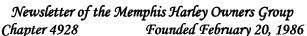
April 2014 Volume 28 Issue 3





**April Activities** June Activities **May Activities** Apr 3<sup>rd</sup> Jun 17<sup>th</sup> **Dinner Social** Kickoff Party May 3<sup>rd</sup> Chickasaw Ride Apr 5<sup>th</sup> Jun 19<sup>th</sup> Rehkopf's RTE Soul to Creole May 3<sup>rd</sup> **Chapter Meeting** Apr 12<sup>th</sup> Jun 20<sup>th</sup> **Chapter Meeting** May 17<sup>th</sup> Soul to Creole Overnight Ride Apr 15<sup>th</sup> Jun 21<sup>st</sup> Soul to Creole **LOH Meeting** Overnight Ride May 18<sup>th</sup> Apr 19<sup>th</sup> Jun 22<sup>nd</sup> All Day Ride Soul to Creole **Dinner Social** May 22<sup>nd</sup>

## **April Birthdays**

http://www.memphishog.com then select the Calendar button to see things for yourself.

## Tammie Caldwell

**Betty Christy** 

## Sam Davidson

What, that's not enough? Log in or sign up and request to be a friend of <u>Memphis Hog Chapter</u> on



## **Steve Elder**

## **Peter Fugere**

## J. Carolyn Rice

#### **Inside the PEN**

Sponsored by

HARLEY-DAVIDSON

We Are Different.

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#### 2014 Officers

Tim Bumpus Dealer Sponsor Bryan Jagger Chapter Manager Candida Jagger Chapter Manager

Allen Rhymer Director

Jim Stingley Assistant Director

Pam Powell Treasurer Linda Gibson Secretary Tammie Caldwell Activities Officer Dana Easton Activities Officer Amanda Rhymer Activities Officer Ladies Of Harley Janice Falk Ladies Of Harley Nancy Moore Joe Moscon Head Road Captain **Greg Easton** Assistant HRC

Burt Powell Editor

Jerry Hayes Safety Officer
Jim Ferguson Photographer
J. Carolyn Rice Historian
Tammy Stingley Hospitality

Bob Gasko Membership Officer
Deborah Gasko Membership Officer
Webmaster Peggy Moscon
Peter Doorley Chaplain



# Proud to Sponsor MEMPHIS HOG

# HARLEY OWNERS GROUP

#### 2014 Road Captains

Larry Allen

Jerry Austin Brian Bryant David Chadwick Kathy Chadwick Gene Cofer Peter Doorley **Greg Easton** Gene Fretwell Jim Ferguson Jerry Hayes Mac Hill Jeff LeDuc Laura LeDuc David Lester David Leutwyler Joe Moscon Jerry Nichols Denisce Paine **Greq Patton** Jeff Poland **Burt Powell Curry Pruit** Allen Rhymer Jerry Rice Jim Stingley Dave Stockton John Trainor Randy Wagley Dan White

> Tyro Captains None

## MAY 17th BLAST OFF TO THE SUMMER RIDING SEASON



Ride to the U.S. Space and Rocket Center
1 Tranquility Base
Huntsville, Alabama

- Ride with your HOG Chapter
- Visit the Space Museum
- Experience the Exhibits
- Have Dinner at the Museum with other Bumpus HOG Chapters



- Roast Sirloin of Beef with mushroom sauce.
- Salad, Vegetables', Potatoes, and roll
- Tea, Water, Coffee included. (Soda available for purchase)

Tickets only \$42 per person [Non-refundable]
Includes Museum admission and Dinner.

This is a rain or shine event!!

Hotel Room Information will be provided at a later date.

(I-Max and movie tickets may be purchased at the museum.)

# Historian J. Carolyn Rice

### Patch History: From 'Memphis 500' to Chapter Participation Patches

#### Reprinted from May 1997 Hog Pen

Memphis Chapter: 1997 Director: Bob Baxter

**Assistant Director: Bob Demers** 

#### **MEMPHIS 500**

The MEMPHIS 500 contest has begun for 1997 with the distribution of the score-books at the March chapter meeting. For those who missed the meeting and may be unfamiliar with the contest, the MEMPHIS 500 is an annual contest put on by the chapter where members can earn points in nine different categories by riding their motorcycles and participating in various HOG activities with their families. This year there is a new category for Civil War Sites in addition to the eight from last year which are: Chapter Rides, HOG Rallies, Chapter Meetings, States, Parks, Restaurants, Total Mileage and Bonus Points. The other change from last year is that the requirement for submitting photographs with each score-book has been dropped which should make it easier for everyone to participate. Bumpus Harley Davidson will be sponsoring the contest again this year by providing gift certificates of \$100, \$50, and \$25 for the top three scores. In addition, the club will pick up the meal check for the member (and family) attending each chapter meeting with the highest score. Copies of the score-book are available at the counter at Bumpus Harley Davidson on Summer and at each chapter meeting.

