

ABATE REGION 19 MEETING

May, 2020

We hope everyone is still doing OK. We at Region 19 wish everybody good health. Pete is posting regularly on our Facebook account so look there for the latest news.

We were not able to meet in May but we are still active. Remember that May is Motorcycle Awareness Month; instead of showing our physical presence we need to do it digitally. Hopefully we can meet next month!

Remember too that when you are riding, car drivers these days have a lot more on their minds than just watching out for us, so be doubly vigilant.

The protests in Lansing, while we all may not agree with some of their methods, were nonetheless reminiscent of our protests that we have held there. Nice to see the Capitol from another viewpoint. Remember if you go to the Freedom Rally that we represent motorcyclist's rights and no other cause; please behave appropriately as you are representing ABATE. This includes wearing whatever personal protection equipment that is required.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT – As Pete posted on Facebook, you can still contact your Senators about SB528 and get them to support it.

Legislative Officer for Region 19 is open. Please think about volunteering; don't worry, we will help you!!

AMA: The Clean Fuels Deployment Act of 2020 authorizes \$500 million over five years to help retailers sell higher ethanol blends-primarily E15-expand the geographic area selling ethanol blends and support the biodiesel, bioheat and aviation fuel markets. The AMA opposes the expansion of E15 fuel into the marketplace, because it contains 15 percent ethanol by volume, 50 percent more ethanol than motorcycles and ATVs are certified to operate on by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

MRF: According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), motorcyclists accounted for 14 percent of all traffic fatalities in 2018, while motorcycles make up just 3 percent of all registered vehicles in the United States.

In 2018, 4,985 motorcyclists were killed in motor vehicle crashes, which is a 4.7 percent decrease from 2017. The majority of these were not single-vehicle crashes but instead involved other vehicles on the road. More than 88,000 motorcyclists were injured in motor vehicle crashes.

MRF President Kirk "Hardtail" Willard had this to say, "Motorcyclists must learn through training and experience the best way to stay safe on a motorcycle. Avid motorcyclists are cognizant of the skills required to avoid crashing and will practice and train accordingly. And even though we hone keen awareness skills, riding safe also demands that others we share the road with remain constantly aware of motorcyclists, this is aided by constant messaging by our motorcyclists rights organizations and various governmental and public service agencies. May is traditionally the month many riders are hitting

the road after winter and other vehicle drivers must pay attention, hence the importance of May is Motorcycle Awareness month."

BIKE RAFFLE: tickets are available via mail

AWARENESS: We will try to have a Motorcycle Awareness event but it won't be until June.

UPCOMING EVENTS (being optimistic, dates certainly subject to change)

June 3: Freedom Rally Lansing still on

Field Meet: cancelled.

Minutes by Vince P.