

## ABATE Region 20 November 2017 Newsletter

Woo Hoo!!! Turkey Day has come and gone. Hopefully everyone had a very thankful day and got to enjoy the holiday in good company and of course feel thankful for all you have. Well it is now Christmas and the holiday season time and of course those wild and wonderful black Friday, black Monday and golly only knows what other kinds of sales are going on, LOL. Shiawassee, no meeting. At Genesee, there was one guest: Gary Smidths and I apologize I probably spelt that wrong. There was a wonderful turnout for this meeting, so thanks for giving a shit to everyone who attended. Secretary and Treasurer reports were read and accepted. As for Membership: we really could use some more members. Hopefully we can encourage people from other clubs and organizations to understand what we are about and peak their interest about ABATE. Now from our very busy L.O. Larry Flood: HB5013 – Defeated. Bill was to reform auto insurance. HB4306 – Passed. Motorcycle plate increase for rider's education and awareness passed the house and senate and is waiting for the Governor's signature. This increased original endorsements by \$2.00 and renewals by \$.50/yr, or \$2.00. The Secretary of State offices cannot do the fee increase at this time due to outdated computer systems. SB575 – Bill to "bridge the gap" until the Secretary of State's computer systems can be updated. Funds to be borrowed from another fund and repaid after systems are upgraded. And for the MRF News: Renewable Fuel Standard. 15% ethanol. 64 member of the House, Democrats and Republicans, sent a letter to the EPA Administrator, Scott Pruitt, urging EPA to factor in the pitfalls and costs in future ethanol regulations. Apparently, Senators from corn growing states are threatening to obstruct conformation of top EPA officials. The MRF asked to sign onto a letter highlighting the impact of the Renewable Fuel Standard. The letter will be sent to President Trump and run as full page adds in the Wall Street Journal and the Washington Times after his return from Asia. The Department of Transportation released a document "Vision for Safety 2.0" which updates policies concerning automated vehicles and discusses safety and performance. One section has to do with object detection. This section mentions automated vehicles will be aware of pedestrians, bicyclist and animals. Once again, there is no mention of motorcyclists. And from Carrie, this month's Cares & Concerns: Thoughts & Prayers: Audrey (for the family and friends of Ken White), The return of common sense, The return of sanity in society. Birthdays: Hats, Lisa Vail, Ted Stilson. Anniversaries and Milestones: Carrie Quit Smoking in 2005, Terry and Amy Brown, Ray and Diane Martin (50th)-Woo Hoo! The Faithful Facebook Master made her goal of the 600 and has now 601 Likes. New goal of 650. So don't forget, when you can, please say something that may spark someone's interest about ABATE and post something about liking our page on your Facebook page and tell them our page name: ABATE of Michigan Region20. Stuff for sale: Bikin' for Burns shirts, Awareness Signs and Bikin' for Burns patches on sale, so see Kritter if interested. Kritter for Awareness: Taught 86 in October. Total for the year 907. Sent payment in for billboard. \$480.08 left to pay. Tickets for Awareness quilt are one ticket for \$1; 6 tickets for \$5; 15 tickets for \$10. Please see Kritter for tickets. And thanks again to Margaret because there still is one more quilt for seminar. If you can, please reach out to Margaret and give her a thank you for the quilts on Facebook. Please, we need more Awareness Instructors. Please, if interested, please get a hold of him. With

some sitting in on Awareness classes, learning the ropes, anyone can do it. And for the RC Report by Mike: At the Board meeting there will be voting at Seminar for state level and by law changes. One was compensation for Raffle Chairpeople and it passed. Will be decided on at Seminar. 2<sup>nd</sup> by law option to get Rider online instead of mailing a hard copy. Vote on at Seminar. 3<sup>rd</sup> bylaw change would be for an absentee ballot. Didn't pass the board so will not be voted on at Seminar. Another issue, patches wanting to look more like an M/C resulted in a tie. Vince who normally doesn't vote, voted no to the changing of patches to look like a club. Nominations for RC: Bus (Mark Berger) and Kritter (Mike Poage). Treasurer: General (Steve Graves) and High Beams (Audrey Coon). The nominees went on about issues and gave their reasons for running for positions. After some time went by Larry called for a vote and it was seconded by Bob. Voting went on. For a first, RC, Treasurer and member of the year ALL resulted in a tie. Everyone who was a member had turned in their votes. Couldn't do anything. Called Jerry Spoomer and didn't get an answer as to what to do. Will hold revote in December. Since we had a tie, if you attended the November meeting, please try and come to December's meeting and vote again. It doesn't mean you need to change your vote, we just need it. Those of you that didn't attend in November, if you could try and make it to December's that would be great as we need your vote too, your voice is important. Next meeting will be on Monday, December 4 at Captain's Quarters in Burton at 7pm. I ripped down all the Fall decorations and put up all the holiday bling. I am in the spirit and hope to spread it as well. What a great time of year to share joy with others. I have given bunches to Toys for Tots in July and November. Looking forward to this holiday season. It is a time to help spread joy and enjoy friends and family. It is not about the gifts you give but the season itself. Everyone, I hope you all can enjoy this season with the ones you care about.

.....Be Safe!!