



# TN-A Honors Our VETERANS (especially in November)



Troy & Vickie Hurt

615-453-1508

Senior Chapter Directors Chapter TN-A, Nashville Tennessee  
Middle Tennessee Assistant District Directors

Fall has finally gotten here. It has been a long hot summer, but as the year is winding down folks will be riding more on various Fall Color Rides. We want to thank **Judy** and **Terry Schramm** for setting up our Chapter A ride this year. They had planned on taking us to the Rattlesnake Saloon in Tuscumbia AL, but when we got there they were having a Halloween Party at \$50 per couple. So we decided to go to Logan's to have dinner.

Fifteen of us went including **Judy** and **Terry**, **Steve Bowman**, **Sheila** and **Don**, **Karen** and **Steve**, **Anita** and **Jack**, **Nancy**, **Emma**, **Julie** and **Tim**, and **Vickie** and **me**. Everyone had a good time. Just don't ask Julie about what I did at one of the stops. Also, a big thanks to **Tim** and **Julie** for leading us back on Sunday; job well done!

**Bob** and **Susie Cochran** were all set to go on the Fall Color Ride, but at the last minute he had chest pains and went to be checked out. They were at our dinner ride this past week and he is feeling better now. I spoke with **Jerry Hunt** and he is having surgery in a few weeks, but he told me we may see him at tomorrow's gathering.

### We Missed out

We know there were some out of state rallies that took place, but Vickie and I still have to work, so we were unable to make them. We heard that they were really good.



### Coming Up

November has several events taking place. November 9<sup>th</sup> there will be two Veterans' Day Parades. Vickie and I will go to Clarksville on Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> after work where they will be having a meet and greet at the Golden Corral around 6pm. Please let us know if you are going to this parade. Also the Nolensville parade will be taking place. Breakfast will be at 8am at the Southern Hospitality Diner in Nolensville. They will install flags behind Martin's BBQ at 9:30 to 10am. We have said there are enough members in Tennessee to fly ALL the flags in BOTH parades, so let's go support our Men and Women that serve our great Nation.

### Holidays Are Close

There will also be some Christmas parades coming up. December 2<sup>nd</sup> Smyrna will be having their parade and then Gladeville's will be on December 8<sup>th</sup>. Smyrna takes canned goods for a donation. Gladeville is 10:00 for the group. Please let us know if you would like to participate in these parades.

Go to Page 2



Golden Corral, Hermitage (Nashville) TN Eat at 6 pm; Meet at 7 pm Central  
Last Tuesday of Every Month except December

## Friends for Fun, Safety, and Knowledge



From Page 1

**Christmas Party**

Our Christmas Party is six weeks from Saturday, on December 7, 2019 at **Jack and Anita's Wheeler's Church**. The address is Hillcrest United Church 5112 Raywood Ln.,

**Couple of the Year**

At our November gathering we will be selecting Chapter A's *2020 Couple of the Year*, so be thinking about who you like to represent Chapter A.

**Judy and Terry** have done a Great job this year and we want to thank them for all they do.

Please let us know if you have any changes with phone numbers or e-mails and when we need to make the changes. Also it helps **Emma and Wink** to make the changes on the roster and the newsletter mail-out.

The District will be using Groupworks a lot from now on. I am still learning how to use this and it should work very well, so please check it out.

We want to thank everyone for all you do for the Chapter you the members make a good Chapter!!

We will see you one more time two days before Thanksgiving, but we wish you a *happy feast* now, anyway, for you and your loved-ones.

Take Care and Ride Safe in 2019

*Troy and Vickie*

**TN-A COY LIST**

- 1993 Judy & Bill Appleton
- 1994 Debbie & Carl Moore
- 1995 Mary & Benton Brown
- 1996 Ann & Jim Edwards
- 1997 Carol & RC Booher
- 1998 Marilyn & Jerry Hamilton
- 1999 Karen & Roger Pratali
- 2000 Carole & Don Keller
- 2001 Laura & Keith Morgan
- 2002 Vickie & Troy Hurt
- 2003 Sharon & Buddy Carver
- 2004 Terri & Rick Witzberger
- 2005 Linda Holland-Larry Combs
- 2006 Sharon & Jerry Hamilton
- 2007 Sheila & Don Luth
- 2008 Josie & Ray Coleman
- 2009 Anita & Jack Wheeler
- 2010 Emma & Don Hurley
- 2011 Connie & Jerry Grimes
- 2012 Angela & Monte Gannon
- 2013 Sally & Paul Tampien
- 2014 Ruth & Brian Fugate
- 2015 Pat & Jeff Cato
- 2016 Wink & Bob Rager
- 2017 Julie & Tim Ingram
- 2018 Karen & Steve Thomas
- 2019 Judy & Terry Schramm

**2020 ??**

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**COUPLE OF THE YEAR 2019**

Judy and Terry Schramm

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**50/50 / ROSTER**

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**GOODY TABLE**

Judy and Terry Schramm

## Tennessee Motorcycle Rider Instructors Establish Sherri Glover Memorial Award

### Sherri Glover Memorial Award

LearnToRide.ORG has dedicated an annual **Sherri Glover Memorial Award** to be given to a female RiderCoach who exemplifies "Integrity, Humor, Patience, Poise, Creativity, Leadership, and Knowledge" in helping people learn to ride motorcycles. The award was established at the January 2004 meeting of the Tennessee Motorcycle Rider Instructors. <http://www.learntoride.org/SherriGloverTribute.html>

LearnToRide.ORG makes \$100 annual contributions, in memory of Sherri, to Susan G. Komen for the Cure.

