### **CBA/ABATE NC of GASTON COUNTY**

PO Box 22

**Lowell, NC 28098** 





**Newsletter – January 2017** 

TO OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF: THE GASTON COUNTY CHAPTER OF CBA/ABATE



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# **CBA / ABATE of NC, GASTON COUNTY**

January 2017

NC Chapter of the Year: 2007, 2010, 2012 & 2013
PO Box 22, Lowell, NC 28098 / www.gastoncountycba.com

### President's Message—

# Reminder —our meetings are now being held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

As we start this new year of 2017, let us be thankful for all we have accomplished during the past year. One thing we can honestly say, we are a strong chapter as we have been since we received our charter in 2007. I sometimes still have problems with bikers who think belonging to the best organization that fights for their rights is not important. I wonder how they would feel if some of the laws that legislators wanted to enact in the past were laws now. One I can think of off the top of my head is "no motorcycles on interstate roads." So many people in the past have fought hard for us and some of those folks are still on the non-payment payroll. If it's worth their time and energy to fight for us, shouldn't all bikers at least belong to the CBA to help with that fight? It takes money for our members to go to Raleigh and meet with our legislators. It takes money to put out a newsletter to our members to let them know what is going on at the state and federal level concerning bikers. It takes money to maintain our website to encourage and inform our members. It takes money for our officers to meet quarterly to do the business of the CBA. As we look forward to 2017 we should fight against anything we think of that could be detrimental to bikers. These things could and should be on our list to eradicate. We should fight against those who would discriminate us just because we ride a motorcycle or the way we dress (as bikers). I guess some of us know this more than others, but once you've had that experience then you will know what I'm talking about. We value our right to wear our biker clothes, our vests with our patches or our colors and we do not understand why some of our citizens cannot accept our right to do so. We also know what distracted driving can do to us or to someone we love, especially if we are on a bike. Someone in a car not paying attention can hurt or kill us. On the federal level, they are trying very hard to implement a helmet law. That means if it is passed, the states that do not comply will lose highway money. Most of us love to ride in SC (a no helmet state) but if they pass this and SC doesn't comply, their roads are going to get worse than they are now (sorry SC). Our fight starts on the local level with our local CBA and we encourage you to contact your state or federal representatives when these issues come up for a vote. If we don't contact those representatives, then why in the world would they vote in our favor?

In last month's issue, I wrote about Lobby Day in Raleigh on February 1<sup>st</sup>. This is a good time to visit and even meet some of the local state representatives plus some of the other state representatives on their tuff. Representatives respect us more when we come to them with our issues and concerns. They are not campaigning now and don't have to make promises they have no intention of keeping. We need to be active in this and with that said; we are encouraging you to attend Lobby Day. I know it's in the middle of a work week but if you can take the day off and go up, we will pay for your gas. Get a group of your biker friends together and car pool up. If you are interested, please call Donna or myself and we will get information to you about where to go once you arrive in Raleigh. Don't wait until the last minute to plan this. Do it now with so we can let Charlie Boone, our state Legislative Director, know how many of our Gaston CBA members will be attending. And we do want a good turn out from Gaston.

This month, the Gaston CBA will be celebrating 11 years since we received our charter. I know everyone has been having a lot of Christmas and New Year's Eve parties and a lot of folks are "partied out," but we do want to celebrate this event, so we are having an anniversary party on the 21st. By then we hope you will be in a partying mood again. We are going to have Karaoke plus we are asking you to bring your favorite snack food (pizza, wings, etc.) and enjoy the night together. We also hope that some of those people that helped to form the Gaston CBA Chapter would come and celebrate 11 years with us. Some have moved on to other things but we are hopeful they still have a special place in their heart for us and for all the work they did to start this amazing chapter.

By the way, don't forget about our Polar Bear Run on the 7<sup>th</sup>. If you want to show what you are made of – we hope you will ride no matter what the weather. We are praying for good and warm weather, so if you are a praying person, please put in a prayer for the same. And how about being a little (no a lot) hopeful for good weather if you are not a praying person. This has always been a good run for us simply because no club or organization in our area does anything like this in January - which for us is a good thing!

