

# CBA / ABATE of NC, Gaston County

NC Chapter of the Year: 2007, 2010, 2012 & 2013

January 2015



## ~PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE~

Hello to Everyone! I hope you all had a Merry Christmas, and welcome to 2015!



I want to thank you for electing me as your new President of the Gaston County CBA chapter, and I would like to thank Jill Stillwell for a job well done during her rein. She attributed to many accomplishments within our chapter and we certainly would not have made it as far within the state without her diligence on the efforts of all biker, not only in our area, but within the state! All hats off and a round of applauds for all that she has done locally and will continue to accomplish at our state level!

With the New Year comes' new challenges and ideas, which I am very confident that our chapter will overcome and excel at. I would like to welcome to our team, new 2nd VP "Magic Mike" Dixon and Master Sgt-at-Arms Robert "Capt K" Ham to the existing team of 1st VP Cathy "Gabby" Mintz, Secretary Donna Barnett, and Treasurer Pete McGinnis. We, as a team, look forward to serving this chapter to the best of our abilities. We encourage all members to regularly attend the general meetings, so that this chapter can continue on the path of success. With your support, input, and ideas this path will be an easier ride. Please encourage anyone you know to attend the general meetings with you. This way they can learn what the CBA is all about and hopefully want to join us on this ride.

I hope to see all members at our 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Polar Bear Run which is just around the corner, January 3<sup>rd</sup>. The run will start and end at the Gaston County Homestead (267 Stowe Rd. Gastonia). The run will not be a lengthy one considering the weather, but will be a great run as our first of 2015! The stops will not be announced until the day of the run, and there will be fantastic food to warm the bones at the end. Of course there will be great door raffle prizes, a 50/50 drawing as always, and DJ Todd will be providing our musical enjoyment for the occasion! We certainly hope to see all of our members out for this great day of fellowship and fun!

I would also like to extend congratulations to "Gabby" for being elected as the new Western District Coordinator for the State. This gives our chapter another elected official on the State CBA Board. Again, thank you to all who have participated in our elections, not only for our chapter but as well as the votes for the Western District Coordinator.

Everyone, please, be safe while getting your wind therapy this year.

Keep the shiny side up!!

Thanks again! Allen Head



*Thank you Jill Stillwell for  
all you have done for The  
Gaston County CBA and  
ongoing on the State Level!  
You are very much a  
appreciated!*

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*1st Vice President:*

Hello everyone and Happy New Year. Hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and are looking forward to prosperous 2015. Hopefully we can accomplish many goals this year, Like the HB 109 Helmet Bill, Seek support bills which would prohibit discrimination against us, Highway barrier's more motorcycle friendly, Increasing the use of Amber alert signs to deliver motorcycle awareness messages, Increasing fines, and penalties for driver's that cause accidents. We need to continue working together as a TEAM, stay supportive of each other and keep the rights of the motorcycling world from being trampled on. No matter how GREAT or SMALL an accomplishment is, it still happened because of determination of us who care about protecting your rights as a biker. We stress and can't stress enough

that you need to become a Member of the CBA, even if your are a member of another group or organization. Our membership is back up, but we still need to work retaining them. If we had kept all of the member's from the beginning after receiving our Charter we would be close to 800 member's or more. Just speculation on my part...

I received a telephone call from Our State CBA President Charlie Boone that I was selected to be your new Western District Coordinator, which places another Gaston County CBA member on the State Board of Director's.. I would like to thank all of you for your support, and hope to do the best job I can in serving all of you. Any suggestions that you may have please feel free to call me (704) 868-4688 or email me ncharleygurl@yahoo.com. I so look forward to a very prosperous year.. Again THANK U ALL for your support!!!!!!

I would also like to give a big shout out to Jerry Christopher (AKA "Carowinds") on bringing in 5 new member's since he's joined in November and extend a personal welcome to all of you.

