



FRONTLINE

FREEDOM FIGHTERS NEWS

How Many?

Contemplate the mangled bodies of your countrymen and then say, "What should be the reward of such sacrifices?"

- Samuel Adams



"Freedom Through Action" What is BikePAC? See Page 14 for more info.

Coming Events

January 10
State Meeting
Carteret Craven Chapter

February 7
Rick Nail Award Banquet

February 28
MRF Fundraiser Run
View details at:
www.NCRider.com

March 27-28
Charlotte Swap Meet

April 3
State Meeting
Granville Chapter

April 17
Swap Meet/Bike Show
Columbus County

April 30-May 2
FREEDOM RALLY
Busco Beach

June 5-6
Rick Nail's June Jam

July 17
State Meeting
Hickory/Buncombe

Labor Day Weekend
BUSCO BEACH BASH

October 23
State Meeting
Randolph Chapter

October 30
Bike Show
Brunswick County

November 13-14
Charlotte Swap Meet

Letter from the Editor...

Wondering what that cover is all about? Ask yourself that question when you are trying to make the decision about whether to become politically active. How many brothers and sisters do we have to lose? How many? I am sick and tired of sacrificing people I love so people can have the right to drive like assholes. It has become a right to slaughter us in the streets like dogs because there are no penalties! You get a bigger fine for driving off without paying for your gas. What is your wife worth? How will you make it without your husband? Can you stand Christmas without your brother?

When session opens in May, Sam has asked for two things. Right now, send him every In Memory Of patch you can find. He plans to display these when speaking to legislators. The second thing is to just plain show up. We need to show them we are serious about our rights and our needs. May 10th people. WRITE IT DOWN.

This has been a devastating year for many of us and I am no exception. There have been so many painful losses. For every loved one we lose, for whatever reason, we must be rejuvenated in our commitment to fight for our rights. It should be obvious to all of you that we are all we have. Every time a loss occurs, your brothers and sisters have risen to the occasion. We care for each other. One shining example is Sandy's Run. Brunswick County Chapter organized a run to purchase a headstone for one of your own... needlessly killed by a Right of Way Violator. The run was well-attended and the commitment was met. Now, that is a true showing of brotherhood. That is my idea of charity

We have a fresh new year approaching and we need to take advantage of every opportunity given us. Make plans now to attend opening session in May. A show of force is what we need to make the legislators realize we are serious about our issues. Not just the helmet issue but most particularly the Right of Way violation legislation. How many do we have to lose?

Get your weapons of victory together... your voice... your letters... your attendance in Raleigh.

*In the Wind,
Crazy Deb*



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Legislative Update

Select Committee 11/15/03

Here it is gang. It's along one but I gave you the play-by-play version to make a point. Every time we go to Raleigh, one small contact spurs another, which spurs another and so on. Every action can spur another, and every action causes a re-action. I am convinced that the only way to achieve our goals is to maintain a constant, full-time presence there. I am working towards that end.

I spent Wednesday and Thursday in Raleigh, and had two very productive days. They didn't go quite like I had planned, but they seldom do. I'll take the results though. I pulled into the parking lot of the motel about 9:00 Wed. morning. First thing I saw was Rep. Keith Williams walking across the parking lot. I spoke with him for a few minutes about the House Select Committee. I asked him about the tone of the committee and he told me that he thought they had an open-minded attitude and that they would look at things fairly. He had to go pick up his car somewhere and told me he'd see me tomorrow. I had a 1:00 appointment to see Jim Black and figured I'd go to the building and try to catch some Senators if I could. I had a few hours to kill and I am still rallying support for HB-965. Before I even made it to the building, Black's office called to re-schedule for 9:30 Thursday morning. OK, more time to network and get some odds and ends done. I went by Dewey Hill's office to see his legislative assistant. She had been gathering some literature for me and I wanted to pick it up. I told her I was on my way over to the Facilities Management building to turn in the permit application for our opening day festivities in the mall. I had spoken to Dewey about a letter from him endorsing the application, but did not have it yet. She called him on the phone, OK'ed the letter, and told me that if I'd come back in a little while she'd have it ready for me. Genie has done us a million favors like this. I think she deserves an honorary membership.

I walked the halls for a while, but none of the legislators were in. As I walked past one doorway, I overheard the words "Concerned Bikers Association". Naturally, my ears perked up and I turned around to see who had spoken them. I locked eyes with Carla Farmer, Rep. Munford's legislative asst. She was on the phone with someone from the Select Committee and said "well here comes Sam now". She waived me over and ended her phone call. Carla is another of the LA's I got to know during the session. Her father works for Ray Price and her brother builds custom bikes. As it turns out, she is the clerk for the Select Committee. I found out there, that I am not on the committee, just the official notification list. There are only the eight Reps. on the committee. It is nice to know though, with a friend as clerk, nothing's gonna slide past me. She told me that Rep. Munford, who's on the committee, doesn't ride, but he did take the motorcycle safety course back in the spring. I take that too, as a good sign-he's certainly willing educate himself, and hands-on at that. As you are probably starting to see, the legislative assistants are our greatest assets in Raleigh. If it weren't for them, the legislators wouldn't know where to go. Their network usually turns out to be right, too. (By the way,

rumor has it that the session will re-convene the week of Thanksgiving to go over re-districting.)

I went back to Dewey's office and picked up the letter. I went to the Facilities Management building and turned everything in. I should receive a permit next week. The permit will allow us to park motorcycles in the mall on May 10, 2004 from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm. I will need some volunteers to help with parking and directing traffic etc. I will distribute a map soon, as to the route to take to get into the mall. More on all that later. If you guys aren't in Raleigh on Opening Day, you're gonna miss a hell of a show.

About this time, WRAL called and asked if they could get a shot of me riding up on my motorcycle. I don't know where they got my number, but they were there to cover the committee meeting and wanted to talk to me. I told them I hated to disappoint them, but I had so much stuff to carry that I came in the truck, and besides- the committee meeting isn't until tomorrow anyway. They said that was fine, they'd speak to me outside the committee room before the meeting. I made a few more stops and soon figured out that the only legislators in town were the ones there for our committee meeting, so I headed back to the motel to cool my blisters for a while. On the way back, Black's office called again to cancel tomorrow's meeting. He had something come up and would re-schedule after Thanksgiving. Now I've got tomorrow morning to kill too.

I turned on the news when I got back to the room. There was a story on about something, and they showed the Governor in front of the Capital Building. I decided that was a good way to spend Thurs. morning. Hell, I know he's in town- time to see the Governor! I called Shannon and got some contact info for the Governor's office. I left a message on his scheduler's voice mail and figured I'd see what happened. (Interesting side note- also on the news Wed. night was a story about a kid who had gotten killed jumping ramps on a four wheeler. They were pointing out that helmets are required on motorcycles, but not four-wheelers. Didn't need that right now.) I tried the Governor's scheduler again Thurs. morning, and still got voice mail. So off I go to the Capital, on a mission. I went to the building, and did make it as far as seeing Beverly Walker, the Governor's Executive Assistant and Internal Scheduler. She told me that the Governor's schedule was filled for the day, and there was no way to squeeze anyone in. I offered to stay in town another day, if she thought she could get me in. Nope- he'll be out of town. She did tell me that she would work out a time for me, and let me know, but in the mean time I might want to talk to Kevin Howell, the Governor's Legislative Council. I had explained to her that I wanted to speak to the Governor about legislation we had in.

She called him to schedule an appointment, but as luck would have it, he was on his way over to the building now for a meeting and could meet with me for a few minutes. I told Mr. Howell that I was in town for the committee meeting, and had hoped to get the Gov's take on the helmet bill. (After all

the buck does stop there. Might as well know where we stand.) I also told him I would like for the Gov. to consider having his Program for Motorcycle Safety endorse our right-of-way bill as an entity. I thought that would carry some weight in the Senate. Turns out he is very familiar with the bill. He remembered the debate over the bill in the House, and Senator Hartsell's attempt in the Senate. He told me not to worry, it seemed that Hartsell was having a bad day all around that day. He also said that Keith Williams had owed him a motorcycle for months and never made good on it. I assured Mr. Howell that on my next trip to Raleigh he would get his motorcycle ride. I gave him a copy of the folders I had prepared for the committee meeting. He said he had a friend in DOT who might be able to help, and asked for a copy to pass on to him. He is going to follow up with me and I will pursue this relationship, believe me. Three different times, people came out and asked him if he was coming to the meeting. He delayed them to talk to me, so I know he was sincerely interested. Beverly Walker is still working on an appt. with the Governor as well. Didn't make it to the Gov., but I'll take it.