~Gene DeMeter, Treasurer



HAPTER RIDES	CHAPTER MEETINGS
Thapter Ride is one that is announced at least 48 hours in advance on HOG LINE: or published in the HOG PEN. There must also be a ignated ride coordinator and at least three riders to qualify for ats. All chapter "Sunday Brookfast Rides" and "Friday Dinner the Control of the Printed Procedure of the Printed Print	Points will be awarded for attendance at the monthly chapter mortings anally held on the first Saturday of each month.  Jan Feb Mar Apr
es" qualify for points.	May June July Aug
Date Destination Points	Sept Out Nov TOTAL
	Score 15 points for riding
	10 points for driving
	MILEAGE CONTEST
	Points will be awarded for each 1000 miles ridden through the end of the contest.
	Begin End Total
	Bike A1
	Bike A2
	Bike #5
	Total Mileage:
TOTAL	
ore: [0 points for rider (Maximum 300 pts) 30 extra points for ride coordinator	Score: 20 points for each 1000 miles 20 cutra points for participating in HOG Mileaga Program
A. Cha	
STATES	BONUS POINTS
Earn points for each state visited.	Publish an article in the HOG PEN for 50 points. Mouthly featured articles do not count.
Date State Peints	Month Printed: Points:
	<ul> <li>Ride 500 milles in one calendar day for 50 points, 500 milles in a 24 hour period does not count here, you must ride all 500 in one day.</li> </ul>
	Date: Points
	From:to
	<ul> <li>Complete any MSF or "Riders Edge" Training course for 50 points</li> </ul>
	Course:Puins:
	Visit the following Civil War Sites for 20 points each.
	Shilalz Fort Pillow:  Bryce's Crossreads: Fort Donnelson:
	Cocinth Nat'l Battleffeld: Tupelo Battleffeld
	<ul> <li>Find &amp; visit the gravesite of the 13 Unknown Confedenate Seldiers for 20 points (give buy &amp; location or mile marker-Points will be added by Judges)</li> </ul>
	Location:
	Ride your Harley at least 50 miles on my of the following Scenic Highways for 20 points each
Total	Nutchez Truce Parkway Cherohala Skyway
Score: 10 points for each state (Maximum 210 points)	Blue Ridge Perkway Footbills Parkway
	Page Total
11 12 25.79	- /AN N
11.5	
	7.4
BC+ OF RESTAURANTS	HOG RALLIES
	NATIONAL RALLIES: Points
Taid a Restaurant on your Harley for each letter of the alphabet. Arry aglor Initial in the some can be used but each Restaurant nonte cen- uly be used once. (Example: Steak & Alo could be used as S or A)	
bit a Bontuurant on your Harley for each letter of the alphobet. Are rapper littled in the name can be used but each Restaurant nutic con say be used more. (Drompfet: Steak & Ale could be used as S or A) is:  18:	NATIONAL RALLIES: Points Annual HOG Raily: Raily 1:
hid a Rentament on your Harley for each letter of the alphabet. Any original in the same can be used but such Rentament most can be you said men. (Descripto State) And would be used in 5 or 5) : B: Do	NATIONAL RALLEES: Prints  Annual HOG Rally:  Rally 1:  Rally 2:
idd a Bontsurent on your Hurley for each letter of the alphobet. Are ugler initial in the name can be used but each Restaurant nume con dy be used more. (Domplet: Steak & Ale could be used as S or A) :  B:	NATIONAL RALLIES: Points Annual HOG Raily: Raily 1:
aid a Bentuament on your Harley for each letter of the alphabet. Are got tritial in the remov can be used but each Restaurant nome con by the sand more. (Example: Steak Ack consider be used as 8 or A)  B:  D:  P:  P:	NATIONAL RALLEES: Prints  Annual HOG Rally:  Rally 1:  Rally 2:

Note: This contest continued as the Memphis Chapter's annual contest from before 1997 – 2003. Then the change over to the Participation Patch Program was made to promote more diverse member involvement and participation in the chapters' rides, meetings and events.