NEW Law coming into effect July 1st (which is)~ Mopeds will be required to be Licensed and registered with the Department of Motor Vehicles. Law Maker's passed this requirement in Aug.2014. Our Legislative committee continues to look at whether moped drivers will be required to have insurance. Should we get behind and push for them to have insurance?? Where I stand on this is YES they should have to abide by all laws just like we do as motorcyclist! Interested in hearing your thoughts on this.

I'm sure some of your were given this many moons ago:

"OFFICER: PLEASE BE ADVISED":

I hereby exercise my constitutional right to remain silent and therefor will not answer any questions. Further, I do not consent to any search of myself or my property. I exercise these rights under the 4th and 5th Amendments to the United State Constitution. If I am being arrested please advise me so that I may contact my attorney. If your are going to give me a citation please do so and allow me to leave. If I'm not being arrested nor issued a citation I wish to leave now!

\*\*\*My question is has anyone ever exercised these rights to an officer?? What were your results?\*\*\*

Hope everyone has a very prosperous new year. Looking forward to the future of our Chapter. Without communication and Team work we will not survive. So I encourage all to get on the same page whether we agree to disagree. Communicate~ emails, texts, phone calls or just plain ole' taking to each other. Have fun, laugh, enjoy life. Life's to short to do anything else. Enjoy the JOURNEY!

A sure way to fail is to try to please everyone~  
Ride Safe, Let those who ride DECIDE~ see ya soon!

Gabby  
Vice President  
Western District Coordinator  
GCCBA



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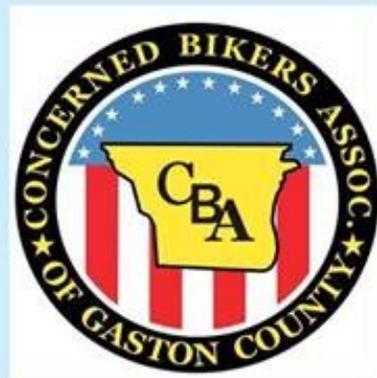



# 9TH ANNUAL POLAR BEAR RUN

*January 3, 2015*

**Starts: & Ends at:**

**The Gaston County Homestead  
267 Stowe Rd., Gastonia**



**First Bike out 11 AM  
Last Bike Out 12:30 PM  
All Bikes in by 4 PM**



***Music by -  
DJ Todd***

*Music starts at 1 until 6*

***Hands: 1 for \$15 / 3 for \$25***

**Food provided after 2 PM with Paid Hand at the Homestead**

*(Food Plates—\$6)*

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## 2nd Vice President

Hey Everyone!

I wanted to start by saying, "Thanks for all the votes and kindness that was received." As your new 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, I look forward to supporting first, our membership and sponsors that help us grow and become stronger and stronger; then, my fellow officers that our membership so kindly elected to lead us to being the best chapter in CBA. We have a lot planned for the coming year and with everyone's presence it will be a very fun year. We look forward to working with other organizations in our area and our local M/C together to support more rides and charities through the year.

Thanks again for everyone's support!  
Magic Mike

### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR GASTON CBA & GASTON COUNTY HOMESTEAD**

- JAN. 3RD** 9TH ANNUAL POLAR BEAR RUN, STARTS AND ENDS @ HOMESTEAD ~ SEE FLYER
- JAN. 5TH** 6:30 PM EVENTS/OFFICERS MEETING @ GASTON COUNTY HOMESTEAD
- JAN. 8TH** CBA MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING 7PM
- JAN. 10 -11** STATE MEETING IN KERNERSVILLE NC
- JAN. 13TH** AREA OFFICERS MEETING @ GASTON COUNTY HOMESTEAD, FOOD @ 6:30
- JAN. 17TH** CBA 8TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY AT GASTON COUNTY HOMESTEAD ~ SEE FLYER
- JAN. 24TH** EASY RIDER BIKE SHOW CHARLOTTE
- JAN. 24TH** DJ PERRY @ GASTON COUNTY HOMESTEAD ` SEE FLYER

*Gaston County Homestead is open on Friday & Saturday Nights  
Biker Church @ Carolina Thunder on Sundays @ 11am.*

*Congratulations  
Cathy "Gabby"  
Mintz on  
becoming the  
new Western  
District  
Coordinator for  
the State*

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## Motorcycle Safety Awareness Program ~ MSAP

### Preparing for the worst motorcycle ride of your life

According to the latest statistics from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, motorcyclists are 30 times more likely to die and five times more likely to get injured in an accident than their 4-wheeled adversaries on the road. Helmets help by reducing the likelihood of dying in a motorcycle accident by 37 percent. Alcohol hurts; one in three motorcycle deaths are alcohol related.

