

BIKER'S DREAM

Watch out for bikes and bars

By Stacy "Ax" Axmaker

Director - Idaho STAR Motorcycle Safety Program

In 2007 and 2008, 25-30% of motorcycle fatalities in Idaho involved riders who had been drinking.

And most of these fatalities involved riders who had a BAC of .08 or higher. Nationally, these percentages are even higher. What gives?

One of the unfortunate elements of our 'biker culture' is alcohol. Poker runs often go from bar to bar; many bike shows, swap meets, and other riding events have beer gardens (or at least a keg or two).

So often we see a row of beautiful bikes parked outside of a bar. Perhaps the riders in there are drinking coffee or lemonade – the fatality numbers suggest otherwise.

You'll hear people say (or you may say) that they can ride fine with a few drinks. Here is the bottom line:

1. Judgment, vision, and divided attention skills are affected by even small amounts of alcohol.

Judgment is the most critical.

2. Reaction time and coordination are also affected and this is where we can really

get bitten. A half second delay in reacting to a car pulling out in front of you can make the difference between a close call and a 911 call.

Our best 'rescue' from these crashes and fatalities is each other. Drinking is not the problem; it's what we do after we drink that can be the problem. Let's face it – you know when one of your buddies shouldn't ride. And guess what – your buddies also know when you shouldn't ride.

'Knowing' isn't the problem. The problem is that we typically don't take action to stop something we know could result in disaster.

As riders, we take action when issues arise. Those issues could be that one of the riders in the group is having a problem with their bike, or it starts to rain, or maybe there is a speed trap ahead. We recognize the situation, we know what needs to be done, and we do it. In these ways, we look out for each other and ourselves.

Alcohol is no different. Please, look out for your buddies (and yourselves) and take action when you know they shouldn't ride.

It's your choice. Make the right choice – ride sober.



Photo/Garry "2R" Canaday

Playboy Super Model and Actress Kristy Swanson poses on a '06 Hayabusa at the Wide Open Bike Show held in Tulsa at the Quik Trip Center on Feb. 26 and 27. The bike is owned by Sidney Cooper.

Motorcyclists hang out at the state capitol

By Garry "2R" Canaday

State Coordinator, ABATE of Oklahoma

I love it when a plan comes together.

ABATE of Oklahoma's single most important event, Legislative Day, was amazing.

Thank you to all who took time out of their schedules to lend in making it the success that it has become.

This year we gave Lt. Governor Todd Lamb the much deserved S.M.I.L.E. Award. It is presented to the person who helps promote motorcycle safety and awareness the most, in our great State.

Last year, then-Senator Lamb was instrumental in our success with getting our key pieces of legislation through the Senate (our Malfunctioning Traffic Light Bill and Gunners Bill). Lt. Governor Lamb is indeed a good friend to Oklahoma motorcyclists.

John Pierce, our Legislative Coordinator, and Suzette Northcutt-Rhodes, our

Lobbyist, instructed us on how to properly address a Senator or Representative and then gave us our marching orders.

Go forth and be thankful, they said. Introduce yourself to the freshmen and thank everyone else for their support last year.

Senate Bill 443 is a bill that would require a question about motorcycle safety on driver's license exams. It just passed in the Senate 41-0, and now goes to the House. This is proof positive of the effectiveness of having so many bikers show up in their riding gear to visit their Legislators.

The pre-legislative day was instrumental in the success we saw on Legislative Day. The evening before, we invited everyone to a little get-together at a hotel.

This gave everyone a chance to get to know each other a little better and allowed more folks to ride into OKC when the cool February temps were a little more favorable for riding. This year we had over 50

folks from 11 Chapters show up – every one of which is a Magic Member.

Sharon Stone-Husmann, with her husband Lance, from Iowa, showed off ABATE of Oklahoma's own Share the Road Program. It has been modified from the very successful program that ABATE of Iowa uses.

Sharon and Lance spent the entire week in our fine state showcasing this excellent program to nine different schools in Osage and Garfield Counties. Thanks to Staz, Frank, and Chiquita for stepping up and getting this awesome program off and running.

If you would like to have this program brought to your school, or if you would like to help, please contact John Pierce at: mrffogman@sbcglobal.net.

John would be more than happy to answer any questions you may have about ABATE of Oklahoma's Share the Road Program and how it can be used to make our great state a better, safer place to ride.

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Get your motor runnin'

Rallies, runs and bike events coming up around the state

March 2011

- ▶ 26 - 6th Annual Guard Dog Central Chapter Poker Run, American Legion Post 73, 5000 SE 24th Street, Del City. Registration 9 a.m., first bike out 10 a.m. Proceeds benefit Oklahoma National Guard Scholarship Program and our Children's Home fund raiser. More info 405-642-7907 or www.okcguarddogs.com
- ▶ 27 - Jeff Williams Swap Meet, Oklahoma City Fairgrounds. See ad below, on this page.

April 2011

- ▶ 3 - Cassody, KS Breakfast Run.
- ▶ 8 - Sunset's "Ride the Hall." Lincoln School, El Reno, meet 12:30 p.m. at the VFW, KSU, 12:45 p.m. for Lincoln School.
- ▶ 10 - Three Rivers Chapter Swap, Muskogee.
- ▶ 17 - Bucklin, KS. Breakfast Ride, leave Kevin's Corner in Woodward at 7:30 a.m.
- ▶ 23 - Chisholm Trail 412 Tornado Run
- ▶ 29-30 - NW 69 Biker Rodeo (30th), Waynoka Snake Hunt, Waynoka.
- ▶ 30 - Mason's For Education Cruise-in and Scholarship Run, Masonic Lodge, 10th and

Main, Blanchard. First bike out 8 a.m., \$15 per person. More info 405-613-4213 or 405-255-3831.

April 2011

- ▶ 1 - Cassody, KS. Breakfast Run
- ▶ 7 - State Board Meeting, Budro's, Ardmore
- ▶ 7 - South Central Poker Run, Ardmore
- ▶ 7 - Sunset's Burger Day Bike Show, El Reno
- ▶ 7 - MRF Bikers inside the Beltway ride, Washington, D.C.
- ▶ 13-15 - MRF Beast o/t East/ Linthicum Heights, MD
- ▶ 13-15 - 5 State Run (OK, TX, NM, CO, KS), Guymon, Okla.
- ▶ 13-15 - Mayfit, Pawhuska, Okla., ABATE of Oklahoma Booth.

For more Oklahoma motorcycle events, check out www.lets-ride.com/event/oklahoma.htm To submit events to the Biker Journal, e-mail okabatenews@yahoo.com. Deadline for May issue is April 1.



Steve Fallis (Lead Road Captain) along with Anita McMullen (Secretary) entered the NW 69's Annual Chili Cook off on Feb. 19. Steve won his category (hot) as well as overall.

New year for Chisholm Trail 412

By ANITA McMULLEN
Chisholm Trail 412, Secretary

A new year is beginning for Chisholm Trail 412.

On Feb. 19, eight Chisholm Trail members ventured westward in the thick fog toward Woodward to attend NW 69's Annual Chili Cook off.

Steve Fallis (Lead Road Captain) and Anita McMullen (Secretary) entered their chili. Steve won his category (hot) as well as overall.

