



Chapter T News

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CHAPTER T MEETING PLACE

**Every Fourth Tuesday @ 6:00 P.M.
Shoney's - Emory Road Exit #112 off I-75, Powell, TN.**

Spirit Award Update

So far it appears that Pat and Carroll Bales have a slight lead in the Spirit Awards. They are closely followed by the Owens and Bob/Faye Smyre! One way to boost your numbers and to encourage visitors to our meetings is to visit other Chapters. Chapter B meets the first Tuesday of the month, Shoney's off I-75 at the Clinton Exit.

A special thanks to the following members who attended Chapter Bs last meeting!

Mike & Debbie Bailey
Carroll & Pat Bales
Bob & Faye Smyre
Bob McIntyre

Ride Safe,
Gordon and Alicia

Expect a big Group for our 2-22-11 meeting!

As we explain later in the newsletter, while attending Winter Fiesta, we won the East Tennessee Traveling Plaque. This plaque has been in the possession of Chapters O and V since October of last year.

I'm certain that Chapter B will show up at our meeting in force to claim the plaque. We need to plan on attending their meeting on March 1st to get it back!! (They meet at the Shoneys off I-75, Clinton exit 122, 6:30PM.)

Start planning now for a Chapter road trip. Mark May 7th on your calendar. I would like for as many of us as possible to attend Chapter N's meeting in May of this year. They meet on the first Saturday each month at the Old Country Store in Jackson Tennessee, 5PM.

From the people I met last weekend they seem like a great bunch of people!

Gordon

An Educational Note on Helmets for Riders

By Geoffrey Greene

Being around Valentine's Day I have an idea what you can do today and every day for your loved one. Wear good gear and insist that they do the same.

Let's talk helmets. I happen to be partial to either a modular or a full face helmet, and after wearing one for many years, I don't feel right without having some kind of chin bar in front of my face. I've never crash tested a modular helmet, but I have tested a full face helmet and find they work! If you wear an open face helmet or half helmet, please be aware that they provide less protection for that most critical body part, your head. Whether you like the way your face looks or not, you don't want to be forced into plastic surgery to put things right after an accident. If you choose to wear a three-

quarter, half, or heaven forbid, a novelty helmet, you are accepting the greater risk involved with wearing a helmet with less protection.

What's the most important thing to look for? To me, it's the fit. If it doesn't fit, you'll be uncomfortable and distracted. Like most clothing, not every size Large is equal to every other size Large. Because helmets are "hard", it's important to find one that fits the shape of your head. After years of trial and error, I have found that a long-oval shape fits my head best, so I don't buy anything anymore if it doesn't fit that shape. Apparently not many people have long oval shaped heads, so I don't have as many options as people with the rounder shaped heads. But after years of having angry red spots on my forehead and the back of my head from wearing ill-fitting helmets, I'll pay the price to get one of the ones that does fit.

Next on the list are certifications. In one cycle magazine, a helmet manufacturer was quoted as saying something like "Tell me what kind of accident you're going to have and we'll build you a helmet that will work for it." Based on that, we have to shoot for the middle and hope we get something that works.

In a different article a couple of years ago, it was determined that a helmet that meets the DOT (US Department of Transportation) certification may just be the best thing for you. With the DOT's specs on impact attenuation, retention system, configuration, and projections, (unchanged for many years) you will get a helmet that will fit a wide variety of accident scenarios. Helmets that do not meet the minimum DOT certification standards may not be sold as "motorcycle helmets", hence the 'novelty helmet' term that you occasionally hear.

The Snell Memorial certification criteria are updated periodically. The testing criteria may or may not be better than DOT, but they ARE different. However, some helmets may meet both DOT and Snell criteria. Each manufacturer certifies that their helmets meet the DOT criteria on their own, but the DOT periodically checks each product to insure the criteria are being met.

The sticker you see on a helmet meeting the Snell certification means a helmet of that design has already undergone testing to insure it meets the Snell Memorial Foundation specs. Only after a manufacturer has shown their helmets meet their specs are the stickers made available to them.

Take care of that noggin for yourself and for the folks that might have to take care of you.

Chapter Vests

One of our members has turned us on to a great source for leather vests. Leather that works offers several styles and sizes for men and women ranging from \$5 to \$20. Alicia and I have both ordered from this retailer. If you interested go to leatherthatworks.com They sell more items than vests so just click on the price your interested and shop till your fingers drop!

As a disclosure please note that GWRRA does not endorse any third party retailer. However it should also be noted that there is no "official" GWRRA motorcycle vest!

Ride Safe and Warm!
Gordon and Alicia

Officer Certification Program

Could it be that some of you are not aware of this training? As new chapter directors Alicia and I had the opportunity to participate in it last January 22nd at Lebanon TN. Without a doubt I learned more about GWRRA in a day and a half than I had by attending meetings for the past 4 years!

As you know our association is filled with acronyms, titles and events. To most new participants all of this seems like a foreign language or some secret code. Training offered cuts through all the jargon and helps to put things in perspective, **To Have Fun!** As a matter of fact the instructors awarded 3 PHDs for the weekend, that is- "Professors of Happy Days". I am most proud that my wife Alicia was the first participant from this weekend training to receive her "PHD". To say she was thrilled is an understatement. Just look at her picture taken during the awards ceremony!



For those of you who have not participated in the officer certification program I would encourage you do so. Even if you are not currently interested in participating as an "officer" you should still consider attending the "horizons" training offered by GWRRA. If you need assistance participating, contact Geoffrey or me and we'll help out!

Friends for Fun, Safety and **Knowledge!**

Gordon and Alicia

Winner, Winner, Chicken Dinner!