Memphis Chapter: 2004 Director: Jerry Rice

**Assistant Director: Larry Allen** In March 2004 the officers unveiled the rolling out of the "Memphis Chapter **Participation** Patch Program." This program replaced the "Orange Book Riding Contest" the club had sponsored for many years. Participation in the "Riding Contest" had become minimal with only three or four entrants the last year of its 'Participation Patch' existence. programs were popping up throughout the country with many of our sister The purpose of the chapters. 'Participation Patch Program' was to encourage member participation in Memphis Chapter rides and events while "Riding and Having Fun!" It was also designed to encourage the membership to assist the officers and the chapter as a whole by volunteering for chapter activities and functions. The officers in charge of tracking the points in 2004 were Sharon Shute and Larry Allen. However, each member was responsible for seeking out the sign-in book at each event so they would get credit. This is the first mention of signing in for events in our chapter history.

The first participation patch was designed by member Robert Shuttlesworth. It was awarded six years from 2004 – 2009.



In 2010 the chapter officers revisited the 'Participation Patch Program' designing a new patch and modifying the requirements. This patch was awarded for one year.

Director: Joe Moscon Assistant Director: J. Carolyn Rice



In 2012 the Memphis Chapter Officers felt the Chapter's "Anniversary Participation Patch" should stand alone with no yearly rockers attached. Again Larry White was asked to design a new participation patch for 2012. This is our current participation patch that has been awarded 2012 to present.

Director: Greg Patton Assistant Director: Jim Stingley



HARLEY OWNERS GROUP

In 2011 Larry White designed a new 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Participation Patch (1986-2011) to commemorate the chapters' special year. This patch was awarded for one year.

Director: J. Carolyn Rice Assistant Director: Greg Patton



# Assistant Director Jim Stingley

Wow! Spring has finally arrived! Just the thought of riding with my HOG friends brings to mind just how great they truly are. Have you ever wondered what you would do if you were out on your own and you had a break down? Would someone stop to give you a hand? Not to worry with this group of folks! I can guarantee that you will never be on the side of the road or sitting in a parking lot all by yourself wondering what to do. You will never be left on your own waiting for help to arrive! I have seen this in action, it makes me proud to be a part of such a great group of people that are so willing to sit and wait with one of their own, not only till help shows up but also hangout with you until they are sure you have a ride home even if they are told it's okay I've got this ya'll go ahead I don't want to ruin your day! Not going to happen with this bunch! So with that said I am so ready to kick this riding season into gear and get out there and have some fun! Are you?

If you are willing, this riding season will be packed with plenty of good times to be had by all!

Short rides, long rides and overnight ones, there will always be something to do with this group so let's not forget that just because nothing is on the calendar for any given weekend you may find that an impromptu ride has shown up, yes this will be short notice but if I know this group, someone is always ready to ride! Let's not forget that we will also have the opportunity to ride with our sponsor Bumpus Harley Davidson of Memphis, always a good time!

Just a word on the Tennessee State Rally, it looks like the rally committee is working hard to give you the best bang for your buck. Check them out on Facebook or go to <a href="https://www.tnstatehogrally.com">www.tnstatehogrally.com</a>, Pre registration deadline April 10.

Keep the wind in your face and the sun at your back!
Ride hard Ride Safe!

#### Activities Tammie Caldwell Dana Easton Amanda Rhymer

The Activities Team has been busy this month filling in the calendar; we sure hope you've been paying attention! We'll start April off with a Dinner Social on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, y'all come out to Joe's Crab Shack...we'll have plenty of room! We have our chapter meeting on April 12<sup>th</sup> at the new location of Fresh Slices. Meeting at 5pm, dinner to follow. We'll have our regular meetings during the month, so keep an eye on your email and calendar.

On April 19<sup>th</sup> we'll be taking a day ride down to Lake Tiak-O'Khata, near Louisville, MS. They're expecting us at the lodge there for lunch. Robert Rehkopf reports that the cabins down there are pretty nice, we plan to come back that afternoon, but you might make other plans!

We're accepting registration forms for the Big Ride: From Soul to Creole, in June. Email us if you need a form, or check the website. You can drop off your money at Bumpus or mail it in. Details are on the form. As soon as we get your registration form, you will receive the brochure for the trip via email so that you can make your reservations and look for a posse!



As the weather warms up, keep your eyes open for **impromptu day rides!** 

Upcoming dates to remember:

TN HOG Rally: May 27-31

Soul to Creole Ride: June 19-22

Anna Illinois Ride: July 25-27

Natchez-Dam Ride: August 1-3

Nashville PBR Ride: September 6&7

If you haven't already done so, please visit the new and improved website:

www.memphishog.com

and check out the new activities page!