You would think with these odds, we would have quit riding years ago. But we just can't, so try to lower your risk by wearing all of your personal protective equipment, aka PPE, including a full face helmet, don't drink alcohol when you ride, pick the time of day and route to avoid dangerous traffic.

When you want to push the limits of your abilities, do that in the dirt where the most fearsome obstacles are rocks, ruts and trees and crash speeds are much lower. On the road, the threats are more complicated. There are just too many unknowns and unpredictable situations waiting around every corner and at every intersection, where risk avoidance and survival are the main focus. Given the dismal odds of survival, motorcyclists need to be realistic, avoid the "it won't happen to me" mindset and get prepared for the worst motorcycle ride of their life:

- \* Dress for the crash. Wearing PPE can lessen the damage to your body in a motorcycle accident. It can even save your life. However, if you don't survive the crash, PPE may also preserve some of your organs for donation.
- \* Wear a full-face helmet. If you're a cruiser and prefer a half helmet, think about how many ribs the surgeon will harvest to reconstruct your jaw and what it will feel like to have a complete set of dentures.
- \* Complete a living will. Decide in advance what measures you want used to keep you alive if you are permanently incapacitated, or you may be kept in a vegetative state against your will.
- \* Don't count on blood alcohol content, aka BAC, limits. Even one drink before you ride could be your last.
- \* Curb your attitude. Before you head out for a ride, think about your chances of surviving a road rage incident with that guy in the 4,000 lb. car. You may be quick, but if he makes contact with you, you could just die angry.
- \* Become an organ donor. You can contact your state's DMV and request your driver's license be updated so your organs can be donated to someone who needs them.
- \* Treat every motorcycle ride like a combat sortie. Get trained, get enough rest, plan your route, wear PPE, stay focused, stay hydrated, consider every driver an adversary and constantly scan for escape routes in case someone or something gets in your way.

I love motorcycling so much I plan to ride until I am physically or mentally unable to do so. Hopefully I'll know when that time comes. In the meantime, I try to do everything in my power to control the outcome of each ride so I can wake up the next day and ride again. I'm also realistic. I am prepared for the worst motorcycle ride of my life,

We are in need of MSAP instructors to help make our riding experiences safer by donating a little bit of time to educate drivers (experienced and potential) about being aware of everything around them. If you are interested or know someone who would be interested please contact Robert Ham (aka Capt. K) @ 704-861-5735 or [rtham4@gmail.com](mailto:rtham4@gmail.com).

Capt. K

Gaston County MSAP Coordinator

## JANUARY V.I.B. POINT EVENT CALENDAR

THU. 1/1	H.O.G. POLAR BEAR RIDE	10:30AM	SAT. 1/17	SWAP MEET/GARAGE SALE	9AM - 5PM
THU. 1/8	CLUBHOUSE (NEW OWNER) PARTY	6:30PM	TUE. 1/20 - SAT. 1/31	COAT EXCHANGE	
SAT. 1/10	BREAKFAST CLUB- HEATED GEAR	9:30AM	FRI. 1/23 - SUN. 1/25	WINTER SALES EVENT	
FRI. 1/16	H.O.G. RE-UP PARTY	6-8PM	SAT. 1/24	WORKSHOP- BOOM AUDIO	2:00PM



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TUESDAY - FRIDAY 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM | SATURDAY 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM | SUNDAY 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM



# CBA Anniversary Party January 17th 8pm

Come join us in our celebration of the 8th year as a CBA chapter and the largest in the state!!

Seth Griggs Band will be rocking the homestead!  
Come out and let's make some great memories for 2015!!!



