

The August monthly meeting of the STAR Touring & Riding Association Concord, NC Chapter #443 was held on August 21st at 9:00 am at the Bob Evans Restaurant located at 1170 Copperfield Boulevard Northeast in Concord. The following members and guests were in attendance:

Phil H., President
Richard K.
Lori K
Jon G.
Bob B.
Candy M.
Terry M.
Tammy D.
Ed M.
Beverly M.
Bob R. (Guest)

Phil H. began the meeting by welcoming everyone and asked for acceptance of the July meeting minutes. A motion to accept the minutes was given and seconded.

Phil H. welcomed our guest. Bob R. is a past President of a Star Chapter in Upstate NY and he and his family now live in NC.

Phil H. announced that our FTC contact, Shauna Jones, died suddenly at home on Thursday. She provided us with the posters, patches, and handled the donation money on our behalf. Phil emailed out details about her death in an email to all members a few days ago.

Candy M. gave a treasury report to the group that reported that there was no change to the account balance in July.

There was a 50/50 drawing and \$18 will go into the Chapter's account.

Phil H. reminded the members that the second half of our Chapter dues were due. Candy M. pointed out that everyone's dues were up-to-date.

Tammy D. offered that she would check into a ride to West Virginia (overnight stay). October looked like a good possibility. Phil H. asked the members if there was an interest in an overnight stay somewhere. The majority of the members present raised their hands. After the meeting, Tammy established October 1st thru the 3rd or the 8th thru the 10th as suggested dates for the trip. Last year everyone agreed to stay at:

Comfort Inn
300 Harper Park Dr
Beckley, WV 25801
(304) 255-5291

Phil H. reported on park availability for our Chapter family picnic. Our first choice for a park was at Frank Liske but it is already booked for weekends. The members discussed some other park choices to check into. Chuck R. suggested City Lake Park (park near Albemarle). Phil will also check further into local parks and make a selection. The time period we have in mind for the picnic is 3 pm to 8 pm on October 16th.

It was suggested that we have our picnic on the same day as our monthly meeting (October 16th) and have a short pre-picnic meeting. Candy M. offered that we should try to remain consistent as to where we meet monthly since it is posted on our website as such. Other members agreed.

Ed M. reported that no one with the Run to the Empty Chair ride has responded to his calls requesting information about this year's ride or if there would be a ride this year. The Run to the Empty Chair ride is usually held in Charlotte in September. There is a \$35 entry fee (donation).

Ed M. talked again about maybe taking a ride to Maggie Valley. Richard stated that he had talked to an Inn Keeper in Maggie Valley who would rent the entire hotel to our group if we're interested. It wasn't clear as to the size of the hotel or if we would have enough people participating to make it possible.

Tammy D. reported that two dates are available at Lake Lynn Lodge for our Christmas party this year. They were December 4th or December 11th. Tammy said that we could do a gift exchange of a \$10 item. She also said that if everyone would like to play some games, like was done last year, she would need some assistance developing and managing the games.

Bob B. talked about Chapter 295 taking a trip to see the vets who were disabled and/or terminally ill. He stated that the Chapter collects hygiene and personal items that the Vets could use and the members ride to Vet hospital to distribute the items and visit the patients. Bob also said that the trip to visit the Vets is not for everyone because some patients struggle with the thought they would die soon and are depressed. But, the Vets do appreciate the visitors and if we could go it would be a good thing to say "Thanks" for their service to our country.

The members agreed to show support in Chapter 295's effort and that we would donate \$100 for items for the Vets. The ride should take place in September. Watch the website for the exact date.

Phil asked the membership if they had any issues with distributing a hardcopy of other 443 members names and phone numbers within the 443 membership. Many members have wanted to contact others and had no way to make immediate contact. No issues were voiced with the handout.

Jon G. talked that a list of members and their contact numbers could be placed on the website also. Terry M. did not agree unless the info was password protected for the sake

of privacy. Jon G. said that the website had a fee they would charge us if we desired access password protection. Jon. G. said he could post our membership information as a graphic and it could not be searched (Googled) as text. Terry M. was comfortable with that approach.

Terry M. explained that the officers have been discussing (at a FTC follow-up meeting) whether we should begin the process of creating by-laws to help govern our Chapter. Since it wasn't clear to the officers what the by-laws were and how they differed from our Chapter charter, Terry M. volunteered to check into it and report back. Here is what he reported.

A Chapter Charter is a license between Star Motorcycles and the Chapter. This document is resigned every year.

A by-law is a record of how we want to do things within the Chapter. For example, \$20 Yearly Chapter family dues will be collected in January of each year.

Terry explained that by-laws help by making a record of decisions we've made in how we'll run the Chapter. He also said that by-laws are a working progress and will most likely never be complete. Since there is no urgency to create by-laws it can be tabled until the off-season then revisited.

We talked about the need for our Chapter to begin creating by-laws. We all agreed that by-laws can be helpful in making decisions and being consistent in things we do but they could also cause disagreement between members. Terry M. committed to locating some samples of other Star Chapter by-laws to review to determine if we could benefit from having by-laws.

Phil H. compiled the responses to the survey he recently emailed to all members. In short, the survey was an inquiry as to the membership's satisfaction on how we're doing and whether we need to make changes or refocus where the chapter was going.

Ed M. announced that he'd like to see what was necessary to have Star Days in Concord, NC in three years. (three years was the lead time necessary to seek approve Concord as a host). Phil H. said that he'd talk to Buster to get more info or direction

Today's ride was to Cook's Flea Market in Winston-Salem. The route was up I-85 toward Winston-Salem. All rider's were comfortable taking the Interstate route.

We will be returning to the Bob Evans Restaurant located at 1170 Copperfield Boulevard Northeast in Concord at 9am for our September 18th meeting.

Next month's ride will be posted on our website. <http://www.ncchapter443.com/>

The meeting was adjourned.