



TEXAS TIDBITS

TEXAS ABATE CONFEDERATION, INC

Edition II, Volume X
September - October 2020

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Membership

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Upcoming Events

Upcoming Events

(Click underlined text for flyers/links)

STATE:

- **09/11-09/13/20 State Rally**
- **09/12/20 General Membership Meeting**, 3 pm, at the Rally
- **10/03/20 State Meeting**, 1 pm, Arlington – check the state website for details

ARLINGTON:

- **3rd Sunday at 12 noon**
VFW Post 6111
1200 W Harris Street
Arlington 76018
- **11/15/20 Bikers Giving Back to Arlington Fire Dept**

DENTON:

- **4th Sunday at 2:00 pm**
****NEW MEETING LOCATION****
Horny Toad Café & Bar
5812 Interstate 35
Denton 76207

LAKE CITIES:

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

TEXOMA:

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

Many events have been cancelled or postponed due to COVID-19. Please check our website

<http://texasabate.com/events.html> OR
Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/texasabate/> for updates.

current topics >>>

AMERICANS/BIKERS AT THEIR BEST

Submitted by Shelly Crawford, Arlington Chapter

Stole this from one of my groups from my friend Skip who is working law enforcement at the Sturgis, SD, rally 2020...

"I know those of you that know me well are looking for my daily rally updates about things that happen at the greatest show on earth. However this year, due to everything that has happened in regards to law enforcement, and out of respect for my friends and family who may not be overly supportive of my chosen calling, I will not be posting much. However, sitting here on the porch reflecting on day two, I feel like I should share what happened at bar close last night downtown.

The bars closed at 2 like they always do and a large number of folks gathered in the street, just like any other night. However this night turned out to be way different. Instead of grabbing some overpriced fried food and staggering off into the sunrise, one man fired up the loud stereo on his Harley and started dancing. Within seconds, the entire street was filled with people from all walks of life and Nationalities dancing right along with him. The street was filled with people enjoying their freedom together, and not wanting it to end. We let this go on for about 20 minutes or so before we had to clear the street. When we went in to stop the party, there was no rioting, no looting, and no violence. just an overwhelming support for us as they quietly left. We got fist bumps, high fives, handshakes, and hundreds of selfies and well wishes for us and our profession. A couple guys even tried to tip us for our service.

For a short time on Main Street Sturgis, we were all Americans, not liberals, not conservatives, and our skin color didn't matter, we were all together, and months of anxiety, anger, divisiveness, and fear melted away right before my eyes. Even as I type this 8 hours later, I am still moved by what happened on that street in Sturgis SD.

Regardless of what side you're on, moments like this are what America needs right now."

American BIKERS ROCKIN & RIDIN

2021 STATE OFFICER OPENINGS

The following State positions are open for nominations, July - September 2020:

- Assistant Coordinator (Executive Office)
- Treasurer (Executive Office)
- Membership (Administrative Office)
- Newsletter (Administrative Office)

Nominations will close September 30, 2020 and voting will take place at the December State meeting.

For more detailed information regarding the duties of these offices see pages 12-15 of the [Texas Abate Confederation Bylaws](#)



Legislative Report Skee Dodson, State Legislative Officer, Texas Abate Confederation, Inc.

We are setting record temperatures in North Texas as we approach the end of August - record low temperatures, that is! This last week we enjoyed highs in the upper 80's, and lows in the upper 60's. And today, in my neighborhood, the high is forecast for 92 degrees! Wow, enjoy this awesome weather while we can, because in a couple of months we'll be asking if it's too early to put up holiday trees! Cooler weather is just around the corner, for sure, but that isn't all – our 87th Texas legislative session is just around the corner too!

Our legislative session begins in approximately four months and is approaching fast; I hope everyone reading this is making plans to attend our motorcycle legislative lobby day on January 25th! This year we hope to have thousands of motorcycle freedom fighters at the Capitol - representing the nearly half million registered motorcycles in Texas. Make your plans now to join us in Austin on January 25th.

As we get closer to our legislative session, we need to make appointments to meet with our elected officials in Austin. As I mentioned in previous issues of Tidbits, it is getting to be a bit of a challenge to receive any correspondence back from your representatives. I know many of us have written several emails lately (inc. snail-mail) and have gotten very few replies. Do not be discouraged, keep sending requests to meet with them. Even if you cannot personally meet with your rep, many of us can - and will. It is time for some common-sense motorcycle legislation in Texas!

