

CBA / ABATE of NC, Gaston County

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

November 2015



Message from the President

Hello to everyone! Hope all is well with you and your family. I trust everyone survived the summer heat and now cooler riding days are upon us. It's time to break out the leathers and long johns. With that being said, we have some great fall /winter events coming up. Nov. 7th, this will be the first annual Bikers for Brothers Dice Roll. This is to raise funds for Scott McCaskill and "Magic" Mike Dixon. Scott recently passed away expectantly of a heart attack on his way to work, and Magic was involved in a wreck which resulted in the loss of his lower left leg. I strongly encourage everyone to attend this ride and to help out in any way you can to make it a successful event. This is two Gaston CBA members and fellow brothers of us all, that have given much of themselves to support the Gaston CBA and I feel that it is essential for us to show support for them in their time of need. The next event that the CBA will be supporting is the very next day on the 8th. This is a ride for a little 3yr old child named Chevelle. She has a chronic condition and is in need of our support. There is a flyer in this newsletter to give you ride information. The last CBA event for November will be the CBA Thanksgiving celebration on Sat. Nov. 28th. We know everyone will be tired of TURKEY by then, so we are going to have another Fish Fry! I hope everyone will come out and celebrate with us. December 5th is the Annual Gaston County Toy Run, which is always supported by the CBA. It is a great ride and always warms the heart to see the children's glowing faces. Our CBA Christmas party will be on December 12th. We ask that everyone bring a dish to share, the sign up sheet will be on the board at the Homestead and as always the CBA will supply the meat.

Thank you all for your support during this past year. As you all probably know, I will not be your President in the coming year, but want to wish the Gaston County CBA much continued success in the fight for Bikers Rights! That is what the Concerned Bikers Association is all about! And I am positive that the new, upcoming officers will strive to follow those goals to the end. Congratulations to all!

As always, keep the shiny side up while getting your wind therapy!

Allen Head

Gaston County CBA President

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al3786@bellsouth.net

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Jason Beck

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Homestead Coordinator**
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rhamcba@yahoo.com

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2nd Vice President

So, another year is almost gone and man what a year! We went from a group that went to the Dragon, then to the same group hanging out for Bike Week in Myrtle Beach, onto many great bike nights, boys nights out and ultimately the loss of my left lower leg during a good time. No worries, the prosthetics is on the way with more good times to come. I would also like to touch on the last bike night held at the Rock House, which held some smoking burnouts and a 60 ft dash. There was a lot of competition from the Harleys as well as the Metrics. Jason Strum won the Harley completion, edging myself out for the win. In the metric division, Baby Boy beat out Stubby and then Baby Boy beat Jason for the overall on his Roadstar. I think everyone had a great time, however with the change in venue, (Rock House cancelling our bike night) not much more has taken place since then. Winner's Circle did however step up and agree for us to have the remainder of our bike nights there, but the weather just hasn't been on our side! With the cancellation of both of the last two bands, we still managed to pull in a decent crowd, however there were no more biker games or bike shows.

Although the year is almost over and my reign of 2nd VP will expire at the end of this year, I am positive the new, upcoming officers will have a fabulous year planned for everyone. I'd like to congratulate Jill Stillwell, upcoming President; Kathy "Gabby" Mintz, upcoming VP; and Jason Beck, Master Sergeant of Arms. As well as, Donna Barnette, Secretary, Barry "Bulldawg" Scruggs, John Crawford, Penny Franklin and Chris "Baby Boy" Dixon as Sergeant of arms on their new positions coming soon! There are several positions that have not been filled for next year: Events Coordinator, Treasure and Homestead Events Coordinator. If you or someone you know are interested in the positions, please contact one of the new officers for information.

2nd VP - In charge of the fun Shit!
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Jeremiah 18:2*

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1st Vice President

Hello everyone.

Hope everyone had a great Halloween. Hard to believe that Thanksgiving is just around the corner. Toy Runs will be coming soon as well and Christmas! 2015 is almost gone. Please remember to get out and exercise your rights to VOTE!!

Just a note that I'm having quite the issues with my old computer~ is not cooperating at all! It's old ..no coma's anymore so bare with me on this... I'm actually very lucky to of gotten it to come on at all...It's so Time for a new one SANTA!!

I'm including an article out of the Motorcycle Rider's Foundation that we need to take a strong look at and start making the calls to our Reps. Since we are without a Legislative Coordinator. We really need someone to fill this position as quickly as possible. This is the core of the CBA. If interested contact one of us.