On Feb. 23, CT 412 had 17 members attend Legislative Day at the Capitol. On Feb. 26, Mark McMullen (Vice President), Paul Brenton (Road Captain) and Anita McMullen drove to Ponca City to attend the farewell ceremony for the troops leav-

ing for Afghanistan. It was a very nice ceremony and we wish each and every one of them a safe return home.

Right now March doesn't look very active but that can change in a moment's notice.

CT 412 is preparing for their 3rd annual Tornado Run (yes, 3rd) on April 23.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. at the QSpot. Cost is \$20 per hand, however, if you pre-register you will receive an extra hand.

This will be a great time with bike games and people games at Scooters after the run. The busy season is upon us and we are ready.

Ride Free and be safe Anita McMullen, Secretary Chisholm Trail 412 A.B.A.T.E. Enid, OK 73701580-541-3149 ct412abate@yahoo.com

COME RIDE WITH US!!

IF YOU DARE!!

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Third Annual Tornado Run
April 23, 2011

PRE REGISTER

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RIDE STARTS AT THE Q-SPOT

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Register starts at 9 a.m.

First Bike out 10 a.m.

Last Bike out 12 p.m.

Last bike in 4 p.m.

Winners announced 6 p.m., **MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN!**

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RAIN DATE SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 24, RAIN OR SHINE

2011 Motorcycle Swap Meet Schedule

- March 27 - Swap Meet, Fairgrounds - Oklahoma City
- April 17 - Swap Meet, Twin Drive-In, Kansas City, Kan.
- May 1 - Swap Meet, Admiral Twin Drive-In, Tulsa

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NCOM Biker Newsbytes

COMPILED/EDITED BY BILL BISH

National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM)

Warning: Safety devices coming to motorcycles

Within the next two years, motorcycles could be sporting collision detection and other safety features more typically found installed in cars. The new safety systems being tested for motorcycles include speed limit warnings, information about neighboring vehicles and changing lanes, and information of the tightness of road bends and the speed in which to turn.

According to a report from the BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation), tests are being completed to bring the latest technologies found on cars to two-wheels, and the rise in motorcyclist fatalities has prompted researchers to adapt the first bike-based safety systems by late 2012.

MIRA (the Motor Industry Research Association) acts as a testing and innovation center for carmakers and has been carrying out tests on the "Saferider" systems on road bikes and simulators. An ITS (Intelligent Transportation Systems) consultant at MIRA, Jonathan Moore, said of the project: "Saferider takes the driver safety systems that are becoming standard on cars and tries to adapt them to the unique needs of motorcyclists."

Moore said making safety systems on motorcycles useful was "challenging" because of all the distractions to which riders were subjected. With traffic noise and motorcycle helmets insulating riders from the traditional audible alarms found on car collision systems, researchers have looked for ways to alert bikers of pending danger with tactile warning systems such as vibrating seats and special gloves.

New hi-tech systems could also protect riders from themselves, as one system being tested warns that a rider is going too fast to negotiate a turn. MIRA has developed "smart" software that acts as a "co-pilot" which, with the help of a digital map, knows what speed a motorcyclist should be travelling to make it around an approaching curve in the road.

Motorcycle sales still falling, but show improvement

Sales of new motorcycles, scooters and ATVs dropped from 2009 to 2010, but some increases were seen in the month of December according to a recently released sales report for 2010 from the Motorcycle Industry Council (MIC).

In 2009, motorcycle sales saw a drastic drop. Close to 360,000 fewer motorcycles were sold in 2009 as compared to 2008, and sales have continued to decline. Total motorcycle sales, including scooters, through 2010 dropped 15.8%, or 82,198 fewer units in 2010 for a total of 439,678 motorcycles sold this year. If you break it down into category, off-road, dual-sport, highway, and scooters all saw a decrease in sales this year.

The biggest loser was off-highway motorcycles, which saw a 23.3% decrease with a drop of nearly 25,000 bikes. The scooter segment saw the smallest decrease at 9.4%, amounting to 3,000 fewer units than were sold in 2009. ATV sales were down 64,000 units, or 20% down.

December saw increases in some segments over the prior year month. Scooter sales were up 20% over the year-ago month, with an increase of 322 units. Dual purpose motorcycles also increased, at 7.2%, with a rise of 86 units over December 2009.

Motorcycle only check points in Georgia during bike week

The state of Georgia has received a \$70,000 federal grant to launch motorcycle-only checkpoints in early March, just as Daytona Bike Week is getting underway. For most travelers, their route will take them through Georgia and likely into awaiting roadblocks to check for such things as proper license and current registration, insurance, DOT-approved helmets, EPA-approved mufflers, working horn and lights, etc, etc.

"We were informed by unnamed sources that the Check Points would start in early March to coincide with the Daytona Bike Week event," said Dan Forrest, State Director of ABATE of Georgia. "Most points of entry to Florida will be involved, so any-

one traveling through Georgia to Daytona might want to rethink their route."

The US Defenders have issued a Call To Action regarding the proliferation of these motorcycle-only roadblocks being funded by NHTSA grants, and are urging the motorcycle community to voice their opposition to these so-called "Safety Checks" by contacting NHTSA, the U.S. DOT and most importantly by asking your own federal legislators to support H.R. 1498 by Rep. Jim Sensenbrenner (R-WI) to retain a ban on NHTSA's ability to lobby State Legislators using our federal dollars through the "Motorcycle Law Enforcement Demonstration" grant program (DTNH22-10-R-00386).

"These roadblocks or checkpoints for motorcycles ONLY are being conducted illegally and are discriminatory to say the least," says Escondido Paul, National Lt. Commander of the US Defenders. "This is one more piece of evidence of the constant profiling attempts targeting our community at large."

Washington state bill would prohibit motorcycle profiling

The Confederation of Clubs, US Defenders and ABATE of Washington are seeking support for legislation that would condemn and prevent the widespread law en-

forcement practice of motorcycle profiling.

The Washington Courts have confirmed that the Washington State Patrol is guilty of unlawful profiling and discrimination against motorcyclists. In 2002 the Court granted a permanent injunction against the State Patrol's use of a training pamphlet titled BIKER 101 (Wulfekuhle v. Washington State Patrol). However, on November 23, 2009 the WSP, under oath, explicitly admitted that they profile members of motorcycle clubs and continue to use BIKER 101 as a training manual.

This gross violation of a Washington State Superior Court injunction proves that the pattern of motorcycle profiling continues and that the WSP brazenly violates the liberties of motorcyclists even in the face of judicial reprimand.

To curb such injustices, Rep. Steve Kirby (D-Tacoma) introduced HB 1333 on January 19 to require law enforcement agencies to adopt a written policy that condemns and prevents motorcycle profiling, review existing procedures, and institute training to address the issue of motorcycle profiling, which means using the fact that a person rides a motorcycle or wears motorcycle-related clothes as a factor in deciding to stop and question, arrest, or search a person or a vehicle without legal basis. (Companion: SB 5242).

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Note to Chapter Secretaries

Remember to submit your chapter meeting minutes by the 1st of every month to the Biker Journal at okabatenews@yahoo.com



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Safety Report

By **PAUL BRINKER**

Safety Officer, ABATE of Oklahoma

I just got informed that I will be your State Safety Officer for one more year. Thanks for the vote of confidence. I'll try not to miss any more board meetings in the future (see what happens when you miss one?)

Most safety courses are shut down for the winter and the weather was really weird in February. Two weeks of snow, then 70 degrees, then back to freezing or below.