Now for the good stuff... The committee meeting:

I gave the folders I had prepared to the clerk to hand out to the members. They contained our legislative packet, fancied up a little, as well as some new information. The meeting was called to order and the first order of business was to approve a budget for the committee. That was done- \$14,000 for an estimated five meetings. Then Rex Baker spoke for a good twenty minutes on the history of the bill. He didn't pull any Cont. on Page 4

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Legislative Update (continued)

Cont. from Page 3 punches either. He went into a good bit of detail about the fiasco in Finance over HB-107. He pointed out that every time this bill had been given a fair hearing, it had passed. He spoke very convincingly on the merits of the bill. I'm telling you guys, while he may have handed over the reins on the helmet issue to the new guys, he is still our champion. He honestly feels that having two riders take over would benefit the cause. Rep. Sauls, co-chair, spoke about the current law as compared to the laws in the other 49 states. He also had handed out a 15-page report that he and Williams had their interns prepare. It is very well done with drawings and graphs and presents our case very well. I am here to tell you people- these guys have not been playing around. They are very serious and mean business. This may actually be our year! I am going to schedule a meeting of the legislative committee (ours) in the very near future to discuss some things that are going to come up. An insurance clause was discussed earlier in the session and will probably come up again. Sauls and Williams both know how we feel about that. There was also mention of including completion of a safety course as one way to opt out of helmet use. (Similar to Pennsylvania's) The bill that comes out of this committee may not be the same bill that went in. We may have to make trade-offs, good or bad. I want to make sure that we are all on the same page as to what we will or won't accept. The next meeting of the Select Committee is tentatively scheduled for Dec. 18. I'd like to meet by then. There is one problem on the committee- Rep. Womble. No surprise, he's one of the ones who turned on us in the great Finance fiasco last session. When the co-chair asked me if I had an extra copy of our folder for staff, Womble said "one of them can have mine". He had not even looked at it yet. Otherwise I think we've got a good playing

field. The other co-chair, Rep. Jones, was an unknown quantity, but after the meeting he approached me and asked a few questions. He gave me his card and told me if I needed to contact him please feel free to do so. I think that is a good sign that he is at least open-minded. As to Womble- he was probably put on the committee as a devil's advocate and we're not likely to move him. That's Ok, we shouldn't need to. Like I said, our primary sponsors have been very busy behind the scenes. I think backing off and giving them room to work was a good idea. If this committee is a case of somebody shinin' somebody on, they're shinin' them goood! I think that we are in the best position we have ever been in on this bill. This would be a good time to contact the committee members and let them know we appreciate our bill finally being given a fair hearing. I've listed the contact information below. As to the press- they're circling. WRAL never showed, but they will.

There was a reporter from the Greensboro newspaper there who interviewed me a little and is supposed to call me next week for a follow up. As to the opposition- the only one there was a woman from The Association of Emergency Room/Trauma Physicians. She never said a word, but they'll be back. This is a long, long ways from over. Congratulations people. Your work has gotten us to this point. You owe it to yourselves to come along for the ride. Thanks again to Animal and Jim from the Carteret/Craven Chapter for coming Thurs. I appreciate the moral support.

One last thing. As I have mentioned before, I am collecting "In Memory" patches for a vest to wear on opening day. So far I have only received seven patches. If you have a memory patch please send it to me. It doesn't matter if they died on their bike or not. It doesn't even matter if they're from NC. The vest is symbolic, we just want it covered with names. This is a way for our lost brothers and sisters to make one more small, posthumous contribution to a cause they believed in. So please, scare up the patches and drop them in an envelope to me at P.O. Box 411, Chadbourn, NC 28431.

Sam Nobles
State Legislative Director
Concerned Bikers Association/ABATE of NC

Committee contact info:

Rep. John Sauls - Co-chair
418A Legislative Office Building
Raleigh, NC 27603-5925
919-715-3012 • <mailto:Johns@ncleg.net>

Rep. Earl Jones - Co-chair
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919-733-5825 • <mailto:Earlj@ncleg.net>

Rep. Rex Baker
302C Legislative Office Building
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Rep. E. Nelson Cole
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919-733-5779 • <mailto:Nelsonc@ncleg.net>

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Rep. Don Munford
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Rep. Keith Williams
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919-715-3009 • <mailto:Keithw@ncleg.net>

Rep. Larry Womble
537 Legislative Office Building
Raleigh, NC 27603-5925
919-733-5777 • <mailto:Larryw@ncleg.net>

In Memory Of...

Johnny "Blue" Wilson	January 21, 1996
Dennis Jackson	August 24, 1999
Bruce Vogle (Klean)	April 29, 1999
Mark Fisher (Fish)	September 25, 1999
Jane Janosko	May 15, 1999
Joann Stroud (JoJo)	January 4, 2000
Mike Daniels	March 23, 2000
Bear Allred	May 23, 2000
Ken Barentine	May 20, 2001
Edward Lawson Whitton (Easy)	Dec. 25, 2001
Tom Weaver	June 1, 2002
Tommy "DJ Crazyhorse" Clendenin	June 22, 2002
Joe "Ugly" Sidley	June 30, 2002
Alan Baker	August 4, 2002
John Cowdrick	August 6, 2002
James "Pickle" Deal	August 20, 2002
Clyde Starnes	September 7, 2002
Carl "Paul" Johnson	November 16, 2002
Gary Barba	January 7, 2003
Sheila Boone	August 1, 2003

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Chapter Meeting Places

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(704) 283-0465

Fax: (704) 291-2182

Email: ABATEMEMBRSHPSNC@aol.com

Brunswick Chapter

PO Box 188 • Shallotte, NC 28459

Kyle Caison: (910)842-3475

Cleve Gore: (910)754-7394

Meets at Brunswick County CBA Lodge. Located on Hwy. 179

behind Shallotte Muffler shop. Meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 8:00 PM.

Buncombe Chapter

PO Box 9271 • Asheville, NC 28815

Larry Blankenship: (828)683-3734

Email: blankenboat@ioa.com

Eldon Moore: (828)252-1195

Email: eldoncora@juno.com

Meets at Home Folks Diner, 1459 Merrimon Ave., Asheville on 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM.

Cabarrus Chapter

PO Box 6092 • Concord, NC 28027

Tom Rotundo: (704)723-9155

Jimmy Wilson: (704)279-3527

Meets at the Golden Corral in Concord on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM.

Carteret-Craven Chapter

PO Box 1474 • Havelock, NC 28532

Mark Ratliff: (252)223-3372

Email: mratliff@ec.rr.com

Jan Commo: (252)223-5188

Email: jccommo@ncclawyers.net

Meets at Jeans Place, East Main Street, Havelock on 1st Sunday of the month at 11:30 AM.

Charlotte Chapter

PO Box 26445 • Charlotte, NC

Lloyd Isaacs: (704)483-0938

Gary Bridges: (704)457-0571

Meets at 10411 Beagle Club Rd. on every Wednesday of the month at 8:00 PM.

Lodge #: (704)391-1222

Chatham Chapter

PO Box 408 • Apex, NC 27502

Mike Mohan: (919)363-8662

Email: flhs92@nc.rr.com

G.B. Lewis: (919)542-5759

Email: jilldene@hotmail.com

Meets on the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM. Please call for location. Mike (919)363-8662.

Columbus Chapter

PO Box 669 • Chadbourn, NC 28431

Randy Norris: (910)653-4066

Email: randnorr@intrstar.net

Greg Stevens: (910)646-35200

Email: gngstevens@hotmail.com

Meets at CBA Lodge on Jefferson St. in Whiteville on every other Sunday of the month at 1:30 PM.

Davidson Chapter

PO Box 2051 • Thomasville, NC 27360

Kenneth Moon: (336)757-5677

Email: fullmoon1860@aol.com

Carey Booth: (336)853-2397

Meets at Prime Sirlain in Lexington on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month at 5:30 PM.

Granville Chapter

1639 Hwy. 50

Creedmoore, NC 27522

Bobby Evans: (919)528-7313

Meets on the 1st Sunday of the month at 2:00 PM.

Hickory Chapter

PO Box 4154 • Hickory, NC 28603

Tim Austin: (828)632-6821

Meets on the 1st Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM. Contact Tim Austin for more information.

High Point Chapter

PO Box 176 • Jamestown, NC 27282

Robert Causey: (336)434-3065

Email: JulRackar@aol.com

Mark Little: (336)676-9160

Email: mlittle.nc@juno.com

Meets at the American Legion Hall in High Point, Bus. 85 N. between Brentwood and Kivett Drive on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM.

Raleigh Chapter

PO Box 28082 • Raleigh, NC 27611

Charles Boone: (919)269-4193

Email: fbird54@bellsouth.net

Meets at Griffins Restaurant, 1604 N. Market Drive on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month at 1:00 PM.

Randolph Chapter

PO Box 87 • Asheboro, NC 27204

Buddy Grainger: (336)629-3895 or (336)676-9160

Email: theoldman@northstate.net

Meets at Asheboro Golden Corral on Hwy. 64 on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday at 7:30 PM.

Rowan Chapter

PO Box 334 • Salisbury, NC 28145

Roger Boger: (704)933-4924

Email: Superg1200@aol.com

Meets at 4:30 on 2nd Saturday of each month.