To find out who represents you, go to <https://wrm.capitol.texas.gov/home>. Find out what voting district you reside in (write it down), and who your representatives are; go to their website and get to know your reps. Remind them that you are their constituent and that there are thousands of registered motorcycles in their district! Send the email, start the dialog, and make the appointment (anytime, any day)! If you need help, don't hesitate to ask; my email address is: Skee.Dodson@texasabate.com.

You probably remember, last session Texas passed SB-616 – transferring the responsibility of administering the basic motorcycle training course (the "Course") away from the Texas Department of Public Safety (Tx DPS) – and transferring it to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (Tx TDLR). You are required to pass this course for a motorcycle endorsement in Texas. This new legislation also transfers the responsibility of administering the motorcycle safety fund (0501) to the TDLR.

S.B. 616 amends the Transportation Code to remove the requirement for the governor to designate an entity to establish and administer a motorcycle operator training and safety program and an off-highway vehicle operator education and certification program. The bill requires the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) instead to administer those programs and enforce the laws governing those programs. The bill includes institutions of higher education among the entities that may be contracted with to assist in the administration of the education program and the certification of off-highway vehicle operators.

S.B. 616 requires the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation (TCLR) to establish by rule minimum curriculum standards for courses provided under the motorcycle operator training and safety program, requires TDLR to approve all courses that meet the established curriculum standards, and sets out provisions relating to the establishment of the minimum curriculum standards for entry-level courses. The bill authorizes TCLR to set fees in amounts reasonable and necessary to cover the costs of administering the motorcycle operator training and safety program, including fees for the issuance and renewal of a motorcycle school license and instructor license and courses provided under the program. The bill requires TCLR to establish a nine-member advisory board to advise TDLR on matters related to the program. The bill sets out the board's composition and provides for its administration and operation. The bill repeals provisions relating to a program director and a motorcycle safety coordinator.

S.B. 616 revises and sets out provisions related to the following:

- TDLR contracts with motorcycle schools, including required consultation with the motorcycle safety advisory board;
- the prohibition against unauthorized training in motorcycle operation;
- eligibility to obtain, and the application process for, a motorcycle operation and safety instructor license;
- the denial, suspension, or revocation of an instructor or motorcycle school license; and
- reporting requirements for motorcycle schools.

The bill requires the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service, in consultation with TDLR, to administer the training program to obtain an instructor license and provides for the issuance of a certificate of completion of the training program.

S.B. 616 authorizes TDLR to establish and administer a grant program to improve motorcycle safety in Texas using money from the motorcycle education fund account and sets out provisions related to awarding and administering the grant program. The bill authorizes TDLR to apply for and accept gifts, grants, and donations from any organization to be deposited in the motorcycle education fund account for such purposes. The bill requires the Texas A&M Transportation Institute, in consultation with TDLR, to research motorcycle safety in Texas and provide advocacy and education to the public on that topic.



ROBIN'S RESEARCH

Robin Warfield, State Secretary, Texas Abate Confederation, Inc.

Hello Texas ABATE Members and Friends, here we are at the beginning of September, smack dab in the middle of some pandemic, trying to have meetings virtually or by social distancing to prepare for Texas ABATE State Officer elections and a very important Legislative session coming up in just a few short months.

Skee Dodson, Texas ABATE Legislative Officer and the Legislative team of the Texas COC&I are working diligently toward the planning and details of the upcoming legislative session and getting bills authored, sponsored and ready for us to present and share on January 25th, 2021, at Legislative Day. Hotel details for Legislative Day in Austin will be available in the next newsletter and information will be updated as it is received on the Texas Legislative Day Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/TexasLegislativeDay/>); you can watch the Texas ABATE Confederation website (<http://texasabate.com/>) and the Texas ABATE Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/texasabate/>) group for details as well.

We only have until the end of September to get your State Officer Nominations in for Assistant Coordinator, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, and Membership Officer for the 2021-2023 term, for our December election. If you, or someone you know, wants to help by leading a team, please get with your Chapter Representative.