If you have any ideas or suggestions,
email us at

memphishogactivities@gmail.com

The Activities Team

#### Why do people volunteer?

\*\*To make friends and create a social network

\*\*To share skills

\*\*To be around people of similar values

\*\*To have fun

\*\*To have an impact

\*\*To make a difference

\*\*To gain some skill or experience

\*\*Simply because we are asked

By definition, volunteer work is unpaid and is usually a social activity. People often use this opportunity to meet interesting people who share their interests and values. People often find lifelong friendships through volunteer work.



# Chaplain Peter Doorley

Greetings Fellow HOG members,

Who said "If anything can go wrong, it will go wrong"? It was Air Force Captain Edward Aloysius Murphy Jr. Way back around 1948, Murphy expressed those now famous words when he reported that an important test failed because a tech incorrectly installed the strain gauges. Ever since then there have been two groups of Group one ascribes to people. Murphy's Law "If anything can go wrong, it will go wrong." Group two holds a more positive view that says 'consider all the possible things that could go wrong with your project and work to eliminate them.' To move that positive statement into the world of motorcycles I propose the Riders Law; anticipated incidents are usually controllable, planning by and backups.

One way we practice the Riders Law is by using the pre-ride planning tool TCLOCK. We use TCLOCK when we check our tires, controls, lights, oil, chassis and kickstand before we head out. We don't expect a problem but we check TCLOCK and if something is amiss we correct it. We also pack our saddle bags to include safety, repair and backup items. When it comes to rider safety and comfort, the Sheriff has a slogan, "All the gear, all the

time." We plan for the worst and expect the best. We know it will rain if we don't pack our rain gear. Motorcycle manufactures such as Harley Davidson invest a lot of time and effort in making our ride as trouble free as possible. We have gauges and warning lights for gas, oil and battery and all we have to do is to remember to check them regularly as we travel.

So what's the biblical lesson in all of this? A paraphrase of Proverbs 21:5 says that careful plans lead to success, and haste leads to failure. It pays to plan ahead. Remember it wasn't raining when Noah built the ark. We know how to plan for our physical journey so how do we plan for our spiritual journey? A favorite verse of mine is James 1:5 which says "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him." God desires for us to have not only spiritual maturity but also wisdom that relates to making decisions in life. That's a big promise but we have a big God to see it through. You don't have to go through life alone. The Bible is full of help. So remember PBKU, pray before kickstands up, so you won't ride alone.

Remember God loves you and so do I,
Peter Doorley

# Ladies Of Harley Nancy Moore & Janice Falk

Hello Spring Time! Glad to see it's finally getting here! Where did the month go?

The "Jean Morrow Chili Cook-Off & Men's Bake-off Social" March 29 is only 12 days away from writing this newsletter. The plans were finalized at the March 13 Ladies of Harley meeting at Old Timers in Millington. If you haven't signed up to bring your favorite chili, or the Men to make that yummy dessert, give us an email you still want to participate in the contest, \$5 entry fee for each. All Chili and Desserts need to be at the cook-off by Donated items for the 9:30am. basket will be gathered by March 22 to sell at the cook-off. Tell your hog friends and come for the day and plan on having Fun. This is an open event to the public, except the Chili and Desserts.

Our next meeting will be April 15, at Hibachi Buffet next to Fresh Slices, come eat at 6, meeting will start at 7. We have a room reserved that seats 15. If husbands will be joining us for dinner please let us know so we can get the larger room. An event will be created on the LOH page soon.

We will discuss what activity to plan next and when. We are considering a self-defense class and would like to see how much interest there would be in this. If this is something you may be interested in, please send Janice or Nancy an email so we will have an approximate number of participants and see what kind of could work out. package we Depending on the number of participants, this is something we were considering inviting Collierville group to join in with us.

We have the itinerary for the Anna Wine tour made for July 25, 26, and 27. All that is left now is to do the pre-ride to see if what is on paper will work. If you have made reservations to go, please email and let us know. We have counted 28 people, and have made restaurant reservations. A wine tour and an orchard tour have been arranged too. These places are Mom and Pop businesses, and we need to give them as much advanced warning as possible. There are rooms available in the Davies School Inn, if you split the cost, it is only \$ 100 total for both nights, and can add breakfast if you like.

See everyone at our next activity!

