

Should just anyone ride a motorcycle?

Riding a motorcycle is a unique experience. Riding is fun and invigorating, yet the skills needed for safe riding, combined with the lack of car-like crash protection on a motorcycle, can cast doubts on whether a person should choose to ride a motorcycle. Some potential riders lack the ability to execute skilled and timely actions in a complex traffic environment; others lack keen judgment or don't have a firm grasp of the concept of risk management.

MSF believes that motorcycling isn't for everyone. If you're considering becoming a rider, however, here are some questions for you to use as a self-assessment of the physical capabilities and mental attitude required to safely navigate a motorcycle on the street:

1. Are you a higher risk-taker than others you know? If you tend to need a thrill while driving a car and have aggressive or risky tendencies (following too closely, turning without signaling, talking on a cell phone, getting angry at other drivers, etc.), motorcycling may not be for you. While motorcycling improves the overall quality of life for many, for some it can lead to disaster. Thinking that accidents only happen to others is an attitude that will get you in trouble.

2. Can you ride a bicycle? This is a prerequisite for enrolling in our Basic *RiderCourse* and generally a good gauge of your ability to maneuver a motorcycle. Bicycling, like motorcycling, is a physical activity that involves bal-

ance and coordination. And speaking of coordination ...

3. Can you drive a stick-shift car? This is *not* a requirement, but it may make learning to ride



easier because almost all motorcycles have manual transmissions. If you can't get the hang of shifting gears but still want to enjoy a powered two-wheeler, you might want to start out on a motor scooter. Motor scooters generally have automatic transmissions and come in many sizes,

from simpler models with an engine size of 50 cubic centimeters (cc) to powerful 650cc models.

4. Do you see well? Riding a motorcycle requires special perceptual skills that rely on good vision. Have you had an eye examination recently? Do you tend to see things that are far away later than other people you know? The ability to see well ahead is important for safe riding.

5. Are you mechanically inclined? Today's motorcycles are very reliable machines, but with all the bolts, nuts, and mechanisms out in the open, and only two tires connecting you to the pavement, you need to be able to inspect your equipment and make the occasional minor adjustment. You don't need to be a master

mechanic, but it helps to know your way around a tire pressure gauge and a wrench. Most everything a rider needs to know is in the motorcycle owner's manual, and if you've never read your car owner's manual, that could be a sign that motorcycling is not for you.

6. Are you safety-minded? If you routinely find yourself bandaged up after doing simple do-it-yourself projects around the house, or think it's acceptable to operate a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol, the unique challenges of motorcycle riding may not be compatible with your decision-making. Riders can

See **SHOULD YOU RIDE?**, continued on page 12

GREAT SHOT



Shots like the one above are far too often the result of a sad occasion such as the funeral procession of a fellow biker. It's good then, when the event is one of fun and fellowship such as this photo from the ABATE Fall Gathering. Here's to many more good times for ABATE of Oklahoma and motorcyclists all around the state in 2011.

ABATE focus shifts to awareness, education

By GARRY "2R" CANADAY
State Coordinator, ABATE of Oklahoma

ABATE of Oklahoma is a SMRO (State's Motorcyclist Rights Organization.) A SMRO is the organization who takes the responsibilities of your riding freedoms as their mission.

It is the mission statement of ABATE of Oklahoma to promote and defend motorcyclist freedom, safety and awareness through education and legislation to make Oklahoma the best place to ride.

With the success of every bill being promoted by ABATE, we find ourselves in the best position possible to start focusing on the non legislation portion of our mission statement. Education is after all the last word in our name. A Brotherhood Aiming Towards EDUCATION.



At the S.M.I.L.E. this year, Awareness and Education (A&E) was one of the featured topics.

A&E is part of our mission statement because along with working with our legislature it is the best way to save motorcyclists lives. All of our chapters will be working very hard to get our A&E program into the schools in their areas.

The earlier that we can expose young drivers to how to share the road with us the fewer motorcyclist deaths we will see.

This is a process that will take some time to see hard results, but what is a single life saved worth?

If you are interested in helping promote and grow this awesome program in Oklahoma please get with your local chapter President. We will be looking forward to having one of the best Awareness and Education programs in the nation!



NCOM Biker Newsbytes

COMPILED/EDITED BY BILL BISH
National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM)

NTSB calls for states to require helmets

The National Transportation Safety Board stated on Tuesday, November 19, that all states should require riders to wear federally approved helmets.

Christopher A. Hart, the NTSB's vice chairman, called motorcycle accidents "a public health issue." and said that helmet laws have been added for the first time to the NTSB's "Most Wanted List" of safety improvement priorities. The list is considered a powerful tool by which the NTSB forces legislative change.

But highway safety laws are largely left up to the states, which have been increasingly resistant to many federal recommendations, and the transportation agency's appeal comes at a time when motorcycle deaths have actually been on the decrease since 2009.

This is not the first time there has been federal pressure exerted on states to pass helmet laws. In the late 1960s, Congress threatened to withhold highway funding for states failing to adopt universal helmet laws, and within a few years almost every state had a helmet mandate.

But by the late 1970s, political resistance and pressure from motorcycle groups convinced Congress to break the link between motorcycle laws and federal highway funds, and over half the states repealed their helmet laws.

In 1991, Congress decided to try again, offering safety grants to states that enforced helmet and seatbelt laws.

States that didn't enforce such laws had three percent of their federal highway money redirected to their highway safety programs. Still, only two states re-instituted helmet laws and by 1995 the federal effort was again overturned and five more states soon repealed their helmet laws.

Today, only 20 states require all riders to wear helmets, and last year more state legislatures considered laws to repeal helmet

laws than to enact them.

Motorcycle sales down, ridership up

Motorcycle sales continue to be hard hit, despite the declared end to the recession, but according to the Motorcycle Industry Council there are other indicators that point to a brighter future for the two-wheel industry.

