



TEXAS TIDBITS

Volume 3, Issue 1

January – February 2021

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Upcoming Events

(Click underlined text for flyers/links)

STATE:

- **State Meeting**
2/6/21 at 1:00 pm,
VFW Post 2205, 909 Sunset St,
Denton, TX 76201

ARLINGTON:

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

DENTON:

- **Chapter Meeting & Chili Cookoff**
1/17/21 at 2:00 pm
Mr. Porky's
8430 W University Dr
Denton, TX 76207
- **Chapter Meeting**
2/28/21 at 2:00 pm
Horny Toad Café & Bar
5812 Interstate 35
Denton, TX 76207

LAKE CITIES:

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

TEXOMA:

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

*DUE TO COVID-19, BE SURE TO CHECK
INDIVIDUAL CHAPTER WEBSITES/FACEBOOK
PAGES FOR EVENT CHANGES/CANCELLATIONS*

2021 BIKER LEGISLATIVE DAY



Hotel details for Legislative Day (January 25, 2021) in Austin ... click on the link to make your reservation and secure your \$67 (+tax) rate for your room or call the number below and give them the Reference Group Code.

** CC is required to make the reservation, BUT you will NOT be charged until your stay.

By Phone: 1.877.242.3654

Online:

<https://austinarboretum.place.hyatt.com/.../home.html...>

Group Rate \$67 + tax available until midnight Wednesday, January 20, 2021

Reference Group Code: G-TXAB



Denton Abate Chapter Meeting

YOU NEVER RIDE ALONE



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.
www.lawtigers.com

MAINTENANCE MATTERS

ARE YOU GOOD TO GO?

There is a joke about the difference between pilots and aircraft mechanics. They are both standing in the hangar door watching a plane take off. The pilot thinks I wonder what it is like to fly that airplane. The mechanic is giving it an inspection as it flies by.

Many of us get on our bikes without a thought to what can go wrong while we are riding. If you are not a mechanic or at least mechanically inclined this is understandable. Of course, I think, the longer you ride the more experience you have with things going wrong while riding.

Here are a few tips to keep the surprises to a minimum:

1. Don't wait until you are set to leave on your ride to do your preflight inspection. Give your bike a once over when you finish your ride. A quick look will save you trouble later.
2. Following our aircraft preflight theme start on the side of the bike you normally mount. We are going to use the left side for our checklist. Give that side of the engine a quick once over. Look for obvious oil or gas leaks.
3. Moving back check the chain or belt for proper tension. On most bikes this should be about $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch.

(continued on pg 4)

Independent Corner

Legislative day is fast approaching. If you have or are currently working on visiting with your representative, please let me know. We may be able to give you some support.

Beginning in 2021, the bi-monthly newsletter will be mailed to all members. If you did not receive a hard copy, please check with your Independent Representative to ensure we have your correct contact information.

Remember, the Independent Representative is to keep the line of communication open between the ABATE Board of Directors and our Independent Members, to bring the Independent Members all information regarding Legislative issues and actions, and to bring your concerns, suggestions, ideas, and such, to the Board.

However, if you've moved, changed your phone number or email address, and think that we may not have current contact information for you, please inform your new rep, **Kirsten Scheideman**, via email mimashivers2002@yahoo.com.

Legislative Report



The 116th Federal Congress comes to an end in December, and the 117th Congress will begin in January. As I write this the House has yet to collaborate on H. Res. 255, which is sad (especially when the Senate passed it last session). We will have to address unlawful motorcycle profiling again next session. What we don't have to worry about is the language included in the House transportation bill regarding the protection of motorcycle rights. HR 2 included language to: prohibit motorcycle-only checkpoints; re-establish the Motorcyclist Advisory Council; increase account 402 state safety (motorcycle safety) funds; include motorcycle language regarding autonomous vehicles; and

...proud to be our "champion for motorcycle rights"

include "mode of transportation" as a data point collected at traffic stops. This house transportation bill is historic as it includes several motorcycle amendments. The best part is, this house transportation bill will not have to pass the house chamber again next session. All we need next session is for the Senate version of the transportation bill to pass with identical (house) motorcycle language.

It will be up to all of us in the motorcycling community to contact our Senators again next year. I hope it's not too late to ask Congress for a vote on H. Res. 255 before the end of this year, but please take action right away! (see Federal Issues to follow)

I hope everyone reading this Tidbit is making plans to attend our Biker Legislative Day in Austin - on January 25th. Watch for additional information to be posted, as it becomes available. As you know, Covid-19 is again messing with our plans, and is almost to be expected anymore, stay tuned...

Federal Issues

HR 2 (house transportation bill; "Invest In a New America") passed the House!

Included MRF endorsed amendments: MAC, AV technology, profiling funds, 402 safety funds, etc.