You can make your nomination for any of these positions in a couple different ways; if your membership is with one of the Chapters, contact your Chapter Representative (Board Member), or make your nomination at a business meeting, or via email to your Chapter Rep. If you are not a member of a Chapter, be sure to check the Independent Corner of this newsletter for important election information.

Chapter Members will vote at a chapter meeting, and the Chapter Rep will take the vote to the December Board Meeting to cast your chapter vote for the four (4) open Officer positions.

How are we all doing with our research for voting for the best candidate on November 3rd? This Presidential Election is so very important, be sure you are registered to vote (visit <https://www.votetexas.gov/>) if you're unsure and do your research, search your issues and see what candidate can best address those important to you.

If you have questions, or concerns, feel free to give me a call at 903-624-0792 or send an email to secretary@texasabate.com.

Legislative Report Continued

S.B. 616 provides for the transition of the administration and enforcement of the motorcycle operator training and safety program and the off-highway vehicle operator education and certification program from the DPS to TDLR on September 1, 2020, including providing that all DPS FTE positions that primarily concern the administration or enforcement of the licensing program become TDLR positions.

S.B. 616 requires DPS, not later than August 31, 2020, to dispose of motorcycles and other equipment related to the motorcycle operator training and safety program that DPS possesses or has leased to entities offering training under the program and sets out related provisions...

As a member of Texas ABATE, I testified at the Sunset Advisory Commission DPS review board's hearing last year (5/19). I testified that we are optimistic that any new motorcycle-training program initiated in Texas will be: 1) more efficient, 2) reduce the number of unendorsed riders in our state, and 3) ultimately reduce the number of motorcycle fatalities in Texas.

Stay hydrated, my friends! Ride safe – ride free, *Skeedaddy*




LAW TIGERS
MOTORCYCLE LAWYERS
Motorcycle Accident?
Click Here.

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



Robber Crowdis, State Membership Officer, Texas Abate Confederation

As we are submitting our qualified nominations for open positions for Chapter and Corporate Officers, below are a few reminders/tips:

- Article III – Chapters Officers § A § 2** - Chapter members must be in good standing for a period of six (6) months before serving as an officer.
- Article IV – Corporate Elections § C** - Candidates for open positions must be current members in good standing for a period of six (6) months, and may accept the nomination either in person, by phone, written notice, or via electronic communications.
- Article IV – Corporate Elections § D** - Board members [Chapter and Independent Representatives] are to vote at the last Corporation meeting of the calendar year [for 2020 will be the December meeting].
- Article IV – Corporate Elections § F** - The Independent Representative will be elected by a vote of the independent members only.

As you know, due to COVID-19, Texas ABATE gave members an extension period to pay membership dues this year. For those members who expired January-June 2020, dues had to be paid by July 1, 2020. Therefore, any member who expired January 1 – June 30, 2020, and did not pay their membership dues by July 1, 2020, would not be a member in good standing for a period of six (6) months nor a valid nomination for an open Corporate officer position.

As to a Chapter officer position, the Chapter member would have to be a current member, in good standing, from July 1 – December 31, in order to take a Chapter office in January of the following calendar year.

INDEPENDENT CORNER

The position of **Independent Representative** is a one year term, nominated and elected by the Independent Members, each year, during the State Officer nominations (July-Sept) and elections (last State meeting of the year). The Independent Rep sits on the Board of Directors as the voice of the Independent Members; the duty of the Independent Representative is to keep the line of communication open between the ABATE Board and our Independent Members, to bring the Independent Members all information regarding Legislative issues and actions, and to bring to the Board your concerns, suggestions, ideas and such.

If you are interested in this position, have any questions, or want to discuss the procedure for volunteering or nominating a member to represent you to the Board, please contact your Assistant State Coordinator, Dino Viles:

Email: dviles85@gmail.com
 Phone: (903)624-1938
 Snail Mail: P.O. Box 440, Denison, TX 75021

Independent Members will receive a ballot in the mail to cast their vote for their Independent Representative (if we have your current mailing address). **PLEASE**, if you've moved, changed your phone # or email address and think that we may not have current information for you, let us know at either method above and we'll be sure to update that. It's hard to keep you informed about motorcycle related legislation if we can't get in touch with you.

