You are invited to attend the 12th Annual

BIKER DAY

At The Minnesota State Capitol

JANUARY 2017

Register By January 10, 2017 at: www.abatemn.org

For more information contact

A.B.A.T.E.
of Minnesota State Office
stateoffice@abatemn.org
1-800-224-6570
ROAD NOISE ADVERTISEMENTS

No fixed ads. Deadline is the 1st of the month prior to publication. Use a jpeg file format for electronic ads. Mailed ads must be mailed flat. Send Display Ad Artwork on paper no larger than 8.5" X 11". Do not reduce artwork to desired size, make a note for the desired size for the ad (spell out the size).

Cost / Spaces / per issue
- Business Card $12.00
- 1/4 page $35.00
- 1/2 page $65.00
- Full page $125.00
- Full page *Insert call

*Additional printing charges for Inserts. If Ads are prepaid for one year, a 10% discount is applied. If production work is necessary on the Ad, $35.00 per hour will be billed. Chapter Fundraisers/political ads receive a 30% discount. At the discretion of the Editor, if late ads (after the 1st of the month prior to publication) are accepted, a 20% surcharge will be added to the cost.

Website advertising: Chapter Fundraisers ads are free of charge. Use a jpeg file format for electronic ads and send to: webmaster@abatemn.org.

LETTERS AND ARTICLES

Submissions are encouraged, however, are subject to editing and will be published at the discretion of the Road Noise Committee. The use of foul language, personal attacks or the use of language that may be libelous or interpreted as inciting hate or sexual harassment is not permitted. User comments are reviewed by moderators to ensure that comments meet these standards. Anyone submitting an article, “Letter to the Editor,” or photograph may request that it be returned by including with submission a self-addressed stamped envelope. Letters to the Editor must be accompanied with the author’s signature. For electronic picture submissions, use a tiff or jpeg file format.

GRAPEVINES AND REPORTS

The deadline is the 10th of the month prior to publication.
- DO NOT submit in all uppercase, or insert backgrounds.
- Include your chapter/committee name on the subject line of the email that you send to the Road Noise.

Use the following basic outline:
1) Chapter/Committee Name
2) Upcoming Chapter/Committee Meetings/Time, Place
3) Upcoming Events; What, Where, When
4) Meeting Updates, Important News, Comments

ROAD NOISE CONTACTS
roadnoise@abatemn.org

Kimmer Robertson (763) 772-4776
Becky Hasslens (612) 554-0530
Road Noise
16100 228th Ave NW
Elk River, MN 55330

A.B.A.T.E. OF MN STATE OFFICE

State Office Hours:
Monday - Friday 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
State Office Administrator, Liz Herzog
E-mail: StateOffice@abatemn.org
A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota, Inc.
P.O. Box 6
Marshall, MN 56258
(507) 487-5000 / 1 (800) 224-6570

Not receiving your Road Noise:
Contact the State Office to ensure your address is correct in our system. If it is correct, you will need to contact your post office to ensure that they are delivering the Road Noise to you.

Get address changes to me ASAP. Road Noise is bulk mail and will not be forwarded.

Membership tri-folds: can be requested from the State Office, or from Jim LaSpisa (Membership & Retention Chair) at (763) 208-7158, or membership@abatemn.org. You can also find membership forms on the website at www.abatemn.org. When you recruit a new member, write your name and Chapter on the tri-fold so you receive credit for the recruit. Make sure tri-folds, Chapter information forms, and other pertinent business documents are written legibly, including area codes, zip codes, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses. Use POSTAL CORRECT addresses. The following are address tips: Do not abbreviate County Road, Minnesota State Highway, Circle, do not use # sign (i.e. Co. Rd, ST, Hwy, CR, use Lot or Apt. or TRLR number, example: Trailer + number = TRLR 201 or Lot 201, or Apt 201).

Membership: Postcards go out to members who will expire at the end of that given month. Renewals must reach the State Office by the third Friday of the month, regardless of the date, to ensure you receive your next month’s Road Noise. Use POSTAL CORRECT address! Please allow 4-6 weeks to receive your new hard cards.

Minutes: from Chapter, Committee, and District meetings can be e-mailed to stateoffice@abatemn.org.

Mailing Labels: The State Office can print current mailing labels for your Chapter’s newsletters, reminder cards, and event flyers.

Feel free to call me with questions, concerns, and inquiries 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm, or leave a message and I will return your call ASAP.

A.B.A.T.E. of MN accepts no responsibility for the submissions, comments, opinions, or errors contained within this publication.

January 2017
A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota Contacts

State Coordinator
Mark "Mack" Backlund (763) 226-9195
StateCoordinator@abatemn.org

Assistant State Coordinator
Jim Orn (320) 250-4000
AsstCoordinator@abatemn.org

State Treasurer
Michelle "Mitch" Backlund (763) 263-1532
StateTreasurer@abatemn.org

State Secretary
Michele Legried (507) 251-3805
StateSecretary@abatemn.org

Northeast District Director
Mark "Red" Braastad (763) 234-5642
NortheastDir@abatemn.org

Southwest District Director
Jim Guza (320) 699-0340
SouthwestDir@abatemn.org

Northwest District Director
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NorthwestDir@abatemn.org

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Trustee
Frank Ernst (612) 801-2920
Trustee@abatemn.org

A.B.A.T.E. University Chair
Jane Doyle (763) 754-5644
Abatuel@abatemn.org

Awards
Bill Gruhlke (320) 629-3498
Awards@abatemn.org

Buddy Bear Chair
Sharon Polman (218) 209-5502
BuddyBear@abatemn.org

Education Chair
Paul Tjepkes (320) 841-0473
Education@abatemn.org

Gambling Manager
Kim Ostlund (507) 334-7592
Gambling@abatemn.org

Historian
Open
Legislative Director
Todd Riba (952) 239-0929
Legislative_Report@abatemn.org

Marketing Director
Open
Membership and Retention
Jim LaSpisa (763) 208-7158
Membership@abatemn.org

MRF Liaison
Gary Goracke (320) 491-8546
MrfRep@abatemn.org

NCOM Liaison
Frank Ernst (612) 801-2920
NcomLiaison@abatemn.org

Products Manager
Benny Roemer (507) 923-1993
Products@abatemn.org

Publications Chair
Becky Hasslen (612) 554-0530
WebMaster@abatemn.org

Revisor
Jan Loft-Pilgrim (507) 537-1806
Revisor@abatemn.org

Road Noise Editor
Kimmer Robertson (763) 772-4776
RoadNoise@abatemn.org

State Office Administrator
Liz Herzog (507) 487-5000
StateOffice@abatemn.org

State Rally Chair
Keith "Smoker" Efron (612) 703-5755
Rally@abatemn.org

Ways and Means
Kristie Orn (320) 398-6966
Ways-Means@abatemn.org

Website
Becky Hasslen (612) 554-0530
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Chapter President Contacts

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Dear Fellow Motorcyclists:

American Bikers for Awareness, Training, and Education (A.B.A.T.E.) of Minnesota is a not-for-profit, grass roots organization that is committed to educating motorcyclists and the general public about motorcycling. A.B.A.T.E. members ride many different types and brands of motorcycles. We are all people with a common interest in a common activity. The fact that we share an interest in motorcycling is more important than the type of motorcycle we ride.

There are chapters of A.B.A.T.E. located throughout Minnesota. Each of these chapters is represented on the A.B.A.T.E. Board of Directors (B.O.D.). The B.O.D. also includes the A.B.A.T.E. state officers. The B.O.D. meets once each quarter to discuss the operation of the organization. In addition, each chapter holds a monthly meeting in their area of the state. A.B.A.T.E. is a member driven organization. Members are encouraged to participate in any of these meetings.

A.B.A.T.E. seeks to promote the positive aspects of motorcycling and strives to protect the rights of motorcyclists by being involved in the local, state and national political process. Safer motorcycling, reducing accidents and fatalities can be best accomplished by education and training of both the motorcyclists and the general public, not necessarily through additional legislation.

Our ability to enjoy many freedoms while riding motorcycles in Minnesota is the direct result of the work done by motorcyclists in our state. These people have joined together to fight for our rights and freedoms.

The efforts of these people have made Minnesota a leader in motorcycle safety. We have one of the toughest licensing standards in the nation, the best public awareness programs, and the most comprehensive rider education programs in the nation. These efforts have helped reduce motorcycle accidents, injuries, and fatalities in spite of the growing number of licensed motorcyclists in Minnesota.

To continue these efforts we need your support and participation. Show your commitment to protecting and preserving your rights as a motorcyclist in Minnesota. Participate in the meetings, rides, and the fundraising activities. You will be informed about the motorcycling activities in the state by receiving Road Noise, the A.B.A.T.E. monthly news publication. A.B.A.T.E. is fun, educational and a great way to meet people and make new friends with similar interests.

With your help, we can continue to promote the positive image of motorcyclists. If you want more information about A.B.A.T.E., please attend any of our meetings, meet other members, and ask questions.

We are pleased that you have decided your rights are worth protecting, that the positive aspects of motorcycling are worth promoting, that education is important, and that the cost of an A.B.A.T.E. membership is a small price to pay to preserve and promote these principles.

Members are the most important thing that A.B.A.T.E. has, so Thank You for becoming a member and we look forward to seeing you at our events.
Megan Ekstrom, the Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) lobbyist in Washington, DC, has been sending weekly email updates from our nation’s capital. These weekly “Biker Bulletins” are a great source of federal level information important to freedom minded motorcyclists. I encourage all A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota members to visit http://mrf.org/alerts and sign up for these bulletins. Another feature of these alerts is the weekly spotlight on State Motorcycle Rights Organizations (SMRO). A recent Biker Bulletin focused on A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota which I have copied below.

SMRO SNAPSHOT – A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota

A well-recognized leader in the biker rights’ world, A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota has had a busy 2016 and is in the process of winding down this year while gearing up for the next. One of the first big events that will be taking place in January is the Bikerday at the State Capitol on January 25th. Last year the event faced hurdles due to construction at the Capitol, however this year there is nothing standing in the way to make it one of the most successful lobby days yet.

There will be no shortage of issues to discuss with state lawmakers at MN’s Bikerday; the organization plans to take the issue of anti-profiling of motorcyclists up again this year and are hopeful they can join the ranks of Maryland and Washington who are the only two states to have passed laws on this issue. A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota will also be lobbying on insurance related issues to make sure bikers don’t face a significant increase in insurance cost. And they will be working on a Motorcycle Safety Bill that includes a proposed insurance discount for riders that take a certified motorcycle safety course, a “Start Seeing Motorcycles” license plate, and a language that would insure that all the money from motorcycle endorsements will go directly into the motorcycle safety fund.

