

- 3) Lady Amazon McCarthy has been Gator's partner in the publication for the past year and a half. Gator expressed his enjoyment of working with Carol, but has accepted her resignation as Co-Editor. Carol has too many responsibilities running the State Store and holding positions in the Chapter. A co-editor is needed, hopefully someone who is not politically correct, but is grammatically correct. Please email or call Gator if interested. Gator will send the job requirements to Poet for distribution to Chapter Presidents, so they can pass this out to members. Everyone agrees Carol and Gator have done a tremendous job with the newsletter.
- F) Webmaster Report – Marc Weitz, Webmaster
- 1) Chapter Presidents now have the ability to access and edit their chapter's webpage. Web stats were distributed to board members and explained. Some pages are under utilized and others are out of date. Marc is working on a "problem/issue" link on each page.
 - 2) Discussion of who can submit information and how to get current event information on the website. Please send website postings to Poet Sisco at this time so he can approve prior to Marc implementing those changes/additions.
- G) Legislative Report - Reported by Poet Sisco
- 1) State; nothing at this time.
 - 2) Federal; HR339 supports the goal of a National Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month (May). The last action was on 4/27/07; it was referred to the House Transportation subcommittee. It has 5 cosponsors; none from the State of Louisiana.
 - 3) Federal; S616 (HIPPA) closes the loophole that allows denial of health insurance coverage for injuries sustained while participating in certain recreational activities. Last action was on 2/15/07; referred to the Committee of Health, Education, Labor and Pensions. It has 4 cosponsors; none from the State of Louisiana.
 - 4) Federal; HR1076 (HIPPA and sister bill to S616). Last action was on 6/05/07; referred to 3 subcommittees. It has 64 cosponsors; none from the State of Louisiana.
 - 5) This information will be sent to Chapter Presidents with the intent to urge our members to ask our State Senators and Representatives to cosponsor these bills. To help Chapter Presidents quickly assess important 'Action Item" emails, Poet will mark them as "ACTION NEEDED" and try to highlight the important items in the email. Chapter Legislative Coordinators can assist with getting this information out to the membership.
- H) LA Motorcyclist Safety and Awareness Committee (LMSAC) – Poet Sisco
- 1) At the June 18th meeting of LMSAC, Col. Champagne informed them Louisiana will lose SAFETEA-LU (Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users) funds for the next fiscal year because we did not meet the required 2 of 6 goals required in this second year of the program. One goal is to decrease of the motorcycle accident death rates and our state statistics show a significant increase. We are pushing the State to do more on their part. The grant for our MAP program in high school driver education classes is secure as the money will come from the state's operating budget.
 - 2) The Louisiana Motorcyclist Safety Summit will be held August 4th at the Baton Rouge Holiday Inn Select. We need 20 people from our organization to attend. Please send applications to Poet by July 20th.
- I) Public Relations Report – Emilie Carroll, Public Relations Director absent; report read by Lynda Williams
- 1) Press release for update on HB 747 was read. Emails have been sent to all media contacts for the upcoming August 4th Louisiana Motorcycle Summit.
 - 2) Dr. Monica Monica is running for Senate in the district that covers parts of the North shore, Metairie and Uptown. She is motorcycle friendly and will be visiting the Pit Stop bike night on July 18th.
- J) Motorcycle Awareness Program (MAP) – Steve Schwarer, MAP Coordinator absent, Poet Sisco reported
- 1) The power point program is still in the works. Our goal is to develop this program in 2008 and be reimbursed with state funding this project. People who work on this program can receive payment for services from this funding.
- K) National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM) – Ollie "Laddie" Elkins
- 1) The annual NCOM convention is held Mother's Day weekend at different locations and NCOM membership is free. The organization is supported by Aid to Injured Motorcyclists (AIM) attorney fees which exceed 1/3 of accident settlements. This years funding was \$260,000. There are 11 Regions in the US and for over 10 years Laddie has represented the region that includes Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi. The Confederation of Clubs (COC)

had a large attendance, with the exception of Louisiana COC. There are many seminars presented on a wide range of topics. A great article about the last convention is in the current BBN edition. The next convention is in Houston, TX. Rates are \$40 per person for the convention and \$75 for the awards banquet. More information will be distributed as it is available.

- 2) The AIM card included in our ABATE membership package has an application which can be used to arrange notification to someone if you are injured in an accident. This number is manned 24 hours and if called, will contact who is named on your application. If you would like an application please email or send a request to Laddie at: P O Box 541, St. Amant, LA 70774.

