



- 1) Legislature is not active at this time. Our goal for the upcoming year is to get additional dedicated funds for the Motorcycle Safety Course and getting these funds out of BESE's control.
  - 2) Last month Col. Champaign stated there are more than 124,000 registered motorcycles in this state and over 41,000 endorsed motorcyclists. Membership in ABATE is less than 1% of the motorcyclists. We need people to join ABATE because numbers are what politicians will listen to. Gator Temento indicated he was told by a past DMV statistician a few years ago that there were 98,000 registered motorcycles and 105,000 endorsements. Discussion of future legislation for mandatory endorsements.
  - 3) Ed would like an article in the BBN asking what the membership thinks the issues are for motorcyclists. One problem is traffic signal sensors which do not detect motorcycles. We could ask for installation of sensors that detect a motorcycle or a law that allows a motorcycle to proceed through a signal after one light cycle does not detect the motorcycle.
  - 4) Ed met with Col Champagne and inquired on the effect of passage of the Right-of-Way bill. It is very difficult to track if increased penalties are handed out by the judges.
  - 5) This upcoming year is an election year. We would like to determine who is a motorcycle friendly politician by sending a questionnaire to current office holders by June 2007. This would only include incumbents as new candidates will not be determined at that time. We will need everyone's input if they know a candidate.
- H) Public Relations Report – Emilie Carroll, Public Relations Director
- 1) Press release issued October 2 regarding our MAP "Share the Road" program.
  - 2) Secured a spot on WWL-TV 4 on December 8 Morning Show to promote the Toy Run.
  - 3) Contacted Margaret Orr, Heath Allen and Jill Hazeou to solicit announcements/news interest stories on the Toy Run.
  - 4) A press release on the Toy Run will be distributed on December 1.
  - 5) Poet Sisco will create a webpage for Emilie to post press releases and other items of interest.
  - 6) Paul Murphy of Channel 26 has been contacted by Gator Temento; Gator and Emilie will work together to obtain TV coverage of the Toy Run event.
- I) Chapter Reports
- 1) Big 5, absent.
  - 2) GNO/River Parishes, Francis Miller: 163 members. Bike nights at the Pit Stop are still doing really well; we get a lot of member participation there. Several members have already completed their 100 Freedom Fighter points. The Kallie McGuire benefit was a great success. We had a great time at the Iron Eagle Rally last weekend and will assist at the Blue Knights Poker Run tomorrow. Two members are actively selling ads for BBN. Are still working on the Toy Run details. Robin's ride is a success; ABATE organizations helped her throughout the country.
  - 3) Northeast, absent.
  - 4) Northlake, Gregg Miller. Poker Run held October 14 netted enough to pay for a memorial stone for Shelley Cancienne. Iron Eagle Rally was successful with 14 new members who joined at a reduced fee. We are glad for the confidence of our membership in our newly elected officers and we are striving to increase membership. Working on a MAP program presentation for St. Tammany schools which will require a more sophisticated approach and include a power point presentation and updated video.

### III. Announcements

Blue Knights Poker Run, 11/12, Bourget's of the South, St. Rose, 9 AM  
 Choctaw Music Festival and Poker Run, 11/18, benefits Abita Springs Park, Rosies, 10 AM  
 Magnolia School Toy Run, 12/10, Avondale Truck Stop, Avondale, LA, Noon

### IV. Old Business

- A) LA Motorcyclists Safety and Awareness Committee (LMSAC) – Kinky Kathy Gonzales and Poet Sisco
  - 1) Meeting scheduled for the upcoming week will most likely be cancelled.
  - 2) The new 2007 billboard design contest now has four submissions from ABATE members; the deadline to submit ideas to Poet Sisco is December 30.
- B) Corporate Memberships – Poet Sisco/Kinky Kathy Gonzales
  - 1) Three ABATE organizations which have corporate memberships in place were discussed. Each one offers several levels of membership with varying fees. Only one membership is allowed on all levels. Increasingly larger advertising (BBN and website) and plaques are offered relative to the sponsorship fees. Discussion ensued on whether membership should be increased with higher levels. Suggestion offered that higher levels include additional advertising such as on the event flyers or the State Store trailer. Poet Sisco will send the criteria to the Chapter Presidents and any

changes and suggestions should be relayed to all for discussion. Poet to research the liability issues for a sponsor who's name is advertised on the ABATE trailer.

- C) Katrina Relief Efforts – Reported by Poet Sisco
  - 1) Barb Sikes reported a balance of \$0. Fourteen families were assisted with the donations. The website will post an acknowledgement to all who contributed.
- D) State Board Vacancies – Poet Sisco
  - 1) Webmaster position vacant; please ask your membership for interest in this position.
- E) Harley for Horses – Lynda Williams
  - 1) April 22, 2007 is the date. Thunder Roads has published the calendar. After Christmas we'll ask for volunteers and have more information.
- F) Fall Fling – Poet Sisco
  - 1) Chapter Presidents were asked to start planning a 2007 fall state event "Harvest Bash" to be held around mid-late October.
- G) Magnolia School Toy Run – Kinky Kathy Gonzales
  - 1) Pins are on order; Bobby Jindal is Grand Marshall; Gary Smith is Deputy Grant Marshall. A convertible is available to ride any grand marshal or person of notoriety. Letters are distributed and gifts are to be collected as instructed in the flyers.
  - 2) Investigation on where the band should be placed, canopy, and any electrical needs to be determined. Kinky research and make recommendations.
  - 3) Dale Hicks was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for his work in procuring Grand Marshall Bobby Jindal for the toy run.
- H) Iron Eagle Rally – Gator Temento
  - 1) Iron Eagle attendance was much less than what the producers anticipated, however, the run and games did benefit; discount membership drive at the rally netted 14 new members. The rally had 42 volunteers from the ABATE Northlake and GNORP Chapters and Gator was congratulated for the success. The bike games were great at night and all had a wonderful time.
- I) Share the Road Program – Steve Schwarer, Motorcycle Awareness Program Coordinator
  - 1) Jefferson Parish will have two more classes in December where the program will be presented.
  - 2) Northlake Chapter efforts to improve the program presentation are welcome. Please present any changes to Steve Schwarer.
- J) Chat Room Service – Poet Sisco
  - 1) We had previously voted to purchase a chat-room program at a board meeting. The current chat-room is free but not private and has annoying pop-ups. The yearly charge for a private chat-room is \$75.00 or we could purchase for it for \$500.00. The yearly charge includes registration for members, monitoring features, and additional rooms for an unlimited number of participants. Gregg Miller motioned. "We purchase a chat-room program for \$75.00 per year"; E. T. Malbrough seconded; Vote unanimous. Poet will send Barb Sikes the information for purchase.