The roads are in very bad shape what with all the freeze/thaw cycles. There are literally TONS of sand on the roads, making for really bad conditions.

And what is it about two weeks of bad weather that makes everybody lose their mind/common sense? I saw bikes out when there was still snow and ice on the roads. Granted it was 40+ degrees but come on now, let all the slick stuff get gone before you break the rides out.

Also saw three bikes in 48 hours with nearly flat rear tires. These were 65+ de-

gree days. I can't remember the last time I saw that many bikes with tires that low, even during the summer.

Also saw several guys going around turns (mostly from stops) accelerating very hard. Hello!? Do you NOT see the sand? Okay, enough.

Do us all a favor, gently remind all your riding brothers and sisters to do proper checks of their bikes BEFORE they take them out of the garage. Just helped a friend of mine (yes I DO have friends) rebuild his front forks. His son keeps his bike in the same garage and we noticed his forks were leaking too. He wanted to know how long he could get by with it. You know - can't I just put more fluid in it?

My advice was not to ride it till he got the seals replaced. He didn't like that but dad and I finally convinced him, especially since it was leaking on the front brake disc.

As I write this, there's a chance of heavy rain which will move the sand back out into the streets. Not good. Lots of water line breaks happened this winter too. Could cause sink holes, pavement cracks, buckling and lots of digging/construction, which means mud and gravel on the streets.

OOOH! Earthquake over in Arkansas, felt all the way to Tulsa. There's a new road hazard for ya: moving pavement. Maybe the Mayans weren't wrong.

Well, warmer temps are on the way, even though it did snow in March the last two years. Global warming - right.

So hang in there, keep a positive thought, keep the equipment in good order and I'll see ya down the road.

Oh yeah - PACKERS RULE!!!!!!

Later, Paul.

A.B.A.T.E. of OKLAHOMA

Sustaining Memberships

- Double Diamond**
Northwest 69 Chapter (9/2011)
- Diamond**
Tulsa Chapter (4/2011)
Lakes Area (7/2011)
- Gold**
Three Sands Chapter (11/2010)
Chisholm Trail Chapter (11/2010)
South Central (7/2011)
Muskogee Chapter (8/2011)
- Silver**
Lawton District #3 (11/2010)
- Bronze**
Roger Dank, Chisholm Trail 412
Naysayers Motorcycle Club (6/2011)
Brian & Tonya Witt (7/2011)
Main Street Cafe (9/2010)
Lakes Area Chapter (7/2011)
Jack & Carol King (9/2011)
Great Plains Chapter (9/2011)
"TigerMike" Revere (Lifetime)
Debbi Green (1/2012)

Feeling Lucky?

Three Sands members are selling raffle tickets for a chance to win \$500 cash.

Tickets are \$1 each and can be purchased from any Three Sands member. Drawing will be held on July 30 at their Casino Days Poker Run (a chapter fundraiser). You need not be present to win, so get your tickets today!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Thank you, volunteers!

Thank you to everyone that has helped at various events the last couple of months. It is a wonderful feeling to know there are dedicated people who step up when asked for volunteers to man the ABATE booth.

They are willing to give up their weekends to talk to people and make them aware of what ABATE stands for and what we do for all motorcyclists. If it weren't for these individuals we would not be able to continue our awareness for Bikes and Bikers. Thank you again.

-Garry "2R" and Dawn "Shrimpi" Canaday

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MORE NEW CHAPTER OFFICERS

Some newly elected Chapter Officers for the 2001 year are:

Lawton Chapter

John Hall - President
Ralph Page - Vice President
Robert Stein - Secretary
Rick Cook - Sgt at Arms
Treasurer Krista Hansen
Lawton State Representative David Apel
Robert Stein, Secretary, Lawton ABATE, District 3, LawtonABATE.webs.com

Rogers County - Claremore

PO Box 136, Foyil, Ok 74031, meets 3rd Friday, 7:30 p.m. at VFW, 1717 W.

Dupont.

Webpage: rogerscounty.abate.4t.com/
President: Scott Williams, 918-855-6823,
retiredgoose@yahoo.com

Vice Pres: Eddie Wood, (h) 918-342-1343
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Secretary: Marie Barton, 918-636-2771,
mariesfunhouse@aol.com

Treasurer: Sherry Larue, 918-341-5419,
hdwarrior@aol.com

State Rep/Chaplain: James Parmley, 918-521-6545, jamesparmley@sbcglobal.net
Sergeant-at-Arms: Arthur Clarke,
ArthurClarke@rocketmail.com

Thank you: Chaplain, James Parmley
Rogers County ABATE Chapter Rep.
www.rogerscountyabate.4t.com

www.abateofoklahoma.org

Sunset

President: Keith McMullen "Sandbagger"
405-826-1000

Vice President: Larry Salsman "Sandman"
405-203-5176

Treasurer: Vicki Penix "Lawndart" 354-1211

Secretary: Nancy Salsman "Teacher"
641-4284

SGT at Arms: John Henderson

SGT at Arms: Earest Titus

Bitch at Arms: Ellen Joyner

State Rep: Arlene Urias

Road Captain: Sonny Massey "Donatello"

News Editor: Rhonda Massey "SugarTits"

Event Coordinator: Rhonda Massey "SugarTits"

Historian: Sally Seely

Public Relations: Mike Penix & Dede Henderson

Web Master: Arlene Urias

Chapter Membership Director: Terri Lander "Gator"

Tulsa

President: Lee McArdle

VP: Jack King

Sec'y: Carol King

Treasurer: Vicky Powell

Sgt-at-Arms: Dave Miller

Chapter info line: 918-949-4204

Tiger Tales

By TIGER MIKE REVERE

President COD Chapter, ABATE of Oklahoma

Greetings to our Riding Community! By now, I'm sure you're enjoying the spring riding season, with much more pleasant temperatures following the roller-coaster assault on the thermometer in March.

Hopefully, everyone has their machines where they need to be mechanically after the cold weather.

If you're like so many of us in ABATE, your love of motorcycling extends year-round, so the defense of riding liberty will be augmented by logging lots more miles on the scooter!

I especially need to emphasize this in light of skyrocketing gas prices due to the Middle East difficulties.

Be sure to remember our fellow Americans caught amid the unrest in your prayers, especially our troops routinely placing themselves in harm's way for our freedom. ABATE will once again honor their service at its annual Memorial Day Bike Parade May 30, so stand by for more information.

I'd like to heartily thank all those who attended our annual ABATE of Oklahoma Biker Legislative Day Feb. 23, and especially the folks who were involved in logistics, set-up, and working the food and administrative tables.

You did a terrific job serving as ambassadors to everyone in the Legislature who joined us! I got there around 7 a.m., and there were a number of people busily working, and handing out Talking Points worksheets.

I appreciate the hard work Legislative Coordinator John Pierce, Lobbyist Suzette Northcutt-Rhodes, and our Legislative Committee put in on a regular basis, and they thoroughly briefed attendees on strategy for the event.

A key bill that ABATE is supporting this year is SB443, which would add bicycling and motorcyclist safety and awareness information to the Oklahoma Drivers License test.

All riders are strongly urged to contact their Legislators to recommend passage of this bill. ABATE presented Lt. Governor Todd Lamb with the Oklahoma SMILE

Award for his involvement in helping us get FIVE motorcyclist-oriented bills passed last session, and we hosted the entire State Legislature and their staffs to breakfast at the Capitol Fourth Floor Rotunda, as we have for two decades! Many thanks also to COD's Carmaletta Lara for all her support and energy over the years in organizing the Breakfast event. She's stepping down from her pivotal role, and her efforts will be sorely missed.

