Downeast Goldwings
Chapter NC-D

December 2015

The Beacon

GWRRA Motto:
Friends for Fun, Safety, and Knowledge
Chapter NC-D Greenville, N.C.
We meet the first Thursday night of each month at:
Golden Corral Steak House
504 SW Greenville Blvd. Greenville, N.C. 27858
Phone: 252-756-4412
Gather at: 6:30 Meeting at 7:30 pm
We always start our meeting with prayer and we also give out door prizes

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Tec Adviser Preacher Cliff

Wings Over Smokies 2016
September 22—24.
C.D.’s and his side kicks chats.
Well, by the time you get this newsletter you will be ready for Thanksgiving and preparing for Christmas. As in the past we will not do a newsletter in December. December is so busy that we feel that the staff needs a break. December 3rd we will have our regular chapter meeting, December 4th is Ron Ayers friends and family night, December 5th is the BIG day at the O’Berry Center. Last event for 2015 is our Christmas Party on December 11th. We are required to do a newsletter if I get called out on it I will put something together, but the staff is off. Our present to them.

As the year comes near to the end you look back and try to figure out, WHAT have I accomplish? Did I do all that I had hoped to do? In most cases that would be no. Most of the time we have big plans for the year and maybe accomplish half of them. At the age we are getting we should be happy with half. We had planned to ride a lot more, but we worked around the doctors and if it wasn’t doctors the weather was bad. Our bodies is like a used car, maintenance and more maintenance. We have to keep them in as good of shape as possible, unlike that used car you can’t buy a new one.

You will be to busy to think about Chapter D until the first of the year, but after the holidays please start asking yourself what you can do to help the Chapter to move forward. It takes all members working together to make the chapter grow. With that in mind Chapter D needs a Chapter Couple for 2016. We don’t require a lot of traveling by the Couple but we really need one. If you would consider taking the job please contact us and let’s talk. The Chapter Couple has become a real big part of a Chapter, it promotes visitations.

We just returned from a trip to the mountains, as usual we had a good time except for the night it rained and Alice got sick, she’s on a new medicine, and she now understands the meaning “Do Not Take On A Empty Stomach”, bet that won’t happen again. With her sick and it raining so hard we reschedule the Christmas show for the next night. We found another place to walk through some shops and to see a water show moving to the sound of music. We rode the trolley to see the Christmas lights. We did a lot of riding around, so Ronnie could shop, and boy can she shop. WE made two trips to the Apple Barn to get donuts. The first dozen didn’t last very long, so we went back to get another dozens. This was our last rip for the year, got to save up for next year. We are already looking forward to Wings in September. Just wasn’t the same when it was in July.

Anyway ride safe and help someone when you can. And this time of the year lots of people need help, be careful who you choose to help, some really need your help and others just looking something for nothing.

Bobby

The Ballad Of The Turkey

As I walked along the road one day
Kicking up stones along the way,
I saw a bird of unusual size
Who had a large beak and small, beady eyes.

He strutted about and ruffled his wings
Then he did the most ominous thing.
He let out a screech and puffed out his chest
I wanted to run from this evil pest.

As this bird's mighty exterior did appear
The inside of my chest was filled with fear.
He put one talon forward, the other one next
This troublesome bird was making me vexed.

I then did something that was a great chance.
I kicked a stone at him to stop his advance.
He then chased the stone, oh joy of great joys!
I felt myself one of the luckiest boys!

Around the corner I ran, straight to my home,
Leaving that bird confused and alone.
Don’t befriend a turkey (for that’s what he was)
Or he will attack you simply because.

Hi my name is Dixie Craft and I go to Parkers Chapel Church and on Veterans Day my class was to go to Church dressed in red-white & blue in honor of our Country and Veterans Day. We were to represent someone in the military. I went dressed for my Uncle Bobby. I did him so proud.
Greetings from your ACD’s – Chapter Educator

I hope this newsletter article finds you doing well. I’m sorry if that’s not the case and wish you a speedy recovery. I think the majority of us are in the same boat, we used to plan our lives around our children and other activities, now we plan our activities around Doctor’s appointments. On the other hand, if you’re reading this article you’re still vertical.