#### 2003 Sherri Glover Memorial Award: Wink Rager

**Wink Rager**, know as "mama" to those at Nashville State Community College, has taught motorcycle safety classes since 1993.

Wink is a member of the GoldWing Road Riders Association, Chapter TN-A and is editor of their newsletter "Wing News Around Nashville." The Tennessee Motorcycle Rider Instructors are certified and licensed by the State of Tennessee to teach motorcycle safety.

<http://www.sherriglover.com/tnridersmemorialaward.htm>



#### 2004 Sherri Glover Memorial Award: Rebecca Neal

"2004 Sherri Glover Memorial Award for Distinguished Service presented by The Tennessee Riders Instruction Program at Nashville State Community College recognizing that **Rebecca Neal** demonstrates Integrity, Humor, Patience, Poise, Creativity, Leadership, and Knowledge to her students. Thank you. We miss you Sherri!"



Dean Young, Rebecca Neal (2005 recipient), Michele Marden, Suzanne Angele, Steve "Jake" Jacobs



The Story of The Crash <http://www.sherriglover.com/thecrash.htm>

# Comb Graves of White County



Day  
Trippin'

with

*Tim*

Tim Ingram  
GWRRA TN-A



**When I** was little, my mom and dad took us kids to Overton County to visit some graveyards they had heard about. These had markers that were different from any they had seen before. They were tent graves, or more officially, comb graves. This unique burial style has been of interest to me ever since. Today Chuck and I are going to ride to White County, just south of Sparta, and visit some cemeteries that have this type grave. Chuck and I meet up in Gladeville and head down roads with names like McCrary, Vesta, Whippoorwill and Simons Bluff. Some of the best roads don't have numbers, only names. Mother Nature is really smiling on us today as it is a crisp fall morning with a cloudless blue sky, perfect for riding.

In Auburntown we take Hwy 145. I know, it is a number, but it is still one of my favorite roads. It meanders alongside the creek that winds its way through the center of the valley surrounded on both sides by farmland with a backdrop of mountains. The sweeping curves are just right for maintaining the 55 mph speed limit. At the end of the valley the road climbs out and runs under a tall bridge that is stuck in the middle of nowhere, and that's where it goes – nowhere. *Your tax dollars at work.* We ride up on top of it and park in its middle. The view back down into the valley is spectacular! We continue down the other side of the mountain and make our way into Woodbury. After a couple turns we

find Stones River Road. This is a delightful little narrow road that snakes its way through the woods and along the river before climbing to higher elevations in its serpentine path. After a while we turn onto Hwy 287 and it takes us to our next stop – Rock Island State Park.



We turn in the entrance and make our way past the Ranger Station and the camp grounds to the swimming area. It is on the Caney Fork River and

has tall bluffs on the opposite side. The area is very peaceful, especially since we have it to ourselves. Back on 287 we stop to take in the beauty of the Great Falls. This waterfall is horseshoe shaped and reminds me of a miniature Niagara Falls. Continuing on, we eventually get to Hwy 136, Old McMinnville Hwy. On the corner is the Rock Island Market and Café. It's about lunch time so we go in for a bite. I have the BBQ and it is delicious!

Leaving the restaurant, we follow 136 a couple of miles and turn left onto the road that will take us to the Twin Falls. This is a rough, narrow road that winds through farmland at the edge of the woods and then down a steep grade to the river and the falls. The falls are spectacular! The water looks like it is gushing straight out of the side of the mountain into the river far below. It is definitely worth the trip!

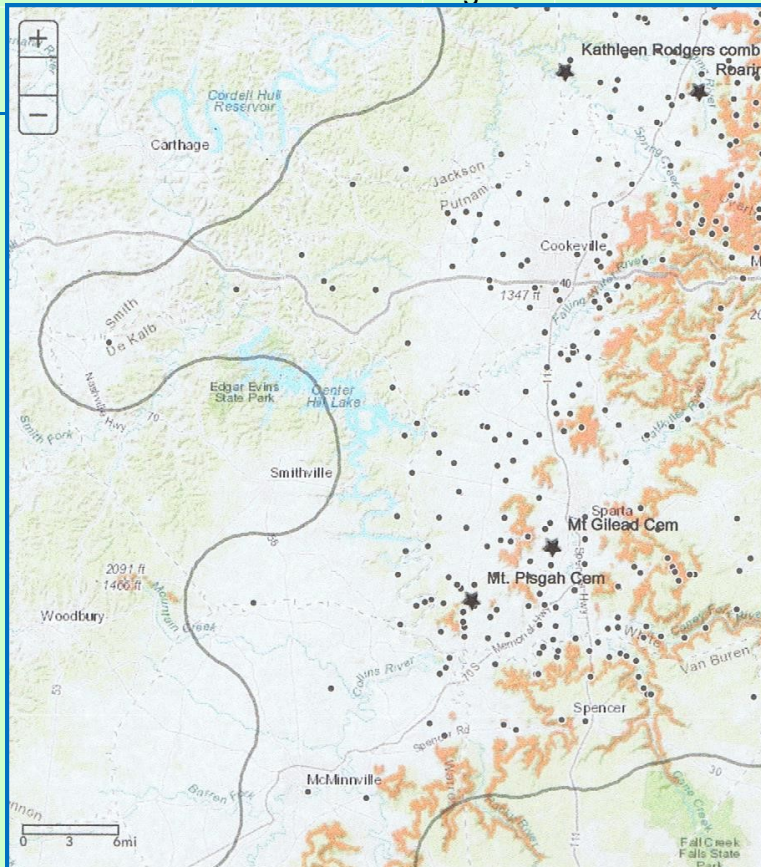


Old Jericho Cemetery

Photos courtesy Tim Ingram

Back on McMinnville Hwy, we come to the little town of Quebec and turn left onto Quebec Road. We turn again onto Jericho Road and then Old Jericho Cemetery Road. This no-line road runs up and down the rolling hills through pastureland and forest.