Although year-to-date market data reveals an 18.3% drop in new unit sales, tire sales are up 6.6% in 2010 versus 2009, indicating motorcyclists are still enthusiastic about the sport and riding.

In addition, motorcycle miles travelled increased by "approximately 5% last year, some 1.3 billion more miles than in 2008," according to the MIC's 2009 Motorcycle Owner Survey.

"In many ways, we are better poised for a comeback than ever," said Ty van Hooydonk, communications director for the council.

Old bikers have more sex

"Older single bikers are putting down more miles than their married counterparts, if you know what we mean," reported www.clutchandchrome.com about a recently released AARP sex survey. Although the study wasn't specifically aimed at motorcycle enthusiasts, with a large part of riding demographics firmly in the age bracket surveyed, the study can make riders look at each other in a slightly different light.

Aside from older riders having more sex than may be generally considered, results from the AARP sex survey, "Sex, Romance, and Relationships: AARP Survey of Midlife and Older Adults", also contradicted popular opinion with singles age 45+ showing a higher satisfaction rate and having more sex than married couples in the same age group.

But some stereotypes rang true in the AARP study, such as which sex made sex

a priority; Men are more than five times as likely as women with 45% vs. 8% to say they think of sex once or more every day, and men also rank sex higher on the list of what makes for a high quality of life.

And if any further correlation needed to be drawn between the AARP study and motorcycle enthusiasts, the final conclusion seems to draw a pretty solid line. Just as with riding, the largest predictor of

sexual satisfaction is the number of times, or the frequency a respondent gets in the saddle.

The number of people who consider themselves satisfied rockets to 84% if they "ride" more than once a week while the number falls to 59% for those who only "hit the road" twice a month.

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Highlights of State Board Meeting, Dec. 11

Chop House BBQ, 7992 E. 41st, Tulsa, Okla.

10 of 13 Chapters Present (Kiamichi, Lawton, Northwest 69 were Absent.)

Okla. Legislative Reports:

Suzette Northcutt-Rhodes, Legislative Liaison

- Congressional Leaders say no "frivolous" legislation this year. Only 44 Bills introduced so far. (The normal is over 1,000) Discussion on the focus that financial decisions that will dominate every part of this Legislative season.

- Strong rumors that a Freshman Rep will introduce a Helmet Bill. We will need to educate this Congress-member and staff just as we did with Rep. Sykes.

- Gary Ridley will remain Director of Transportation in Gov. Fallin's Administration. Commissioner of Public Safety has not been named yet, but we have a great contact/associate with Interim leader Kevin

Ward.

- As Suzette checked on Anti-Discrimination Laws, she found such language already on the books in over 40 of the 84 Titles/sections of Oklahoma Law. She is still looking to see if anything would apply to our concerns about "no colors" and businesses.

Oklahoma Legislative Focus: John Pierce, Legislative Coordinator

- EDUCATION, not Legislation, is the 2011 goal. Educate our Law Enforcement and Educate the DAs about new laws and old laws not being enforced; Educate riders and the general public with our new Motorcycle Safety Program. (Oklahoma is 1 of only 2 States that does not have a State-wide program. Thanks to Gunner's Law, Oklahoma *will* start one this year!

- The "helmet issue" article that appeared in *The Oklahoman* and the *Tulsa World* was a great article because *they actually asked for our viewpoints* and then printed them! D.O.T. gave the report our ABATE contact info that's a sign of an amazing and productive relationship!

- Discussion of partnering with bicyclists on using Jagger's Law and maybe find a way to use the precedent of "pretty serious jailtime" given for bicyclists' hit-and-run for violations against motorcycle riders.

MRF - Federal Legislation: (presented by Carol "Cornflake")

- MRF meet with National Highway Traffic Safety Administration claims the drop in rider fatalities was due to people riding less and not Education and Awareness, despite the fact that the Motorcycle Industry Council reports that vehicle miles traveled by motorcycle was up 6.8% (27.6 billion miles just in the US) and motorcycle tire sales were up 9.6% in 2008-2009.

- Rep John Boehner of Ohio will probably become the next Speaker of the House. He is a long time friend of the MRF and ABATE of Ohio.

- New Chair of the powerful House Committee on Transportation and Infrastruc-

ture will be Representative John Mica of Florida. He is a "constant supporter" of the MRF and a "very staunch advocate" for ABATE of Florida. It is hopeful that under his guidance, the next Transportation policy Bill will be favorable toward motorcyclists (freedom of choice, ban on NHTSA Lobbying, motorcycle advisory council, education & awareness).

NCOM: Region #2 Conference on Nov 19-21, 2010 at the MGM Grand Hotel in Desoto, TX had over 750 in attendance. "It was Terrific." Topics included the importance of getting Riders elected to office, AIM giving the legal updates on Federal attempts to seize Rider property, an incredible session entitled "The World of SportBikes" which included an amazing number of women and ethnically diverse riders, and Oklahoma's very own "Strategic Alliance" and the Christian Unity presentations. The 2011 Region #2 Conference will probably be the 3rd week of November and hosted by the Oklahoma Confederation of Clubs.

Safety: A University of Nottingham in England reports that "advanced training appears to develop deeper levels of awareness, perception and responsibility," than just experience alone. The full report will be released later in December. This confirms what many Rider Education Coaches and rider graduates have been saying for years.

Committee Reports:

2011 Oklahoma S.M.I.L.E. January 7-9, Quartz Mountain Lodge, Lone Wolf, Ok.

Make room reservations by December 17th. 1-877-999-5567

Meet-and-Greet on Friday evening. Info Classes held on Saturday. Awards Celebration, Live and Silent Auctions will be held on Saturday evening! **\$20 per person payable at the Door**, unless your Chapter paid the \$100 Chapter fee. The Price includes all meals for the weekend. ALL CURRENT, and NEWLY ELECTED Chapter Officers are invited to attend. \$1 per member due from each Chapter for the \$1,000 Poker Run prize money!