Tar River Basin Chapter

181 Toms Lane • Walstonburg, NC 27888

Tom McLaughlin: (252)753-5510

Email: tommlc@greenvillenc.com

Meets 1716 Wallace Drive, Wilson NC on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM.

Union Chapter

PO Box 1142 • Monroe, NC 28111

Brandon Cruz: (704)893-2033

Todd Graham: (704)263-3818

Meets on every other Friday of the month at 8:00 PM. Call for times and location.

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His Laboring Few Biker Ministry

Vince Mehaffey: (828)654-0376

Email: HLFFLH@aol.com

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stateinfo@atmc.net

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misery by replacing freedom loving government with tyrants. I played a major role in the downfall of great civilizations. The Prince of Darkness alone sends me into your life. Once allowed inside, seldom am I asked to leave. You have been warned of my presence. But you do not care. Allow me to introduce myself. My Name Is APATHY. Have YOU been visited by me?

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Biker's Prayer

God, I know you are real.
Thank you for being in the wind
with me even before I ask.
Thank you for your son,
JESUS,
who died for me.
Forgive me of my sins; for I truly
repent and turn to you.
JESUS, I ask you now to
come in my heart that we might ride
together daily. I dedicate myself and
my scooter to serving you.
Thank you LORD for my salvation!
Thank you, for I am now
"In HIS Wind"
Amen.

Our Message Is Louder Than Our Pipes

TIME TO START THINKING
ABOUT THE
FREEDOM RALLY
APRIL 30 - MAY 2

Chapter Letters

Brunswick

It deeply saddens me that I must start this newsletter with some sad news. One of our sisters passed away recently. Many of you knew her as a very active member of our chapter working on the right of way bill with our state legislative officer, Sam Nobles.

She had recently visited the Capitol to promote this bill and we all are over come with sorrow that her death came because of a right away violator. The driver turned left in front of Sandy and she didn't have a chance. Our chapter rallied around the Lee family and started the 1st Annual "Sandy's Run". For Sandy's Run to be put together so quickly, we had a great turn out. I know she would be very proud of us for carrying on her work for this bill.

The next event was the 10th annual Bike Show held on October 25 in the parking lot of Close Encounters Gentlemen's Club. Our weather was overcast but the rain held off and made for a very long but interesting day. The crowd was entertained by Borelli's Pocket Rocket Stunt Show, Dinosaur Racing drag bike, Shadetree Racing & Choppers (Displayed bike 29 feet 3inches) and the band Kid Drew. A special medallion was given to each bike entry along with trophies for the winners. We even had unexpected visitors in the parking lot that left some with smiles on their faces.

We are now planning our Christmas party for December 6 and are looking forward to 2004.

Get educated and ride safe,
Kaye Mattingly

Chatham

Chatham has the following events planned for the end of the year:

Chatham CBA, along with the Chatham County Law Enforcement Association will be holding our annual Children's Christmas Charity Ride on Saturday, November 15th to benefit disadvantaged children in Chatham County. Please see our web site for event info: www.ChathamCBA.com

Meeting Updates:

Chatham would like to invite all current Chatham members who can't attend our Thursday meetings to drop by and see us during weekend rides and Bike Nights. We have recently changed our meeting location from the Pitt Stop Cafe in Pittsboro, to Captain John's Dockside Fish and Crab House (11550 US Highway 15-501 N. Chapel Hill, NC)

Important News:

We are all proud of Iris Hindle (one of our best members) for volunteering for the state events committee. Iris is a positive role model for all CBA members in that she doesn't sit around and complain about the way the organization is run. She actively volunteers her time and energy into improving the organization, attends almost all state events, and supports the organization. Just imagine what we could accomplish if more CBA members stopped complaining and started volunteering! Way to go Iris!

Our best wishes go out to our brother Mark Ratliff and his family.

Columbus

Columbus County is very excited to be working on several upcoming functions. First is our annual toy run held December 6th, 2003. This will be the fifth annual run and we are getting more attention every year. Members of the local community have come to expect the toy run now, and we look forward to making many children happy this Christmas.

Our next function is the Chapter Christmas party to which all our members look forward every year. This year will be a bit different with a few special raffles that will help raise a bit of money for the chapter and the state. We have also opened the party to any CBA member and a guest. The more the merrier.

Our big focus now is preparing for the Fifth Annual Spring Swap Meet & Bike Show. This year we have a new, larger event site, have created an event committee to handle all the details, and are planning a bigger and longer event. We are putting out the word to vendors, so if you know one that might be interested, have them contact Shannon at shannonj@noblescorp.com or 910-654-1257. We appreciate the help. We would also like to take this opportunity to invite all CBA members to attend the event. The event will be held Saturday April 17th, 2004 and we are planning beautiful weather, so mark your calendars now!

Columbus County wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! 2004 will be an outstanding year for the CBA.

Raleigh

Hello from the Capitol City,

The Raleigh Chapter held elections in October and we are undergoing several changes in our Chapter. Charles Boone has graciously accepted the nomination

for President. We are looking at moving our meeting dates to the weekend so that more people can attend. Many times work and personal conflicts keep members from actively attending meetings.

We have our Christmas for Kids event on December 13th. Each year we raise thousands of dollars to aid disadvantaged children in the Smithfield, Johnston County area. We also will be helping the Christian Motorcyclists Association with their annual toy run on November 22nd.

Our Chapter hopes to recruit many new members in the coming year. If we don't bring in new blood, we don't grow. Our goal is to educate many of those riders in our area who ride around oblivious to what their government is doing to them and their rights. We hope to be an integral part of the growth of our state MRO. And remember, it is never too early to start planning for the next Legislative session!

Gail Rumler
Secretary

Need Your Help For Opening Day

I am putting together a vest to wear Opening Day of the legislature. It will be made up entirely of memory patches for lost riders. Please send me one of any you have, and pass the word around. If I can come up with enough of them, I'll sew them on a duster if I have to. I think it will make a statement to put the names in front of them. Just drop

them in an envelope and mail to:

P.O. Box 411
Chadbourn, NC 28431.

Thanks,
Sam Nobles
CBA/ABATE Legislative Coordinator

TICKETS AVAILABLE ON LINE

WWW.BINGO500.ORG

The Church of Divine Inspiration
6611 Old Mocksville Road, Salisbury, NC 28144
Presents...

MOTORCYCLE MADNESS!
to benefit Make-A-Wish Foundation, Victory Junction Gang,
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Grand Prize
Jesse James Custom-Built Bike!
(or 3 by custom builder of your choice)
Plus 42 other Fabulous Bikes to be given away
AND 3 Sponsor Prizes!
A \$25.00 Donation Receives 3 Chances to Win!
Drawing to be held September 1, 2004.

A N^o 5127MM

Motorcycle Madness!

Sponsor Number

Name:

Address:

City: State: Zip:

Telephone:

E-mail:

Preferred Bike Builder:

Traffic Strategies

It's almost always necessary to share the road with other users, but sharing has its limits. To keep the wind in your face and everything else out, here are some useful tips:

Time Things A good pass on a two-lane road takes no more than six seconds. How long does it take to cross an intersection? To accelerate to freeway speed?

Estimate Times How far away is that oncoming car or that blind crest? Knowing could save your butt.

Don't Tailgate When the preceding vehicle passes a fixed object count off: "one thousand one... one thousand two..." If you get there before "two" you're following too closely.

Project Each Car's Path of Travel: See a car poking out of a driveway? Put your bike where it can't reach you.

Don't Ride Staggered in Twisties. . . . or anywhere maneuvering within your lane is likely to become necessary.

Late Apex By starting on the out side of a curve and delaying your turn, you'll not only see farther ahead, you'll increase your space cushion in left hand turns.

Watch for Cars "Stacking Up" On two-lane roads, there's always the danger of a car abandoning the pack to pass. Maintain a constant vigil for phantom vehicles and, when you think you've spotted

one, move to the right. This creates space as well as conspicuity.

Don't Follow Behind Obstructive Vehicles Trucks, vans -- anything that's hard to see around also makes you invisible to oncoming cars. Stay way back, or better still, let some passenger cars fill the gap.

Avoid Rush Hour: Pilots have to train for each airport. Don't try to tackle a strange metropolis when everyone else is pressed for time.

Head Checks: Don't rely on mirrors or peripheral vision. Do one before each lane change. Signal your intentions two full seconds before lane changes; four seconds for turns.

Keep Right Unless Passing or unless on the highway. On the highway it's best to travel in the middle lane to avoid oncoming traffic from on-ramps.

Give Way to Faster Traffic It's the civilized thing to do.

Don't Speed Through Town Speed is only a factor if you hit some thing... and in town there are all sorts of things to hit.

Avoid Bad Drivers Give wide berth to anyone who is excessively fast or slow, wanders in their lane or changes lanes without signals.