This year is rapidly slipping away. The Chapter does not print a paper in December so this will be the last article from me until the New Year. The article I chose is another from James R. Davis so Happy Reading!

Motorcycle Officers Are Not The Best Example
The have different realities

I have read that mounting a motorcycle from the right side is 'OK' and for proof the poster pointed out that the motorcycle police in California are required to do so.

While I believe it is true that at least the California Highway Patrol requires their motorcycle officers to use the right side to both mount and dismount their machines, that is hardly an example one should draw heavy conclusions from. It may suggest that if you pull to the side of a freeway and want to dismount you might be safer getting on and off on the right side based on traffic risk, but that does not infer that it is generally safer to do so.

Your side stand provides a WIDE tripod footprint (unlike your center stand) that virtually guarantees your bike will not fall over if you lean against it. (This, by the way, is why it is far safer to leave your bike on its side stand than it is to put it on its center stand in a storm.) You would court dumping the bike if it was not LEANING heavily on its side stand when you mounted it (as when the bike is parked on a slope to the right.) Similarly, mounting from the right tends to relieve pressure from the side stand unless you 'hop' onto your left foot before your fanny hits the seat. Worse, your right foot is planted firmly on the ground when you do that and if the bike were to fall over you could not get away from it.

This is not a challenge of the motorcycle police. But they are hardly the best role models for most of us. Consider that despite the fact that full-face helmets are demonstrably safer than 3/4 or smaller shells, until recently not a single motorcycle policeman in the entire country wore one. (Many now do.) Also please observe that keeping two hands on the grips is obviously safer than riding with only one in control. This is why those of us with CB's have a PTT button within reach of a finger on the left hand without removing that hand from the grip. Yet some of our motorcycle police still use a hand microphone. (I'm told that in California - and probably most everywhere else - most motorcycle police officers now use helmet mounted microphones and conventional left-thumb activated PTT switches - their helmet cords disconnect easily as they leave their bikes.)

The answer to these apparently less safe practices of our motorcycle officers is that they have different risks to manage than we street riders do. They do not want to lose visual contact with a suspect for the brief time it takes to remove a full-face helmet (nor do they want to occupy both hands taking a helmet off.) They must often leave their bikes FAST and a microphone/speaker cord going to their helmets could cost them their lives if they had to deal with them at a vulnerable time. They tend to work busy freeways and mount/dismount their bikes frequently at the side of the road. (And, of course, they mount and dismount on the right to put their bikes between themselves and a possible bullet from the driver of the car in front of them as well as to keep themselves away from traffic.)

All I'm saying is that suggesting that a motorcycle officer be used as a role model for how to behave on your street machine is a bad choice. It is clearly safer (except, perhaps, on the side of a freeway) to mount and dismount your bike from the left. It is safer to ride with a full-face helmet than a smaller shell. It is safer to use a built-in microphone than a hand-held.

But then again, it is safer not being a motorcycle officer in any event.

Have a “Happy Turkey Day”. Don’t forget what the day represents. Be grateful and thankful for what you have. Look around, find someone less fortunate and share your meal with them by either inviting them to dine with you or carrying them a plate. Some are self-sufficient, but just by themselves and lonely. God Bless You, Gerald and Ronnie

ATTENTION: Christmas Party December 11th—
Address is 1083 Briley Road—Greenville, N.C.
It is the back of the house: For those that hasn’t been there before it’s a little hard to see. Please call 531-4520 if you get lost.
Things that Gene Donovan has learned while living in the South.