The 2011 ABATE of Oklahoma S.M.I.L.E. Award will go to _____.

2011 Legislative Day: WED. Feb 23 9:30

a. m. - 1:30 p.m.

THE MOST IMPORTANT EVENT IN ABATE! Leadership Summit and Fellowship will be held in OKC the night before. Ride to OKC in the warmer afternoon and then make the short Ride from hotel to the Capitol on the morning of Legislative Day.

Old Business:

A. The Chapters voted 8-3 to not sponsor RidingFree.com for 2011.

B. A vote of 6 yes to 4 no to increase Membership Dues FAILED because a 2/3rds supermajority is needed to change the Bylaws.

New Business:

A: The Chapters unanimously approved to renew the Legislative Contract with Suzette Northcutt-Rhodes for 2011 under the same terms and conditions as 2010.

C: By a vote of 9 yes to 1 no, the Chapters approved a Bylaw change to allow Executive Officers, except for the State Coordinator, to serve as Chapter Reps if needed.

D: Chapter Reports on Promoting Motorcycle Rights, Safety, Awareness (What have you done to help make Oklahoma "the best place to ride" this month?)

- **Sunset** is partnering with Salvation Army Bell Ringers to give out AOBJs.

- **Tulsa** has created "ABATE: We Did..." banners to share with other Chapters.

- **Central Oklahoma District** received enthusiastic support from the OKC Police Department Motorcycle Officers, the Capitol Police, OU Campus patrol, and the Oklahoma County Sherriff's Office for the Veteran's Day Ride. Each unit offered continued support for the 2011 Memorial Day and Veteran's Day Rides.

Recap of Priority Business:

1. \$1 per member due at the SMILE from each Chapter for the \$1,000 Poker Run

2. Get your Chapter Members to the S.M.I.L.E., January 7-9th

3. Spread the word about Legislative Day (Feb 23). Get it on the Chapter Calendar.

4. Send your Chapter Events to the Events Coordinator.

Next Meeting: **January 8, 9:00am at Quartz Mountain Lodge, Lone Wolf, Okla.**



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A.B.A.T.E. of OKLAHOMA

Sustaining Memberships

- Double Diamond**
Northwest 69 Chapter (9/2011)
- Diamond**
Tulsa Chapter (4/2011)
Lakes Area (7/2011)
- Gold**
Three Sands Chapter (11/2010)
Chisholm Trail Chapter (11/2010)
South Central (7/2011)
Muskogee Chapter (8/2011)
- Silver**
Lawton District #3 (11/2010)
- Bronze**
Naysayers Motorcycle Club (6/2011)
Brian & Tonya Witt (7/2011)
Main Street Cafe (9/2010)
Lakes Area Chapter (7/2011)
Jack & Carol King (9/2011)
Great Plains Chapter (9/2011)
"TigerMike" Revere (Lifetime)

Weird News: Head Games

In Lagos, Nigeria, motorcycle taxis called "okada" are so dangerous in that local hospitals have special orthopedic wards meant just for people who have suffered accidents while riding them. So you'd think a law requiring passengers to wear helmets would be welcomed.

But it turns out that, for many Nigerians, the only thing scarier than a motorcycle taxi is a motorcycle helmet. Many people refuse to wear them out of fear of juju, or supernatural powers. Some fret that previous passengers may have put nefarious juju spells on the helmets to steal someone's good fortune, or to make a person disappear in order to be used in a sacred ritual.

"Our people are quite superstitious about anything dealing with their head," says

Ralph Ibuzo, who created the "Original Lapa Guard", a cloth cap that he claims can protect wearers from disease and sudden disappearance. "People believe that if you put on a helmet, [others] can take away your brain, or your good luck," he told the Wall Street Journal, so the hygienic cap provides a thin layer of separation between the head and a helmet full of potential trouble.

Aside from preventing paranormal paranoia, Mr. Ibuzo also has the law on his side as this sub-Saharan city enacted a traffic regulation last year that requires okada passengers to don helmets. But despite efforts at enforcement by city officials and traffic police, most passengers refuse to wear them out of concern about juju, widely feared throughout West Africa.

Tiger Tales

By TIGER MIKE REVERE

President COD Chapter, ABATE of Oklahoma

Greetings to our Motorcycling Community! I hope this finds all of you keeping warm, and getting used to writing 2011 on your checks and business paperwork.

Our newspaper publication is timed so article deadlines are the first of the preceding month, so I'll need to wait to furnish details on what I expect to be a very successful Oklahoma S.M.I.L.E.

ABATE General Membership Meeting and the 2011 Inaugural Oklahoma Confederation of Clubs Meeting in Tulsa. ABATE's Great Plains Chapter has supervised logistics for the S.M.I.L.E. for a number of years now, and the 2011 gathering was shaping up to be the largest ever in attendance.

Our OK Confederation Meeting takes place the Sunday of our ABATE Conference, so I'm required to head out in the morning from Quartz Mountain to make it to T-Town on time, especially since things start early with a meeting of the OK Strategic Alliance.

This quick-response team of Spiritual and service-oriented Biker groups have done much in support of our Riding Community by visiting motorcyclists and their families when folks are in wrecks or locked down.

One of our own was visited when Karl Keogh of ABATE's Lawton Chapter was victimized by a motorist who caused a head-on collision.

Karl's life partner was killed, and Karl was grievously injured and in the OU Trauma Center.

Please remember Karl and the grieving families and friends in your thoughts and prayers.

The January Confederation Meeting will also feature Confederation Officer Elections, and key positions are being contested, so I'll let you know the election results next month.

Also, since we've committed to hosting

the NCOM Region 2 Conference in Oklahoma this coming November, we'll need to start planning for that landmark event early. Keep checking www.okcoc.net for more information.

As I write this, the NFL Season is winding down and ultimately is progressing to-



ward Super Bowl Sunday.