We had a successful Oklahoma Confederation of Clubs meeting in Bartlesville

Wisconsin Congressman Jim Sensenbrenner has submitted legislation (HR904) to prohibit Federal money for this type of discriminatory activity. The U.S. Defenders Program, in a Nationwide Call to Action, is asking all concerned Americans to PLEASE contact their Representatives to urge passage of this critical Resolution, and sign on as co-sponsors.

If you can, please make plans to attend the MRF-sponsored Bikers on the Beltway Rally the first week in May or the Twenty-Sixth annual National Coalition of Motor-

though we've been coping with a long-term severe Drought in the Sooner State, April can be a pretty rainy month. Riders need to be aware of wet weather that can quickly overtake you during the day.

Remember that your most dangerous period is the first 15-20 minutes after the rain starts, because that's when the accumulated oil and grease rises to the surface before washing off and the road is most slippery.

Stay off the crown of the street, and follow where vehicle tires most frequently contact the roadway.

Watch out for gusty winds, and be especially on guard for flash flooding and deep water.

Full-size vehicles can be washed away in rushing water less than a foot deep.

Getting soaked can cause hypothermia, even in the spring, so have rain gear handy, as well as effective eye protection. Remember, we want to hear from you - not about you!!

As you know already, there's a ton of fun stuff planned for every week as the weather gets more pleasant for riding. The Oklahoma Confederation of Clubs is sponsoring a color catalog of upcoming events as the season progresses.

Check out www.oklahomabiker.net for more information.

April's activities will start this month with OKC's annual Thunder Run April 1-3 on the North Side, where you can say "howdy" to some of your ABATE brothers and sisters.

A lot of festive occasions will feature ABATE booths where you can buy nifty merchandise and sign up for membership.

In response to queries, if non-members present a copy of their Beginning or Experienced Rider Course completion certificate to ABATE of Oklahoma, that will entitle you to a year's Full Membership.

However you do it, please take the time to become part of ABATE and take a more active part in defending your Right to Ride Free! Stay safe out there, and I'll see you on the Road!

Keep It On The Black Strip Between The Trees, Tiger Mike



March 6, where over 410 riders packed the American Legion Post to obtain valuable information on Biker-oriented issues. Items of note included a progress update on the Trademark Seizure case, where NCOM attorneys are continuing the fight against the Federal Government's trampling on biker civil rights.

The PATRIOT ACT is also being extended by Congress, and we risk a continued assault on our Constitutional Freedoms in the name of "Safety" as the government establishes "Fusion Centers" to collect vast amounts of personal data on individual citizens.

Another key rights item we need to act on involves the State of Georgia establishing, supported by Federal funds, checkpoints targeting motorcyclists exclusively.

cyclists Convention, which will be held May 6-8 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Albuquerque, NM.

Log onto www.mrf.org and www.aimncom.com for more information on these significant gatherings.

Regarding a couple of our neighbor states, LB52 in Nebraska has been submitted to allow Helmet Freedom of Choice for adult riders, and the Kansas House passed Malfunctioning Traffic Light legislation similar to Oklahoma's law. I'll keep my fingers crossed that both bills get signed!

Tiger's Tip O' The month:

We've long heard the old saying that "April Showers bring May Flowers". Even



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The Vast and Great Divide

A simple twist of the wrist...

By **RAY-MAN**
Great Plains Chapter

I have to tell you that I have my moments of oneness, one with myself, one with my Creator and one with my bike. I can feel the spirit driving me, pulling me forward to a perfect point in space and time where I have no fear, no dread, no sin and a total release from the dark forces that weigh heavily upon me. Forever on the endless highway that lies between the dark of night and the light of day, with a simple twist of the wrist I accelerate my throttle wide open as I ride to face the vast and great divide.

Reaching that perfect moment, I'm there now, moving forward. Hair blowing in the wind, the smile that no one can see, the sun rising in the east shines on my face and warms my soul. I ride toward the eternal light from the convictions of my faith. With gladness and humility I receive the forgiveness for my imperfections. I exist in the perfect thought of the Father through the purity of the eternal one who with arms open wide, guides me home through the gates of Paradise where our

Father's house of many mansions awaits me. I am on my way and with a twist of the wrist I journey forward toward the vast and great divide

I see the hollow faces of the lost ones and through sacrificial empathy and compassion I lament the sorrows of heart felt pain for riders who from lost virtue and failing faith become lost in the vast and great divide. They ride among the back roads along the highways to nowhere without signs, direction or salvation to guide them.

They have eyes that cannot see, ears that cannot hear and minds that cannot comprehend.

They build worlds of fortune that they burn to the ground and their tomorrows never come. From deceptive tongues they conform to the lies and deceptions of this world. All of their efforts are but dust in the wind. I pray for those who cannot find the strength to rise above the fog of uncertainty. Must they fall from the hand of creation as well?

Too much time looking behind me is a diversion from where I'm headed. With the holy gift of complete restitution, I choose

my own course to my final destination. I defiantly renounce the dark forces that bind me to those old familiar pains of selfish pride without compromise. Since the days of my birth I have heard the relentless voices of the dark forces that stand against me who with great agitation and lies whispered in my ear repeating my mistakes and failures.

They left me with doubt of my worth as a man and a fellow human being upon our Earth. My own thoughts betrayed me with cruel beliefs of worthlessness.

Yet I remain and I see, hear and comprehend the light ahead of my destructive past then with a simple twist of the wrist I stop and stand before the vast and great divide.

I believe in you and though we ride through the valley of the shadows of death we will cross that great divide where before the four winds we cast all doubt and sorrows aside. There is only the light before us and the darkness behind. We will surrender at our last stand in the day of our purification where we are re-born as children of God again. As for the things I know today, be all you hoped to be. Be all you wanted to be. Be the good that you

aspire to be in your remaining journeys. Embrace the light of your eternal soul because the kingdom of God is within you. Judge not and you will not be judged. Seek and you will find. Knock and the door will be opened. Your faith will make you whole. You are the light of the world. Find and embrace the love and hope within you that know no limits or bounds. Never let fate be your guide, never say die! Serve the cause of greater things than yourself and with a simple twist of the wrist you too will ride out of darkness toward the vast and great divide.

Riding the highway of our eternal blessings the road ahead becomes clear. Sacred signs by divine design guide and mark our way. Your mission is revealed in your finest hour. What are you waiting for? Fulfill your destiny. As for me I hear the angelic voices of fallen brothers and sisters who call my name from the other side.

They wait for me just as I wait for you. Released from the worldly things, I stand upon my faith as I look back and bid farewell one last time and with a simple twist of the wrist I am reborn as I ride across the vast and great divide.

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ATTENTION ABATE OF OKLAHOMA MEMBERS: Our nationwide network of A.I.M. Attorneys donate a significant portion of their legal fees from motorcycle accident settlements back into motorcycling by being the sole financial sponsor of the **National Coalition of Motorcyclists**.



Travelin' with 2R

By GARRY 2R CANADAY
State Coordinator, ABATE Of Oklahoma

February means Bike Shows for Oklahoma bikers. The Jeff Williams bike show in Oklahoma City and the Wide Open bike show in Tulsa were both huge successes.