A possum is a flat animal that sleeps in the middle of the road.
There are 5,000 types of snakes and 4,998 of them live in the South.
There are 10,000 types of spiders. All 10,000 of them live in the South, plus a couple no one's seen before.
If it grows, it'll stick ya. If it crawls, it'll bite cha.
Onced and Twiced are words.
It is not a shopping cart, it is a buggy!
Fixinto is one word. It means I'm going to do that.
There is no such thing as lunch. There is only dinner and then there's supper.
Iced tea is appropriate for all meals and you start drinking it when you're two. We do like a little tea with our sugar. It is referred to as the Wine of the South.
Backwards and forwards means I know everything about you.
You don't have to wear a watch, because it doesn't matter what time it is, you work until you're done or it's too dark to see.
You don't PUSH buttons, you MASH em.
Ya'll is singular. All ya'll is plural.
All the festivals across the state are named after a fruit, vegetable, grain, insect, or animal.
You carry jumper cables in your car –for your OWN car.
You only own five spices: salt, pepper, mustard, Tabasco and ketchup.
Everyone you meet is a Honey, Sugar, Miss(first name) or Mr.(first name)
You think that the first day of deer season is a national holiday.
You know what a hissy fit is.
Fried catfish is the other white meat.
We don't need no dang Driver's Ed. If our mama says we can drive, we can drive!!!

AND one more:
Why did the chicken cross the road? To show that stupid possum that it CAN be done!

A lot of us grow up with wood burning heaters in our home. And you had to haul in wood for the night, you were to bring a few pieces of lighter wood in to start the fire in the morning. Did you ever wonder what lighter wood was? I never heard it called fatwood until I looked up the meaning or lighter wood. Fatwood, also known as "fat lighter," "lighter wood," "rich lighter," "pine knot," "lighter knot," "heart pine" or "lighter'd" [sic], is derived from the heartwood of pine trees. This resin-impregnated heartwood becomes hard and rot-resistant. The stump (and tap root) left in the ground after a tree has fallen or has been cut is an excellent source of fatwood. Other locations, such as the joints where limbs intersect the trunk, can also be harvested. Although most resinous pines can produce fatwood, in the southeastern United States the wood is commonly associated with longleaf pine (Pinus palustris), which historically was highly valued for its high pitch production. Fatwood is scar tissue of a damaged or injured pine tree. A lightning strike will scar a tree sometimes top to bottom without necessarily killing the tree. The result scar of burnt bark will "scar" over with resin. Once hardened, the wood and bark around the area becomes rich with the flammable hardened resin. High winds breaking limbs, or violently twisting the tree, will also open "wound" in the tree bark. Again, resin will harden forming "scar" tissue rich in fatwood. Hard yellowish resin can be found around the wound area. This can then be scraped off and used as a fire starter. Because of the flammability of terpene, fatwood is prized for use as kindling in starting fires. It lights quickly even when wet, is very wind resistant, and burns hot enough to light larger pieces of wood. A small piece of fatwood can be used many times to create tinder by shaving small curls and using them to light other larger tinder. In Louisiana "fatwood" is known as "rich lighter" and cut slivers are what is referred to as "kindling" because of the abundance. The pitch-soaked wood produces an oily, sooty smoke, and it is recommended that one should not cook on a fire until all the fatwood has completely burned out. Because of this oily smoke fatwood should not be used for indoor fireplaces. A fatwood pine knot burns hot enough that even one of a smaller size can cause damage to a wood stove and even cause house fires.[citation needed] The smoke produced by "fatwood" is considered to be an excellent bug (especially mosquito) repellent. (Although this is unproven). This is your history lesson for today.

Hi this is a good one!!! One farmer said to another, I once made a scarecrow so terrible that if frightened every single crow off the place. Oh thats nothing the other famer replied. I once made one so terrible that the crows brought back the corn they stole the year before.

The trouble with being a good sport is that you have to lose to prove it
A tourist in Vienna is going through a graveyard and all of a sudden he hears music. No one is around, so he starts searching for the source. He finally locates the origin and finds it is coming from a grave with a headstone that reads: "Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1827". Then he realizes that the music is Beethoven's Ninth Symphony and it is being played backwards! Puzzled, he leaves the graveyard and persuades a friend to return with him. By the time they arrive back at the grave, the music has changed. This time it is the Seventh Symphony, but like the previous piece, it is being played backwards. Curious, the men agree to consult a music scholar. When they return with the expert, the Fifth Symphony is playing, again backwards. The expert notices that the symphonies are being played in the reverse order in which they were composed, the 9th, then the 7th, then the 5th. By the next day the word has spread, and a crowd has gathered around the grave. They are all listening to the Second Symphony being played backward. Just then the graveyard's caretaker ambles up to the group. Someone in the group asks him if he has an explanation for the music. "I would have thought it was obvious," the caretaker says. "He's decomposing!"