My festivities on that day will begin with a trip to Joplin, Mo., to attend the Planning Meeting for the 20th Anniversary Mid-South Motorcyclists Improving Legislative Effectiveness (M.I.L.E.) Seminars scheduled for October in Branson, Mo.

I'll have more information to provide as the year progresses, but a number of our membership have attended these events in the past, and know that they provide terrific opportunities to acquire a lot of valuable information and ideas from both our National-level and fellow State Motorcyclist Rights Organizations with which to improve our ability to defend Motorcycling Liberty.

They also provide an outstanding social

environment, and Branson is world-renowned as one of the best vacation spots in the U.S. ABATE folks are definitely going to want to be involved in this one, so be sure to log onto www.midsouthmile.org to download and print a Pre-Registration form. Before that, however, we'll need to kick off the 2011 Oklahoma Legislative Session

sharing the Road with them, is traction. Highways in February are characterized by lots of sand and salt residue from road treatments for snow and ice, as well as icy spots on wet streets when the temperatures are below freezing.

I've seen icy roads caused by everything from broken house pipes to automatic sprinklers turning on!

Water, sand and oil can especially be a problem at intersections, when you're vulnerable to slipping at slow speed through turns.

Lots of riders don't pay attention to their tires through the Winter, so make sure you check your tire pressure regularly since you tend lose air more rapidly in cold weather.

Taking the time to brave a cold garage and routinely check your machine and equipment might quite literally save you from pain and suffering later!

Well, it's time for me to bring this to a close for another month. I'll have more information to share with you in my March article, since I'll be able to come up with more details than on results of our ABATE of Oklahoma S.M.I.L.E. Seminars, the January Oklahoma Confederation of Clubs Meeting, and also the National Coalition Of Motorcyclists Semi-Annual Board Meeting and Region I Conference scheduled for January 27-30 in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Until then, keep riding Safely, Sober and Aware, and watch out for the Other Guy who isn't looking out for you, especially in the dead of Winter!

Hold your Sweetheart close and treat that person right this Valentine's Day, and remember that's a good time to remember the old-school Biker maxim: "What Goes Around; Comes Around"! Stay warm and take care of each other, and I'll check in with you again as March arrives—hopefully it won't come roaring in like a Lion!

Keep It On The Black Strip Between The Trees, Tiger Mike

with our annual ABATE Legislative Breakfast on Wednesday, Feb. 23, taking place from 9:30 a.m. until 1:30p.m. at the State Capitol Fourth Floor Rotunda.

It's a tremendous opportunity to get to know the State Legislators, especially since there are so many new members taking office in the Executive and Legislative Branches.

Be sure to obtain a flyer from ABATE's Website at: www.abateofoklahoma.org

Tiger's Tip O' The Month:

Probably the most important issue motorcyclists need to be concerned about when riding this time of year, apart from other motorists not being aware that we're



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Visit the A.B.A.T.E.'s State Website at www.abateofoklahoma.org

ABATE Winter Wanderings



Girlfriend was the winner of Photojournalist of the year, with her picture of Chaz and Ice.



Chapter Meetings Adjourned



Central Oklahoma District

Introductions: Stick and Rose were with Central OK ABATE prior to ABATE's State organization. Re-joined ABATE as our newest members.

Moment of Silence: Mark Barnett passed away after a long illness. He was a motorcycle safety instructor, supporter of Run for the Wall, and the Patriot Guard. Condolences may be offered by leaving a guest book entry on the

<http://www.eisenhourfuneral.com>.

Lynn Walters was also mentioned in her struggle against cancer.

Review of Minutes of Last Meeting – Motion was made by Mark Tracey to waive the reading.

Review Financial Issues

State Rep Report given by Pat McManus. Garry organizing MRF Ride to Beltway. No new legislation for this term is being considered at this time. COD does not believe this is the way to go, especially with this Legislative year being the Twentieth annual Breakfast. At least consider Equal Access Legislation.

State is considering raising membership fees and extending membership time frames. State has new merchandise, to include baby clothes. There are new computer updates and it is urged to join the Yahoo Group. The Mid-South Mile 20th anniversary will take place in Branson, MO.

State requested \$50 from each chapter with Tulsa putting up \$500 to extend to the band that played at the state party. Mark made motion to refuse to pay the \$50 and it was seconded by Catherine.

Gunners Law is now a charity. Picture Man – RidingFree.com discussion as to whether we want to keep his services of taking pictures at ABATE events. It would cost \$500 for the year. Mark motioned to not renew Picture Man and it was seconded by Ed Glendinning. Complete vote of members present was unanimous to not renew Picture Man. Jon gave McManus \$100 to bring to state for OK SMILE.

COD Toy Run: Ed Glendinning says everything is a go. There is a possibility of having the Chairman of Feed the Children present. The grand prize will be a \$160 leather jacket. All prizes are of good value and variety. Ed said that potholes were mended by the city, so the ride should be made a lot more enjoyable and safe.

Tiger Mike brought prizes to Ed for the Toy Run and asked consideration of the crowd in determining which prizes to award and how many. Jon asked if a 50/50 could be conducted at the Toy Run. A 50/50 may not be conducted at the Toy Run as the Toy Run will be taking place on public property. Ed voiced appreciation of the Blue Nights in overseeing the Toy Run. Ed will need help in cleaning up after the Toy Run.

New Business

Legislative Breakfast 9:30-1:30 Feb 23rd – Ripper questioned this as the bell is rung for legislatures to go into session at 9am.

Event Planning Committee consists of Ripper, Derail and Mark. Derail is promoting usage of a band called Shotgun Rebellion.

Money Making Opportunities – Debbie Bohanan has offered to do stitching at COD ABATE events and give all proceeds back to COD ABATE.