A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota will just be recovering from the madness of Bikerday when they’ll shift gears to prepare for ABATE University in April. A.B.A.T.E. U is Minnesota’s annual conference held to rally and educate motorcyclists about riding as well as provide a number of workshops focused on safety and legislative updates. The emerging theme for 2017’s conference seems to be ‘something for everyone’ as there are already a number of interesting speakers and workshops being planned. No doubt Minnesota will deliver a fantastic event.

On the charitable front, Minnesota’s chapters continue to lead efforts to do their part in giving back. Recently a local Minnesota chapter held a bowling event which raised several thousand dollars to give to the Big Brothers and Big Sisters organization. That same chapter is now working during December to provide items for Toys For Tots. Its activities like these that make A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota and its chapters and members one of the most well-known in the biker community. Well-done MN!

Thank you Megan, I couldn’t have said it better myself!

Yours in freedom,
Mack
A.B.A.T.E. University - April 21st - 23rd
Holiday Inn, Alexandria
Call the Holiday Inn to make your reservations.
(320) 763-6577
Keynote speaker: Bill Shaffer
Road Guard Class - Saturday morning - contact Jodi
<johlrogge@hotmail.com>
IRC Riders Course - Saturday 7:30 am to 12:00 pm, or Sunday 9:00 am - 2:00 pm $35.00
When taking this course, you will need a DOT helmet, full fingered gloves, over the ankle footwear, long pants and long sleeves.
Contact Jane <insanejane@comcast.net>
Conceal and Carry Course - Friday 7:00 pm -10:00 pm, and continues Saturday 8:00 am to 1:00 pm
$100.00 for new permit, $75.00 for renewal - handgun rental available for $15.00. Contact Laura at
(218) 252-1631
Saturday afternoon classes:
You, Me and the Highway - Highway Design
Removing the Bikini - Crash Statistics collection and reporting
MC/MRO - Know the Difference between a Motorcycle Club and a Motorcycle Rights Organization
Banquets Tickets - available online after the January B.O.D. $30.00 per meal. Options are: Glazed Ham, Old Fashioned Pot Roast, or Chicken Tortellini
Remember to save your past event shirts for the Holiday Inn staff.
Each chapter is requested to donate a centerpiece for the banquet. They will be used again to raise money at the live auction.
It's never too early to start collecting silent and live auction items.
Saturday trike races will be back! Be prepared to race, or cheer for your favorite participant!
Take advantage of as many classes as you can, the price is right!!
Jane and her hard working committee!!

Happy 2017 everyone. Back in October, I sent out questionnaires to all the Chapters asking about involvement in Dial-A-Ride for this year with simple questions. Are you going to be part of the program? Who is your contact? Do you have a trailer? Do you have materials leftover, and how many more do you need? At the present time I have only received nine back. If you need materials given to you at the January B.O.D, I will need your information by that time. John will be visiting Chapters between now and summer to hand them out. I can be reached at johlrogge@hotmail.com.

With fundraiser time upon us, if you would like Dial-A-Ride to help with safe rides home, feel free to contact John. Also, if you know of anyone in your Chapter that takes people home safely, please contact me.
Next Meeting(s):
January 20th, Holiday Inn, Detroit Lakes, 7:00 pm

I had an interesting phone call the other day from a member of our organization looking for a copy of the gambling bylaws of A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota. That conversation got me thinking; I wonder if there are others within our organization who think that A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota has their own bylaws when it comes to our charitable gambling. The answer to that is NO. A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota does not make up any of the rules or bylaws when it comes to charitable gambling. We are required to follow the rules of the Minnesota State Gambling Control Board. If we were to put all of that information in our operations and procedures manual, that book would be so thick no one would even take the time to look anything up.

A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota does have procedures and guidelines for some of our charitable gambling programs, such as the buddy bear program, and also the procedure of how to request the use of your gambling funds. You can find this information in print in the operations and procedures manual. The gambling committee has also included our procedure of how we calculate the chapter payback on the raffles. This is also in print in the operations and procedures manual. Each chapter president and chapter representative should have a manual that should be made available to any chapter members that may have questions.

Now, in the future there may come a time that the gambling committee may be able to publish some guidelines as to what types of things a chapter can do without a permit that would not jeopardize the A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota gambling license, as well as things that a chapter can’t do. But for the mean time, please continue to contact either myself or anyone on the gambling committee if you or your chapter has a question as to what is or is not allowed. If we are not sure, we definitely have the resources that we can check for you. Also, if your chapter would like us to come and visit your meeting to discuss any gambling ideas, or if your chapter has any questions, we would be more than happy to do that. In fact we may even schedule our monthly meeting at your location. Just give us a couple of months notice so that we can schedule the best we can, to get the most members of our committee there.

Ways & Means Report
Kristie Orn
(320) 398-6966
WAYS-MEANS@ABATEMN.ORG

Next Meeting(s):
January 15th, Ugly Bar, Montrose, 1:00 pm

Bikerday Registration Information:

Bikerday - January 25th
Register on the A.B.A.T.E. Website
Deadline to register is January 10th
Register A.S.A.P. to assist in planning and scheduling
Any questions, please contact our State Office at (507) 487-5000 / 1 (800) 224-6570

www.abatemn.org

Revisor Report
Jan Loft-Pilgrim
(507) 537-1806
REVISOR@ABATEMN.ORG
All is quiet in the Revisory. Happy New Year. May your 2017 be one of your best years yet!

State Treasurer
Michelle ‘Mitch’ Backlund
STATE TREASURER@ABATEMN.ORG

Happy New Year!
Now that the Holiday’s are past it is time to attend A.B.A.T.E. Chapter fundraisers and sign up new members. There are a lot of great fundraisers coming up and what better thing to do while winter limits our riding?

I will be out and about and hope to see many friends and maybe make a few new ones over this winter.

Make sure to have membership forms with you and get people to sign up for the best motorcycle rights organization around!

See ya,
Mitch
I arrived in Irvine, California for my NCOM meeting on what appeared to be a day of mourning. It was the day following the presidential election the results were in and it would be stating the obvious to say most Californians were not happy with the outcome of the election! It will be interesting to see where we go during the new president’s term.

An important item of discussion was the ongoing profiling of motorcyclists. We talked about some of the individual states including Minnesota that are continuing to work on anti-profiling laws and some of the Road Blocks they face. We shared how important it is to urge support for H. Resolution 831. We shared the fact that it was not binding legislation but it helps raise the visibility of profiling and it is very important to add sponsors. I was proud to point out that at the time of our meeting over one third of the sponsors on this Resolution were from Minnesota. I encouraged participants from other states to contact their Congress members and do what they could to get support. They need to encourage their congress members to sign on!

One of many examples of Motorcycle profiling discussed was the motorcycle only safety stops conducted in New York. Although Congress banned federal funding for motorcycle-only checkpoints, these discriminatory stops continue in some states without using federal assistance. In November 2016 County Police, Highway Patrol, New York State Police troopers and other agencies conducted motorcycle only safety checkpoints. 169 motorcycles were stopped and 54 citations were issued. This checkpoint was motorcycles only no other vehicles were stopped or detained. Motorcycle only checkpoints are a form of motorcycle profiling that impact all motorcyclists and need to end.

Louisiana is targeting motorcyclists for wearing bandanas. Some wording in a law they have states, “no person shall use or wear in any public place of any character whatsoever, or in any open place in view thereof, a hood or mask, or anything in the nature of either, or any facial disguise of any kind or description, calculated to conceal or hide the identity of the person or to prevent his being readily recognized.” Louisiana’s law makes exemptions for Halloween, Mardi gras, and some other events but no exception for public safety. Although clearly not the intent of the law, motorcyclists covering their faces to avoid bugs, or the elements may be subject to arrest. Consider this in a state that has a mandatory helmet law. Although this law was not originally intended to target motorcyclists it is now another tool available to law enforcement. There are other states that have similar laws, how soon will they begin arresting motorcyclists for protecting themselves from the elements. (To think as I rode to work on Wednesday December 8, with temperature at 19 degrees, could I have been arrested for wearing a full face helmet that morning.).

There was also discussion of the continuing effort by the federal Government to confiscate, seize, take control of and ban club members wearing their colors or displaying their club logo. We need to continue funding the “Save the Patch” fund it is helping pay for the defense and the protection of a clubs rights to their intellectual property. The government, its law enforcement agencies and departments has the deep pockets of the American tax payer to fund their attempts to eliminate the motorcyclists from the American highways. We need to step in to protect our lifestyle and end this profiling of people that choose to ride motorcycles.

Boar one of our board members discussed his visit to our nation’s capitol last spring on his way home from our convention in Atlantic City. He had the opportunity to stop in D.C. and visit with his legislators. He met with his Senators and congressman and much of the discussion focused on the addition of Ethanol to our gasoline. Living in Iowa it is not surprising many of his legislators are supportive of adding more ethanol not less to gasoline. Being a farm product increased use of ethanol helps improve the economy in their state. Because of his background in setting up ethanol plants and knowledge of the processes for manufacturing ethanol Boar was able to help legislators better understand why it has a negative impact on our motorcycles. I don’t know that he got the ship turned in the right direction but he may have got the attention of a few deck hands; a little bit at a time is all we can ask.

Looking forward to success and victories in the New Year, thanks for all you do.
MRF Report
Gary Goracke
(320) 491-8546
gackoid@gmail.com

IVP Public Relations
Megan Ekstrom is our Lobbyist in D.C. She started during Bikers in the Beltway this year and has hit the ground running. She sends out weekly updates to all members on the email list and in the near future we should be seeing AMA style alerts. In some of the emails I sent out to Our Congressmen in D.C., she helped me get the correct wording so I could give the correct response to questions asked about the profiling resolution. She has been a valuable asset to me and others getting 4 of our 8 congressmen signed on. Send her an email if you get a chance thanking her for the great job she is doing. Also, if you are not receiving emails from the MRF, go on to our website and sign up.

Profiling Legislation
With the elections done and a new legislative session starting in January, we really need to hit up the four remaining Congressmen to get signed on to this bill. They have nothing to lose now that they were re-elected. Please contact me if you need help with this, they need to hear from the people in their districts.