ABATE of Oklahoma had a great showing at both shows, with members from nine chapters stopping by. We signed up over two dozen new members! Good job to everyone that helped at these events. Without the assistance of members like you ABATE would not be what it is. Thank you all so much.

Jeff Williams is not only one cool cat, he is also one of ABATE of Oklahoma's best advertisers. And he sure knows how to host one heck of a bike show and swap meet.

For most of us this is the first bike event of the year, and if you are like me you can't wait to get out and see all your friends that you only see at bike events, like Travis the Deranged Biker, or S.O.B. from BACA Nation. Not only is this a great time to catch up with old friends but it's where ya meet new ones, some of whom you will see year after year at this same event.

I have to say thanks to all of the guys at BACA Nation. S.O.B. asked to interview me about our upcoming Legislative Day on their radio program that evening on Bob FM. Being the shy person that I am, I tried to get Bus to do it. After he ducked out I agreed and had a great time with my three seconds of fame. I can't thank them enough for being so generous and supportive of ABATE and bikers rights. Keep up the good work guys, and if you don't listen to them already, give them a try every Sunday on 96.9 Bob FM.

The Batman themed bike was probably my personal favorite, but the highlight of the event for me personally was the honor of meeting Gunners Mate Master Chief, Larry Van Schuyver, a volunteer with the wounded warrior program. He set up a booth to sell shirts so that all the profit could be given to our heroes! And I do mean ALL the profit.

You can go to www.sittinprettyusa.com if

you would like to help support this Purple Heart vet in his quest to help other heroes. To learn more about Larry please read John's article in this issue of the Biker Journal.

The Wide Open bike show was an event to behold. After last year's learning experience with Oklahoma bikers, I was more than a little curious to see how well Ralph could pull this off. Ralph, my hat is off to you sir, ya did a fine job.

ABATE of Oklahoma members must have been as curious as I was, because they were out in droves. They came from all over the state, from as far as our Great Plains chapter in Altus and our NW 69 chapter out of Woodward, to the local Tulsa Chapter. In all, members from nine different chapters were there. You guys are awesome.

I have to thank Bus with the Defenders Program for sharing a booth with us and thanks to the Priesthood for being our neighbors, Big Jim thank ya!

With all of the bikes that you know will be at any great bike show to all of the hot babes that Ralph had for this event it was a photog's dream. I wasn't sure which to shoot first. Then the thought hit me: BOTH!

I was lucky enough to get Playboy cover girl and actress Kristy Swanson to model just for me. You talk about a dream job! All I can say is that I hope you enjoy the pics half as much as I enjoyed taking them. I have to thank Sidney Cooper, the owner of that gorgeous '06 Hayabusa that Kristy is on, for the use of his bike. Somehow I don't think he minds having a beautiful girl on his ride!

After shooting pics of all of the bikes that caught my fancy, (you have to see the 41 Indian Sport Scout) I was off to shoot the Flaunt Girls from the Full Throttle Saloon in Sturgis. Yes, they are all that they are cracked up to be, if I am any judge at all. WOW, those girls put on a good show. If ya missed it I would highly recommend that you put it on next year's calendar, this was a fun event that I am already looking forward to attending again.



Pictured top, Legislative Day 2011; above, Lt. Governor Todd Lamb is presented with the S.M.I.L.E. award by Gary "2R" Canaday; below, is a 1941 Indian Sport Scout Civilian; and at left, is Priesthood Big Jim and Skeletor.

Photos/Garry "2R" Canaday



Chapter Meetings Adjourned



Chisholm Trail 412 Chapter

Meeting called to order at 5 p.m. Feb. 13, 2011 by Mike Scholten; prayer led by David Emerson; flag salute by Frank Dods.

Treasurer's report was given by Teresa Fallis.

Secretary's report: Motion to waive by Steve Fallis, motion seconded by Paul Brenton.

State Rep report was given by Gary Bradley: Membership dues will be raised to \$25 beginning July 1, 2011. Renewals can be done early at lower rate.

COC held elections and Bandido Lee will remain in the 1st chair. COC is an ABATE diamond member. COC will publish a magazine and all proceeds from advertising, etc. will go to ABATE to help pay the lobbyists.

Anyone can sell advertising in the Biker Journal; Chisholm Trail needs to check on the date of sustaining membership because some have been wrong.

250-300 attended the S.M.I.L.E. Looking into a hospitality room next year. Mark Tracey of COD won the \$1000 poker run.

ABATE of Oklahoma will be paying Sharon Stone's hotel for Legislative Day. She will be in the Ponca City area with "Share the Road."

State is looking for a way to spend approximately \$3000.

Frank said Chisholm Trail 412 needs to

continue to grow and work together as a team. Need to follow protocol and call Mark with any questions or concerns and do not go to another member.

OLD BUSINESS:

Legislative Day, Wednesday, Feb. 23. Time changed to 8:30 a.m. No knives, etc. Must go through metal detectors.

NW 69 Chili Cook off, Saturday, Feb. 19. Must have entries in at 10 a.m. A way to support another chapter.

President voting was tabled in the January meeting. Vote was taken and President will only vote in the case of a tie.

State Representative will now be a Board Member. Nominations will be taken. Gary Bradley will automatically be nominated since he is already in place. Mike Scholten nominated Skip Moon, nomination was accepted by Skip. Laura nominated Roger Danks and he respectfully declined the nomination. Election will be held during the March meeting.

Roger Danks resigned as Photo Rep/Journalist as well as Alternate State Rep; the Board will discuss his replacement.

Raffle tickets are now being sold for a 32" flat screen television. Tickets are \$5 each. The person selling the most tickets will receive 5 free tickets in the drawing.

NEW BUSINESS

Kenny Anderson was nominated to be the chairman over the dog house renova-

tions. Need to bring estimates to the board.

Share the Road has been put on hold until there is something to show.

Tammie Daetwiler has offered a CPR certification course to the chapter to be held on Sunday, Feb. 27, 2011 @ 9 a.m. at the NORCE Staff development building. Cost is \$2 each to cover the cost of the card paid by the chapter for chapter members.

Dinner Run will be Sunday, Feb. 27, 2011, 5 p.m. at Western Sizzlin.

Kimmy Johnson brought this month's door prize which was won by Mike Scholten who will in turn bring the door prize in March.

Meeting adjourned.

Northwest 69 Chapter

Our February meeting had 34 members attending. We were called to order by Rick Staude with him leading our pledge of allegiance as well. Gene Karn gave our blessing and led us in praying for those we felt should have a little extra on their behalf. Debbie Greens' membership report shows us with a count of 308 members. We had 54 expire in December and January, with 4 new members coming onboard and 35 that are due for renewal in February.

Financial report was read by Kim Beaner, with Jeff Johnson following with his state report. In his report, he brought news of

the \$5 increase in membership dues that will go into effect in July, so if you come due after that it will be \$25 instead of the \$20 you are used to. Also, he told us that there were 4500 bike registrations this year that put money in Gunners' Fund for the Safety and Awareness Training programs.

