

TEXAS TIDBITS

Volume 3, Issue 5

September - October 2021

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LOUISIAN ABATE BOOSTS M.I.L.E.

\$2,140... WOW!!! Thanks to the hard work and dedication of Louisiana ABATE, along with assistance from local clubs in Texas, under the direction of Brick Lindsey, Texas ABATE was given \$2,140 to help fund the 2021 Mid-South M.I.L.E.



CALLING ALL MEMBERS

Rober Crowdis, State Membership Officer

There have been several inquiries regarding the existence of Texas ABATE Chapters in the Central, South, or West Texas areas. Sad, but true, we do not have any Chapters in these areas at this time but would love to have Chapters established.

I believe one of the main obstacles in starting a Chapter is signing up and maintaining fifteen (15) current, paid members. If you can get these 15 members signed up and they are passionate in fighting for motorcyclists' rights, the other Chapter requirements will easily fall in place.

As State Membership Officer I am willing to assist anyone interested in establishing a new ABATE Chapter so please do not hesitate to contact me and let me know how I can assist. I personally have received inquiries from Killeen, Houston, and Lake Jackson, but the current 15-member requirement appears to be the biggest obstacle.

Therefore, I am reaching out to our Texas ABATE members for advice or pointers as to the best way to get an ABATE Chapter established. Looking forward to what advice our membership has to offer!

State and Chapter Info

(Click underlined text for links)

STATE:

www.texasabate.com

www.facebook.com/groups/texasabate

State Meeting

10/2/21 at 1:00 pm VFW Post 10460 501 Thompson Drive Lake Dallas, TX 75065

ARLINGTON:

www.arlingtonabate.com www.facebook.com/ArlingtonABATE

Chapter Meeting

3rd Sunday at **12 noon** VFW Post 6111 1200 W Harris Street Arlington, TX 76001

DENTON:

www.facebook.com/DentonChapterABATE

Chapter Meeting

4th Sunday at 2:00 pm Sept-Horny Toad Café & Bar 5812 Interstate 35 Denton, TX 76207 Oct-Mr. Porky's 8430 W University Dr Denton, TX 76207

LAKE CITIES:

www.facebook.com/Lake-Cities-ABATE-2021-454543498728107

Chapter Meeting

2nd **Sunday** at **1:00 pm** VFW Post 10460 501 Thompson Drive Lake Dallas, TX 75065

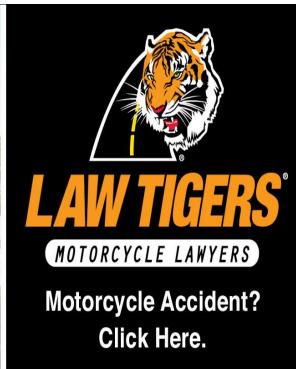
TEXOMA:

www.facebook.com/texomaabate

Chapter Meeting

3rd Sunday at **1:00 pm** American Legion Post 62 419 Crawford Street Denison, TX 75020





https://www.lawtigers.com/dallas-motorcycle-lawyers-lp/

Dallas Motorcycle Lawyers - Law Tigers

Law Tigers is a national association of independent law firms in various states that represent motorcycle riders. This is a paid advertisement for a network (national association) of independent law firms in various states who are members of the American Association of Motorcycle Injury Lawyers. www.lawtigers.com

DID SOMEONE SAY, RIDE???

To help Denton Abate, David Dennis started a process to help support the organization.

This is to enjoy a motorcycle ride a few hours before the monthly chapter meeting. This ride was through the open country east of Denton and was very interesting. We took part in highway and country roads. Normal traffic on the highway, and then some interesting traffic on the country roads.





We saw a couple turtles trying to cross the road, along with birds, rabbits, and other creatures. Passing by a few ranches we got to see the buffalo and a few long horns. We stopped at a couple places along the way to enjoy some time together.

It was a good ride to do before the Denton Abate meeting. This is a great event to plan to enjoy, before or after the meetings. This will definitely make the day more enjoyable. Maybe more people would enjoy these rides too.

Elmer McKeegan, Denton ABATE

STURGIS OR BUST

Two months of planning, several weeks of 10-12 hour days, praying for product to be delivered in time to load the trailer and we are ready to head north. Three 400-mile days on two (and three) wheels in thunder storms seems par for the course on any 21-day adventure, but none-theless brutal. Although, the 20 mph crosswinds on the way home were pretty taxing on these old bones, too! Not really sure which was tougher – rain or wind?! No matter what, the joys and freedom of the road are worth every drenching / windblown moment!