NEED IDENTICAL LANGUAGE IN SENATE BILL (will not need to pass house chamber again). Find out who will be on the Senate "Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee" (Sen. Cruz majority member)

H. Res. 255 can still pass this 116th Congress!

- 1) Send email to House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer's staff - asking him to place H. Res. 255 on the "Suspension Calendar". Mail to:
Harleigh.bean@mail.house.gov
Michael.stak@mail.house.gov
- 2) Call House Majority leader Kevin McCarthy's office and ask that H. Res. 255 be placed on the "Suspension Calendar" as soon as possible
Jordan.dayer@mail.house.gov
Call: **(202) 225-2915**

Sample verbiage:

My name is _____, and I am a member of the Texas

ABATE Confederation (or your organization) – a State Motorcycle Rights Organization. I am concerned with unlawful motorcycle profiling in our State, and in our Country! **As a registered voter, I am urgently asking you to please place H. Res. 255 on the Suspension Calendar as soon as possible – allowing it to pass this 116th Congress.** Thank you.

Prep for Texas 87th Legislative session...

Run-off election results, Senate District 30. Drew Springer won on December 19th, in a special election, against Shelley Luther. We hope "voting like a motorcyclist" will have its rewards, and we are praying for Senator Drew Springer, who (at the Texoma Abate chapter meeting) said he would be proud to be our "champion for motorcycle rights" – and we are going to hold him to it! Our 87th legislative session begins on January 12th, and we are looking forward to meeting with the Senator. Previous Senator, Pat Fallon, who vacated the D-30 seat, was elected (US) House Member of Texas Congressional District 04 (Cooke, Grayson, Fannin, and Erath Counties).

Many of us are actively contacting our *(continued on pg 5)*

MAINTENANCE MATTERS ARE YOU GOOD TO GO? *(continued from pg 2)*

3. *(continued)*
 Check this midway between the front and rear sprockets. If you're not sure how much that is, the length of the first segment of your index finger is about 1 inch. For bikes with a shaft drive check both ends for leaks or signs of wear.

4. Check the rear tire. Check the pressure, tire wear, and side wall condition. The little cracks in the side wall are weather checking. The chemicals in the air and sunlight cause your tires to deteriorate. Normally, you will wear out your tire before it becomes bad enough to change because of weather checking. If your bike is kept outside and/or you don't put on a lot of miles, weather checking can become a concern. Like on your car if you can see the top of Mr. Lincoln's head it is time to start thinking about tires. For those of you wondering what the heck I'm talking about, stick a penny in your tire tread.

5. Moving to the back of the bike, give the brake light and turn signals a quick check.

6. Around to the right side of the bike give the brakes a quick look. Most brake pads will have a wear groove in them. No groove means

it's time for new pads. If there is a lot of brake dust or leaking fluid, then they may need attention.

7. Moving forward give this side of the engine the once over. Just like the other side we are looking for the obvious. If the dip stick or sight window is on this side, then check the fluid level.

8. Moving to the front of the bike we are going to check the front brakes, tire, turn signals, and headlight.

9. Finally, get on the bike and give the horn a test. Check the headlight for high and low beam. This is easier to see if you face the bike against a wall. As with a lot of riders, I tend to ride with the high beam on during the day for better visibility by our four wheeled "friends".

10. One last check before we get going. Give yourself a once over. Unlike our airborne brethren, we can pull over if something happens. But it is far better to do a quick preflight on the "pilots" condition before we hit the road. The most obvious one here is don't ride impaired. Of course, that means all the usual suspects these days, but one that is often missed is fatigue. I have seen it reported that driving or riding

while tired or sleepy impairs your decision making and reaction times as badly as drinking. When I was younger, I had a horrible time driving, riding, and flying at certain times of the day or night. For me it was around 2 PM, 10 PM and 4-5 AM. I got around it by stopping for fuel, or a meal, at those times and walking a few laps around the parking lot.

Once you know what you are looking for, a good preflight on most motorcycles should take no more than a minute or two. Of course, the more often you ride, and the more you know about your bike, the faster your check will be. In most cases, you are simply looking for anything that has changed from last time you rode.

If you're not sure what to look for, come by the shop and we will gladly show you what we do for a preflight. I tell our customers that doing this when they fill up with gas is a good reminder as well.

Ride safe and ride aware. And, as we say in the airplane biz, blue skies and tailwinds.

Bio: H.B. Wise operates Two Wheel World of Texas in Pantego, TX. I've been a gearhead my whole life and enjoy everything that has a motor and a few things that move but don't have motors.

MEMBERSHIP

2020 NEW ABATE MEMBERS				
Total Number of New Members by Chapter & Independents				
CHAPTER	OCT	NOV	DEC	ANNUAL TOTAL
ARLINGTON	0	2	0	6
DENTON	1	0	0	5
LAKE CITIES	1	3	1	24
TEXOMA	8	8	2	31
INDEPENDENTS	0	0	0	9

In Loving Memory...

