

# FRONTLINE

FREEDOM FIGHTERS NEWS

MAY 20, 1775

N ★ C

APRIL 12, 1776

## ATTENTION:



**WORK ZONE  
AHEAD  
2009  
LONG SESSION**

**Plan NOW Lobby Day February 11th in Raleigh**

# Coming Events

**State Meeting**  
January 17-18, 2009  
Randolph Lodge

**Very Important Plan in Advance LOBBY DAY**  
February 11, 2009

**Eastern District Swap Meet**  
February 21-22  
Wilson County Fairgrounds, NC

**For ADVANCE Planning**

**STATE MEETINGS**  
April 18-19  
July 18-19  
October 17-18

**STATE EVENT**  
October 9-11  
Old Gilliam Mill

**GET YOUR 2009 EVENTS SENT INTO:**

**stateinfo@atmc.net**

## Letter from the Editor...

*I hope this very late newsletter finds that everyone had the best holiday season they could.*

*I am beating a dead horse here but someone puh-lease step up at the end of my term and take over the newsletter. I will help, I will advise and I will have a shoulder to cry on but I cannot continue to be responsible for the newsletter.*

*I feel that I am doing a disservice to the organization by doing a less than stellar job in the past year (maybe more). I am very dedicated to the organization in my heart but the reality is that there are not enough hours in the day to do everything I need and yes, sometimes want to do. It's harder now than ever for all of us to make a living and unfortunately...it engulfs all my time right now.*

*The newsletter is supposed to be a benefit for and to the membership and it is time for a fresh set of eyes.....*

*It is a long session ahead and we have lots of work to do.... I say WE and I mean all of us. A few of us is not going to cut it. We say we care and we say we want this, that and the other but then when the time comes... most of us don't step up or show up and I am including myself. Refer to the previous paragraph... I want time to do the right thing myself.*

*Ski cannot do it alone. Many of you know that Ski was injured when a deer pulled out in front of him this month. He needs our help now more than ever. If we can't do it for all the right reasons... let's do it for the MOST right reason. We have a brother who needs help.*

*Make 2009 the year we get off our collective butts and make a change in Raleigh... you know... let's win one for ourselves.*

*Ready? Set.... GO!!!!!!*

*Crazy Deb*



## CBA/ABATE of NC Board of Directors 2008/2009

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randnorr@intrstar.net

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wkimsey@mindspring.com

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DocSkiVNV@aol.com

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**Gail Rumler**  
PO Box 1189  
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(919) 552-0801  
(919) 552-0816 Fax  
cbamemberships@nc.rr.com

**Eastern District Coordinator**  
**Charlie Boone**  
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Zebulon, NC 27597  
(919) 269-4193  
fbird54@bellsouth.net

**Central District Coordinator**  
**Robert "Shaggy" Causey**  
2501 Pinecroft Road  
Greensboro, NC 27407  
(336) 442-8885  
Shaggy6901@triad.rr.com

**Western District Coordinator**  
**(Position Vacant)**  
Interim Coordinator - James Buckner

**Director of Safety, Education & Awareness**  
**Matt Shamblin**  
484 Old Airport Road  
Newport, NC 28570  
(252) 2410682  
mshamblin@ec.rr.com

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# Executive Council Meeting Minutes - October 12, 2008

The meeting commenced at 9:08 am

## **BOD present:**

President Randy Norris, Vice President Steve Knox, Legislative Director Thomas Wasileski (Doc Ski), Membership Services Director Gail Rumler, MSAP Director Matt Shamblin, Information Director Deb Knox, Secretary Cat Mohan, Eastern District Coordinator Charlie Boone, Central District Coordinator Robert Causey (Shaggy), Western District Coordinator James Buckner

Members were reminded that questions and responses are to be made by members only. Maximum of 5 votes per chapter. At-Large: One vote per member with a maximum of 5 votes.

Randy Norris started the meeting by thanking the membership for their support to him in the loss of his wife, Wendy. He stressed that the CBA is, in large part, the reason he has been able to carry on. He asked that the chapter officers take the message back to their chapters that he has expressed his appreciation for their concern.

Opening Prayer was offered by Tom Munger  
Pledge of Allegiance was led by Doc Ski

## **Chapter Roll Call and introductions**

Chapters present: Brunswick, Buncombe, CBA of The Pines, Cabarrus-Rowan, Carteret-Craven, Charlotte, Chatham, Columbus, Gaston, Granville, Hickory, Macon, Raleigh, Randolph, South Piedmont, Surry, Tar River Basin, and Triad. 1 At-Large member present. Not represented: Alamance, Davidson, and Cape Fear Valley.

## **Announcements**

Chapters were reminded that all chapter Treasurers need to clear Membership Services with the State Treasurer and State Secretary; all quarterly reports go to Cat Mohan and monies owed go to Cat Mohan on this day due to Darlene Kimsey's absence.

CBA Officers Training/Awards Banquet – 15-Nov-08  
The schedule will be as follows:

10:00 - 11:30 am	Presidents & Vice Presidents (Special presentation re Leadership)
11:30 - 12:30 pm	Light Lunch
12:30 - 2:00 pm	Secretaries & Treasurers
2:15 - 3:45 pm	Legislative Coordinators
3:45 - 6:00pm	Break
6:00pm	Banquet

**Banquet:** The BOD is looking for a prominent legislative speaker; entertainment will be a hypnotist. There will be a 50/50 raffle and a silent auction. Recognition and chapter awards will also be part of the night's activities. Members are asked to bring something for the silent auction and/or baked goods for dessert.

150 tickets will be printed; cost per ticket is \$10 to include dinner and entertainment. Tickets will be available 20-Oct; contact Darlene for ticket purchase.

The BOD is asking for \$2500 to fund the banquet and training – a motion was made to this request, 2nd'ed and passed.

**State Secretary's Report:** Cat Mohan – minutes from the July Executive Council meeting were posted in the state newsletter and on the Statenchapter yahoo group. A motion was made to accept minutes as printed; 2nded and passed.

**State Treasurer's Report:** Randy gave a brief update of a Treasurer's report in Darlene's absence. Motion was made to accept the report, 2nd and passed.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Rescinding of Resignation** - CBA State President position – Randy Norris

At the July Executive Council meeting, Randy announced his resignation as President of CBA/ABATE of NC; due to the ill health of his wife, he felt he needed to spend as much time as possible with her. Wendy's death on 23-August changed circumstances for Randy. Randy talked to Martin Beaver, Charlie Boone, and Dale Carroll (who were running for President as Randy's replacement) and asked them if they would mind if he rescinded his resignation; all three said that was fine with them. Randy contacted the BOD and asked them if they would accept his resignation rescindment; the BOD voted unanimously to accept the request. At the EC meeting today, Charlie Boone asked those members to stand if they wanted Randy to remain as President. Most, if not all, stood and applauded.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **2009 Budget Submittal** – Randy Norris. Last year's budget was \$37K. The BOD estimates spending for 2008 will total around \$30K which means we are under budget at this time. Requested budget for 2009 is \$37,020. Randy read off the individual budgets:

\$8550 – Legislative (Doc Ski)  
\$1000 – Constitution printing (Charlie Boone)  
\$6380 – Membership services (Gail Rumler)  
\$5590 – Information services (Deb Knox)  
Breakdown (\$5200 newsletter, \$240 state website, \$150 mail permit, misc expenses)  
\$5000 – SEA, Safety, Education & Awareness (Matt Shamblin)  
\$4000 – MRF (Cindy Hodges & Doc Ski)  
\$6500 – BOD (increase in budget due mainly to gas expense increase)

A motion made to accept the proposed 2009 budget; 2nd'ed and passed.

2. **2009 Building Contract** (for Committee/State meetings) – Randy Norris  
We paid \$1200 for last year's rental for quarterly meetings; Buddy Grainger, on behalf of Randolph Co. CBA, has cut the price back to \$600/year. There will be an additional cost for the Training/Banquet day which will be \$150. A motion was made to accept Randolph CBA's rental price for the aforementioned events; 2nd'ed and passed.

3. **2009 State meeting scheduling** – Randy Norris  
Randy read off the meeting date proposals. There was discussion around concerns for the dates. A motion was made to accept the proposed dates; 2nd'ed and passed by majority. Dates are:  
17-18 January - Eastern District hosting  
18-19 April – Central District hosting  
18-19 July – Western District hosting  
17-18 October – BOD hosting

Randy reminded members to please help out in the kitchen and with clean-up when it's your district's turn to host. We will also need at least one volunteer to help run the Products table.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS** (brief highlights follow; please see appropriate individual reports in newsletter)

1. **Legislative Committee:** Doc Ski  
- Doc talked about ROW (will be working with Dewey Hill on this), the proposal to have ROW violators go to classes, the anti-discrimination issue, HIPPA, and the street gang suppression act;  
- In addition, Doc talked about the helmet bill and the 2 proposed bills for which he needs feedback by mid-December; Dale Carroll expressed concern about the wording of one of the bills, so Randy asked Dale to come up with other wording and it would be considered;  
- Doc reminded members that building relationships with our legislators is very important and to please attend candidate forums and invite your legislators to your chapter meetings and events. We are always looking for bill sponsors;  
- 11-Feb-09 will be CBA Lobby Day to visit the legislature.

2. **MRF:** Cindy Hodges  
- Cindy Hodges was absent as she recently had surgery and suffered some complications; please keep her in your thoughts and prayers. Charlie Boone spoke about the MRF and its need to increase membership. Currently there are 119 CBA members which includes chapters. MRF expenses are \$2500 per day to include office expenses and 2 paid GMP. Charlie challenged all chapters and members to join MRF as we need the representation. You can get a brochure from Charlie, Cindy, Doc Ski, Vinny Cont. pg 4

## Executive Council Meeting Minutes - October 12, 2008 (cont.)

Neumann (ncrider.com), or visit [www.mrf.org](http://www.mrf.org) to sign up online.

### 3. NCOM: Doc Ski

- Recently attended an NCOM meeting in Ohio
- The 2009 National NCOM convention will be in Reno, Nevada, on Mothers Day weekend.

4. NC Confederation of Clubs: Doc Ski – no update.

### 5. Products Committee: Darlene Kimsey

Randy Norris spoke about products in Darlene's absence:

- We need someone to take over products from Darlene as it's getting to be too much with all her other responsibilities. A trustworthy person who can travel and is organized will be considered. Please contact Randy or Darlene if interested.
- We are also looking at the possibility of setting up an online catalog. More info on that is forthcoming.

