

ABATE REGION 10 – Gratiot & Saginaw

March 2, 2019

MICHIGAN RIDER NEWSLETTER

- Meeting brought to order at 5:02 p.m.
- Pledge of Allegiance.
- The Spring Fling is planned for May 25, 2019. Tim reviewed items discussed at the first committee meeting. Flyers were created for distribution. More will be available at the April meeting.
- Treasury Report given by Gary.
- Mandy handed out flyers for the Hope House Fundraiser that our region is helping with. The benefit will be held at the Alma Elk's on April 12, 2019. Mandy stated that not only do they want to help raise awareness and funds, but their #1 goal is to be able to purchase steal beds for the shelter. Check out their website at: www.gchopehouse.org. A Spaghetti Dinner is planned April 12, 2019 at 6pm at the Alma Elk's. A silent and live auction will take place, 50/50 drawings, and bake sale. Come show your support.
- Harley ticket raffle was discussed. Get with Bob Shock for tickets. Sell! Sell! Sell! Lets be an awesome selling region this year. A certain person in our region is once again selling tickets like crazy!
- Discussion of Region 10's banner that Joe Allen is designing. All members in attendance voted yea for our region to fund the purchase of 30 banners. Individual members will be able to purchase from these. These banners will be distributed to establishments frequented by Region 10 to help promote awareness of ABATE.
- Products update was announced by Keisha. She put together a nice binder listing several items available for members to purchase. Keisha also suggested going to ABATE's website to check out all the things available. So, I did just that and was impressed with what I saw. Check it out for yourself. Go to www.abateofmichigan.org/products. Lots of cool things to see.
- Guest speaker, Diane Godley, from the Community Strong Group, announced the planning of the 2nd Annual Veterans Freedom Ride to be held September 14, 2019. They're hoping to have it held at the Ithaca Fair Grounds this year with hopes of a bigger turnout. Our region attended last years ride that was held in October and Diane wanted to invite us once again. She also stated that if anyone was interested in attending a meeting they meet at the Church of God in Ithaca.
- 50/50 was won by Lucky Gary again. But really we're the lucky ones to have Gary being the winner because he donates it back every time. You ROCK man!
- Deb offered to make another quilt for our July Poker Run. She asked for t-shirt donations and that she would need 36 of them by the end of April. So here's another opportunity to clean out your drawers of old Region t-shirts and Harley t-shirts.
- Some members in attendance each gave a dollar so a Save-a-Life/Look Twice sign could be purchased and given to Sarah & Joe, owners of the Ghost Town Saloon.
- Flyers were also distributed for the Freedom Rally that will be June 5th at noon at the State Capital. Come celebrate our FREEDOM of Choice. Ride to Lansing and let them hear your voice and feel your presence!
- Poker Run is planned for July 13, 2019 and will be held at Tom/Mandy's. Plans are in the making with more details to come.
- A group picture was taken of us raising our glasses In Honor and In Memory of Michael Fitz, 1975 Founder of ABATE, who sadly, passed away recently.
- Legislation/MRF report given by Gary: The Pizza and Pop Meet & Greet was a success. We have lots of new representatives that need to be polished with our issues of Motorcycle Awareness and Insurance Reform. Continue contacting our state legislators and inquire as to where they stand on issues concerning motorcyclists. Currently the focus is our states no-fault insurance reform and the catastrophic insurance, as well as Motorcycle Awareness.. Continue to call the Secretary of State, although Gary said that they have

received so many calls that they have an answering system now so you never get a “real” person, but we still need to keep calling (517) 335-3269. Gary reminded members that the more ticket sales we do the more rockers we’ll receive.

- Tim briefly discussed Carla’s Memorial Run planned for July 20, 2019 at Hubcher Park in Sumner. Proceeds will be donated to the Alma Fire Department. Tim feels that we have a small committee and would like to have more volunteers. The following are current volunteers: Tim/Odessa, Bubba/Bonnie, John/Cheryl, Duane/Jaime. More details to come.
- Safety Awareness report: None.
- Please Welcome **16** **New Members**: Brad/Emily O’Boyle, Colin Kemmis, Barb Case, Jim Martin, Jim/Rhonda Townsend, Fred Wheatley, Robin Polley, Kirk/Leigh Olson, Levi/Deb Halliwill, Dan Recker, Todd Welch (Renewal), Tom Bray (Life Member - Tim says it’s about time!). WOW!!! That’s awesome!

*Meeting adjourned: 6:07 P.M.

*NEXT MEETING: April 6, 2019 at 5 P.M.

Riding season is just around the next curve, whoop, whoop!