Before long we see our destination beside the road at the top of the hill – Old Jericho Cemetery. This is a small cemetery watched over by ancient cedar trees in the quietness of the remote countryside. Most of the graves are comb style and around 150 years old. Some of the graves have headstones, but a lot do



graves have a headstone that is separate from the comb structure. The oldest comb graves are in White County, dating in the 1815-1820's. The popularity of this style burial peaked around 1876-1886. The main concentration of comb graves in Tennessee is found along the western edge of the Cumberland Plateau in White, VanBuren, and Overton Counties. The reason for this style grave is not totally known. It is speculated that one of the reasons was to protect the grave from animals. In the days before power mowers, the easiest way to keep a cemetery



not, so it's impossible to tell their age. One grave stone says that the man buried there had been killed in the Civil War. It's easy to close my eyes and imagine the horse drawn wagon carrying the deceased as it

mowed was to allow livestock to graze it. The cover, or comb, protected the grave from trampling. Another reason could have been that people just liked it.

The other two cemeteries we go to, Old Union and Mt. Gilead, are both larger than Old Jericho. They have a lot of comb graves, but they are also very well kept and have a lot of resent graves. If you are interested in learning more about comb graves, Ric Finch has done extensive research on the subject and has a website with all his findings. You can visit it at [www.graterutabaqa.com](http://www.graterutabaqa.com).

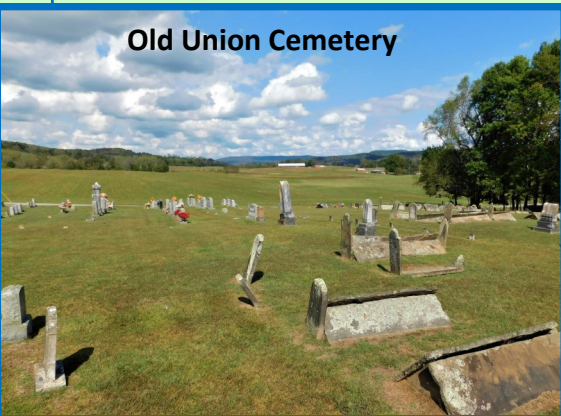
slowly makes its way up the hill on the old dirt road with the mourners following close behind. In the silence you can almost feel their grief.

A comb grave is a burial that features a grave cover normally made of two rectangular slabs of stone leaned together to form a gable roof over the grave. The term "comb" signifies "the crest or ridge of a roof". Combs

Some of these old cemeteries are hard to find. If you use Google search, when you arrive at one, it will tell you that "You have reached your final destination!"