The Chili Cook-Off was a success again this year! Thank you to everyone who helped get the ball rolling and kept it going, especially those who were there to help set up and keep things running smoothly throughout the day. It was very appreciated and important in our success. The t-shirts were a big hit; I think the ladies only had one small left and a list that was well down the page for orders. Awesome job to Jet Screenprinting for those shirts, they look good. Now Debbie can

See **CHAPTER MEETINGS**, next page

CENTRAL OKLAHOMA DISTRICT

PO Box 96113, Oklahoma City, OK 73143

Meets 2nd Thursday, 7 p.m. @ Skyline

Restaurant-1631 S. E. 15th Street

<http://www.ABATEOK.com>

Phone: 405-672-1008

President: Tiger Mike Revere

E-mail: tigermike7@cox.net

Chapter Reps: Pat McManus

and Mark Buskirk

Phone: 405-596-1072

CHISHOLM TRAIL 412 CHAPTER

PO Box 3841, Enid, OK 73702

Meets 2nd Sunday, 5 p.m., The Q Spot

221 W. Cherokee, Enid, OK

President: Frank Dods 580-977-4951

E-mail: chisholmtrail412@yahoo.com

Chapter Rep: Gary Bradley 405-278-1682

E-mail: gunrunner1953@yahoo.com

GREAT PLAINS CHAPTER

330 S. Oklahoma, Mangum, OK 73554

Meets 3rd Thursday, 7 p.m., call for location

President: Matthew Holmes (Matt Man)

E-mail: gp_mattman@yahoo.com

580-649-0314 or

Chapter Rep: Ilka Heiskell

E-mail: toothfairyilka@yahoo.com

405-202-3180

KIAMICHI CHAPTER

4396 N 376 Rd, Atwood, OK 74827

Meeting places differ from meeting to meeting

Phone: 405-221-7984 or 7985

President Slick, email

deerslayer22001@yahoo.com

Chapter Rep. Rosco, email

roscondawind@yahoo.com

Alt. chapter rep-to be announced

LAKES AREA CHAPTER 13

110 N. Whitaker St. Pryor, OK 74361

Meets 3rd Friday, 7 p.m. @ American Legion on

West Hwy. 20, Pryor, OK 74361

President: Brian Witt 918-864-0557

Chapter Rep: Kirk Crowell

Email: brian.witt1966@yahoo.com

State Rep: Kirk Crowell

kirkcrowell@sstelco.com

LAWTON DISTRICT #3 CHAPTER

4702 N. State Hwy. 65, Elgin, OK 73538

Meets 3rd Sunday, 3:30 p.m., @ VFW on E.

Gore Blvd.

President: John Hall

Vice-President: Ralph Page

Chapter Rep: David Apel

<http://lawtonabate.webs.com>

MUSKOGEE CHAPTER

PO Box 472, Muskogee, OK 74402

Meets 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. @ Cowboys

BBQ, 401 N. York, Muskogee

Address Book



Who's who in
Oklahoma
ABATE Chapters,
when they meet,
and how to reach them

President: Tim "Top" Catcher

E-mail: Hunteratlarge@sbcglobal.net

Chapter Rep: Tim "Top" Catcher 405-532-6209

E-mail: hunteratlarge@sbcglobal.net

NW #69 CHAPTER

P. O. Box 2783, Woodward, OK 73802

Meets 2nd Sunday (call for location)

President: Bob Drake 580-571-2258

Chapter Rep: A. J. White 580-334-1635

abatenw69_jester@msn.com

ROGERS COUNTY CHAPTER

P. O. Box 136, Foyil, OK 74031

Meets 3rd Friday, 7:30 p.m. @ VFW - 1717 W.

Dupont

President: Scott Williams 918-855-6823

E-mail: retiredgoose@yahoo.com

Chapter Rep: James Parmley 918-521-6545

E-mail: jamesparmley@sbcglobal.net

<http://rogerscountyabate.4t.com>

SOUTH CENTRAL CHAPTER

P.O. Box 1582, Lone Grove, OK 73443

Meets 3rd Tuesday, 7 p.m. @ Budro's Rib

Join in Ardmore

President: F. A. Copeland 580-465-2889

Email: info@scabateok.com

SUNSET CHAPTER

PO Box 1152, El Reno, OK 73036

Meets 2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m. @ VFW Hall,

Hwy. 81 North

www.myspace.com/sunsetabate

President: Keith McMullen "Sandbagger"

405-826-1000

Chapter Rep: Arlene Urias

E-mail: ArleneUrias@hotmail.com

405-795-8119

THREE SANDS CHAPTER

PO Box 81, Ponca City, OK 74602

Meetings: Call for location & time.

President: Charles Criner - 580-363-0321

Chapter Rep: Andy Huddleston

E-mail: andyh70@yahoo.com

580-789-1198

TULSA CHAPTER

PO Box 582078, Tulsa, OK 74158-2078

Fax: 918-835-8352

Meets last Thursday of month, 7 p.m. @ Akdar

Shrine Temple, 2808 S. Sheridan

<http://www.abateoftulsa.com>

President: Lee McArdle 918-282-1000

Chapter Rep: John Pierce 918-371-2410

E-mail: mrfogman@sbcglobal.com

Alternate Rep: Carol King 918-746-4903

E-mail: tulsavicrider@aol.com

Chapter info line 918-949-4204

[Please submit changes or corrections to okabatenews@yahoo.com]

Chapter Meetings (continued from page 10)

take a breath and put that one down as a plus and start her preparations for the next one. And last, but definitely not least, thank you Eric Butcher for being such a good guy and taking the ritual cake in the face this year, it will be added to lots of good memories.

The results of our auctions and raffle will be given at this month's meeting for those who attend. I'll have the full list of everything in next months' letter for those who miss it. We have the Snake Hunt coming up quickly and need to start making plans for that, so please try to make it to this meeting to help get it on its way.

Hopefully this will get out in time, but the VMC is having their annual Spaghetti cook-off March 5, starting at 11 a.m. with pool tournaments, dart tournaments, and weather permitting, horseshoe tournaments. There is a \$5 entry fee on each game and \$5 per plate for the spaghetti and fixins. There will be a live auction and a 50/50 raffle. This will all be at the MOOSE LODGE this year. Let's try to help them get a good showing, please.

Our next meeting is March 13 at 2:00 p.m. at the ABATE OFFICE. - Tammy

Rogers County A.B.A.T.E.

Board Members

President: Scott Williams

VPresident: Eddie Wood

Secretary: Marie Barton

Treasurer: Sherry LaRue

Sgnt of Arms: Artie Clarke*

State Rep: James Parmley

*Denotes Absence

List of all members present will be kept on file with meeting minutes.

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm

Pledge of Allegiance & A Moment of Silence

New Members Richard C.T. Stangland (Corpsman), Bill Richey & Candy Richey.

II. Treasurer's Report was given by Sherry Larue. Motion was made by Charlie and seconded by Jimmie and accepted by a vote of the members.

III. Secretary's Report: Minutes of last meeting. Motion was made to accept report by Charlie, seconded by Jimmie, and accepted by a vote of the members.

IV. State Rep Report State meeting minutes were given by James.

Motion was made to accept report by Charlie, seconded by Karen, and accepted by vote of the members.

Secretary's minutes of each meeting and full Treasurer's report and State Rep reports are available at the beginning of each membership meeting.

Committee Reports:

Scholarship committee: Giving two \$1000 scholarships to two college-bound seniors in Rogers County. Due to the inclement weather, there has been a delay in getting the applications into the Rogers County High Schools.

There was a short meeting prior to membership meeting. We will distribute all apps next week and will pick them up the first week of April.

Will have a meeting the 2nd or 3rd week of April to read all applications and determine the two winners. Will look at putting a dinner together in May to fund next year's

scholarship. Motion to accept made by Tony seconded by Jimmie accepted by a vote of the members.

