

LIBERTY ABATE NEWS

OCTOBER 2021

By Joel Wannemacher State Board/Legislative officer Liberty Chapter and AbatePac trustee

Hello Liberty! The summer weather is hanging on, giving us a lot of good riding weather, I hope all have been taking advantage of it. Just watch out for those big machines on the roads harvesting the crops, always assume they can not see you! Ride safe, ride smart.

Happenings- The first annual Griff Brunson memorial bike show was attended by many from Liberty, helping make a successful event. Congrats to our President Henry Magee for placing in the trike category. Money was raised that went to Griff's favorite charity, the Shriner's Hospital for Children.

State Board News- Have you been to a State Board meeting? On Saturday October 16th we meet at the Route 66 hotel in Springfield.. On the agenda is nominations for State offices. The next meeting will be December 11, where the voting will take place and following that is the annual Christmas party. ABATE has an open meetings policy, and all meetings are open to all members in good standing.

Legislative News-The federal highway bill has a new tax that ABATE is opposing- the per mile tax. The rate is 8 cents per mile, and will be determined by taking all your vehicles, including motorcycles, to a registered facility to examine your odometer, then billed accordingly. An alternative method is GPS tracker on your vehicle to report mileage. This is an actual pilot program in the bill. The problems with this are enormous, from treating our bikes like they damage the roads the same as a heavy truck to privacy issues. Your board of Directors voted to oppose this provision of the bill. We will be using our resources to fight back against any attempt at a per mile tax. This is where you, the member, come in. WE NEED YOU! Your support of ABATE by renewing your membership and signing up a new member is the only way ABATE can keep doing this work. Without the membership behind us, ABATE will not be able to carry out our work. Sign up a new member today!

Social Media- Trending on twitter and instagram is **#motorcyclesareprimary**. This is in response to the Governors office inserting language in the new energy bill specifically removing motorcycles from vehicles that are eligible for incentives that apply to other electric vehicles. Why does that matter you might ask? Well if our bikes are not primary to the government, then what is next? Banning use altogether? Restricting to certain times or places? This is a very slippery slope, one that does not stop until all of our rights have disappeared.

Scholarships- We still have a \$500 scholarship available to any Liberty family member to help with secondary education costs. See Libertyabate.org. for the application. The State also has a scholarship available see abate-il.org for details.

To see the latest news, schedule updates, pictures from events, go to Libertyabate.org, or Liberty ABATE on Facebook. Renew online through Libertyabate.org or abate-il.org. By mail-PO box 1502 Mattoon IL 61938 In person at our monthly meeting or at any event. You can also contact any officer.

We Need You- to Join ABATE! Still only \$25.