But, is there a secret to finding 93octane fuel outside of Texas? Best we found, after departing our dearly, beloved State, was 91... I don't know about your bike, but neither of ours care much for anything less than 93! Spoiled babies? Indeed! (continued on pg 7)

Legislative Report

Our Texas 87th general legislative session is all but history – with the exception of the 1st and 2nd Special Sessions that Governor Abbott called. If the Texas Democrats don't come back from DC soon, Gov. Abbott promised that he would call for a 3rd special session – all funded with your tax dollars. What a mess!

Let's recap what motorcycle bills advanced during the 87th regular legislative session. Two House bills that Texas motorcycle advocates fought for had advanced through their entire chamber (well, HB 1838 did). HB 1838, relating to "intelligence"

databases for combinations & criminal street gangs" (gang database reform) made it through the full House and was received by the Senate. This bill received a 121-22 vote on the House floor, but we simply ran out of time to advance anything in the Senate. Another bill advancing through the House chamber was HB 1837 - relating to "motorcycle profiling by peace officers". This bill was certain to advance, and we were already hopeful that Texas may become the 5th State in the Country to pass a law addressing unlawful profiling by police officers but again, we simply ran out of time.

As you know, Texas legislature only convenes in odd numbered years (2021); and then, the regular session only lasts 140 days. IMO, this is barely enough time to advance a bill through both chambers, especially if the bills are somewhat "controversial". After the end of each session, we should analyze what we did right, and what we can improve on for next session. One thing that we learned this session is that every day is valuable. With no days to spare, we need to work each bill, every day, as if it were the last!

Let's take a look at our profiling bill, which made it as far as it could in the House – almost getting a vote on the full House floor. Remember, we only have 140 days. To begin, we had to wait 27 days to get this bill filed (even though we were looking for a bill number from day 1) – this made for a bad start, and it only got worse from there. After HB 1837 was read the first time, it took 20 days for this bill to be scheduled for a public hearing. A few committee members found some of

the language "controversial", which they told us at the hearing. It was left pending in the committee for 9 days, and then it was considered again in a formal hearing. Again, it was left pending - for 27 days! During these 27 days we requested a CQ "Take Action" link from the MRF, and we posted and shared that link on Facebook; Texas bikers took action in a big way! In 2 days, the House had substituted the "controversial" language with something more to their liking and considered it (for the 3rd time) in a public hearing; and this time it was reported favorably (as substituted). In the following 3 days, HB 1837 received a unanimous committee vote of 9 ayes and 0 nays - and 1 day later this bill was sent to the Calendar Committee to be placed on the calendar for a general House vote. That was on May 8th, and May 10th was the last day that the House could report on House bills! If HB 1837 could have been placed on the calendar only a few days sooner, the Senate could have received this profiling bill. Looking back at the timeline, you start thinking "wow, how could we have saved a couple of days here, or there". That's why I say, work your bills every day, as time is of essence!

We are optimistic that similar bills, to HB 1837 & 38, will have a 60% greater chance of becoming law during the next legislative session. It was, in many ways, a historic session for Texas motorcycle legislation; and we definitely learned a lot – I just hope we remember what we learned for 2023!

Many of us are returning from Sturgis this week (as I write this), including many from Texas! I got the opportunity



to see friends and Motorcycle Riders Foundation members, at the "Whitewood Social" - hosted by ABATE of SD. Hardtail briefed us all on the Senate version of the Transportation bill, and how important it is to keep the MAC (Motorcycle Advisory Council) in the Senate version of the Transportation Bill; also important are autonomous vehicle testing requirements that must prove testing includes motorcycles. The best outcome would be the merging of the two chamber versions into one, which would allow for favorable House motorcycle language. Thank you for the hospitality, ABATE of SD! Congratulations to Deborah Butitta, board member of the Motorcycle Riders Foundation, for being inducted into the 2021 Sturgis Hall of Fame. Deborah was the recipient of the "Freedom Fighter Award", which recognizes individuals who have made (continued on pg 4)

INDEPENDENT CORNER

Seeking volunteers for 9/11/21, for a booth at Maverick Harley-Davidson for the 22Kill event. Please let me know if you are available to assist.

PLEASE check your junk mail and look for communications from mimashivers2002@yahoo.com.

Shoot me an email to let me know if you are not receiving them.

Remember to email info about upcoming events you would like to see ABATE involved in, as well.

Kirsten Scheideman, Ind. Rep

LEGISLATIVE (continued from pg 3)

a long-term impact on the motorcycle rights community. We also got a free fill-up at the "Chip" with 93-octane, 10% ethanol, gasoline; in South Dakota ethanol gasoline is a good thing, and 93-octane is a rare find.



I hope many MRF members, and non-members alike, are making plans for the 37th Annual "Meeting of the Minds" in Atlanta, GA, September 23rd-26th. This will be the 1st time that the MOTM will be held in Georgia and it promises to be historic!

