a few really nice rides left on the schedule that should prove to be a lot of fun. There are also a lot of gaps in the schedule if you have a ride you would like to do, just send an email to Tom, Wally or myself and we'll send it out and get it going, you don't have to lead it if you don't want to, I'm sure someone will step up to do it. We need to look at some more dinner rides also, we don't have to have a life style card as a reason to get together, heck just mentioning food is about all it takes. On another note, the district has been doing a lot of research on different organizations that have started up since GWRRA folded, the desire was to find the organization that fit into the way we have liked doing things and was the most beneficiary for all the members, not an easy task with all there is out there but I think Gary and the District has decided what direction they want to go in and it seems all the chapters in our region are leaning the same way. One thing that made GWRRA so great was the huge family that you joined into, heck you didn't have to be in the same chapter, district or even state. The rallies were always a lot of fun also because you would meet so many new people, good people. We always enjoyed that part and that's what we want to keep, that same friendly family organization. When this all started the desire was for everyone to stay together, the districts with all the chapters still in place, that might be getting closer to reality now. As always, we look forward to seeing everyone at our Chapter meeting.

# Happy Trails



Sometime in May of this year I decided to take Elly May (if you don't know by now that is the name of my 01' Goldwing) on a quick trip to pick up some groceries. I opened the garage door, fired her up, rode the block and a half through my subdivision to the main road (West Emory Road), looked both ways and pulled out. However, something didn't feel right. The back of the bike felt unstable or 'soft'. I had not gone very far down the road, so I carefully pulled over, put her on the side stand and got off. As I bent down to look at the back tire, I quickly saw that it was almost flat! I later found a small bolt had gone through the center of the tire. That's another story!

What I wanted to share (other than the lesson I learned about checking my tires ALL THE TIME before I ride) was how to know if you have a low or flat tire situation and how to deal with that situation when you are already riding. Most everything I will share applies primarily to those of us on 2 wheels as having a flat on a Trike is a different (and less dangerous) situation.

## Always Check Your Tire Pressures Before Riding

Before I go into how to handle your bike when you discover a tire situation, I want to encourage everyone to check the air in your tires before ANY ride. Now, checking the air in the rear tire almost always involves getting down on your back with a tire gauge. Some bikes have air pressure monitors for the tires, but many do not. You can also purchase Air Pressure Caps that are set to a certain poundage. Put them on the valve stems and they will show green until you go below that specific air pressure. I followed Mark Henze's lead and now have two caps both set for 40lbs, and I can quickly see if they are green or red.

## Low Tire Pressure Behavior While Riding

When you are riding there are a few telltale signs you have a low or flat tire situation. The first is a noticeable 'wobbly' feel to your motorcycle. That wobble come from the instability of the tire. Most of the time, even with a large bike like a Goldwing, you can feel if it is coming from the front or back. If it is the front, you will feel the instability in the handlebars. If in the back, you will feel the instability in your seat. It is a similar sensation as sitting on a large inflatable ball (obviously much more subtle). The side-to-side stability becomes compromised.

## What to Do in Low or Flat Tire Situations While Riding

Obviously your goal should be to stop riding and get to a safe place as soon as possible however, HOW you stop is important. Experts say to follow these steps:

- 1) Slowly Release the Throttle – Don't release the throttle too rapidly because if front tire is the low or flat tire decelerating quickly will cause a lot of weight to shift to the front and make it more unstable.
- 2) Maintain a Straight Path – Hold the handlebars firmly and dead straight until you are at a very slow speed. Attempting any type of turn at a higher rate of speed, even just a lean with a low or flat tire could put you on the pavement.
- 3) Use Brakes Sparingly – Braking hard can also increase the instability as it can cause a low or blown tire to shift on the rim and, as mentioned before, push the weight forward. If possible, just let the bike slow down on its own without braking. If you need to brake, do it very, very lightly and only when you get to a slower speed.

The biggest equipment threat to our safety on a motorcycle is the tires. Always check them before riding and make sure you follow these steps if you experience a low or flat tire, and you will have a greater chance of stopping safely.