### 6. PR/Newsletter/Web Page Committee: Deb Knox

- Newsletter - 1-Nov is deadline for the next newsletter; Deb is looking for someone to take over the newsletter responsibilities;
- State website, Events – Deb picked up event flyers here at the meeting and she will put the info out on the website; please send any other information for posting;
- New resource on website; membership promotions help titled Membership Recruitment under Chapter Information/Chapter Resources. Copies of this resource were distributed at the Committee/EC meetings.

### 7. Membership Committee: Gail Rumler

- Please make sure all members have current phone number on roster for a number of reasons to include that Doc will still be using the phone tree alert tool ongoing;
- Partners in Freedom program; 20% goes back to

the chapter after expenses;

- Associate memberships – we will be reviewing on whether we want to continue this program. Larry Blankenship suggested that chapters who are participating in the Associate Membership Program should report on whether their regular membership has grown or is less or the same due to the program;
- ~1700 is the membership total;
- Junior members stay on roster until they turn 16.

### 8. Safety, Education and Awareness: Matt Shamblin

- Check out US Transportation Mary Peters website on helmet 'improvements'; send comments to Matt; <http://www.dot.gov/affairs/nhtsa0708.htm>
- NC DOT has contacted Matt regarding highway safety (guard rails, road conditions);
- The Lee Ann Redwine trophy has been purchased and will be presented at the banquet in November;
- Look Twice yard signs, ~\$10 each;
- In 2007, there were 190 motorcycle related deaths in NC – 40% were alcohol related (either the motorcyclist or car driver was at fault);
- The legislature is thinking of reducing BAC to .04.

### 9. Constitution Committee: Charlie Boone

- Roll call vote was conducted on membership kit wording change: Article 2, 8) Change to "Each kit shall include a membership card and other materials deemed appropriate by the Membership Services Director." This passed 85-6;
- There was enough discussion and membership input around the changes to the wording for membership termination that Charlie felt like he needed to go back and work on the wording some more. He will put the update on the yahoo statenchapter and the state website. [http://www.cba-abatenc.org/proposed\\_changes.htm](http://www.cba-abatenc.org/proposed_changes.htm)

### 10. State Event: Steve Knox

- 10-11 October 2009 is date for next State Party. The committee will work on getting a band.

### 11. CBA Calendar – Charlie Boone.

Calendar is going to printer in ~ 2 weeks; need more ads to publish. Need updates on chapter information. Charlie will put pictures of CBA members who are active military personnel in the calendar.

### DISTRICT COORDINATOR REPORTS

#### Central District: Robert Causey

Shaggy gave updates on upcoming CD events to include that 25-Apr-09 is the date chosen for the 2009 Spoker Run. He also spoke of the Central District Yahoo Group moderated by Gwen Nichols: CentralDistrictCBAofNC. All CBA members are welcome to join, especially central district members.

#### Eastern District: Charlie Boone

Charlie gave updates on upcoming ED events to include the ED Swap Meet date which will be 21-22 February 2009.

#### Western District: James Buckner

Larry Blankenship had run the district meeting the day before so he gave an update on WD events.

50/50 Raffle – Robert Easter, Surry Co. CBA member, won the \$115 raffle!

### CLOSING COMMENTS

1. Next State Meeting Date: 17-18 January 2009
2. Closing Benediction – Tom Munger
3. Motion to Adjourn – 11:46am

Respectfully submitted by Cat Mohan

## Let Us Not Forget...

By: Deb Knox

The MSAP program, which is our signature program and the pride of the organization is healthy, active and much sought after. We have educated more students than we probably thought possible and have more instructors now than ever.

I wanted to take a moment to remember and praise the founders of the program. Although they have moved on for personal reasons, I ask that we don't forget the hundreds of miles traveled and countless hours put into the program at its inception.

Jim and Peg Burns are to be remembered and commended for working so hard to get this program

started. I hope they are still out there watching and know how important this program has become. Matt Shamblin took over the reins when Jim and Peg left us and he has done Jim proud.

Take a moment and thank them even if silently. We miss them and wish them well. Life changes for us all but we can know for sure that the MSAP program will one day save a biker's life if it has not done so already.

So thank you Jim and Peg... thank you.

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# LOBBY DAYS

## February 11th

### Make Plans to Be There!

## Chapter Meeting Places

### Membership Services

(919) 552-0801 Fax: (919) 552-0816

Email: cbamemberships@nc.rr.com

#### For 2009 changes contact:

Debi Knox - State Information Director  
stateinfo@atmc.net

2009 officer changes will be made in 1st quarter newsletter.

#### Alamance Chapter

PO Box 1445 • Graham, NC 27253-1445

Richard Zipf (Raz): (336) 227-9694 • Email: rzipf@triad.rr.com

Ron Namest: (336) 437-8030

Meets at Breakzone Billiards at BMOG (Burlington Manufacturers Outlet Center). Meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM.

#### Brunswick Chapter

PO Box 188 • Shallotte, NC 28459

Lodge Phone: (910)755-5647

cba@cba.xaranda.net

Kyle Caison: (910) 842-3475

Cleve Gore: (910) 754-7394

Meets at 600 Ocean Isle Beach Road (4 mile road). Located in the CBA and the DAV lodge. 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@charter.net • Web: www.buncombecba.com

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

#### Cabarrus - Rowan Chapter

PO Box 326 • China Grove, NC 28023

Dwayne Jenkins: (704) 305-0774

Gary Livengood: (704) 279-5343 • Email: dacynth@alltel.net

Meets at Cabarrus-Rowan Lodge, 1152 Hwy 152, Rockwell, NC on the 1st Saturday of the month at 5:00 PM.

#### Cape Fear Valley Chapter

PO Box 35551 • Fayetteville, NC 28303

Rob Mas: (910) 988-1604 • Email: hdhoggfatboy@aol.com

Duke Durham: (910) 574-7154

Email: parts@capefearhd.com

Meets at Spirits Pub in Tallywood Shopping Center in Raeford on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM.

#### Carteret-Craven Chapter

PO Box 1474 • Havelock, NC 28532

Greg Houde: (252) 646-3133 • Email: Shuttermaster@ec.rr.com

Jim Gnozzio: (252) 242-0055

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 28221-6445

Lodge Phone: (704) 391-1222

charlottecba@yahoo.com

Gary Bridges: (704) 458-0571

Rick Nail: (704) 391-1222

Meets at 10411 Beagle Club Rd. on 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 8:00 PM.

#### Chatham Chapter

PO Box 408 • Apex, NC 27502

Mike Mohan: (919) 363-8662

Wayne Glosson: (919) 542-4267

Meets at the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM

Virlie's Grill, Pittsboro, NC

#### Columbus Chapter

PO Box 669 • Chadbourne, NC 28431

Randy Norris: (910) 653-4066

Greg Stevens: (910) 646-3520

Web: http://columbuscba.tripod.com

Meets monthly at the lodge - 47 Mercer Road, Chadbourne on the 1st Tuesday at 6:30 PM.

#### Davidson Chapter

PO Box 227 • Lexington, NC 27293

Allen Hutton: (336) 240-1652

Ken Ward: (336) 225-4916

Meets on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 5:30 PM at Christo's restaurant, South Main Street, Lexington. Call for meeting date confirmation.

#### Gaston Chapter

PO Box 22 • Lowell, NC 28098

Andrew "Sugarfoot" Jenkins: (704) 913-3392

Email: sugarfoot\_sgmc@bellsouth.net

Secretary: Jill Stillwell (704) 922-5437

Meets at Hillbilly's BBQ, 930 E Garrison Blvd, Lowell, NC on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM

#### Granville Chapter

PO Box 1311 • Creedmoor, NC 27581

Lodge Phone: (919) 529-1325

Davis Myrick: (252) 257-2436

Billy Pegram: (919) 451-7770 • Email: gazor25@yahoo.com

Meets on the lodge, Hwy 50 South in Creedmoor on the 1st Sunday of the month at 2:00 PM.

#### Hickory Chapter

PO Box 2632 • Hickory, NC 28603

Rick Bridgeman: (828) 294-3072 • Email: rick007@conninc.com

Rick Kilby: (828) 294-1705

Meets at the Wizard Lounge, 651 21st Ave NE, Hickory, NC 28602 on the 1st Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM.

#### Macon County Chapter

PO Box 2126 • Franklin, NC 28744-2126 maconcba@yahoo.com

Cliff Cyhers: (828) 369-8060

Stephanie Almeida (Secretary): (617) 828-9184

Meets at Shoney's Restaurant on 441 Georgia Road, Franklin on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM.

#### Raleigh Chapter

PO Box 28082 • Raleigh, NC 27611

Jean Dasnoit: (919) 819-3076

Andy Malinowski: (919) 828-3676 • Email: amski@isp.com

Meets at the BBO Lodge on Capital Blvd (US1N) in "Mini City" on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month at 5:00 PM.

#### Randolph Chapter

PO Box 87 • Asheboro, NC 27204

Buddy Grainger: (336) 629-3895

Tom Wilson: (336) 685-4016

Meets at 620 Veterans Loop Road in Asheboro on 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 7:30 PM.

#### South Piedmont Chapter

PO Box 506 • Monroe, NC 28111

Roger Boger: (704) 764-7254

Ed Weakley: (704) 622-4984

Chapter web: www.southpiedmontcba.org

Meets at the American Legion, 700 Southerland Avenue, Monroe, NC 28110 on the 3rd Saturday of the month at 3:00 PM.

#### CBA of the Pines

PO Box 924 • West End, NC 27376-0924

Sam Storch: (910) 692-0907

Sonny Colvin: (919) 708-7886

Call for meeting time and location.

#### Surry Chapter

PO Box 126 • Mt. Airy, NC 27030

Joey Mitchell: (336) 786-5053

Email: surrycba@yahoo.com • Web: www.surrycountycba.com

Meets at Sagebrush Steakhouse - Hwy 52, Mt. Airy on 1st Monday of each month at 6:30 PM.

