

# **TEXAS TIDBITS** Volume 4, Issue2

What's Inside...

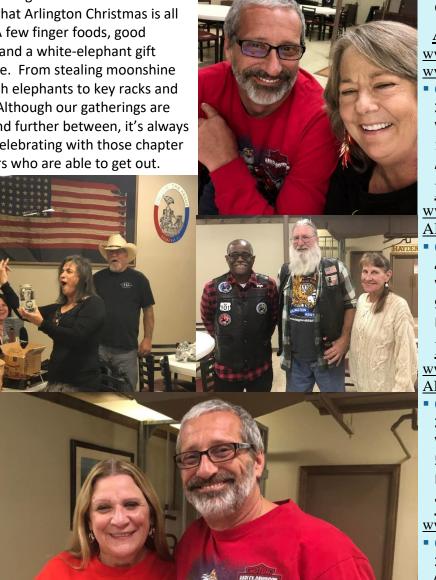
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## ARLINGTON ANTICS

Just some good old-fashioned fun! That's what Arlington Christmas is all about! A few finger foods, good friends, and a white-elephant gift exchange. From stealing moonshine and plush elephants to key racks and cocoa. Although our gatherings are fewer and further between, it's always a blast celebrating with those chapter members who are able to get out.



March – April 2022

### State and Chapter Info

(Click underlined text for links)

**STATE:** www.texasabate.com www.facebook.com/groups/texasabate State Meeting 04/02/22 at 1:00 pm

VFW Post 2494 1401 N Belt Line Rd Grand Prairie, TX 75050

### **ARLINGTON:**

www.arlingtonabate.com www.facebook.com/ArlingtonABATE Chapter Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 12 noon VFW Post 6111

1200 W Harris Street Arlington, TX 76001

**DENTON:** www.facebook.com/DentonChapter ABATE Chapter Meeting

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 2:00 pm VFW Post 2205 909 Sunset Street Denton, TX 76201

### LAKE CITIES:

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

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

### **TEXOMA:**

www.facebook.com/texomaabate

Chapter Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 1:00 pm American Legion Post 62 419Crawford Street Denison, TX 75020

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

#### Dallas Motorcycle Lawyers - Law Tigers

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

### **INDEPENDENT CORNER**

A little something to keep in mind when joining a private Facebook group... the admin of the page has full control over what is allow as content.

In my one-too-many hours of trolling Facebook, I stumbled across a situation in one of the riding groups that I follow. Please take the time to read all the rules of any group you join and comply with their rules. If you accidently violate the rules, please do not get offended. Take a minute to revisit their admins rules There are several groups that only care about riding and do not want to be reminded of the politics that go with it.

Sometimes "less is more". Sometimes it is best to simply let your membership patch raise the question of "what's ABATE?"

Remember to check your junk mail & look for communications from

<u>mimashivers2002@yahoo.com</u>. Shoot me an email to let me know if you are not receiving anything. Be sure to email info about upcoming events you would like to see ABATE involved in, as well.



### **Legislative Report**

Is winter over? Now that we've had our single-digit temps and 2 inches of snow? Just when we think the worst is over, we get warnings to get ready for an Artic Blast! I promise, when it warms up, I'm riding every day! Recently, I was looking through some old ABATE storage boxes - looking for a "Definition of a Motorcycle" bill that I remembered we had in Texas many years ago (it's a shame that you can find something faster in an "old Abate box" than you



can on the internet). It was the (84<sup>th</sup>) HB-439 from 2015. What made it difficult to locate was that this bill originally started as "Relating to the definition of a motorcycle" – and the language was substituted in committee for classifying an Autocycle with the same bill number! You really have to pay attention when a bill comes out of a committee as it is nothing unusual for the language to change considerably before it makes it to the floor. I also noted my legislative pre-amble in the 2014 "*Texas ABATE News*":

"ABATE is dedicated to preserving the rights of all motorcyclists, regardless of what you ride. We encourage everyone to become involved in the legislative and political process to protect our freedom to ride. The best way to get involved is by joining ABATE, registering to vote, contacting legislators, staying informed of all legislative issues concerning motorcycle rights, and getting involved!"

