

Kootenai Road Dogs

Meeting Minutes

August 02, 2007

Coordinator Ernie Crocker called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

14 members attended. Quorum requirements met.

The Chapter current Membership is 45

The Treasurers' Report:

Guest Speaker:

- Joel Arnoldi was scheduled to speak, however; he was not able to attend due to a commitment to MRF. Joel was recognized for his outstanding, new member enrollment activities in MRF and has been elevated by the organization.

Safety & Training:

- Ernie read the letter sent to the Director of Idaho STAR program requesting the addition Trike and Sidecar training to the STAR program. The letter will be sent to the other North Idaho ABATE Chapters soliciting their support. Additional support may be invited from State Representatives and State DOT personnel.

Legislative Activity:

- Ernie circulated pamphlets from Washington State Police regarding motorcycle helmet configurations and how WSP can determine a "Washington legal" helmet. The info can be found online at www.wsp.wa.gov.

Runs & Events:

August

- Aug 3rd-5th St. Joe "To Broke for Sturgis" Run; Larry, 208-835-6412
"Ladies on the Loose" run; Jennny, 208-457-1150
- Aug. 8th CDA Honda Riders Club, Dinner Cruise; Mike, 208-765-5005
- Aug. 11th-12th CDA Honda Riders Club, Whitefish/Glacier, Mike, 208-765-5005
- Aug 17th HooDoo Riders Campout, Joel, 208-704-5517
- Aug. 17th-19th Clearwater ABATE Birthday Run, Bud 509-552-1404
- Aug. 18th Roadhouse Rally, Roadhouse Cycles, Scott, 208-457-1150
- Aug. 18th-19th ABATE of Washington Freedom Run to Olympia; Pastor Mike, 509-926-8358
- Aug. 19th CDA Honda Riders Club, Lewiston/Whitepine Hwy; Mike, 208-765-5005
- Aug. 25th 26th NW Classics Springdale Rodeo; Keith, 509-891-4547
- September 1st State Wide Friendship Run; ABATE and ICMS; Pierce, ID, Chuck, 208-476-0189

Old Business:

- Ernie made a quantity of ABATE business cards for members and handed them out. He will print several more sets with some member's names, as requested.
- See 'Safety and Training'. The letter to the STAR Program Director suggesting trike and sidecar training be added to STAR is attached at bottom of these minutes.

New Business:

1. Denise Mills proposed a program to raise money for the 'Toys for Tots' effort. She showed the "Road Dog" yard sign, proposed for "Dogging" a selected residence, where the yard signs will appear during the night, all to the delight of the residents. The 'Dog' yard signs will be removed after a contribution by thee residents to the 'Toys for Tots' fund. A motion was carried to reimburse Denise for the yard sign costs.
2. The Grail has notified Ernie that their license will not allow children on their site, yet. Since children are a large part of the Toy Run party, the Chapter needs to find a new location for the event.

Open Forum:

- Connie Haley showed off her PINK-adorned riding gear.
- Sandy Crocker is reported to be a 'compuholic' since she now has her own, new notebook computer with DSL wireless connection. She has not been seen for several months and the time may be near to call in the Geek Squad.

Holiday Fund Raffle:

Two prizes of motorcycle stickers were awarded for the drawing. The winners were Denise Mills and Paul Riess.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59pm.

The next meeting will be September 06, 2007.

L. Paul Riess
Secretary

Kootenai Chapter, ABATE of North Idaho
P. O. Box 2511 Hayden, Idaho 83835

July, 23, 2007

Ron Shepard, Director
Stacey Axmaker, Training Manager
Idaho STAR Program
Boise State University
1910 University Drive
Boise, ID 83725-2005

Gentlemen:

The Kootenai Chapter of ABATE of North Idaho requests the Idaho STAR program add Trike and Sidecar rider training to the current program. A possible way forward may be for one or more Idaho STAR instructors attend the Trike & Sidecar Instructors training offered by the Evergreen Safety Council in Seattle, Washington.

There are significant numbers of trike and sidecar riders on Idaho roads who could benefit from formal safety training. Trike and sidecar riders face the same safety hazards and road conditions as all other motorcycle riders, but they do so without available specialized training.

The vehicular dynamics and operator handling of trikes or sidecars, is often, remarkably different in critical circumstances from a two-wheeler. Indeed, in recent years, the State of Washington has mandated a particular motorcycle license and training for trike or sidecar operation.

Although the State of Idaho does not currently require a specialty license for trike or sidecar motorcycle riders, the need for available rider training remains. It was not too many years ago that any licensed driver could legally operate a motorcycle and all training was relegated to the rider. Trike or sidecar operators, currently, are expected to 'self teach'. We believe this situation can be improved. Motorcycle safety training works.

Kootenai Chapter, ABATE of North Idaho stands ready to assist STAR as appropriate.

We look forward to your favorable and timely consideration.

Thank you,

L Paul Riess
Secretary, Kootenai Chapter, ABATE of North Idaho