## V. New Business

- A) Pop's Park – Poet Sisco
  - 1) A rough design was submitted to Francis Miller who has a contact who will draft plans for a memorial wall with insets for 40 plagues (for the next 40 years) which will have names of persons killed in motorcycle accidents in those years. Features include a railing and brick rotunda around the existing monument. DOTD approval and parish permits will be required. An artist rendition is required; please canvas our members for someone who could do the rendition. The plaque materials and size accommodation were discussed. Francis Miller was appointed chairman. Plumbing and accommodations were discussed; possible use as travel information center. All materials are to be donated.
- B) Share the Road Signs – tabled
- C) State Board Meeting Minutes Approval Process – Poet Sisco
  - 1) Please approve the minutes as quickly as possible.
- D) Revocation of Membership – Poet Sisco
  - 1) A membership was revoked due to actions not acceptable to our organization. The member chose not to change future actions. A panel, as the By-Laws allow, reviewed the decision and reinstated the membership with restrictions. The restrictions were violated and the membership was permanently revoked.
- E) Run for your Rights Event – Gator Temento
  - 1) The Northlake Chapter 2<sup>nd</sup> Run for your Rights event held this past May was a great success but conflicted with the State Board meeting. Next year we propose this be a state event, possibly scheduled the week after the board meeting. The Iron Eagle Rally organizers are planning to have rally events every four to six months, and have again invited A.B.A.T.E. to produce and manage the

poker run and bike games for their future events. Discussion: The event is an ABATE event and should be separate from Iron Eagle Rallies as they are a for-profit corporation. Our motorcycle events should benefit the motorcycle rider, not a for-profit entity. Gregg Miller motioned "The State Board make the "Run for your Rights" event be a state function"; seconded by E. T. Malbrough. Vote unanimous. A committee will be formed with Kinky Kathy Gonzales the chairman and Chapter VP's serving as committee members.

F) ATA's stand on Speed Limiters – Poet Sisco/Gregg Miller

- 1) The American Truckers Association (ATA) has asked the National Highway Transportation and Safety Association (NHTSA) to mandate new trucks have speed limiters which regulate their ability to travel over speeds of 65-68 MPH. If accepted, a move to impose a speed limitation on other vehicles could be offered. We must be aware of this possibility and watch this movement. Many truck drivers are opposed to the mandate.

G) Change requirement to publish By-Laws in BBN – Poet Sisco

- 1) The BBN has been limited to 40 pages and our By-Laws require yearly publication in the BBN. This would take up almost the entire publication. Gregg Miller motioned, "We delete the requirement to publish the By-Laws in the newsletter, and place a notice in the newsletter that they are available on the ABATE website or upon request of a member." E.T. Malbrough seconded. Discussion: Every member gets a copy of the By-Laws with their membership package. Vote unanimous.

H) AMA Plaque – Poet Sisco

- 1) Poet Sisco showed the American Motorcyclists Association (AMA) award presented to "ABATE of Louisiana in recognition for your efforts to enhance motorcycle safety through the successful enactment of HB 694, effective August 15, 2006; and grateful appreciation for your support of the Justice for All Campaign." ABATE of Louisiana received nation attention for aiding the passage of the bill.

I) Capture the Flag Challenge - Poet Sisco

- 1) As there were few chapter flag events this year, the Toy Run will be the deciding event for the winner chapter. The chapter with the most member attendance at the Toy Run will win the flag for 2006. The northern chapters did not conduct flag events this year and are not participating at the Toy Run event. Members must sign in at the event.

## VI. Other Business

A) Nominations and Elections:

- 1) State Treasurer: No additional nominations; Pat Malbrough; elected unanimously
- 2) State Vice-President: No additional nominations; Sharon "Kinky Kathy" Gonzales; elected unanimously

B) Open floor for any other discussion

- 1) Gregg Miller suggested we offer more than Freedom Fighter patches for member recognition; suggested gift certificates to the State Store, dinner gift certificates. Other suggestions were "Members of the Month" awards. Membership could be polled for what their ideas of incentives. Suggestions include an award or certificates for individuals who recruit the most members; Donation/Donation could fund any awards. All elected officers are excluded from award recognition. Chapter Presidents were asked to discuss and present plans at the next board meeting.
- 2) E. T. Malbrough asked if the Toy Run food procurement funding was determined and donated \$50.00 toward expenses. Volunteers are welcomed to join GNORP at Kinky Kathy's home to make sandwiches after the chapter meeting on December 9.

C) Next meeting January 13, 2007, Noon; Harley Davidson of Baton Rouge; hosted by the GNO/RP Chapter.

D) Motion to adjourn by E. T. Malbrough, seconded by Gregg Miller, time 2:40 PM.

Executive Secretary: Lynda Williams

Executive President: James "Poet" Sisco