Upcoming Events:
Heartland Steam – April 7th - 8th Sioux City, IA
Bikers in the Beltway – May 22nd - 23rd, Washington D.C.
Double G

“New Year's Resolution: To tolerate fools more gladly, provided this does not encourage them to take up more of my time.”
James Agate

Products Report
Benny Roemer
products@abatemn.org
(507)923-1993

Happy New Year. You’ve probably read those exact words at least a dozen times in this print alone. It’s a general expression of a positive nature... generally accepted by most humanoids on the third planet in this system. Some see it as a chance for a new start, or the beginning of a new goal... for others, it's just another day.

The elections are over, Christmas is over, and winter is just beginning for some of us here down in the lower parts of our fair state. Staring out the window into a snowy tree line, watching the flurries drift over logs, rocks, around and through the open spaces...it’s easy to get lost thinking about whole worlds full of things other than motorcycles, rights, and, for me, products...but I assure you, I have been active, investigating possible new items, getting estimates, rejecting doofus ideas, and all in all, preparing for the B.O.D. in a couple weeks, as well as A.B.A.T.E. University in April.

I would like to start this year out thanking all of you for being you. You have all been supportive, and encouraging, even when I didn’t really deserve it. There has never been a group of people who have given me more confidence and acceptance than Minnesota A.B.A.T.E.... (Special props to Mississippi Valley and Straight River). I am proud to call you all my family and I look forward to seeing you all at our next gathering.

As for my products...well, samo, samo...I am working on having a catalog available by the fiscal year (April B.O.D.) and I’m currently building a products page on Facebook...to which I have recently returned...Benny And The Jets, if you search. I will also link it to the A.B.A.T.E Facebook page.

Eyes on the road, heart in the wind.
Benny

Education Report
Paul Tjepkes
(320) 841-0473
Education@abatemn.org

January, where we start a new year. Make your New Years resolution to start giving Sharing the Road classes in your area. You are not only influencing many young minds, but you are saving the lives of fellow motorcyclists. Would that not be a great project for 2017? Think about it!
Ride Safe, Ride Free
Paul

www.abatemn.org
LEGISLATIVE REPORT
Todd Riba
(952) 239-0929
toddriba@gmail.com
Bikerday 2017

This is going to be short and to the point. Bikerday will be held on January 25th and we hope to see a bunch of our members in attendance. You can register on the A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota website. We have buses coming in from all over the state and you can get the bus info when you register. Maybe you can’t make it to Bikerday, that’s okay, life happens, but you can still help. There is a sample letter on our website that you can send in support of this event. Just go to “Events” and click on Bikerday and the sample letter is at the bottom. Maybe you don’t know who to send the letter to. You can find out who represents in St. Paul on our website as well. Please feel free to call, text, or email me if you have any questions or if you need any help.

Bikerday is in my opinion the most important A.B.A.T.E. of MN event of the year. This is our opportunity to tell and show our elected officials that we love our freedom, we pay attention, and we are not going away. I hope to see you all there.

Stand And Be Counted
Todd

Hi all, Happy New Year! Chapter Representatives should follow up on member’s tri-fold count before April’s A.B.A.T.E. University. I need a count for each chapter’s needs for tri-folds and tear off pads. Each pad contains 50. I have not received any tri-folds at the time of writing my report. Chapter Representatives, please e-mail me before hand; it would help me organize before then.

Off-season is a great time to promote membership at motorcycle shows and swap meets. The ‘Donny Smith Show” March 25th is such an event. Each winter many riders set out to such events to socialize with other riders.

I will need volunteers to help man the membership table. So if attending an event, please stop by and let me know if you can volunteer your time for an hour or so. “Women Wanted”. Women are naturals at salesmanship. They seem to connect with other women riders better than a guy trying to sell them a membership. For some reason a male rider will not be willing sign up with me. “Ah”, but I hand off the same tri-fold or tear off to a female, and the guy seems interested to sign up. Wallets are drawn in hand, and they change their minds. Gee, I wonder why?

Until next month,
Jim

Aloha from the wonderful state of Hawaii!
As most of you know, I will be gone the month of January. Kris Gruhot will be filling my shoes until I get back. I will be answering the phone while I am gone but if you need to contact the State Office immediately you can call Kris at D&G Excavating (507) 532-2334 or Kris’s cell phone at (507) 530-2555.

Nominations are here and I would like to point out that if you are requesting absentee ballots, the deadline is February 10th.

Working together for our FREEDOM!

Hi all, Happy New Year! Chapter Representatives should follow up on member’s tri-fold count before April’s A.B.A.T.E. University. I need a count for each chapter’s needs for tri-folds and tear off pads. Each pad contains 50. I have not received any tri-folds at the time of writing my report. Chapter Representatives, please e-mail me before hand; it would help me organize before then.

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Nominations are here and I would like to point out that if you are requesting absentee ballots, the deadline is February 10th.

Working together for our FREEDOM!
Greetings from the frigid Northwest District I hope all your bikes are tucked in for the winter. I would like to wish you all a very MERRY CHRISTMAS and a GREAT NEW YEAR! If your thinking about a new years resolution, how about to get more active in your local A.B.A.T.E. Chapter. One simple way to get more active is to just go out and sign up new members.

By now everyone should be signed up for BIKERDAY at the Capitol. I know some of the chapters in northwestern Minnesota have a long way to go to get to the Capitol. If you are unable to attend Just write a letter letting your congressman or woman know A.B.A.T.E.’s talking points, and to watch for the bikers that are there on that day.

Freedom First Riders

www.freedomfirstriders.org
Next Meeting(s).
January 28th, Christmas Party, Eagles, Alexandria, 6:45 pm
February 25th, Leaf Valley Mercantile, Leaf Valley, 6:00 pm
March 25th, Election Night, Knights Pub, Osakis, 6:00 pm

Upcoming Event(s):
January 25th, Bikerday at the Capitol

Greetings Freedom First Riders!
NOTE THE TIME CHANGE FOR JANUARY’S MEETING TO 6:45 pm!

Again, I must apologize for dropping the ball last month and not having a newsletter ready for you all. Deer hunting was on the brain. Either way, I have it for you this month! Winter is in full swing and we have had our first blizzard out of the way almost immediately. All the bikes are put away for the season and we begin our waiting game for spring to come. With that in mind, we should all have more time on our hands now that we aren’t riding, right? Well, some of us might. If you do, I recommend that you consider going to two different things that are coming up. First, is Bikerday at the MN State Capitol. You can go on the A.B.A.T.E. main site and register for this and it is recommended that you do, so there is enough space on the bus. Bikerday is scheduled for January 25th so sign up before January 10th. I recommend going to this at least once if not multiple times if only for the experience (even though this is really what A.B.A.T.E. is about).

The other event(s) I encourage those of you with the time to consider going to is our Bike Show meetings. We can always use more volunteers and if you have an idea of how to do something at the show to make it better or run smoother, come to a meeting so that your suggestion can be taken into account.

I have heard many people talk about how the show should have this or that but then I never see them at a bike show meeting or sometimes at the Bike Show itself. Please consider going to a meeting and volunteering at the bike show. We can use all the help we can get and it will be here sooner than we think.

One last thing before I go: the nomination of officers for our Election will begin at the January meeting/Christmas Party. If you are thinking of nominating someone for a position in the chapter I plead with you to talk with that person to see if they are interested first. Too many times we have been at our meetings and there is a list of people getting nominated and they don’t accept and the meeting goes just that much longer. Please talk with whoever you want to nominate beforehand just so it goes smoother. Also, if you are interested, talk to someone to nominate you. It is a great experience to hold office at least once in FFR.

That’s all for now folks! See you all soon!
Expect the Unexpected!
Patrick

Northwest

www.abatenorthwestmn.org
No report received.

North Star

www.northstarabate.org
No report received.
HEART OF THE LAKES
Next Meeting(s):
January 12th, Edgar and LeAnn Burke’s Home, 7:00 pm
Upcoming Event(s):
January 21st, A.B.A.T.E. B.O.D., Meeting, Holiday Inn, Detroit Lakes, 9:00 am
January 25th, Bikerday at the Capitol,
Happy New Year Borderland!
I hope you had a great 2016 and I wish you all a successful, fun, safe, and healthy 2017! It seems like only a year ago I was saying this exact same thing... I guess it was exactly a year ago that I was saying this exact same thing! Well, good luck with those new years resolutions, too. Maybe one of them is to be more active in your A.B.A.T.E. Chapter. We could use a few more active members. We do thank all members, active members, and officers. Officer nominations will be opened at our January meeting so I hope to see you there. We will also be setting up our Ground Hogs party and planning for Bikerday. See you there!

Twistin’ da Wick, Tim

BIKER DAY

HEART OF THE LAKES
Next Meeting(s):
January 12th, Edgar and LeAnn Burke’s Home, 7:00 pm
Upcoming Event(s):
January 20th - 21st, B.O.D., Holiday Inn, Detroit Lakes
January 25th, BIKERDAY AT THE CAPITOL
March 4th, Annual Pool N Dart, SandBar, Detroit Lakes
Howdy Folks
Hoping you ALL had a Joyous and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!! The New Year is upon us! This is the time to start something new!

Chapter election nominations are going on right now! Maybe this is the year you would like to step up and be an officer! Maybe this is the year you will want to get more involved in protecting YOUR Motorcycling Rights! There is a lot of great talent out there. With ALL of our heads together WE can go places and get things done!

January B.O.D. is a great place to start this off. Very informative meeting with a lot of great info on motorcycle rights.

Bikerday at the Capitol is also a great place to get YOUR thoughts out to the people in office and get them on board with what YOU think. There are over 20 new seats in the House of Representatives and about the same in the Senate. These new folks NEED to hear from YOU. They work for YOU, so please take time on January 25th to get on the bus and ride to the front steps of the Capitol and see them.

March 4th is YOUR annual Pool N Dart Tourney. Another great time to get together with YOUR fellow Bikers and chat about the coming year and what great things YOU can do. Our cash raffle tickets should be printed by now. This is pretty short notice. WE have 500 tickets to sell by March 4th. We can do this. Although its going to take ALL of you to get this done. 50 books of 10 tickets. If every member sells one book we are sold out. Piece of cake, right?

The band is going to be the Hatfield Bay Band. A local band and a chapter member.

Please come to the meetings so WE can get this together and have the best turn out yet. I need your help on this.

A.B.A.T.E. U is coming up in April. Get your room reserved. There is going to be an experienced riders course both Saturday and Sunday morning. This is a very good course and a real good refresher for the spring time to get the bugs out and be able to have a safe summer riding.

There will be a lot of other good stuff going on as well. Check out the agenda in the Road Noise or on-line.

