

ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC.

Delegates Meeting, Tallahassee February 11, 2024

PRESIDENTS REPORT: Griz- Anyone not a delegate must be recognized by your delegates. State flyers are not to be altered. No flyers can be changed after they have been approved. RIDE To the CAPITOL – has been cancelled due to inclement weather tomorrow and safety to our riders. The police will not be escorting in the rain. The Board is talking about coming back to be part of a bill.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Steve – Seminars: letters were sent concerning how we can secure the halls. Each chapter must get 3 rooms for 1 night or donate \$270. It's necessary to teach the board members what our policies and Bylaws consist of. The motion was made to accept the requirements to acquire the rooms for the seminars by Daytona Beach. Seconded by Central Florida. After much discussion, vote was made and passed unanimously. Central Florida donated \$50 to help a chapter cover the price of 3 reservations. Lake offered to pay for a chapters 3 rooms. Central Florida offered to pay for another chapter's reservation. Gator Alley also offered to pay for 3 rooms. July 20th will be the seminars in Vero Beach.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Lynn – Acceptance of the Motion to accept December minutes. – Motion by Forest, 2nd by Polk, all in favor. Reminder of minutes due and fines to be applied. Discussion was made about minutes not submitted. Motion was made by Forest to waive fines till after the Seminars. 2nd by Gulf Coast. After much discussion a vote was made. 19 approved, 4 opposed. Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Brandy– Safety account total, Main account totals were stated. Expenses are coming up. Taxes have been filed. All deposits need to be specified. A breakdown is needed for Sales Tax purposes. Chapter names need to be on the reports. All chapter corporate officers need to be on the bank checking account. Each bank account needs to have 2 signers. Motion was made to accept the Treasurers report by Lake County, 2nd by Southeast. All in favor.

STATE OFFICE REPORT: Brandy – Reminded everyone about AIL mail and how if you didn't need to change anything, don't mail it. If you do need to change the beneficiary, send it to the State Office. If you want someone to talk to you about more insurance, mail back the paperwork in the self-addressed envelope. There will be new applications made with the new Logo.

SGT-AT-ARMS REPORT: Charlie – Since there's no ride, be safe going home. Frenchie – After his dedication to ABATE of Florida, Charlie will be retiring with Honors. All delegates stood in respect and appreciation for his hard work. Griz asked for a vote of confidence to have Tate be the Sergeant of Arms. Motion by Forest, 2nd by Boneyard. All in favor.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Tara -

Most New Members November: **Lagoon**. Most Percentage Growth November: **Central**.
Most New Members December: **Lagoon**. Most Percentage Growth December: **Central**.
Please remember on your paperwork, if you can't read it, I can't read. Explained about the 4-digit zip code necessity.

WEBSITE/MASTERLINK: Tara – Updates are being made. Issues have arisen. Still working on it.

PR/COMMUNICATIONS REPORT: Bill – Latest article to Sophisticated Biker. They are getting 250,000 hits a month. We have had an article in the publication for the last 6 months.

SAFETY MSAP TRUSTEE: Russ – (absent – read by Lana)

1. Read MSAP activity since the last State meeting.
2. Present MSAP Safety Instructor Certificates – Rich Johnson (Lake), Jonel Sullivan (Lake).
3. Reminder to send all MSAP reports within 5 days of the event.

PRODUCTS TRUSTEE REPORT: Shayne (Velcro) – New shirts with the new logo are now available in grey. Come up and see me and we can make a deal.

LOBBYIST FIRM: Continental Strategies (Steve) – HB1133 & SB1528. Thank you to everyone that contacted the committees. Discussed the fact the Continental Strategies will no longer be able to assist us after this session.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT: Bob – Blue Knight and the Suncoast Brotherhood had stated that they would support us but because of the weather issues and the Ride not happening, I will let them know. The bill is something we should support because many bikers have died due to distracted drivers. Texting and driving is a big issue for me. Steve is correct. After the Bill is passed, we can go back and amplify them. Continue your phone calls and emails. It only fortifies our position. After much correspondence from ABATE, they will remember when they go into committee. Discuss how Lobbying will be changing. It will be an organized event. There are a lot of questions concerning our safety supplies. Many chapters are out. I do believe we have materials coming. Quest is a professional firm, and we trust they will be forth coming with products.