On a personal note, I want to say a big "thank you" to Gabby Mintz for all her hard work and dedication to us over the last 5 years. She has been a tireless worker on your behalf and for which we are eternally grateful. As most of you know, Gabby has some health issues but hopefully she will soon be on the road to recovery and can get back on the Intimidator (her bike). She will still be over our Sponsor Services so please help her to solicit new sponsors for our chapter.

Peewee, Todd and I want to wish each of you a very Happy New Year. If 2016 has been a bad year for you, then we hope that 2017 will be a banner year. If 2016 was a good year for you, then we hope that success will continue.

Respectfully,

#### Vice-President Message -

Hello everyone and Happy New Year. Hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas. I want to thank you for electing me as your new Vice President for 2017 Gaston County CBA chapter. I look forward to supporting our members and sponsors that help us grow and become stronger and stronger. 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. Also the Gaston County Homestead is a place where everyone can come to have fun, relax and socialize. We have Karaoke every Friday and Saturday night starting @ 7:00 pm. I encourage everyone to come hang out with Donna and Myself and have really great time. You do not have to be a CBA member to come. Please encourage anyone you know to attend the general meetings with you. I am hoping we come together as a community to see Gaston County CBA have the best year ever.

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. If you have any questions, concerns or ideas please contact my cell 980-429-3948 or email <a href="mailto:beccarrigan@gmail.com">beccarrigan@gmail.com</a>

Thanks again for everyone's support! Angela Dorrill Helms Vice President Gaston County CBA chapter



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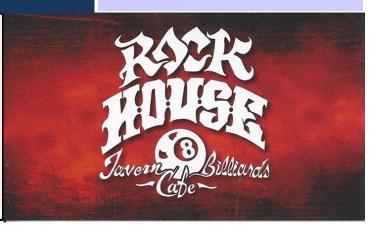
POLAR BEAR RUN RAFFLE— Don't forget to bring those unwanted Christmas gifts to the Homestead for our Polar Bear Run Raffle or if you would like to donate a raffle prize or if a company that you are a patron of would like to donate —we would appreciate it. This is one way we make money to support the legislative programs that we participate in and also help support the charitable contribution that we make throughout the year. We are only as strong as you help us to be and that means we need your help. Be an active member of Gaston CBA and help protect your biker family from unjust laws. Thanks!



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### **CBA/ABATE of NC LEGISLATIVE AGENDA FOR 2017**

- ♦ MAKE NO TEXTING LAW INTO "NO DISTRACTED DRIVING" AND MAKE IT A CARELESS & RECKLESS VIOLATION IF ACCIDENT CAUSING INJURY OCCURS.
- MOTORCYCLE ACCESS TO PUBLIC FACILITIES
- ♦ WORK WITH DEPT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION (DPI) ON HAVING DRIVERS EDUCATION AS PART OF THE CORE CURRICULUM
- ◆ ANTI-PROFILING BILL (USING PA. BILL AS MODEL)
- ANTI-DISCRIMINATION BILL
- AMEND AUTOCYCLE LEGISLATION PASSED IN 2015
- ◆ FREEDOM OF CHOICE REGARDING M/C HELMET USAGE

If we get any of these agenda items into a committee, we will definitely need your help to get it out of committee and onto the floor of the general assembly. And then if we get that far we will need your help again to get our agenda item passed.

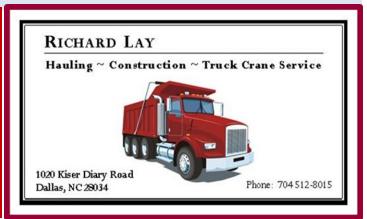
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# January 7th 11am-12pm

Starts at: American Cycle Works

1724 Mt. Olive Church Rd., Gastonia NC

Ends at: Gaston County Homestead 267 Stowe Rd., Gastonia NC

1st Bike Out: 11am

Last Bike Out: 12pm

All Bikes in by 3:30pm

Rain or Snow!