Please read the following:

Push for Helmet Laws
October 18, 2015

Right now, the push for motorcycle helmet laws is stronger than ever. Its bigger than a handful of the usual government agencies pushing for mandatory helmet laws, It is that of course too, but there is another factor at work as well. And its a very natural thing to happen, the desire to protect children. Many skate parks, bmx parks, horse rides, go carting, etc all now require helmets for youngsters, and we are ok with that. So long as that the continues the likely hood of keeping states helmet law free gets slimmer.

But it certainly is coming from agencies and departments all over the country, and its getting nasty. Recently at the State Motorcycle Administrators annual conference the Vice President of Government Relations for the Governors Highway Safety Association, Erik Strickland, touted the benefits of an Obama backed transportation plan that would have given the federal Department of Transportation back the ability to lobby state legislatures about implementing helmet laws. Then in the next breath, he referred to the language in the transportation currently working its way through Congress, and is likely to pass soon, Specifically he called the language to stiffen the lobby ban to the whole of the federal government, state governments and local governments, "A real pain in the ass". That bill also contains language that would commission a study to determine the best practices to avoid motorcycle crash in the first place. Saving lives instantly. Is that also a "real pain in the ass" Erik Strickland? Thats your governors direct pipeline for ideas for state law.

In recent publication by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety they had a two page article about the actions that the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has taken to enforce helmet laws by law enforcement officers. The proposed rule by the safety agency would effectively give law enforcement the ability to pull over, ticket, or worse, any motorcyclists wearing a helmet that the officer felt did not meet the new appropriate standards with a visual test on the road. So, should this rule become final, and that is almost a certainty at this point, any helmet that appears, to a traffic cop, to be less than one inch in the thickness can pull you over for further inspection. Of course the Insurance Institute publication just echoed the same un truths that all of the other safety groups march out. It is interesting and troubling that the agencies that are charged with making things safer, most who don't ride motorcycles, do not care to listen to the very people they are trying to protect. Bureaucracy at its best.

Then, in the Wall Street Journal this week was an article where groups of bicyclists are opposing mandatory bicycle helmet laws. They say mandatory helmet laws, particularly for adults, make cycling less convenient and seem less safe, thus hindering the larger public-health gains of more people riding bikes. They think that more bicycles on the street will result in greater degree of visibility in numbers and therefore reduce injuries and fatalities. Cycling advocates are quick to say they're not anti-helmet. Instead, they're opposed to helmet laws and their unintended consequences. Sound familiar? Make strange bedfellows.

For all is not lost. We need to stay engaged and active. We, the guardians of motorcycling, must do what those before us and those before them have done. A fight is brewing and we need to be ready. The forward force to pass mandatory helmet laws is swelling. We need to push back with a tidal wave.

To start that wave you should email your new best friend, Erik Strickland, Vice President of Federal Relations for the Governors Highway Safety Association. You can reach him here: estrickland@ghsa.org or give him a ring at his direct line, 202-789-0942 ext.180.

One item here of high concern to me is the notion that a police officer can pull us over in violation of our 4th Amendment protections. Just the "feeling" a helmet may not meet DOT guidelines is neither articulable suspicion nor probable cause. It has been well demonstrated that the testing process for DOT compliance can not be performed at a road side test. Here in NC, a few years back, a judge ruled it was not the motorcyclist who has to demonstrate the helmet is compliant, the LEO has the burden of proving it is not compliant. The testing process has to be carried out in a lab with controlled procedures. Those procedures ultimately destroy the helmet during the testing process. If LEO's were able to do a road side test, will they also be able to furnish us with a new helmet after the testing process is complete? This was quoted and stolen from Blast Off (Bill Starnes).. Thanks Bill!

Ride safe.. And Happy Thanksgiving to all.

Gabby
Vice President & Western District Coordinator

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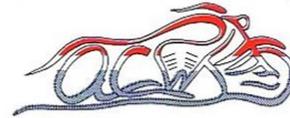
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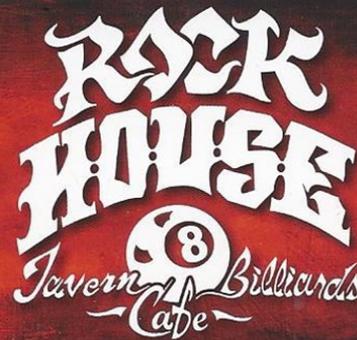
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Free for anyone under the age of 16

Young Adult

Age 16 – 29 is free for the first year and then standard rates apply

Memberships can be renewed via PayPal using the CBA's website: www.gastoncountycba.com

By mailing it to :
Gaston County CBA,
PO Box 22, Lowell, NC 28098; or
at the Gaston County 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.