Also, don't forget that Texas ABATE is hosting the 29th Annual Mid-South M.I.L.E. in Dallas, TX, October 22-24th. The M.I.L.E. (Motorcyclists Improving Legislative Effectiveness) is a regional event with six States participating -Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Louisiana, and Texas. We are grateful to Louisiana - for

organizing a fundraiser for this event, and for donating the proceeds (over \$2,000) to Texas ABATE for the 29th Annual Mid-South M.I.L.E. The sessions are all new, including new guest speakers - make your plans and your reservations now to join us on October 22nd – 24th, 2021!

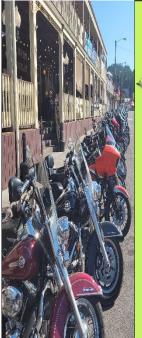
June to September are the peak months for motorcycle crashes - don't become a statistic. Remember, nearly 'half of all motorcycle crashes are single-vehicle accidents (motorcycle only); take your time and arrive alive! I hope to see y'all soon!

Stay hydrated my friends! Skeedaddy



State Assistant Coordinator Needed

Are you a member in good standing for at least 6 months? Do you have an interest in stepping up to finish out the term of State Assistant Coordinator? We need your help. Contact your chapter rep or any state officer to express interest.



3rd Arlington UNRUN

Benefits Arlington ABATE

Motorcycle Rights & Education



Arlington Establishments

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2021

PRIZES AWARDED FOR

BEST HAND

\$50 Harley Cift Card

WORST HAND

Bar Swag



FREE Breakfast Tacos at Registration

Registration NOON to 1pm at PLAZA P出路

1605 New York Ave, Arlington 76010

MEMBERSHIP

2021 Texas ABATE

Total Number of New Members

Chapter	June	July
Arlington	0	8
Denton	0	0
Lake Cities	6	7
Texoma	8	0
Independents	3	1

\$10 per Bike

Receive 1 card at each location Last Bike in at OCL @ 4pm with

FREE food



UPCOMING EVENTS

9/10-9/12 9/11 9/18 10/15-10/17 10/22-10/24

11/21

State Rally 6th Annual 22 Kill Ride 3rd Arlington FUN RUN Dad's Party

MID-SOUTH M.I.L.E Registration form at MidSouthMILE.org

Bikers Giving Back

ORGANIZING A RUN... FUN OR FAIL?!

(continued from VOL 3 ISS 4)

ROADMAP'S RUN RULES

- 8. Stopping: Fuel, Food, Breakdowns, Law Enforcement, Crashes
 - a. Fuel
 - i. Everyone should know BEFOREHAND when a stop for fuel will be coming up. NO ONE should run out.
 - ii. EVERYONE tops off. NO ONE should run out.
 - iii. Maximum fifteen (15) minutes for fuel for 10 bikes. This includes smokes and bathroom breaks. It's a fuel stop NOT lunch, NOT a party. Stop, gas up, and go!
 - iv. Get fuel in riding order then get your bike out of the way. Keep pumps running and pay all at once, when possible.
 - v. Be ready to leave together.

f. Food

- v. Fuel up first so you are ready to go. It's a run, NOT a party.
- vi. Maximum time = one hour. Get your food and eat. It's a run, NOT a party.
- vii. Do NOT get drunk, nor try to run off with the waitstaff. Two beers, MAX.
- viii. Do NOT take a 30-minute bathroom break. Take care of business and leave.
- g. Breakdown with a run truck
 - v. No one stops except the bike breaking down and the run truck. Everyone else, except the run truck, keeps going.
 - vi. If at all possible, if you breakdown, flash your lights, honk your horn. Let your riding partner know that you are having problems.
- vii. SAFELY, pull over; make sure you don't take someone else down. BE CAREFUL.
- viii. Don't sit there. Load up your bike and get back on the road. Stay with your bike.
- ix. If possible, work on your bike in the back of truck while you are traveling. You may be able to unload and ride at the next stop.
- x. If the bike cannot be fixed, make room for another breakdown, just in case you are not alone.
- xi. Run truck needs to catch up with the pack.
- h. Breakdown without a run truck
 - v. Breakdown bike and riding partner pull over together. Flash lights, honk horns. Let everyone know you are having problems.
 - vi. EVERYONE pulls over together. Stay ready to go.
- vii. When the problem is found, riding partner notifies run leader and explains the problem, a.s.a.p.
- viii. If the problem is minor, fix it quickly; 5-10 minutes
- ix. If the problem is major, riding partner always stays with broken bike. Everyone else proceed to the next

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stop and make arrangements.

- e. Law Enforcement
 - v. Only rear two bikes stop, if possible. Law Enforcement will let you know.
 - vi. If everyone has to stop, kill the bikes, but do NOT get off. Be ready for anything.
 - vii. The run truck does NOT stop, unless absolutely necessary. The run truck continues to the next scheduled stop and awaits information.
- viii. EVERYONE, BE POLITE! It only takes one "asshole" to land everyone in jail. Yes Sir, No Sir, and Thank You Sir go a long way.