HANDS: 1 for \$15 / 3 for \$25

Food provided after 2pm with Paid Hand

(Food plates - \$6)

All Proceeds Benefit
Gaston County CBA Legislative,
Civic & Charitable Efforts



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

### CBA, Homestead and Other Area Events -

12/31 8pm: New Year's Eve Party at the Homestead

1/3 6:30pm: Gaston CBA Events Committee and Officer's Meeting @ Homestead

1/7 11th Annual Gaston CBA Polar Bear Run (see flyer)

1/9 Area Clubs & Organizations Officers meeting at the Homestead. Please bring a list of your upcoming events.

1/10 7pm: Gaston CBA General Meeting (Nichols Food Stores will provide the meal @ 6:15—Cost \$5)

1/21 8pm: Gaston CBA Celebrates their 11th Birthday at the Gaston County Homestead (see flyer)

1/28&29—State CBA Meeting in Greensboro.

2/1 CBA Lobby Day in Raleigh. We encourage our members to go.

Gaston County Homestead is open on Friday & Saturday Nights at 7pm.

We need workers for the Homestead, so please volunteers.

All area events are welcome on our online newsletter...please send to jillstillwell@bellsouth.net. It has to be sent to Jill to be in the newsletter.

Don't assume that she knows about your event.



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FIRST BIKE OUT AT 11<sup>AM</sup> • LAST BIKE IN AT 3<sup>PM</sup>

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#### **SPONSOR SERVIES -**

Contact Gabby Mintz 704 868-4688

ncharleygurl@yahoo.com

If you know of a business that would be interested in becoming a Gaston CBA sponsor, please get in touch with Gabby. She can walk you through the process or she can contact that company or person. This newsletter is put out with funds raised through this process, so we need to be diligent in keeping the sponsors we have and getting new ones.

We welcome two new sponsors this month. The Country Kitchen in Dallas is now under new management. They are going to be our 2nd stop on our Polar Bear Run so you can check them out. Plus we hope you will stop by and see Sam & Courteney Martin for a really good breakfast or lunch.

Our other new sponsor is no stranger to the Belmont area. Nichols Food Stores provides a valuable service to the community plus also provides the best deli for our hungry appetites. If you haven't had their wings, you need to stop by one of their locations for that special treat. This would be a really good snack for you to get for our Anniversary party.

# HAPPY 11th BIRTHDAY TO US! The Gaston Chapter of CBA



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Please call to schedule an appointment. Must be a resident of Stanley or Alexis.





# CELEBRATION

Gaston County Homestead 267 Stowe Rd., Gastonic NC January 21, 2017 - 8pm

# Gaston CBA

Please bring your favorite snack to share & bring your best voice for Karaoke!



# LOBBY DAY 2017

# WEDNESDAY, FEB. 1, 2017

SPONSORED BY

# CONCERNED BIKERS ASSOC./A.B.A.T.E. OF NC

WE WILL BE GATHERING AT THE

HOLIDAY INN RALEIGH DOWNTOWN 320 HILLSBOROUGH ST., RALEIGH, NC 919-832-0501 or http://www.ihg.com

WE HAVE A BLOCK OF ROOMS AT \$99
TELL THEM YOU ARE WITH CBA/ABATE OF NC
INFORMATIONAL SESSION WILL BEGIN AT

9:00 A.M.

AFTER THE INFO SESSION, WE WILL TAKE THE SHORT WALK
TO THE N.C. LEGISLATIVE BUILDING & THE LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
TO SPEAK WITH OUR LEGISLATORS
ABOUT OUR CONCERNS AND LEGISLATIVE WISHES

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

# Las Vegas Bikers Battle a Bum Rap

Reprinted from <a href="http://www.news3lv.com">http://www.news3lv.com</a> Reported by: Antonio Castelan

LAS VEGAS (KSNV News3LV) - We hear them rev their engines and see them drive in packs.

"Bikers," are all around us on our valley roads.

