

Hello Region 6!

We recited the Pledge. No Treasury Report.

Member of the Year is Joan Lawrence! Congrats Joan!

Our October 8th, meeting is also our Chili Cook Off Contest. Bring your chili and try others chili recipes. Do not forget during the chili cook off, we will collecting donations to give to Coats for Kids or Toys for Tots.

Saturday December 9th will be our Christmas Party after our meeting at the Roadside Bar.

If you are going to the Seminar Awards Banquet in January, you can make your reservations now. The Seminar will be held January 19th, 20th, & 21st, 2018 at the RAMADA Lansing Hotel & Conference Center located at 7501 West Saginaw Highway, Lansing, MI 48917. Phone (517) 627-3211.

Beatrice is looking for a couple of Area Coordinators for the Bay-Midland and Gladwin counties because we do not have any active AC's at this time. Beatrice does a lot for ABATE and she deserves a great coordinator to help share her work load. She does have a personal life too. Beatrice can be reached at (989) 493-9004.

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October's Legislative Report by Jeremy "Lil Ice Man" Bouvrette

– HB-4305: Motorcycle Plate fee increase for Riders Ed. and Motorcycle Awareness programs.... Which you already know, the fees are a \$2.50 ad-on to your ORIGINAL cycle endorsement and \$2.00 for your RENEWAL, which is good for four years, or \$.50/year. This money goes for the new Motorcycle Awareness program. The other fee is \$2.00/year on your license plate which goes directly to the existing motorcycle safety/riders education fund. This passed in the HOUSE 94-14 and in the

SENATE by 33-2 and is awaiting a signature by the Governor. Meeting with Sen. Casperson was on Sept. 7 to finalize this.

- HB-4480: This increases the Handle Bar height limit from 15" to 30" from the lowest part of the seat to the lowest point on the handle grip. We will be talking with the bill's sponsor about finding a different sponsor to insure passage. A meeting with house leadership to discuss moving this to a republican legislator is in the works.

- HB-4466: This bill is to stop phone and texting while driving with anything but "hands free" devices. We are not sure what will happen with this bill. No activity on this bill yet.

- SB-160: This bill includes auto cycles, the "Slingshot" in particular, with motorcycles. We were asked to let this legislation pass as it is. We told the legislature that we will address this issue in the fall and will work on changing the definition on the federal level thru the D.O.T. This will be addressed for us by Congressman Tim Walberg in Washington D.C. later this year.

Congressman Tim Walberg talked about his involvement with the new Congressional Motorcycle Caucus, his motorcycle anti-discrimination bill in D.C., and working with us on a national auto-cycle definition (refer to SB-160) thru the federal D.O.T.

There was discussion on the State Seminar on January 19-21 in Lansing. The Legislative Committee would like input from the Regions about what they would like to see from us. The topic of having a "Good Legislator/Bad Legislator" debate (how to deal with both) session like we have had in the past was suggested but we want input from our members. Please let us know what you want. We are also working on a "Motorcycle Advisory Board" similar to the "Snow Mobile Advisory Board" which will be empowered to review motorcycle issues thru the State. This will be made up of "Regular people", more or less a nongovernment group. More to come on this.

Other discussion included a proposal for a "Part Time" Legislature, good and bad points were considered including having to re-educate legislators continually and turning too much power over to bureaucrats and the Governor. We also discussed 2018 events including the State Seminar in January, the "Pizza & Pop" lunch in February, the "Freedom Rally" in June. Our PAC is "broke"! We will be discussing, having our Region raise money for our PAC since we are beginning an election cycle. To 6: Let's replenish the PAC!! Get out and ride while the weather is still nice, because you know this is MI and it can change in a blink. Watch out for School buses during the week and children running to and from them, in hopes that if we look out for them, they will look out for us. For another month, I'm Out!

Its been a busy summer and ABATE Region 6, hopes everyone had a good riding season.

Meeeting closed at 1:40pm.

Heidi Barnard