



Meeting called to order by Tom Sauret at 10:00am  
Agenda provided prior to the meeting via email and at the meeting  
Gainesville host chapter

Attending Officers	Position/Chapter
Tom Sauret	Executive Director
Belinda Sauret	Treasurer
Julie Stewart	Secretary
Keith McFadden	Dir Trail Maintenance
Heather Wall	Dir of Membership
Walt Bready	Dir of Competition
Craig Hall	Fat Tire Times Editor
Freddy Walker	EMBA
Keith Owen	UCCC
Mike Riter	Atlanta/ Trail Education Specialist
Sam Poyner	Lock 4 Trail Blazers
James Smith	Gainesville
Scott Gordon	Woodstock
David Gipson	RAMBO
Cal Till	OMBA
Scott Bays	Coastal Cyclists
Bruce Dickman	Social Director

Attending Members	Chapter
Les Lasater	Lock 4 Trail Blazers
Joanne Nardone	Woodstock
Dave Hamilton	Woodstock
Andrew Wall	Gainesville
John Darrohn	Coastal Cyclists
Daisy Blanton	Chattanooga Bicycle Club
Hugh Worthy	Chattanooga Bicycle Club
Dylan Mantooth	Chattanooga Bicycle Club
Tom Ingledew	Chattanooga Bicycle Club

### I. Approval of August Minutes

Minutes sent via email and abbreviated version available at meeting by Julie Stewart

- ⊗ Motion by Freddy Walker to approve minutes, motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cal Till and carried unanimously

### II. Chapter Information

Chapter information questionnaires given in August were completed by all chapters except: Athens, Atlanta, BOMBA, CSRA and NE Georgia

### III. Coastal Cyclists: Scott Bays

- Charleston SC cycling club, mainly road cycling
- Closest great trail 1 ½ hours but are developing local trails
- Developed Club MTB virtual club with 75 members
- Affiliated with Coastal Cyclists and Palmetto Cyclist Coalition (broad based)
- Looking for primarily Off-Road Cycling club
- Currently have 10 members with core officers in place and have created chapter bylaws based on Gainesville chapters
- Want to establish a SORBA chapter in Charleston SC
- Have Rails to Trails (out and back) Greenway with about 1 ½ miles of single track adjacent and American Plantation (government property) (currently not allowed due to current military situation)
- Wannemaker Park: 1000 acre currently has water park on property, largest park in county with funding available for trails; would like to make first recognized local trails
- Gibbons Ferry State Park, an hour outside Charleston, another area that may be considered for trail building
- Scott has attended IMBA trail building school in DuPont Forest
- [www.coastalcyclist.com](http://www.coastalcyclist.com)

- ⊗ Motion to accept Coastal Cyclists as a new SORBA chapter by Walt Bready and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Riter



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- Freddy Walker requested clarification on chapter responsibilities and requirements read from by-laws
- Motion carried unanimously

**III. Chattanooga Bicycle Club**

- Mostly road cycling club but most of their 225 members mountain bike
- Host 2 Mountain Bike Festivals per year
- Host 2 Road Centuries per year
- Maintain some trails
- Do have a reward program for volunteers, for each trail party done the individual gets name in for raffle
- Do some trail work on North Georgia Trail at Lula (?) Lake and Pigeon Mountain
- Only requesting information about SORBA, may petition later

**IV. Volunteer Program Forms**

- Keith McFadden and Walt Bready
- Problem getting data from the forms (Janice Nylander); need uniform form for all chapters
- Form will follow same guidelines for Volunteer Rewards and Pay Dirt and Waivers; Try to have one form that will encompass all record keeping information
- Chapters can still keep track of work hours in Access Database at each chapter and periodically send updates to Keith and synchronize all databases
- New program for next year since we have more rewards to give out: May do two shorter reward programs; Committee will get together and have a plan by January
- For next meeting Agenda, vote on volunteer reward program that is cash instead of prizes, to follow the same program as pay dirt for racers