Bring a pick up to share!

Gaston County Homestead  
267 Stowe Rd Gastonia

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## Legislative:

2015 is here and to some it means making resolutions, and to others it's just another year has passed. However 2015 holds more than just another year, hopefully it means that motorcyclists across North Carolina can have a bit more freedom of choice. House Bill 109 (HB109) has been stuck in the grasp of the legislators of this fine state. HB109 to most supporters has come to be known as the helmet law bill, but it is so much more than that. Motorcyclists of all styles enjoy the freedom of an open road and enjoy being able to make their own decisions on what to wear. Some folks ride in Jeans, t-shirt and white tennis shoes, while others prefer to wear armor in case they go down. We can all look at each other and tell the differences in who we are by what we choose to wear, or not wear. And that is also evident in the particular fashion of helmet that is worn. Granted there are some great reasons to wear head protection, and then there are other times when the wind feels good blowing through our hair (or what's left of it). Having that freedom of choice is what defines motorcyclists, and makes them who they are, each being unique in his or her own way.

In this particular climate of government that we currently have, there are things that are going on that makes my blood boil, but to others it may not be a big deal. But as government entities tries to take away more and more of our freedoms, there are still a few motorcyclists that are willing to make the effort to retain the freedoms that we as Americans are supposed to have.

As we enter into the 2015 year, the NC Legislators convene on January 14, 2015 at 9:00am. It is now the time to contact your legislators in your county or district to compel them to move forward with the results of "Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee" that is chaired by our very own Senator Kathy Harrington. I have had the pleasure to speak with Mrs. Harrington directly, as well as some of our other legislators in some of the surrounding areas, and I know our voices are being heard, however we cannot let our voices be drowned out amongst the din of million dollar lobbyists that are working for the opposition. Take the time to find out who your local legislators are and drop them a letter or an email, kindly asking them to move forward on HB109 either to complete the study and make a decision, or to take a vote on the bill in its original text.

Please remember, WE (CBA/ABATE NC) are a motorcycle rights organization, we strive to maintain our rights and freedoms, not only as motorcyclists, but also as Voting Citizens of North Carolina, and Voting Citizens of these United States. The voters sent a strong message to Raleigh and to Washington, DC back in November. I'm not sure what the future will hold, however I plan to make myself a part of the infrastructure that makes North Carolina a great state.

To find out who represents you on the State level, you can fill in your address at the following link.

<http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/representation/WhoRepresentsMe.aspx>

Chappy K. Pitts  
Gaston County CBA Legislative Coordinator

### Membership Renewals: October 2014 to February 2015

#### February Renewals

Gerald & Darlene Helms  
Charles & Penny Ledford  
Eric E. "Hoghead" Costner  
Glenn Rafko  
Charles "Bouncer" Thompson  
Rick & Cheryl Petry  
C. Scott Stacy Jr.  
Jerome & Andrea Kale  
Michael McDaniel  
Jason Edward Taylor

#### January Renewals

Lance & April McClannan  
Bob Bynum  
Robert & Rhonda Ham  
Greg O'Donahue  
Bill Smith  
Ray Wooten  
Jeff & Melinda Reif

#### December Renewals

Cody & Amanda Williams  
Brian "Keith" Costner  
Daniel & Amber Horton  
Terry L. Worley Jr.  
Harry & Ginny Waller  
Scott & Wendy Johnson  
Johnnie & Lisa Beegle

#### October & November Renewals

Billy & Pat Johnson  
Charlie Kirkpatrick  
Jeffrey Beaty  
Darla McCoig  
Stephen & Amanda Johnson  
Jerry Teeter  
Michael & Amanda Pleasant  
Tim Wilson  
Elizabeth Haney Smith  
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Memberships can be renewed via PayPal using the CBA's website:

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PO Box 22, Lowell, NC 28098; at the homestead (267 Stowe Rd.,  
Gastonia, NC 28056.

If you would like to receive your newsletter online (& in color), please let Donna know. This will save the chapter approximately \$20-25 a year in copying and mailing. Postage has gone up (again), so if you can PLEASE get your newsletter online.



