

ABATE of Tulsa, Inc Meeting Minutes
Mary 25, 2017
Vice President James Chambers Clark Presiding

- Call To Order:** 7:00 PM by Sgt. At Arms Rob Jones
- Pledge of Allegiance:** Led by Rob Jones
- Invocation:** Randy Hutchinson (Road Runner)
- Mission Statement:** James Clark
- Introduction of Guests:** Jerry Jones and Clay Tucker, guests who plan to join ABATE tonight. Chris Chambers with the BA Police Dept. will be our guest speaker tonight.
- Shout-Outs:** James thanked Bob Dresser for setting up a membership booth at a recent Swap Meet and to Doc for helping. That is where Jerry Jones and Clay Tucker met some of our members and decided to come to tonight's meeting.
- James said he was filling in for Radar (Jim Koelle) tonight, who is on his way back from Washington D.C. He and Rose went to Bikes in the Beltway and will have a report on that at the June meeting.
- Treasurer's report:** Cheryl Clark gave the Treasurer's Report. The beginning balance was \$9,888.38. Income in May was \$75.00 and disbursements were \$2,627.02 leaving a current balance of \$7,627.02. A brief discussion took place about the \$2,000 loan to Abate Charitable Services and John Pierce explained that monies are coming back from the OHSO sooner than in the past. He expects that our loan will be paid back right away, as early as a week or two. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Joe Battles and seconded by Richard Moran (Doc). Accepted unanimously.
- Secretary's Report:** A copy of the Minutes of the March meeting was emailed to membership earlier and all in attendance said they had read said minutes. No changes were made. A motion to accept was made by John Pierce and seconded by Doc (Richard Moran).
- State and Committee Reports:**
- Legislative -** John Pierce reported that at this time Abate of Oklahoma has 41 renewal memberships, 45 expired, and 15 new members for a total of 709 members statewide.
- Illinois River Run – July 7, 8 & 9. This is a state event and everyone is welcome to attend. The cost is \$95 per person for the entire weekend.
- Rob Jones was elected State Safety Coordinator and Garry Canady is now the MRF rep.
- John received an email from our attorney reporting that the Governor has signed the tag bill. There is a statewide contest for design of the tag.

As of May 31, John Pierce will no longer be our legislative rep. He has served in this capacity for eight years. He shared that since 2008 ABATE of Oklahoma has fixed every motorcycle bill in the state. James asked John to give an update on Gunner's Law for those who don't know about it. In 2010 Gunner's Law was passed, assessing a \$3 fee on every tag in Oklahoma. It has produced \$1.5 million dedicated to motorcycle safety and awareness.

MRF Report: The MRF has a federal bill outlawing law enforcement from profiling. Anyone can join the MRF and Art Ryan has membership applications.

Downed Bikers: No report.

Share the Road: John Pierce and Lotus Dunn held a class at the Sperry High School Driver Education class on Tuesday. Rob Jones brought the wrecked motorcycle to the presentation, which has a huge impact on those attending the class. Last week Rob and Art were in Berryhill. John said that we are increasing our classes every month. Anyone who knows about a school or company who could benefit from the class, please give that information to one of the instructors. At this time we have 15 certified instructors.

Membership: Cheryl Clark reported that we add two new members last month and one renewal.

Social Media: Cheryl is posting all news and ride information that she knows about on our Facebook Page. We still do not have a website. John Pierce expressed concern that we have not had a website for quite awhile and it's important that we get it operational again as soon as possible. In order to do this we need to hire a profession to build the site who can then turn it over to us for day-to-day updates. After discussion about the costs, it was determined that \$1,500 would cover the expense. John made a motion to approve up to \$1,500 for the construction of the Abate of Tulsa website. Wayne Wharton seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Events: The Route 66 Patriot Fest and Parade, taking place this coming Saturday, will be our event this month. The Saturday after our June meeting falls on 4th of July weekend, so we will not have a Saturday ride. However, everyone is invited to attend the Illinois River Run July 7-9. Bob Dresser is working on a ride for August.

New Business: Rob Jones presented information on the Biker Boyz weekend and asked if we could set up a hospitality tent. Cheryl will check it out to determine the cost of a booth.

Rob reported that a state poker run for \$1,000 will take place later this year. Tulsa will be one of the cities and we've been asked to select three locations. These were suggested: (1) Golden Driller, (2) the West Route 66 Gateway by the 11th Street bridge, and (3) the Blue Whale in Catoosa.

Guest Speaker: Chris Chambers with the Broken Arrow Police Department gave a motorcycle safety presentation. He shared the following information:

- His preference is to always wear a helmet. In Oklahoma, it's optional – our choice whether to or not. Helmets reduce the chance of head injuries by 69%. If your helmet has been dropped, replace it!
- You cannot take too much training. Avail yourself of training whenever you can.
- Motorcycle maintenance is very important:
 - Check tire pressure regularly
 - Change both tires at the same time
 - Check for leaks
- There are several free classes in the area. Go to www.brokenarrowok.gov to find a list of classes.
- Here are some stats from the Federal Highway Commission:
 - In 2016 there were 8.6 million motorcycles registered in the United States
 - 4,976 deaths from MC crashes in 2015
 - 46% were not wearing helmets
 - 54% were over the age of 40 (reason is believed to be decline in vision and reaction time)
 - 27% had a blood alcohol level of .08 or higher

Ron Elliott, a friend of Chris Chambers, shared his story about crashing on the Turner Turnpike in April of this year. His helmet wasn't strapped on tightly and blew off. His reaction was to reach for it, causing him to lose control of his bike, going across two lanes of traffic, and hitting a barrier. His message is that if something comes off your bike, don't reach for it. If you wear a helmet, buckle the strap very tightly.

James Clark thanked both guest speakers and opened up a time for questions. Everyone in attendance expressed their thanks for the presentations.

Drawing:

Diane Finley was the winner of the QT gas card.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Doc motioned for the meeting to be adjourned, seconded by John Pierce. Meeting was adjourned by Sgt at Arms, Rob Jones at 8:22pm

Respectfully submitted by Cheryl Clark (Church Lady) in absence of Secretary Nina Dresser