

Hello Region 6!

Our Memorial Run & Membership Drive was well attended. Thank you to all who volunteered. A special thank you to Paster Brad Windlan, for the blessing of the bikes before our run. A Special thank you to Kelly Windlan for singing Amazing Grace, we had tears in our eyes. She can sure sing! We had a beautiful day and a great time.

A special “Thank You”, to Penny Jones, owner of The Roadside Inn and Abate Member. Also, a special “Thank You” to Lisa and Tony Diaz from Region 18. They participated in our run on Saturday July 8th 2017.

Remember to turn in your Bike Raffle tickets to Beatrice Malleck, (989)-4399004 or Jerry Soto, (989)-992-0551 before the end of August.

Beatrice Malleck is looking for Area Coordinators for Region 6. Beatrice is in need of an AC in-case she cannot attend a meeting. So, please consider becoming an AC.

Just a friendly reminder: August 4th thru August 6th. Ralph Shiffer is sponsoring a weekend camp out at his property. Ralph Shiffer's property is located at 1695 Bard Rd, Gladwin, MI 48624. Ralph's cell phone # is 989-426-4992 if you need additional information, feel free to contact him. This camp weekend is for Region 6 only. Ralph has limited space available, but campers and tents are welcome. Rick Lawrence will put together a 100 mile run for us to ride on Saturday. When Rick has mapped out the run, he will print the route for us to ride. Following our Saturday ride there will be a Saturday evening meal, Ralph is asking for anyone attending, to please bring a dish to pass.

August's Legislative Report by Jeremy “Lil Ice Man” Bouvrette

To me riding is an awesome way to get away, relieve stress from a busy day, or just enjoy this great state. As most of you are aware, ABATE has been quite successfully to keep our motorcycle rights in check and on the lips of our state legislation. As always, there are those out there, who take for granted these freedoms. Those who busted their ass's to get them for all riders are “Riding on my Dollar” as I put it. With that being said, I ask all my ABATE family to talk to these unsuspecting riders and get them involved, even if they can't attend the meetings. They can come to an event, spread the word, or even just join! We ask that you Help out to keep our freedoms we as members have fought so hard to get, and keep.

Here it is!! The Michigan Senate has given final approval to legislation raising registration taxes and safety training fees for motorcyclists.

HB-4306 passed in the House by 94-14 and in the Senate 36-2 Wednesday June 28th increasing the annual registration fee to \$25 from \$23 — a \$2 increase. It also boosts initial endorsement fees to \$16 from \$13.50 and renewals to \$7 from \$5.

The additional registration fee revenue would go toward an existing motorcycle safety education program “Look Twice –Save a Life”. While some of the endorsement fee revenue would fund a new program promoting motorcycle awareness.

SB 160, for the Polaris Sling Shot, moved out of the House Transportation Committee by a 10 Yes to 4

No votes. Our issue with it is their stats will be on as motorcycles. Auto cycles are a sub class of motorcycles in Michigan. They will not be required to have a cycle endorsement. Our State Legislative Director Jim Rhodes recommended to the ABATE Board of Directors, that we take a step back from this, just for a bit.. to save, “political capital. Then in future meetings come back at it with more of a focus in mind.

Marty Howerlic, Proposes a Bill to Ban Cell phone usage in cars unless hands free... waiting on number of this bill and will keep you up to date on this.

We will also be talking at the next meeting about the PAC... we are running dangerously low on funds if not out! Keep in mind people, the PAC Fund plays a big part in how we work as a group. So if anyone has any ideas on a fund raiser or just to donate, please bring it up!!

For those keeping up with Catastrophic Claims... The cost of owning a car or truck in Michigan has gone up by \$10. As of Saturday, July 1st, the Catastrophic Claims Association started collecting \$170 per registered vehicle, up from \$160. The insurance fund was created to reimburse insurers for claims that exceed \$545,000. The fee is added to insurance bills. The rate lasts for 12 months and can go up or down each year. Critics (ABATE of MI for one..) say the Catastrophic Claims Association should open its books so the public can understand how it sets the rate. But Michigan courts have said the records aren't covered by the Freedom of Information Act because lawmakers granted an exception. Really!?!?!?

Get out and talk to some establishments, and if you have awareness signs, get them in the yards. If they want to hang a sign inside that is great as well. Support those who support you! Get them bikes out; cleaned up and head out, Summer is still on! Just hope the rain will give us a break, maybe catch you on the flip side! For another month, I'm Out!

Next meeting will be August 13th, at 1pm, at Roadside Bar.

Heidi Barnard