Please take a moment to remember and celebrate the lives of members who are no longer with us:

Lake Cities
 John Garza

Texoma
 Andrew Glass
 Gary Tramell

Ride in Paradise, brothers. Until we meet again...

Public Comments Sought on Autonomous Vehicles

As we at the MRF know, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has taken a voluntary approach to autonomous vehicles (AVs) without standards and regulations. This hands-off approach has worried motorcyclists, by allowing the private sector to deploy AVs with little or no oversight.

Last month, NHTSA changed course slightly and asked for public input on a proposed regulation of autonomous vehicle sensors, how the vehicles detect other road users and infrastructure, how they plan routes and how they carry out that plan.

"This rulemaking will help address legitimate public concerns about safety, security and privacy without hampering innovation in the development of automated driving systems," said Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao.

Once the notice is printed in the Federal Register, the public will have 60 days (*continued on back, pg 8*)

Two Wheel World of Texas
Operated by Wiseguy's Garage
Old School Motorcycles



1922 W. Pioneer Parkway, Suite C, Pantego, TX 76013
 817-264-6658 twwonetx@gmail.com

Is it time for an oil change? Brake service? Or maybe some new rubber? Take this newsletter, along with your current Texas Abate membership card, to Two Wheel World of Texas, and receive **10% OFF PARTS AND LABOR**

Legislative Report (continued from pg 3)

representatives to request appointments for the upcoming session. We definitely need some "common-sense" motorcycle legislation this session!

Texas COC&I major motorcycle issues:

- Motorcycle Profiling – TCOC&I is pursuing a sponsor for motorcycle profiling bill (with Texas ABATE);

TCOC&I is pursuing a sponsor for "TXGANG Database Accountability" reform bill;

- TCOC&I is pursuing a "Sandra Bland" bill (limitation on the authority to arrest a person for certain misdemeanors punishable by fine only).

Texas ABATE major motorcycle issues:

- **Motorcycle Profiling** – support for COC&I bill (with COC&I)

- **Autocycle legislation** – definition of a motorcycle /

classification & registration of an autocycle (they are not motorcycles). Drew Springer wrote the definition of a motorcycle (84th session).

- **Malfunctioning traffic signals** - operator of motorcycle facing solid red light may proceed after 1 cycle. 86TH HB 4265 has ALREADY passed through LEGE (Zedler retired; need a new sponsor).

- **Lane Sharing** – least popular issue; Watson version... substitute a different approach (lane sharing in stopped traffic at traffic signals).



IMPORTANT:

WE NEED APPOINTMENTS WITH OUR REPS NOW

SUGGEST A ZOOM CALL

INVITE MEMBERS

Being a constituent of your district is the most important aspect to securing an appointment with your representative and that is VITAL! You vote in your district

AND your elected officials work for you! Do not hesitate to contact me for more information.

I hope to see everyone in Austin on January 25th - for our 2021 **Motorcycle Legislative Day at the Capitol**. It is definitely going to be different this year, so stay tuned for updated information; make your plans to attend and get your hotel reservations now! If you are not a member of a motorcycle rights organization, Federal or State, ask yourself: "why not"? Make a resolution now to join us. We fight for your motorcycle rights throughout the year! Don't forget - our motorcycle rights come with responsibilities!

Check your tire pressure often in cold weather – cold tires will lose pressure and are dangerous to ride on!

Ride safe – ride free.

Skeedaddy

Port & Company Core Blend Tees
*5.5 oz,50:50 Cotton/Poly

Size	Qty	Color	Price	Total
Small			\$ 15.00	\$ -
Medium			\$ 15.00	\$ -
Large			\$ 15.00	\$ -
X-Large			\$ 15.00	\$ -
2-XL			\$ 17.00	\$ -
3-XL			\$ 17.00	\$ -
4-XL			\$ 20.00	\$ -
5-XL			\$ 20.00	\$ -
Add \$5 per shirt for postage			\$ -	\$ -
Grand Total			\$ -	\$ -



Black (B) FRONT Royal Blue (RB) BACK Red (R) BACK

Unisex - White logo on front/White lettering on back
QUESTIONS??? Call Tina Dodson, Products Officer
 (903)815-0299, and Leave Message or Text with your
 name & phone # - she will return calls as she does not
 answer calls from unrecognized numbers

Delivery Method (mark one):

Pick up at State Meeting or Rally
 Contact Tina Dodson at (903)815-0299
 to make pick up arrangements

Please mail to address below (include \$5/shirt)

Name: _____
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 Click "Send & Request" (in top blue bar)
 In box below "Send Money", type:
 tinadodson@sbcglobal.net & click "Next"
 Enter "Amount" from "Grand Total" from above
 Click "Add Note" & type TX Abate Shirt; Include size,
 color, quantity AND delivery information