**V. Executive Director Report: Calendar for 2002**

- Board of Director Meetings:
  - March Board of Director Meeting: March 9<sup>th</sup> OMBA Host Chapter at Dauset Forest
  - August Board of Director Meeting: August 17<sup>th</sup> Woodstock Host Chapter
  - December Board of Directors Meeting: 7<sup>th</sup> Gainesville Host Chapter
- Festivals:
  - Southeastern Mountain Bike Festival May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> at Fort Mountain State Park
  - Helen Fat Tire Festival May 10-12
  - Nimblewill Festival August 23-25
  - Tumbling Creek Race October 12<sup>th</sup> at Gainesville College
  - Carters Lake Race October 19<sup>th</sup>
- Work Parties:
  - Macon Tobesofkee Trail March 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>
  - Bull Mountain June 1<sup>st</sup> (National Trails Day with Sharon King)
  - Lake Russell November 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Janice Nylander will be compensated at a rate of \$20.00 per hour in the form of a gift

**VI. Secretary: Julie Stewart**

- Still working on chapter packet
- Start working on Online Store (?)

**VII. Treasurer: Belinda Sauret**

- Balance Sheet
  - Outstanding transaction \$3000.00 for Dingo (Gainesville and will be coming out of Tumbling Creek)
  - DNR sent check for \$3660.00
  - New line item for Dingo Rental
- 501(3) c forms updated with the IRS but need financial reports from each chapter, especially those who get large monetary donations

**VIII. Membership: Heather Wall**

- Membership fluctuates throughout the month, however, average is between 800-900 members
- Trial membership didn't work, only received 9 trial memberships
- Need to market SORBA better and do more fun activities (less emphasis on work parties)



**IX. Competition: Walt Bready**

- 1000 participants in GAP series; numbers down from previous years
- SORBA involvement has been very positive
- SORBA receives \$1.00 per rider and money goes to pay for Pay Dirt Program
- 1000 hours for pay dirt (up about 200 hours from last year)

**X. Access Director: Keith McFadden**

- Master Plan for Yellow River
- Chattahoochee Oconee National Forest: still revising plan
- Road less Area adjacent to wilderness area they may want to incorporate into the wilderness area and road less areas not adjacent to wilderness area will just stay road less: Bull Mountain covered by Lance Creek Road less and is also part of Ed Jenkins Recreational Area
- Lake Russell grant approved and started; obligated to put in the hours
- May enter into agreement with the Chattahoochee Horse Group to expand Bull Mountain trails

**XI. Bike Patrol**

- Steve Jackson and John Goodson will be certifying people in CPR and First Aid for Bike Patrol

**XII. Trips for Kids**

- 6 new bikes to start up in Woodstock
- Received donation from Megan's Bike shop: helmets, cables etc

**XIII. Trail Education Specialist: Mike Riter**

- Clinic on January 5<sup>th</sup> for beginners
- Clinic to be held at several trails and will cover the biking basics

**XIV. Discussion Group Reports: How to increase membership and volunteerism**

- This summer will be doing time trials at Ag Center and you will be required to be a member
- Freddy Walker, Joanne Nardone, Bruce Dickman, Keith Owen and Julie Stewart
  1. Lost renewals: at the chapter level, follow up with phone calls and if they don't want to renew find out why so it can be fixed
  2. Have activities that require membership to participate
  3. Offer reduce rate for SORBA members for activities that all can participate
  4. Set up Membership tent at all races and have the chapters take turns
  5. Look to high schools for volunteers
  6. Make volunteer rewards bigger and more publicized, different reward schedule for old members
  7. Make people sign waivers that are going on rides and explain that they must be members
  8. Explain that the most important thing that people get out of SORBA is TRAILS
- Heather Wall group
  1. Regular meetings, rides and work parties
  2. Sponsor appreciation day to kick off night ride season
  3. Activities at trail head like Demo Days
  4. Have more local chapter projects and maybe less big events, might be spreading themselves too thin
  5. Make people feel that their local chapters are active to help with volunteerism
  6. Have tangible things to give and when people buy a new bike give coupon for free clinic
  7. Have regular skills clinics
  8. Print up sheets to put on cars at trail heads stating "You have just ridden a trail built and maintained by SORBA, Please give back by membership, etc"
  9. Put up signs on freshly built trail or repaired trails that notify people that a work party is in progress and that the trail was built and maintained by SORBA
  10. Must be a SORBA member to do the night rides and use the liability as a way to enforce this
  11. Have people sign waivers on each group ride and give raffle ticket for the each ride they did during the year for prizes, prizes given at the Christmas parties and officers not excluded
- Walt Bready group
  1. Inform people that clubMTB is not the same as SORBA and use it as a way to remind people that they should be SORBA members and tell the advantages of being a member
  2. Fat Tire Times good advantage of member and advertising
  3. Bike Shop list with SORBA contact for each bike shop