# Ride to the Green Tomato



Fried Green Tomatoes



*Sadly, not having ridden this year Patty and I were anxious to get back into the saddle and with a weekend coming up and no ride on the schedule we decided maybe an impromptu ride was in store. Now all we had to do was come up with the ride, and somewhere to eat, can't ride without food, so we decided to go to the Green Tomato, it had been a couple of years since we had been there and we both enjoy the food and atmosphere there so the only thing left to do was send out an email for an impromptu ride with the Green Tomato as our destination. It was late in the week when we sent it out so we weren't sure if we would have*



*any other riders. We decided to meet at Shoney's right off exit 134 in Caryville so we could have breakfast before starting out as the route was a little over three hours long to get there with stops. We were fortunate to have company as we ended up with five bikes and seven riders for the ride. We were blessed with near perfect riding conditions also as there was not a cloud in the sky and temps were low 70's. We pulled out and headed up through Lafollette on our way up what we call the valley, 63 east, toward Harrogate, this is always a nice ride and even though they have road work going on it still did not disappoint. We made our way up to Harrogate where we stopped and took a little break.*



Article submitted by Stanley

*We pulled back out and got back on 63E which is a very nice route headed toward Sneedville, this road has some really nice curves on it and takes you right along a ridge through the country and a few farms. One of the great advantages of some of these back roads is very little traffic and loads of scenery. At one point before getting to Sneedville you have to cross over the ridge, it has some real tight switchbacks as you go up and over the ridge and when you get to the top and start over the*



*views of the surrounding valley are breath taking, in fact it is actually hard to concentrate on the road for wanting to look. Upon arriving in Sneedville, we stopped to take another break and stretch the legs a bit. After leaving Sneedville we took route 31 headed towards Mooresburg and the Green Tomato. Route 31 is a very nice motorcycle road also with some nice curves and scenery. It's a short 18 miles from Sneedville to the Green Tomato and by the time we got there everyone was ready to eat. Seating was quick and the food as always was good, and if you have never had the Green Tomatoes, you should really try them when you go. Dave led as we left the Green Tomato and took us to a nearby ice cream shop, it was closed but we were all too full for any ice cream.....yet. As we got back out on 11W we were headed toward Veterans overlook and when we got to 25E Dave parted ways and headed toward home. As we were arriving at the overlook there were blue lights flashing everywhere, seems a truck lost control and had his trailer flipped over on the side of the road. After a short stay at the lookoff we headed back toward Harrogate and back down 63 and the valley toward LaFollette and Dairy Queen with Ice Cream on our mind. After ice cream it was time to head toward home, it had been a perfect riding day with a high of 84 degrees and clear blue skies all day. It was the first ride of the year for us and could not have been more perfect, great roads, great weather and most of all great friends.*

# United States Airforce Museum

## Dayton Ohio, Birthplace of Aviation



Air Force Museum Ride through the scenic Kentucky, and Ohio back roads to Dayton OH

Join us if you can!!

Visiting the National Museum of the United States Air Force, (the official title) is always a treat for me as I always learn something new.

We will leave the Shoney's at the Caryville exit at 0900 (note the time change) on

**Friday, 9 September.** We will head up I-75 for a bit before heading cross country for the historic town of Augusta, Kentucky on the Ohio river.

Lunch will be at the Augusta Pub which has several antique shops close by in this quaint little river town.

After lunch, a ferry ride will take us across the Ohio; toll \$5.00, cash only. Note; there has been a ferry in Augusta since 1798.

Next stop is the Clarion Inn , 2500 Paramount Pl, Fairborn, OH 45324.

Friday night we can walk across the parking lot to the Texas Road House for dinner.

Saturday morning we should be at the Museum around 0900 (it's a short distance from the hotel.) You could spend days as the museum is huge but we leave at reasonable time in order to get to our dinner treat.

Dinner Saturday evening will be at Young's Dairy—[www.youngsdairy.com](http://www.youngsdairy.com)--a beautiful short ride out in the farm land.

Depart for Home Sunday morning after breakfast—interstate home.

Hope you will join us.