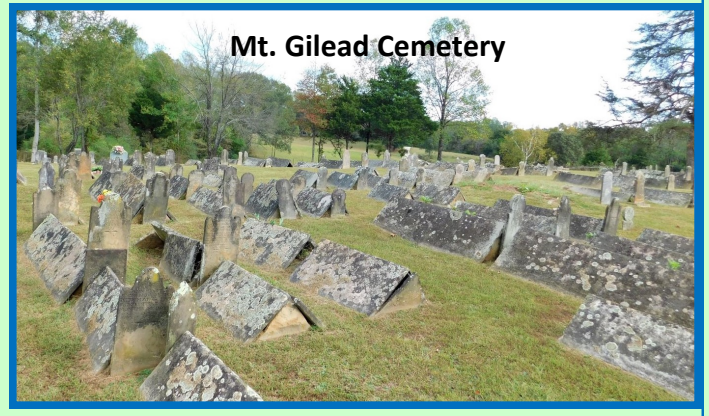
*Tim Ingram*

Old Union Cemetery



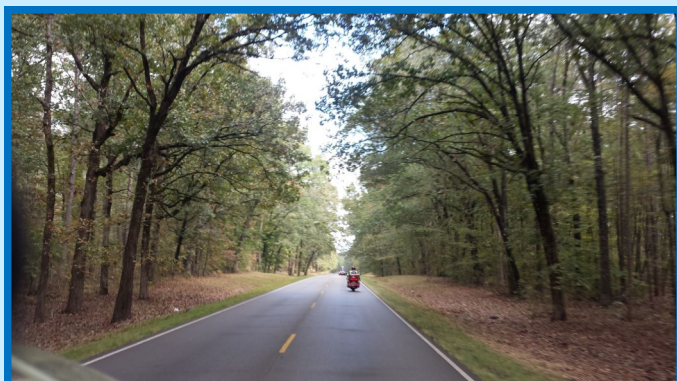
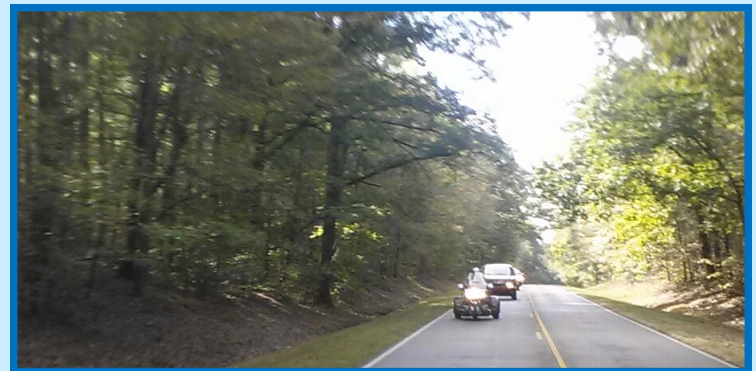
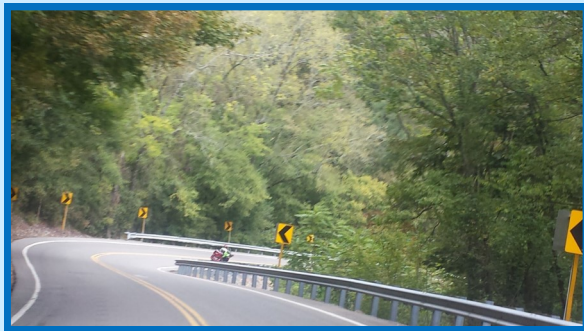
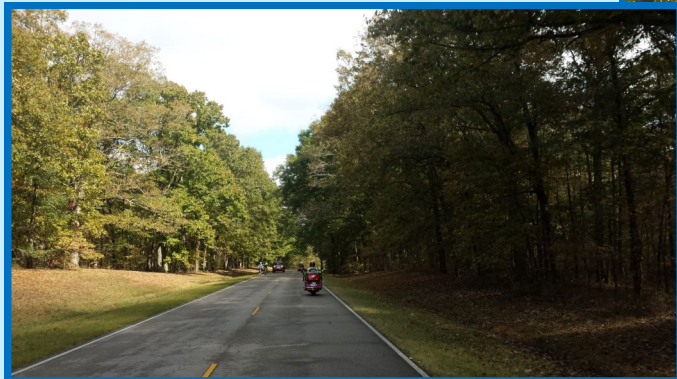
have also been likened to tents and some people call them "tent graves". Each end of the typical comb is closed off by a stone slab cut to fit the triangular opening under the side slabs. Most of these

Mt. Gilead Cemetery



# Fall Color Ride

Rattlesnake  
Saloon  
Saturday,  
October 19, 2019



Photos courtesy Vickie Hurt



Photos courtesy Steve Thomas

# Fall Color



Photos courtesy Steve Thomas



# Ruon



Photos courtesy Steve Thomas

# Wing Ding 41

( This article was supposed to be in last month's newsletter, I lost it or I should say I lost the drive it was on. )

L Karen

**Let me start** with saying Karen and I and had a great time at Wing Ding 41. We met old friends, made new one and spent way too much money at the vendors. Ha! Ha! Ha!

As most of you know, Chapter A was in charge of putting guided and unguided rides together for Wing Ding. I think that we were successful with the four rides.

Over 800 copies of directions were picked up and over 100 people showed up to ride! I led a group NE of Nashville which contained around 60 motorcycles. We broke up into three groups – I led one group, Miss Wink led another (with Tim Ingram as her tail gunner), and Grant Bottomley (Chapter S) led the third group. Debbie Smith (Chapter L) with Troy Hurt (Chapter A – CD) was tail gunner lead a group to Lebanon to the Vietnam Veterans Museum. Murray Duncan (Chapter E) took a group to Smyrna to the Blue Angel Memorial. Tim Ingram set up a self-guided ride SE of Nashville to the Watertown area.

We saw a lot of Chapter A people there including Bob and Susie Cochran, James and Susan Cox, Don and Sheila Luth, Jeff and Dana Johnson, Steve Bowman, Jack and Anita Wheeler, Tim and Julie Ingram, and Terry and Judy Schramm. We were also happy to see Paul and Sally Tampien, back from their travels.

Chapter A did a lot of shopping at the vendors, some more than others (we will not mention any names.)

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU to all the chapter members that worked at Wing Ding.

Don't know about you, but we've already started making plans for Wing Ding 42 in Springfield, MO next year. It has been moved back to 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend. (June 30 – July 4).



## *Steve and Karen Thomas*

561-315-8629

Assistant Chapter Directors  
Chapter TN-A, Nashville Tennessee  
RIDE COORDINATORS

Spring Fling is just around the corner. Don't forget to make your reservations. Since the theme is Hillbilly, might want to start looking for bib overalls and a straw hat!

Until next month, ride safe and have fun!

## *Steve and Karen*

### Driver's License

A friend of a friend of mine was sitting on a lawn sunning and reading, when he was startled by a fairly late model car crashing through a hedge and coming to rest on his lawn. He helped the elderly driver out and sat him on a lawn chair.

"My goodness," he exclaimed. "You are quite old to be driving!"  
"Yes," he replied. "I am

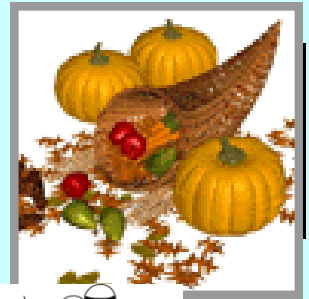
old enough that I don't need a license anymore. The last time I went to my doctor he examined me and asked if I had a driving license. I told him yes and handed it to him."  
"He took scissors out of a drawer, cut the license into pieces and threw them in the wastebasket. 'You won't be needing this anymore,' he said."  
"So I thanked him and left."