#### Tar River Basin Chapter

PO Box 7474 • Wilson, NC 27893

Jesse Watson: (919) 778-0049 • Email: Bikerpoppop@aol.com

Bob Burke: VICE PRESIDENT

Meets at Fat Boy's Bar in Stantonsburg, Hwy 58 (10 miles south of Wilson) on 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:30 PM. Main meeting is always on the 3rd Wednesday.

#### Triad Chapter

PO Box 678 • Pleasant Garden, NC 27313

Robert "Shaggy" Causey: (336) 442-8885 • shaggy6901@trial.rr.com

Darryl Wrenn: (336) 402-3115 • hpcba96@aol.com

Charli Chandler, Secretary (336) 362-9539

Meets at American Legion Post 206, Business I-85 between Brentwood and Baker Road in High Point on 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month.

For chapter information changes contact:

Debi Knox  
State Information Director  
stateinfo@atmc.net

# JOIN MRF

www.mrf.org

Does your  
chapter have  
MSAP instructors?

Email Matt Shamblin  
mshamblin@ec.rr.com

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Mike Heafner  
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# Legislative Committee Minutes - October 11, 2008

Meeting called to order by Doc Ski 11:00 am

## I. Admin:

- a. Pledge of Allegiance
- b. Moment of Silence
- c. Secretary's Report

## II. Issue-Team Reports:

**ROW (Deb Knox):** Our plan this year us to get the wording changed. Increasing fines isn't likely to be effective, Matt and Doc want to try to get an amendment that would require drivers to have to attend classes if they hit a biker. Raz said that would also make people actually think about what they did. Tammy asked if we should get bicyclist groups involved in our fight to get this bill changed. Doc said we haven't had much luck with that, but that requiring this class and making people have to pay for the classes, would also add to helping to fund motorcycle crash prevention studies.

**Anti-Discrimination (Doc Ski) SB75 B2,** we want to include the wording "discrimination against cultural attire and mode of transportation, to the current statute.

**Noise Pollution (Doc Ski):** Denver, CO, Myrtle Beach, SC, and other municipalities are passing noise ordinances. Doc was recently in Denver for the Meeting of the Minds and did not get a ticket for his non-stock exhaust system.

**HIPPA (Fre):** Cindy is in the hospital, but should be getting out today. Didn't go through last year, but we are working on it again. We have had a breakthrough that if your employer plans to deny you coverage for motorcycle accidents, they must notify you in writing ahead of time. Beaver said his friend is going through problems with his employer with this issue. Doc said he needs to sue the other drivers insurance. Another issue is that even if the biker is not at fault, if it is discovered that the biker had any issues, no insurance BAC, etc, then the other drivers insurance isn't required to pay.

**Right to Repair Act (HR 2694-Fre):** Still being held up by Senator from Michigan.

**SAFETEA-LU \$ (MSAP-Matt):** if anyone has suggestions for items we need for use in classrooms this year because we have to present our grant proposal next month.

**III. Helmet Citation Defense Team:** Susan H is not present. Randy got an email saying she wants to remain active, but we may need to find someone to replace her. He stated that if she doesn't show this weekend, we will need to replace her to get someone to help Doc with this task. Bill Starnes from Gaston is a likely candidate.

Susan Huttman – Chair

- a. Citation Defense Network
  - Chapter/District Coordinators
- b. Personalized Legal Brief
- c. Helmet Law Repeal Petitions: so far no one has been found guilty, and until we do we can't

appeal the law. We are looking for possible sponsors to reintroduce this bill. Doc asked for suggestions, Phil Berger might be one to approach. Derrick asked about, Rick Killian, Doc said he is unsure of his stance on the bill. Gaston said Kathy Herrington is up for election, and would likely be very supportive of sponsoring this bill.

d. Court Search is a commercial program that notifies us of any citation written for a helmet violation in NC. We have been contacting cited riders offering our help and legal brief.

## IV. Old Business:

### a. NC Legislative Issues

**-HB 274: Street Gang Prevention Act – Passed & Ratified.** We are trying to get the wording to be as lenient as possible. The house has set it aside, which we thought meant it was going to die, but the day before, they brought it back and added several new "crimes" to the bill. They define several things about what is considered criminal activity. One of these things is that the primary activity of the group must be to commit a criminal activity. It includes defining #'s of people in a group who are convicted of crimes making the whole group or organization as a gang, and if you are convicted and are a member of a group that is defined as a gang, it will automatically add time to your sentence. Larry said that if someone buys stolen goods, you can be convicted of contributing to a criminal act or organization.

**-SB 1121: UNC Cent for MC Safety and Crash Prevention – Pending 2009:** Senator Brunstetter plans to reintroduce a version of this bill (as of last conversation Doc had with him).

### b. National Legislative Issues

**-MRF Report (Doc Ski):** The organization is in trouble. Please consider joining and sustain dues to keep them afloat.

**-NCOM Report (Doc Ski) – NCOM BOD meeting in Columbus, OH on 07 Nov 2008.** Doc invited any interested parties to travel with him.

### c. District Legislative-Directors' Reports

### d. Chapter Updates

## V. New Business:

a. NC Bike PAC – Money available for supporting candidates "fund-raising-events". Contact Deb Knox for application and to donate to the cause.

### b. Legislative Agenda for 2009 (May 08)

1. Organizational Development  
Activities: February 11th will be our Lobby day: If you want to attend a fundraiser. & Chapter can't pay, Bike PAC can assist.

**-Legislative Retreats – Doc sis still available for one day workshops on a variety of topics.**

**-Constituent Team Activities:** Please go to Raleigh to talk to your legislators. : This has a

big impact: Beaver says we need to make sure if you visit legislators, we need to have available, and leave issue cards with the legislators.

-Building Bridges:

-Home Office Visit

-Award Presentation/News Release

We still have a few awards that did not get presented last year. Invite them to meetings for presentation.

-Bike PAC activities

-Fund Raiser Attendance

-Candidate Forums

Submit Questions to [docskivnv@earthlink.net](mailto:docskivnv@earthlink.net)

-District Legislative Directors

### 2. Legislative Agenda for 2009:

- Handout

-Call to Action:

Calling Post Service/Assoc Members

-Amend ROW (Misdemeanor Death by vehicle)

**-Helmet Law Repeal – 2 bill proposals introduced.** (Doc has copies available). Randy said everyone needs to get copies of both proposals and give us feedback on what we want our stance to be on these and decide which one will have a better chance of passing. These Bills are really going to affect us, and our freedoms. It is up to the members to give Doc opinions and feedback so we can decide how to go about changing the proposals and repealing these discriminatory bills. The info is available on Doc's Blog and it is up to the chapter officers to get it out to their members. We also need to listen to the feedback Doc is getting from the legislators. Randy said repealing the helmet law is a major focus for us this year. Beaver said we need to reach out to ALL of the biker groups (clubs, gold wingers, hog club, etc) and try to get them back in this fight. Chapter Legislative Coord need to inform chapters of the proposals and get back to Doc by Nov and let him know what each chapter's preference and consensus is. Be sure that when you deal with legislators we always word this as "a freedom of choice" and constitutional issue. We need to make sure we are careful about scooter and mopeds role in these laws. Randy stresses we need feedback, including alternate proposals.

-Equal Access/Anti-Discrimination.

We don't have a lot of evidence here in NC, Myrtle Beach is a useful example and gives us credibility. Member stated that it happened in Salisbury last year at the Smokeout. Jim Barker said that the police are tired of harassing the bikers and the cops are trying to get the city to stop using so many of their resources on unenforceable ticketing. Local politicians are concerned about losing the tourism. Becky said they are raising non-issues about nudity using photos of girls in bikinis. Business own-

## CBA = Family, Love, & Support (Update on Corbin Gil)

For those of you who don't know, here is an abbreviated version of who Corbin Gil is, and how our world changed on August 30th, 2008. First, my name is Charli Chandler (Triad Chapter former Master Sgt at Arms & Secretary). I have two amazing children: Chandler almost 10, and Corbin 8). I received a call at 2:45 am Sunday August 30th (while attending the CBA State event being held in Sanford at the Ole' Gilliam Mill) informing me that my daughter Corbin was being rushed to Duke Hospital after a tumor was found in her brain at Moses Cone in Greensboro. Darlene & Bill loaned us their car, and Shaggy and I flew to Durham where my worst nightmare was unfolding. We had taken Corbin to the ER in Greensboro twice that week because she was complaining of severe headaches, etc. The third time, my mother insisted on a CAT scan, which revealed a very large tumor on the left side of her brain.

That morning (September 1st) Duke performed an MRI and decided she needed immediate surgery to remove as much of the tumor as possible and get biopsy material for a diagnosis. When the Surgeons went into her head they found a large tumor which had two cysts the size of eggs filled with yellowish fluid inside of them. The operation was successful, they drained and removed the cysts and as much of the tumorous material as they could without causing permanent debilitating damage. The tumor was intertwined in some very dangerous areas including her around the thalamus, optic nerves, and motor skills areas of her brain, which meant cutting too much anywhere could leave her a vegetable and/or blind, or worse...

Corbin seemed to recover well the first week, although her headaches continued, eyesight was poor and she was very sensitive to light. But she seemed to have lost no cognitive or motor skills functions. So the Doctors opted to put a permanent shunt into her head to keep the fluid draining off her brain. In a day or two, we got the pathology back on

the tumor. It was bad news. Her tumor was a high-grade, malignant cancer called a Glioblastoma. A few days later, she was released. She seemed fine until she developed a rash and temperature of 103.5. So back to the ER we went, where it was determined that she was having an allergic reaction to Dilantin, the seizure medication she had been on since her 1st surgery. The reaction was severe, and she ended up on a ventilator for more than a week. She was released from ICU 3 days before her 8th birthday, and was allowed home to Greensboro to celebrate



her birthday on Weds. Oct 1st, exactly one month after the removal of her tumor. She began Chemotherapy and Radiation treatments the following Monday, and everything has seemed well since then, until last week. She had the stitches removed from her tumor incision on Tuesday then went home for the weekend Friday after her weekly treatments. Her incision looked "yucky" by Sunday, and I was concerned and took her to see her neurosurgeon. They swabbed her head and have since found that she has a staph infection in her incision and is positive for MeRSA, which means she is confined to her

room at the Ronald McDonald House. After beginning an antibiotic on Tuesday, she developed a rash Thursday morning. The doctors are still trying to determine what she is reacting to, and have stopped the antibiotic as of yesterday (10/18). She is covered in spots (like a pink leopard, as she says), but has no fever. We will see the oncologist on Monday and go from there.

