



March 2011



## Chapter T News

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### **CHAPTER "T" MEETING PLACE**

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

## Director's Corner

Well we're off and running! As most of you know we've got high hopes for Chapter T this year. What you may not know is that our Chapter has a slew of new officers. (Team Members)

Brian and Loretta Richards have volunteered to be our Assistant Chapter Directors. Well, actually Brian has but Loretta is so sweet I had to include her. As you've probably noticed Brian is a take charge kind of guy who's definitely outgoing. He has a welcome article in this news letter so I won't bother with any further details!

Mike and Debbie Bailey are the new Chapter membership coordinators. They were all too eager to get involved so we gave them a chance! Their assignment is to contact all new prospects and former members who have been slacking in participation. I've also asked them to look into developing some activities that we can participate in during chapter meetings.

Geoffrey Greene is our Chapter Educator. Geoffrey has been an MSF instructor for more than a decade. Most of you know that Geoffrey puts more miles on a motorcycle driving to work than most of us do during and riding season! If he can't put a personal spin on rider safety no one can.

Norm is our official treasurer/secretary. I couldn't rope Sherry in to the job but I'm sure she's an active participant. If you want patches or pins for your vest, Norm is the man to see.

Thank goodness Joyce Hunley has agreed to stay on as our sunshine lady. She does a great job and I actually feel better after she speaks.

Bobby Cash is our wedmaster. If you've not had a chance to visit our web site I encourage you to do so. He puts a lot of time and effort in and he's always open to ideas.

Lloyd and Judy Pitney are the Chapter newsletter editors. I really appreciate the work that they do each month. All of us can really help out by submitting an article for them to publish. As you can tell from reading mine there are no high expectations for a story!

Folks we have a new couple of the year, (COY) for 2011. Dale and Jean are being recognized for their work and participation with our chapter. Please congratulate them the next opportunity you have.

We've got big plans for 2011. The ROMEO'S are scheduled for rides, we've got a Chapter ride on April 23rd and a trip to Chapter N on May 7, 2011. Included in all of this we have Spring Fling coming soon, (we still need volunteers), the Roan Mtn. Steakout on May 21st and Wing Ding around the corner. Let me add, **there is no charge for parking at the fairground during Spring Fling!** Sometime during all of this we have Chapter T meetings. I realize that everyone can't do it all so pick what you want and enjoy the ride!



*Ride Safe and Have Fun!*

*Gordon and Alicia*



Hello fellow TN-T members, we are Brian & Loretta Richards. We relocated here to Corryton, TN from Ohio in December 2010 and decided to affiliate with TN-T. We are honored that Gordon asked us to be his Assistant Chapter Directors. Gordon and I decided it would be a good idea for me to tell a little about ourselves, so you would get to know us better. At the end of May Loretta & I will have been happily married for 33 years. We each have two children from previous marriages, and 6 grandchildren between us.

I started riding motorcycles in 1976 and we bought our first Gold Wing while in California, working at the Oakland Army Base. We have ridden close to 300,000 miles, on a multitude of motorcycles. Our current ride is a 2009 Candy Black Cherry GL1800 that already has over 36,000 miles. We have ridden in all the United States except Hawaii (still waiting for them to build that bridge), and all but 3 of the Canadian Provinces.

After starting as an Army enlisted man in 1970, I retired from Civil Service, Department of the Army in 2003. Loretta is also retired and we are enjoying life to its fullest, with our favorite activities focused around GWRRA. We love riding, dealing with and helping the members, and are fully committed to the GWRRA motto of "Friends for FUN, Safety and Knowledge". Looking at the "Friends" part, we are very well known all around the state of Ohio and Region D due to our frequent visits to other chapters, regular attendance at all the rallies, and the way we got involved in as many of the activities and events as we could. As for "Safety", Loretta and I are both Senior Master Level IV Tour Riders and are very strong advocates of the GWRRA Rider Education Program; we were awarded the Region D Rider Education Merit Award, and while serving as the Chapter Director and interim Chapter Educator for OH-Z2, we were the first recipients of the Ohio District Rider Education Program's "Gung Ho" award. And for "Knowledge", I am certified as a Leadership Training Program Senior Instructor, a Rider Education Seminar Presenter, and recently became certified as an Officer Certification Program Presenter.

We joined GWRRA in June 1980. and have been affiliated with 4 chapters: San Francisco Bay Area chapter, Cal-D; Freedom Wings, Williamsburg, VA-O; Colonial City Wings, Mt Vernon, OH-Y; Delaware Wing Riders, Delaware, OH-Z2; and now TN-T.

