



TEXAS TIDBITS

TEXAS ABATE CONFEDERATION, INC

Edition II, Volume I

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My State Representative has my back...

...or do they? It's that time, every ODD year, the Texas Legislature convenes to make decisions about what they believe is most important for our citizens. Do you want to leave these decisions in their hands without having any input? You NEED TO KNOW who is in your corner.

Do you know what is going on in your community? How do you find out? Volunteer. Talk to leaders in your community. What are the "hot" topics of conversation? Do your leaders roll up their sleeves and get in the trenches? Or do they like their "suit and tie" along with their corner office? Ask questions! Give them your input. Let them know where you stand on certain agendas. Will they support what you believe is important? They represent YOU!

Find out who represents you...

<https://fyi.capitol.texas.gov/Home.aspx>

Or for more detailed information...

<https://www.dps.texas.gov/dem/DDC/districtMap.htm>

State News

Significant changes to the Bylaws (Terri Davison)

Members have worked diligently over the past year to revise our Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, and Guidebook for Successful Leadership. Complete transcript of these documents can be found at www.texasabate.com

Corporation and Chapter Officers' duties and responsibilities have been modified for simplification and clarification. Therefore, it is recommended that each Officer, both Corporation and Chapter revisit their appropriate section of the Bylaws. Below are some other significant changes:

1. To establish a Chapter any prospective Chapter must have no less than three (3) members holding four (4) pro tem officer positions; a Coordinator, Assistant Coordinator, Secretary / Treasurer, and a Chapter Representative.
2. The Board may grant a Chapter up to one hundred eighty (180) days to meet requirement and become compliant with Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws.
3. Each Chapter is required to pay an annual charter fee; amount to be set by the Board. Charter fees are based on the number of current members as of December 31st. Charter fees are billed on January 1st and payable by March 1st.
4. There will no longer be a separate Membership checking account. All membership funds will be deposited to the Corporation checking account.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS for 2020

Corporation (State) Offices up for nominations in 2019: - "Election notification for open Corporation positions will be reported in the Corporation newsletter published during the year's first quarter. Nominations for open positions will be accepted from July 2019 through September 2019."

Coordinator:

1. To oversee the operations of the organization, including Corporation level meetings, events and other functions. The Coordinator is required to direct the organization and maintain organizational cohesiveness.
2. The Coordinator is responsible for public relations and may designate an official spokesperson.
3. Chair all Corporation meetings and the annual general membership meeting.
4. Make all decisions, not requiring Board approval, to ensure continuous operation of the Corporation on a daily basis. The Coordinator is not authorized to obligate corporate funds or assets, sign contracts, exempt individuals or groups from any policies in the Articles of Incorporation and/or Bylaws without Board approval.
5. May only vote at Corporation meetings in the event of a tie.
6. May sign Corporation checks.
7. Authorized to make expenditures benefiting the Corporation, not exceeding \$250.00 annually.
8. Any such other duties that the Corporation shall require.

(continued next page)

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS for 2020 (continued)

Secretary:

1. Record and maintain Corporation meeting minutes, and pertinent documents.
2. Work in conjunction with the Coordinator to establish meeting agendas and provide notification for every Corporation meeting to the Board and Corporation officers.
3. Maintain a current copy of the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws.
4. May sign Corporation checks.

Legislative:

1. Direct the legislative and political goals of the Corporation, both state and federal.
2. Serve as the Corporation's official representative to other Motorcycle Rights Organizations (MRO's).
3. Attend MRO seminars.
 - a. Submit articles to the Corporation newsletter on all conferences attended.
 - b. Submit expense report with receipts to the Treasurer for reimbursement.
4. Maintain communications with Chapter Legislative officers.
5. Maintain current membership for the Corporation in federal and state MRO's.

set the stage >>>

Keep Texas Free!

Call to Action

Friday, 1/11/19, a bill was filed to repeal the current sections of Texas Transportation Code addressing helmet requirements. Specifically, this bill would repeal all exceptions allowing a rider or passenger not to wear a

helmet. If passed, this will turn Texas, a state known for personal freedoms & accountability, back to a mandatory helmet use state. It would be a Class C misdemeanor to operate your motorcycle without a helmet. How can you prevent this from happening?