Once again, there are no words to say how grateful my family and I are for all of the love, support, positive thoughts, and prayers we have received from our CBA Family! Neither I, nor Corbin have wanted for a single thing since this journey began; not a roof over our heads (Su Anderson, Granville County), money for food, and enough toys and gifts for her birthday to keep the children of a small country occupied for a year (EVERYBODY has contributed something)! We received box after box from Buncombe, Alamance, Charlotte, as well as cards and contributions from Davidson, Chatham, Gaston, Cabarrus/Rowan, as well as individual letters and cards from members (Fred Beaver), and even children of members (Columbus & Buncombe) who are reaching out to and praying for Corbin. Again, there are no words...so I will simply and very humbly say "Thank you each and everyone from the bottom of my heart". I love you all and can't imagine going through this without you. We're not out of the woods

yet, so keep your candles lit, and your thoughts and prayers coming.

Sincerely,  
Charli Chandler (AKA Corbin's Momma)  
Triad Chapter CBA/ABATE of NC

**UPDATED EDITOR'S NOTE: Sadly, Corbin's lost her battle with cancer on January 5th, 2009. Her mother Charli felt that it was important to express her gratitude for the outpouring of love and support from her CBA family during this trying time. That's why I thought that it was important to leave this article in place.**

## Legislative Committee Minutes (cont.)

ers in Salisbury were very upset due to the loss of their business, and they had more problems from furniture market tourists, than bikers.

-Defend against unfriendly bills that are introduced. We are going to have several difficult bills to fight against such as children passengers on bikes, HIPPA, etc

c. NHTSA/NTSB/NGSO Collaboration still an issue but we are now at the table thanks to efforts by the MRF. Join the MRF today... Doc Ski has applications.

VI. For the Good of the Organization:

- Pistol Raffle Drawing for HCDP - Winner

from Macon County chapter.

VII. Calendar:

- a. CBA Awards Banquet 15 November 2008
- b. CBA/ABATE of NC BOD: 13 Dec 2008
- c. CBA/ABATE State Meeting 17-18 Jan

2009

- d. Session Opens 28 January 2009
- e. Lobby Day - 11 Feb 2009
- f. NCOM Annual Convention (Houston): 7-

10 May 2009

Motion to adjourn by Larry, 2nd by Derrick 12:18 pm

**ONE  
TEAM...  
ONE  
EFFORT**



*Donations always welcome!*

469 Red Fox St NW,  
Shallotte, NC 28459

# Chapter Letters

## Alamance County

Alamance County CBA/ABATE held its 3rd annual Bike show on September 14, 2008 at The Other Place in Burlington, NC. Raz, Ron Namest and the other members of the Chapter organized and put on a great show and the crowd was entertained by T.J. the D.J. Great food was prepared and sold by members Cathie Latham and Richard Phillips (President). Door prizes were given out throughout the day, along with a 50/50 drawing at the end of the show. The Winners in each class were: Sportster – Sonny Dixon, Full Dresser – Andy Corbett, Street Custom – Craig Atwood, Dyna – Robert Searcy, Metric Sport – Phillip Brewer, Softail – David Allen, Metric Street – Johnny McNeil, Vintage – Ken Hall, Best in Show and CBA Best in Show were won by Tammy Waters.

Alamance County CBA would like to thank everyone at The Other Place along with our other sponsors and supporters: Davis Harley-Davidson, 3 Stooges Cycles, Auto Zone, Wicker Trucking, Superior Trailer Sales, Dick Shirley Chevrolet, Southern Tire, Steve's Leather, Burlington Yamaha, Superfly Cycles, Country Club Lanes and East Coast Custom Cycles.

Postscript: Our Chapter gained 7 new members by offering free entry fee to our Bike Show for all new CBA members. We were very pleased to gain 7 new members and suggest other chapters may want to try something similar to this at their future events.

## Brunswick Chapter

Here at the coast it's beginning to cool off, which is nice considering how hot summer was. We haven't been to busy lately, we've had a couple 'spur of the moment' rides and 2 events. The Blues Run in July was sweltering, most riders left early due to the heat. The last Saturday in October started out raining but cleared before 10:00 and bikers came out to support the 15th Annual Bike show. Not much else going on around here but upcoming Toy runs, that are always heart touching.

Many thanks to the outgoing officers, your dedication and support is greatly appreciated. We are looking forward to the New Year and welcome the new officers whom will do well for our chapter as well as the organization.

The Holiday's will quickly come and go. We wish all of you safe and happy holidays. While you're out celebrating don't forget to designate a driver and for goodness sakes don't drink and ride!

Keep the shiny side up,

Becky Mooney  
Secretary  
Brunswick County CBA

On A Side Note: As a MSAP coordinator and instructor I am still amazed how easily folks miss seeing bikes on the road. Just this week (Halloween to be exact) I happened upon the scene of SUV vs. bike. The rider was waiting at a stop sign for traffic to clear in order to proceed. The driver of a SUV behind him decided she could 'make it' and rear ended the bike, knocking the bike and rider into traffic & to the pavement. Then she

backed up to see what she hit almost running the biker over and barely missing the State Patrol car behind her. (Talk about luck!!) The biker was ok, his big toe was bruised where the bike mashed it through his boot, and his bike had a few dings. The driver of the SUV received a ticket; I failed to find out exactly what for. My point of telling you about this; get out in your community and teach people to look twice. Have your chapter put up an awareness billboard or put awareness signs in your yard. (Yard signs are available through Matt Shamblin). Join your chapters MSAP team and get into the civic groups as well as the high schools. Most of our wrecks are caused by people our age and not the dreaded teenager on the road.

## Chatham Chapter

Hello from Chatham County - We just held our first annual Open House and Poker Run at J&D Custom Cycles in Morrisville. J&D is owned by our member Jimmy Winters and we all had a great time. We will definitely do it again next year.

We have added another standing monthly event to our calendar. We now hold a fourth Wednesday Bike Night in Pittsboro. We are trying to have four standing events ever month to promote riding and fellowship. Please come hang out with us if you are in the area. We also partied a lot this year. In the spring we had a wine tasting party. Then in the fall we had a Halloween party and of course a Christmas party.

We would like to welcome some new members to our chapter. A warm welcome goes out to John Levitz and Susan Roberts. Susan has been riding with us for years as she is Iris' sister. Ron Thompson recently joined and has been a welcome sight at our meetings. Ron is originally from Homestead Florida. I'm jealous of Ron because he has two Harleys and I only have one. 8-) Bill and Jean Hyson have also recently joined. They have attended many of our rides and are a great couple. Even GB Lewis' 2.5 year old grandson joined our chapter. The little guy has a 50cc motorbike with training wheels. Grandpa GB is spoiling that little guy.

We would also like to thank last year's chapter officers for their service and welcome our new chapter VP Bruce Miles. (Yes, we have sucked in another unsuspecting rider.) Bruce is a frequent rider and will make an excellent VP. Unfortunately, Bruce hit a deer on November 7th and broke many bones. He will be okay, but will need lots of rehab. Our hearts are broken over this accident and we are wanting to help Bruce in any way we can. We are all praying for his speedy recovery.

Our member Greg Moore also went down on his bike this month and broke his hand. Greg had just won first place at the Randolph CBA bike Show on November 2nd and was headed home when he went down. He will be okay, but his beautiful custom bike is damaged. Greg won the Eastern District CBA Bike Show as well and has won many bike shows with his custom bagger. We are hoping that Greg and his sweet ride will be repaired and back on the road soon.

We would like to send our thoughts out to Teresa Pearson who is recovering at home. We love

and miss Teresa very much and want her to know that we think of her often. For those members we have not seen lately, we miss you. Please come out and meet the new members and enjoy some of our riding opportunities. The chapter is growing and we would love to see the older, oops, I mean, "more seasoned" members again. 8-)

See you all on the road.

Vinny

## Gaston County

During the last couple of months Legislation Coordinator Dale Carroll, spoke to us about voter registration and how those who are not registered should do so. Bill Starnes (Dale's assistant) spoke to the members on how to obtain information via the computer about who is running in their district from the North Carolina Board of Elections website. He also made a statement to the effect that we are a political organization and we should be involved in politics. Also we want to say thanks to Rick Rhyne for getting some of the local candidates to speak to us at our meetings the past several months. During the primaries and the period before the national election – we had several candidates for county commissioner, state congress and state senate that came to our monthly meetings and spoke to us. We discussed the amendment that some of our state leaders are trying to pass in our constitution concerning the removal of members from membership without the chapter having a say in the outcome. We voted unanimously to voice our disapproval on this change. At our November meeting (attendance 80) - The Gaston CBA voted (unanimously) to object to proposals #1 & #2. We also voted (unanimously) to support a proposal by Dale Carroll. Basically Dale's proposal says that if you are over 21 - you have the freedom of choice to wear or not to wear a helmet. Our members are informed by email and our monthly publication "Biker Bits" of upcoming bills or proposals that are being presented to our state legislators. We encourage our members to express their views to their state and national legislators.

We did an outstanding job with Charitable Donations this year. We received thank you letters from the Buncombe County VA Auxiliary for our \$100 donation to purchase supplies for our veterans, the Wendy Norris Family for the donation of \$150 and the Ken Ervin Family for the donation of \$150. Distribution of our fund run & pizza run money: Members voted and passed that \$3,247.00 be divided between the following charities – S.O.C.K.S. (Serving Our Community with Kindness in Springwood) - \$500; Mt. Holly Fire Fighters Auxiliary for Children's Burn Center - \$500; Gaston County Toy Run - \$500; Webb Street School - \$500; Ace & T J's Kids (in memory of Click Baldwin) - \$250; Victory Junction Gang (in memory of Click Baldwin) - \$250; Camp Care - \$249; Gaston Hospice - \$249 and Shining Hope Farms - \$249. We received thank you letters from all the recipients of these funds (plus a picture of the special kids at Webb Street School). MSAP Director Jeff Reif announced at our November meeting that over 830 young adults have



## Chapter Letters (cont.)

received MSAP training this year from our chapter. Jeff also announced that Lincoln County wants to start MSAP participation. Our instructors are very dedicated and we applaud their dedication. With less than two years under our belt – we have come a long way in helping to educate our future drivers in our area on motorcycle awareness.