Avoid Other Drivers' Blind Spots Keep back; accelerate when necessary.

Look Farther Up the Road Maintain a 12-second visual lead; search for the exit of each turn.

Cover the Front Brake Lever in high-risk areas.

...But Don't Cover With One Finger... or even two fingers unless that's how you practice emergency stops. Once you've started the brake application, you'll need to release in order to add fingers.

Check Your Mirrors When You Slow Down Look for an escape route, too; the guy behind you might not be so alert.

The Left Wheel Track of four-wheeled vehicles is your principal lane position... but continually adjust to changing conditions.

When Stopped Remain in First Gear If you're in gear, and you see someone coming up quickly behind you, and you doubt they can stop, being in gear will allow you to move forward and out of the way of a collision.

****Beware of Cars Turning Left Across Your Path** Slow down -- see what the driver's going to do. Check your right mirror, then move as far to the right as is practical. If the car turns early -- brake. If the car turns late -- accelerate. This is one of our biggest nemesis out there; sometimes it's best to wait until all traffic has passed before executing a left turn; it may save your life!

South Carolina Opening Day

Opening day of the South Carolina Legislature's session is January 13, 2004. They are our sister state, and we share a lot of common issues. Many of us head for the state line to ride, because they won their freedom and we are still fighting for ours. I have buried two friends killed there in the recent past. Both were killed when other drivers violated their right-of-way.

South Carolina has a bill introduced to increase the penalties for failure to yield the right-of-way. SB-418 and its companion bill HB-3653 closely resemble our right-of-way bill. The reason is because the original wording of our bill was patterned after theirs. Same bill, same problem, different state. They need our help!

Just as we are gearing up for opening day here, SC ABATE is preparing to show up in force at their own, to support their legislation. Both bills are sitting in Judiciary committees, and need a "shove" to get them moving. They need a show of numbers to impress their legislators just as we do. I want to ask you to go, if you can, to the Capital in Columbia that Tuesday, to lend our support. They, in return, have agreed to help us in May. Isn't that what this is all about? Working together? We all share the issues, so let's share the load. Join me in Columbia on January 13th. Consider it a "dry run" for our own charge on the Capital. I will be there mid-

morning until. Unfortunately I don't have directions or maps for you, because that is not my usual playing field, but I have confidence in you all. We're trav-

elers; we'll find it. Thanks.

Sam Nobles

State Legislative Director CBA/ABATE of NC

CBA Members Have Dinner With Speaker of the House Jim Black



TO: All Chapter Presidents, District Coordinators and State Board of Directors

FROM: Darlene Kimsey, Western District Coordinator Elect

RE: Award Banquet for Rick Nail

DATE: November 21, 2003

There has been a final date set to honor the great work Rick Nail has done for CBA/ABATE of North Carolina. The revised date for Rick's award banquet will be Saturday, February 7, 2004. The date has been changed from December 13 so that more of you can join us and so that out of town guests will be able to attend. The banquet will be held in the Charlotte-Concord area.

The award banquet will take money, of course and we really need your help! With generous donations from the chapters, districts and state treasury, we can put together a great night to honor a great man that has given us all so much. I am proposing the following minimum amounts:

Chapters	\$50.00 each
Districts	\$100.00 each
State	\$500.00

Of course, these are just suggestions for minimum contributions. Anything that you can donate will be put to good use. Please mail checks to Darlene Kimsey, 2225 Bevon Drive, Trinity, NC 27370. A full reporting of costs associated with this banquet will be provided to all chapters, district coordinators and state officers upon completion.

Final details will be provided as soon as they become available. If you have any questions, please contact me at 336-476-7142 or wkimsey@mindspring.com.

Thank you for participating in this very important event.

**TIME TO
START THINKING
ABOUT THE
FREEDOM
RALLY
APRIL 30 - MAY 2**

Sanford • Raleigh • Wilmington

Christian Motorcyclists Association

Ministry Teams For Service to You

First Aid • Hospitality • Women's • Music
Prayer • Prison • Mechanical • Servants • Children



Tom Weston, State Coordinator
704-483-4837

Bill Morrison, First-Aid Team Leader
336-751-7405

Asheville • Statesville • Winston-Salem

Greenville • Lincolnton • Boone

Charlotte • Hendersonville

5TH ANNUAL COLUMBUS COUNTY CBA SWAP MEET AND BIKE SHOW Saturday, April 17th, 2004



NEW EVENT LOCATION:

Whiteville Auto Auction
1722 Chadbourn Hwy
Whiteville, NC 28472



Events:

**Bike Show, Vendors, Food & Beverages, Tattoos,
50/50 Drawing, Door Prizes, Burn Out Pit, Swap Meet, Games,
Live DJ, Raffle, and much much more!**

**For Vendor Info Contact:
Shannon at: 910-654-1257 or
shannonj@noblescorp.com**

**All Motorcyclists
and Families
Urged to
Participate!!**

**Must show ID
at the gate to
purchase any
alcohol.
NO ID, NO DRINK**

**Featuring:
Ted E. Bear
*Live DJ***

**Gates Open at 10:00 a.m.
ADMISSION: \$5.00
KIDS UNDER 15 FREE
W/ ADULT ADMISSION**

**BIKE SHOW
ENTRY FEE \$15.00
(Includes 1 Admission)
Registration starts 10:00 a.m.**

NATIONAL COALITION OF MOTORCYCLISTS



19th Annual

NCOM CONVENTION

MAY 6 - 8, 2004

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

BILTMORE HOTEL

401 S. Meridian , Oklahoma City, OK 73108

For Room Reservations Call (800) 522-6620

Mention NCOM and reserve your room prior to 4/7/04 to receive the Special Group Rate of \$64.00 Single/Double.

Hosted by ABATE of Oklahoma & Oklahoma Confederation of Clubs

NCOM CONVENTION REGISTRATION FEE - \$75.00 (includes Silver Spoke Awards Banquet)
\$40.00 (without banquet)

For further information about the NCOM Convention, call (800)-525-5355

NCOM CONVENTION

Oklahoma City, OK

2004

October Treasurers Corner

This year is about over and we are all looking forward to the new year. We had two state events this year, both were first time events at a new location that was not without some controversy.

We broke even on the Freedom Rally in May and lost about \$1,000.00 for the Busco Beach Bash in September. Actually that is not too bad for first time events, except that we were also starting out with virtually no money in our treasury to put these events on.

We, all of us on the events committee have learned a lot this year, we made some mistakes and we did some things right. On the whole we did not

do too badly for an ad hoc group. We have learned to work together and let each do what he or she is best at. Of course that is not to say that we could not use more help on this committee as the workload will keep increasing as these events grow and they will grow or CBA/ABATE as an organization will not grow.

As your treasurer, I am doing the best that I can to help these events grow and prosper. What you as a CBA/ABATE of NC member need to do is to support these events to also help us grow and prosper.

I know this sounds like something that the

chair of the events committee would write, but I am a member of that committee and without support and money we can't do anything else. There will be no money to send people to conferences to learn the best ways of attaining our goals. There will be no money to pay for our newsletter so that we can keep our members informed as to what is going on and how they can help us attain our goals. There will be no money to keep sending people to Raleigh and Washington to let our legislators know what we want.

Let us all start the new year invigorated and ready to work for and support our organization.

October State Meeting Minutes

Meeting brought to order at 12.58

Allen Hutton opened the meeting with a prayer.

Sam Nobles led the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call of Chapters: All present at opening except for Tar River.

Calling out of names of those present.

One At-Large member: DocSki

State Senator Fern Shubert introduced. Cotton announces she is running for the office of Governor, and opened the floor.

Some of Fern's Comments:

She appreciates our organization because we are placing people in Raleigh keeping an eye on what is going on. She thinks that is what has gone wrong; we the citizens have quit taking care of or keeping an eye on what goes on. Would you put your purse and wallet in the middle of the road and walk off and leave it?

We need someone who thinks California is a bad example instead of a role model.

The enemy is not the legislators who don't know what they are doing but rather the media that does not report to the people what is going on. Keep it Honest. Talked about for instance, the thousands in grants that go out with no accounting asked for. (Like a congressman down east who ran his campaign on NC Taxpayer grants.) The website carolinajournal.com will tell you what is happening in the legislature.

Campaign will center on JOBS number one priority. TAXES: Explains the raising of taxes with imaginary numbers in the shortfall is nothing more than socialism. ROADS. Bad management is the reason for the roads being in the condition they are in WHERE they are in. The reason folks in office get away with this is because WE THE PEOPLE quit paying attention.

Illegal aliens: driver's licenses are being given to them and it is creating problems in terms of crime. See <http://www.Forfern.com> for Fern's press release on the driver's license bill.

Darlene Kimsey talks about motorcycle safety committee to Fern, who was unaware of it.

"The worst stuff we have going on is not illegal, it's amoral!"