TAKE CARE and RIDE FREE
EDGAR

BORDERLAND
Next Meeting(s):
January 10th, VFW, Roseau, 6:30 pm
Upcoming Event(s):
January 21st, A.B.A.T.E. B.O.D., Meeting, Holiday Inn, Detroit Lakes, 9:00 am
January 25th, Bikerday at the Capitol,
Happy New Year Borderland!
I hope you had a great 2016 and I wish you all a successful, fun, safe, and healthy 2017! It seems like only a year ago I was saying this exact same thing... I guess it was exactly a year ago that I was saying this exact same thing! Well, good luck with those new years resolutions, too. Maybe one of them is to be more active in your A.B.A.T.E. Chapter. We could use a few more active members. We do thank all members, active members, and officers. Officer nominations will be opened at our January meeting so I hope to see you there. We will also be setting up our Ground Hogs party and planning for Bikerday. See you there!

Twistin’ da Wick, Tim
Hello North East District,

Looks like winter has finally arrived, at least the coldness has. Hope everyone is staying warm. I am glad I was able to attend your meetings and meet a lot of new people in our District. Remember chapter officer nominations are held in January and February. If you know of someone in your chapter who you think would be a good officer, ask them to consider running. I know a lot of chapters are planning their fundraisers. Keep an eye on the Road Noise for postings. If possible please attend your neighboring chapter events. How can we ask others to support us if we don’t support them?

Mark your calendar for Bikerday at the Capitol on January 25th. Make sure you register on the A.B.A.T.E. website to get an appointment with your elected officials to discuss key motorcycle rights talking points. If you cannot attend, write your elected officials. They do like hearing from you.

If you have any questions or concerns call, text, or email me. “Keep the Chrome Side Up”
Mark “Red” Braastad

Bikerday - January 25th
State Capitol

JACK PINE RIDERS

www.jackpineriders.org

Next Meeting(s):
January 15th, Bears Den, Bruno, 2:00 pm
February 19th, Outback Saloon, Stanchfield, 2:00 pm
(Membership Drive)
March 19th, Halfway Home Saloon, Banning Junction, 2:00 pm

Upcoming Event(s):
January 8th, Chili Feed, Gas Light Bar, Sandstone, 1:00 pm
January 25th, Bikerday at the State Capitol

Join us at the Outback Saloon in Stanchfield for an A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota membership drive on February 19th. Free lunch will be provided. The chapter meeting to follow and a fabulous gift basket will be given away after the meeting.

It’s time again for chapter elections. Nominations for chapter officers will be accepted at the January and February meetings. Elections will be held at the March meeting. We also have begun planning our 12th Annual “Upper Kettle River Shakedown”. Now is the time to bring your thoughts and ideas to the chapter meeting and discuss what you would like to see at this year’s event.

We are now selling A.B.A.T.E. U motorcycle raffle tickets. Tickets are $100.00 each. A maximum of 800 tickets will be sold and four motorcycles will be raffled. The drawing will be held on April 22nd at A.B.A.T.E. U (winners need not be present). For tickets or more info, call Bill at 651-587-7625 or contact any chapter officer. Don’t procrastinate, only 800 tickets will be sold and these bikes will be gone.

Make your New Year’s resolution to win a new motorcycle by purchasing an A.B.A.T.E. U raffle ticket.

For updated Chapter events and information, log on to our website: www.jackpineriders.org. Or check out Jack Pine Riders facebook page.

Respectfully,
Grapevine Jesus

CENTRAL

Next Meeting(s):
January 8th, Bubba’s Bar and Grill, Sauk Rapids, 12:00 pm
February 5th, Stoney’s Bar, Rockville, 12:00 pm
March 5th, Bubba’s Bar and Grill, Sauk Rapids, 12:00 pm
April 2nd, Stoney’s Bar, Rockville, 12:00 pm

Upcoming Event(s):
January 25th, Bikerday at the State Capitol
June 10th, 3rd Annual Ride for Hero’s, starting location and leaving time - TBD

Hi all,

First thing, thank you to all that showed up at the Peck family household for our December meeting and Christmas party, we all appreciate that Laurie and Al opened their household up again for this.

We have started to get a jump start on next spring’s benefit ride. We have asked for comments and also are looking for as many people possible to help with getting donations for our silent auction. We have tentatively scheduled it for June 10th and at this point we don’t have the starting location or leaving time set yet. All changes will be provided in the Road Noise and discussed at the monthly meetings.

Remember that we are having “Bikerday at the Capitol” on January 25th. Please come and speak to your local representative, explain to them about A.B.A.T.E. and the things that we do.

Not much else is going on in the chapter. The raffle tickets have been provided to the chapters so please plan on buying them or help in selling them. I see the same ole people doing this job year after year and we need more help. Heck, we all have friends that we can try to sell a ticket to. So grab one and try.

Check the Road Noise for any updates or other local chapter events. They would appreciate you stopping in and checking out their fundraiser. Take care, be safe and see you at the next meeting.

Scooter
It's a brand-new year with plenty of opportunities for us to continue our work. And one of the most important days of 2017 is just a couple weeks away. I'm talking about Wednesday, January 25th. Bikerday at the Capitol gives us the chance to have face-to-face conversations with our lawmakers. It gives us an opportunity to air our points of view on the issues that are important to all motorcycle riders in Minnesota and be sure our elected officials hear us.

Here's a list of the 2017 talking points:

- No change to the Adult Motorcycle Helmet Law
- Oppose changes to Motorcycle Insurance Requirements
- Curtail Profiling of Motorcyclists in Minnesota
- Improve Motorcycle Training and Awareness

Don't miss out on this! Register by January 10th on the A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota website (www.abatemn.org), where you can also view a complete list of times and activities for the day.

If you can't attend, you can still make yourself heard. Call or write a letter to your Legislators. An example letter is available on the State website.

Let's get active people!
This only works if you participate.
I'll see you on the road,
Wolf Chairwalker
**Northwest**
northeastabate@aol.com
Facebook: North East Chapter of ABATE of Minnesota
Products: abateproductsne@gmail.com

Next Meeting(s):
January 7th, Chalet Lounge, Hermantown, 7:00 pm
February 1st, Chalet Lounge, Hermantown, 7:00 pm
March 1st, Chalet Lounge, Hermantown, 7:00 pm

Upcoming Event(s):
January 21st, A.B.A.T.E. B.O.D., Detroit Lakes
January 21st, 6B After Holidays Party, Checkerboard
January 25th, Bikerday at the State Capitol
February 18th, Up North Chapter Winter Fever Reliever,
Eagles Club, Grand Rapids
April 1st, Bunwamer, River Inn, Scanlon

Happy After the Holidays!
Sure hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

I would like to give a special shout out to Red and Deb for coming to our December meeting. The weather was nasty yet we had a great turnout, accomplished lots and also had a ton of fun with our White Elephant gift exchange!

Attention: Bikerday at the Capitol is January 25th. If you haven’t already registered with our State organization then you need to do so NOW! If you are unable to attend then be sure to contact your representatives by mail, email or phone. We all need to do our part.

Great news! We have a date for our chapter’s annual fundraiser The Bunwamer. It will be on April 1st at the River Inn in Scanlon with Jack Knife and the Sharps playing so make sure to bring your dancing shoes! More info to follow but make sure to start gathering your auction and door prizes now. There will also be a board available for your chance to win a fire ring and we are also lucky enough to host the Northern Lights Performing Arts Fire Spinners. This party will be hot!

(couldn’t resist)

One more reminder that A.B.A.T.E. U raffle tickets are available now so let me know how many you want.

See you at the next meeting if not before.

Lars-Pres

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**East Central**

www.eastcentralabate.org

No report received.
Up North

Next Meeting(s):
January 9th, Bernies Main Dry, Keewatin, 4:00 pm
February 12th, Eagles Club, Grand Rapids, 4:00 pm
March 12th, Calumet Snowmobile Club, Calumet, 4:00 pm

Upcoming Event(s):
January 25th, Bikerday at the State Capitol
February 18th, Winter Fever Reliever, Eagles Club, Grand Rapids
April 21st-23rd, A.B.A.T.E. University, Alexandria

Hello everyone,

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and New Years and got what they wanted for the bikes now that they are put away for the snow season. Hopefully the snow doesn’t stick around long and we will be out riding again soon. Our Winter Fever Reliever fundraiser is going to be here soon and I want to thank all the committee members and volunteers that have helped put on a successful party the past few years. I can’t wait to see all of our members and friends that support our motorcycle rights. If you want to be involved with the party please contact me at (763) 234-8143. Don’t forget that it’s Bikerday at the Capitol on January 25th. Let’s all go down and welcome the new and returning legislators and let them know about our concerns, along with our rights and freedoms. The March meeting is elections, if you know someone or maybe you want to become an officer, state level nominations will be held at the January B.O.D. or chapter level nominations are held at the January and February meetings. Keep in mind that A.B.A.T.E. U is just around the corner and is a great weekend of training and fellowship.

Hope to see you all at the next meeting,
Farmer Jay VP

River Riders

www.riverridersabatemn@gmail.com

Next Meeting(s):
January 11th, American Legion, Forest Lake, 6:30 pm
February 8th, American Legion, Forest Lake, 6:30 pm
March 8th, American Legion, Forest Lake, 6:30 pm
April 12th, American Legion, Forest Lake, 6:30 pm

Upcoming event(s):
January 25th, Bikerday at the State Capitol

We have been very fortunate to have had such a mild fall this year and I know we have all enjoyed it. I sincerely hope all A.B.A.T.E members have been attending meetings as elections are coming up and ideas are always welcome from members on group rides, events, fundraising, and other issues affecting motorcyclists statewide. As I stated last month, there are opportunities to have new officers in River Riders Chapter and members are strongly encouraged to attend upcoming meetings. Our October meeting was cancelled due to my mother having a serious stroke the day before and she, unfortunately, passed away on my parents anniversary October 16th. As a result, I am still in Minnesota and will not be going to Arizona until late January after Bikerday. Val and I will be in Apache Junction and welcome visitors to join us in riding the Superstition Mountains.

I hope to see you all at Bikerday.
Best regards,
Wayne Sticha
**South Central**

South Central Chapter A.B.A.T.E. (Facebook Site) Check Us Out

Next Meeting(s):
- January 4th, Bonfire Bar & Grille, Litchfield, 7:00 pm
- February 1st, Bonfire Bar & Grille, Litchfield, 7:00 pm
- March 1st, Bonfire Bar & Grille, Litchfield, 7:00 pm

Upcoming Event(s):
- January 25th, Bikerday at the State Capitol

Our 2016 Toys for Kids event was another great success. Thank you to everyone that helped plan for our big night at the VFW and thank you to those that helped collect so many great donations. And an even bigger thank you to everyone who came out and celebrated such a great fundraiser for our Meeker & McLeod county families. We were able to donate a little over $3,000.00 worth of cash and toys.