Kip Roseman, Kandy Jennings and our Events Committee members have kept us hopping with rides and events in our area. Plans for the upcoming Christmas Party at the Belmont Moose Lodge are in full swing. Also another upcoming event for Gaston County CBA (in conjunction with Hot Rod Cycles) – is our 3rd Annual Polar Bear Run on January 3rd. We have had excellent weather the last two years for this event and we are praying for the same again this year. Members are notified of upcoming events by recorded phone messages, email and the newsletter.

As of November 14th – Gaston County has grown to 242 members (238 renewal – 4 life). Officers for 2009 are: President – Andrew “Sugarfoot” Jenkins; 1st Vice President – Bob Trimnal; 2nd Vice President – Jeff Reif; Secretary – Jill Stillwell; Treasurer – Terri Beard; Legislation – Bill Starnes; Master Sergeant of Arms – Charles “Bouncer” Thompson.

The NC CBA/Abate Annual Awards Banquet held on November 15th, our chapter received the Membership Chapter of the Year and also 4th place for MSAP. The best award – The Gaston County CBA members. They are hard working, dedicated and they are the only reason this chapter has been so successful.

Respectfully submitted and with a lot of pride in Gaston County CBA -

Jill Stillwell, Secretary

Visit Gaston County CBA/Abate at [www.gastonabate.com](http://www.gastonabate.com)

### Raleigh Chapter

The past quarter for the Raleigh Chapter has been relatively quiet. We had a membership booth at both the Angier Bike Fest and the Ray Price HD Bike Fest in Raleigh. A few new memberships were obtained from both events, making them worth the while.

We also coordinated and ran the Benefit Run at the Angier Bike Fest and have been asked to do so again in 2009. This event proved to be beneficial to both the Raleigh Chapter and the organizers of the Bike Fest, due mostly in part to the hard work of Rita Spaulding. The Chapter took a group ride to the Deep River Shooting School in Sanford, NC for a day of shooting clays. Chapter VP Andy Malinowski provided the route for the ride. The best shot for the day was Bruce Harris, who won lunch provided by the not so good shots. It was a beautiful ride, but it was a bit hot, so we are looking to do this again in the Fall.

The Chapter had Trooper Mark Brown come to a chapter meeting to discuss the benefits of the NC BikeSafe program and to answer any questions. We also offered our support to several local Reps running for re-election by putting out yard signs for Paul Stam, Nelson Dollar and Marilyn Avila. These Reps have shown support of biker rights in the past and we hope they will continue to support us in the future. We held Chapter elections for 2009 with the results as

follows:

Officers for 2009:

Jean Dasnoit - President

Andy Malinowski – Vice President

Ruth Boone – Secretary

Mike Hodges – Treasurer

Paula Russell - Master Sergeant at Arms

Ronnie Hilliard - Sergeant at Arms

Paul Wilms - Legislative Coordinator

Meeting of the Minds in Colorado was attended by Charlie Boone and Cindy Hodges.

Jean Dasnoit

President

CBA of Raleigh

### South Piedmont Chapter

The South Piedmont Chapter would first like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, Nappy New Year and safe journey's over the Holiday Season since it will be after the January state meeting before we see another newsletter.

Things have been a little slow here in the South Piedmont area. We've had to work through a few setbacks but things appear to be looking up. We've suffered the resignations of President, Vice President Secretary, Legislative Coordinator, and Products Coordinator. Some of the resignations were for personal reasons, some just didn't have the time to assume the responsibility of that position, and a couple just disappeared. We hold no hard feelings towards any of those who had to step down and extend an invitation to come to our rides or meetings anytime.

We just completed our voting process for '09 and it looks like we will have strong Chapter Officers going into the New Year. We've already established a regular meeting place with the American Legion on Sutherland Avenue in Monroe for the '09 meetings. The meetings will be held on the 3rd Sunday of every month with the exception of the June meeting, it will go from the 21st to the 28th with the meetings being at 3:00pm. We're already planning events for next year and will get the information out to all the Chapters as soon as we can and look forward to attending as many other Chapter events during the coming year. Our Legislative Coordinator is learning more and more about legislation that he continues to share with the Chapter. So...hopefully we can go into '09 looking over our handlebars and not over our shoulder.

We set up an information/membership booth at the Biker's Ball here in Monroe on October 18th & 19th. We signed up 6 new members Saturday and look forward to adding more. On Sunday we were visited by Dale, Kip and a couple other Bro's from the Gaston County Chapter. Let me say here that it's always a good feeling when you see other Chapters ride to your area and stop in and enjoy brotherhood and good fellowship. Thanks Bro's for stopping in to see us.

Shaggy and Charli came to Monroe on August 16th & 17th for instruction to Chapter members for the MSAP program. On October 15th the MSAP instructors presented the program to Dr. Cross, the Union County Driver's Education Supervisor as

well as 12 new Driver's Ed instructors. Shaggy, Charli and (Derrick from the Charlotte Chapter) came to Monroe to support us in this presentation. We want to once again thank them for their love and support with MSAP. We were praised by all for the presentation and as a result we give the schedule for the '08-'09 school year. With the classes that we have been approved to go into, the South Piedmont Chapter will be able to present the MSAP program to 1200 students. We are looking forward to and honored to be able to educate all that we can about motorcycle safety.

Presently we're planning a group ride to the Charlotte Swap Meet on November 8th & 9th as well as a New Year's Day ride. We will also make as many Toy Runs of other Chapters as we can and be at the State Meeting in January, hope to see you all there.

Happy Motoring!

Roger Boger

President

South Piedmont Chapter

### Tar River Basin

Tar River Basin “On the Move”

Over the Labor Day weekend, approximately 20 members rode to the mountains and enjoyed the scenery and sites around Boone and Blowing Rock. It was while we were away that tragedy struck a fellow member. Cliff Jackson, lead singer of Steel Standing, was shot and killed on August 31st. A fundraiser was held at the Hogs Pens in Macclesfield on October 18th to help his family with funeral expenses. At the end of the evening, 44 white balloons were released in the sky. It was a very symbolic moment for Cliff's family and friends. We are in the midst of planning our Christmas fundraiser at the Children's Home on December 13th. We serve lunch for everyone and Santa hands out gifts to all the kids. Our chapter Christmas party is also being planned for December 13th at Wendy Trails (formerly Fat Boys) and all are welcome to attend. On behalf of all the officers and members of Tar River Basin, we wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas.

### New Officers for 2009

Jesse Watson

President

Bob Burke

Vice President

Kenny Barnhill

2nd Vice President

Secretary

Linda Watson

Treasurer

Debra Wolfe

Legislative Coord.

Wayne McNamee

News Editor

Debbie Burke

## S.E.A. Committee Meeting, October 11-12, 2008

Chatham County Chapter participated in a joint fundraiser in which they teamed with a local animal rescue group and raised about \$2,200 for their Chapter's MSAP coffers in one evening.

NHTSA 07-08

Monday, Sept. 29, 2008

Contact: Eric Bolton

Tel.: (202) 366-9550

U.S. TRANSPORTATION SECRETARY MARY E. PETERS PROPOSES NEW SAFETY RULES FOR MOTORCYCLE HELMETS

[http://www.nhtsa.gov/staticfiles/DOT/NHTSA/Rulemaking/Rules/Associated%20Files/Helmets\\_Upgrade\\_NPRM.pdf](http://www.nhtsa.gov/staticfiles/DOT/NHTSA/Rulemaking/Rules/Associated%20Files/Helmets_Upgrade_NPRM.pdf)

From the report:

"Once published in the Federal Register, the agency will seek public comment for 60 days. To view the proposed rule, go to [www.nhtsa.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov)"

Matt here:

*It's a safe bet that they will not notify us when the comment period starts, nor will they actively seek input from the people most affected by this. Please enlighten your membership, stay on top of this one, and try to keep it in front of your members. The gubmint nannies in N.C. would be all too happy to force us to comply if this comes to pass. It is all too rare for us to get advance warning of the stupidity coming down the pike from these people. Please take every opportunity to stop this before we have to fight it at home.*

From the report:

During the same year, 4,837 motorcyclists were killed; of those, more than 40 percent weren't wearing helmets, she said."

Matt again:

*They always manage to overlook the 60% that were wearing their magical helmet AND DIED ANYWAY. I wonder why that is?*

I was recently asked by Mr. A. Wyatt of the NCDOT to supply what I thought were the most pressing safety concerns faced by motorcyclists in relation to roadway/highway design and maintenance. He was given one working day to respond to his superiors so we were a bit rushed and I had no time to solicit specific feedback from our membership. What follows are the suggestions I sent him and his response to me. I didn't think ROW violations would be appropriate for the given forum, but he suggested that it might be pertinent so I included it.

1) A substantial increase in the penalties for Right-Of-Way violators. The last time this was attempted there were so many qualifiers added to the legislation that it became almost impossible to actually commit a citable/punishable violation.

2) Mitigation of the hazards presented to motorcycle operators by crash barriers. i.e.: The support posts for W-beam guardrails are a particular hazard due to the abrupt edges and angles of the support posts and the

gaps between them. They do not deflect the body of a downed rider, they rip it apart. The hazards presented by cable barriers are essentially the same with the exception that they tend to cut into and/or shred the human body.

3) Warning signage addressing surface hazards that are specific to motorcycle operators and the placement of same. These signs should address, but not be limited to such items as uneven/milled pavement and gravel resurfacing of paved roadways. These signs should be placed far enough in advance to allow motorcycle operators to choose an alternate route.

Thanks for taking the time to pull these together Matt - we will forward these onto the State Traffic Safety Engineer and hopefully we can get some support for legislation and/or policy/regulation improvements in these key areas. take care, adw

NHTSA & USDOT are looking for new ways to collect data that will most likely be used to force more regulation onto our backs.

DOT HS 811 025

August 2008

Traffic Safety Performance Measures for States and Federal Agencies

PDF 46 pages:

[http://www.nhtsa.gov/portal/nhtsa\\_static\\_file\\_downloader.jsp?file=/staticfiles/DOT/NHTSA/Traffic%20Injury%20Control/Articles/Associated%20Files/811025.pdf](http://www.nhtsa.gov/portal/nhtsa_static_file_downloader.jsp?file=/staticfiles/DOT/NHTSA/Traffic%20Injury%20Control/Articles/Associated%20Files/811025.pdf) (Motorcycle info page 16.)