Dave 865 748-9738

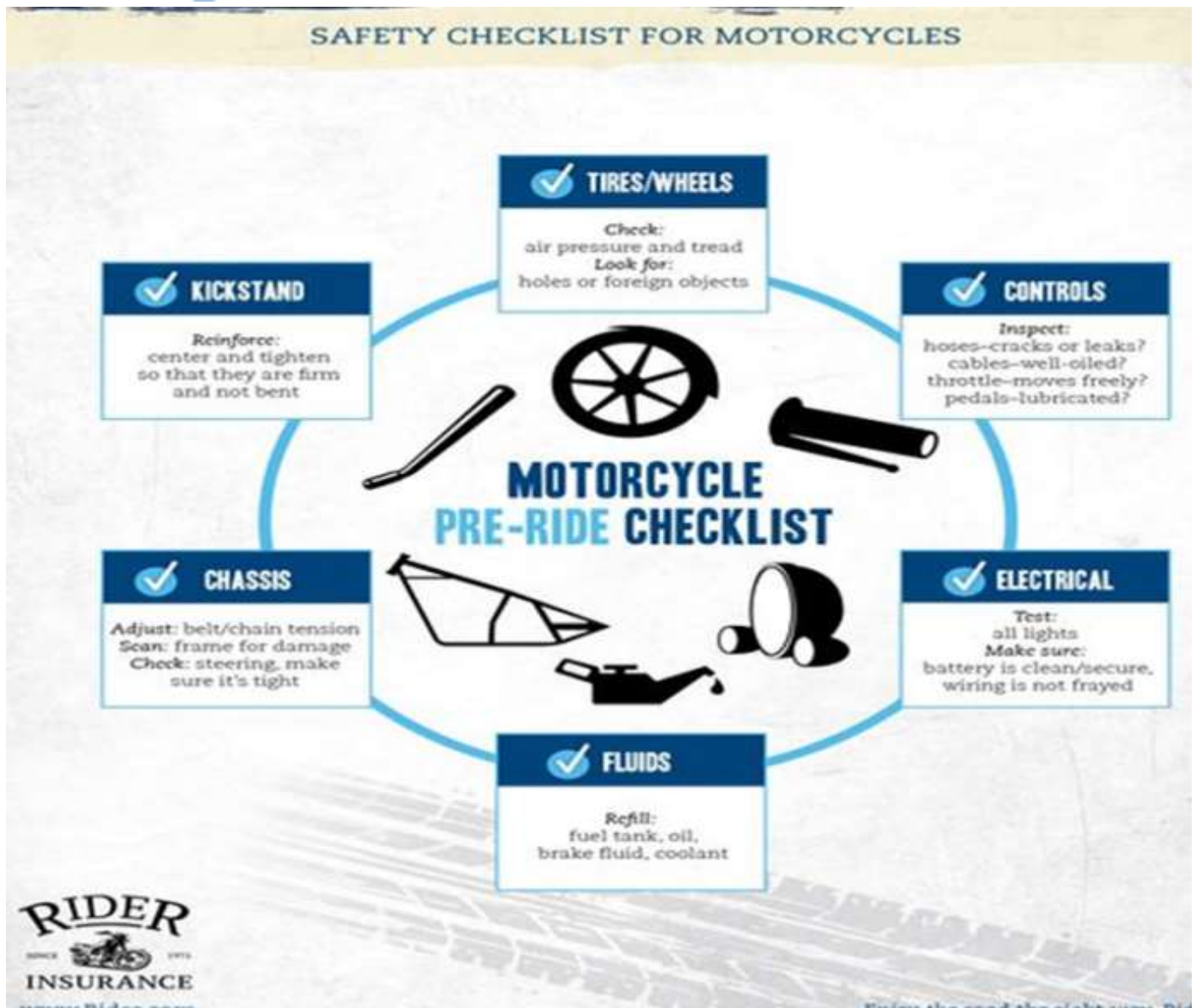
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Technical Coordinator: Chris Harden

# Prepare for a safe Ride





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# Prepare for a safe Ride

Many times we get in a hurry and so excited to go for a ride the we fail to look at the simple things that can strand a motorcycle rider and turn a great day bad quickly; the list on the previous page I found about a month ago. When I ran across this I thought about how it's so easy to say, "well I checked my air pressure a couple of months ago, it should be fine"; the reality is now the air pressure ihas changed or I might be driving around with a tail light out. I suggest spending 5 minutes a couple days before the rides and check everything over, then the evening before a ride check air pressure in your tires— then you are ready to ride. The turtle wax is worth the time to use. It has been on my truck and Julie's car. The resulting shine is a richer and deeper shine along with the added benefit of being an excellent water repellent

We highly recommend these products below, see Chris!



