

ABATE REGION 10 – Gratiot & Saginaw

April 7, 2018

MICHIGAN RIDER NEWSLETTER

*Meeting brought to order at 5:06 p.m.

*Pledge of Allegiance

*Secretary Report

*Treasury Report

*Discussed the upcoming Bike Show that will be held on July 28th at the Elk's Club. This will be a dual effort between Region 10 and the Elk's. However, the Elk's Club has generously offered to fund this event, as well as give a donation to our region for our participation efforts. We'd like to have as many bikes on display as possible, so please plan to attend this free event. There is no cost for entry of your bike. We'll be promoting regional membership and motorcycle awareness at a booth that will be set up. Members agreed to purchasing magnets and wristbands to give away for promoting motorcycle awareness at this booth. The Elk's will have drink specials, burgers and brats, games and a band. They'll also have t-shirts available and they're planning to sell sponsor spots for \$50 per ad that will be on the back of the shirt. Camping will also be available, however, no hook up for electric or water. If you want to be involved, get with Kim or Tim II. More information to come.

*It was suggested that we need to have more products. Our current supply is pretty limited. Members gave a majority vote to increase our product supplies. Kecia offered interest in helping with products.

*State Awareness Director, Hot Rod, has suggested a State Wide initiative on Saturday, April 28th, to help raise awareness for "Look Twice. Save a Life. Motorcycles Are Everywhere!" He's asking members to sit at an intersection holding signs that promote this statement between Noon and 2PM. Region 10 members discussed possibly having three different spots: **1.** St. Louis (Kim, Bob, Jamie, Duwayne); **2.** Saginaw (Dan, Tony, Deb, Gary); **3.** Alma (Bob, Lois). Hot Rod also requested that a picture be taken of this group to be put into the May Newsletter.

*Brief discussion pertaining to the 7 Eleven in St. Louis wanting a banner to help promote Region 10. A really nice big sign was made by the owner at the Evergreen Bar. Soon we can take a ride and check it out. Awesome!

*Further discussion of the July Poker Run. Members gave a majority vote to have the band American Mischief for two nights (Friday & Saturday). Members agreed to have a t-shirt design contest. If your interested in submitting a design, entries will be taken at our next meeting.

*More discussion on the May Membership Drive planned for May 5th. This year we will be joining with Region 21. According to the committee, it's going to be the Biggest, Bestest, Baddest Membership Drive EVER!! Coney Dog Bar, Random Games, Horseshoes, and more. Purchase a 2 year Membership, receive a free Bike Ticket. Come have some fun and join the cause! It's going to be a dig, doggiti of a good time!! Members were given flyers for distribution.

*Last month we discussed the State Report (which informs you of how many active members you have in your region). A copy was obtained and our region has only 79 active members and inactive members. Dan volunteered to call inactive members in the Saginaw area and Lois volunteered to do the Gratiot area. See if we can get our numbers up.

*Update on Horseshoe Tournaments. None at this time. Ken & Tim II volunteered to help Bob in getting the ball rolling on this as he's been so busy with retirement life you know, Bahahaha!

*MRF Update:

- ✚ MRF lobbyist sat down with Deputy NHTSA to discuss concerns of autonomous vehicles and motorcycles. The Deputy of NHTSA expressed sincere concerns and is willing to reopen guidelines and make changes. MRF requested two favors, wants to know if any organizations were doing anything about “drugged driving,” and wants a list of all things, right and wrong, that the State highway safety officers were doing.
- ✚ Motorcycle Statistics Fact or Fiction? (Analysis & Solution), plus Training and Awareness Keys reviewed.

Legislative Update:

- ✚ Handlebar bill and procession bill will be picked up again the end of April.
- ✚ High concerns after hearing of the fatal crash involving a self-driving Uber vehicle in Arizona and a fatal crash involving a Tesla vehicle in “Autopilot mode.”
- ✚ High Crash Intersection Report with motorcycles involved between 2013 – 2017 had Saginaw listed with South Washington Avenue @ Gallagher Street intersection having 5 crashes. Nothing reported for Gratiot.

***Things to Remember:**

- ❖ Freedom Rally, June 5th, at the State Capital, Lansing. Rain or Shine. ABATE of Michigan will be celebrating six (6) years of riding with a “FREEDOM of Choice.” Are you concerned about motorcycle insurance, motorcycle only checkpoints, riders education and awareness, keeping your helmet choice option or ANY Motorcycle Issues then PLAN TO BE THERE!!! Region 10 Riders will meet at the Petticoat Junction, 10:00AM, for a Ride to the Capital.
- ❖ Incentive for whomever sells the most bike tickets will receive \$100. Bob will keep track. As a reminder, please turn in sold tickets to Bob either at the monthly meetings, or drop by the house.
- ❖ ABATE of Michigan will give \$800 to a region to use to promote teaching motorcycle awareness. They’ll come and help get us started. Joe & Lisa, Lois, Kecia and Bonnie volunteered.
- ❖ Spring Fling June 2nd.
- ❖ Poker Run. Need volunteers. Bob & Lois, Randy & Cindy volunteered. Need more team players.

*Meeting adjourned: 6:01PM

*NEXT MEETING: May 5, 2018, 5 PM, at the GHOST TOWN SALOON, Elwell, MI.

Be Safe, Lois