What would a newsletter be without one of Gene Donovan jokes??????????????????

Wash Hands and Surfaces; not the Turkey

According to the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service, washing raw poultry, beef, pork, lamb, or veal before cooking it is not recommended. Bacteria in raw meat and poultry juices can be spread to other foods, utensils, and surfaces. Some consumers think washing removes bacteria and makes their meat or poultry safe. However, some of the bacteria are so tightly bound that you could not remove them no matter how many times you washed. But there are other types of bacteria that can be easily washed off and splashed on the surfaces of your kitchen.

The New — NC District Directors

Roy and Cindy Bryant
Our Sunshine Lady has a few words to say:

Well, it's that time of the month again, it goes and comes so fast. I think the older you get the faster time moves, ready or not. In just a couple of weeks it will be Thanksgiving and then in about six weeks Christmas. We have a lot to do in this short of time. Thanksgiving means cooking and more cooking eating and more eating. A good family day for us all. Then is the O'Berry Center Christmas Party, meeting and Ron Ayers and then The Bear Grass Christmas parade, there is no way we can forget that thanks to Preacher Clif. The rest of the month will be family and friends time and getting ready for Christmas Day.

I think a lot of us have had that sinus infection and gone to the doctor, that's no fun. It use to be that you only had sinus problems in the spring and now it's all year.

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<td>David Steele</td>
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A good recipe to try when it is cold

**Pull Candy – Stewed Sugar**

- 2 Cups Sugar
- 1/4 Cup Water
- 1/4 Cup of cider vinegar

Soft butter for greasing hands and cooling surface at least a stick of butter, you will need a candy thermometer for this recipe. Stir together the sugar, water and vinegar in a heavy saucepan. Clip on candy thermometer and don't let it touch the bottom of the cooking pan. Heat the sugar syrup until the candy thermometer reaches the hard ball stage or 260 – 265 degrees. Don't stir while it is cooking. Slowly pour the syrup onto a buttered surface like a large cutting board. Be very careful – this is a molten mass of hot syrup. Do not scrape bowl. Just let whatever candy come out, come out. Allow candy to cool for a few minutes, when it is cool enough to handle, gather the ball of candy into your well greased hands and pull the candy using both hands until you have reached as far as you can. Fold and pulling part over and repeat. Do this for about 4-5 minutes or until the candy is getting stiff and has a beautiful white color. Once this happens, pull out a long rope of candy about 1/2 thick. Your candy twist this if you want a twisted look for your candy. Break into pieces wrap each piece of candy in wax paper and store in airtight container.

This is a good time to make up some smiles ahead of time. So you will have them, on hand and ready to share them. There is nothing no better than to see a smiling face. We always need to remember what Willie the Frog tells us Never but Never give up, life is too short. Happy Thanksgiving to all. Betty

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Turkey Marinade Recipe

1 (12 to 14-pound) JENNIE-O® whole turkey, thawed, giblets and neck removed

- 3/4 cup dry red wine
- 1/3 cup orange juice
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 4 shallots, chopped
- 4 garlic cloves, peeled and minced
- 2 tablespoons fresh rosemary, minced
- 1 1/2 tablespoons fresh oregano, minced

With a fork, pierce random holes over the turkey. Place the turkey in large, plastic cooking bag. In small bowl, whisk together red wine, orange juice, olive oil, shallots, garlic, rosemary and oregano. Pour marinade over turkey. Close bag securely. Refrigerate several hours or overnight. Remove turkey from marinade and prepare turkey. Discard marinade. Do not use to baste. If you want to baste remove 1/8 cup of unused marinade from bowl and reserve for later

Safety Tip: Do not use gravy, dressing after three day!
Looking Ahead

I was listening to the weather report back around the first week of November and was treated to the piece of trivia that stated that we in Eastern North Carolina had, by the first week in November, received more rain than we statistically experience throughout the entire month. Then the next week we were under freeze warnings for a day or two. As we approach the Winter Solstice the days grow shorter and shorter. It can seem like the environment is stacking the deck against riding. So, aside from bundling up and not forgetting your rain suit, what’s a rider to do?