Membership Renewals: Sept~Nov 2015

September

David & Diane Etters
Calvin & Carol Hannah
Jordan Lutz
Tammy Ramsey
Herman Arrendale
Nancy Stowe
Duane & Ginger Tompkins
Brian Keith Campbell
Lindsey Dudley
Meleah Sipes
Timothy "Red" Justice
Billy & Angie Starnes
Jeff "Hoss" Moller
Dwynn Greene
Don Mason
Claudette Lanning
Shane Mathis
Greg Daly
Scott Denlinger
Joe McFarland
Chris & Bambe Ealey
Richard Mintz

Adam Nicoletti

Kevin "Chappy" Pitts

Aaron "Blaze" Chapman

Blake-Marie Farris

Jared Tenney

John E & Coyet J Toler Jr.

October

Andrew Johnson

Douglas Scott Wilson

Dorene Reubelt

Blake McLean

Melissa White

Barry Dean Scruggs Jr.

Ed & Jeanette Solt

Travis "Justin" Dale

Teddy & Donna Blanton

Richard McLean

Jean Burdsal

Lindsay "P-DAB" Miller

Jim Auten

James & Debra Carpenter

Ilana Cunningham

Charlotte "Ladonn" Dixon

Katie Dixon

Amanda Helms

Denise Peeler

Randy Smith

Robin Potts

Tommy & Kelly Helms

Steven Lee McGinnis

Bill & Jackie Starnes

Calvin & Kathy Stewart

Steven Mark "Dawg" Knox

Tina Long

Taryn Starnes

Bo & Lynn Conner

Rod Breissinger

Carol McConaughy

Patty Lear

Lee Lewis

Phillip D. Middleton

Crystal Moore

Logan Wells

Mischia Lynn

Brian Ledford

Erica Glaczenski

November

Al & Ruthie Michalak

William Beverly

Larry "Chip" Rollins Jr.

Jeff & Tonda Kennedy

Joe & Donna Byrd

Cathy Mintz

Jerry Christopher

Cindy Denton

Larry "Augie" Ensley

Mickey Seigler

Jerry Francis Teeter

Christopher Dixon

Amber Stikeleather

Ok Folks... Please Pay Attention.... If your name appears in RED...(Sept), You are either over your 61 day grace period for remaining a current member or on the verge of being in that category. We strive to retain members and wish for support of all! This organization is all about the rights of bikers in the entire state, not just our county. But we can not make changes without continual support of our members!!! In my opinion the extra life insurance is a blessing in its self. Too many have been involved in accidents with nothing there to assist I know we don't want to think about it... but we are all only human... and it could happen to ANYONE!!!!



**Gaston County CBA
Meeting Minutes
September 10, 2015**

Meeting was held at the Gaston County Homestead with the Meeting being called to order by Allen Head. Fred Craft graciously led us with the opening prayer followed by Allen leading the Pledge of Allegiance..

President – Allen recognized new members & visitors and thanked Twin Tops for providing the meal. A special thanks was given to Ruthie Michalak for her assistance in getting the food.

1st Vice-President & Western District Coordinator – Gabby discussed sponsorships and protocol for obtaining them. Contracts have to be signed and a business card from the sponsor is needed for the newsletter, website, and facebook. We are looking for someone who would like to be the Sponsorship Coordinator. Please see Gabby if you are interested. Please get info to Gabby if you would like it posted on the CBA's Facebook Page and/or the Area Events for Motorcycle Riders Page. Please see Allen if you are interested in helping with the CBA table at the Charlotte Swap Meet. Gabby also discussed whether or not it benefited us to set up there.

CBA, Homestead and Other Area Events –

11/2/15 – **Events Committee & Officer's Meeting** – 6:30 pm at the Gaston County Homestead

11/7/15 – **Bikers for Brothers Dice Roll** – will end at the homestead, proceeds will benefit Magic Mike Dixon and the family of Scott McCaskill

11/7/15 – **New Officer's Training and State CBA Banquet** – Winston-Salem (training is mandatory for new officers)

11/10/15 – **All Officer's Club Meeting** – 7 pm at Carolina Thunder (this meeting is for all officers of local organizations so that upcoming events can be shared with everyone)

11/14/15 – 11/15/15 – **Charlotte Swap Meet** (please see Allen if you are interested in helping with the Gaston CBA table)

Newsletter Editor/Homestead Committee Spokesperson – Please use common courtesy when tagging photos with the CBA and the Homestead. Please return borrowed koozies to the homestead or drop some off if you have extras that can be donated. Anyone can submit articles of motorcycle interest for the newsletter. Just remember to site your source and include a link if possible. Items for the newsletter are due to Rhonda by the 15th of each month (rhamcba@yahoo.com).