I have held a number of positions in our different chapters of GWRRA, the last prior to moving to TN at the end of last year was as the Ohio District's Assistant District Educator. Other positions included: OH-Z2: Chapter Director, Special Events Coordinator, Graphics Specialist, Ride Coordinator, Newsletter Editor, Webmaster, and temporarily, interim chapter Ride Educator and interim chapter MEC. I am also still serving as the OH-Y Newsletter Editor and Webmaster. While CD of OH-Z2 we worked diligently to promote GWRRA and having fun, as a result, chapter involvement and participation dramatically increased, and OH-Z2 was selected as the 2007 Ohio District Chapter of the Year.

We hope all this info gives you a good idea of who we are and shows we are knowledgeable about GWRRA and dedicated to its principles. We believe very strongly in what GWRRA tries to do for its members and wish to promote that as much as we possibly can. We will work hard to put our knowledge, expertise, and enthusiasm to work assisting Gordon and the chapter, helping TN-T be the best it can be. We hope to have all your support and assistance, and we look forward to meeting and getting to know all of you.

Your friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge,

Brian & Loretta Richards  
GWRRA TN-T Assistant Chapter Director (Pending)  
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## **Anyone need stuff?**

I have a supply of Tennessee pins & Chapter T hanger bars, Chapter patches & 4" & 10" patches, which I will bring to the Chapter Gatherings for anyone who needs them.

Gordon has a source for leather vests in case anyone should need a vest.

Pat has a source for Chapter shirts & caps. I'll have to ask her how many we have right now.

Norm Sorrel

## It's Cold at 5,000 feet



The days are getting longer and the weather's getting warmer, at least here in the valley. This past weekend Alicia and I made the trip to the Charahala Skyway. What a beautiful ride it was.

Our trip started out from Fontana Village. Alicia had made reservations for the weekend at the resort. I can't say enough about the hospitality, food and accommodations! As most of you know I enjoy a good meal. All of our meals at the resort were first class. If you have never taken the opportunity to stay at Fontana I recommend that you treat yourself to at least one weekend!

The entire area was made for motorcycling. You can't get to Fontana without taking a State route or US Highway. Yes, I know the "dragon" is one way to get there but if you drive like someone with some sense it's no problem at all. Once you leave US 129 you will find that most of the roads have very little if any traffic. Beautiful scenery in the mountains on well paved twisties, it doesn't get much better than that.

Once we arrived on the Charahala the road conditions got better. Wide open and well paved with gentle curves. The ride was fantastic. I noticed by the altimeter reading, equipped on my old wing, that our elevation was getting higher. At one rest stop we noticed snow near the peaks. Alicia commented about them and wondered if we would ride into any snow. As it turned out when the altimeter got to 5,000 feet above sea level we rode into the snow covered peaks! There's a lesson here. In the spring a rider in the mountains must dress for changing weather and air temperatures.

What a great ride! I recommend that we make a Chapter T ride across the Charahala this year. Let's wait until the snow melts!

*Ride Safe and Warm!*  
*Gordon and Alicia*

## Wood Stiffed X2!

That's right, we were stiffed more than once! Chapter T is off to a great start and showing at other chapter events. We've chased the wood from G2 to F without success this month but it's OK. It has really been a lot of fun visiting other chapters.

Chapter T had a terrific showing at G2 on March 7th. Our anticipation was high but Chapter F got lucky. Eight faithful followers made it to Chapter F's meeting on March 8 to capture the wood. Once again we were stiffed and Chapter G2 got it back!! To quote an old saying, that's the luck of the draw!



All right team, we've got a couple of weeks to recover. Let's plan to attend the G2 meeting on April 1 to get that wood back!

Stiffed but Persistent,  
Gordon and Alicia

## ROMEOS RIDES

On Thursday March 3rd the ROMEOS had their 1st Chapter ride. These rides are open to anyone who is not working on Thursdays. We plan ride on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month. Rides on this day included: Brian, Loretta, Ken & Norm. Hope to see more riders on our next outing.

The weather was good with sunny skies & we left at 9.05 and rode mostly 4- & 2- lane roads through Knox, Jefferson, Cocke & Hamblen counties. We stopped in Newport & had lunch at the Blue Smoke Cafe. (Really good food with the special being B-B-Q.) Traffic was not as bad as on most people's work day. Total time on the ride was 4 1/2 hours.