They are part of an inner circle few get to know. They reject the stereotype that they're criminals to be feared. Terms such as "outlaws" and "gangs" are offensive to most of them. In reality, they say the biker world is all about brotherhood.

There are the Bandidos, Regulators, The Vegas Flare, Crazy 88's and High Rollers. These are just some of the Las Vegas Motor Clubs cruising our valley roads.

"It's exciting. It's exhilarating. It's a lot better than being in a car," says Big Red, a member of the Las Vegas Regulators. "Aw! It's a beautiful thing. It's all about a brotherhood and camaraderie, he says.

The togetherness brings a wealth of characters.

"As Marines we are always a part of our country and our community," says Ghost, the president of the Marine Riders Las Vegas Chapter. "I'm a biker...but I'm also a business owner. I'm also a retired individual. I'm also 100-percent disabled. I hate being classified as a biker," he adds.

Then there are outlaw motorcycle clubs – these are clubs that make their own rules, don't conform to mainstream culture and are not sanctioned by the American Motorcycle Association.

Like the Pissed Off Bastards of Berdoo. "Gator" is his name – at six-five and over 300-pounds he's the ambassador for his club. "Bikers get a bad rap because we look scary with our tattoos," says Gator.

"Ghost" is set on shedding the negative stereotypes the public has linked to motorcycle clubs. "Because I ride a motorcycle and long beard and I have tattoos it doesn't make me less of a community," he says.

Earlier this year in Texas, a biker fight turned deadly outside a restaurant leaving nine dead. "Ghost" believes this does not represent what motor clubs are all about. "In every one of those organizations you could potentially have a have a bad egg – and that bad egg doesn't represent what that organization is about," he says.

Stephen Stubbs is a biker enthusiast. "People are scared what they don't know," he says. Stubbs feels motorcycle clubs are misunderstood. "Motorcycle clubs are not gangs. You compare a street gang with a motorcycle club they are so vastly different."

While many bikers may prefer the term club member, under law enforcement's watchful eye, many are seen as simply gangs.

Charles Falco, a law enforcement consultant and former DEA agent who wanted to keep his cover, spent five years infiltrating the Vagos, Mongrels and Outlaws motorcycle groups and urges caution. "They're very sophisticated. They're structured like the military, a lot of members are ex-military so they're highly trained for combat," says Falco.

Duane Chapman, also known as Dog the Bounty Hunter, was once a member of the motorcycle club the Devil's Disciples. "A lot of these guys are very intelligent and they were trained by the military. These are brothers with different mothers. This is like blood. They are thick." Says Dog the Bounty Hunter.

"Lucy Loo: with the Las Vegas Red Riders does not know where she'd be it if wasn't for her involvement in a bike club. The real estate administrative assistant wishes people got to know bikers first hand. "We are good people. It's about charity. It's about supporting people," says Loo.

And big bucks, the bikers we talked to claim they are big givers, raising cash and donating their time to fundraising for various community causes. A Bandidos attorney confirms the generosity. "They do provide help for people that need help and you know the government can try to attribute some sort of sinister version in order to make these guys look bad saying they're trying to look good," says Kent Schaefer.

Back in Las Vegas, "Chewwy" as everyone knows him with the Marine Riders, stresses all the rides with our good people. "Really these are some of the best – but whole hearted buys and women that you could ever imagine," says Chewwy.

Beyond the beards and tattoos there's a lesson to be learned. "It's the old adage don't judge a book by its cover."