1200 W. Harris Road, Arlington 76001

For more information call Bearpup (817)819-7146

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Port & Company Core Blend Tees SUPPORT *5.5 oz,50:50 Cotton/Poly SUPPORT ABATE Size Qtv Color Price Total YOUR LOCAL LOCAL \$ 15.00 \$ Small \$ 15.00 Medium \$ \$ 15.00 Ś Large Red (R) Royal Blue (RB) Black (B) \$ 15.00 \$ X-Large FRONT BACK BACK 2-XL \$ 17.00 \$ \$ 17.00 \$ 3-XL Unisex - White logo on front/White lettering on back QUESTIONS??? Call Tina Dodson, Products Officer 4-XL \$ 20.00 5-XL \$ \$ 20.00 (903)815-0299, and Leave Message or Text with your \$ Add \$5 per shirt for postage name & phone # - she will return calls as she does not **Grand Total** Ś answer calls from unrecognized numbers Delivery Method (mark one): Payment Options: Pick up at State Meeting or Rally Pay via PayPal: Set up account & login to PayPal.com Contact Tina Dodson at (903)815-0299 Click "Send & Request" (in top blue bar) to make pick up arrangements In box below "Send Money", type: Please mail to address below (include \$5/shirt) tinadodson@sbcglobal.net & click "Next" Enter "Amount" from "Grand Total" from above Name: Click "Add Note" & type TX Abate Shirt; Include size, Address: color, quantity AND delivery information Personal Check: City: Make check payable to: Texas Abate Confederation Zip State: Mail with THIS FORM to: Tina Dodson Phone: P.O. Box 2182 Pottsboro, TX 75076 Email:



LEGAL STUFF

2021 STATE OFFICER OPENINGS

The following Executive/Administrative State Officer positions will be open for nominations beginning July 1st through September 30, 2021:

Coordinator (Executive Office)
Secretary (Executive Office)
Legislative (Administrative Office)

Executive & Administrative Officers serve for a period of two (2) years. All candidates must be 18 years of age and current members, in good standing, for a period of at least six (6) months. Candidates may accept their nomination either in person, by phone, written notice, or via electronic communications. Candidates for office may address the general membership via print, electronically, or in person. Voting by the Board for these open State positions will be held at the last State Board meeting of the calendar year.

Detailed information regarding the duties of these offices is located on pages 12-15 of the (The) Texas ABATE Confederation Bylaws.

DESTINATION: STURGIS (continued from pg 2)

Despite fuel issues, it was a great year for Sturgis. The locals and the vendors are definitely to blame. Special shout out to Sandy at the Side Hack Saloon and Ms. Lynne at Mooney's Hog Farm (and their amazing biscuits & gravy), as well as Bill Gormley of Bill's Trailer Sales, and all the others in between that made 2021 a fabulous year! It was 3800 miles (+/-) of riding the beautiful hills in South Dakota that made it well worth navigating the crappy surface that Colorado calls roadways (gotta be some of the worst roads in the USA). Even got to dip our toes in the icy waters of Spearfish Creek. Thankfully, the only "mishaps" we experienced on this journey was a clogged fuel filter and lost a highway peg.



Fortunately for another rider, our "resident mechanic" was at the ready and able to assist with some desperately needed roadside repairs.

From catching up with folks we have not seen in 35 years, to seeing brothers/sisters from home, and forming new friendships, Sturgis was the perfect backdrop for making memories! Remember, it's NOT about the destination, it's all about the journey!

Ride Easy & Ride Free, Bearpup



FUN OR FAILPI (continued from pg 6)

 x. If someone goes to jail, say goodbye and keep going. Make necessary arrangements at the next stop.

f. Crashes

- i. EVERYONE pull over and shut down. Be careful!
- ii. Do what is necessary for anyone who is hurt.
- iii. Send for assistance immediately police, ambulance, etc.
- iv. If need be, transport any injured in the run truck. Be careful!
- v. Get moving! As soon as possible, send someone to get information on the injured. Then wait and pray.

SUNDAY FUNDAY

HAPPY HOUR

OPEN TO CLOSE

\$4 CROWN & DOWN



\$3 MEXICAN IMPORTS \$3 JOSE & ESPOLON TEQUILA











TEXAS ABATE CONFEDERATION, INC.

900 Fish Creek Drive Arlington, Texas 76018

Texas Abate Confederation, Inc, is a not-for-profit, motorcycle rights organization. An alliance dedicated to the protection of the individual rights of motorcyclists through political change and awareness, charitable works, public education, and the promotion of motorcycling.

Dedicated to Freedom of the Road In Hope of Promoting a Better Relationship with the Public for Motorcycle Awareness.

