

**GOLDEN EAGLES
M C
TAMPA, FLORIDA**



NEWSLETTER JUNE 2021

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

BRAD PLANCHOT



Hi, my name is Brad Planchot and I have been a Tampa resident for over 20 years. My interest in motorcycles began at 10 years old as I helped my father restore a 1950's Ariel Red Hunter to working condition. The style and nostalgia of old motorcycles has been with me ever since. There are very few times that I do not flash back to those memories as I roll the throttle on or glide through a turn.

At 13 I got a minibike and rode with my friends every chance I could, and everywhere I shouldn't! At 26 I rode my Triumph T140V 1700 miles from my home town of Saskatoon, SK Canada to Vancouver, BC to live. At that point I left riding to get married and have a family. Riding was put on the shelf until June of 2020 when I bought my first motorcycle in 34 years, my first Harley, a 2007 Dyna Super Glide. I have "rediscovered" the joys of riding, but most importantly, rediscovered the brotherhood and camaraderie of the others who ride and love motorcycling. I am very pleased to have found this as a new member of the Golden Eagles Motorcycle Club of Tampa.

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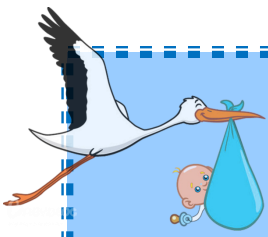
OLIVIA SHINDEL



My name is Olivia Shindel. I became interested in motorcycling because of my husband, Tom, who you may know is an avid motorcyclist. I have been riding on the motorcycle with him for a few years now. I enjoy the way riding on the motorcycle opens up your mind, and I would say it is a form of meditation. I do some of my best creative thinking during that time as there are no interruptions and I can think clearly about coming up with solutions and ideas related to most anything.

On a side note, I do have my trike endorsement. Some interesting facts about me include the following: I am an occupational therapist who works with students with disabilities in the school district. I love to go line dancing at the Stock Yard in Holiday (please let me know if you ever want to go)!! I play the piano, and I practice yoga regularly to keep me focused and grounded. I like to read self-help books and fiction books that take my imagination into another world. Also, I am a "foodie," and I enjoy food of all types, such as Thai. Thank you to all of you for welcoming me (& Tom) into your world, and thank you for being so friendly and kind. You cannot put a price on that. I look forward to getting to know you all better by participating in bike rides, social nights, and camping trips.

Be sure to check GEMC website and meetup.com for current info.



GETTING READY TO WELCOME A NEW GEMC EAGLET

ALL GEMC members & spouses are invited to a **BABY SHOWER** for John & Jessie

To be held after the **JULY 2nd Meeting**

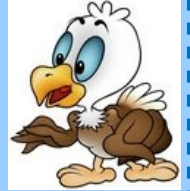
Participants may choose to buy a gift —They are registered on Amazon

AND/OR give a donation for a Club gift to Beth Hile

NO LATER THAN JUNE 26th

The bar will be open and snacks will be provided /BYOB

Come help us celebrate



HOSPICE TROPHY IS BACK

Carla and Lisa drove out to the Sertoma Campout on Saturday night, May 24th, to present the completed Hospice Trophy to club president John Maglott. They also presented appreciation gifts to Jay, for his assistance in setting up the poker run and to Michelle (Christian accepted the gift in her absence) for her tireless efforts in making the Hospice Run so successful.

While at the campground, Jay took Carla and Lisa on a tour of the facilities. It has been suggested that Sertoma might be a great ending destination for next year's Hospice Run. Since it will be the 10th year for the run, it is hoped there will be an even larger turnout.

Thanks to Lisa and Carla for taking the time to present the trophy and gifts and to warn us that there may be some stiff competition next year for the trophy!

OUR TRIP TO PRISON

Our latest adventure, 3 days/2 nights was to visit a Civil War prison near Andersonville, GA. Grant organized the trip with Jay, Charlie, Kent, Bruce and myself. We met at the Denny's in Crystal River, so we could travel US 19 heading north. Departing Dennys, KSU 9am, we got on the road promptly at 9:40am. **Shocking...**we were late leaving. Our destination for the day was Americus, GA or about 350 miles, so our late departure wasn't concerning. We traveled north and stopped for gas in Perry and noticed the dark clouds in our path, so everyone buttoned up with rain-gear. Stopping for lunch in Thomasville, we hoped the weather would improve...*wishful thinking* as the weather front continued to follow us. Rain-gear was necessary all day. Arriving in Americus about 4:30pm we settled into our hotel and then to a nice local sports bar with IPA....just for Charlie! Food and service was great and worth a visit.



Saturday was a very relaxing day with our visit to the prison. Andersonville gained the reputation of having some of the most deplorable conditions for the prisoners during the Civil War. Although open for only 13 months, March 1864 to April 1865 a total of 53,000 Union soldiers/prisoners passed through the gates with 13,800 prisoners succumbing to death, some trying to escape rather than endure the conditions. The museum is very interesting even though very little remains regarding Andersonville. A large part of the museum depicts artifacts and information relating to many of the wars our country has been involved in over the decades. Walking the parks 26.5 acres was enlightening as a dozen States erected monuments to their fallen sons and daughters. A kill zone, lined the perimeter of the prison where Confederate soldiers on sentry were permitted to shoot anyone crossing those boundaries. Time at the park 1.5 - 2 hours.

