

A Little History of ABATE Of North Idaho

“How Did All This Start?”

By: Karen Hunley

Co-Incorporator, Lifetime member

ABATE of North Idaho, Inc

In 1989 a few concerned and interested area motorcyclists got together to talk about what we could do in North Idaho to promote education, awareness and freedom of the road. Some of us were already members (and officers) of the Spokane Chapter of ABATE of Washington. ABATE of Washington was conducting “Share The Road” awareness classes at the Spokane area high schools’ drivers education programs. We watched and learned how they were done. This experience proved to be invaluable as we soon began conducting our own motorcycle awareness classes in the North Idaho area high schools.

Joining ABATE of Idaho as “Kootenai District”, our membership grew to 23 members. Our first treasury consisted of money raised from a bake sale and recycled cans after our first get-acquainted party. Largely due to the geographical expanse of Idaho and structural changes within ABATE of Idaho, it was decided after much discussion and consideration to form a separate corporation from ABATE of Idaho. So with a letter of endorsement and support from ABATE of Idaho sent to the Idaho Secretary of State, we were off and running.

ABATE of North Idaho’s membership quickly jumped to 75 members. A committee was formed to write our own Articles of Incorporation and By-laws. Many long, boring evenings were spent at Bob Smith’s home writing each and every By-law. Finally, the Articles of Incorporation and By-laws were signed and filed with the State of Idaho. It was now 1993 and ABATE of North Idaho, Incorporated was OFFICIAL.