1. Contact Rep. Victoria Neave to express your disapproval in a clear, deliberate & precise manner
2. Contact your local Rep. & let them know that, as their constituent, you stand firmly against this assault on adult personal choice & accountability
3. Contact our new Speaker of the House, Dennis Bonnen's office to let him know where you stand. As a freshman, he supported our current helmet law as it is written.



Monday, January 28, 2019

Staging begins at 8:00 am

Hardtails Bar & Grill

1515 N. Interstate 35, Georgetown, TX 78628

Depart promptly at 10:30 am

Most Important

Show up! Show up to Rep. Neave's office & politely, but firmly, express your dissent. Regardless of any misguided or emotional motivations presented by Rep. Neave, Texas motorcyclists will not stand by while personal liberties are threatened. We need to stand up, be seen, be heard & put this attempt to bed!

Grim Guardian Clutch

Texas COC&I

*Commander, US Defenders-Region 1
clutchgrim@gmail.com*

Hotel Accommodations

There are still a few rooms available at the Days Inn, 333 N. I-35, Georgetown \$65/night

For reservation number, email

secretary@texasabate.com

BEFORE January 22, 2019

Legislative Report



The Texas 86th Legislative session is well underway. As you are reading this, freedom fighters across the state are getting ready for our "Texas Biker Legislative Day" in Austin—on January 28th! The staging for our motorcycle parade to the Capitol will begin at 8:00 AM, at Hardtail's Bar & Grill, and we will depart for the State Capitol at 10:30 sharp! I've said it before, and I'll say it again—Texas Legislative Day would not be possible without the contributions of the Texas COC&I, COIR, US Defenders, United Clubs of Texas, ABATE, and many, many others—working in unity for a common cause! This 86th legislative session, however, is different from our last 15 sessions. That is because this session, not only are we fighting for bills that would benefit riders in Texas, but this session we are also fighting a bill that is detrimental to our freedom of choice! This session, Texas riders have a mandatory helmet bill to defend—HB 748!

We are optimistic that this next legislative session will be a productive one for all motorcyclists in Texas - we are due to have a "W" in our column! (continued next page)

Legislative Report (continued)

The Texas 86th legislative session will meet for only 140 days, and it will move at a very fast pace. Right now, we need to learn who our members of Congress are; “Who Represents Me”

<https://fyi.capitol.texas.gov/Home.aspx>.

Learn what our motorcycle issues are—and be prepared to explain them to others.

The time has come for us to have a courageous conversation with our elected representatives concerning motorcycle profiling in Texas! On a federal level (115th), S. Res. 154 (promoting awareness of motorcycle profiling) passed unanimously! With anti-profiling laws passed in Washington and, most recently, in Maryland, it has become a top priority in Texas to pass similar legislation! We are optimistic that Texas will be the 3rd state in our Union to pass a law to condemn and prevent motorcycle profiling!

Texas motorcyclists, at the time of this writing, have one motorcycle bill filed for this session-- **SB 273** by Senator Watson. SB 273 relates to the operation and movement of motorcycles on certain highways during periods of traffic congestion (lane sharing). We are also looking for a legislator to sponsor a bill addressing malfunctioning red lights (if traffic light fails to recognize a stopped mc). Texas is also very optimistic that a bill will be introduced to create a separate classification for autocycles, and to register autocycles as such (autocycles should not be classified as motorcycles)! Also, during the upcoming 86th session, the Senate Sunset Review Commission will present a bill to the full legislation -- addressing the Commission’s decision on which agency should administer the motorcycle training courses - and the responsibility for the safety and training fund account (0501).

Please, feel free to contact me at skee.dodson@texasabate.com –anytime. January 28th will be here before you know it – and I hope to see y’all in Austin! Remember, our rights come with responsibilities!

Ride safe, ride free!