Eight years later and this still holds true – especially in 2022! The time to get involved is right now!



On January 22, 2022, Texas "88<sup>th</sup> ABATE held their Legislative Prep Seminar" at the VFW in Lake Dallas. It was well attended by ABATE members, club members, and independents – everyone was encouraged to participate. Our first speaker, Jude Schexnyder, presented "Saving Our Training Program". Jude explained how our 0501 Motorcycle Safety Funds would be in trouble if the program doesn't change its training curriculum soon!

Our featured speaker at the seminar was Jonathan Mathers – Legislative Director for Senator Springer in Texas Jonathan Mathers SD-30. contributed to drafting our SD-30 motorcycle bills last session; we appreciate everything that he and Senator Springer do for Texas motorcyclists. We kept our bill requests for the 88th session coming, and our Legislative Director took good notes! Participants agreed "Definition of a that a Motorcycle" might be the best way to change the classification and registration of an Autocycle. Mr. Mathers' hour-long legislative discussion was not only

interesting and informative but also extremely productive. We had plenty of Q&A throughout; and his explanation of "slowwalking a bill" made a tremendous amount of sense! If you missed this ABATE seminar, then your absence was probably one of the topics that were discussed. **Texas motorcyclists must get involved** if we are going to be successful next session.

When a bill is assigned to a committee, we need not 1, but 3 constituents from each district to take action! We have 150 House districts in Texas, only 12 were represented (9 Senate districts) at the prep seminar. How many district reps knew that we had SIX (6) motorcycle bills last session? How many reps know the number of motorcycles registered in their district? How many reps know vou? Contacting committee members, and taking action, will require participation from every district, especially yours! (continued on pg 4)

STOP THE TEXTS Stop the wrecks

### LEGISLATIVE

#### (continued from pg 3)

Special thanks to Grim Guardian Clutch for providing his wealth of legislative knowledge; it is always enlightening to listen to Clutch talk about our motorcycle rights. Texas ABATE would like to thank everyone who "suited up and showed up". It was great to see so many like-minded Freedom Fighters – many for the first time!

Kudos to ABATE member Joe Morris who rode all the way from Humble, TX (near Houston) to attend! Joe told me that when he heard we would be discussing next session's motorcycle bills he just had to participate. Thank you, Joe, we hope to see you again soon!

I believe everyone who attended the prep seminar gained some valuable information and renewed motivation for the 88<sup>th</sup> legislative session. Our reviews were 99% positive, but one US Congressional HD-26 candidate did not agree with our comments, or maybe we did not agree with his. He chose to address this group, asking for our vote; however, he obviously did not do his homework. He is running against Congressman Michael Burgess - our Cochair on the Congressional Motorcycle Caucus; Dr. Burgess is also a co-sponsor of (US) H. Res. 366 (motorcycle profiling resolution). It was great to see everyone united for a common cause! Remember, our rights come with responsibilities!

Ride safe – Ride free! Skeedaddy



## **2022 STATE OFFICE OPENINGS**

In accordance with Article IV – Corporate Elections, section A of the bylaws of (The) Texas ABATE Confederation, the following State positions will be open for nominations, July - September 2022:

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

Remember, State positions are 2-year terms. For more detailed information regarding the duties of these offices see pages 12-14 of (The) Texas ABATE Confederation Bylaws.

## TEXOMA TREATS

Greetings from Texoma! I hope this finds you and yours well, staying warm, and enjoying life. Spring is just around the corner. Be patient, better weather is coming. In Texoma, we have quite a few events in the works for the coming year.

Our chapter plans to kick off Motorcycle Safety and Awareness month with a Motorcycle Rodeo and Awareness Fest on May 1<sup>st</sup>. We are working out the details and will keep everyone updated on our plans. We are also going to be checking in to hosting or sponsoring a Beginner Rider Education Course sometime in May, as well, more details to come. Of course, we will be working with our cities, towns, and counties to get May proclaimed Motorcycle Awareness Month. Garry and Liz are getting married on the 21<sup>st</sup> of May and I know that's gonna be one helluva party!!