# November 2019



Folks Who Need  
Sunshine:

Remember : Troy  
Jerry Hunt  
Ann  
Anita  
Ed Grazier



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				 <b>Halloween</b>	<b>1</b> <b>Change Clock tonight</b>	<b>3</b> N Jackson 1-S L Lebanon  <b>2 Nancy Miller</b> <b>Turn clocks back</b>
<b>3</b> 	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> E 2-SM Smyrna  <b>Clarksville PARADE</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> <b>STAFF</b> Eat 6:00 Meet 6:30	<b>12</b> <b>VETERANS DAY</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> G 3-TH Tullahoma  <b>14 Julie Ingram</b>	<b>15</b> <b>CHAPTER A Dinner Ride</b>	<b>16</b> S Portland 1-Y Murfboro  <b>16 Monte Gannon</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> H 4-
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Q L-M Clarksville	<b>26</b>  <b>Couple of the Year NIGHT</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>  <b>THANKSGIVING</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>  <b>30 Tammy &amp; Ivan</b>

**Let's Go Visiting**

Painturo's Pizza 522 W Main St

- Chapter A** --- Last Tuesday ~ Eat 6:00 pm/Meet 7:00 pm: GOLDEN CORRAL, 315 OLD LEBANON DIRT RD., HERMITAGE  
Sr. CDs: **Troy & Vickie Hurt**; 615-351-6629
- Chapter E** --- 2nd Saturday ~ Eat at 9:00am / Meet at 10:00am : Smyrna Bowling Center 95 Weakley La. Smyrna 37167  
CDs: **Murray Dunkin** or Randy & Delores Galloway; 615-893-0556
- Chapter G** --- 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday ~ Eat 6:00 pm/Meet 7:00 pm : Gondola Pizza and Steak House, 412 E Carroll St (Hwy 55)  
Tullahoma CDs: **Dennis & Anne Greer**; 931-728-1463
- Chapter H** --- 4th Saturday ~ Eat at 9:00am / Meet at 10:00am : Shoney's, 1306 Murfreesboro Rd. (TN Hwy 96) Franklin  
CDs: **WILL & THU HORSLEY** 615-483-2335
- Chapter L** --- 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday ~ Eat 11:00 am./Meet 12:00 am : **Painturo's Pizza 522 W Main St** Lebanon  
CDs: **Andrew & Debbie Smith**; 615-784-9772 (615-78GWRRA)
- Chapter N** --- 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday ~ Meet 5:00 pm/Eat 6:00 pm : Brook Shaw's Old Country Store, 56 Casey Jones Lane Jackson.  
CDs: **Jeff & Shari Douglas**; 731-267-8338
- Chapter Q** --- Last Monday ~ Eat 6:00 pm/Meet 7:00 pm : Golden Corral 2811 Wilma Rudolph Blvd Clarksville  
CD: **Cindy Bidwell**; 731-227-9016
- Chapter S** --- 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday ~ Eat 1:00 pm/Meet 2:00 pm : **Milo's Coffee House**, Formerly *My Time Cafe*, Portland  
CDs: **Grant & Carol Bottomley**; 615-337-8386
- Chapter W-2** -- 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday ~ Eat 6:00 pm/Meet 7:00 pm: Perkins, 1340 S. Germantown Pkwy, Memphis  
CDs: **Ivan & Leesa Coburn**; 870-514-8622
- Chapter Y** --- 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday ~ Eat 9:00 am/Meet 10 am : Murfreesboro Jaycees Colonel's Club, 403 Hickerson Dr  
CDs: **Wesley & Cindy Neal**; 615-668-4448
- Chapter Z** --- 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday ~ Eat 5:30 pm/Meet 6:30 pm : **Shoney's**, 2225 Carmack Blvd Columbia  
CDs: **Charlie & Pam Huffman**; 931-215-1650



WINGS AROUND NASHVILLE GWRRA TN-A  
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## November 2019 GOD BLESS AMERICA

### Winkie Links

#### Serious:

**Food City** is a Southern grocery store chain with headquarters in Bristol, Tennessee. This is their one-minute commercial. Not a word spoken and none is needed.

Kinda makes me want to shop at one of these. Too bad none in our area [https://www.youtube.com/embed/uoABTy\\_zE00?re](https://www.youtube.com/embed/uoABTy_zE00?re)

**The Battle of Athens, Tennessee (1946) HONOR OUR VETERANS** This is a film production of an actual incident that really did happen. Athens is about 20 or 25 miles north Cleveland, TN.

Watch this short video to the end.

This is the real reason why we have the 2nd Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

**click on....** <http://voxcispublicus.homestead.com/Battle-of-Athens.html>

#### Less Serious:

The Veterans pictures are toward the end. Don't miss the letter concerning the Christening of the destroyer, the U.S.S. Sullivans.

<https://soulfoodfriday.files.wordpress.com/2016/02/getting-some-historic-perspective1.pdf>

#### The Last Fighter Pilot

P-51 Pilot Captain Jerry Yellin shares some memories seventy some years after World War Two of his life during and after the war. <https://biggeekdad.com/2018/09/the-last-fighter-pilot/>

#### The Last Laugh:

**MAKE SURE YOUR SOUND IS ON – Oldie, but Goodie!!!**

But, if the word "ass" offends you, skip this one. [https://famguardian.org/Subjects/PropertyPrivacy/Articles/Tom\\_Mabe.mp4](https://famguardian.org/Subjects/PropertyPrivacy/Articles/Tom_Mabe.mp4)

The Armed Services Arts Partnership's (ASAP) Comedy Bootcamp in Norfolk, Virginia, is an eight week comedy writing and performing class for veterans, servicemembers, and military family members.