Skeedaddy



State Events >>>

- **03/23/19** MEETING, 1 pm
VFW Post 2494
Irving 75061
- **May (TBD)** MEETING, 1 pm
Location TBD
- **07/13/19** MEETING, 1 pm
VFW Post 6111
Arlington 76001
- **9/6-9/8/19** **STATE RALLY**
General Member Meeting
Dad’s Place -Bells, TX
- **11/02/19** MEETING, 1 pm
Mr. Porky’s
Denton 76207

ask the experts >>>

Q: *Where do I send my questions?*

A: *news@texasabate.com*

Have questions about ABATE? Or riding in Texas? Or kid-friendly events? Or which shop to take your ride to? Or “biker-friendly” establishments? Email “Ask the Experts” at news@texasabate.com or you can snail-mail to “Ask the Experts” at Texas Abate Confederation, Inc., 900 Fish Creek Drive, Arlington, TX 76018



Chapter Events

ARLINGTON:

- **3rd Sunday at 12 noon**
VFW Post 6111
1200 W Harris Street
Arlington 76018
- **01/27/19** [Bikers Giving Back-SDMO Awareness](#)
- **02/17/19** [Bikers Giving Back-Arlington Life Shelter](#)
- **03/23/19** [27th Bikers Ball](#)
- **04/14/19** [Bluebonnet Ride](#)
- **05/18/19** [Bike Blessing AND Arlington 2nd Fun Run](#)
- **07/13/19** [Swim Party](#)
- **Oct (TBD)** [Arlington 3rd Fun Run](#)
- **11/17/19** [Bikers Giving Back-Arlington Fire Department](#)

DENTON:

- **4th Sunday at 2:00 pm**
Mr. Porky’s
8430 W University Drive
Denton 76207
- **3/15-3/17/19** [Freeze Ur A\\$\\$ Off](#) at Scruffy’s
- **6/7-6/9/19** [NotRot Rally](#)
- **09/07/19** [Teddy Bear Run](#)
- **10/19/19** [Progressive Dinner Run](#)
- **11/16/19** [Toy Run](#)
- **12/14/19** [Christmas Party](#)

LAKE CITIES:

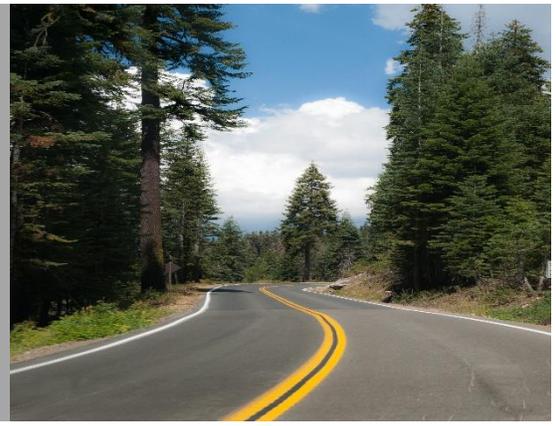
- **2nd Sunday at 1:00 pm**
VFW Post 10460
501 Thompson Drive
Lake Dallas 75065

TEXOMA:

- **3rd Sunday at 1:00 pm**
American Legion Post 62
419 Crawford Street
Denison 75020
- **02/09/19** [Benefit Dinner](#)
- **Oct (TBD)** [Real Fun Poker Run](#)
- **Nov (TBD)** [Freedom Run](#)
- **Dec (TBD)** [Christmas Party](#)

finalthoughts...

We need your help to share information! Please take time to email news@texasabate.com with articles and event flyers. Help us by continuing to support your local ABATE. Ride Easy & Ride Free!



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Special thanks to those who responded to our Newsletter Delivery Survey. We appreciate your participation!

95% of our readers prefer delivery of their Texas Tidbits via website or Facebook download. If you would like a paper copy mailed to your home, please contact your Chapter Rep or Chapter Secretary www.texasabate.com/chapters

Contact us at news@texasabate.com

Please take a moment to help us report what you want to read about. Use the following link to complete a quick survey to assist us in improving our “Texas Tidbits”

www.tinyurl.com/tattreader

This survey will take less than five (5) minutes. Ask questions or provide suggestions. This is YOUR newsletter! Tell us what you want to see.

coming soon >>>

In the Next Issue

“Special Legislative Issue”

Texas Biker Legislative Day

What to Expect

www.texasabate.com



Texas Abate Confederation, Inc.
900 Fish Creek Drive
Arlington, TX 76018

Texas Abate Confederation, Inc. is a not-for-profit, motorcycle rights organization. An alliance dedicated to the protection of the individual rights of motorcyclists through political change and awareness, charitable works, public education and the promotion of motorcycling.

Dedicated to Freedom of the Road

In Hope of Promoting a Better Relationship with the Public for Motorcycle Awareness.