

Heart of the Lakes A.B.A.T.E. Meeting Notes
May 13, 2011
7:30pm

Meeting Place: Zorbaz in Detroit Lakes

People in Attendance: Justin Grotjohn (President, Chapter Rep.), Edgar Burke (Northwest District Director), Lacy Schmidt (Secretary), Crystal Lesko (Treasurer), Noel Harrenstein (Sgt. @ Arms), Gary Kertscher (Sgt. @ Arms), LeAnn Burke, Tammy Rowan, Jeffrey Rowan, Dan Jager, Donald Pope, Anthony Brune, Rob Thiel.

Pledge of Allegiance

Secretary's Report: Last meeting it was noted that we had a very successful annual fundraiser. We sold \$155.00 in chapter products which was awesome compared to past years. Our chapter will have a gain of \$880.37 after the split with the state. Thanks to everyone who helped to make pool and dart a success this year. The VFW also had a phenomenal night the night of our event and we may still be receiving a chapter donation from the post for the extra business our fundraiser brought to the VFW that night. Great job everyone! Big ideas for next year for pool and dart are mainly we need to give some advanced tickets to the bar. They had a ton of requests leading up to the event. **Rob made a motion last meeting to give out the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes for the silent auction items that brought in the most funds like we did as a chapter last year, Joe seconded the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.** 1st place prize will go to Edgar/LeAnn which is one rally ticket and a single membership to ABATE of MN. 2nd place prize will go to Rob Thiel which is one ticket to state rally. 3rd place prize will go to Mort which is one single membership to ABATE of MN. Our chapter has been signed up for four security shifts at state rally on Friday afternoon from noon to four. Advanced tickets are still available at abatemn.org. It is also that time of year again that we need to figure out who is in need of buddy bears. We currently have 19 of them on hand to distribute. Edgar said he would chair a committee for buddy bears and Dan and Gary said they would help him find out who is in need of them and when we could possibly distribute them. Please remember when filling out tri-folds when people are using a credit card that we are including the expiration date of the card so the state can process the transaction. It is also that time of the year that we need to start distributing the dial-a-ride information to the local bars. Sunlite bar on Richwood road is a big supporter of the program. Joe said he would head a committee for the dial-a-ride program. Joe has asked that if anyone is at a bar in the surrounding area and they don't have the information to please contact him and he will make a trip out there and see if they will use the supplies we have available for them. If you need to reach Joe he can be reached at jgrotjohn@gmail.com It has been brought to our attention that Iowa holds their state rally in Algona on 4th of July weekend. It has been brought to our attention that they would be willing to give a free ticket to next years event for anyone who is willing to work a four hour shift at the rally this year. The dates for ABATE U have been chosen for next year! ABATE U will be held April 27-29 2012. May is motorcycle awareness month. We will be having our annual Heart of the Lakes wash out event Saturday May 7, 2011 at the

Frazees rest stop from noon to four. **Dan makes a motion to have the wash out event on the 7th of May at the Frazees rest stop from noon to four, Edgar seconds the motion and the motion was carried unanimously.** Edgar would like everyone to know this will be chapter member Jeffrey Rowan's last year with the Ronald McDonald ride that is held annually at the New York Mills VFW. They are having a hog roast Thursday June 9th in his honor at the campground behind the VFW in New York Mills. **Edgar makes a motion to change the June meeting to the 9th at 7:30 so everyone is there for the support of Jeff and his last year with the RMH ride @ NYM VFW, Todd Murphy seconded the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.**

Rob Makes a motion to accept the secretary's report, Dan seconded the motion, the motion was passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: we currently have a cash balance of \$1935.52 and a petty cash balance of \$50.00. We also have \$143.09 in our chapter's gambling account. We also had 4 new/renewed memberships for the month.

Rob makes a motion to accept the treasurer's report, LeAnn seconds the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Buddy Bear Committee: We currently have 19 buddy bears to distribute. Carsonville (by Ponsford), Wolf Lake, and White Earth all said they would take what they could get. They are still planning to talk to Frazees. Last year we also distributed to Ottertail and they may be interested in receiving some bears again. Remember we can only order bears once a year so we have to work with what we have on hand right now. The group is going to see what they can work out for delivery to the towns that definitely want some bears.

Dial-a-Ride Committee: No further information as the head of the committee was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

Old Business: Thanks to everyone who showed up to help out with the wash out event. We had another very successful year this year. We can do the hog roast wherever we would like at the VFW but we have to be responsible for 100% of any liability. Mel from the VFW would like us to hold it somewhere near the bar as it will draw in a busier crowd. Also the post will be having their monthly meeting that night also. Hog roast will be a free will offering. We would also like to send out a thank you to the New York Mills locker plant for donating some pork for the hog roast. Check with Murphy about getting thank you notes through the state. **Rob makes a motion for Edgar to use up to \$100.00 of chapter funds to make the hog roast happen as there are a few supplies that will be needed, Anthony seconds the motion, the motion was carried unanimously.**

New Business: Anthony has drawn up a patch for the Heart of the Lakes chapter. The patch is just a preliminary and is not colored. We also have a couple computer generated ideas that we could also go with. Anthony has taken a few opinions about what people would like to see and he is going to re-draft his patch a bit so hopefully we can put it to a vote at an upcoming meeting. We now have the dial-a-ride napkins to distribute!! The dial-a-ride people have also distributed coasters to some chapters this year along with the

napkins. Some people are having concerns with the new coasters, they are not sending the right message we are trying to send with the program. People are definitely not impressed that their main focal point of the coaster is a set of hand cuffs and there is no number to call to use the program if it is needed. We can not find a bar in our local area that is willing to even take the coasters as they are sending the wrong message of what we are trying to do. Even local bars that are big users and supporters of the program do not want the coasters. People are seeing them as more of a threat than help. Justin now has the raffle tickets for the bike raffle at state rally. ABABTE is looking to broadcast a public service announcement for motorcycle safety. It has been brought up that they are looking for ideas on which station(s) to use. If you have any ideas please feel free to contact Edgar. Just a reminder handicapped license plates are now available for motorcycles. The July BOD meeting will be held the 16th in Kimball. The October BOD meeting will be held in Thief River Falls and more information will follow for the October BOD as we find out more. Edgar also has memorial patches available for Bill Sazma who passed away earlier this year. Patches are \$10.00 and can be purchased from Edgar.

Upcoming Meetings:

June 9th @ NYM VFW area 7:30pm

July 8th @Donald Popes Home 7:30pm

August 19th @ Edgar and LeAnn's Home 7:30pm

LeAnn makes a motion to adjourn meeting, Crystal seconds the motion, motion was passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned 8:15pm