Fern is against having a Lottery because of what she says are the losses we can incur in keeping up families that lose their jobs, paychecks, etc. in the fallout of gambling problems.

"Don't trust me because of what I say, CHECK ME OUT and the others too!"

Secretary's report. Motion made by DocSki and seconded to accept the minutes of last meeting as printed in the (yet to be received) state newsletter. Passed.

Peggy Burns went over the membership committee meeting.

Treasurer's report. Mike pointed out the lack of participation at events and need for funds and handed out

a quarterly statement.

Motion made by Sam and seconded by Doc to accept as given.

Charlotte status: Cotton states all requirements have been made and he requests they be reinstated. The Aye's have it and Charlotte is restored to regular chapter status.

Shag asked if that means Becky gets her membership back. Cotton said no and Shag asked why not. Cotton explained that Becky's membership status has nothing to do with the Charlotte Chapter status. Lloyd feels the chapter should have Becky back, they have the tapes and feel she is no detriment to the organization. Cotton told Lloyd he will set up a meeting with the Board and ask Becky to attend and they will listen to the tapes and discuss that possibility.

Elections results presented.. 2004-5 new state officers are:

State President, Cotton Tedder

Vice President, Randy Norris

Second Vice President, Lane Wise

Legislative Director, Sam Nobles

State Treasurer, Mike Hodges

State Information Director, Debra Knox

Membership Director, Jan Tedder

State Secretary, Peggy Burns

Eastern District Coordinator, Mark Ratliff

Central District Coordinator, Darlene Kimsey

Western District Coordinator, Eldon Moore

Legislative Committee: Sam suggests we work with candidates, find out what they are all about. When Legislature opens (Scheduled to be Monday, May 10) we need to be there in force. Talked about gubernatorial race asked to be low key about your support as a CBA member so as not to burn bridges.

Vinny Neumann is going to work with Sam on bettering communications, teaching folks the way to use the computer to our benefit. Sam wants Roger Williams of Buncombe to be a local legislative liaison to help other chapters learn how to work with their local house and senate rep. He'd also like to meet with the Vietnam Vets in the Fayetteville area in an effort to get Tony Rand out of the picture. Grassroots America - Sam has been talking to them to get ideas on how to get Rand OUT. Sam says when these candidates are speaking, Be involved, be a face in the crowd. Questions? Contact Sam.

MRF Report given.

NCOM: Cotton will be going Nov. 1 to the BOD meeting and Medic Atlantic Seminar in Philadelphia. Preliminary agenda includes a session on the Patriot Act, I and II.

NC Confederation of Clubs: Tiny Abney issue. They felt it was not legislation but a litigation issue. To continue this is going to take money, they are looking into that. Oct. 18 protest run in Charlotte: Bars that will not let you in, they are going and will let us know how that goes. Free AIM materials on the table. DocSki gave out his telephone number.

Products Committee: Obviously having problems, it is a work in progress. In January Cotton will have a better idea of where Products Committee stands.

Third Quarter Public Relations Report sent in by Debra Knox and read by Cindy Hodges.

Constitution Committee Report: voting on constitution committee changes, 17 proposed, one it was decided we would NOT vote on, and 8 passed.

Calendar: Send in your chapter addresses and meeting information to Charlie Boone or do not complain if it is wrong. Do NOT ASSUME he is going to go digging for it.

Reminder: Freedom Rally May 1,2.

Support patches: Cotton discussed new policy on that. CBA members do NOT go around wearing support patches. No More New CBA Back patches will be allowed either.

Director of Safety and Education: Put in as a constitution change to make this position a BOD position. Will be read in January and voted on in April.

BikePAC of NC. Cotton, Mike, and Deb Knox have been researching this. Most PACS have a State Coordinator, treasurer, paid lobbyist. The goal is to be actively soliciting memberships January 1.

State Meeting dates for 2004

Carteret Craven, January 10

Hickory/Buncombe July 17 Shriners Catawba

Granville April 3

Carteret Craven January 10

Randolph October 23

End of year awards ceremony: To be held at a nice facility in Monroe, sell tickets to cover expenses.

Starting January 1, work done in committees, if you have new business, old business, etc. it must be brought through committee. This will cut down on the time of state meetings and require committees to do the work they are supposed to. If a committee has *Cont. on Page 11*

October State Meeting Minutes

Cont. from Page 10 not met by time for a state meeting, there will be no report and Cotton could possibly be looking to replace the committee chairperson.

State Events Committee: Met before today's state meeting. Labor Day event: talked to the event committee members, have a challenge for the chapters... to get the work divided up between the districts. Next meeting will be at the Charlotte Swap Meet Nov. 8 at 10:00.

Someone asked What is the problem with Products? Much discussion about the lack of response to orders for products. As Jocelyn was not there to answer questions, Cindy reminded the membership she had been preparing

for her upcoming marriage and been gone for some time.

Sponsorship for the trailer. Cotton is wanting to sell sponsorship spots on the products trailer.

Dr. Jeff Runge (Formerly of Carolinas Medical Center, now head of NHTSA) is going to Geneva along with the World Health Organization to put a ban on not wearing helmets and if UN council accepts this, they can move this over to the USA with more teeth.

District reports: Allen had to leave. Randy outlines the Run for Sandy Lee.

Rick Nail: October Jam next weekend at Rowan Col. Fairgrounds. Free booth space for CBA

Motion to adjourn.

Respectively submitted,

Cindy Hodges
State Secretary

Meeting of the Minds

MOTM: This year, CBA/ABATE of NC was represented at the MRF's Meeting Of The Minds by Randy Norris and Sam Nobles of Columbus Co. Chapter, Fast Fred of Buncombe Chapter (Fred is also State Coordinator of ABATE of SC), Mike Hodges of Raleigh Chapter, Boyd Spertzel, David Rodak, and Cindy Hodges of Charlotte Chapter, Deb Knox, Peggy Burns of Brunswick Chapter, and Sherry Hand, At-Large member. As N.C.'s MRF Representative, it was very gratifying to hear Sam Nobles tell me many times "I'm SOLD! - - This is Awesome!". The information, sessions, networking, the meetings that cropped up "behind the scenes" all served to better our understanding of the state of issues closest to the heart of a biker's rights activist.

For years, I've heard members ask why we continue to send folks to these national meetings, when the rest of us do not get anything out of it? I am going to try to hit the highlights of the convention, but first, I want to address that question.

Before we started sending people to national meetings, our view on things was very limited in scope. Rick Nail started going to meetings out of state and when he did, our organization started to change. We went from a "mother chapter" based organization to an organization run by a constitution and layers of officers set down by all the members, the manner of elections, terms of office, job duties, etc. all changed. We started to learn of things that were going to be a threat to us in a new way... BEFORE IT HAPPENED! Before networking with the other SMROs we only knew what was happening here at home. By sharing information with other activists across the nation, and across the pond, we learned what worked for others in the same situations we faced at home. This sort of networking has helped makes us a more aware group, in a better position to fight our battles, it has certainly put us in a better position to educate our own people, and work within our existing governmental structures both at the state and federal level to educate legislators on the true facts of issues that regard us as motorcyclists. Our Events Committee has been taking things learned from participating in events in other states and participating in national meetings and putting them to good use here at home. Our participation with NCOM and MRF have strengthened our organization. Each time members go to these meetings, they come back energized and ready to move forward. This causes a ripple effect that I've watched over the last ten years - - we have learned so much!

The focus of this year's MOTM was Health Care, Traffic Safety, and EPA & Street Bike Emissions. This is what set the agenda, though there were other issues and helpful seminars as well.

Health Care: The Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act of 1996, as we fondly call HIPAA, is a law that

modified three basic federal health care laws, or agencies that have their finger's in the pie: ERISA (Employee Retirement Income Security Act, Public Health Service Act, and The Internal Revenue Code. Ya'll will remember when we lobbied during the Clinton days to square up our health care discrimination issues in employer-provided health care plans. The Good Part is that we won, the Bad Part is that the sneaky Clintonistas wrote a huge loophole into the regulations that yes, while we cannot be denied coverage, it all but invites insurers to deny BENEFITS when the source of injury is a motorcycle accident.

The intent of HIPAA is to increase the number of insured Americans. The prevailing view in DC is that benefit guarantees tend to increase premiums - - thus decreasing the number of insured. Rider protection in HIPAA was structured as a coalition approach, linked motorcycling with recreational activities and there are positive and negatives in that approach.

The MRF's approach is to pursue individual, state and federal remedies. Federally, treat motorcycles as a mode of transportation - - treat all road users the same. The AMA's approach is to prevent denial of benefits to employees who pursue a variety of recreational activities. H.R. 1749 in the house and S. 423 in the Senate address this for us. The MRF has worked hard to get co-sponsors to this bill, as you all know due to the information you have been receiving for the past year. Early Fall will be the time to start watching the Senate, as we are lagging in co-sponsors for that particular bill.