Just a few weeks away is Bikerday at the Capitol. I strongly encourage you to attend, if you are able. Please be sure to go online to the A.B.A.T.E. of MN website to register. There will be buses to help get us all there. I know I will be going!

Stay warm!
Jill Meyer

**Glacial Ridge**

www.glacialridgeabate.org

No report received.

**Buffalo Ridge**

Next Meeting(s):
- January 7th, The Caboose, Tracy, 1:00 pm

Upcoming Event(s):
- January 25th, Bikerday at the State Capitol
- February 25, The Caboose, Tracy

Greetings Freedom Fighters!!

The Buffalo Ridge chapter “Share the Road” class is continuing in our community! On November 17th, we instructed 22 children and were honored to have three members of the Southwest Chapter join us for the class as well, as they look to start up a program in their area. Once again, we feel we have put together a solid program that we are happy to share with other chapters. Just contact us if you are interested!

Since “Bikerday” was not budgeted at the state level, our chapter has decided to forgo the busing and, instead, drive several vehicles to St. Paul in January.

Our largest fundraiser of the year, the annual chili feed, will be the biggest and best event we have put on in many years! Please join us Saturday, February 25th, at the Caboose in Tracy.

Local band Hicktown Mafia will provide the evening’s entertainment. Think about spending a weekend in Marshall, in February!

I know we all come from varied political views, but I truly believe we have a friend in VP-elect Mike Pence. The MRF should have a good year ahead! Until next time, remain vigilant!

Until We Meet Again,
Kris

**Way West**

www.waywestmn.webs.com

Next Meeting(s):
- January 6th, The Checkered Flag, Bellingham, 7:00 pm
- February 3rd, The Checkered Flag, Bellingham, 7:00 pm
- March 3rd, The Checkered Flag, Bellingham, 7:00 pm

Upcoming Event(s):
- January 25th, Bikerday at the State Capitol

Howdy,

What an awesome December meeting. We had our faithful members and some new ones. Welcome to Frosty, Joe Ruby and Paula & Beetle Baily. We are happy to have you join us. Also, thanks to the members that renewed their memberships. This year instead of exchanging gifts with each other, we decided to bring Christmas gifts for kids. It was an amazing turn out. I would like to say a special thank you to the people who donated toys and to the ones who donated money to buy more toys.

I’d also like to thank the owners of the Checkered Flag, Rob and Nancy Rademacher. They welcomed us and were very helpful. Really cool people.

After the meeting we held our potluck Christmas party. We had lots of good food. The leftovers were offered to the people in the bar. LeAnn signed up a new member there.

By the time this comes out, Christmas and New Years will be over. I hope everyone had a super time during the holidays.

Remember that Biker Day at the Capitol is happening this year. It is January 25th. I hope lots of you can make it.

Happy Trails,
Cherry Mary
Lake

www.abatelakechapter.com

Next Meeting(s):
January 7th, Chops, Hanover, 3:00 pm
February 11th, Delano Legion, Delano, 3:00 pm
March 11th, Hollywood Roadhouse, New Germany, 3:00 pm
April 1st, Sons Club House, Cokato, 3:00 pm

Upcoming Event(s):
January 7th, Special Events committee meeting, Chop’s, Hanover, 2:00 pm
January 25th, Bikerday at the State Capitol
February 4th, Grounded Hogs fundraiser, Rockford Township Hall

We had great attendance for the December meeting. I guess everyone wanted to know who won the SJK award. And the winner was......Jim Koss. I think he was surprised, but it was well deserved and we thank Jim for all he has done for Lake Chapter and motorcycle rights in general.

We also had a good showing for the Toys for Tots fundraiser and were able to donate $1,000.00 to that organization. Big thanks to Marine Storage for their donation to the cause. Hope you all saw us on KARE 11 news making that donation. I also want to thank Madigan’s for hosting our December meeting. It is nice to have the separate room and the food is always good.

Chapter officer nominations will start at the January meeting. And then we need to get ready for Bikerday at the Capitol! This should be a great day after missing the past two years due to their construction. Make plans to get to the Capitol on January 25th. I know I will be there.

There will be new Grounded Hogs t-shirts available at our fundraiser on February 4th. Quantities are limited, so make sure to get there early. And bring a nice item to donate to the auction or food for the feast. This is our big fundraiser and we need this to be a success in order to continue to fight for Bikers rights. Thanks go out to Mike Berger for making an awesome poster for this event.

There are talks about A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota hosting the 2019 Meeting of the Minds conference. If you are interested in helping with this, contact our State Coordinator, Mack.

That’s it for now.

Later,

Mitch’n

Rolling Prairie

www.rollingprairieabate.org

Next Meeting(s):
January 8th, Terry and Jackie’s House, St. James, 5:00 pm
February 5th, Buckshot’s Bar, Butterfield, 3:00 pm
March 5th, Buckshot’s Bar, Butterfield, 3:00 pm

Upcoming Event(s):
January 25th, Bikerday at the State Capitol
March 24th, Chili Feed set up, St. James VFW, St. James, 10:00 am
March 25th, Chili Feed, St. James VFW, St. James, 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Happy New Year to you all! I hope Santa was good to you and your family.

January is a busy month for our chapter. First is our Christmas Party and meeting on the 8th which will include officer and member of the year nominations. Then Bikerday at the Capitol on January 25th. It will be good to get back up there and make our presence be known.

February will be our meeting on the 5th with the final nominations being made. If you want to run for an office, make sure you make it to one of these meetings! Voting will take place at our March meeting.

Robb has the A.B.A.T.E. University raffle tickets. Please contact him to purchase your $100.00 ticket or to sign some out.

Happy New Year!

Kelly Lorenz

Lake Chapter

Jim Koss receiving the coveted Steven J Kreitlow award surrounded by most of the past recipients of this award
I would like to say thank you to Tri-county, Straight River and River Valley for helping me financially with my trip to Duluth for the Toward Zero Deaths conference. I learned a lot. This is just a short snippet of information I sent to all my chapter reps when I got back. I hope you find it interesting.

This conference TZD, Toward Zero Deaths talked about each year, traffic crashes in Minnesota that kills hundreds and injure thousands. Increased traffic safety enforcement programs are conducted to educate motorists about important safe driving behaviors with the aim to stop preventable traffic tragedies. If you want to learn more you can go to ots.dps.mn.gov@MnDPS_OT5. For example, no seat belt in a 60 mph crash is equal to a 12-story fall.

Mission: to create a culture in which traffic fatalities and serious injuries are no longer acceptable through the integrated application of education, engineering, enforcement and emergency medical and trauma services. These efforts will be driven by data, best practices and research. Values-continuous improvements, engage partners and evidence-based approaches. The leading cause of deaths and severe injuries in south central Minnesota include: Lack of Seatbelt use (2016 South Central Minnesota regional seat belt usage survey results: 87.6%—up one percent from the 2015 rate.) Impaired driving, speed, aggressive driving and inattentive driving were the leading causes of death in South Central Minnesota, with Blue Earth having the highest fatalities and serious injuries by county between 2011 and 2015. The leading type of crash resulting in deaths and severe injuries include Run Off the Road and Intersection related. These numbers were based on the numbers in 13 counties in South Central Minnesota. (Blue Earth, Brown, Cottonwood, Faribault, Jackson, LeSueur, Martin, Nicollet, Nobles, Rock, Sibley, Waseca and Watonwan) The South Central Minnesota Toward Zero Deaths (TZD) program began in 2011. The South Central Minnesota TZD program is led by a Steering Committee comprised of the "4 E's" Enforcement, Engineering, Education, and EMS/Emergency and Trauma Services.

Drunk driving continues to be a problem, but drugged driving is increasing. More than 30,000 Americans, and more than 350 Minnesotans, are killed on roadways each year. One third of these deaths are a direct result of impairment. While alcohol remains a serious threat as a percentage of all crashes, it has declined significantly in sheer numbers since the early 1970s. Meanwhile, drugged driving is increasing. A National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) study recently found 22% of randomly selected drivers tested positive for some drug or medication, a 25% increase from 14 years ago. This includes illegal drugs such as heroin, meth and even "bath salts". It also includes prescription drugs, which can be abused by those with a prescription drugs, or by those who steal or obtain them from others. And often, drugs are mixed with alcohol, which by itself remains a menacing problem. In 2014, alcohol impairment caused 111 deaths and 2,040 injuries in Minnesota. Many of the 25,258 Minnesotans charged with DWIs in 2014, few intended to drive impaired after drinking, taking drugs, smoking marijuana—or doing two or all three of these things—but many did. And impaired drivers are extremely dangerous, one in seven licensed Minnesotans has at least one DWI on his or her driving record. That means more than 600,000 drivers in the state have one DWI, and more than 240,000 have multiple infractions. For people charged with DWI, about 40% will violate the law again. About half of them will go on to have a third DWI, half of this group will go on to a fourth DWI, and so on.

"For me there is a certain level of disappointment, because DWIs have been around for so many years." says David Bernstein, chair of the DWI Task Force and Minneapolis assistant city attorney, who regularly prosecutes a parade of people charged with impaired driving. There is so much education, so much publicity and increased enforcement over holiday weekends, yet we see so many DWI arrests. While most people associate DWI with alcohol—and nearly one out of every four deaths on Minnesota roads is drunk driving related—drugs can also be involved including marijuana, heroin and other illegal drugs, as well as prescription and over the counter medications. Drugged Driving—Across the country, there is a growing concern over increases in drugged driving, particularly in light of more permissive marijuana laws and increase in prescription drug use (the amount of prescription painkillers dispensed in the U.S. has quadrupled since 1999). Between 2007 and 2014, illicit drug use by drivers has risen 25%; marijuana detection has increased nearly 50%. NHTSA 40% of fatally injured drivers tested had drugs in their system—almost the same level as alcohol. These statistics are scary. It really makes you think. As always, if anyone has any questions, comments or concerns please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,
Nita Baker, SEDD

Mississippi Valley
www.facebook.com missvalley.abate
No report received.
Next Meeting(s):
January 5th, Cy’s Bar and Grill, Chaska, 7:00 pm
February 4th, Paul Kleaver and Gerry Berger’s home, Montgomery. Potluck at noon, meeting at 1:00 pm and hayride at 2:00 pm. Please note that there will not be a meeting on February 2nd at Cy’s Bar and Grill.