## .....PAYING IT FORWARD .....

What a rewarding feeling it was these past few months participating in the many Toy Runs our community has. What an awesome feeling it was to see the Happiness on Kid's faces for our unfortunate children that depend on all of us to assist.

Once a year for the past 3 yrs. Bob Karney put's on the Bull Dog Hero Award's. This is where our Carolina Biker's are nominated for their outstanding contribution to their biker communities. What an honor and awesome experience that I had when Bob called out my name. Believe me when I walked onto the stage at Greensboro Harley Davidson, All Gaston County CBA was with me. After all that's who I represent. It's NOT all about ME!! I do what I do for all of US!!! Unlike what some of you may THINK!! I received a nice award, and got to pick out the 501c3 Charity of my choice and specify to whom the winning's of the \$500.00 check was to be donated to. I will cherish those moments of fame for many years to come.

There was never a question as to where I wanted the donation check to go. I chose Gaston County Toy Fun for Kids~ simple I love Christmas, and seeing the smiling faces of all those kids. The out pour of love shown by so many Biker's, non biker's, Police, and so many different walks of life that come together to provide unfortunate children toys, coats, boots, and treat bags for Christmas. The run is funded solely through donations and tee-shirt sponsorships, which at anytime of the year you may donate to, you don't have to wait til Christmas to do so. 100% of the money raised goes directly to the children in our communities. This year the Toy Run was dedicated to Buddy Sexton because it was his vision "To See the Smile on a Kid's Face."

A huge THANK YOU to Buddy, and SugarFoot (in pic) and everyone that's involved in making it possible to do this. I am very blessed to be a part of 2 Great organization's Gaston Co. CBA and The Gaston Co. Toy Run for Kids. We would like to invite all of you to join us on Saturday December 5, 2015 for our 20th year.

Submitted by: Gabby  
Vice President  
Western District Coordinator  
GCCBA



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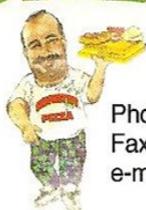
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*From The Chaplain's Desk*

### Christmas Cheer, Christmas Stress.

The day before Thanksgiving I was riding my motorcycle through a local store parking lot heading toward the other end of the lot, when I noticed a car pulling out from a parking spot behind a larger vehicle. I could not see the driver and thus felt the driver could not see me, I gave a quick toot on my horn to let the driver know that there was traffic coming through so that he would not back out into traffic. The driver pulled on out in front of me and I had to hit my brakes quite quickly, at which time he rolled his window down and hollered at me "What's your hurry?" I said "I'm not in a hurry, I was just letting you know that there was traffic here so you wouldn't run over anyone" to which he yelled expletive's at me, kept backing up and nearly ran over me and my bike, then took off.

I share this to say this. When life throws unexpected twists and turns at you, even when other people may not be having a good day, how do you react? I had the option to get upset and show my bad attitude as much as the driver of the car did. I could have made a complete fool of myself and been a bad witness to the CMA Back Patch I was wearing at the time. By taking a few moments and biting my tongue, I was still able to retain my composure and keep my witness as a Christian. Luke 6:31 says And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them. [ESV]

In this cold winter that we are heading in to, as well as this slow economy that we are going through, we don't know what someone else is going through, and the stresses they are enduring. We don't know what they are dealing with at home, in their jobs (if they still have one) or in their own personal life. If we treat others as we wish them to do to us, we can have an impact on someone else's life. I can only hope that the driver of that car went down the road and thought about the big guy on the motorcycle that was only trying to help, and did not react harshly to his own outburst.

And be really careful on the roads and parking lots, whether you are on your bike or in your cage. People really are not paying attention, nor are they necessarily thinking about what is directly around them.

Chappy K. Pitts

Join us on  
January 24th  
@ 8pm

Karaoke with  
DJ Perry

Gaston County Homestead  
267 Stowe Rd  
Gastonia





*Gaston County Toy Run For Kids Dec. 6th 2014  
Even with the rain we had 250+ bikes*