Traffic Safety: There has been a 50% increase in rider fatalities over the past five years, alcohol involved riders, more inexperienced older riders, more inexperienced younger riders, rider training waiting periods and the raiding of rider training funds all contribute to this. NHTSA's lobbying continues to be a problem. We maintain that better integration of the motorcycle leads to gas conservation, road wear reduction, and ease of traffic congestion.

But to better integrate the motorcycle as a mode of transport, we need things to change, and TEA-21, the Transportation Equity Act of the 21st Century is where we need to affect this change by getting rider-friendly language into the reauthorization of this Act. This is what all the fuss was about here recently with Chairman Young of Alaska's proposal involving a gas tax to go towards rider-friendly initiatives.

The LaTourette-DeFazio Safety Letter, which you all should have heard of by now, was shopped around to congress member's offices seeking support. This letter encouraged Training and safety improvements in line with the National Agenda for Motorcycle Safety. It preserves the TEA-21 protections of the past (i.e. motorcycle access to highways - - yes friends, don't think there

aren't folks out there that would like to ban us from our own roads). And it makes crash prevention the priority focus for NHTSA, instead of their favorite "safer crashing" stance. The Safety Letter also establishes a Motorcyclist Advisory Council in the Federal Highway Administration (one of the earlier goals of the MRF) to ensure riders and design engineers communicate about crash barriers, road maintenance, etc. The Letter sets motorcycle safety as a NHTSA Section 402 grant priority and launches the first Motorcycle Safety Incentive Grant to encourage as well as assist states in delivering rider skill training (\$100K for any state that maintains or increases its commitment to rider skill training and driver awareness of motorcycles). The letter strengthens an existing provision that prevents NHTSA from lobbying the states using taxpayer dollars.

EPA: In a nutshell, the EPA's proposed rulemaking will destroy motorcycling small businesses, Reduce motorcycling in America, and endanger the health and safety of motorcyclists, their passengers, and passers-by.

We've gone into the facts of this enough that you all know them by now. Here's some help coming down the line that your action will be required on... to encourage your congressman to support:

H.R. 110 - Congressional Responsibility Act of 2003- Requires Congress and the P resident to fulfill their constitutional duty to take personal responsibility for Federal laws. This Act ends the practice whereby Congress delegates its responsibility for making laws to unelected, unaccountable officials of the executive branch and requires that regulations proposed by agencies of the executive branch be affirmatively enacted by Congress before they become effective. This will result in a more democratic and accountable Congress and protect the public from regulations for which elected, accountable officials are unwilling to take responsibility.

H.R. 2542 - The Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review Act- Establishes a new Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review and positively requires rules to be reviewed by that committee and the committee of jurisdiction; Allows it to be in order for any Member of the House to move to proceed to consideration of the joint resolution. All points of order against the motion to proceed and against consideration of that motion are waived. The motion is privileged in the House and is not debatable.

Debate shall be confined to the joint resolution and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by a proponent and an opponent of the joint resolution. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the joint resolution to final passage without intervening motion, except one motion *Cont. on Page 12*

MOTORCYCLE FOR SALE

2000 XLH 883

Rich red. 7500 miles. Two-up seat with sissy bar and luggage rack. Sport windshield and leather saddlebags with chrome supports. Chrome oil tank, battery and ignition module covers. High-flow air cleaner, carb and exhaust work. HD Extended Warranty until June 2006! Break-in and service done religiously - this is a clean bike. \$6500. Sam (910) 654-1257

Meeting of the Minds (continued)

to recommit. A motion to reconsider the vote on passage of the joint resolution shall not be in order.

For those of you who follow legislative processes closely, or have been lobbying, you understand how these two Acts will make legislators accountable for what regulatory agencies are doing, and also takes away the excuse that it will take too much time to do so.

I've taken more time with the above topics than I can with the others due to space issues (raise money and we will put out a bigger newsletter!!!) But I will go over the other topics covered:

Helmets and the Media – Your SMRO's Role.

How to Sell Anything to Anybody – teaches how to be more persuasive.

Accident Scene Management – the Basic Bystander Assistance Program, A Crash Course for the Motorcyclists. Includes Crash Scene Safety, Jaw Thrust Rescue Breathing and Helmet Removal.

How to Put Together a Federal PAC – Why and How Insuring your SMRO – Our state treasurer learned enough in here to add more gray hairs.

Building Political Relationships – This one, I believe we are doing very well with at home, but it never hurts to pick up more tips.

Web-Based Public Relations – one of the biggest things in this was E-mail Alert Distribution...Read your E-Mail Daily if you are serious about keeping up with things.

State PAC Funding, Political Action Committees, and Lobbying Techniques – different from Federal PACs.

Working With Your Department of Transportation – I am very proud to say we are one of the few organizations to have managed that!

Motorcycle Alcohol Workshop Session
Putting on A Successful Seminar

I have to say, it was really great having as many folks from NC at the MOTM as we did. But I would like to see more. Not just because I am now on the MRF Board, but because there are so many valuable programs there that we can glean information from. I found myself literally in meetings from a day and a half BEFORE the MOTM started, until hours before it ended, so while I was getting a lot done, I could not attend so many of the sessions as others could. I'm sure the others that went have plenty to say about what they learned and I look forward to seeing something from them here in this newsletter.

CBA/ABATE of NC also had the privilege of being a part of a select impromptu meeting that some of us are calling The South Shall Rise - - in this meeting, the MRF explored the possibility of having a regional meeting in the South, put on perhaps in a collaborative effort betwixt the various Southern SMROs. Represented at this meeting was Virginia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Arkansas, Kentucky, Georgia, Tennessee, and I think Louisiana. E-mail addresses from meeting participants were obtained; those at the meeting now form a committee to work on this idea. Karen Bolin, President of the MRF, put it pretty bluntly and basically stated she wanted to see a conference in the South, if we wanted it, and however we wanted to do it, she was wanting to help.

Our organization also donated the much-desired Public Burden tee shirts and some event shirts, Chatham donated shirts via Vinny Neumann, other members donated items individually (that moonshine really sells!) and the Silent Auction the night of the banquet went very well. Our state coffers are low, so the financial donation to the MRF this year was \$500, but Charlotte Chapter really stepped up to the plate and donated a whopping \$5000!!! You could tell from the donations that were called out that this has been a hard year financially for most, and there were not so many donations of that size. I personally got a lump in my throat when that particular presentation was made - - Charlotte, after all you (and the rest of us!) have been through this past year, that was a beautiful, productive gesture that spoke volumes about your commitment to the issues that matter.

There was so much information, so many mini-meetings that spun off from sessions where folks would get together and carry a discussion on out in the common areas... we really need to send more people to this meeting next year.

Thank you for sending others and myself to this meeting. I am determined to make it pay off for CBA/ABATE of NC. If you have questions about any of the things I touched on, or want more information, I'm sure you know how to reach me.

Cindy Hodges
MRF State Rep
919-872-7150

The Latest on NHTSA: In September, the MRF put out an Alert that stated "Having failed to convince State legislatures to adopt

laws mandating helmet or apparel use by motorcyclists, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has potentially found another body to advance mandatory-use laws: the United Nations." – and then went on in further detail.

A short time afterward, Ms. Rose A. McMurray, whose title and job description with NHTSA is: Associate Administrator for Planning, Evaluation and Budget and U.S. Delegate to U.N. E.C.E. Working Party 1 on Road Safety National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Washington, D.C., contacted Karen Bolin, President of the Motorcycle Riders Foundation and expressed her displeasure with what she considered inaccuracies in the MRF's Alert. They discussed this over the phone, with the end result being Karen issuing an invitation for Ms. McMurray to send a written response and it would be put on the MRF website. A short while later, Ms. McMurray's written response was received and is now on the website.

You can go to the MRF website at <http://www.mrf.org>, click on Current MRF Alerts and starting with 03NR33, you can follow this as it plays out. On the home page under Key Issues, click on NHTSA/TEA and you can view Ms. McMurray's letter. In fact, the official reactions and comments from the MRF are clearly stated on the website that will go into this whole little drama in better detail that I am going to lay out here.

There is also the little matter of the MRF's uncovering the fact that NHTSA has circumvented the procedure for moving forward with a study of the characteristics of motorcyclists.. to quote the MRF:

"NHTSA AWARDS CONTRACT IN ADVANCE OF WHITE HOUSE APPROVAL

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) has learned that the "Characteristics of Motorcycle Operators" study proposed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in April 2003 was cast in concrete in a contract awarded six months before the agency asked for comments from the public and subsequently sought approval by the White House Office of Management & Budget.

Roundly criticized by the MRF, State Motorcyclists' Rights Organizations (SMROs), the American Motorcyclist Association (AMA), Harley-Davidson Motor Company and many others, the "study" envisioned personal, nominally 10-minute interviews with thousands of riders in some seven states.