**Grip covers makes ride softer on the hands \$20.00**

**Antenna mount flag poles with American flag \$40.00**



# September 2022 Couple of the month



*Tom & Merrilee Peck*



Tom and Merrilee Peck

Tom Peck was born and raised in Hamilton, Ohio. His father opened a local Harley shop when Tom was an infant. This dealership is significant as from a very early age Tom was exposed to his lifelong love of motorcycles and the mechanics related to them. Working with his dad and Grandpa Peck was a joy and the experience and training gained was beneficial throughout Tom's young life. He enlisted in the United States Air Force, married, and had 4 children. Jet engine training in the Air Force prepared him for his civilian job at G.E. for the next 25 years while continuing his Air Force Reserves duties, totaling 33 years' military. After 10 years he became a single father, juggling responsibilities of fatherhood and work until he and Kathy married about a year later. Their parents were close friends, so the two knew each other from childhood. Kathy had never married, was quite successful with her career in the educational field and was a wonderful wife and helpmate in raising the Peck children. They were a 2-Goldwing family. They rode their own bikes, started a chapter in Ohio, rallied, and often took their children to the events. For the next 40 years, they toured all the United States, all the Canadian Provinces, and even 7 states in



In 1999, after retiring, they built Lake. Merrilee McQuerry DeGuire Peck was born and raised on a farm in Carrollton, Illinois. She enjoyed the peace, quiet, and beauty of farm life and loved all the animals. After high school, she moved to St. Louis, Missouri, to attend business school, graduated, and started her dream secretarial job at a utility company. Living with 13 girls over the next few years proved to be challenging but fun. She and Bill DeGuire met on a blind date and were married within a couple of years. He was a University City policeman and then transferred to the Fire Department. After 6 yrs. of marriage, they were able to beg, borrow (not steal) to purchase an existing residential trash hauling service in St. Louis County, which they operated over the next 10 years. Two children were born, and the business tripled in size during that time. God grew it, we just worked it. We sold the business, moved to a farm so our children could start school in a smaller community. After a few years, we bought our first Save-A-Lot grocery, lived, and operated it in Salem, Mo. In 1986, we made a major move to LaFollette, Tennessee, to open the first SAL store here. Later, Bill owned and operated All Seasons Pest Control and All Seasons Storage. In 1999, Peck's home was not finished as quickly as planned so Tom's builder referred him to our storage business for temporary furniture storage. He met Bill DeGuire briefly. Later, the Pecks and DeGuire met at a local restaurant all because of 2 matching blue Goldwings parked outside. DeGuire had just bought their first one and were one of the first couples the Pecks met after moving to Tennessee. The four spent hours, days and weeks together travelling, rallying, riding, playing cards, eating out together (or in, as the case was sometimes), and in general just enjoyed doing life together. Pecks introduced DeGuire to chapter life and the fun of belonging to a group—of course, the common denominator was the Goldwing.

Sadly, after years of spending time together as a foursome, our spouses passed away leaving Tom and Merrilee as two lost souls, fumbling and seeking and living in a “fog”.



Spending more time together eased the pain and made us realize we didn't want to lose “our time” together. Looking back, it was like a driving force from on high that kept guiding us right onto the path of matrimony. And cake was having honeymoon in couldn't believe it! Who would think?! Here we are, in years, just barely past the blunt blow of tragedy, and yet light of happiness, just ahead. Well, guess who is writing couldn't do it without the mush. Doretha asked me to because I know the “inside story”. Well, here it is. To and I are completely happy one else to be. God is time!



the icing on the our wedding and Hawaii. We our golden we could see the this! I knew I write this article sum it up...Tom and want every-GOOD! All the Here we are, still



Tom and Kathy were in the 1980's. We love riding, traveling, and sharing life with our Chapter B family. Of course, we love the grandparent role. Such fun watching the kiddos grow and develop their own unique personalities. Ours are scattered all over the country. Together, we have 6 children, 16 grandchildren, and 9 great-grandchildren. What a blessing!

We have offspring in Tennessee, Ohio, Texas, and Utah.

We hope this encourages you with a glimpse into our journey that all began with a Goldwing and the best Chapter that could ever be.

We love our Chapter B family – you have always been great support!



# Items For Sale



Ride off Centerstand, Baker Built. Fits 1500 or 1800  
Never used. \$99 (Regular \$179 plus tax & Shipping)



Men's XL, Ladies Sm. \$175 each set.  
Gerbing Heated Clothing: Jacket, pants, gloves,  
socks.

Pat Talley  
423-562-1962



Send us your For Sale items or Wanted to Buy items. Pictures and a full description with price always helps.

## Make Offer



- 1) Harley Davidson brand Leather Chaps, 1- large, 1- extra large
- 2) Ladies Leather jacket (Victory) on back, ladies large
- 3) Flat black Bell Helmet 1- Medium, 1- Small
- 4) Leather vest Ladies size 38
- 5) Full Face Black Bilt Helmet (like New) Large
- 6) Harley Davidson brand half Helmet (like new) Medium w/flames
- 7) Harley Davidson brand leather Jacket large anniversary edition, (embroidery on back)

The above items from a friend getting out of the motorcycle business, ask if I knew anyone who might be interested, Please **make an offer** and it may be yours, all good stuff, hardly used and in like new condition.