A recent report from South Carolina that attempted to explain the recent increases in motorcycle related fatalities and my condensed version of same.

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/1003motorcycledeaths>

Condensed version:

If you're drunk, impaired, ignorant, or just plain stupid you probably should avoid riding motorcycles. And by the way, the "Magic Head Bucket" will not cure any of the above deficiencies.

If you are sober, well trained, and reasonably intelligent, go ahead and ride your bike, but watch out for the ever present idiots gripping steering wheels. And by the way, contrary to what the NCDOT has stated, the "Magic Head Bucket" will not help you avoid these idiots.

This leaves me with one question: Why can't the Goobs in Gooberment understand this simple concept?

Matt

This is another example of the propaganda, developed at our expense that is constantly being spoon-fed to our legislators by the NHTSA in order to convince them to continue to force useless, burdensome regulations upon us. Please read it and try to develop effective counterpoints. Then share them with the rest of the organization.

Traffic Safety Facts Research Note DOT HS 811 044 September 2008

Motorcycle Helmet Use in 2008 - Overall Results Use of DOT - COMPLIANT HELMETS 2008 ... [www.nhtsa.dot.gov/.../staticfiles/DOT/NHTSA/NCSA/Content/RNotes/2008/811044.pdf](http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/.../staticfiles/DOT/NHTSA/NCSA/Content/RNotes/2008/811044.pdf)

At the July meeting I reported our student total for MSAP classes statewide for the first half of the year as being 4087.

Due to an error on my part in reading one of the Chapter's reports, that total should have been reported by me as being 3603.

Our student total for the first three quarters of the year is 4767.

I apologize for my error.

I have still not heard from three Chapters as of 10-8-08. Hopefully, this last number will go up substantially when I hear from them.

The trophy for the Lee Ann Redwine Award is safely in my hands. Thanks to the wonderful folks in Brunswick Chapter for picking up the largest part of the price tag for it. The winner will be announced at the awards banquet November 15th. Please do your best to be there.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the Award Committee, all of whom shall remain anonymous at their behest. They had a TOUGH task and they all served without hesitation or reservation. I'm extremely proud of their commitment, performance, and integrity throughout this process. This was NOT easy and I hope they'll all honor me with their service next year.

We have plenty of "LOOK TWICE" yard signs. Please have your Chapter buy some or buy some yourself.

N.C. Government stats say 190 bikers died in N.C. roads in 2007.

Stats also say 40% of those fatalities were alcohol related.

If those numbers are accurate, we lost 76 brothers & sisters in N.C. during 2007 due to alcohol related crashes.

One remedy being floated around the statehouses is to reduce the BAC threshold for DWI on a motorcycle to .04.

If we don't do something about Riding While Impaired, our elected nannies will do it for us.

It is a reasonable bet that a minimum age for motorcycle passengers will be revisited in the coming year. You need to be ready with reasonable arguments against it. THINK YA'LL!!! And then share your ideas with the rest of us.

## Central District MSAP News for 3rd Quarter 2008

On August 16th & 17th, Charli & I conducted an MSAP Instructors Workshop for the South Piedmont Chapter. We successfully certified 5 Instructors to go into the Union County area High School Driver's Education classes. Both days of the workshop were very productive and the hard work that each member put in paid off big time when, on October 15th, they presented their first class to a group of 12 Driver's Education instructors from the Union County area. I found out about the class at our state meeting, and decided then that I would like to ride down and observe/support their first classroom presentation. And man was I proud of them! They took it and ran! The four of

them did a great job of getting the information out there, sticking to our curriculum format, and personalizing the presentation in a way that got a great response from the instructors. Congratulations to Ed, Denise, Kenny, & Teresa on a job well done. It was a hard sell to the head of the D.E Program for the area, who was not easy to convince that this program held merit, but as he sat through their presentation, he was eager to tell them that they are welcome in all of his area classes, which could total 2,500 students in the area per year.

I would like to acknowledge that there was a workshop set up for the Surry County Chapter for

September 6th & 7th, but due to Charli's daughter's hospitalization, I was unable to attend and we are in the progress of rescheduling. They were, however, ready to go, and I think that is important to mention. Thanks to them for their flexibility and continued interest in the MSAP!

Robert "Shaggy" Causey  
 President Triad Chapter  
 Central District Coordinator  
 MSAP Instructor/Assistant Director C.D.

## Central District Meeting Minutes - October 11th, 2008

*Attended: Alamance: David Blum, Cabarrus/Rowan: Dwayne Jenkins, Chatham: Cat Mohan, Charlotte: Derrick Hall, Linda Hall, Randolph: Dennis Harless, Dianna Harless, Triad: Gwendolyn Nichols, Vicki Cole, Charli Chandler, Robert Causey & South Piedmont: Roger Boger, At-Large: Doc Ski*

### I. Welcome and Introductions

### II. Reports

- Secretary: Motion Charli Chandler, 2nd Dennis Harless to accept minutes as they were sent out by Gwen Nichols, all voted and passed.
- Treasurer: Carol Bullard was absent so Shaggy gave her report in her place: last total she had was \$1,931.63: Bills that were paid: \$81.00 for trophies for spoker run, \$57.80 for the 20% to the state for the spoker run event, reimbursement to shaggy for flowers for Cat Mohan: \$65.00, and contribution 200.00 to Randy Norris, Total Balance: \$1,527.83. Motion to accept for now Cat Mohan, 2nd Derrick Hal, all voted and passed.

### III. Old Business

- MSAP Instructor Workshop: Aug 16, 17th, South piedmont, have not been able to get into a class yet but working onto getting into one, Charli Chandler explained that they did a really good job. They have 5 instructors there. The Surry workshop has been postponed until the spring.
- State Party: The weather was a situation. It went pretty well. Several chapters from the central district represented.
- Rider's Roost: Good weekend, 3rd weekend in August

### IV. New Business

- Set-Up for the Spoker Run for Next Year: Motion made by Linda Hall, 2nd Roger Boger, to advertise the Spoker Run Event in the CBA Calendar & to pay for a half page add for \$125.00, all voted and passed. Motion made by Roger Boger, 2nd by Charli Chandler to set the date for this event is on April 25th, all voted and passed.

- Chapter Officer need to turn in all election information into Cat Mohan & make sure all chapter information is updated on all officers
- All Chapters need to turn in all information for the state calendar this weekend to Charlie Boone
- Down Rider's Funds Tabled until January meeting

Adjourn: 2:07pm

Flyers on upcoming events can be found on the CENTRAL DISTRICT WEBSITE:

<http://centraldistrict.tripod.com/>

Central District Coordinator:  
 Robert "Shaggy" Causey  
 (336)442-8885  
 shaggy6901@triad.rr.com



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<input type="checkbox"/> Annual Joint Membership \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> 3-Year Joint Membership \$130	<input type="checkbox"/> New Member <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal Member # _____
Freedom Fighter Donation:	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10 <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	

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Are you a member of a state motorcyclists' rights organization? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, name:	

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 Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 MRF# \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Member was given:  
 Pin  
 Patch  
 Year Rider  
 Newsletter  
 What issue? \_\_\_\_\_

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<input type="checkbox"/> American Express		Signature	Date

# MRF To Shut Down Huge Percentage Of Operation

## by: Cindy Hodges

**This will be the headline** if there is not a large gain in membership by January 1 of 2009. Here in North Carolina, there are currently 108 members. That includes each of the persons in a "couple" membership, every "sustaining chapter" membership, every sort of membership, period. Six weeks ago there were 119 members.

On the one hand, I'm proud because of the southern states, NC has more members than most. Some have less than 20, less than 10 members!

BUT! NC's renewal numbers are falling and it appears to be the result of the economic slump. For many years the MRF relied on the nation's state motorcyclists rights organizations (SMRO's) for funding. Each year every SMRO would give \$1 or \$2 per member as a donation in addition to the sustaining memberships. Here in NC the donation has been huge. Footing the travel bills of one and now two MRF board members is more than 2 bucks per CBA member. On top of that, the organization donates funds and Charlotte chapter donates BIG funds.

That said, the race is on for more members. More single and couple memberships. Sustaining chapter memberships are great and can bring your chapter a real value when registering folks for Beast of the East, but quite frankly, too many folks feel like "Oh my chapter has a membership - - I don't need to be a member." Well, that's true - - no one NEEDS to be a member of anything. But if you BELIEVE that the MRF's mission serves you as a rider, if you BELIEVE that the MRF has done it's best to fulfill that mission... hear me now..... the MRF NEEDS YOU.

I personally want to see NC's MRF membership numbers double. I'm sure it CAN. Yes we are all facing hard times but what price do we put on the service the MRF provides? \$30 a year is a small price to pay. What was true in 1985 is still true today - - we are too busy trying to do business here at home to keep a constant close eye on what is going on at the Federal Level.

I leave in early mid-January for frozen Minnesota to attend the MRF Winter Board meeting. IF we do not have at least 600 more members across the nation by that meeting, we will shut down all services other than the actual day to day operation of the office. No more MRF Reports, the newsletter. No more sending representative to attend NHTSA meetings, EPA meetings, Health Care hearings, etc. We will have to rely solely on what Jeff Hennie can spread himself thin enough to do on his own. We will no longer be as effective as we have been in the past ten years. A clear signal will be sent to those who oppose the Biker Nation that the soft underbelly is exposed and ready for rendering. Just

putting this in writing here in CBA's newsletter puts that potential for weakness there. I do not know what else I can do. I worked the Charlotte Swap Meet this past weekend and got two members. THANK YOU!

Currently it takes a little over \$1500 a day to keep the office open and that is not negotiable. There is no parking in DC so if a Congressman, Senator, or Agency head calls Jeff Hennie, (MRF Lobbyist) and says 'I can squeeze you in now for about 15 minutes to talk about your issue'.... Jeff has to be close enough to hot foot it over there in time. Offices situated in that foot-traffic range command high rents. Jeff has to be paid. Tiffany, the office manager who does much more than I could describe here, deserves to be paid.