NHTSA published its plan in Docket NHTSA 2003-14375 in the April 29, 2003 Federal Register. "Before a Federal agency can collect certain information from the public, it must receive approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB)," NHTSA noted. "Under procedures established by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, before seeking OMB approval, Federal agencies must solicit public comment on proposed information collections, including extensions and reinstatements of previously approved collections. This document describes one collection of information for which NHTSA intends to seek OMB approval."

Significantly, there was nothing in this information collection effort that was "proposed;" rather, it was already a matter of federal contract. At the request of the MRF, a Congressman queried the agency and learned today that NHTSA solicited bids in July 2002, awarded the contract in September 2002 and expects the "study" to conclude December 2004. The contract award was \$310,510.00."

Let's just say it folks... say it like we say it here at home...

You jist KNOW them boys at NHTSA is luvin' them some MRF about right now!!!

STATE SECRETARY: This is my last article as your state secretary. I was glad to step in and help out. CBA's function and direction is very important to me. I've been wearing too many hats though, and am extremely relieved to have Peggy Burns step up to the plate and run for office. We've come to know Peggy better over the past couple years and I know I am not alone when I say that I am convinced Peggy is a person that will take the job and do it so much better than anyone else ever has. She has drive and focus and a growing desire to remain silent no longer in her activism. It is her business background and dedication to what CBA is all about that assure me she has what it takes to do this job well. Peggy comes into this position with the added bonus of having the previous secretary still ready and willing to help out.

Chapter quarterly reports are still not coming in as they should. I have some ideas that I am going to discuss with Peggy, and we will be deciding together whether to take it forward or not. She may have her own ideas. Bottom line, this is not acceptable as it is.

Recently two chapter secretaries and one chapter treasurer had changes they wanted to see made, and they made their voices heard. Two meetings ensued, and my feeling is that the secretaries/treasurers worked some of the issues out amongst themselves, along with the Membership Services Director, Jan Tedder. This is the way to affect change. Whether or not everyone agrees with your point of view or not, you all have the right to be heard, and only by speaking up will you find out if others DO share your views.

These past twelve months, I have seen more ACTUAL committee participation and those participating are to be applauded! Up until recently, committees rarely actually met, other than the Constitution committee (as Terry Brown, the former chairman, did his best to work with Cotton's schedule and make those meetings happen). The lack of meetings was due to either the chairman of the committee failing to schedule meetings, or the initial lack of participation causing the committees to fizzle out. This year, Membership committee was prompted to invite non-committee members to join in. The Events committee was formed a year ago and has done phenomenal work. Our state events might not have been all we have wanted them to be, but our committees sure have put in the time and work and learned along the way how to make those events improve and grow. As mentioned elsewhere in this issue, information gleaned from some behind-the-scenes knowledge gleaned at the Bean Blossom Boogie in Indiana, conversations via the SOLR list and private e-mail with members of other MROs that have successful events, and various seminars at national meetings has been put in service here at home with really rewarding results.

I think the key to successful growth for our organization is still going to rely upon the same basic thing... Member participation. You must read the e-mail sent out. If you are on one of the e-mail lists, you must bring that information in to chapter meetings. At-Large members with computer access should get on at least one of these lists. If you do not have a computer, chances are your public library does. Getting information out in a timely manner, when something happens, when you have a short window of time to effect change - - is crucial. If any of you have any ideas on how to do this other than what has already been proposed, please chime in!

* I am sure Peggy will be tickled to hear from you all! * hehehehe

Watch for more detailed information via e-mail as it happens.. this is how we get the news to you sooner... this information is sent to your chapter legislative coordinator, treasurer, and secretary via e-mail groups set up for them. This information is sent out via NC-Bikers e-mail list – which was formed for any and all bikers regardless of affiliation or non-affiliation with any organization as a forum for getting such information out. Our own Vinny Neumann has built a fantastic website <http://www.ncrider.com/> which is a great site for safety and awareness, rider training, and rights information. The message boards for the Sons of Liberty Riders can direct you to discussions, information, and opinions on the same things we are throwing out to the membership here at home. That internet address is <http://solriders.net/index.php>.

**TIME TO
START THINKING
ABOUT THE
FREEDOM
RALLY**

APRIL 30 - MAY 2

29th ANNUAL CBA SPRING SWAP MEET & BIKE SHOW

Sponsored By The
Charlotte Chapter of the
CONCERNED BIKERS ASSOCIATION
Saturday & Sunday, March 27 & 28, 2004

At The
METROLINA EXPO FAIRGROUNDS
CHARLOTTE, NC

RAFFLE!!

DOOR PRIZES!!

THE LARGEST BIKE SHOW & SWAP MEET IN THE CAROLINAS!!

FOR VENDOR INFORMATION CALL RICK NAIL: 704-455-6245
FOR GENERAL INFORMATION CALL KELLY BROWN: 704-889-1976

BIG BIKE SHOW

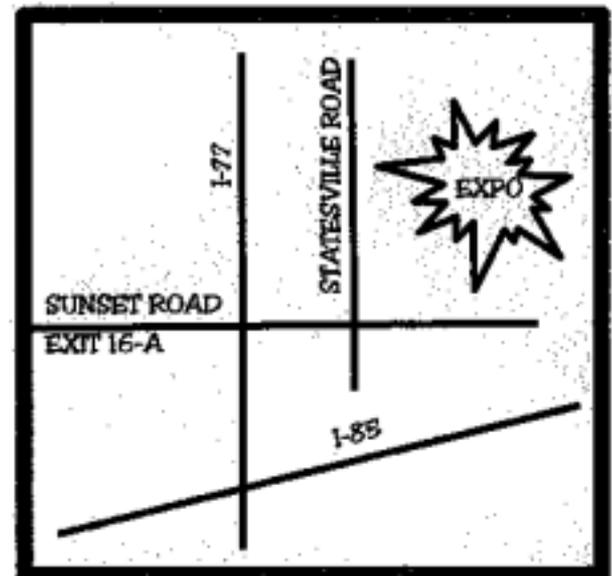


36 TROPHIES
INCLUDING BEST DISPLAY
& PEOPLES CHOICE



Entries include one admission for both days and 1st
20 entries on Saturday will receive an event shirt

NOVEMBER 13 & 14, 2004
NEXT SHOW



NO coolers through gate!
NO glass containers!
NO pets allowed!
NO minors admitted without parents!
NO food or alcohol sold from booths!
NO bike bashes!
CBA will not be held responsible for any loss or injury!
We urge YOU to abide by the state laws of NC!

****LIVE MUSIC**
****WET T-SHIRT CONTEST**
BOTH DAYS

****TATTOO CONTEST**
SUNDAY

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

VENDOR SET-UP:
Sat. 8am - Noon
Sun. 7:30am - 10am
Paid in full 30 days prior to show date
can unload Fri. 8pm to Midnight
VENDOR TEAR DOWN:
after gates close only - no exceptions!

Insurance and Fire Code Regulations prohibit public parking inside fairgrounds. Only Vendor and Worker Vehicles allowed inside fence. NO EXCEPTIONS!!

BikePAC

"Freedom Through Action"

What is NC BikePAC?

NC BikePAC is a political action committee (PAC) created to help further the legislative goals of the motorcyclists of North Carolina while complying with the designated tax status of CBA/ABATE. The tax status currently granted to CBA/ABATE of North Carolina does not allow the organization to expend great amounts of its budget on lobbying activities, to make direct monetary donations to candidates or to write letters of endorsement for a candidate. A political action committee is allowed to participate in these activities.

North Carolina BikePAC will assist CBA/ABATE members and all interested motorcycle enthusiasts to educate and lobby government and the general public about motorcycling, motorcyclists, motorcyclists' rights and the preservation of our American tradition of freedom.

Why do we need NC BikePAC?

Simply put, a political action committee is the most effective way to lend financial support to candidates who favor the legislative goals of a particular group, and who are willing to lend a helping hand to the organization.

In recent years, election campaign costs have skyrocketed. It is time for the more than 100,000 registered motorcyclists in North Carolina to join in the growing trend to support legislators and candidates who will stand up for motorcycling.

Doctors, lawyers, bankers, builders, realtors, teachers and many other professional and trade organization have formed PACs in North Carolina. Many of these groups employ a lobbyist, whose job is to sway legislators to vote in favor of laws that benefit the organization or business being represented.

CBA/ABATE members come into contact with legislators and their staff members quite often, some-

times on a daily basis. The reasons for those contacts are varied. Primarily, there are discussions of legislation which can favorably or adversely affect motorcyclists. Getting a bill passed or defeated requires a monumental effort by those who are concerned with the particular issue it addresses. There are literally hundreds of bills introduced during each legislative session and only a few successfully reach the Governor's desk for signature. When the issue pertains to only a relatively small segment of the population, the task is even more difficult.

In order for our legislation to make its way through the House of Representatives and the Senate, we MUST participate fully in the process. First and foremost, the organization and its members must build a personal relationship with a majority of the legislators. In most cases, our legislation does not personally impact those who will vote on it. Therefore, we must provide legitimate reasons for a legislator to be interested in its passage.