Upcoming Event(s):
January 25th, Bikerday at the Capitol
Buddy Bears – Please let us know where you would like to donate the Bears. We will discuss at our January meeting.
Chapter Nominations for Elections – Come to the January meeting and let’s talk about the positions responsibilities and get some new volunteers.
Upcoming Events – see the Calendar of Events in the Road Noise

John good luck with your surgery – speedy recovery!
Annual Biker Day at the Capital is January 25th.
The chapter holiday party was a success – thanks to all those that attended and for all the sweets! Love those Cy’s Bar Pizza’s too.
Is it Spring yet??
Leisa
Flatlanders
See the Flatlanders Chapter A.B.A.T.E. Minnesota page on Facebook for meeting dates, locations and time.

Next Meeting(s):
January 14th, R&R Roadhouse Bar & Grill, Walters, 2:00 pm, officer nominations begin
February 18th, Albert Lea Moose, Albert Lea, 2:00 pm, officer nominations conclude
March 11th, TB3’s, Freeborn, 1:00, officer elections

Upcoming Event(s):
January 25th, BIKERDAY AT THE CAPITOL, State Capitol, Saint Paul. Details available at www.abatemn.org under the Calendar/Events tab
February 18th, CHILI FEED FUNDRAISER, 4:00 pm until the chili is gone, Albert Lea Moose, Albert Lea
March 11th, OFFICER ELECTIONS, 1:00 pm, TB3’s, Freeborn
March 31st, SHRIMP FEED CHAPTER FUNDRAISER, updates to follow

Greetings to all A.B.A.T.E. members from the Flatlanders!
Thank you to everyone that participated in our Write to Ride party in November. We had good participation and every letter counts! Plan to follow up your letter with a personal visit on Bikerday at the Capitol on January 25th. Registration and details are available online at www.abatemn.org under the Calendar/Events tab. Please try to register by January 10th if you plan to attend. The bus location pick-ups and times will be posted by January 15th. If you’ve never attended Bikerday at the Capitol, you don’t want to miss this event! Once again, I am proud to be a Flatlander and part of a chapter that donated funds to help support this great day!

We have a lot of great upcoming chapter events on the calendar! Note the dates now and plan to attend. January and February meetings include officer nominations concluding with elections in March. Please consider volunteering your time and talents as a Flatlanders Chapter Officer in 2017! We have a GREAT Chapter and that is thanks to the members that step up and volunteer!!

And until next month, “Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom, must, undergo the fatigue of supporting it.” ~Thomas Paine
Meghan Baumann

Flatlanders - Meghan and Shelly

“Your success and happiness lies in you. Resolve to keep happy, and your joy and you shall form an invincible host against difficulties.”

Helen Keller

Lower Corner

Next Meeting(s):
January 5th, Strikers Corner, Stewartville, 6:00 pm
February 2nd, Strikers Corner, Stewartville, 6:00 pm

Upcoming Event(s):
January 25th, Bikerday at the Capitol

Happy New Year Lower Corner!

Now come the elections that will really impact our daily lives. WTF you say? You thought it was over? I’m talkin’ A.B.A.T.E. chapter elections. Nominations are open in January for chapter president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, chapter representative, and sergeant @ arms. Lower Corner has over 75 members and all are qualified, or even over qualified, to hold any one of these positions. No previous experience required or expected. Lead, follow, or get out of the way. And as a bonus, free beer next meeting.
**STRAIGHT RIVER**

Next Meeting(s):
January 14th, American Legion, Morristown, 1:00 pm
February 11th, location TBD, 1:00 pm

Upcoming Events:
January 25th, Bikerday at the Capitol
January 28th, Pork Chop and Fish Dinner, 5:00 pm -7:30pm, American Legion, Morristown
February 1st, Not a meeting, Reggie’s Brewhouse, 7:00 pm

Happy New Year, Straight Jackets!!! 2016 treated our chapter pretty well. Let’s work to make 2017 even better!

Hopefully, you are signed up for Bikerday on the 25th of January. After a couple of years hiatus (due to the renovation at the Capitol), we are ready to fill the rotunda with leather and denim once again! Our chapter has always had a good turnout for this and we are counting on it to be just as strong this year.

We are kicking off the year with our Annual Pork Chop Dinner Fundraiser, which is Saturday, January 28th at the American Legion in Morristown. This all you care to eat meal is very popular, so please plan on coming out to both eat and help out.

A scheduling note: We would normally do our Not-a-Meeting on the 25th, but that is Bikerday, so it is moved to one week later, on February 1st.

Keys

**RIVER VALLEY**

Next Meeting(s):
January 8th, Eagles Club, Mankato, 12:00 pm
February 12th, Eagles Club, Mankato, 12:00 pm
March 12th, Eagles Club, Mankato, 12:00 pm

Upcoming Event(s):
January 21st, January Thaw Dance/Fundraiser, Eagles Club, Mankato, 7:00 pm till ??
January 25th Bikerday at the Capitol

I would like to say thank you again to all of those who volunteered to ring bells for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Drive, I know they appreciated the help, and I hope next year we can get a few more members to get involved.

Our dance/fundraiser is only a few days away, there is still time to get items for the silent auction and grab bags, we can use all you can get, every little bit helps!

Elections start this month and February is voting, so if you want to run for Sergeant at Arms or one of the officer positions please attend the next two meetings, hope to see you there.

Stay safe and warm.
Glen

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**Minnesota Motorcycle Safety Advisory Task Force**

I still smile whenever I remember Hardtail speaking at the A.B.A.T.E. University Banquet and saying "How do you get anything done in a state where they try to make highway rubble strips quieter?" Well, it takes time, patience, persistence, and work.

A few years ago, motorcyclists asked if we could have a motorcycle safety message on the highway message boards. Last year, on June 9th, as I drove around the Twin Cities I saw several message boards that said "LOOK TWICE FOR MOTORCYCLES. SHARE THE ROAD."

This year, MNDOT will be starting a new initiative called MESSAGE MONDAY where they will display a different safety message each Monday. I would like to hear from you, and get your ideas about what would be a good message to put on these message boards. I know we have some good thinkers out there with good ideas, so let’s hear them. The boards are two or three lines with 18 to 22 spaces per line. The two line boards would use two screens.

Our next Safety Task Force meeting is January 19th, so I need to hear from you by then to present it to the meeting. Send your ideas to me by text to (612) 590-0763 or by email to monteohlrogge@gmail.com.

I was driving down the road, trying to think of the perfect safety message, when an old country song came on the radio. "I brake for brunettes, blondes in Corvettes, red heads I stop on a dime… Don’t tailgate my pick-up truck, or you just might end up in a wreck". Okay, it’s a little long, but there’s a safety message there.

Monte
A.B.A.T.E. University

April 21st - 23rd
Holiday Inn, Alexandria
Make your reservation today:
(320) 763-6577
**BUSINESS OF THE MONTH**

**Andy’s Auto Repair and Towing**
135 4th Street, Butterfield, MN
(507) 956-2144

Owned and Operated by Andy and Mandy Fisch. They specialize in all types of repairs from oil changes to motor work, body shop repair, and they are also a dealer for Hustler mowers.

Andy and Mandy are great supporters of Rolling Prairie A.B.A.T.E., allowing us to use their land for parking and camping for our fall run each year. Mandy drives the support vehicle in case someone breaks down.

Thank you for your support of our Chapter!

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**Bikerday - January 25th**

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**MEMBER OF THE MONTH**

Edgar Burke is the current President and driving force of the Heart of the Lakes Chapter. He is very dedicated and passionate about motorcyclist rights.

Over the years he has held various positions in A.B.A.T.E., not the least being Northwest District Director. He is the first to offer a helping hand to a fellow biker in need and has attended many fundraisers over the years. Because of his encouragement many members have stepped up and accomplished things they never thought would have been possible.
Bike of the Month

Owner:
Shellie Deutsch
River Valley Chapter Representative

2003 HD Dyna Low Rider
Just bought this anniversary model. Now I have three bikes!

Been There? Go There!
Sign up for email alerts to get the most up to date legislative news and A.B.A.T.E. Alerts.

www.abatemn.org
**New & Renewals For November 2016**

### Buffalo Ridge
- Brenda Alley / Ken Pesch
- Matt Drown / Deb Spence
- Kristin Gruhot / Brian Gruhot
- Butch Hildebrandt

### Central
- Kenny Huckenpoehler / Shannon Pooler
- Les Wille / Deb Wille

### East Central
- Mark Braastad / Deb Braastad

### Flatlanders
- Bryan Botten / Tara Botten
- Dan Bye / Arvilla Bye
- Chris Carlson / Brian Carlson
- Sandra Gilbertson
- Bill Hinderscheit
- Rich Nelson / Lori Nelson

### Freedom First Riders
- James Allison / Anita Allison
- Eric Danielson
- Larry Floan / Sherri Floan
- Bob Jespersen / Brenda Jespersen
- Brian Johnson / Karen Forcier
- Justin Koehntop / Stacy Fussy
- Mike Miller / Sheri Miller
- Ernie Schmitt / Joni Schmitt

### Glacial Ridge
- Rooney’s Bar - Anthony / Sandra Rooney

### Heart of the Lakes
- Chuck Edner

### Jack Pine Riders
- Leslie Bjerke
- Liz Ovick
- Ken Stern

### Lake
- Gene Bolgren / Charm Bolgren
- Gina Eshelman
- Bill T Nelson / Marianne W Nelson
- Jeffrey Otten / Liana Rasset-Otten
- Keith Quady / Lisa Quady
- Dale Schultz / Sheila Smith
- Michael Welton

### Lower Corner
- Richard Arguello
- Brad Beckman / Judy Beckman
- Jason Rietmann
- Rick Schacht / Terri Schacht

### Metro
- Stephen Brown / Deborah Brown
- Bill Shaffer
- Greg Smith / Mioara Tayler

### Mississippi Valley
- Dan Klankowski
- David LaRuffa
- Troy Simmons

### North Star
- Allan Olson / Katrina Hartel

### Northwest
- Travis Embretson
- Bruce Hodgson / Glynnie Winand

### River Riders
- Brian Whelan / Janet Petroske

### River Valley
- Nita Baker / Gary Fischer
- Greg Boughey / Kara Boughey
- Dan Leiding / Shelly Deutsch

### Rolling Prairie
- William Crispin Jr. / Rosalie Crispin
- Josh Moll
- Cory Nelson
- John Ranniger / Deanna Ranniger
- Paul Torkelson / Cindy Torkelson
- Adam Tripp
- Mark Weedman