That's right, as mentioned in an earlier article, while attending Winter Fiesta Alicia and I won the East Tennessee Traveling Plaque from Chapter V. Out of a room full of visiting Chapters our ticket number was drawn. What? Could it be that you don't see the significance of this prize? Well let me explain.

As you know GWRRA and Chapter T are non-profit organizations. Your dues to GWRRA do not go to Chapter T or any Chapter. Any money that is collected by our Chapter comes from Chapter events that raise money. Two examples are the baked goods provided by members for Chapter drawings and 50/50 drawings. Monies collected from these events are deposited into our Chapter Treasury and are ultimately used for the benefit of Chapter members to fund giveaways, dinner awards and operating supplies.

From my visits with other Chapters I have learned that there are many more opportunities to reward our members for Chapter participation. My goal is to increase our revenue stream so that more awards can be handed out to members! One way to accomplish this goal is to become a "wood chaser". The plan is simple, the more often we capture a traveling plaque the more participation we get from visiting Chapters. The more visitors, the more participation in Chapter drawings. The more participation, the more money we collect. Ultimately this will open opportunities for Chapter T members to earn rewards! Remember, the GWRRA mission statement, Friends for **Fun**, Safety and Knowledge!

Ride Safe and let's have some **FUN**,

Gordon and Alicia



January 30, 2011 Pics of Watts Bar Ride The weather was perfect for the ride. Plenty of sun, the roads were dry; what a wonderful way to be out enjoying the day!

Bernie



The first picture is me and my Valkyrie Tourer across from the cooling towers of the Watts Bar Nuclear facility located South of Knoxville in the Spring City



This second picture is of Joe's Yellow Valkyrie, The second bike belongs to Greg, My bike is third and The Kawasaki Concours belongs to Jack..



This picture is of Jack with his Concours.



HORIZONS 2011



Your personal Frontier can be found at this year's HORIZONS event!



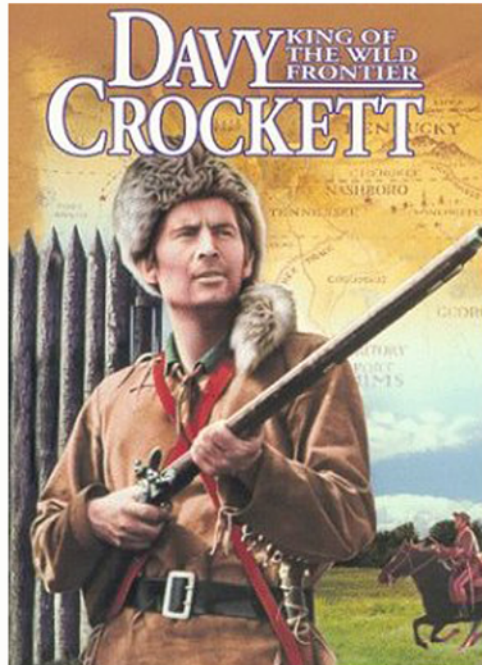
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March 26-27, 2011  
Comfort Suites  
Lebanon, TN



Just like Davy Crockett blazed a trail across the frontier, GWRRA members can blaze their way through the initial maze of rallies, chapter visits, group rides and other helpful guidance given through the Horizons Program. In this fun-filled day and a half, Wingers learn the core values of the GWRRA organization, how to work together as a team and how to have more fun than a motorcycle owner should have off the bike. Our new members (and some older members who have learned by trial and error) will learn to "track and see signs" like Davy and learn how GWRRA works and even how our members interact with each other. This program allows members to learn more about themselves and how to interact with each other which can not only be used within GWRRA but in their personal and professional life as well. Just like the trailblazers of Davy's time, you can learn how people react and interact with each other. The most unusual thing about this program is that you WILL have fun learning. While learning, you even get to meet other wingers from across the State and develop new long-lasting friendships. After attending this program, the GWRRA "frontier" will look friendlier and much more inviting. You will see yourself as capable of being a trailblazer for other wingers that come after you. Sign up for this class and be "the King or Queen of your wild frontier".

*Visit [tngwrra.org](http://tngwrra.org) to register online*



From our members:

### **VANILLA WAFER CAKE**

|                                       |                               |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 c. Butter                           | ½ c. milk                     |
| 2 c. granulated sugar                 | 1 (7 oz.) pkg. Flaked coconut |
| 6 eggs                                | 1 c. chopped pecans           |
| 1 (12 oz) box vanilla wafers, crushed |                               |

Preheat oven to 300° F. Cream butter and sugar together until light and fluffy. Add eggs, one at a time. Beat well after each addition. Add vanilla wafer crumbs alternately with milk, beginning and ending with crumbs. Fold in coconut and pecans. Pour into a greased 10-inch tube or Bundt pan. Bake at 300° F. for 1 hour and 30 minutes, or until cake tests done. Frost with Cream Cheese Icing (recipe below.)

#### **Cream Cheese Icing:**

|                             |                       |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 (8 oz.) pkg. cream cheese | 1 pkg. powdered sugar |
| ½ stick margarine           | ½ c. chopped pecans   |
| 1 tsp. vanilla              |                       |

Blend softened margarine and softened cream cheese. Beat in powdered sugar and vanilla. Stir in pecans.

#### **Trailer for sale:**

I have a friend that has an enclosed trailer, with side door, loading ramp, Chrome or stainless outside, new tires, electric brakes, 7x14 inside measurements, 3600.00 new, asking 2750.00. Wood finish inside. If interested call 771-1977.

Bob McIntyre