



# A.B.A.T.E. of North Idaho, Inc.

[www.abateofnorthidahobikers.org](http://www.abateofnorthidahobikers.org)

## April 2015 Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: 11:55am      Quorum: Yes      Pledge of Allegiance: Yes      Prayer: By Dan Benson, State Chaplin

Attendance: **Dan Ertz** (Coordinator) , **Paul Riess** (Deputy Coordinator), **Belinda Wright-Ertz** (Secretary), **Karen Stewart** (Treasurer), **Pauline Durst**, (Membership Secretary), **Roy Fisher** (Amb. at Large and Hoodoo Chapter Coordinator), **James Pine** (Sgt. at Arms), **Dan Benson** (Chaplin), **Dave Bremenour** (Hell's Canyon Coordinator), **Jenn Schultz** (Hells Canyon Deputy Coordinator) **Bob Merkel** (Hoodoo Dep. Coordinator), **Laura Ingalls** (Kootenai Coordinator), **Belinda Carson** (Kootenai Dep. Coordinator, excused for this meeting- Dan Benson her proxy), **Guests:** **Mary K. Gilmore** (MedStar)

Approval of agenda: accepted      Prior Meeting's Minutes : accepted James (motion) Jenn (second)

**Guests- Mary K. Gilmore:** Mary K. Gilmore spoke about MedStar and answered any questions. She stated that the average cost for a helicopter flight was \$25,000 and a person's out of pocket us usually 20%. The \$48 per year covers insured and family and will pay this out of pocket cost. She also explained that the helicopters are well staffed including a critical care nurse, so receive enhanced critical care in the sky. The helicopters are the best of the best – including two engines, if one happens to fail. Also if you already are a member of Medstar send in a form and they will put you on the invoice for next year.

**Coordinator's Report/Address:** Dan Ertz shared the new Tee Shirt design. A discussion ensued regarding sizes to order and what sizes the Chapters will need. Jenn simplified things, as she has worked in clothing retail ... 20 large, 20 X-large, 6- small, 6- med 6-XXL, Chapter Coordinators will get their request for sizes to Dan by this coming Wednesday. Dan also mention that Chapters can have their own logo put on the shirts. Dan also spoke a bit about the fact that we are suppose to collect and pay Sales Tax on the shirts.

**Deputy Coordinator's Report :** Paul Reiss had nothing to report at this time, other than going to North Dakota for Heartland Steam.

**Secretary's Report** – Belinda Wright-Ertz Travel request forms were handed out to those who requested them. Spoke regarding Sales Tax on items sold. Important to report Sales Tax on ANY items sold. Ok, to include the Sales Tax in the cost of the item, but Chapter Treasurers need to make sure they record how many items x money collected (less) Sales Tax paid at the purchase of the item and get those figures to Karen immediately after the monthly meeting so she can meet the Sales Tax deadline. Also, MedStar forms and payment needs to be in Belinda's hands no later than April 24<sup>th</sup> to insure we can start with a May 1<sup>st</sup> date.

**Treasurer Report** – Karen Stewart A spread sheet was passed around for members to look at. Karen showed a breakdown of last month's expenses and stated that **AMA** money is coming in, thanks to Dave Cazel's efforts. NOTE: I will stop here ... as I was typing the minutes Dan said that **AMA** was incorrect. So to Clarify I asked Dave Cazel. Here is his email reply:

*We have a memorandum of understanding with the ITD's Office of Highway Safety to reimburse the State's SSMRO's for authorized expenses incurred for the promotion of motorcycle awareness. Some of the expenses approved in the past are: AMA sanction/charter, AMA insurance, city permit, and pre-approved media expenses. This has a neutral effect on our budget but it does impact our timing for the sources and uses of ANI's cash.*

*I think the confusion comes from the fact that I attend the quarterly STAR advisory board meetings and the manager of the Office of Highway Safety often times is present. His office is one of the many partners we have developed a relationship with over the past 5 or 6 years. The money in the past has been used to offset the AMA expenses associated with the awareness rally and parade. It was the first year of the MOU. Hope this helps to reduce any confusion.*

**Membership Secretary's Report** – Pauline Durst – Pauline shared that ANI currently has 202 members with 69 Renewed Hells Canyon - 61 members / 12 renewed  
Hoodoo – 53 members / 26 renewed  
Kootenai – 68 members / 25 renewed  
State – 20 members / 3 renewed

**Ambassador at Large-** Roy Fisher reported on his trip to Boise for Black Friday . Roy tried hard to find common ground with ASI on the legislative issues that were being addressed, but found they had opposite ideas. ASI also has a different stand on the relationship between ABATE and MRF and ICMS. He learned a lot about ASI and met some of our Legislators. He feels our Legislators are “all on board with us: - very supportive of anything we would like to propose. He appreciated being able to go and meet the members of ASI and join in on Black Friday.

**Chapter Reports: Hells Canyon** – Hell's Canyon turned in a written report (thank you very much!) They had an Easter Egg Hunt with 650 kids! Had fun and gave out stickers for ABATE, they received one new member. Working on getting more new members and their renewals in. They are having a Spring Ride on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April .. meet at 11 leave at 12. Getting ready for the Spring Opener and summer riding time. They show on their roster 66 members.

**Chapter Reports: Hoodoo -** Hoodoo are planning runs in late May and early July . They plan a ride to Canada to Toad Rock. They show 59 members on their roster, applications on the way to Pauline.