[https://www.google.com/url?](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwi5i5fj67IAhVOU98KHQBtDJlQtwlwAHoECAoQAQ&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3Dm_nCVpEe-7q&usq=AOVvaw3au76SSK6_M_Xe2icpQDz0)

[https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwi5i5fj67IAhVOU98KHQBtDJlQtwlwAHoECAoQAQ&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3Dm\\_nCVpEe-7q&usq=AOVvaw3au76SSK6\\_M\\_Xe2icpQDz0](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwi5i5fj67IAhVOU98KHQBtDJlQtwlwAHoECAoQAQ&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3Dm_nCVpEe-7q&usq=AOVvaw3au76SSK6_M_Xe2icpQDz0)

## How to Interview a Veteran Yourself

Once you find a World War Two veteran, ask them what branch and units they were a part of.

**Example:** 8th Air Force->322nd Bomb Group, USS Missouri, or 36th Infantry->143rd Infantry Regiment

Write down this information and search the units online and research what they did during the war so that when the time for the interview comes you know what you are talking about.

### Set an Interview Time

Next, set a time to interview the veteran, do it on their time(it is usually best to start around 9:30 AM) and at their residence (that is where they will be most comfortable talking and where they will have memorabilia from the war days). Also make sure that when the interview is conducted, that it is just you and the veteran alone because when family members sit in or are even around it skews the interview and the veteran starts to censor what he says.

### Equipment You Will Need

- a video camera ( I use a Canon 70D )
- a tripod
- an external audio mic ( RodeVideoMic )
- SD cards ( Sandisk 64 GBs are the best )

### Preparing for the Interview

When you reach the veteran's residence for the interview, first thank them for their willingness to participate, their time, and their service. Once in the residence, look around for a well lit area, near a window is probably best (opposite the window is the best). You may have to situate them near some lamps and you may have to move some floor lamps. To easily solve this problem though you could just purchase an inexpensive floor lamp (search online Deluxe Sun Floor Lamp).

Once the veteran is comfortable and the lighting is ideal, setup the camera and move it eye level with the veteran and zoom out so that his entire face is in frame plus some. As the interviewer you should sit in front of the veteran. Do not set the camera up right in front of the veteran, rather set it up either slightly to the right or left of you, close enough that you can see the camera screen to make sure it is recording and

that the audio is in check but far enough so that the veteran can have eye contact with you. Tell the veteran that when he is making hand gestures to please put the hands up higher than usual in order for the expressions to make the video.

### Have a "Conversation"

At this point, tell the veteran that you and he are just having a conversation and that the camera is there to merely record the conversation versus you having to write it all down and also so that people will know how good looking he is!

After this and right before you begin, have a personal moment with the veteran. One in which you tell them how thankful you are for all they had to do and all they had to see. It is only because of what he and the others like him did in the Second World War that made this country what is today and made the world what it is today. Tell him that you will never forget the his actions and the sacrifices he and so many others made so that you could have an opportunity at a good life. You can also say at this point that you will be getting into some heavy material concerning his combat and that he needs to understand that current generations have no idea the kind of horrors he had to go through and in order for us to beware of war, we need to know first hand of war's effects and the true cost of war. Tell him that this is an opportunity to speak for the men who did not come back home. At this point shake the veteran's hand and get started on the interview.

### Questions to Ask

Below are questions that will help you with the interview. It is a great base and you can ask every question on here but please do not treat it like a script. Instead, let your natural curiosity flow and ask branch-off questions about the things the veteran said in the interview and treat it like a conversation! Have the veteran look at you and not the camera and just hold an in-depth conversation.

### Early Life

**The point of this section is to get the veteran comfortable talking to you and so that you can jog his memory and also so that he can relive some fonder times in his life. If this section drags on move on to the next section and come**

**back to this at the end of the interview. This way the veteran will still have energy to talk about his combat days.**

1. What is your full name Sir?
2. Where and when were you born?
3. How old are you currently?
4. What was your full rank and what part of armed services were you in, Sir?
5. What were the military units you were apart of? Ask the vet to name off as much as they remember.  
Examples:  
Army ->Corps->Division->Regiment/Brigade->Battalion->Company->Platoon ->Squad->Fireteam  
Navy->Fleet->Battle Fleet->Task Group->Task Unit->Flotilla->Task Element  
Air Corps->Air Division->Wing->Bomb Group ->Squadron->Flight  
Marine Corp->Divisions->Regiments->Battalions->Companies->Platoons->Squads->Fire teams
6. What was your role in that unit? (Example Rifleman, Machine Gunner, Pilot, Bombardier, Quartermaster, Tank Commander...)
7. Talk to me about your early childhood...Where did you grow up? What do you remember about your town/city during the time you were growing up? Who were the most memorable characters growing up?
8. What were the names of your parents and what were their occupations?
9. Did you have any siblings? If so what were their names and did any of them also serve in World War Two? If they did, what branches did they serve in?
10. Were you all close as a family?
11. What are some of the fond memories you hold of your early childhood?
12. Who were some of your childhood best friends?
13. What kind of things would you do for fun? What kind of games would you play?
14. Please talk to me about what was it was like to grow up during the Great Depression? What else do you remember from that time?
15. Did your family suffer during the Great Depression?
16. Do you remember any instances that made you realize how bad the Depression was?
17. Do you recall listening to FDR Fireside Chats? If so what do you remember about them? Did you listen to any other radio programs? If so what?
18. What high school did you go to and what year did you graduate?
19. Who were some of your best friends during those years? What would you all do for fun?
20. Could you please talk about some fond memories you have concerning your high school years?
21. Were you more of academic or athletic type? Any particular classes or teachers that you were fond

of? Any particular sports?