Secretary – Motion made and approved to accept the September minutes as printed in the October newsletter. We have 304 members (280 renewals, 24 Life, and 24 juniors). Please sign in each time you come to the homestead. Please remember to contact Donna if you have changes to your contact information (address, phone, or email) (deb2334@yahoo.com). You can save the chapter up to \$25/year by receiving the newsletter online. New member packets are available – please see/contact Donna if you need one. Renewals are posted at the Homestead. Memberships: single - \$25, couple - \$35

Treasurer – Pete read the treasurer's report. Motion made and approved to accept the reports.

2nd Vice-President – Mike was absent from the meeting. He is still recuperating and getting stronger every day. Please continue to keep Mike and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Legislation - Chappy was absent. Please watch the newsletter and weekly emails for items of importance.

Master Sergent at Arms – Robert asked that everyone support the homestead. It is a great place for parties, etc. Please see him or Rhonda if you are interested in having a party at the homestead.

MSAP – The CBA you tube video is currently being used in driver's education. Volunteer instructors are still needed for that upfront personal experience of students seeing and speaking with someone who actually rides motorcycles. Once you start looking for the small things you will see the big things. Robert will be stepping down as the MSAP coordinator at the end of 2015 so please see Jeff Reif if you are interested in becoming the MSAP coordinator in 2016.

Products – New shirts are in and cost \$15 each (There are both men's and women's shirts). Please see an officer if you can help with the products table. Penny has agreed to assist with product inventory.

Old Business –

New Business – State CBA election results: These men and women will be your state officers for the next two years starting in 2016. **President** – James Buckner, **Vice President** – Charles Holcombe, **Treasurer** – Darlene Kimsey, **Secretary** – Gwen Nichols, **Legislative Coordinator** – Charlie Boone, **Membership Services Director** – Jill Stillwell, **MSAP Coordinator** – Jeff Reif, **Information Director** – Crystal Buckner, **District Coordinators** – West is Gabby Mintz, Central is Shaggy Causey, and East is Bill Ruby.

Gaston County CBA Officer's for 2016:

President – Jill Stillwell, **Vice President** – Gabby Mintz, **Secretary** – Donna Barnett, **Master Sgt. at Arms** – Jason Beck
Sgt. at Arms – Penny Franklin, Chris "Baby Boy" Dixon, Barry "Bulldawg" Scruggs and John Crawford

We are looking for someone who is interested in being the Treasurer and the Legislative Coordinator as well as a Sponsorship Coordinator.

Motion to Adjourn – Made and Passed
Fred Craft led us in closing prayer.

**Respectfully submitted,
Donna Barnett, Secretary**

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR GASTON COUNTY CBA GASTON COUNTY HOMESTEAD AND AREA EVENTS

- 11/2/15 **Events Committee & Officer's Meeting** – 6:30 pm at the Gaston County Homestead
- 11/7/15 **1st Annual Bikers for Brothers Dice Run** - Ending at the Homestead; Proceeds to benefit Magic Mike Dixon and the family of Scott McCaskill ~ Flyer in newsletter
- 11/7/15 **New Officer's Training and State CBA Banquet** – Winston-Salem (training is mandatory for new officers)
- 11/8/15 **Dice Run for Chevelle** (Supported by all local clubs) ~ Flyer in newsletter
- 11/10/15 **All Officer's Club Meeting** – 7 pm at Carolina Thunder (this meeting is for all officers of local organizations so that upcoming events can be shared with everyone)
- 11/14/15 – 11/15/15 – **Charlotte Swap Meet** (please see Allen if you are interested in helping with the Gaston CBA table)
- 11/28/15 **CBA Thanksgiving Celebration Fish Fry** ~ Flyer in newsletter
- 12/05/15 **Gaston County Toy Run**

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

Gaston County CBA Thanksgiving Celebration

Tired of Turkey? Come on
out and enjoy a fish fry with
us for our Thanksgiving
Celebration

Karaoke starts at
8; food will be
ready by 7

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party

Saturday Nov. 28th 7pm

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FOOD AT END



Chevelle is a 3 yr old with serval problems she has been in an out of hospitals for bowel problems an now they have done some test that showed that chevelle has what they call a MEGA COLON . Her colon is 3 times normal size an they are saying that they need to take her colon out an place a bag on her OR that they can try a bag for 2 yrs but can't say that she will come off it.

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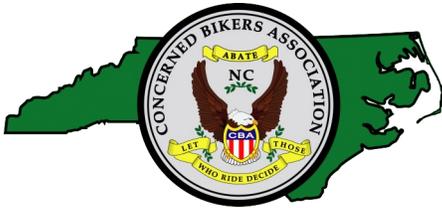
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Newsletter— November 2015