**Chapter Reports: Kootenai –** May 2<sup>nd</sup> is the Awareness Parade, May 16<sup>th</sup> is the Dead Man's Hand Poker Run with a possible \$5,000 prize. They are also looking into the “pencil rule” that involves automobiles hanging objects (handicapped tags, etc) from their rearview mirror and obstructing the view.

**Correspondence-** Belinda found Certificates of Appreciation in the box of Secretary items, Dan joked around with some mail he Received in regard to someone was interested in “buying his business – ABATE” Freedom Flyers of South Dakota, MRF newsletter, AMA- American Motorcycle was passed around. The National Assn of State Motorcycle Safety Administrators are soliciting for Members, at the cost of \$1,200 a year ..... it was passed up.

**Committee Reports: Legislative -** Dave Cazal was not able to attend, but it was mentioned that SB1016 limiting the number of times a learners permit can be obtained passed, and the Eos 3-wheeled car (HB17) was not “named” a motorcycle.

**Web Page** – Bob Merkel reported Hells Canyon new Deputy Coordinator has her bio on the website, applause all around. It was also noted that James Pine has his in under the State Board of Directors. If the remaining officers of Hells Canyon get their bios on the website our ANI website will be complete.

**Facebook Page –** Belinda Wright-Ertz passed around statistics on the Website showing 330 likes and that the previous week reached a total of 2,035 people. She showed the Spring Opener Poster received 1,141 people clicking on it.

**Membership Cards-** Dan Ertz thought we were putting information on the back of the membership cards that tell a bit about ABATE. Pauline noted that she didn't know what we wanted so just purchased them as is and will put something on the back next time, but needs direction on what we want.

**Changing our Name-** Dan Ertz gave a report on changing the “American Bikers Aiming Toward Education” portion of our name, he said he was sorry he brought it up as it has caused so much angst between members/chapters. ANI will not be changing that portion of our name, but as each Chapter is independent they can make that decision on their own. Belinda Wright-Ertz mentioned that we can have as many assumed names as we want as long as we fill out a form for the Secretary of State and send in \$25.

**Chapter Membership Contest-** Dan reminded everyone about the Membership Contest for the Chapters. The Chapter that has increased by the largest percentage by May 31<sup>st</sup> will be announced at the Spring Opener (this includes new members AND current renewals) ... the other two Chapters have to buy that Chapter members a drink. The winning Chapter will also receive a traveling trophy. If there is a tie, the Chapter that reached that percentage first will be the winner. The Contest runs from December 1<sup>st</sup> through May 31<sup>st</sup>. EXAMPLE

Chapter A starts out with a total 50 members December 1st. At the end of May that Chapter has a total of 60 members. That is a gain of 10 members or a 20% increase.

Chapter B starts out with a total of 40 members December 1st. At the end of May that Chapter has a total of 50 members. That is a gain of 10 Members or a 25% increase. Chapter B wins.

**Spring Opener 2015** – Bob Merkel reported on the 2015 Spring Opener. Things are moving along well. It was decided by the SO committee that one person from each chapter will man the front gate at all times. If one of those people are not Executive Board, a fourth person will need to be in there. – Must have an executive board member in at all times. It was also mentioned that Peggy from Country Lane passed away, Roy and Dan attended the memorial. Peggy was a vendor at the SO, and a good friend to ABATE. Peggy be greatly missed and her children are filling in for any commitments that she had made for the year. It was also asked that communication be made with Bob Merkel for any Auction Items coming in. Dan and Chris Benson gave Bob a list with Kootenai's donations (thank you very much!)

Gate Duty as follows:

Friday 7am – 10:00pm (2 hour blocks)

Saturday 7am – 9pm (2 hour blocks)

Security as follows:

Friday – Hoodoo

Saturday – 7am to 12 pm – Hells Canyon , 12pm to 12pm – Kootenai

Raffle Ticket Colors: Hells Canyon – Purple, Hoodoo – Dk Blue, Red, Kootenai- Orange, Lt Blue , State – 50/50 White,

Door Prize – Red and White, Quilt for Trophy cost - TBD

**Bumper Stickers-** Bob Merkel found Bumper Stickers at .85 each and wanted board feedback. Dan Ertz mentioned he didn't think we would be able to sell any to re-coup the money back and a donation can was suggested. James Pine mentioned that he felt helmet stickers would be a better choice. It was decided that we would try the Bumper Stickers with our 2015 slogan of "You ride free because of me" and ABATE of North Idaho, along with the logo. A motion was made by Roy Fischer that we should purchase 200 Bumper Stickers with the maximum cost of \$170, seconded by Dan Benson. Belinda Wright-Ertz is going to check another source and get back with Bob.

**Chapter Event Forms-** Dan Ertz passed around the forms required for Chapter Events. He has not received the completed forms for the 2015 year and asked that Chapter Coordinators get the forms in to him asap.

**Rat Trike/Scooter-** Paul Riess has no need of a Rat Trike/Scooter he built several years ago. James is currently using it as a Spring Opener Security vehicle. Much discussion was made about the purchase of the Trike/Scooter and Dan Ertz asked Paul if he would stand behind the purchase, and he agreed. A motion was made by Bob Merkel that we purchase the vehicle for \$150 / seconded by James Pine. Roy Fisher has batteries he can put in the Trike/Scooter and we can charge it at the Gate. Arrangements were made to pick up the vehicle and it can be stored in the trailer.

**Road Guard-** Roy Fisher mentioned an article he read in regard to "Road Guards". Road Guards are people who are certified to legally block intersections to allow motorcycle rides to go through. Three other States have done this successfully and the Road Guards can be hired and paid by other organizations for their rides. It was agreed that we should check into this.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00pm

Open Forum