In other business it was mentioned to host a table at Jeff Smith Swap Meet at the Fair Grounds. A free table is offered, but entries need to be paid. Ed said he will speak to the coordinators of the Jeff Smith Swap Meet and see if individuals manning the table may be granted free entry.

In order to increase exposure it was suggested that ABATE newsletters get placed at welcome centers throughout the state.

Adjourned at 8:40

NW 69 Chapter

Well, HAPPY NEW YEAR to all the brothers and sisters of NW69, hope this one finds everyone well and safely through the holidays. Santa has come and gone another year, hopefully there has been plenty of happiness to go around, the New Year has now arrived and I hope it treats you all well.

First things first, I need to let everyone

know that our JANUARY meeting has been moved to the third Sunday of the month due to S.M.I.L.E., making it JANUARY 16th at 2:00 p.m., at the ABATE office.

For those of you who missed the December meeting/Christmas party, you missed the fun. We did manage to keep the meeting kind of short, so more time could be put to having fun. Even for a short one, it was full of information to be had. Thank You to everyone for being so accommodating when it came to the impromptu sign in we did, and to the guys that helped get it done.

We had 77 people there, with only a few being actual guests. Debbie showed our membership count being 352, with 302 Of

See **CHAPTER MEETINGS**, next page

CENTRAL OKLAHOMA DISTRICT

PO Box 96113, Oklahoma City, OK 73143

Meets 2nd Thursday, 7 p.m. @ Skyline

Restaurant-1631 S. E. 15th Street

<http://www.ABATEOK.com>

Phone: 405-672-1008

President: Tiger Mike Revere

E-mail: tigermike7@cox.net

Chapter Reps: Pat McManus

and Mark Buskirk

Phone: 405-596-1072

CHISHOLM TRAIL 412 CHAPTER

PO Box 3841, Enid, OK 73702

Meets 2nd Sunday, 6 p.m., Mine Company

(Old 300 Club) on Garriott next to the bowling alley.

President: Frank Dods 580-977-4951

E-mail: chisholmtrail412@yahoo.com

Chapter Rep: Gary Bradley 405-278-1682

E-mail: gunrunner1953@yahoo.com

GREAT PLAINS CHAPTER

330 S. Oklahoma, Mangum, OK 73554

Meets 3rd Thursday, 7 p.m., call for location

President: Matthew Holmes (Matt Man)

E-mail: gp_mattman@yahoo.com

580-649-0314 or

Chapter Rep: Ilka Heiskell

E-mail: toothfairylka@yahoo.com

405-202-3180

KIAMICHI CHAPTER

4396 N 376 Rd, Atwood, OK 74827

Meeting places differ from meeting to meeting

Phone: 405-221-7984 or 7985

President Slick, email

deerslayer22001@yahoo.com

Chapter Rep. Rosco, email

roscondawind@yahoo.com

Alt. chapter rep-to be announced

LAKES AREA CHAPTER 13

110 N. Whitaker St. Pryor, OK 74361

Meets 3rd Friday, 7 p.m. @ American Legion on

West Hwy. 20, Pryor, OK 74361

President: Kevin Anderson

Chapter Rep: Brian Witt 918-864-0557

Email: brian.witt1966@yahoo.com

State Rep: Kirk Crowell

kirkcrowell@sstelco.com

LAWTON DISTRICT #3 CHAPTER

4702 N. State Hwy. 65, Elgin, OK 73538

Meets 3rd Sunday, 3:30 p.m., @ VFW on E.

Gore Blvd.

President: Cleo Williams 580-353-2431

Vice President: Karl Keough 580-647-0736

Chapter Rep: "Pops" Walsh

<http://lawtonabate.webs.com>

MUSKOGEE CHAPTER

PO Box 472, Muskogee, OK 74402

Meets 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. @ Cowboys

Address Book



Who's who in Oklahoma ABATE Chapters, when they meet, and how to reach them

BBQ, 401 N. York, Muskogee

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Chapter Rep: Tim "Top" Catcher 405-532-6209

E-mail: hunteratlarge@sbcglobal.net

NW #69 CHAPTER

P. O. Box 2783, Woodward, OK 73802

Meets 2nd Sunday (call for location)

President: Bob Drake 580-571-2258

Chapter Rep: A. J. White 580-334-1635

abatenw69_jester@msn.com

ROGERS COUNTY CHAPTER

P. O. Box 136, Foyil, OK 74031

Meets 3rd Friday, 7:30 p.m. @ VFW - 1717 W.

Dupont

President: Scott Williams 918-855-6823

E-mail: retiredgoose@yahoo.com

Chapter Rep: James Parmley 918-521-6545

E-mail: jamesparmley@sbcglobal.net

<http://rogerscountyabate.4t.com>

SOUTH CENTRAL CHAPTER

P.O. Box 1582, Lone Grove, OK 73443

Meets 3rd Tuesday, 1 p.m. @ Budro's Rib

Join in Ardmore

President: F. A. Copeland 580-465-2889

Email: info@scabateok.com

SUNSET CHAPTER

PO Box 1152, El Reno, OK 73036

Meets 2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m. @ VFW Hall,

Hwy. 81 North

www.myspace/sunsetabate

President: Mike Lander 405-265-0339

m_tlander@hotmail.com

Chapter Rep: Arlene Urias

E-mail: ArleneUrias@hotmail.com

405-795-8119

THREE SANDS CHAPTER

PO Box 81, Ponca City, OK 74602

Meetings: Call for location & time.