In addition to providing a convincing argument for supporting an issue, we must also demonstrate our support of those legislators who choose to back our legislative issues. Although financial backing is not the most important way to do this, we are often asked to contribute by purchasing tickets to a variety of political fundraisers or making a direct donation to a campaign. It is imperative that we be able to support those who have demonstrated an interest in helping us solve our problems. One of the ways to do this is by helping in their fundraising efforts.

Who does NC BikePAC contribute to?

As the organization's resources grow, NC BikePAC will contribute to candidates running for office in the State Senate and the State House of Representatives. NC BikePAC may also contribute to gubernatorial candidates.

NC BikePAC will not contribute to candidates for office at the federal and local government levels. We believe that the most effective way to protect motorcycling in North Carolina and to best utilize our resources is to contribute to the campaigns of pro-motorcycling candidates at the State Senate and House level.

NC BikePAC will endeavor to employ a full-time lobbyist. Unlike many lobbyists who represent multiple clients at the State Capitol, the lobbyist for NC BikePAC will represent only one group - YOU! NC BikePAC will represent the interests of the motorcyclists of North Carolina and only the motorcyclists of North Carolina.

Why Support NC BikePAC?

Supporting NC BikePAC makes you an active participant in the political process that affects you directly. As resources grow, NC

Cont. on Page 15

Concerned Biker's Association
ABATE of NC, Inc.



P O Box 411
Chadbourn, NC 28431

Vendor Application

Date: Friday, April 30th thru May 2nd, 2004 Gates open to public: Friday 10:00 AM

Location: Busco Beach Campground and Waterpark: 1213 Bryan Blvd, Goldsboro, NC 27530
Vendor Set up begins on Thursday 12:00 PM & Friday 6:00 AM

Vendor/Owner Name: _____

Address: _____

Prices: Circle all that apply:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|---|
| 1. 10 x 20 = \$125.00 | 6. 12 x 20 = \$225.00 | 11. Additional 5 ft frontage is \$10.00 |
| 2. 11 x 20 = \$150.00 | 7. 12 x 30 = \$245.00 | 12. Additional 10 ft frontage is \$20.00 |
| 3. 11 x 30 = \$160.00 | 8. 12 x 40 = \$265.00 | 13. Power Hookup is \$20.00 per day |
| 4. 11 x 40 = \$170.00 | 9. 12 x 60 = \$285.00 | 14. Non Power Hookup |
| 5. 11 x 60 = \$180.00 | 10. 12 x 70 = \$300.00 | 15. Extra Workers: # _____ X \$15.00 = \$ _____ |

• • Prepaid Vendor Fee Discount: Register and pay by February 29th, 2004 • •
• • and Receive \$ 25.00 Discount off total Due • •

Total Price Due: \$ _____ This price will include 2 workers only. Note extra workers above and include in total price.

Names of all workers: _____

Type of Vendor Food Merchandise Tattoo Other

Specify Type for Food, Merchandise or Other: _____

CBA/ABATE OF NC, INC. IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY LOSS OR DAMAGES or personal injury. Vendors are responsible for their own merchandise and equipment. Vendors must abide by all CBA/ABATE and park rules. Vendors may not sell beer, ice, or water. All food vendors must obtain proper Health permits. Vendors will not be allowed to sell food without permits.

Make Checks payable to CBA/ABATE of NC, Inc.
Mail to: Freedom Rally 2004, P O Box 411, Chadbourn, NC 28431.
Contact: Shannon Nobles 910-654-1257 or email: shannonj@noblescorp.com
Return Vendor Application No later than April 15th, 2004.

BikePAC (continued)

Cont. from Page 14 BikePAC will be able to contribute to candidates running for state level offices. By doing this we will show our support for those legislators who choose to support us. When tied to a fundraising event for a candidate, we gain another forum to discuss our views. Remember, the more support NC BikePAC gives to successful candidates, the more our voices will be heard in Raleigh.

Who is eligible to belong to NC BikePAC?

NC BikePAC is open to everyone interested in

motorcycling. Individual riders, members of biker's rights organizations, motorcycle clubs, dealership owners, manufacturers, after-market suppliers and shops and the general public at large. EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

How can I join NC BikePAC?

It's easy. Just fill in the handy membership form on the back of this brochure. You can either join NC BikePAC as a member or simply make a contribution. Mail the form to NC BikePAC. Make sure you

complete the form. The reporting information is required by law and will not be used for any other purpose. Either way, you will be doing your part to keep North Carolina a great place to ride.

For more information contact:

P.O. Box XXX
South Brunswick Islands, NC 28470
(910) 754-2304
NCBikePAC@hotmail.com

**TIME TO
START
THINKING
ABOUT THE
FREEDOM
RALLY**

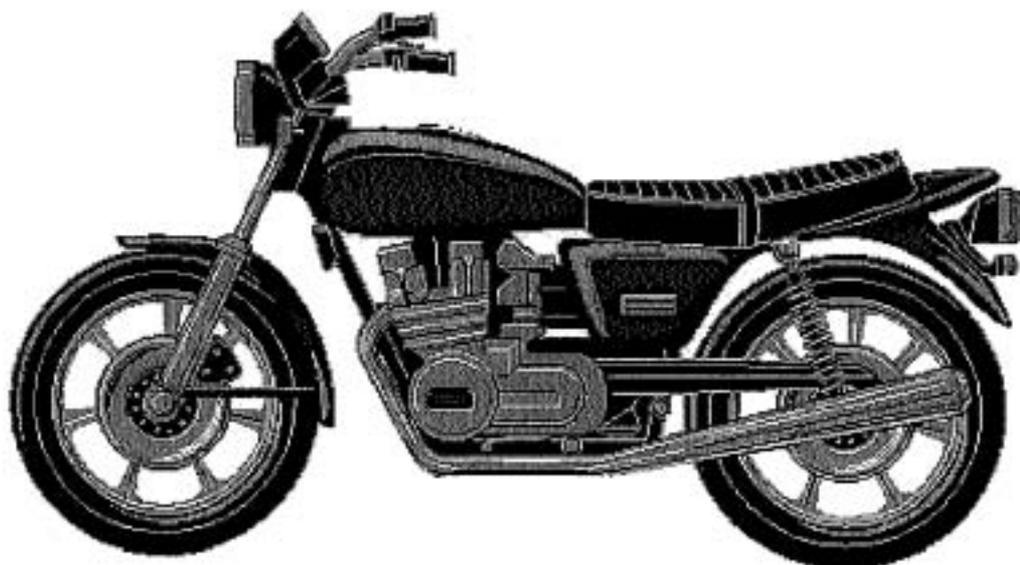
APRIL 30 - MAY 2

**BUSCO BEACH
GOLDSBORO, NC**

Raleigh Rights Rally

Saturday, February 28, 2004

\$15 Donation for Motorcyclists' Rights



This is a 100+ mile polar bear run. ALL riders are welcome.

All proceeds will be donated to the Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) to support the fight against discrimination, and promote motorcycle awareness and safety. See back for more information on the MRF or visit their web site at: www.MRF.org Please show your appreciation for this organization by supporting this annual run.

Riders who donate \$15 will be given a ticket. There will be prizes drawn at three of the stops

Ride leaves at 10:00 AM from Team Power Sports and stops at Capital BMW, Ray Price HD, Metro Power Sports and ends at Scooters.

24 prizes total (T-shirts, sweat shirts, coffee mugs, umbrellas, pocket knives, flashlights, and other misc. items)

Only safe riders are encouraged to join us. Please ride within your personal limits. Rain or Shine. If you can't ride but would like to donate, please mail donations to RRR PO BOX 408 Apex, NC 27519

The organizers, sponsors, or participants of this run will not be responsible for property damage or personal injury during this ride.

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SHALLOTTE, NC
PERMIT #320



Concerned Bikers Association/ABATE
PO Box 2215 • Monroe, NC 28111
www.cba-abatenc.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Please check your mailing label
for correct address and expiration date.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP



CONCERNED BIKERS ASSOCIATION
ABATE OF N.C. INC.
PO Box 2215
Monroe, NC 28111-2215

New
 Renewal

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Age: _____

Occupation: _____

Make/Size of Cycle: _____

Avg. Miles/Year: _____

Any other motorcycle affiliations: _____

I can help CBA/ABATE by: _____

Are you a registered voter? Yes No

I understand that by signing my name to this application, I am seeking membership into a political organization. Toward that end, I will follow the meaning of that word.

Signed: _____

Recruited By: _____

YEARLY DUES: Single: \$25.00 (New) \$20.00 (Renewal)
 Couple: \$35.00 (New) \$30.00 (Renewal)

FOR CBA USE ONLY
Chapter: _____
Card #: _____
Expires: _____
OFFICE USE ONLY
Rev'd. Date: _____
Sent Date: _____