## **Rider Education for March: LANE CHANGES & HEAD CHECKS!**

I'll bet at some point in time, while traveling down an interstate or multi-lane highway, you've started to merge into an adjacent lane only to be met with the sound of a blaring horn and perhaps someone shaking their fist at you. So, what went wrong? My guess is that you didn't do a head check as part of your lane change procedure.

A head check? Aren't head checks just for cars? And how long do you spend doing a head check?

As part of a lane change, head checks are a vital part of your riding/driving strategy. We have lots of blind spots in our cars because of roof supports, limited mirror coverage, etc., but we also have blind spots while riding. Our rear view mirrors are essential tools for keeping us updated to our surroundings, but mirrors tell us only that what we can see is clear. They don't tell us anything about what is outside of their coverage area. To get the rest of the story, you've got to loosen up your neck and look! It's not always the easiest thing to do.

As part of your lane change, be sure to signal first, and give that a few seconds before you do anything else. You can never tell when someone might actually give you some additional space if they know what you intend to do.

Glance at your mirrors to see if there are any obvious hazards, and then do a head check. As much as you can, turn your head and look over your shoulder in the direction you want to go while keeping your eyes level with the horizon. As we get a few more miles on our necks, they may not want to turn as easily, so you'll need to work at it. To see further around, it may even help to twist a bit at the waist. That will lessen the amount of neck turning required or will help you to see an even larger space around you.

Now just imagine you've looked over your shoulder and you're figuratively patting yourself on the back for doing such an amazing head turn while on a divided 4 lane highway with frequent traffic lights. Then, when you turn back to the front, you discover that the guy in front has stopped. Yikes! You can do without that kind of drama in your life, and hopefully you've also practiced stopping quickly. Don't spend too much time doing your head check as you need to always be cognizant of what's happening in front of you. Another possible problem with performing a too-long head check is that you tend to go where you look. If you take several seconds looking over your shoulder, there's a high probability that you'll start to drift in that direction whether it's clear or not. MSF recommends taking only about a second to perform your head check, and that goes by pretty darn fast. DO a head check, but make it a quickie to not create more problems than you're trying to avoid.

Once you've completed your lane change, don't forget to cancel your turn signal. Many of our bikes are blessed with self-cancelling turn signals, but not all are so equipped and things do break. Make sure the signal is cancelled.

Incorporating an aggressive head check into your repertoire will help lead to many happy lane changes. *Goeffrey Green*



### **THE ADS:**

*For Sale:* 1985 Honda Gold Wing Aspencade, 1200 cc, 4 cyl, 57K actual miles, custom seat w/backrest, new Avon Venom X tires w/3 miles on them, new windshield. Electrical system has almost all new components. Comes with a matching trailer--a really nice touring package – 5,000.00 cash and cruise away. They can contact me and I will put them in touch with the seller. Bob McIntyre

*For Sale:* 2005 Montana 5th wheel camper: 32' with bunk beds & full size bed. Excellent condition, Asking \$20,995 or best offer. Call Patrick @414-5206 if interested.

## Green Tomato Cake with Brown Butter Icing

Recipe courtesy Paula Deen



Prep Time:	10 min	Level:	Serves:
Inactive Prep Time:	10 min	Easy	1 cake
Cook Time:	1 hr 15 min		



### Ingredients

- 1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened
- 2 1/2 cups sugar
- 3 large eggs
- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 1/4 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 2 1/2 cups diced green tomatoes
- 1 cup golden raisins
- 1 cup chopped walnuts

### Directions

Browned Butter Icing, recipe follows

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Grease and flour a 12 cup bundt pan.

Beat butter and sugar with an electric mixer until creamy. Add eggs, 1 at a time, beating well after each addition.

In a medium bowl, combine flour, cinnamon, baking powder, salt, and nutmeg. Gradually add to butter mixture, beating well. (Batter will be soft.) Stir in tomatoes, raisins, and walnuts. Spoon batter into prepared pan. Bake for 70 to 75 minutes, or until a tester inserted in center comes out clean. Let cool in pan on wire rack for 10 minutes. Remove from pan, and let cool completely. Spoon Browned Butter Icing over cake.

### Browned Butter Icing:

1/2 cup (1 stick) butter

1 cup confectioners' sugar

In a medium saucepan over low heat, melt butter. Cook 6 to 8 minutes, or until butter is lightly browned. Whisk in confectioners' sugar until smooth.

Yield: about 1 cup