If the MRF has to go to the above style of operation... how long do you think it will last? If the MRF goes under, how long do you think it will be before there is a national helmet law that too many folks never saw coming? We'd never have the opportunity to even TRY to change it here on our own. The MRF has called SMROs and individual members to lobby against that very thing every time it has come up and IT HAS COME UP MANY TIMES in the past 30 years. What else do you suppose might happen? Left "unchecked"..... if the Feds decide to, they can blast right through the state's back doors and nothing at the state level will stop it.

Ok, so maybe you are one of those rare folks who takes care of business and keeps up on everything. Can you do it alone? Do you see an army of folks who actually get up and help? They ARE out there. The MRF has helped connect hundreds of them. The MRF has been there for me, for you, for our posterity because We the People created it. Won't you please consider helping the MRF continue marching INTO the future?

I've outlined a few of the highlights of MRF achievements including one in the near future. All of these things were accomplished with people and dollars from North Carolina. The MRF is North Carolina Bikers, and the bikers of every other state!

Please..... join the MRF or renew your membership **TODAY**. An application is elsewhere in this newsletter or you can join online at <https://mrf.org/register.php>

### A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS YOU MADE WITH THE MRF!

#### 1985:

- The idea for MRF was created by Michael Farabaugh, Debby Farabaugh and Wanda

Hummel in the humble surroundings of a garage in Granger, Indiana.

- ABATE USA Seminar held that September in St. Louis, MO. This was the first "Meeting of the Minds" (MOTM). CBA/ABATE of NC's state president, Rick Nail, was in attendance.
- MOTM leads to the creation of the Motorcycle Rights Fund (MRF), governed by a Steering Committee

#### 1987:

- Amid clear signs of renewed federal interest in regulating motorcycling, the Steering Committee expands its agenda.
- MRF is the first motorcyclists' rights organization to place a lobbyist in our nation's capitol.
- The MRF, working with grass-roots activists, stopped legislation that would ban the sale of "superbikes", i.e. bikes over 500 cc.

#### 1989:

- Proposed national helmet law is stopped in Congressional committee.
- The MRF undergoes a complete reorganization, adopts bylaws, a new name, and a membership structure.
- Name changed to the Motorcycle Riders Foundation.

#### 1991:

- The MRF was instrumental in removing all references to "Motorcycle" from the DeDoncini Outlaw Gang Bill.

#### 1992:

- MRF defeats OSHA attempt to require motorcyclists to wear helmets at work regardless of state laws.

#### 1993:

- The MRF begins publishing white papers (Informational articles bound together for distribution) on issues important to motorcyclists.

#### 1995:

- The MRF and its SMRO partners succeed in repealing the federal helmet law blackmail against the states.

## MRF To Shut Down Huge Percentage Of Operation (cont.)

1997:

- MRF sets a nine-point legislative agenda for the 105th Congress, coordinates federal lobbying efforts of SMRO's.

1998:

- The "Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century" (TEA-21) is passed.
- National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) priority areas include accident prevention and motorcycle safety.
- No penalties on states without helmet laws.
- Motorcycles to be included in the planning of ITS (Intelligent Transportation system).
- MRF and SMROs persuade Congress to include a ban on allowing NHTSA to lobby in states, and a prohibition of motorcycle bans on federally funded roads in Transportation Funding bill. There had been a push to keep motorcycles off highways.

2000:

- MRF and New Hampshire motorcyclists came together to stop a Helmet Law.

2001:

- Health Insurance Discrimination rules challenged.

2003:

- The MRF announces the creation of the Young Activists Scholarship Fund.
- MRF begins transmitting the MOTM on Internet Radio (Through INBRadio's website).

2004:

- The 20th Annual Meeting of the Minds is held in St Louis. Today, the MOTM is motorcycling's premier political leadership summit.
- Crystal Maney Buckner from CBA of Buncombe County, NC wins the first Young Activists Scholarship Award
- MRF releases "EPA for the Layman" for highway motorcycles in response to EPA regulatory restrictions.

2005:

- MRF was instrumental in defeat of Senator Lautenburg's national helmet law amendment.

2006:

- MRF was a key player in creating the National Motorcycle Advisory Council.

2007:

- MRF works with Congress against the NTSB push for national helmet laws.

2008:

- MRF was invited to participate in the House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure's Subcommittee on Highways and Transits hearing to review the effectiveness of NHTSA's Highway Safety programs. This hearing was a fact-finding mission and did not bring about any legislation.

2009:

- Coming in May of 2009, the MRF will sponsor "Bikers Inside the Beltway" – encouraging motorcyclists from all over the nation to come, park their bikes in a specially designated spot on Capitol Hill at the offices of our law makers and visit their respective representatives to encourage them to continue the funding for safety, education, and awareness programs in the states. This will essentially be the first ever NATIONAL BIKER LOBBY DAY!

## Officers Training and Awards Banquet



The most important training of all.  
Learn to be a Legislative Coordinator.  
Presented by Doc Ski.

# Our guest speaker Senator Jerry Tillman

# Hypnotizing Entertainment



The organization thanks you all for a job well done.



**If anyone has any pictures or stories about the Officer's Training & Awards Banquet that they wish to share, please submit to [stateinfo@atmc.net](mailto:stateinfo@atmc.net).**

## *In Memory Of...*

Johnny "Blue" Wilson	January 21, 1996	Sheila Boone	August 1, 2003
Brenda Beaver	July 7, 1996	Sandy Lee	August 23, 2003
Dennis Jackson	August 24, 1999	Kim Ratliff	September 14, 2003
Bruce Vogle (Klean)	April 29, 1999	Mark "Rat Daddy" Ratliff	February 10, 2004
Mark Fisher (Fish)	September 25, 1999	Julie Jenrette	March 26, 2004
Jane Janosko	May 15, 1999	Howard Coltrane	October 6, 2004
Joann Stroud (JoJo)	January 4, 2000	Eldon Moore	February 26, 2005
Mike Daniels	March 23, 2000	Mark Lovette	July 20, 2005
Bear Allred	May 23, 2000	William Randle Young	August 28, 2005
Ken Barentine	May 20, 2001	C.B. Roberts	August 30, 2005
Edward Lawson Whitton (Easy)	Dec. 25, 2001	Ina Fitts	September 1, 2005
Malachi Stanley	Feb. 16, 2002	Charles Buchanan	September 12, 2005
Tom Weaver	June 1, 2002	Jay Fitts	March 29, 2006
Tommy "DJ Crazyhorse" Clendenin	June 22, 2002	Sonny Shope	May 22, 2006
Joe "Ugly" Sidley	June 30, 2002	Greg Dinerstein	July 1, 2006
Alan Baker	August 4, 2002	Charlotte Bellamy	September 18, 2006
John Cowdrick	August 6, 2002	Tim Hamby	September 30, 2006
James "Pickle" Deal	August 20, 2002	Tim Scoggins	April 27, 2007
Clyde Starnes	September 7, 2002	Lee Maney	July 30, 2007
Carl "Paul" Johnson	November 16, 2002	Lee Ann Redwine	December 21, 2007
Gary Barba	January 7, 2003	Carlton "Jason" Holis	May 4, 2008
Charlie Hodge	April 18, 2003	Wendy Norris	August 23, 2008
Richard "Cigar Man" Burnett	May 30, 2003		

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## US House Holds Highway Safety Hearing

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation reports that the US House of Representatives Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, Subcommittee on Highways and Transit held a hearing Wednesday July 16th regarding the status of all of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) highway safety programs including motorcycle safety and the importance of federal funding in supporting safety education across the country. The hearing also focused on van and tire safety, impaired driving, and strategic safety plans amongst others. Testifying on behalf of the MRF was Senator Robert Letourneau. Others who testified included NHTSA official Jim Ports, Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA), AAA, and MADD. New Hampshire State Senator Letourneau is chairman of the New Hampshire Senate Transportation Committee, a member of the state Motorcycle Rider Education Advisory Board, the Governor's Motorcycle Safety Task Force of the New Hampshire Highway Safety Agency, as well as an MRF Charter Member.

Letourneau thanked Congress for appropriating approximately \$25 million from SAFETEA-LU, the most recent transportation appropriations law, for motorcycle safety education efforts across the country, and encouraged Congress to continue to fund motorcycle safety and driver awareness programs around the country. He said the explosion of motorcycle sales from 356,000 in 1997 to 1.1 million today is crippling many rider education programs across the country, and that Congress needs to invest more money in motorcycle rider education.

Letourneau said other directives established in SAFETEA-LU, including encouraging motorcycle transportation as a means to conserve energy,

opening High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes to motorcycles and establishing a Motorcycle Advisory Council to work with the U.S. Secretary of Transportation, have been beneficial to both motorcycle riders and the nation.

"In New Hampshire, during the first 10 years of our motorcycle education program, over 23,000 riders have completed the education course and only one of those riders was involved in a fatality," said Letourneau. "Clearly, education is the key to successfully reducing motorcycle fatalities, and New Hampshire's experience is proof positive." During the hearing while questioning NHTSA, GHSA and Government Accountability Office (GAO) Ranking Member Duncan (R-TN) mentioned that if motorcycle fatalities are growing then we (congress) should consider enlarging the 2010 funds exponentially.

There was plenty of talk about helmets and helmet laws. All of the government panelists advocated for helmet law. The acting chairwoman at that point of the hearing Grace Napolitano (D-CA) seemed to nod along in agreement with the helmet advocates. So it's a good thing the actual Chairman is Peter DeFazio (D-OR) who staunchly opposes mandatory helmet laws.

"There was talk of helmet laws from the usual suspects and we expected that, I feel the motorcyclists were well represented with the MRF, AMA, MIC and ABATE of MD in the room today" said Motorcycle Riders Foundation Vice President of Government Relations Jeff Hennie. "There was also as much talk, if not more, about funding proper rider education so that's the direction we want to keep going in" he added.

### In Other Committee News

The Energy and Commerce Committee approved a bill that states that insurers must provide coverage to students who downgrade to part-time status as a result of a serious illness or injury. It would continue coverage for up to 12 months.

Although the bill is non controversial, the markup hit a hiccup after Texas Republican Michael C. Burgess offered a bill of his (HR 1076) as an amendment to bar insurers from denying coverage for injuries sustained from legal recreational activities. Burgess said that current law allows plans to deny benefits if an injury results for some high-risk activities such as use of a motorcycle or snowboarding.