V. Old business

Toy Run - was suggested to do a poker run with the toy run. This is for Christmas in July for the upper age kids, 12-17 year olds. It was suggested by Karen that we do gift cards for around \$25 each. Need committee and Karen mad a motion to start this. Seconded by Charlie and accepted by a vote of the members. Volunteer committee members Karen (Chairmen), Debbie, Tony, and Leslie.

VI. New Business

A. Abate member fee we voted on in January's meeting has been accepted state-wide and the fee increase to \$25 will be effective July 1st.

B. Bill Richey offered the VFW to be a participant of the Toy Run/Poker Run. Mentioned the Post wants to do a Safety Fair with the police, blood mobile, and other community safety programs for the community and has asked that we would have a booth to encourage motorcycle safety. Also they are asking that we gear this toward the kids in some way.

VIII. Adjourn

Adjourned at 8:45.

Next meeting is March 18, 2011

Pot luck \$76 no winner; rolls over to next meeting.

South Central Chapter

President called meeting to order at 7 p.m. on Feb. 15, 2011.

Pledge of allegiance; prayer by F.A. Copeland; all officers present.

New members and guests were recognized; 3 guests present at the meeting; 22 people present at meeting.

Reading of previous meeting minutes was waived. Treasurer's report stated we have plenty of money in bank at this time.

Sand and salt still on roads was discussed in safety briefing.

The membership voted to allow the chapter to pay for 1 motel room for the legislative breakfast.

President requested the chapter pay for 1 room at each state function such as the SMILE, Mid South MILE, and the legislative breakfast. This will be voted on at next meeting.

F.A. showed a DVD movie of last year's legislative day which was very informative to the member ship.

Members were informed that the yearly dues will be raised to \$25 per year after July.

The membership also discussed state payment of their annual poker run or donation by chapters.

State Rep. reported to the membership that anyone interested in becoming a motorcycle safety instructor can contact Callie.

State Rep. also reported on the Share the Road program being implemented in Oklahoma schools.

In general discussion, members were urged to work on getting door prizes for the Kourtney's Kloset annual poker run on May 7 in Ardmore. Members were also asked to volunteer their time to help with the poker run in any way they can.

Items needed by Kourtney's Kloset were discussed such as any items of clothing, underwear, toothbrushes, backpacks, dia-

pers and other hygiene items for children from age 3 to 16.

Poker run entry fees will include any article of need by the charity.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8 pm.

Sunset Chapter

President Keith "Sandbagger" McMullen called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 10, 2011 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guests present included Paul Saunders (past president), Sheila a guest of J.W., and Tom and Janet from Texas.

Secretary's Report -Teacher was absent, but minutes had been emailed to all that have email addresses. Copies were on the back table. Sally made the motion to forego the reading of the minutes with a second by Bubba. Motion carried with John opposed.

Treasurer's report-Vicki reported our balance. Boiling Springs has been paid for. Racket made motion to accept the treasurer's report. Wishbone seconded the motion. Motion carried with John opposed.

Chapter Rep. Report—Arlene reminded everyone about the upcoming Legislative Breakfast on Feb. 23. Lt. Gov. Todd Lamb will be presented with the SMILE Award. She said there would be a leaders' summit at the Howard Johnson. She reported that membership dues have increased to \$25. She asked for feedback

on how to spend unbudgeted money. Wishbone made a motion to sponsor 13 riders to take the endorsement class; one from each chapter. Racket seconded the motion.

Arlene said art and pictures need to be sent to okabatenews@yahoo.com by the 1st of each month. State meetings are held the second Saturday of each month in OKC except May meeting will be held in Ardmore, June in Tahlequah, and December in Tulsa. NCOM will be May 26-30th at Hyatt Regency in Albuquerque, NM.

Newsletter Report—Sugar has emailed the newsletter out to everyone.

Vice President Report—Larry "Sandman" suggested as a way to hopefully increase membership provide a free "How to bike check." This would also be a good way to make the public aware of ABATE. He also suggested having everyone wearing the same shirt/hat on rides to promote awareness too. May is motorcycle awareness month so will be involved in Burger Day.

Carry the Flame Committee report—Wishbone asked for a show of hands of those who plan on going. Those raising their hands included Sandbagger, Racket, and Jack. Went over the rules for sponsorship: (1) Member of Sunset Chapter by 1/1/2011; (2) Must either get a T-shirt sponsor or sell at least 12 T-shirts; (3) Be an active participant at all Carry the Flame ac

See CHAPTER MEETINGS, page 12

A.B.A.T.E. NW 69
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S.M.I.L.E. Patches					\$5	
S.Y.L.A. Patches					\$20	
State Back Patches		10"x10"			\$25	
State Pins					\$5	
Chapter Charter Pin	White				\$5	
Vinyl Car Decal-ABATE Eagle	White				\$2	
Vinyl Car Decal-ABATE patch	White, Blue, Yellow, Black				\$2	
Black Plastic Car Tags	ABATE Eagle or ABATE of Oklahoma				\$10	
Mirrored Car Tags	ABATE Eagle or ABATE of Oklahoma				\$15	
6oz Stainless Steel Flask	ABATE of Oklahoma Logo				\$10	
8oz Stainless Steel Flask	ABATE of Oklahoma Logo				\$18	
Adult Look Twice T-Shirts	Black, Orange, Pink or Green SM-4XL				\$12	
Look Twice Hoodies	Black, Orange, Pink or Green M-4XL				\$25	
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February Specials!

Good through Feb. 28, 2011

Last chance on 20th Anniversary Merchandise!
Get yours before they are gone!

We have left:

20th Skull Hoodie: 2 smalls and Ladies 10th Hoodie:
1-small \$25 (get a free pink stocking hat while
supplies last!

Regular \$12, now \$10 each while supplies last!
20th Skull T-Shirts: 2-small, 5-medium, and 1-2XL
20th Ladies T-Shirts: 3-small, 3-medium, 3-large, 7-
Xlarge, 2-2Xlarge, 3XL, and 2-4Xlarge

Subtotal or Order	\$
Shipping/Handling	\$
Total	\$

New Merchandise!

- Men's reflective ball caps - \$15
- Military style caps - \$15
- Baby bibs - \$7
- Onesie and hat set for baby (6 months) \$15
(Available in blue, pink or white)

ABATE of Oklahoma, Inc

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Member's Signatures:

FULL: _____

FULL: _____

Classifieds

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Giving and giving again

By JOHN SANDERS

Three Sands Chapter

Have you ever met someone who so inspired you that you just couldn't stop talking about them? I was working the ABATE booth at a bike show in OKC over the weekend and had to get out after a while and stretch my legs. I walked past a T-shirt booth and met a man who greatly inspired me.

The booth was "Sittin-Pretty-USA" and was manned by a single person. His name was Larry Van Schuyver. Larry was in charge of an "In-shore Boat Unit" which compares to the PT boats operated by the likes of former-president John F. Kennedy. He was active in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Larry is a retired Command Master Chief and was in the U.S. Navy. Larry is a combat-wounded Purple Heart recipient. (To hear him describe himself, one would think he owed for his position rather than being owed for the service and sacrifice he gave).

One point to be made is Larry was the only Command Master Chief in the Navy with red stripes on his dress uniform. If you know what that means, you may spread it to the ones who don't. If not, ask around.

