

ABATE REGION 10 – Gratiot & Saginaw

January 4, 2020

MICHIGAN RIDER NEWSLETTER

- Meeting brought to order.
- Pledge of Allegiance.
- MRF Report: Gary announced what the MRF fought for in 2019 that included requirements for ethanol pump labeling for gas blends containing 10-15% ethanol known as E15; motorcycle profiling; definition of a motorcycle; autonomous vehicle technology; the RPM Act a movement against the EPA and regulatory actions that wanted to prevent modification of personal vehicles for the intent of racing or off-road; and MAC (Motorcyclist Advisory Council). Gary also announced that 6182 letters were sent out by MRF memberships to legislatures regarding the SB 528. If you didn't get a chance to send a letter, get with Gary, he has samples you can use to construct a letter.
- ABATE Report: Gary reported that representatives would not be back in session until January 8th. The letters we prepared seem to be very helpful so far. Gary mentioned that Lana Theis wants to make a motorcycle a motor vehicle, and that the insurance companies could raise the auto insurance because of motorcycles. There are co-sponsors for the Rendon Bill, a bill to help lower rates for Michigan car insurance. Also, Gary asked members if there any questions regarding the By-Laws listed in the Rider and there was much discussion around some of those by-laws.
- The committee that consisted of Ken & Deb Townsend, Bonnie Gustavison and Bob Shock got together for the purchasing and delivery of Kleenex and hand sanitizer delivered these commodities to three different schools: Luce Road Elementary, Alma; Hillcrest Elementary, Alma; and, Carrie Knause Elementary, St. Louis. A letter was received by one of the elementary schools that received a much needed donation of Kleenex and Hand Sanitizer from Region 10. The letter praised our group and gave a great amount of thanks and appreciation! Way to rock it Region 10!!!
- Treasure Report.
- Proceeds from the 50/50 were won and donated back by member, Nicole. Way to Rock it Lady! We also included 9 of the ABATE Look Twice Save a Life signs in the drawing. That was pretty cool!
- RC again reminded members to come and be a part of the ABATE of Michigan's Seminar 2020. Update of that event at our next meeting.
- RC announced calendar events to look forward to in 2020. Be sure to look in the Rider for those dates.
- RC also pointed out that on page 6 of the Rider is a 2020 Board of Directors and Bylaw Change Election Ballot.
- We had more discussion about the Passport (stamp) Book. Members had good questions. Sounds like our group is becoming more interested.
- Bernie showed up to the meeting and thanked everyone for coming to his Santa Ride and that 500 children were given gifts. He also discussed the upcoming fundraiser. Currently unable to secure a place for this event. His prior idea was nixed due to insurance liability. So the team is still working on this.
- RC introduced and welcomed, RJ, who is the RC for Region 21. Thanked him for coming to our meeting.
- Meeting adjourned.
- Correction: Tom L. will also co-captain with Joe A. and Art S.
- And last, but not least, this will be my last entry for our newsletter. I've enjoyed being the secretary for the past many, many years, but it's time for me to hang up my pen and let a younger member get involved. I'm very happy to announce and ask that you give a warm welcome, Amanda Gonzales, as your new secretary.
- NEXT MEETING: February 1, 2020.
- Stay warm! Spring will be here soon! Yours truly, *Lois*.