Personal Check:
 Make check payable to: Texas Abate Confederation
 Mail with THIS FORM to: Tina Dodson
 P.O. Box 2182
 Pottsboro, TX 75076

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.**

2021 TEXAS TIDBITS ADVERTISING RATES / SPECS

Ad Insertions/Year	1x	2x	3x	4x	5x	6x
Full Page	\$ 300	\$ 275	\$ 250	\$ 225	\$ 200	\$ 175
1/2 Page	\$ 175	\$ 165	\$ 155	\$ 145	\$ 135	\$ 125
1/4 Page	\$ 100	\$ 95	\$ 90	\$ 85	\$ 80	\$ 75
1/8 Page (business card)	\$ 65	\$ 60	\$ 55	\$ 50	\$ 45	\$ 40

Trim Size of 8 1/2" x 11"

Ad Sizes	Inches	Millimeters
Full Page	7" w x 10" h	177 mm w x 254 mm h
1/2 Page horizontal	7" w x 4 7/8" h	177 mm w x 122 mm h
1/2 Page vertical	3 3/8" w x 10" h	85 mm w x 254 mm h
1/ Page vertical	3 3/8" w x 4 7/8" h	85 mm w x 122 mm h
1/8 Page horizontal	3 3/8" w x 2 7/16" h	85 mm w x 62 mm h

High Resolution Print-Ready artwork is **required** for **all** ad submissions. All fonts must be embedded. Minimum required image resolution is 300 dpi.

Image Size/Crop: Digital art files should be cropped to remove non-printing borders. Art should be created or scaled to the size intended for print. Image orientation should be the same as intended for print. For ads that are intended to run off the page, a 1/4" minimum bleed is required on all sides.

Publisher is not responsible for any errors in reproduction if artwork is not provided according to the above specifications.

Bi-monthly newsletter will be distributed **digitally**, along with **printed materials** mailed via USPS to all current members, in addition to several local shops

Weekend Schedule

Saturday, Jan. 23, 2021 @ 6pm

Come meet our out of town guests from the NCOC Public Relations Committee; Rocky Fox, our MRF lobbyist in DC, Double D from the MPP and NCOC, and many more.

Sunday, Jan. 24, 2021 @ 9am

*Meet at Zilker Park for bike line up for ride to the Capitol.
*KSU for Capitol at 10am.
*Peaceful protest will begin at 10:45
*Return to base for legislative workshops for all Texas Defenders & Chairpersons, but open to the community.

Monday, Jan. 25, 2021 TBD

*IF WE ARE ALLOWED IN, make an appointment with your Legislator and go see them. If you do not know who it is go to www.txcooci.com and use the app to find out. We will have information for you to present in the coming weeks.

Accommodations:

Hotel rooms are being negotiated. Due to COVID-19 the plans have changed and complicated previous dealings. **STAY TUNED!**



Texas Biker
Legislative Weekend
23-25 JANUARY 2021
Austin, TX

Party Notes

On Saturday, Jan. 23, 2021 Grim Guardian MC will be sponsoring free Miller Lite and Dos XX AND the viewing of the Conor McGregor fight!

*BBQ plates available for purchase Saturday night and Sunday afternoon.

We appreciate your flexibility during this time and hope to see you all here partying with us!!

Hosted by your Texas TOT & I and partners



... with National partners



Venue Sponsored by :



VETERANS COLLECTIVE

Location:
104 Tradesmen Dr.
Hutto, TX 78634

HAPPY HOLIDAZE?!



A little prep work and pre-party shenanigans...

It's ALWAYS a great time when you celebrate the with Texoma Abate! If you missed this year's Christmas Party, do yourself a favor and be sure to clear your calendar for the next one... You will not be disappointed!



Hey Guffees... Is that your "Get Along Sweater"?

Autonomous Vehicles *(continued from pg 5)*

to comment on proposed regulations. Before the deadline, the MRF will draft a response to NHTSA outlining the concerns of motorcyclists and now government agencies can ensure motorcyclists are accounted for in the development and deployment of this new technology.

About Motorcycle Riders Foundation

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) provides leadership at the federal level for states' motorcyclists' rights organizations as well as motorcycle clubs and individual riders. The MRF is chiefly concerned with issues at the national and international levels that impact the freedom and safety of American street motorcyclists. The MRF is committed to being a national advocate for the advancement of motorcycling and its associated lifestyle and works in conjunction with its partners to help educate elected officials and policymakers in Washington and beyond.

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We are on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.texasabate.com

Or find us on Facebook at:

www.facebook.com/groups/texasabate

TEXAS ABATE CONFEDERATION, INC.

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Arlington, Texas 76018