We will be hosting the June State Board Meeting on Saturday June 4<sup>th</sup>. As of right now, it will be held at the Farm in Bells, to coincide with our Ole' Fashion Rally that is June  $3^{rd} - 5^{th}$ .

Texoma has scheduled a Chapter Get-Away for August 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> at Platter Flats, just north of the Red River off Hwy 75. Our Chapter Get Aways are always so much fun, we just camp, play, swim, tell bs stories, drink, eat and repeat. Please feel free to bring your camping gear, beverages, and food. Join us, this is one that NONE of us do any work, we just relax and enjoy.

In September we are hosting the  $25^{\text{th}}$  Annual State Rally at the Farm in Bells,  $9^{\text{th}} - 11^{\text{th}}$ . There will be great vendors for your shopping pleasure, a Saturday Poker Run, the ever-entertaining Field Games, and, of course, live music on the stage to keep us dancing. The bonfire will close out the night.

September 30<sup>th</sup> – October 2<sup>nd</sup> is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Dad's Memorial Rally at the Farm in Bells, plan to attend and see what new shenanigans we may have in store for you all to partake in.

We will be hosting the October 8<sup>th</sup> State Board, looking at the VFW in Sherman confirmations have been made. (continued on pg 7)

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TEXAS ABATE 25TH ANNUAL SEPTEMBER 09-11, 2022 DAD'S DAD'S FARM NOC Kerfoot Ln. Bells, Texas

Gate Opens at 3pm Friday \$15 per person

Free Camping Vendors \$35 Poker Run Field Games Bike Show Bonfire 50/50 Drawing Cool Down Contest Loudest Bike Contest Best Campsite Contest

## LIVE MUSIC ON STAGE

Chapter Tug-O-War Challenge Annual Membership Meeting Saturday 4pm



For more info call Robin 903-624-0792 or George 903-820-2803 Made with PosterMyWall.com

GOT AN EVENT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE? SUBMIT DETAILS AND FLYERS TO NEWS@TEXASABATE.COM FOR PRINT AND DIGITAL PUBLICATION FOR AS LITTLE AS \$40 PER ISSUE

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- 04/02/22 State Meeting Arlington
- 04/10/22 Classic Car & Bike Show
- 05/01/22 Motorcycle Rodeo & Awareness Fest
- 05/21/22 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Bikers Ball
- 6/3-6/5/22 Ole' Fashion Rally
- 06/04/22 State Meeting Texoma
- 08/06/22 State Meeting Independents
- 9/6-9/11/22 25th Annual State Rally
- 9/30-10/2/22 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Dad's Memorial Rally
- **10/08/22** State Meeting Texoma
- 11/19/22 Freedom Run
- 12/03/22 State Meeting Denton

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## MEMBERSHIP

Let's make 2022 one of ABATE's best years for recruiting and welcoming new members into our Texas ABATE family. It is those passionate and dedicated individuals who believe in motorcyclists' rights and safety on our Texas roadways that Texas ABATE remains strong as a Motorcycle Rights Organization (MRO) in the state of Texas.

As one of your 2022 New Year's resolutions, I would like to personally challenge every ABATE member to recruit at least one new ABATE member so that we can double our Texas ABATE membership by the time we attend the 2023 Texas Motorcycle Legislative Day in Austin next January.

Also, be sure to continue mentoring the members we have already brought into our family so that they too will maintain their Texas ABATE membership.