### Sand Dunes
- Don Close
- Thomas Gohman
- Tim Rooney
- Roger Sawyer / Jennifer Sawyer
- Steven “Schnidrr” Thuss

### South Central
- Greg Anderson / Michelle Anderson
- Travis Anderson
- Jeff Klehr
- Wendy Klehr
- Josh Paul / Desirea Paul

### Southwest
- Kevin Harberts / Traci Kracht
- Jerrit Prins / Kerry Prins
- Jerry Vogt / Diane Vogt

### Straight River
- Daniel Andrews
- Michael Burns / Marilyn Shada
- Jerry Collins
- Kathleen Dirkens
- Peter S Krippner
- Todd Nichols

### Tri-County
- Grant Erickson / Michaela Erickson
- Richard Gerth
- Dale Giles
- Bill “Groucho Marx” Doris Marx
- Richard Pacholke
- Michael Pharr / Toby Pharr
- Monte Thue
- Lynn Weidling

### Up North
- Boola Anderson / Mary Jo Anderson
- Barry Burton
- Mike Moriarity / Angie Moriarity
- Roy Snider
- Peter Strassburg

### Way West
- Mary Thielke

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**Need a New Year’s Resolution:**

**Sign up a new member every month!**

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January 25th
The Most Important Day of the Year for Minnesota Motorcyclists

A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota’s 12th annual Bikerday at the Minnesota State Capitol will be held on Wednesday, January 25th. If you are attending Bikerday, be sure to register before January 10th. By registering, A.B.A.T.E. volunteers will provide you with Bikerday talking points when you arrive at the Capitol and also arrange for you to meet with your State Senator and State Representative. Bus transportation is provided from around the state. By the busload and individually, A.B.A.T.E. members, club members, motorcycling groups and independent riders will walk into the Capitol to make sure their voice is heard. Your presence is crucial to protect your rights and safety as a Minnesota motorcyclist.

On January 25th, from 8:15 am to 9:15 am, we will assemble in the Minnesota State Capitol Great Hall. You will receive a packet containing talking points on the A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota legislative agenda and the time and room number for meeting with your Senator and Representative or staff. At 9:30 am we will hear from many key people in Minnesota politics in the Minnesota Capitol Rotunda. Office visits are scheduled throughout the day for attendees to meet with those who represent them. At 1:30 pm we will assemble on the steps of the Capitol for a group picture before the buses leave at 2:00 pm.

Bikerday at the Capitol would not be possible without the many contributions made by individuals and groups who support motorcycling freedom in Minnesota. If you or your group would like to contribute, contact A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota at stateoffice@abatemn.org or 1-800-224-6570. Also, Bikerday pins are available for $3.00, plus $1.00 shipping, with all proceeds supporting Bikerday.

If you can’t attend you can still help: Call or send a letter of support to your legislators.

This will be a great day for Minnesota motorcycling freedom - Don't miss it.

We need you there – You need you there - Be there – Do it for you.

For more information email stateoffice@abatemn.org or call 1-800-224-6570.

Check www.abatemn.org often for updated information often.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>January 4</td>
<td>South Central Chapter meeting, Bonfire Bar and Grille</td>
<td>Litchfield, 7:00 pm</td>
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<td>January 5</td>
<td>Lower Corner Chapter meeting, Strikers Corner</td>
<td>Stewartville, 6:00 pm</td>
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<td>Tri-County Chapter meeting, Cy’s Bar and Grill</td>
<td>Chaska, 7:00 pm</td>
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<td>January 6</td>
<td>Way West Chapter meeting, The Checkered Flag</td>
<td>Bellingham, 7:00 pm</td>
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<td>Southwest Chapter meeting, Rushmore Community Center</td>
<td>Rushmore, 7:30 pm</td>
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<td>January 7</td>
<td>Buffalo Ridge Chapter meeting, The Caboose, Tracy</td>
<td>Tracy, 1:00 pm</td>
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<td>Sand Dunes Chapter meeting, KJ’s Refuge</td>
<td>Orrock, 2:00 pm</td>
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<td>Lake Chapter meeting, Chop’s, Hanover</td>
<td>3:00 pm</td>
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<td>Northeast Chapter meeting, Chalet Lounge</td>
<td>Hermantown, 7:00 pm</td>
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<td>January 8</td>
<td>Central Chapter meeting, Bubba’s Bar and Grill</td>
<td>Sauk Rapids, 12:00 pm</td>
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<td>River Valley Chapter meeting, Eagles Club, Mankato</td>
<td>12:00 pm</td>
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<td>Jack Pine Riders Chapter’s Chili Feed, Gas Light Bar</td>
<td>Sandstone, 1:00 pm</td>
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<td>Northwest Chapter meeting, Drafts, Crookston</td>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
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<td>Up North Chapter meeting, Bernie’s Main Dry</td>
<td>Keewatin, 4:00 pm</td>
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<td>Rolling Prairie Chapter meeting, Terry and Jackie’s home</td>
<td>St. James, 5:00 pm, followed by the Chapter Christmas Party</td>
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<td>January 9</td>
<td>Borderland Chapter meeting, VFW, Roseau</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
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<td>Metro Chapter meeting, Kraus-Hartig VFW</td>
<td>Spring Lake Park, 7:00 pm</td>
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<td>January 10</td>
<td>River Riders Chapter meeting, American Legion</td>
<td>Forest Lake, 6:30 pm</td>
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<td>January 11</td>
<td>Heart of the Lakes Chapter meeting, Edgar and LeAnn Burke’s home</td>
<td>Ottertail, 7:00 pm</td>
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<td>January 12</td>
<td>Straight River Chapter meeting, American Legion</td>
<td>Morristown, 1:00 pm</td>
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<td>Flatlanders Chapter meeting, R&amp;R Roadhouse Bar &amp; Grill</td>
<td>Walters, 2:00 pm</td>
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<td>Mississippi Valley Chapter meeting, American Legion</td>
<td>Red Wing, 6:00 pm</td>
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<td>January 13</td>
<td>Ways and Means Committee meeting, Ugly Bar</td>
<td>Montrose, 1:00 pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jack Pine Riders Chapter meeting, Bear’s Den</td>
<td>Bruno, 2:00 pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Publications Committee meeting, Ugly Bar</td>
<td>Montrose, 2:00 pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>North Star Chapter meeting, Eagles Club, Bemidji</td>
<td>3:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 14</td>
<td>Gambling Committee meeting, Holiday Inn</td>
<td>Detroit Lakes, 7:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 15</td>
<td>A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota’s Board of Directors meeting</td>
<td>Holiday Inn, Detroit Lakes, 9:00 am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>River Valley Chapter’s January Thaw Dance</td>
<td>Mankato, 7:00 pm, Silent auction, music by Whiskey Richard</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 16</td>
<td>Bikerday at the Minnesota State Capitol</td>
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<td>January 28</td>
<td>Southwest Chapter’s Soup and Chili Feed</td>
<td>Rushmore, 6:00 pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Freedom First Riders Chapter meeting</td>
<td>Alexandria, 6:45 pm, followed by the Chapter Christmas Party</td>
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<td>Metro Chapter’s Winter Bash, The Park Bar and Grill</td>
<td>Fridley, 7:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 1</td>
<td>Northeast Chapter meeting, Chalet Lounge</td>
<td>Hermantown, 7:00 pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>South Central Chapter meeting, Bonfire Bar and Grille</td>
<td>Litchfield, 7:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 2</td>
<td>Lower Corner Chapter meeting, Strikers Corner</td>
<td>Stewartville, 6:00 pm</td>
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<td>Date</td>
<td>Event Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 3</td>
<td>Way West Chapter meeting, The Checkered Flag, Bellingham, 7:00 pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Southwest Chapter meeting, Rushmore Community Center, Rushmore, 7:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 4</td>
<td>Tri-County Chapter meeting, Paul Kleaver and Gerry Berger’s home, Montgomery, 1:00 pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sand Dunes Chapter meeting, KJ’s Refuge, Orrock, 2:00 pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lake Chapter’s Grounded Hogs Party, Rockford Township Hall, Buffalo, 7:00 pm. Live and silent auctions, free food and beer while it lasts, music by the Everett Smithson band</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mississippi Valley Chapter’s 4th Annual Winter Bash, American Legion, Red Wing, 7:00 pm. Silent auction, music by Redline Sound and Lights</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 5</td>
<td>Central Chapter meeting, Stoney’s Bar, Rockville, 12:00 pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Rolling Prairie Chapter meeting, Buckshot’s Bar, Butterfield, 3:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 8</td>
<td>Tri-River Chapter meeting, American Legion, Forest Lake, 6:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 11</td>
<td>Publications Committee meeting, American Legion, Delano, 2:00 pm</td>
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<td>Lake Chapter meeting, American Legion, Delano, 3:00 pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mississippi Valley Chapter meeting, American Legion, Red Wing, 6:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 12</td>
<td>River Valley Chapter meeting, Eagles Club, Mankato, 12:00 pm</td>
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<td>Up North Chapter meeting, Eagles Club, Grand Rapids, 4:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 14</td>
<td>Metro Chapter meeting, Kraus-Hartig VFW, Spring Lake Park, 7:00 pm</td>
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<td>February 18</td>
<td>Flatlanders Chapter meeting, Moose Lodge, Albert Lea, 2:00 pm, followed by the Chili Feed Fundraiser at 4:00 pm</td>
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<td>Up North Chapter’s Winter Fever Reliever fundraiser, Eagles Club, Grand Rapids</td>
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<td>February 19</td>
<td>Jack Pine Riders Chapter’s Membership Drive, Outback Saloon, Stanchfield, 12:00 pm, followed by a Chapter meeting at 2:00 pm</td>
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<td>February 25</td>
<td>Buffalo Ridge Chapter’s Chili Feed, The Caboose, Tracy, 5:00 pm. Music by Hicktown Mafia</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Freedom First Riders Chapter meeting, Leaf Valley Mercantile, Leaf Valley, 6:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 1</td>
<td>Northeast Chapter meeting, Chalet Lounge, Hermantown, 7:00 pm</td>
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<td>South Central Chapter meeting, Bonfire Bar and Grille, Litchfield, 7:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 3</td>
<td>Way West Chapter meeting, The Checkered Flag, Bellingham, 7:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 4</td>
<td>Sand Dunes Chapter meeting, KJ’s Refuge, Orrock, 2:00 pm</td>
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<td>Heart of the Lakes Chapter’s Pool and Dart Tournament, Sandbar, Detroit Lakes</td>
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<td>March 5</td>
<td>Central Chapter meeting, Bubba’s Bar and Grill, Sauk Rapids, 12:00 pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Rolling Prairie Chapter meeting, Buckshot’s Bar, Butterfield, 3:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 8</td>
<td>Tri-River Chapter meeting, American Legion, Forest Lake, 6:30 pm</td>
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<td>March 11</td>
<td>Flatlanders Chapter meeting, TB3’s, Freeborn, 1:00 pm</td>
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<td>Lake Chapter meeting, Hollywood Road House, New Germany, 3:00 pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mississippi Valley Chapter meeting, American Legion, Red Wing, 6:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 12</td>
<td>River Valley Chapter meeting, Eagles Club, Mankato, 12:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Up North Chapter meeting, Calumet Snowmobile Club, Calumet, 4:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 14</td>
<td>Metro Chapter meeting, Kraus-Hartig VFW, Spring Lake Park, 7:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 19</td>
<td>Jack Pine Riders Chapter meeting, Halfway Home Saloon, Banning Junction, 2:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 25</td>
<td>Freedom First Riders Chapter meeting, Knights Pub, Osakis, 6:00 pm</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
CALL TO ORDER
9:00 AM Call to order Mack Backlund
Pledge of allegiance Michele Legried
Roll call and membership check Michele Legried
Agenda approval / changes Mack Backlund
Secretary Report- October, 2016 Michele Legried
Treasurer’s Report Michelle Backlund