Howdy Smith Doris Smith Ben Smith

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#### November 2016

Al & Ruthie Michalak Larry Rollins Jr Jeff & Tonda Kennedy

December 2016

Richard & Donna Lay
Dale Smithey
Michael Brown
Phil & Brenda Barker
Harry & Ginny Waller
David "Nick" Smith
Cody & Amanda Williams
Tommy & Jackie Stephens
Johnnie & Lisa Beegle

January 2017

**Chris Atchley** William Gerald Bryant Andrew & Cecily Duncan Joshua & Shanna Dunn Jamie & Aundria Grigg Steven Huffman Allan McGinnis Crystal Moore Kat Oglesby Bill "Cuzz" Smith Bill & Jackie Starnes **Chris Thomas Bill Withers** James & Barbara Mills Tammy Woodard Ronnie Jenkins Jeff & Melinda Reif

Membership can be renewed by PayPal using our website: www.gastoncountycba.com or by mailing it to Gaston County CBA, PO Box 22, Lowell NC 28098, at any event where the CBA is set up or in person at the Gaston County Homestead.

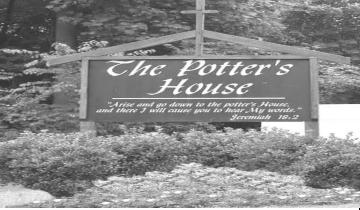
This is a call for your support. The membership of Gaston CBA voted to ask each member to make a commitment to support the Gaston County Homestead. We are asking that each member commit to sending at least \$5 per month to help support the homestead. Send your check (made out to Jill Stillwell) to Pete McGinnis, PO Box 22, Lowell NC 28098. Do not make the check out to Gaston CBA because that will go into the CBA account or you can go online to our website and pay your commitment by using your debit or credit card by using PayPal. That way we can leave that amount in the PayPal account until it is needed. The Homestead account is strictly cash so that's why we are asking you to make the check out to one person and mail it to another. That way we have accountability for you.

The Homestead is a place for all bikers. It's not just the CBA Home. You don't even need to be a member of CBA to commit to the Homestead. We would love for all the area organizations to help by ending their runs at the Homestead. It would really help on the rent and utilities. Why give your money to a business when you can help keep the Homestead open? We are also renting out the homestead for weddings and/or receptions, parties of all kinds and Celebration of Life or Memorial services.

If you want additional information contact Donna, Angela or Jill.









1799 Hwy 55 West, Clover, SC 29710

# Gaston CBA Treasurer's Report November 2016

**Beginning Balance:** \$2,719.09

Income:

\$ 60.00 New & Renewals

Total Income: \$ 60.00

Expenses:

157.36 Advertising

\$ 100.00 MRF Membership Expense

197.73 Newsletter

70.98 State Meeting Room

188.04 Trash

Total Expenses: \$ 714.11

Ending Balance (11/30/2016) -\$ 2,064.98

Respectfully submitted by: Pete McGinnis, Treasurer for CBA & Homestead If you have any questions at all about the CBA or

Homestead report, please contact Pete at the

# **Homestead Treasurer's Report** November 2016

Beginning Balance: \$ 48.90

Income:

\$ 566.00 Concession stand donations

\$ 100.00 Power (Gerald next door)

\$ 111.00 Donations / Pledges

Total Income: \$862.00

Expenses:

\$ 190.00 Power Bill

\$ 660.00 Rent

200.00 Entertainment \$

\$ 468.98 Concession Stand Supplies

1.75 Fees & Charges

**Total Expenses: \$ 1,528.73** 

**Ending Balance – 11/30/2016** (617.83)

If you have any questions concerning the Homestead Account, please contact Pete McGinnis.

# **2016 GASTON CBA OFFICERS**

If you have any questions, suggestions or complaints concerning YOUR Chapter, please contact your officers.



PRESIDENT & NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Jill Stillwell 704 922-5437 / 704 913-7281

jillstillwell@bellsouth.net



VICE PRESIDENT:

Angela Helms 980 429-3948

bcecarrigan@gmail.com



**MASTER SERGENT AT ARMS:** 

Jason Beck 704 472-8674

SERGEANT AT ARMS

iamjbeck@yahoo.com



SECRETARY:

Donna Barnett 704 287-4309

deb2334@vahoo.com



Crystal Moore



James Jordan



Jeff Henderson



Eric McGugan



mcginnis.pete@gmail.com All of our officers are involved in the Legislative part of our Chapter but we really need a Chairperson. Are you interested? If so. Please contact Jill.