Nancy and Janice

# **Director**Allen Rhymer

The trees are showing their buds, finally. It is always a good indication that our riding season is about to burst open. So much is in store for Memphis HOG members this year. I hope your bike is in tip-top shape and ready to roll.

A lot of hard work and time by the officers in the past couple months has really laid out a terrific year ahead. We know you can't attend them all, and that is ok. Just keep in mind, when an event calls for a wristband, RSVP or even pre-paying, it is merely for a somewhat accurate headcount for the restaurant, so they won't unnecessarily over purchase for food preparation or seating. And so they may have ample staff on hand to serve at the time of our event. As event details are confirmed, they are promptly added to our calendar. The Activities team has used your suggestions on where to ride to, and where to eat. And there are some really good ones.

We are truly fortunate to have a great dealership in Bumpus that stands behind us in all that we do as a chapter. In turn, showing our support is just a small tidbit of what we as a chapter can do to return the favor. Thanks Bumpus family and the Jagger's.

If you haven't noticed, there are many new businesses that have purchased ads in our newsletter. Please keep them in mind should you ever need their services. And don't forget to mention where you saw their ad. If you know a former member that perhaps hasn't renewed their chapter membership, let them know they don't want to miss out on all the events and rides planned for this year. If they ask, "What kinds of rides and events?" point them to the website, http://www.memphishog.com/

Some members may have overlooked renewing their spouses for this year. While members may bring a "guest", don't let them miss out on the benefits of being a Memphis HOG chapter member. Members who bring a former member for renewal or invite a new member who joins will receive an extra ticket at the chapter meeting for the membership drawing.

The chapter membership form is located at:

http://media.wix.com/ugd/34e2bc\_a d63cd8d720f4145a1c0f067e75092a3. pdf

You must be a current member of HOG. You can renew your national membership online at:

http://www.harleydavidson.com/en\_US/Content/Pages/ HOG/HOG.html?locale=en\_US&bmLo cale=en\_US

OR call

1-800-CLUBHOG (1-800-258-2464)

Print and fill out the chapter enrollment form, drop it off at the parts counter at Bumpus, OR you can mail it to:

Memphis HOG Chapter # 4928 Bumpus Harley Davidson TO NATIONAL RALLY
OR NOT TO NATIONAL RALLY:
THAT IS THE QUESTION.

#### TIME FOR YOU TO SOUND OFF!

As you read this issue of CON you will see us celebrating all the fun we had at State Rallies, Regional Rallies and National Touring Rallies last year and you should feel our excitement building for this year's Rallies as well. No other country around the world comes close to the number of H.O.G.® events and rides that we enjoy every year across this great country.

Even though we are rich with riding opportunities, over the last couple of years I have talked to a lot of H.O.G.® members about National Rallies and what they would like to see for the future.

Last year I rode a couple of touring rallies including the H.O.G.® Arkansas Hellbender Tour with about 300 of my closest new friends. The ride started just outside St. Louis, Missouri and took us on a five day adventure exploring the back roads and scenic byways of Arkansas. Each day I rode with a different group of members with about 3 – 8 bikes per group. The Pig Trail and Talamena Scenic Byway were two of my favorites, and although the Arkansas Dragon was challenging it didn't live up to the Tail of the Dragon in Tennessee / North

Carolina. A great ride with new friends. Our touring rallies attract quite a few passionate touring rally members. Those rugged individuals who roll into town on their steel horses one day, then pack up and bid it farewell the next. Ya know, no moss grows on a rolling stone.

We do have another National Touring Rally in the Northeast this year. Come join us on the H.O.G.® New England Trailblazer Tour as we explore some of the best roads, see the best sights and enjoy the best camaraderie you will ever find across Vermont, Maine and New Hampshire. The tour runs Sep 7-12. Registration opens April 1st (no foolin') on hog.com.

But what about the national "hub rallies?" I have spoken with many people who miss the Club HOG National Rallies that would invade a town for a few days with entertainment and rides extending out daily from the "hub city." I personally worked the Club H.O.G. Chattanooga in 2005 and had a rockin' good time.

I have heard from many of you that these rallies led us to towns we would not otherwise have visited and we met friends from across the country, and the world, that we wouldn't otherwise have met. I also heard that the National rally was a bigger excuse to peer pressure your friends to take a few vacation days, pack up the bikes and head out across the country. Often the Chapter ride to the rally and back was mentioned as one of "the best parts of the rally."

When it comes to entertainment I get mixed messages. Some people want big name entertainment because it's a bigger event. But other's say "it's about riding, coming together as a family and exploring a new town. Sure we want bands as part of the fun, but they don't need to the latest and greatest headliner" – We're listening!