LEGISLATIVE REPORTS
MRF (Motorcycle Riders Foundation) Gary Goracke
Motorcycle PAC of MN Mark Senn
NCOM (National Coalition of Motorcyclists) Frank Ernst
Write to Ride Frank Ernst
Legislative Director Todd Riba

COMMITTEE REPORTS
(Committee Chairs submit written reports, up to 5 minutes for verbal report, if more time needed request in advance)
A.B.A.T.E. University Jane Doyle
Education Paul Tjepkes
Gambling Kim Ostlund
Buddy Bear Manager Sharon Polman
Membership Jim Laspisa
Products Benny Roemer
Publications Becky Hasslen
Rally Smoker Efron
Ways and Means Kristie Orn

OTHER REPORTS
State Office Liz Herzog
MCDAR (Motorcycle Dial-A-Ride) John Nelson
Motorcycle Safety Advisory Task Force Jon "Trashy" Smith
MN Motorcycle Club Coalition and Confederation of Clubs of MN Jane Doyle and Frank Ernst

OLD BUSINESS
2019 Meeting of the Minds

NEW BUSINESS
Chapter Product Inventory Request from State Treasurer
2017 Proposed Budget (April 2017 through March 2018)
By-law Proposals
State Officer Nominations

OFFICER REPORTS
Treasurer Michelle Backlund
Secretary Michele Legreid
Northwest District Director Mike Jeppesen
Northeast District Director Mark Braastad
Southeast District Director Nita Baker
Southwest District Director Jim Guza
Assistant State Coordinator Jim Orn
Trustee Frank Ernst
State Coordinator Mack Backlund

ANNOUNCEMENTS / ADJOURNMENT
A.B.A.T.E. University - April 21st - 23rd

Protect Yourself – Protect Your Rights

Keynote Speaker: Bill Shaffer

You, Me, and the Highway – A review of highway design

Removing the Bikini – A close look at crash statistics

MC/MRO – Explaining the difference between Motorcycle Clubs and Motorcycle Rights Organizations

Officer Training - Board of Director’s Meeting

Live and Silent Auctions - Dinner Banquet

Trike Races - Socialize – Meet New Friends

Road Guard Training – Saturday morning

Contact Jodi at johlrogge@hotmail.com

Experienced Riders Training – Sat. and Sun. mornings

Contact Jane at insanejane@comcast.net

Conceal and Carry – Friday night, cont. Saturday Morning

Contact Laura at (218) 252-1631

Holiday Inn, Alexandria, MN

Call for reservations: 320-763-6577
Bikerday Registration Information:

Bikerday - January 25th
Register on the A.B.A.T.E. Website
Deadline to register is January 10th
Register A.S.A.P. to assist in planning and scheduling
Any questions, please contact our State Office at (507) 487-5000 / 1 (800) 224-6570
BUFFALO RIDGE CHAPTER
A.B.A.T.E. of MINNESOTA

22ND CHILI FEED FUNDRAISER

WHERE: The Caboose
Tracy, MN

WHEN: Saturday
February 25, 2017
Doors open at 5:00 pm
Dance to Hicktown Mafia
beginning at 8:00 pm

COST: $7.00 (paid before 2/25/17)
$10.00 (at the door)

SPONSORED BY:

American Bikers for Awareness Training and Education:
Donations to ABATE of MN, Inc. are NOT tax deductible.
For information or additional tickets, call 507-530-2959
1995 Harley Road King, 2,588 Original miles, $12,500
2006 Harley Davidson Anniversary Ultra Classic, 12,300 miles, $13,600 OBO
2001 Red Harley Davidson FLHTCUI 74,419 miles $7,500 OBO
2014 Org/Blk Harley Davidson Ultra Limited 9,033 miles $21,800
Voyager Kit w/brackets to mount on a Harley pre 2006
2008 Hallmark Edge Low Trailer 8 x 20, $6,900 OBO
2005 Org/Blk Big Dog Ridgeback 8,409 miles $15,300
2007 Victory Kingpin 19,244 miles $7,500

Winter Storage Program
October - May 2017
Check our website or call for more details!

Check out our website: www.streetisneatinc.com
or call 218-695-2082 for pricing

All bikes can be seen on our website!
2017 Friends of A.B.A.T.E.
Show Your Current Membership card AND...

All Star Transport
Save $5.00 on Cab Fare or 10% on Limo
and party bus service to A.B.A.T.E. Members
St. Cloud (320) 493-5857

David Wray Automotive
10% off Labor
2086 Baker Avenue Northwest
Buffalo (763) 684-1811
WWW.DAVIDWRAYAUTO.COM

Maple Lake Bowl / The Pines Bar & Grill
10% Discount on Meal
320 Maple Avenue North
Maple Lake (320) 963-5555

North Star Power Sports & Marine
10% off Parts
2120 Council Street
Albert Lea
WWW.NORTHERNPOWERSPORTS.COM

Pandemic – 80’s Rock
Special rates for A.B.A.T.E. events
For full band press kit visit
PandemicFever.com

Perkins Restaurant and Bakery
10% Discount on Meal
1120 Paul Bunyan Drive Northwest
Bemidji (218) 751-7850

The Hawg Pen
10% Off PARTS (excludes Tires)
319 NE 3rd Avenue
Grand Rapids

TT Motorcycles
15% off Parts & Accessories
402 East Main Street,
Blooming Prairie
WWW.TT-MOTORCYCLES.COM

Vern’s Bikes and Trikes
15% discount on accessories, cleaners,
apparel and more
Blooming Prairie (800) 792-8893
WWW.VERNSBIKESANDTRIKES.COM
ABATE OF MINNESOTA IS A MEMBER GROUP OF NCOM

Law Offices of RICHARD M. LESTER
Founder, Aid to Injured Motorcyclists

24 Hours - Toll Free (800) 531-2424
(800) ON-A-BIKE

Check us out! Ask us to send you free written information about our qualifications and experience. Hiring a lawyer is an important decision and should not be based solely upon advertisements. Also ask the next biker you see about us.

Visit us on the web at www.onabike.com

ATTENTION ABATE OF MINNESOTA 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.

Attention: Scan to download our new smartphone app.
Business Card ad:
3.3” x 1.8”
$12.00 per Month

The A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota Road Noise monthly newsletter reaches 4,000 readers.
Classifieds

12/01/2016 For Sale: 2007 650 V Star, perfect starter bike for anyone. 46,800 miles, many, many extras, driver backrest, solo seat with fender bib, full stock seat with passenger pillion and backrest, Saddleman xlq locking bags, detachable Memphis fat black tint windshield with black lowers, flame ISO Kuryakin grips, custom passenger floor boards, Cobra slash cut slip ons (loud) re-jetted at Moon Motors, new clutch. Need it gone before the snow flies, no room to store it. Asking $2,500.00, willing to barter. (320) 282-1989, Dan, Annandale

12/01/2016 Wanted: 2003 Harley Davidson Road Glide or Electra Glide seat. Call Todd (952) 239-0929

12/01/2016 Wanted: T-shirts to make into pillows. These will be part of the auction at A.B.A.T.E. University. Old fundraiser t-shirts work great, but anything you think would make a good pillow will work. Bring any donations you have to the January Board of Directors meeting or mail to:
Michelle Backlund
16550 226th Ave NW
Elk River, MN 55330

Do you have something to sell?
Looking to Trade?
WANTED?

The classified section is open to all members of A.B.A.T.E. of MN. The ads are free of charge and run for a three month period.
Photos are acceptable as room permits.
No business ads will be accepted.
Send your ad to: roadnoise@abatemn.org or mail to:
Road Noise 16100 228th Ave NW, Elk River, MN 55330

Winter gotcha down?
Clean out your closets or garages.
Sell your items here.
Maybe even make a few bucks for some shiny new chrome!!!
51 years of riding and 30 years representing bikers who are hurt or in trouble in Minnesota.

CALL
1-800-770-7008
St. Cloud (320) 259-5414
“Ask your friends about us.”

If you have any legal problem and you wonder what to do
CALL US
and we will find someone to Help!

www.minnesotapersonalinjury.com

Offices in St. Cloud and the Twin Cities

“Justice For the Injured”
Check your expiration date. Please use the form below to re-new your membership with A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota, so that you may continue to receive the Road Noise and be informed!

I want to be a part of A.B.A.T.E.!
(Applicants 18 years of age and older)

Please Print Clearly

Name 1 _________________________
Name 2 _________________________
Address _________________________
City ____________________________
State/Zip _________________________
Phone # (_____) __________________
Phone # W (_____) __________________
E-mail __________________________

Renewal □ yes □ no DOB: _________
Chapter _________________________
If left blank the correct area chapter will be assigned

Dues: $20.00 single or $30.00 per couple per year.
Make checks payable to A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota
Checks or Money Order # __________

Charge to: □ Visa □ MasterCard Exp._
Card # _________________________
Signature: _________________________
Cardholder Signature

Motorcycle PAC of Minnesota
Unless you opt-out by signing below, $2.00 from your membership dues will go to Motorcycle PAC of Minnesota Motorcyclists:
To opt-out check here □ then sign
Signature _________________________

Mail to: A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota, Inc.
P.O. Box 6
Marshall, MN 56258

http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/hinfo/leginfo/cong.pdf