22. Do you remember your first few jobs as a teenager?

23. What kind of hobbies did you have? What were you interested in growing up?

24. Did you go steady with anyone in your teenage years? If so who? What kind of things would you all do on date nights?

25. What kind of things would you do for fun with your buddies during your teenage years?

26. What kind of music was your favorite back then, any particular artists?

27. Tell me Sir, do you recall hearing about what was happening in Europe concerning the Nazi regime? What were your thoughts during the Battle of Britain? Do you recall hearing about what was happening with Japan and its invasion of China? Did all of this make mainstream news?

28. Can you please talk about what you remember concerning the isolationist sentiment that America held before Pearl Harbor?

29. Where were you when you found out about Pearl Harbor? What did you feel?

30. What do you recall about the surge of patriotism that the U.S. saw in the days following Pearl Harbor?

31. Did you listen to the FDR declaration of war address on December 8th, 1941? What do you recall about the sentiments people held towards the Germans and Japanese after Pearl Harbor?

32. What did you do in the time between the end of high school and entering the service?

## Early Days of Service

**The point of this is to get the veteran to start reminiscing about their military days in order to get the most material out of them when you talk about their combat experience. If this section drags on move on to the next section and come back to this at the end of the interview. This way the veteran will still have energy to talk about his combat days.**

33. Tell me Sir, did you end up enlisting or were you drafted? Do you remember the date? (Month/Day/Year) How old were you? Did your friends also join the service?

34. If enlisted, why did you choose that specific branch of the military?

If drafted, what were your thoughts on the branch they assigned you to?

35. What do you remember about the day you went into the recruitment office? Were there many other people? What did they have you all do?

36. What was it like to know that you were a part of the armed forces?

37. What was it like saying goodbye to your folks before you shipped off?

38. Where were you sent for induction? What did you do there? What do you remember seeing?

39. From the point you were inducted, can you please tell me all the places they sent you for training and what you did at each place?

40. Could you please take me through a typical day in your basic training? How often would you march?
41. What weapon(s) did you qualify on during basic training? (For example: M1903 rifle? M1 rifle? , Carbine rifle)
42. What qualification level did you achieve? (Marksman? Sharpshooter? Expert?)
43. Did you receive any specialized training? If so, what and where? Did you already have any specialized skills or training that helped you get your job?
44. Do you remember any of your fellow soldiers that you trained with at any of the bases? Did you get close with any of them?
45. Do you remember any of your drill sergeants? If so, what were they like?
46. Do you recall any of your instructors? If so, what were they like?
47. Do you remember any of the propaganda you all the soldiers would be shown to boost morale?
48. Do you remember any memorable instances at any of your training camps that you would care to divulge?
49. While at training camps, what would you all do for recreation in your free time?
50. How did you adapt to military life, including the physical regimen, barracks, food and social life?
51. What do you remember about the sacrifices the country made for the war effort? (like rationing, buying bonds, recycling of rubber, grease, or other commodities etc...)
52. (Only if the veteran is from the South or was trained there) Did you encounter segregation? What do you recall about it?
53. (only if veteran is Jewish) Did you ever encounter Anti-Semitism?
54. What happened in the time between finishing your training and being shipped overseas?

## War Time Service

\*This section is the most important by far. It is the material in this section that that defines these men as heroes. We need to get as much of their experiences in combat so that people will understand all the bloodshed and sacrifices that took place in order for us to live in the world will live in today. When talking about combat, you have to go through their missions, battles, ask them which conflicts they were in. From your research you should know this.\*

55. What theater of operations were you in? (ETO? PTO? MTO? CBI?)
56. When did you get shipped overseas? What was your port of embarkation for deployment?
57. How did you travel to the war zone? Tell me about that experience please. (They most likely took a liberty ship or flew)
58. When and where did you arrive overseas?



59. What type of equipment and uniform were you issued before you were deployed into the combat zone?
60. How long did it take for you to reach your theater of operations? What did you do in the time from arriving overseas and reaching your combat zone?
61. Please describe to me what happened when you reached your combat zone destination. What kind of things do you recall seeing?
62. What were your orders?
63. Did you receive any training after you were deployed overseas?
64. Before you went into combat for the first time were you nervous or scared?

**You should have your research done on the veteran's Bomb Group/Infantry Regiment/Ship, etc. You should have a solid understanding of where they went and where they saw combat and what happened at each battle. So retrace their steps and along the way talk to them about what they saw, what they had to do, ask them to describe the scenes, the noises, and the smells. You should discuss their key battles/missions and talk to them about their role and their observations. You will need to talk to them about the horrors they had to endure.**

**You have access to someone who was actually there, so go through each to them about each part and ask what they remember and ask them to describe the scenes. There will be some parts that will be hard to talk about for the vet but you need to assure them that it is these parts that are the most important for people to hear and how war is truly hell. Their experiences need to be known so that all that bloodshed and sacrifice was worth it. As you are doing this, keep the below questions in mind as well.**

65. Please talk to me about the first time you experienced combat? Can you please tell me about some other combat experiences? Please describe the scenes and what the objectives were. Can you tell me some more about your experiences?
66. Can you talk to me about your role in your unit and the duties that the job included?
67. Did you ever have to change jobs or do a job that you weren't trained for?
68. What different responsibilities did you have to take on during the war?
69. What were the names of some of the guys you served overseas with that you became close to? What do you remember about them? Did they survive the war?
70. What was that like to lose good friends and yet still have to continue on?
71. Who were your commanding officers, and what were your thoughts of them?
72. Was there any part of your job that you were especially good at? Was there any part of your job that you especially enjoyed? What part of your job were you not especially good at? What part of your job did you least enjoy?
73. Talk to me about some of the things you enjoyed doing and some of the things you did not enjoy doing during your time overseas.
74. Did you ever see or hear the enemy? Tell me about those experiences.