President: Charles Criner - 580-363-0321

Chapter Rep: Andy Huddleston

E-mail: andyh70@yahoo.com

580-789-1198

TULSA CHAPTER

PO Box 582078, Tulsa, OK 74158-2078

Fax: 918-835-8352

Meets last Thursday of month, 7 p.m. @ Akdar

Shrine Temple, 2808 S. Sheridan

<http://www.abateoftulsa.com>

President: Lee McArdle 918-282-1000

Chapter Rep: John Pierce 918-371-2410

E-mail: mrfogman@sbcglobal.com

Alternate Rep: Carol King 918-746-4903

E-mail: tulsavicrider@aol.com

[Please submit changes or corrections to okabatenews@yahoo.com]

Chapter Meetings (continued from page 10)

those being current. So, we still have a good showing membership-wise. Kim "Whatever" (yep, I think it will stick) Beaner read the financial report before we were on to regular business. Bob Drake announced the new officers for 2011, resulting from the elections in November. Let's see if I can get them all straight-

President- Bob Drake
 Vice President- Jack Hamilton
 Recording Secretary- Tammy Johnson
 Membership Secretary- Debbie Green
 Treasurer- Kim Beaner
 Head Sergeant of Arms- Rick Staude
 State Representative-Jeff Johnson, Cindy Barnes with Jack "Shooter" Shelley standing in

Public Relations - "DJ" Steve Stewart
 Asst. Sergeant of Arms-Robbie Kidd, Jennifer "Roxy" Readnour, Joseph Johnson, Colby Winn, Jeff Johnson,

Kelly Salisbury, Robert Balch and Jaime Green

Road Captain- Allen "Captain ABATE" Singhiser with Robert Balch as Secondary Captain

Event Coordinators - Debbie Stewart and AJ White

Donations Coordinator - Paula Staude
 Chapter Chaplain- Gene Karns
 Merchandise- Lori Karpe and Tana Copple

Public Representative- "DJ" Steve Stewart

Web Master-Debbi Green

And, of course, Newsletter- Tammy Johnson (yep, you poor souls are stuck with me again this year).

S.M.I.L.E. is coming up rapidly and we are hoping to have a good showing of people from our Chapter being that there are many awards to be given and we hope to bring a few of those home.

Once again, we won the Woodward Christmas Parade Float Category for Best Motorcycle Float (\$25 this year due to added classes in the parade). Thanks goes out to everyone that helped put it together, those who gathered donations for the toys, and to Jack Hamilton (his pickup pulled the ABATE trailer), Robert Balch (driver), and Doc Glennie (driver) for all the work in getting everyone rounded up and down the parade route.

The NWOK69 Annual Chili Cook Off is coming up Saturday, Feb. 19 (less than 5 weeks after our February meeting). We will have the donation forms, flyers and raffle tickets available at the February meeting for you to take. With everything else going on the date has snuck up on us so we need all the bodies and help we can get.

Well, I think I have ran out of notes to put in here, so everyone be safe, keep warm, and hope to see you all very soon.

Yours respectfully, Tammy

South Central Chapter

Vice President called meeting to order at 7:15 p.m., Dec. 21.

Pledge of allegiance
 Prayer by Chaplain John Bright

All board members were present except the President

New members and guests were recognized

1 new member and 1 guest were present
 22 people present at meeting

Reading of previous meeting minutes was

waved.

Treasurer's report stated we have plenty of money in bank at this time.

State Rep reported that a new Congressman is planning on introducing another helmet law bill. We were told that most likely it would get shot down before it even reaches the floor.

The new date for the Legislative Breakfast was announced as Feb. 23rd from 9:30 to 1:30 in the capitol rotunda.

We were informed that our yearly dues will remain as before.

In general discussion, we talked about a local charity to support with this year's poker run. Many charities were mentioned and one will be chosen at our next meeting.

The poker run committee discussed and ending point for the poker run and it will be voted on at next meeting.

We signed up 1 new member and distributed 3 new applications.

Bill Henson won the 50/50 pot and donated it back to the chapter to go into our emergency relief fund.

Meeting was adjourned at approx. 8:15 p.m.

Sunset Chapter

President "Wishbone" Mike Lander called the Sunset Chapter of ABATE General Membership meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 09, 2010.

Mike opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance.

Secretary Report: Teacher said minutes had been emailed. Sandbagger made the motion to accept minutes. Larry seconded. Motion carried with John and Bill opposed.

Treasurer: Vicki said the ABATE account has \$xxxx. Gator made the motion to accept the treasurer's report. Larry seconded. Motion carried.

Chapter Representative: Arlene asked if our chapter had paid for SMILE? Vicki said, "Yes, with check number 1211 and the check has cleared." Arlene said email showed it wasn't paid. Arlene said Tulsa proposed to increase membership dues from \$20 to \$25. Loner made a motion to oppose it. Sandbagger seconded. Arlene opposed. Motion carried. Arlene said we needed to vote on Executive board everyone except coordinator.

Also told us we needed to vote on renewing contract for Suzette to continue as lobbyist. Arlene went on to say that 5 laws were passed due to Suzette's knowledge and that had never happened before. Racket told everyone that Suzette knows who to go too. He thinks helmet law will come up again according to Biker News Around the World. Motorcycle check points are popping up. Loner voted to renew. Larry seconded. Motion carried. Loner and Sandbagger opposed.

Vice President: Racket encouraged everyone to work with their new E Board. He gave the VP patch to Larry "Sandman". He reminded everyone to check air pressure on your bike.

President: Thanked everyone for everything that they have done the past three years. He feels it's time for a change. Encouraged everyone to support the new E Board. New President is Sandbagger, VP is Sandman, Secretary is Teacher, and Treasurer is Vicki.

OLD BUSINESS

Recap Christmas Parade: There were 12 bikes in the parade this year. Weather was perfect. The El Reno Tribune had a picture of Grinch again this year.

NEW BUSINESS

2011 E-Board officers are:

Keith (Sandbagger) McMullen for President, Larry (Sandman) for Vice President, Nancy (Teacher) Salsman for Secretary, and Vicki (Lawndart) Penix for Treasure.

Christine Thrasher's name was drawn for the pill.

Sandbagger made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Gator seconded. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned. Let's eat and play Dirty Santa.