L) Chapter Reports

- 1) Big 5, Trey Leake: 49 members, checking not reported. Not a lot of activity right now due to other summer events and members vacationing.
- 2) GNO/River Parishes, Francis Miller: 173 members. We set up our tent at bike night at the Pit Stop in Jefferson Parish every week weather permitting. Meeting date is changed to the third Thursday at Gennaro's in Metairie. Members have expressed concern about the cost of membership renewal. We will be holding and hosting a benefit dance for an ABATE member on July 28 and will be participating in the benefit poker run for Carol and Jack's grandson, Frankie Vilion, on July 29. We are also helping with a benefit run for a family with medical expenses on August 4 in Vidalia.
- 3) Northeast, Cut-Thru Crawford: 61 members. The MDA "Run for Jerry's Kids" had great participation and was very successful; 20 new members were signed up. The State Store was there and we set up our booth next to them. Two ABATE members are running for offices: T. Lee Horne, III for Governor and Wayne Trichel for State Representative in Monroe; see the current issue of the BBN for more info on Wayne. Flyers could be posted on the website if provided to Marc Weitz.
- 4) Northlake, Jason Walters: 156 members. Proceeds from the "Run for Your Rights" event were presented to the State Treasurer. They are currently working the benefit run for Carol and Jack's grandson on July 29; flyers and raffle tickets are available.

III. Announcements - None.

IV. Old Business

- A) Pop's Park – Francis Miller tabled to the next meeting
- B) Run for your Rights – Jack Mills
 - 1) The 3rd Annual Rally held May 19 at Talisheek Grocery was well attended and reportedly enjoyed by all. Hope that next year is even better. Jason and Tina Walters of Talisheek Grocery did a fine job hosting and the event was successful. The current issue of BBN has great coverage of the event. Poet suggested a post-mortem be held to address any concerns for next year.
- C) Membership Service Book – Jack Mills
 - 1) The Northlake Chapter is moving ahead with their local service book, as there was no response from other chapters wishing to participate.
- D) Freedom Fighter Patch and Year Bar – Carol McCarthy
 - 1) The replacement pins for the small "chicklet" patch will encircle our Freedom Fighter Patch with 8 year pins. We'll revisit this when needed. Price of the pins is under \$2.00, Carol will move forward with the order.
- E) Southern Cross Conference (SCC) – Kinky Kathy Gonzales
 - 1) Kinky Kathy would like to represent ABATE of Louisiana, Inc. at the next conference held at Heavenly Acres Campground, Virginia, Sept. 15. Her job may conflict so the registration will be placed under ABATE's name to allow another person to attend if she is unable to. The SCC challenge this year is to get motorcycle friendly politicians in office; we have had a few successes.

V. New Business

- A) Motorcycle Shops and Free Membership, Goal for 2007 – Gregg Miller absent; tabled to next meeting
- B) Membership Dues Renewal Structure – Francis Miller
 - 1) Members of the GNO/RP Chapter have expressed interest in changing the renewal process of our annual dues for regular members to once a year on a given date, rather than renew on each members expiration date. Many other groups use this method. Barbara Sikes, Membership

Coordinator, was asked to comment. She, and some others, expressed concerned that it would place an undue burden on the position as many applications would be processed in a short period of time. The current procedure works so she sees no benefit to changing. No motion was presented.