And don't forget to check out the U.S. H.O.G.® Events Map "centerfold" in the March H.O.G.® magazine and hog.com/events for the latest updates.

So now that you are set for 2014, it's time to weigh in with your National Rally ideas. Please take our short survey at hog.com/nationalrallysurvey

Thank you and see you on the road!

#### **Ken Knuteson**

Director H.O.G. and Membership Programs

# Memphis HOG Twitter Jim Ferguson

The Memphis HOG Chapter has yet another way to receive communications about rides, ride status, and upcoming events.

What is Twitter? Twitter is a free communication service that is capable of sending short (140 character) messages known as "Tweets" and uses your mobile phone Short Message Service (SMS) to receive and send messages to other subscribers, known as "followers." You do not have to have a twitter account to use the twitter service. The ability to "Fast Follow" is a way to follow twitter topics without having a twitter account.

To Fast Follow: In your SMS app on your mobile phone send an SMS to **40404**, and in the body of the message type **Follow MEMHOG4928**. That is all there is to it.

If you are a Twitter user, in your twitter application click on follow and then type **MEMHOG4928**.

Why use Twitter? Once you subscribe (follow) the MEMHOG4928 group, ride updates and other info is automatically delivered to you via SMS, no more having to check your email, Facebook, or making a phone call. However, more details could be

posted or distributed via one or all of those methods.

#### What to Know:

Be aware that if you send a tweet to the @MEMHOG4928 account, everyone who is a follower will see that message.

If you are using your mobile phone to receive tweets you will be using your SMS mobile plan. Before you subscribe please be aware of your SMS plan, and SMS usage, so you don't get surprised by your mobile phone bill. Initially, I would not expect more than 5 - 10 SMS messages a month, from MEMHOG4928 but this could vary as we evaluate the usefulness.

For now, this is a open group so you do not have to request to join, just follow the group as described above. Because the group is open It is possible that we may get "rogue" messages from followers outside the HOG Chapter we will monitor this and may have to close the group if this practice becomes an annoyance!

I hope you follow the Chapter Twitter account and find it a useful tool. If you have any questions please reach out to me at a meeting or at tnharley@bellsouth.net.

If life is a highway let your Harley get you there, be safe!





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BRADEN STATION

Located in the Old General Store C. T. McCraw Building 189 Highway 59 Braden, TN Phone: 901-594-5959





## **BRADEN STATION**

Located in the Old General Store, C T McCraw Building, Braden, TN

Open
Thursday, Friday, at 5:00 pm ~ 9:00 pm
Saturday at 4:00 pm ~ 9:00 pm

Braden Station, LLC is located in the C.T. McCraw building located on Highway 59, between I-40 and Highway 70 (Summer Avenue) in Braden, Tennessee. Braden Station, LLC is a restaurant featuring catfish and seafood while providing a "folksy" atmosphere.

The C.T. McCraw Company began operation in 1881 and was located across the road from where Braden Station is now. As the C.T. McCraw business grew, a cotton gin and sawmill was added. In 1908, the C.T. McCraw building was built and served as the community's general store, hardware store, post office and bank. The C.T. McCraw Company was a cotton merchant business, as well.

The first floor of the building housed the general store, the local post office and the bank while cotton grading and buying operations took place on the second floor. The bank was located in the mezzanine area of the building where the original safe is still in place. Also, the C.T. McCraw building boasts the first elevator in Fayette County which goes from the basement to the second floor.

A small brick building located behind the main building was used to produce acetylene gas used to illuminate the building in place of electricity. In addition, a cemetery that pre-dates the civil war is located on the grounds.

In 1994, the general store closed operation and auctioned its inventory. The C.T. McCraw Company is still in business today, in its original location across the street from Braden Station. The C.T. McCraw Company is no longer cotton merchants but continues operations in property management and land rental. The C.T. McCraw Company and family owns approximately 13,000 acres in Tennessee, Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana.

In 2002, the building was purchased by its current owners and in March of that year, renovation of the building began. The shelves and the floors are original to the building.

To dispel myths, the C.T. McCraw building was neither a hotel nor a train depot. The train depot was located across the tracks from the C.T. McCraw building. The name Braden Station was provided by a passerby that suggested the name during the building's renovation.

We invite you to enjoy our food and atmosphere and hope that your dining experience is memorable. Braden Station is a smoke free environment.

Be safe. Spay or neuter your animals.