Nancy (Teacher) Salsman, Secretary

Three Rivers Chapter

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. Dec. 15, 2010 by Troy Underwood. We gave the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer. The meeting was presided over by Tim Catcher. A motion was made to approve the minutes as posted; it was seconded and passed. A motion was made to approve the Treasurer's Report as corrected and then reposted; it was seconded and passed.

Charlie Williams gave the MRF report. It will be posted on the Three Rivers Yahoo Group. Tim Catcher gave the State Representative's report. It will be posted on the Three Rivers Yahoo Group. Chrissy Kennedy gave the Chapter membership report. We currently have 94 (according to State), 95 (according to Chapter records), active members. There are two memberships expiring at the end of December.

Charolette Underwood gave the merchandise report. We have sold some merchandise. We have traded some of the Anniversary merchandise for Look Twice merchandise. There will be an updated inventory on the Three Rivers Yahoo Group. Charolette also passed around mock ups for the new Chapter patch and suggested members write down input of the back of the mock up pages. Charolette also got alternative pricing for the Toy Run t-shirts. If we buy the shirts the lady will make the iron on decal for \$10. It was decided for the 10 shirts that we have orders for we would go ahead and use that option.

Unfinished Business: A report was given on the decision of the State Board on the four questions.

New Business: A request was made, via email, for the Chapter to sponsor a pet for spay or neuter. It was moved by Bernie Williams to not sponsor a pet as it in no way helps us further our mission statement. The motion was seconded by Charlie Williams and passed. A poll was posted on the Three Rivers Yahoo Group to determine if the Chapter would be interested in participating in a Chapter Smoke-off hosted by South Central, to be held possibly at their May 7th Poker Run. A motion was made by Charolette Underwood to table a vote of participation until further details of the event could be obtained. The motion was seconded by Christine Felts and passed.

Toy Run Committee - Jake Kennedy gave a wrap up of the Toy Run. He listed the issues we had, the issues that participants had. He spoke of an email complaint, the fact that Jim Rigler stated that there were

at least 25 email complaints, and the reply listing the solutions addressing these complaints. Jake requested that members get on the Yahoo Group board and post their ideas for next year's Toy Run, as planning has already begun for next year. Jake presented options for toy disbursement. He also presented an idea for the casino to put out a collection box for donations to the Shriners Transportation Fund. A motion was made by Charolette Underwood that we ask the casino to put out collection boxes and for every \$10 donated they offer a \$10 reward play. The motion was seconded by Christine Felts and passed.

Swap Meet Committee - Tim Catcher presented the Vendor forms and the Flyer for the Swap Meet to be held on April 10th. He gave a list of personnel that he will need for the Swap Meet. Tim plans to speak with the different clubs and organizations for cheap (preferably free) security personnel. Jacob Kennedy volunteered to take pictures again this year if someone will provide him with a camera. For the entertainment, we have contract Jukebox for Karaoke; this also means we will not need extra MC equipment (which Jake was told he will be doing). A calendar of events was given at the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
 Chrissy "Duchess" Kennedy

Three Sands Chapter

Three Sands Chapter held a short informal meeting before our Christmas dinner on Dec 18th in Billings at the Community Center.

Kat Branham gave an overview of the state board meeting and the chapter voted as a group on the best picture submitted for Photojournalist of the year. The photo was of Chaz and Ice and the photographer was Girlfriend that took the winning shot.

With the meeting adjourned, it was on to the wonderful dinner. There was plenty of food to go around and plenty left over! Thank you to everyone that brought food! The silent auction was started and there were lots of donated items from chapter members.

The silent auction is one of the Chapter's fundraisers. While the auction was going on, Tin Man and Animal passed out numbers for those participating in the Dirty Santa gift exchange. Last year we had a little over 20 participate and this year the number was around 40!

Everyone had a great time and Santa even showed up to say hi to all of the kids young and old. Jolly old St. Nick even hung around for pictures on his bike. We had over 65 people in attendance this year including members from Chisholm Trail 412 and some citizens from Billings came out. A couple of them had so much fun that they joined and made plans to attend the S.M.I.L.E. Thank you again to everyone that cooked, brought items, helped out during clean up before and after.

As 2010 ends, so does my term in office as the Three Sands Secretary. It has been an honor and pleasure to have been one of the Three Sands officers for the last 4 years. I have no doubt that Shari, our new secretary will do a fantastic job.

Dawn "Shrimpi" Canaday

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Vinyl Window Decal, your choice of three colors, 3" square



Short Sleeve, \$12; Long Sleeve \$18
Hoodies, \$30, several colors



6 oz Stainless Steel Flask, \$15
8 oz Stainless Steel Flask, \$18

Item	Colors Available	Size	Color	Quantity	Amount	Total
State Patch					\$5	
20th Anniversary Patch					\$5	
S.M.I.L.E. Patches					\$5	
S.Y.L.A. Patches					\$20	
State Back Patches		10"x10"			\$25	
State Pins					\$5	
Chapter Charter Pin	White				\$5	
Vinyl Car Decal-ABATE Eagle	White				\$2	
Vinyl Car Decal-ABATE patch	White, Blue, Yellow, Black				\$2	
Black Plastic Car Tags	ABATE Eagle or ABATE of Oklahoma				\$10	
Mirrored Car Tags	ABATE Eagle or ABATE of Oklahoma				\$15	
6oz Stainless Steel Flask	ABATE of Oklahoma Logo				\$10	
8oz Stainless Steel Flask	ABATE of Oklahoma Logo				\$18	
20th Anniversary Ladies T-Shirt	SM-4XL (Pink Design)				\$15	
20th Anniversary T-Shirts	SM-4XL (Skull Design)				\$15	
20th Ann. Ladies Hoodies	SM-4XL Black (Pink Design)				\$30	
20th Ann. Hoodies	SM-4XL Black (Skull Design)				\$30	
Adult Look Twice T-Shirts	Black, Orange, Pink or Green SM-4XL				\$12	
Look Twice Hoodies	Black, Orange, Pink or Green M-4XL				\$25	
Booty Shorts	Black w/This Booty Supports ABATE or look Twice for Bikers				\$10	
Beanies/stocking caps	Pink Fuzzy				\$5	

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By signing this application, I agree to waive any and all claims against ABATE of Oklahoma, Inc., its officers, board members and general members for any personal or property loss or damage which may occur as a result of my participation in ABATE functions. I understand that ABATE cannot and will not assume responsibility for my safety, and that if I participate in any ABATE sponsored activity, ride or event, I do so voluntarily, assuming all risks and I release and hold ABATE harmless for any personal injury or property loss which may result there from.