Remember ... "Support Your ABATE Organization"

NEW ABATE MEMBERS							
Total by Chapter							
	DEC	YTD	JAN				
Chapter	2021	2021	2022				
Arlington	0	17	2				
Denton	0	6	3				
Lake Cities	4	56	1				
Texoma	2	57	5				
Independents	0	15	0				

Texas ABATE T-shirt					Unisex Texas ABATE T-shirt
Su	Support Your Local ABATE (back)				White logo on front/White lettering on back
Size	Qty	Color	Price	Total	SUPPORT SUPPORT
Small			\$ 15.00	\$ -	ABATE YOUR YOUR
Medium			\$ 15.00	\$ -	ADATE LOCAL
Large			\$ 15.00	\$ -	ADA/C ABATE
X-Large			\$ 15.00	\$ -	
2-XL			\$ 17.00	\$ -	Red (R) Black (B) Royal Blue (RB) FRONT BACK BACK
3-XL			\$ 17.00	\$ -	
	2020	"COVID	" Rally Shi	rt	Limited Qty of COVID shirts available
Size	Qty	Color	Price	Total	Burnt Orange (O)
Medium	8		\$ 15.00	\$ -	ABATE Hot Pink (P)
X-Large			\$ 15.00	\$ -	Black (B)
2-XL			\$ 17.00	\$ -	TUITS
Add <b>\$5</b> pe	r shirt f	or posta	ge	\$-	2 ath Annual State Bally \$1 each
ITEM	Qty	Color	Price	Total	Refridgerator Magnet 6 for \$5
Beanie			\$ 20.00	\$ -	Support Your Support Your
Drink Bottle			\$ 15.00	\$ -	Welling the VOLIK Kight to
5" Patch			\$ 8.00	\$ -	Tacal A SABATE AS ABATE NO
Magnet			\$ 2.00	\$ -	Stickers
TUIT (1)			\$ 1.00	\$ -	ABATE
TUIT (6)			\$ 5.00	\$ -	ADATE A **
Sticker		_	\$ 2.00	\$ -	
Grand Total \$ -					meretter ****
QUESTIONS??? Call Tina Dodson, Products Officer Call Tina Dodson, Products Officer (903)815-0299 Leave Message or Text withyour name & phone# - she will return calls as she does not answer calls from unrecognized numbers				03)815-0299 ne & phone# -	Beanies (B) Black (G) Grey (BR) Brown
Delivery Method (mark one) :					Payment Options:
Pick up at State Meeting or Rally Contact Tina Dodson at (903)815-0299				-0299	Pay via PayPal: Set up account & login to PayPal.com Click "Send & Request" (in top blue bar)
to make pick up arrangements Please mail to address below (include \$5/shirt )				ude \$5/chirt \	In box below "Send Money", type:
Name:				ade 99/3mrt /	abatetreasurer22@gmail.com & click "Next" Enter "Amount" from "Grand Total" from above
Address:					Click "Add Note" & type Item & delivery information
City:					Personal Check:
State: Zip				Zip	Make check payable to: Texas Abate Confederation Mail WITH
Phone: ()					THIS FORM to: Tina Dodson P.O. Box 2182
Email:					Pottsboro, TX 75076

## TEXOMA TREATS

Our Freedom Run will be on November 19<sup>th</sup> and our Christmas Party will be December 10<sup>th</sup>. We are still looking to schedule a Pepper Cook-Off and a Chili Cook-Off as well as thinking about and discussing bringing back Kid's Day.

Follow and join us on https://www.facebook.com/groups/5 06487959524569

I know I probably forgot something, so stay tuned for the next issue. Keep the rubber side down, Robin

### **NOTE FROM THE EDITOR**

Over the past few years, I have learned quite a bit about the printing/bulk mailing process and importance of aesthetics when publishing a newsletter, and so much more of the technical side of things. But most of all, what I have taken from this experience is NEVER to miss an opportunity to share with others the joys of motorcycling. I have been truly blessed to see many of my brothers & sisters while on the road and I look forward to sharing the hi-lites of my upcoming journey with those who wish to read about them. Please submit articles & photos of yours too! Ride Easy & Ride Free ~Bearpup

## In Loving Memory...

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

Arlington	Theresa Nelson Tina Pierson
Lake Cities	Robert "Turk" Rounsavall
Independent	W. Loren Fells
Texoma	Bruce "Dad" Guffee Robert "Tattoo Bob" Dial

Ride in Paradise, brothers & sisters, until we meet again...



#### **TEXAS ABATE CONFEDERATION, INC.**

900 Fish Creek Drive Arlington, Texas 76018

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

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



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