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4. Contest between chapters to increase membership and award trophy
  5. Have an event that is member only but people could join SORBA and then attend the event like Nimblewill
  6. Need to make SORBA image more social on local level, maybe do other activities that are not related to cycling, like rafting, camping, even things like bowling
  7. Do survey on website and find out what people want, need and think
- Keith McFadden group
    1. Fat Tire Times still best advertising from what participants have said, need to put ride and social events in the calendar in the Fat Tire Times
    2. Have regularly scheduled rides and events in the calendar
    3. Have clinics; feel shops are more likely to participate in clinics because these are potential customers
    4. Put notices and calendars in gyms and bike shops, also get in touch with single clubs
    5. Give credit for rides that were posted in FTT for ride leaders (for reward program)
    6. Don't refer to trail maintenance and building as Work, refer to them as PARTIES
    7. Chapter be responsible for distributing FTT to bike shops
  - Belinda Sauret group
    1. Give appreciation for volunteers, do nice things for volunteers
    2. Stress that you want people to join for reasons besides money and work, but rather for political clout (benefit to mountain biking community), down play work and money
    3. Look into free advertising in places like Creative Loafing, local newspaper
    4. Challenge members to bring in one other member (new)
    5. Time trials for members
  - Tom Sauret group
    1. Have more beginner rides
    2. Trail membership through group rides not bike shops
    3. Stickers for bike shops (\$75.00 membership) and give 5 copies of each issue
    4. Reward for ride leaders
    5. Reward program needs to be bigger
    6. List rides in Fat Tire Times

**XV. Fat Tire Times: Craig Hall**

- Need more stories, chapter notes and Photos
- Adding Bike Maintenance Column to be written by local bike shop owners/ mechanics
- Starting photo contest over the year with 3 places
- Classified section to help pay for FTT utilizing online store
- Winter bike issue should be an issue of what's coming up

**XVI. IMBA Representative**

- Jay Franklin stepped down as Georgia IMBA representative
- Keith McFadden does a lot for land access with government agencies and other groups and would be best candidate for IMBA rep
- ⊗ Motion to elect Keith McFadden for Georgia IMBA representative by Sam Poyner and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Keith Owen
  - Motion carried unanimously

**XVII. Chapter Reports**

- Lock 4 Trail Blazers: Sam Poyner
  - Still active; gone from trail parties to stewarding trails and individuals maintaining as they see fit; group is solvent; still doing Bear Creek Festival
- EMBA: Freddy Walker
  - Woodring Branch Beginner Trail started; Trails closed for hunting season; Carters Lake race;
- Gainesville: James Smith
  - Expanding Chicopee Ag Center Trails; Chicopee Woods parking lot finished
- Atlanta: Mike Riter
  - Meetings at Manuel's Tavern in the Highlands; meeting attendance doubled; Wolf Creek is dead and will be Maintenance facility
- OMBA: Call Till
  - Profits from Macon Madness race used to purchase brush mower
- UCCC/Habersham: Keith Owen
  - Working on 1<sup>st</sup> segment of Lake Russell; doing weekly rides; have jerseys with sponsorship; newsletters



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- **RAMBO:** David Gipson  
Mount Adams still only legal trail; trying to get permission to build more trails; gave power point presentation to Roswell Parks and Recreation about multi-use trails
- **Woodstock:** Scott Gordon  
Recently took over for Neal Nichols; Joanne Nardone Treasurer; chapter is solvent

**XVIII. Dingo**

- Looking into purchasing a Dingo to be shared between Atlanta, Woodstock and EMBA
- ⊗ Motion to pursue lease purchase of Dingo with standard bucket with teeth by Mike Riter and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Freddy Walker
  - Motion carried unanimously

**Meeting Adjourned 4:00pm**