Here’s a suggestion; bundle up, don’t forget your rain suit, ride when you can, and start planning for next spring. With that in mind I poked around looking for some intriguing ideas. Arranged in chronological order are a few of the potential rides that caught my attention:

**Bike Week – Daytona Beach March 4 through 13**

This rally is a hoot! Beth and I rode to it for the first time a couple of years ago. Every possible configuration of a motorcycles and motorcyclist can be seen around the area. Daytona is close enough to where it can be ridden in an easy day. In fact, if you’re an Iron Butt enthusiast, you can ride there and back in a rather aggressive day. However, Beth and I made a lazy trip out of the ride, sticking to US 17 and stopping for two days in Savannah before actually continuing on to the rally.

This year is the 75th anniversary of Bike Week, so I would expect an exceptionally good turnout with plenty of vendors, rides, and events. Every major motorcycle manufacturer will have their latest offerings available for demo rides. I think you could spend the entire duration of the rally road testing various models from different manufacturers.

My favorite part of Bike Week, and to be honest the real reason we made the trip, is the Daytona 200 Motorcycle Race. There are several days of qualifying leading up to the race, which was nearly as interesting as the race.

If you decide to make Daytona Bike Week one of your destinations, I’m certain you won’t be disappointed.

**Florida GWRRA District Rally – Orlando March 17 through 19**

This year Florida’s District Rally will be held at the International Palms Resort and Conference Center in Orlando. They scheduled the event only four days following the close of Bike Week, so after closing up Bike Week, plan on doing a little self-exploring of Central Florida for a few days then ease on over to Orlando and check out the Florida District Rally.

**40 to Phoenix – April 6 through 12**

The 40 to Phoenix is another GWRRA sponsored event, which is a cross country ride starting on the East Coast and ending on the West Coast. It starts in Wilmington, NC at Carolina Barbecue, which most of you know Is the meeting place for Chapter Q. The termination point of the ride is Chula Vista, CA.

Each night the riders stop in designated towns along the way. However, riders may choose their own route to arrive at these stopping points. This is to allow different groups to take side trips to attractions that are of special interest to them. There is a two day stop in Phoenix to tour the GWRRA headquarters. The final destination in Chula Vista is scheduled with three days of activities. However, this three day layover could also allow interested riders the chance for a side trip into Mexico.

At the conclusion of the ride in California you have the opportunity to chart your own path back across the US, stopping where you want to. Anticipating and planning for this ride should carry you through the winter months without much trouble.

So make the shorter, colder, rainy days work for you. Ride when you can and when you can’t start planning your adventure. Make sure your bike is in shape for your spring exploration and make it happen.

In the meantime, ride safe and ride as often as you can.  

*Will & Beth Martin  Chapter NC-D MEC*

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**A tradition is born:** TV dinners have Thanksgiving to thank. In 1953, someone at Swanson misjudged the number of frozen turkeys it would sell that Thanksgiving -- by 26 TONS! Some industrious soul came up with a brilliant plan: Why not slice up the meat and repackage with some trimmings on the side? Thus, **the first TV dinner was born!**

**Going shopping?** Not if you’re a plumber. Black Friday is the busiest day of the year for them, according to Roto-Rooter, the nation’s largest plumbing service. After all, someone has to clean up after household guests who "overwhelm the system."

**This land is my land:** There are four places in the United States named Turkey. Louisiana's Turkey Creek is the most populous, with a whopping 435 residents. There’s also Turkey, Texas; Turkey, North Carolina; and Turkey Creek, Arizona. Oh, let’s not forget the two townships in Pennsylvania: the creatively named Upper Turkeyfoot and Lower Turkeyfoot!

**Gobble, gobble?** Not so fast. Only male turkeys, called toms, gobble. Females, called hens, cackle.
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David Steele