- C) Investment Alternatives for the Certificate of Deposits – Pat Malbrough
 - 1) As requested at the last meeting, investment alternatives for the current CD's was researched. Our two CD's are month-to-month and earn 1.44% interest at Capital One Bank. The best current rates found are: Capital One 6-month 4.89%; Hancock Bank 9-month 5.13%; Element Financial (online) 6-month 5.31%. Discussion was made about our gross receipts, which cannot exceed \$25,000 annually in order to avoid filing tax forms with the IRS per the non-profit status rules. E. T. Malbrough motioned, "We use Capitol One and convert the two existing CD's to two new 6-month CD's, and purchase an additional 6-month CD with excess checking account funds." Seconded by Francis Miller. Discussion: We may need some of these funds for the upcoming legislative year. Motioned was amended by E. T. to read, "We revisit the CD terms at the State Board meeting prior to the CD maturity." Seconded by Francis Miller. Discussion: Penalties were discussed and it was determined that only interest would be penalized for early withdrawal and the principal would not be disturbed. Cut-Thru called for the question. Vote: Unanimous.
- D) Reimbursement Policy for Travel – E. T. Malbrough
 - 1) The recent approval of travel expenses for two upcoming conferences made known a need to set a reimbursement policy. Proposed changes to Bylaws were distributed to board members for review. Some discussion included if we should amend the Bylaws or add to our Policies and Procedures. Board members were asked to read the proposal and discuss with E.T. Malbrough prior to the next State Board meeting.
- E) Policies and Procedures Manual - Limits of State Newsletter Checking Account
 - 1) At the last board meeting in open discussion we briefly discussed a problem with the current maximum \$1000 cap on the State Newsletter checking account. Gator Temento advised that the checking account balance varies and asked for a lift of the cap. Cut-Thru Crawford motioned, "We change the cap of the newsletter account to \$2000." E. T. Malbrough seconded. Discussion: Question was put to Gator if this was adequate. He responded that the advertising revenue is lopsided at various times of the year and that was not adequate. Discussion of how much we can annually gross each year before the income filing tax rule; the annual amount is \$25,000. Cut-Thru Crawford withdrew his motion and stated a new motion, "We change the cap of the newsletter account to \$5000 and revisit the cap as needed." E. T. Malbrough seconded. Discussion: Caps were put in place to avoid issues of the past when Chapter's folded and did not return checking account funds. Bylaw guidelines require caps on checking accounts. Vote: Unanimous.
- F) Policies and Procedures Manual - Limits of State Store Checking Account
 - 1) The State Store Manager asked for a higher cap for the State Store checking account to avoid issuing checks to the State when the account balance was over the current \$2000 cap. Marc Jolly motioned, "We change the cap of the State Store account to \$5000." Cut-Thru Crawford seconded. Discussion: None. Vote: Unanimous.
- G) Report Method at State Board Meetings – Poet Sisco
 - 1) In order to cut down on the time it takes to present oral reports at our board meetings, Poet suggested written reports could be turned in to the board prior to the meeting for the following: State Store, Membership Report, Newsletter, Webmaster, Legislative, LMSAC, Public Relations, MAP, NCOM, and Chapter Presidents. If provided prior to the meeting board members can digest the information and ask for clarifications at the meeting. E. T. Malbrough motioned, "We have these reports submitted via email to the State President one week to minimum 3 days prior to the State Board meeting. The President will distribute as needed and we will revisit this issue at the next meeting to discuss how it worked." Seconded by Marc Jolly. Discussion: None. Vote: Unanimous.
- H) State Board Meeting – Regular May Date Conflict with Annual NCOM Meeting
 - 1) The National Coalition of Motorcyclists Convention (NCOM), held Mother's Day weekend each May, usually conflicts with our State Board meetings. The next NCOM convention is to be held in Houston, TX. It was suggested we change our May State Board meeting date so officers could attend the convention next year. Marc Jolly motioned, "We change the May State Board Meeting

to the first Saturday of May.” Seconded by E. T. Malbrough. Discussion: None. Vote: Unanimous.

- I) State Board Meeting – Regular September Date Conflict with MRF Conference
 - 1) In March 2006, we voted to permanently change the September meeting date to the fourth Saturday (9-22) in order to avoid an annual conflict with the Red Knights 911 Run (9-08). Since then, the GNO/RP meeting date has changed to Saturdays, so an option to meet on the third Saturday (9/15) is available. The MRF Conference is scheduled for Sept. 20-23 this year and serves as a conflict. It was agreed to change the meeting date to Sept. 15, 2007.
- J) Magnolia School Toy Run – Kinky Kathy Gonzales
 - 1) Chapter Presidents were asked to poll their members for nominations for the honorific 2007 Mr. and Mrs. Claus who officiate at the Magnolia School Toy Run. The vote will be held at the September board meeting

VI. Other Business

- A) Open Floor to any other discussions
 - 1) Nominations will open at the September meeting for State President and State Secretary with elections to be held at the November meeting. The current secretary does not intend to run for office.
 - 2) The Big Five Chapter has designed a chapter patch which was displayed by Trey Leake for review. Cut-Thru Crawford motioned, “We approve the Big Five patch.” Seconded by E. T. Malbrough. Discussion: None. Vote: Unanimous.
 - 3) The winning billboard design of the motorcycle awareness billboard for 2007 was not used as intended. Poet intends to challenge the other organizations who sit on the LMSAC committee to design billboards and compete for the one to be used in 2008.
 - 4) Cut-Thru Crawford mentioned that AMA and MRF have information posted on state legislative issues.
 - 5) ABATE of Colorado has a program called “Ride Straight”. Poet asked the board to consider pursuing this program in Louisiana. Grants may be available to pay for the materials/etc. More details will be introduced at the next meeting. Barb Sikes has agreed to be administrator of the program should we move forward.
- B) Next meeting September 15, 2007, Noon; Harley Davidson of Baton Rouge (confirmed), GNO/RP to host
- C) Motion to adjourn by Cut-Thru Crawford, seconded by E.T. Malbrough, time 2:37 PM.

Executive Secretary: Lynda Williams

Executive President: James "Poet" Sisco