Port & Company Core Blend Tees
 *5.5-ounce, 50:50 Cotton/Polyc

SIZE	QTY	COLOR	PRICE	TOTAL
Small	_____	_____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Med	_____	_____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Large	_____	_____	\$ _____	\$ _____
XL	_____	_____	\$ _____	\$ _____
2XL	_____	_____	\$ _____	\$ _____
3XL	_____	_____	\$ _____	\$ _____
4XL	_____	_____	\$ _____	\$ _____
5XL	_____	_____	\$ _____	\$ _____



Black (B)



Red (R)



Royal Blue (RB)

Unisex - Port & Company Core Blend
 White Logo on Front/White Lettering on Back

PRICES:	
S/M/L/XL	- \$15.00
2X/3X	- \$17.00
4X/5X	- \$20.00
* If you wish for your shirt/s to be mailed to you, please ADD \$5.00 per/shirt	

I'll pick up at Rally
 Please Mail Add \$5.00/Shirt Postage: \$ _____
 Grand Total: \$ _____

PLEASE PRINT

NAME: _____
 STREET: _____
 CITY: _____ ST ZIP _____
 PH#: (____) _____
 EM: _____ @ _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

PayPal - SEND MONEY TO: tinadodson@sbcglobal.net

Personal Check: Make Check Payable To "Texas ABATE"

*Mail THIS FORM & Check To: Tina Dodson
 P.O. Box 2182
 Pottsboro, TX 75076

QUESTIONS??? CALL: Tina Dodson, Products Officer (903)815-0299

LM or TEXT with your name & ph# - I will return your call

*I do not answer unrecognized numbers

DELIVERY:

Pick-Up at State Meeting or Rally

*Call Tina Dodson to Make Arrangements for Pick-Up: (903) 815-0299

Mail To Above Address - \$5 per/shirt included

To Pay via PayPal:

Click on "Send & Request" (in top blue bar); Enter the following email address: tinadodson@sbcglobal.net; Click on little blue envelope with this email address;

Enter Grand Total Form; Add Note "Texas ABATE Shirt/s" along with your name and ph#....Color/Otv/Size/Delivery Info

2020 NEW ABATE MEMBERS		
CHAPTER	JUNE	JULY
ARLINGTON	0	0
DENTON	0	0
LAKE CITIES	2	2
TEXOMA	3	0
INDEPENDENTS	1	0

FOR YOUR BROTHER...

Liz Gracy, Texoma Chapter

Raising funds to help bikers and their families in need. Whether it be due to death, injury, or serious illness. All the proceeds raised are deposited into a fund and we simply write checks until the money is gone. Last year, coincidentally, ALL SIX FAMILIES we were able to help were Abate families who needed help in a variety of circumstances. Burial of a spouse. House fire. Kidney transplant. Cancer. Serious illness. Injury. Bikers do so much for their communities and others, the For Your Brother Run is simply an opportunity for us to help each other. Join us for our 2nd Annual event on September 19th...

For The Love Of Bikes, Bikers And Brotherhood



2nd Annual For Your Brother Run

Saturday
September 19, 2020

Registration 9:30am
KSM @ 10:30am
Last Bike in 2:30pm
VFW Post 2772
1772 Baker Road
Sherman, Tx

Stops:
American Legion - Bonham
VFW - Bonham
American Legion - Denison



Red Clay Gypsies

All proceeds go to help Bikers and their families in the Texoma Area in need due To Death, Injury or Serious Illness

50/50
And
Raffles

Live and
Silent
Auctions

Live Auction
begins at
5:00pm

Free Breakfast
Briest Sandwich Plates \$10

Live Music



Texas ABATE
24th Annual

State Rally

September
11th—13th, 2020

Gate opens 9pm Friday

DAD's DAD's Farm

100 Kerfoot Lane, Bells Texas
1.3 miles east of the red light in Bells

LIVE MUSIC

Friday night

Dave Wolfe TX Blues

Saturday night

Busted Rubber Band

www.texasABATE.com

General Membership

Meeting

3 pm Saturday

50/50 Drawings

Rally T-Shirts

ALL WELCOME



\$15 per Person

FREE Primitive & Self-Contained RV Camping

\$10 after 9 pm on Saturday

Vendors \$35 fee (includes 2 gate passes)
Contact Dad for vendor info 903-513-6528