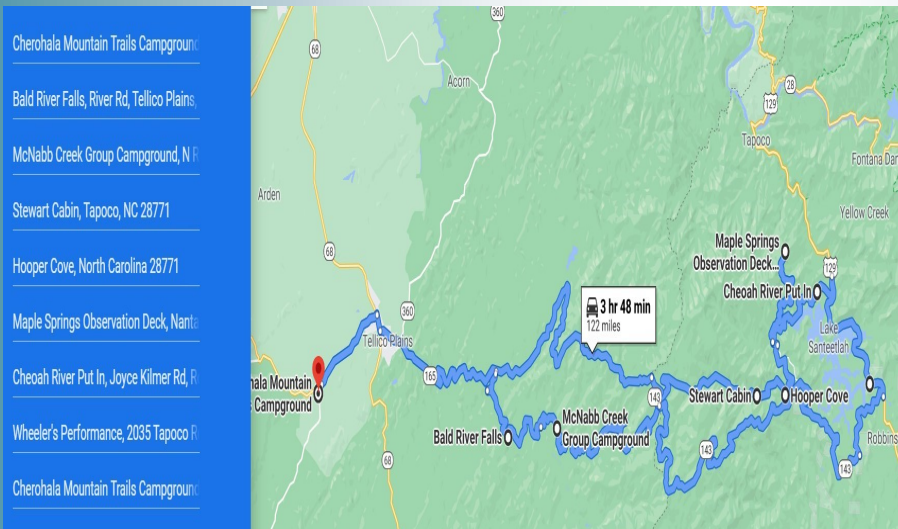
We were interested in lunch, so Bruce and Charlie grabbed their phones and found a local cafe, Buffalo Cafe, in Plains, GA...yup...home to Jimmy Carter our 39th President which is plastered everywhere in the downtown area. We enjoyed our lunch where every meal is prepared fresh, where the service was slow, but the food was delicious. Plains is equivalent to a two block area with tourism the primary economic driver and peanut farming as the other. The train stops in Plains so many tourists shop and visit the Jimmy Carter Campaign Headquarters while visiting Plains. We headed back to the hotel for some new stories and fresh lies.



Sunday had KSU at 7am, so we departed at 6:50am ahead of time.. normal for our group. We traveled 60 miles before hitting rain, so time for rain-gear which would stay on until we got home. Fortunately, the rain was light to moderate and visibility was good. We need to keep an eye on Kent as he was riding on a rear tire reminiscent of a dragster slick. Nobody wanted to follow directly behind him in the event of a blow-out..."sucks to be me" will be his next tattoo, right below the Harley Davidson tattoo.

We had a great 3 day getaway and looking forward to the next one to Tellico Plains, TN in June.

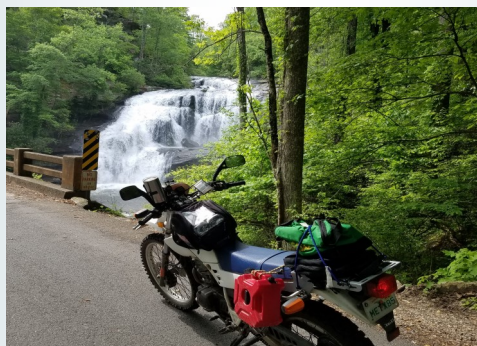
Submitted by: *Harry Pitts*



The Gravel-Hala is a sister route of the Cherohala Skyway and follows a similar route but leaves most of the pavement and yellow paint behind while following a creek or riverbed most of the trip. This route can start at Bald River Falls and continue on Forest Service Roads to the Maple Springs Overlook and beyond. I made a loop of the Gravel-Hala to the Maple Springs Overlook then returned via the Cherohala. On the weekday that I went, traffic was nearly nonexistent, even the overlooks on the Cherohala had empty parking lots. It was a bit like being in the Twilight Zone having these awesome roads without the distraction of Traffic.

Submitted by *Mike Matthews*

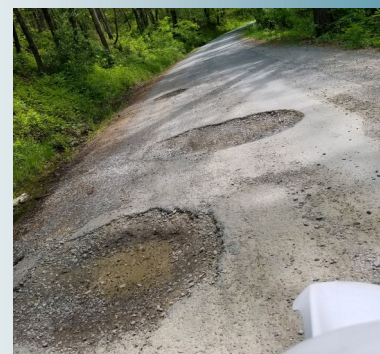
MOPED AT BALD RIVER FALLS



FREE CAMPING IN THE FOREST



ALL POTHOLES ARE CLEARLY MARKED



CROSSING UNDER THE Cherohala Skyway



MAPLE OVERLOOK

LOTS OF LITTLE BRIDGE CROSSINGS

