

Greetings fellow riders! It's hard to believe September is already here. There has been so much going on the past few months it has really flow by!

While out in Sturgis in August, we had the pleasure of meeting Abate members from Ohio, Colorado and Pennsylvania!



In Region 8, we had the opportunity to discuss HB4809 with Bradley Slagh, House Rep from District 090, at a meet-and-greet event in Holland in July. Three of our members were able to attend and express our concerns regarding insurance coverage for motorcyclists. When asked how we could better approach our representatives, his recommendation was to get appointments if possible, but also to write personal letters. He advised against using form letters, noting they don't have much of an impact and many times don't even make it to the legislator's desk. Robert extended him an invite to our September regional meeting, and we were surprised and delighted when he showed up! He had spent some time researching HB4809, and his take is that there is support in Lansing for the bill and no red flags from the insurance arena that he found. His reading of the legislation did leave him with some questions if the bill as written would get us what we are looking for (he did say it that might just be his interpretation of what he read). Robert is going to look into getting the bill sponsor, a few key Abate leaders and Bradley together to discuss. Bradley also gave us a quick overview of other legislation he has sponsored, and made us aware there is a bill out there for distracted driving related to use of cell phones while driving.



In our September meeting we also voted to re-instate our MRF membership, which had lapsed with the region going dormant.

While our numbers are still small, we are still planning some events through the end of this year. In October we have a Fall Color Ride planned, and we are working to get shorter rides in each of our four counties in yet this year. In addition, we have some ideas for charity events in the works when we get closer to the holidays.

The days may be getting shorter, but there is still plenty of riding weather left! Enjoy and ride safe!

Bex, R8 Secretary