LEGAL COUNSEL: Rich – All Good

SAFETY COMMITTEE: Lana – ABATE, ALR, LAMA progress with Quest. Quest is the vendor that all three groups hired to keep us in compliance and collaboration which is stated in the statues, reported to FHSMV and approved by FDOT. Representatives from each group attend bi-weekly meetings and quarterly meetings. The groups have come up with a brand name Florida Motorcycle Safety Program (FMSP) and logo. Each group receives the funds that are forwarded to the vendor (Quest) from all three groups. There is a fact sheet available to be handed out to anyone who may be interested. Within the last couple of weeks, we have received pens, stickers, and tablecloths with the branded name. More items will be coming. In the next quarter or two they will be working on billboards, PSA's and many more. On a two-day notice ABATE was invited to set up a Safety Booth at Mecum Auctions in Kissimmee. I want to say a big “thank you “to Frenchi, Patrick and Charlie for helping me. We barely had any items left. The number of people that stopped was unbelievable. It was such a wonderful and exciting event. We have been invited back. I attended ALR Summit that was held on January 31, through February 3, 2024. They had classes of which I attended three of them. At the Safety Classes I was asked to speak about ABATE and our MSAP program. I have also been invited to attend LAMA convention in

Tampa sometime in April 2024. From what I understand they are open to anyone who wishes to attend. I have been asked to have an interview by CUTR the end of February. Bike Week is coming soon and again we have been asked to join in setting up a booth at J&P Cycles. If you wish to help, please sign the sheet that I have. Personally, I want to "Thank you" for keeping me in your thoughts and prayers for the loss of my son, Charles.

SPONSORSHIP COMMITTEE: Steve - We have received another sponsor's check. Thank you to Gabe Carrera. SW Florida's Bruce L Scheiner has pledged to be a platinum sponsor.

NCOM UPDATE: Griz – Bone talked about what's happening in NCOM and handed out items to store your insurance in.

MRF: Steve – Update on Bikers on the Beltway. Discussed how spots on the train ride filling up.

AMA: Griz – nothing to report

TALLAHASSEE 2024: Ride cancelled due to inclement weather. Ringing of the Bells to be done at the end of the meeting.

STATE PARTY: Nothing new.

OLD BUSINESS: Nothing

NEW BUSINESS: Daytona suggested making the Tally Ride on a Saturday. Daytona will look into using a conference room. Questioned about seeing Legislators. Very rarely do they see us.

Forest suggested that we use another hotel. Discussed issues.

SE – why don't we use the news to announce our ride. Griz – we've tried and tried and no luck.

Forest – introduced Patricia to explain about using Harley Stock as an incentive for a fund raiser. Patricia explained how it worked up north. Discussion ensued. Griz – take it back to your chapters. At the April meeting we will vote on it.

Frenchie – Encourage a get together to have our members enjoy themselves. Polk county is central. His sell point was "Be.., Boo..., and Bikes" A challenge was made to the Board.

Brandy stated she still gets calls concerning the Campground. Tate talked about how the chapters need to support each chapter. Gulfcoast talked about how motorcycles fatalities could make a difference with Legislators. Forest suggests ringing the bell for each county to represent all bikers. Griz: questioned how many were not bikers that were paying attention. Discussion on the time frame. This is to be brought back to the chapters.

Nominations for Junes Elections

President: Griz

Secretary: Lynn

Membership: Tara

Legislative Trustee: Bob

Alfy (declined)

Masterlink: Tara (declined)

Patrick

Legal Counsel: Rich

VP: Steve

Treasurer: Brandy

Sergeant at Arms: Tate

Public Relations: Bill (declined)

Patrick

Products: Shayne

Safety-MSAP: Russ (needs to accept)

Lana (declined)

GOOD TO THE ORDER: Traveling Trophy awarded to Lake County. Forest is having a Cooler drawing. Freedom – Natures Coast Bikefest. Lake reminded everyone about Leesburg Campground in April. Gator Alley talked about sponsorship. All you have to do is ask.

Ring of the Bell. Bell was donated by Frenchie and Lana along with a handmade box to store it in along with Memorial patches.

50/50 – Winner donated a portion back. Silent Auction was done.
The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Lynn Corr