FRIDAY NIGHT

Bold Boxer Contest

SATURDAY

Poker Run - 1st Bike Out at 10am, Last Bike In at 2pm

People's Choice Bike Show - 2:30pm

Field Games - after General Membership Meeting

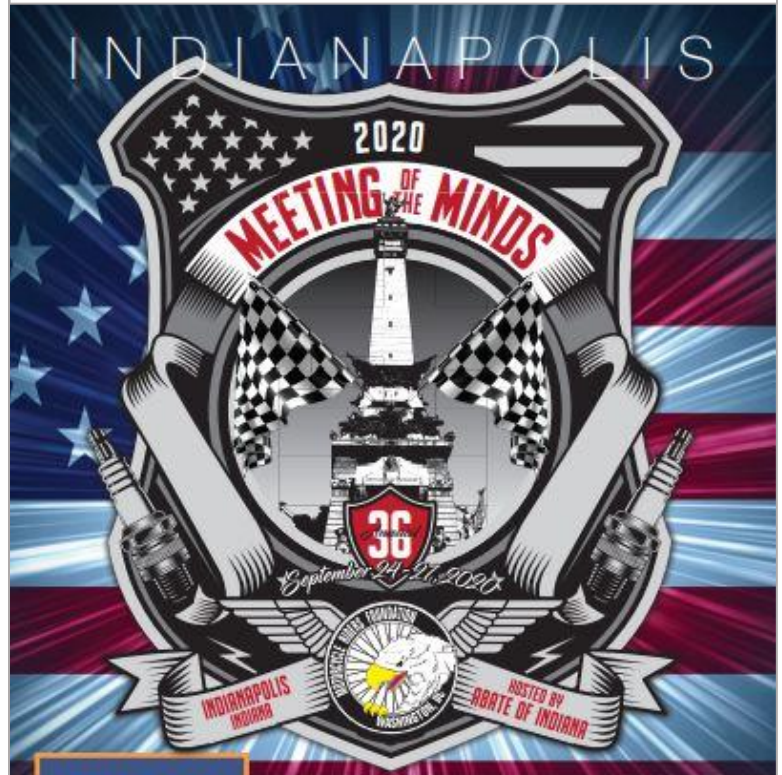
Cool Down Contest

ABATE Chapter TVG-0-WAR Challenge

For info call: Dad @ 903-513-6528, Robin @ 903-624-0792

No Weapons, Attitudes, Pets or Glass - All events subject to change

Property Owner, Texas ABATE and it's members are not responsible for accidents or incidents.



NEW in 2020!
ALL INCLUSIVE
REGISTRATION

9 MEALS
9 WORKSHOPS
KEYNOTE SPEAKERS
and more information than you
can find in 2-2-2020-2020
ONE PRICE!

September 24-27, 2020
Waterfront Hotel & Conference Center

Waterfront Hotel & Conference Center, 2020 Waterfront Plaza W Dr. Indianapolis, IN 46214
Call 317-299-8430 for room reservations (American MPF). Rate: \$84.00 per night. Cut-off date: Sept. 1, 2020
Pre-registration for conference through the MPF, PO Box 293, Highland, IL 62249
Pre-registration (must be received by Sept. 1st): \$145.00 (current member) / \$155.00 (non-member)
Registration rate after Sept. 1st: \$155.00 (current member) / \$165.00 (non-member)
Pre-order your MOTM t-shirt (Short sleeve \$20, long sleeve \$25. Available in Black, Red, and Grey)
Registration includes all meals and breakfast on Sunday morning, workshops, workshop materials, and Saturday
banquet. Registration questions call the MPF at 202-545-0860, or email Fred Hensel at fhensel@mpf.org.

finalthoughts...

How are you dealing with this pandemic? Are you “living” life? What have you and your family members been doing to help alleviate some of the stress associated with Covid-19 and the year 2020? Our readers would LOVE for you to share your creative ideas on how to cope with the obstacles we are facing these days. Or maybe you have an adventure story to bare. Help brighten someones day by sharing your shenanigans. We are all in this together! Submit your ideas and stories to news@texasabate.com today and tell us how you are “living” 😊



Contact us at news@texasabate.com

www.texasabate.com

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Texas Abate Confederation, Inc.
900 Fish Creek Drive
Arlington, TX 76018

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

Dedicated to Freedom of the Road

In Hope of Promoting a Better Relationship with the Public for Motorcycle Awareness.