



# Tennessee Ridge Runner News

November 2004

Hello Everyone:

We had our one year anniversary celebration/practice/banquet. It was a wonderful turn out with several new members joining both CMSA and the TN Ridge Runners. Several folks renewed but it is important that everyone **renew before Feb 15th** since the rate will increase for our club dues, club insurance, and CMSA dues. It is important that we take care of this to help in the planning of the shoots we will have for this year.

Mark Ledford was voted in as our President for another term. Michelle Ledford will continue her duties as Secretary. Gary Graybeal will be working on our practice schedule. Gary has arranged with Mac for the use of his arena. Mac has been a great supporter of our efforts to get started this year. Thanks Mac and thank you Gary for getting this organized.

We have had an outstanding first year. Our club began back in November '03 with 4 members and by November '04 we have grown to 51 members. For you math wizards out there, that is over 1500% growth in our first year. It takes a lot of work to have that kind of growth. I have to say we have many great folks that really pitch in and help where they can at our events and our practices. We even have a few folks that have yet to compete at a match, yet still help with the work. We also have become the talk of some of the big dogs in the sport. Other clubs have taken notice of our growth and how well our matches have been run.

The Ridge Runners now have a website of their own. We can thank one of our newest members, John Pierce, for this wonderful new asset. Thanks John! The website address is [tnridgerunners.com](http://tnridgerunners.com). It is not completed yet. There is a front page and the rest of the sight is currently being developed. It would be great to hear ideas from the membership about things to add or articles they might like to see on the website. Take a look at some of the other club websites out there and let me hear your ideas.

Our schedule is more developed for '05 than it was for '04. Here are the matches we have scheduled at this time.

- 1/15... One day WPQ at McPhersons QH arena in Bristol**
- 3/26-27... Two-day shoot at McPhersons QH arena**
- 4/9-10... Two-day co-sponsored match at Biltmore estate in NC with Elk River Outlaws**
- 6/4-5... Two-day Grand American, Border Challenge at Walters State Expo Center in Morristown.**
- 7/23-24... Two-day match location will either be C-5 ranch in Bristol or Flying T in Greeneville. more later**
- 11/5... Ridge Runner anniversary match at McPhersons QH arena.**

As you can see we have a busy schedule for this upcoming year. Our growth can continue with just a little effort from each one of us, so invite someone new to come out and see what Cowboy Mounted Shooting is all about! I will set the bar high because I know we are up to the challenge.

We have had several members make it to level 2 this year. I look for more of us to move up in the year to come.

There are two additional dates for you to keep in mind. April 14th-17th will be the CMSA nationals in Tunica, MS. This is only 45 minutes outside of Memphis. Also, Sept 8-11th is the Eastern US Championship in Murfreesboro, TN. Both of these matches are close drives for us here in East TN and would well be worth the trip. Just ask some of the folks who traveled to the Eastern last year.

Well, I just want to say thank you for everyone that has helped make this a club to be proud of for all of us. We'll see you down the trail real soon because you are invited to our Ridge Runners Christmas Potluck and Gift Exchange on December 11, 2004. The information is included with this newsletter.

Mark Ledford  
President, TN Ridge Runners  
423-753-3062 or saddleupfamily@aol.com



follow

Santa to next page . . .



## Tennessee Ridge Runners Christmas Party Invitation



What: Covered dish potluck dinner.

When: December 11, 2004 Saturday

Time: 4 pm

Where: Gary Graybeal's Home

Dress: Dress western for group picture to be taken  
for The Rundown!

Bring:

- 1) A covered Dish and your own beverage
- 2) A \$10 wrapped gift to exchange. Each person who comes should bring a gift to exchange. Wranglers should bring a gift to exchange with other wranglers!

If you can let us know what food dish you are willing to bring that would help us know what yummys are coming!  
Call Connie or email her at [cowgirlconnie@earthlink.net](mailto:cowgirlconnie@earthlink.net)

Directions: From Johnson City travel on 11E through Jonesborough and on towards Greeneville.

-Turn right (North) off of 11E on to Old Highway 75 (also called Opie Arnold Rd).

-Take 1<sup>st</sup> left onto Bigwood Road. Just after a log home, see Graybeal's Tan house and Tan Barn at top of hill on left. The driveway for this log house and Graybeal's driveway are side by side.