Contact: Tom Peck by email: [tomkatpeck@msn.com](mailto:tomkatpeck@msn.com) or phone 423-494-9818





Pat Talley Sept 21st  
 Mark Henze Sept 22nd  
 Jerry Ciesla Sept 28th

Dave & Betty Roberts Sept 3rd  
 Jerry & Irene Ciesla Sept 17th  
 Scott & Amy Seal Sept 20th

# Ride Schedule

Sept 9th Air Force Museum

Sept 17th Big South Fork

Sept 25th Danville Ky

Oct 1st Rugby Founders Day Ride

Oct 22nd Fall Colors Ride

Check the Chapter Web Site for further Details

[www.tn-b.org](http://www.tn-b.org) (Ride Schedule)



## Handgun Raffle Sept 6th at Shoney's



### AMERICA'S #1 SELLING HANDGUN

Introducing the game-changing P365 High-Capacity Micro-Compact. The revolutionary new concealed carry pistol that gives you more capacity, more concealability and more capability. It's the one gun you can carry every day of the year.

The award-winning P365 has redefined the micro-compact pistol category, quickly becoming one of the most coveted firearms in the industry. The P365 features a patented modified double-stack magazine capable of 10+1, 12+1 or 15+1 full-size capacity. Its ergonomic design makes it more shootable than the typical pocket-sized pistols with a clean, crisp trigger pull you expect from a SIG SAUER. The P365XL ROMEOZero is available with the ROMEOZero reflex optic installed and zeroed right out of the box, making it the most capable micro-compact available today.

September raffle will be our 1st item on our agenda, Turn your tickets and Money into Scott & Amy as soon as possible after you arrive at Shoney's so we will have plenty of time to get everything ready for Our Raffle. Good Luck to you all and a big thanks to Scott and Amy for taking the lead and managing everything so well, and thank you all for selling tickets and making our raffle a huge success.

Remember, Scott will handle the necessary paperwork for the lucky winner when it comes to the background check, etc, Ask Scott if you have any questions.

# "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 & Merrilee Peck 423-494-9818

Chapter **A2** meets the **3rd Monday** each month at Shoney's 1021 Lamar Alexander Pkwy Maryville, Eat at 6pm Meeting at 7pm. Chapter Directors Todd & Melanie Freeman 865-963-1051

Chapter **M** meets the **2nd Tuesday** each month. Eat at 6:00 pm meeting at 7:00 pm.. Chapter M meets at Shoney's 1100 Highway 321 Lenoir City, just off I-75 exit 81, CD Brian & Loretta Richards 865-249-6173

Chapter **T** meets the **4th Saturday** Each month at the Down Home Restaurant, 7755 Rutledge Pike, Rutledge TN 37861 Eat at 11:00 am/Meet at 12:00 Pm CD: Lee Ann & Wilburn Hayes 423-497-2945

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 Gene & Donna Dunn 631-848-9435

Chapter **C2** meets the 3rd **Thursday** at Eat at 6:00 pm Lacosta Restaurant 138 The Crossing Crossville, TN. Meeting at 7:00 pm Chapter Director is Randy & Stephanie Ryan 985-201-3791

Chapter **C** meets the **3rd Tuesday** each month at Randall's Restaurant Hwy 11W and 120 Old Union Rd, Church Hill TN Eat at 5:30 and the Gathering starts at 6:30. Tom & Carolyn Jarrell 423-383-0339



**We have several Shirts, you can choose the one you like. Pat can order or you can purchase on your own and we can get the embroidering done for you.**  
**We will eventually be transitioning to a new Chapter Logo for our shirts and our Chapter B patch, in the meantime all your patches are perfectly acceptable and can be worn during the transition period.**

Place your Order with Pat Talley 423-562-1962  
 talleylakeside@gmail.com  
 Give me a call, email me or see you at the next meeting  
**INVENTORY CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING:**  
 Tennessee visitation pins (Shape of State)\$3.00 ea.  
 TN-B Hanger Bars ..... 2.50  
 TN District Pin ..... 3.25

**Stay Tuned to**  
**www.tn-b.org**

*New Association Logo, pending Approval, your comments are welcome*