75. Can you please talk to me about the times in which you engaged the enemy? What did you see and what did you have to do? What was going through your mind?
76. Can you please talk to me about your experiences under fire? What were the sights you saw and the noises you heard?
77. Was there something special you would do or have for good luck before you went into combat?
78. What were your most frightening experiences?
79. What were your most interesting experiences?
80. What were your most exhausting experiences?
81. What were some of your most harrowing experiences?
82. What were some of your experiences when you felt very alone or detached?
83. What were some of your experiences where you felt a lot of pressure or stress?
84. What were some of your most exciting experiences?
85. What were some of your most unusual experiences?
86. What were some of your most humorous experiences?
87. What were some of your most memorable experiences? Who were some of your most memorable characters?
88. Did you know anyone who was killed or wounded in the war? Did you see it happen? Can you describe that experience for those of us who have never gone through something like that.
89. When was the first time you saw a dead body in combat? What were your thoughts?
90. Seeing all these wounded and dead, how did it make you feel? What do you remember seeing, what sounds do you recall hearing from the soldiers?
91. Were there many casualties in your unit/crew/ship? Do you know the percentage of the casualties? Talk to me about them please.
92. What effect did the war have on your physical and mental health or on that of others you knew? Did you see anyone with shell shock?
93. Were there instances that you thought that you might not survive the war? If so please describe.
94. Can you please talk to me about some atrocities that you saw? (such as concentration camps or heavy combat areas)
95. Were you ever wounded? If so please describe how it happened and where you were injured on your body.
96. Can you talk to me about you felt seeing all the destruction done to cities and urban areas? Could you describe the scenes please?
97. Would you write often home? To whom? What kind of things would you write about? Talk to me about the excitement the troops felt getting letters.

98. Did you ever meet any POWs? Please describe that experience.
99. Were you ever a POW? How did you get captured? Please tell me about your experiences in captivity and when freed.
100. Did you ever hear any news about the war? How would you get your news?
101. Did you ever listen to Axis Sally or Tokyo Rose? What kind of things would they say? What were your thoughts on their broadcasts?
102. At any point during the war, did you ever worry that the Allies might not win?
103. What was the most impressive allied weapon of any sort that you saw?
104. What was the most impressive enemy weapon of any sort that you saw?
105. What was the most impressive place that you saw while overseas?
106. While overseas, did you have any contact with civilians; how did they treat you? What do you remember about your interactions with them?
107. Can you please discuss with me your living conditions while overseas? Did you have plenty of supplies? What would you live and sleep in? How was one able to sleep in a combat zone?
108. What was the weather like where you served? What was the terrain like where you served?
109. Talk to me about the food the military would serve while overseas? What consisted of a typical meal?
110. Did you ever attend a USO show? Tell me about that experience. Otherwise, how did you and your fellow soldiers entertain themselves?
111. Please talk to me about your interaction with *Kilroy Was Here*.
112. How did you feel when your tour ended?
113. What was the highest rank you received? Tell me about you promotions.
114. Did you receive any medals or citations? If so what were they for?
115. Do you have photographs? (ask them to hold the photos up to the camera and to describe the photos)

## End of War and Coming Home

**The point of this section is the wind down the interview after the in depth conversations about combat with the veteran to get them talking about the beginning of their postwar life and readjustments to society.**

116. What were your thoughts when you heard about President Roosevelt's death?
117. Where were you when the war ended in Europe? Where were you when the war ended in Japan? What were your thoughts?
118. What were your thoughts on the use of the atomic bombs?

120. How and when did you return home? What was the first thing you ended up doing?
121. How were you received by your family and community?
122. When did you get married? To Whom?
123. How were you able to readjust to civilian life? Did you have nightmares or ticks after the war?
124. Have you kept in touch with fellow veterans since returning?
125. What have you done since separating from the military?

## Reflections

**The point of this section is to allow the veteran to reflect on their life and share whatever they would like to with the world. In a sense these are their last words. At this point ask them to look at the camera lens directly so that it will look like they are speaking directly to the viewers even after they pass.**

126. How have your wartime experiences affected your life Sir?
127. What are some life lessons you learned from your time in the military?
130. What was your happiest day in your life?
131. What was your worst day in your life?
132. What would you like to say to all those who died in the Second World War?
133. How has your military service impacted your feelings about war?
134. What message and life advice would you like to leave for future generations who will see this interview? What wisdom would you like to impart onto me?
135. How do you want to be remembered Sir?
136. Is there anything else people should know about you?
137. Is there anything you would like to say to anyone like your children or friends?
138. Is there anything you feel like we haven't discussed, or should be added to this interview? If so, what?
139. At this point, shake the veteran's hand and truly thank the vet's for his time and his service.