Member's Signatures:

FULL: _____

FULL: _____

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and mail to:
c/o Callie Catcher
P.O. Box 632
Park Hill, OK 74451**

NEW CHAPTER OFFICERS

Some newly elected Chapter Officers for the 2011 year are:

Central OK District

President: "Tiger Mike" Revere
 Vice-President: Debi Bohannan
 Secretary: Carmaletta Lara
 Treasurer: Jon Kirchen
 Sergeant at Arms: Donald Carr and Darrell Eagleberger
 Chapter Representatives:
 Pat McManus and Mark Buskirk

Rogers County Chapter

Sergeant at Arms:
 Arthur Clarke
 arthurclarke@rocketmail.com

South Central Chapter

President: FA Copeland
 Vice-President: Lonnie Webb
 Treasurer: Coelene Guinn
 Secretary: Eric Gage
 Sergeant at Arms: David Rozzell

NW 69 Chapter

President: Bobby Drake
 Vice-President: Jack Hamilton
 Secretary: Tammy Johnson
 Membership Secretary: Debbie Green

Treasurer: Kim Beaner
 Sergeant at Arms: Rick Staude

Lakes Area Chapter

President: Brian Witt - 918-864-0557
 brian.witt1966@yahoo.com
 State Representative: Kirk Crowell
 kirkcrowell@sstelco.com

Three Sands Chapter

Chapter Representative:
 Andy Huddleston - 580-789-1198
 andylh70@yahoo.com

Great Plains Chapter

President: Matthew Holmes
 580-649-0314
 Vice-President: Barbara Martinez
 580-706-1522
 Sergeant at Arms: Derek Bullock
 580-706-1051
 Secretary: Richard Bullock
 580-706-1051
 Treasurer: Lisa Youngblood
 580-471-6154
 1st State Rep: Ilka Heiskell
 405-202-3180

(Not all chapters submitted their chapter election results.)

Should you ride? (continued from page 1)

control their situation only if safety is a high priority. Millions of motorcyclists ride millions of miles without incident, and they likely take safety seriously.

7. Do you respect machinery and other equipment that has risk? For example, when using a lawn mower or chainsaw, do you maintain it properly and wear eye/ear/hand protection when needed? If you're not serious about safety in connection with simple machinery and equipment whose improper use can lead to serious injury, you may not respect motorcycling enough to follow safety precautions. Successful riders know that safety isn't a matter of luck, but a matter of doing the right things to minimize risk.

8. Can you focus? Inattention is a major cause of crashes. Safe motorcycling requires dedicated attention to the immediate task and a keen awareness of everything going on 360 degrees around you. Rush-hour traffic aboard a motorcycle is not the place to be daydreaming. For in-

stance, if you find yourself overusing your brakes because you were caught off-guard, or are often surprised by a passing car or truck you didn't see, your situational awareness could be less than adequate.

9. Can you handle your car in an emergency? Drivers don't often have the need to brake hard or swerve to miss a crash, but it's important to have the skills to be able to do so when needed. On a motorcycle, having these types of skills is essential because other highway users tend not to see motorcyclists in traffic, especially around intersections.

10. Are you willing to invest some time in learning to ride the right way before hopping on a bike? Your best "first ride" is a Basic *RiderCourse* where you can familiarize yourself with the safe operation of a motorcycle. You can even take the course as an experiment, to help you better understand the dynamics of good riding and to determine if motorcycling is right for you.

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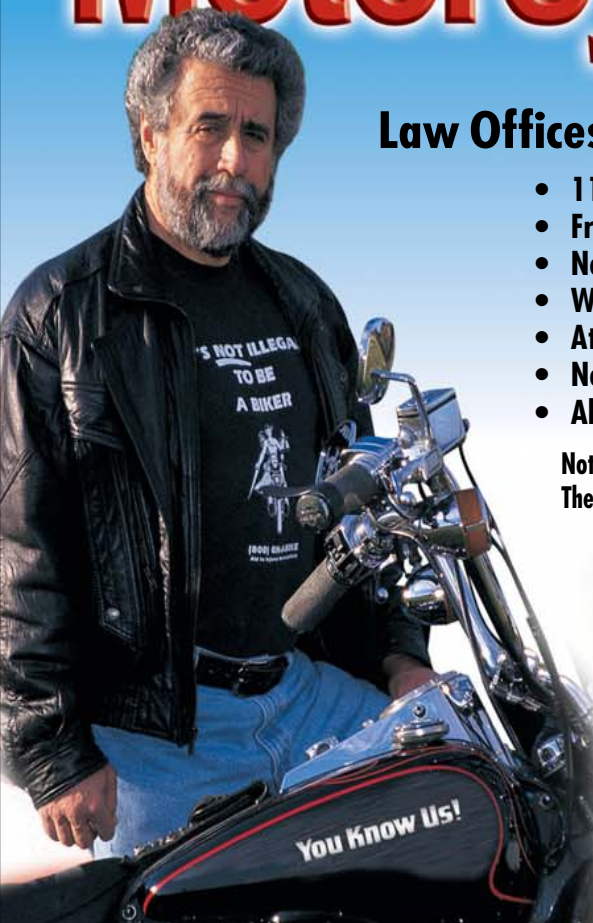
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