Sittin-Pretty-USA is an organization set up to assist wounded warriors and their respective families. It was established by five wounded warriors (one of which is Larry).

The goal of the organization is to raise money to give away to those warriors needing help. A money jar was sitting on the table at the booth and Larry stated the money was going to be given to a wounded warrior returning to Guthrie. Larry said ANY veteran or organization needing help gets it unconditionally. He said the money raised is given without question. He stated the organization feels the people needing the money know better how to use it than anyone else. The goal is to help and promote Oklahoma veterans and organizations and then, if anything is left over, help may be given outside the State.

Sittin-Pretty-USA is a NOT-FOR-PROFIT organization meaning all the money brought in goes back out. After the cost of paying for T-shirts and printing materials, the rest goes to the needy. ALL supplies

they use are purchased from and through disabled veterans and families who have suffered losses. The work done is labor-free and at cost.

So far, Sittin-Pretty-USA has assisted 14 veterans in gaining handicapped access to their home. The organization has been in operation for approximately two years. Operations are out of Oklahoma City. The organization is not operated for making money to keep but to give away. As stated before, support to any and all veterans and groups is given. Some of the groups supported so far are Wounded Warriors, Blue Star Mothers, Gold Star Families, The Purple Heart Society, Hold the Hand Project, Soldier's Angels, The Hugs Project, Guardian Angels for Pets, and (most recently) ABATE. Needless to say, the wide range and variety of organizations assisted

is phenomenal.

The goal is simple for the group. Veterans get together, come up with designs, print T-shirts, and give the money to someone who needs it.

Finally, Larry said the organization is advocating legislation surrounding the protesting of funerals by a CHURCH TO REMAIN UNNAMED in this article. He stated the idea of increasing the cost of a permit currently allowed by Oklahoma law to \$10,000.00. Then, the money paid for the permit would be given to the family of the deceased. Apparently, giving money to veterans is only one facet the group wants to pursue.

There is no way I can describe the inspiration and great feelings this man produces. His unrelenting desire to give and then give more is almost unbelievable. During the course of the bike show, Larry came to the ABATE booth several times and gave money stating people came up to donate money to good causes and he was giving ABATE half of everything he was bringing in.

Anyone who needs help, wants to help, or just needs an inspiration can contact Larry and his friends at the following places: online at www.sittinprettyusa.com or by phone at 405-630-5147.

I hope to have more contact and conversation with this great man, warrior, and American.



Chapter Meetings (continued from page 11)

tivities; (4) Help with at least one VFW Event. We need help with food. We have a hog and some turkeys. Money raised will be split in the following ways—a percentage will go to Sunset Chapter, percentage will go to Big Brothers & Sisters, and Operation Camp Purple.

President's Report—Sandbagger reminded everyone about the Legislative Breakfast which will be held on Feb. 23rd. Will leave from the VFW at 7:30 a.m. and make a stop at Yukon Bowling Alley.

BREAK

New Business—

(A) Autumn Gathering will be in November at a central location. A change from last year will be made. Chapters will make their own route and meet the other chapters for the last draw at the last stop; dates yet to be determined.

(B) Chapter merchandise, hats, t-shirts, etc. State merchandise can be purchased cheaper and sold for profit monies going to chapter. Bob talked to a man in OKC about getting shirts, hats, and even having our name embroidered on them.

(C) Discuss changing meeting time to Sunday afternoon. No one liked that idea so meetings will remain the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

(D) Bike safety checkup for the spring? Open floor for discussion and ideas. Larry had suggested this. Great idea so it will be conducted during Burger Day in May.

(E) Road names were given to Alana aka

"Cackle" and Catrana aka "Peaches".

Old Business—

VFW Ladies Auxiliary will hold a used book sale on March 26. Bring your books to donate.

Burger Day Bike Show will be May 7. Earnest Titus is Committee Chairman.

Boiling Springs will be held August 6-7. Reservations have been set and paid for.

Lincoln School ride will be April 8 at 1 p.m. Meet at the VFW in El Reno at 12:30 with kickstands up at 12:45.

Scavenger Hunt will be Sept. 17, 2011 with a Veterans Memorial Wall Theme.

Mid-South Mile will be Oct. 14-15 maybe in Joplin or Branson.

50/50 was won by Larry Salsman. He won \$29, and Robin Casebolt's name was drawn for the Pill Drawing for \$16. She was absent.

Gator made motion to adjourn with Arlene seconding. Meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy "Teacher" Salsman, Secretary

Three Sands Chapter

Call to order at 2 p.m. Feb 13, 2011 by Chaz with 35 in attendance, 2 first time guests. Invocation was given by Roy with prayer requests sent for Bob Drake, Logan, and all armed forces personnel. Flag salute lead by Staz. 50/50 was altered this month to allow for a raffle of a 1 night stay at Turtle Rock Farm for 2, provided by Cade's Cafe. Introduction of guests by John Sanders were Malinda and Michael Villar.

Reading of the January minutes was waived by John, 2nd by Gary.

State Rep report was given by Animal. A motion to continue funding the \$1000 Poker Run the way it is currently going 1st by Cactus and 2nd Soxs, unanimous agreement amongst the chapter. A committee was formed to discuss ways the state should spend funds. Chair for this committee is Animal with Tinman, Soxs, and Tommy. Motion to accept by Staz, 2nd by John.

Treasurer report given by Chaz. Motion to accept by Staz and 2nd by 2R.

Membership report was given by ICE. For the month of January, 5 renewals and 3 new members. Currently there are just over 200 members in Three Sands Chapter. So far for February she has had 7 new members and 2 renewals. Motion to accept by John and 2nd by Dipper.

Merchandise report by Cactus, she still has hoodies for \$25 and T-shirts for \$15. She is working with Gold Star on patches. Motion to accept by Animal and 2nd by Shrimpi.

Committee reports:

Hospice report: Keven has talked to Hospice. Hospice will handle the money and auction. The only help they want from ABATE is auction items and door prizes. It will be the 2nd Saturday in June. Motion to continue in the limited fashion by 2R and 2nd by Tommy.

Casino Daze will be July 30. Register at 10:30 a.m. at Tonkawa casino for \$20.

Raffle for \$500 cash tickets will be in on Tuesday. Terry Tones sponsored. Dipper has ordered 3000 tickets. Each bundle is in groups of 25 and must be picked up from Dipper. Tickets are on sale for \$1 each.

Christmas in July is still a work in progress. Staz will lock in details after Legislative day.

Autumn Gathering, 2R is in contact with other chapters' presidents. Each picking an ending stop and will vote on the final stop later.

New Business:

Tinman and Chaz presented 2 awards to Cade's Café. One an Appreciation Award and the other a Huddle Award for the work they did during the Autumn Gathering. Cade's is still giving Klufa fries for toys.

Up-coming events:

Legislative Day meetings have been scheduled and emails will be sent to all members when all meetings are finalized.

NW 69 Chili Cook-off is Saturday Feb. 19, 2011.

OKC Bike Show at the Fairgrounds needs booth help. Animal, Cat, and Socks will help John S. on Saturday.

Wide Open bike show in Tulsa on Feb 26-27; will also have a booth set up, anyone wanting to help please contact 2R.

Raffle drawing was won by Animal.

Motion to adjourn by Staz and 2nd by Keven.

Next meeting Sunday, March 13, 2011 at 2 p.m. at the American Legion in Ponca City