While Chairman John D. Dingell, (D-MI), said he believed the law should be changed to prohibit those denials, he ruled the amendment was not germane to the underlying bill. Some Members including ranking member Joe L. Barton (R-TX), countered that the amendment would change the same section of law as the college student bill, but after some debate, agreed to abide by the chair's ruling. John Shimkus (R-IL) and John Shadegg (R-AZ) voted present on the measure's final passage as a procedural protest to the germaneness ruling. The amendment may have failed but a favorable view from the Chairman could be promising down the road.

## HIPAA UPDATE FROM THE Motorcycle Riders Foundation

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation reports that language similar to the HIPAA loophole-fix language contained in HR 1076 may be offered by the bill's sponsor to a piece of legislation being worked on by the US House Energy and Commerce committee, as previously reported by the MRF.

While we are not privy to private negotiations between committee leadership and the bill's sponsor, we are cautiously optimistic that language that would be of benefit to motorcyclists would be included. The MRF has been aggressively lobbying committee members and staff to encourage this. You may recall reading about an amendment offered in a committee mark up two weeks ago - that would have closed the loophole - that allows for insurance companies to refuse benefits for an injury, based on the source of the injury.

It's what is known in the insurance industry as a "source of injury exclusion". The amendment,

offered by Dr. Michael Burgess (R-TX) was ruled not germane by Chairman Dingell (D-MI) and struck down.

Upon closer examination, it was brought to light that in fact the amendment was germane, so germane that the Chairman admitted he was wrong, that he was embarrassed by the oversight and wanted to correct his mistake. At that point the committee had dispensed of the bill leaving the fate of the amendment up to the House Rules committee, the last committee to consider any legislation before full consideration of the House.

A few options remain. Chairman Dingell, the Ranking Republican on the Committee, Mr. Barton (R-TX) and the amendment author, Mr. Burgess, have all signed off on a process agreement and a recommendation to the Rules committee to include the amendment before the measure is voted on before the full House of Representatives.

The MRF will notify you if and when the legislation comes before the House for a vote.

This positive news puts HR 1076 one step closer to becoming law. However much remains to be seen from the Rules committee, the Senate (S 616) and ultimately the White House.

# Don't Forget...

## State Meeting October 11 and 12



## Motorcyclists Rights Advocates Play a Key Role At International Motorcycle Safety Forum

The Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD) International Transport Forum Workshop on Motorcycling Safety was held in Lillehammer, Norway on June 10th-11th and included over 80 participants by invitation from approximately 30 countries. Among the participants were safety policy advisors, safety experts, safety researchers, motorcycle industry representatives, governmental agency representatives, and motorcycle users. Representing riders from the United States were Kirk Willard, President of the Motorcycle Riders Foundation, and Ed Moreland, Vice President of Government Relations of the American Motorcyclist Association. Other groups with representation from the United States included the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the Federal Highway Administration, the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, the Motorcycle Industry Council/Motorcycle Safety Foundation, Dynamic Research Inc., and the Harley Davidson Motor Company. Also noteworthy was the fact that there were ten other riders' rights and motorcycle user groups represented from various countries in attendance which set the stage for meaningful involvement from the riders' rights and user groups which is not always the case in these types of international forums.

The main expected outcomes of the workshop was to come up with a set of practical recommendations for the attention of policy advisors and to help identify how motorcycle safety strategies relate to overall road safety policies. The Motorcycle Riders Foundation is pleased to announce that many of the 20 top priorities to come out of the workshop are strategies and initiatives that we as motorcyclists have been heavily involved in, recommending, and promoting for some time.

The number one recommendation in part was a call for training focusing on risk awareness and risk avoidance. Others included recommendations for all drivers to have a component on awareness and acceptance of motorcyclists, partnering with rider groups to develop and deliver campaigns to other riders, that motorcycle safety messages should be specific to motorcyclists, to include motorcyclists when considering transport policy and develop training for roadway designers. Additionally, when discussing policy dialogue it was determined the best practice would be to formalize meetings between motorcycle stakeholders and policy makers/road authorities, and one not to be lost in the list of 20 is a simple statement that we must work together.

One can see that the Motorcycle Riders Foundation using many ideas in circulation amongst the motorcycle rights community today certainly played a role in these discussions and ultimate list of recommendations, in fact many of the recommendations somewhat mirror the good work that the State Motorcyclists Rights Organizations in partnership with the Motorcycle Riders Foundation accomplished in SAFE-TEA LU. The important element in all of this is the critically important audience of non-motorcyclists that have now heard our messages as motorcyclists loud and clear.

"I believe this was an extremely valuable and precedent setting event where motorcyclists were given the opportunity to present their views in an inclusive international safety arena and have motorcycle safety and motorcycle related policy considered from a motorcyclists rights advocates point of view and be taken quite seriously", said Willard of the MRF.

A full report will be presented in the September issue of the MRF Reports and during the MRF's Annual Meeting and Conference, the Meeting of the Minds to be held in Denver, Colorado on September 25th-28th, 2008.

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*Thank you so much for your support!*

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## Rock, Paper, Scissors

I am sure all of you know that old childhood game: Rock, Paper, Scissors. Unless I am mistaken, there was even an adult version that was a reality TV show with a Las Vegas finale and a large cash prize. For those of you who either had a deprived childhood or have lost too many brain cells to remember, the game goes like this—two players face each other and each makes a fist. Then they raise and lower their fists three times, and on three they throw their choice of rock, paper, or scissors. Rock is a fist, paper a flat hand, and scissors a pair of fingers held in a V shape. The rules are simple: rock breaks scissors, paper covers rock, and scissors cut paper. It is a fair game; anyone can win just so long as the opponent happens to choose the weaker option. Often this game is used by children to decide the outcome of some issue that is not readily resolved by consensus, like who gets the good player on their team, or who gets to go first.

Well, I have a feeling that some so-called adults have invented a new version of this game, one that can be played to deadly consequences, and often for things of equally little value as who goes first. I have seen it played on roads all over the country, even in my polite, peaceful mountain home. Fortunately, I have not seen it played to the death or even major injury, but I have heard the stories of folks hospitalized for months or, worse, killed. I must admit that I too have succumbed to the temptation to play, though fortunately with no harm to anyone, aside from the psychic shock of knowing I just did something stupid that could have gotten me killed. Heck, as I look back to my earlier days of riding a motorcycle in New York City, I remember being a master at the game; the fact that I am here to write this proves that I was undefeated. However, ask any child—no one remains undefeated at Rock, Paper, Scissors forever; sooner or later winners become losers. In my case, I can only believe that it is simply by the grace of God that I stopped playing before I lost.

In the new game played on our highways and byways, the issues being decided are never worth the consequences, especially to the loser. For the winner the price of victory can

often be cheap, even when the loser has lost his or her life. The rewards for winning can only be valued by folks with a twisted value system, in my humble opinion. The game has at least three choices for the players: truck, car, motorcycle, though sometimes you can add bicycles or mopeds. The game is played for high stakes, as in life or death, yet the players never see that until it is too late. The method of play varies according to the players, the road, and the momentary object in contention, but it always seems to start with a few basic mindsets on the part of the initiator—selfishness, disrespect, and maliciousness. In reality it is not a game at all, but it is truly childish to engage in it.

It could be a bicycle hogging a whole lane on a twisty mountain road, forcing a motorcyclist to cross the double yellow to pass, or a motorcycle recklessly disregarding that same yellow line to pass a car. A car and tractor-trailer playing tag, endless passing each other just so they can be “first” on the highway, or a pickup truck and sports car weaving in and out of crowded traffic to avenge some perceived affront to their man- or womanhood. The examples are endless in their mutations, yet they all have a common thread: they are ignorant, the road is not a school playground, and road users are supposed to be adults.

While we can work with the American Motorcyclist Association to pursue the Justice For All Campaign—designed to make drivers responsible for injuring or killing others—there are a few things that will not change. Roadway confrontations are not a game of Rock, Paper, Scissors because there will always be the inherent unfairness of size. It goes like this: truck crushes car, car flattens motorcycle, motorcycle smashes bicycle. It is not a game, folks, so while we wage the good war to pass better laws and hopefully train better drivers, I would like to offer some sage advice, given to me by a highway patrolman in lieu of a ticket. Let the idiot who wants to play games go, slow down, turn off the road, take an alternate route, don't ever pull over to “talk it out.” If they follow you, head to a place with lots of witnesses, or better yet to the local police station. The only way to win in this game is to not play. Ride Safe out there so you can ride another day.

### Crushed Cauliflower

My friend Kelly McEnany from Asheville, North Carolina, told me about a dish that used cauliflower like mashed potatoes. The idea sounded so good that I rode home and made it in my own fiery way. The flavor of the cauliflower makes spuds look like duds. I have served this to people who dislike cauliflower and they loved it. It's a great way to get the little bikers in your house eat their veggies.

- 1 medium-size head cauliflower, cut into bite-size florets and steamed until tender
- 3 tablespoons butter, softened
- 1/4 teaspoon white pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- 2 tablespoons half-and-half

1. In a food processor, combine the cauliflower, butter, white pepper, salt, cayenne, and garlic powder and pulse several times to break up the cauliflower florets.

2. With the machine running, slowly add the half-and-half through the feed tube and process until the cauliflower is smooth. (If the cauliflower is very moist you may not need all the half-and-half.)

Makes 4 to 6 servings

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Fuquay-Varina NC 27526  
www.cba-abatenc.org

# APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP



## CONCERNED BIKERS ASSOCIATION ABATE OF N.C. INC.

Please print your information. This application is for new membership only.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you affiliated with any other motorcycle organizations: \_\_\_ YES \_\_\_ NO

If yes name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Are you a registered voter? \_\_\_ YES \_\_\_ NO

I understand that by signing my name to this application, I am seeking membership into a grassroots political organization formed to protect motorcyclist rights.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Recruited By: \_\_\_\_\_

If not recruited, how did you come to know about CBA? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25 annual individual membership \_\_\_\_\_ \$35 annual couple membership  
Chapter affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_ (or) you may join as an "At Large" member \_\_\_\_\_

*Mail your completed application with payment made to:*

**CBA/ABATE OF NC, MEMBERSHIP SERVICES**  
**PO BOX 1189**  
**FUQUAY-VARINA, NC 27526-1189**  
cbamemberships@nc.rr.com

For more information on chapters and the CBA organization, visit [www.cba-abatenc.org](http://www.cba-abatenc.org)

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