

Heart of the Lakes A.B.A.T.E. Meeting Notes  
September 16, 2011  
7:30pm

**Meeting Place:** Fall Down event 40277 Co. Rd. 126 Rochert, MN

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

**Visitors:** Robert Rono

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Secretary's Report:** Joe has been working on getting more bars to participate in our dial-a-ride program thus far he has several places lined up including the riverside bar in Hawley, Lake Park municipal liquor store/bar, the road house, Cormorant pub, and Zorbaz on pelican lake. Whiskey river bar in Ottertail was also looking to ask their alcohol vendors to support getting another trailer for that area of the chapter. Lake Park municipal was going to do the same for a trailer for that separate area of the chapter. Buddy bear delivery is set for September 8<sup>th</sup>. Everyone will meet at four corners at 6pm to make a round to deliver. There will be a vote on the enhanced penalty bill at the October BOD meeting. Heart of the Lakes chapter is signed up for a security shift at state rally Friday afternoon from noon to four. Rally raffle tickets need to be turned in by August 24<sup>th</sup> for chapter credit. Chapter website dues are due again and **a motion was made by Edgar to Repay Joe for renewing the yearly website membership, Rob seconded the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.** We also need to start thinking about our annual pool and dart tournament and where we would like to have it. **Rob Makes a motion to accept the secretary's report, Edgar seconds the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.**

**Treasurer's Report:** Currently we have a cash balance of \$1909.52 and a Petty cash balance of \$50.00. We also have \$466.97 in our chapter's Gambling fund. \$100.00 was taken out of our balance for our chapter's insurance policy. There were no new/renew memberships for the past month

**Dan makes a motion to accept the treasurer's report, Noel seconds the motion, the motion was passed unanimously.**

**Buddy Bear Committee:** Buddy bear delivery did not work out on September 8<sup>th</sup> as planned. White Earth never did respond to our call to see if they would like buddy bears so delivery is still just planned for Ponsford and Wolf Lake. After some group discussion on what dates worked for who it has been planned that delivery will be rescheduled for Saturday October 1<sup>st</sup>. Edgar will post a time and place to meet on facebook.

**Noel makes a motion to accept the buddy bear committee report, Anthony seconds the motion, the motion was passed unanimously.**

**Other:** Remember February 8<sup>th</sup> is biker day at the capitol. There is a bus that picks up in Fergus Falls and Alexandria. Todd Riba has been in communication with Edgar about getting a “northern” bus and was trying to get the state to pay for half of the cost if we can get the “northern” chapters to equally divide the other half of the cost of the bus, approximately \$250.00 per chapter. If we could make this happen we could be able to get a bus pick up much closer to home for the five northern chapters. We are still in the early planning stages of getting a bus for this area and if everyone makes the same commitment we might be able to make it easier for all the northern chapters. **Rob makes a motion to contribute \$250.00 to pay for our chapter’s part of the “northern” bus for biker day at the capitol as long as we can get support from the other chapters for the cost coverage, Edgar seconds the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.** We will try to get commitments from other chapters by the October BOD meeting. Rob is interested in going to Washington D.C. to lobby the event is called bikers on the beltway. Rob has been on this kind of trip before and has no idea what costs for the trip are going to run but would like to get the information out there. He is asking for the chapter to keep an open mind and he would very much appreciate the chapter trying to support him on this and help make this lobbying trip happen if possible.

**Old Business:** Enhanced Penalty bill will be voted on at the October BOD meeting. As a chapter we need to decide how we would like to vote on that issue so Justin can properly vote for the chapter. **Rob Makes a motion that we increase attendance by 20% at biker day increase PAC donations by 50 cents for each new/renewed member when the tri-folds go to reprint, and that each chapter designates a Legislative coordinator to help write letters to our elected officials, Edgar seconds the motion, motion was passed unanimously** **Edgar makes a motion to donate 50 cents of each ticket sold to our chapter’s annual pool and dart event to the PAC, Noel seconds the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.**

**Pool and Dart:** For the past couple years we have held our annual pool and dart tournament in March instead of February when we used to host the event. When we do in March the weather just seems more cooperative for people to want to come out and they are excited to come out and do something after a long winter indoors. If we are planning for March again this year we are tentatively looking at March 17<sup>th</sup> as a date since that is the third weekend as we have done in the past. **Edgar makes a motion that if the VFW in New York Mills is available for the date of March 17, 2012 we have our annual chapter fundraiser there again, Noel seconds the motion, the motion was passed unanimously.** We would like to have a pool and dart committee so they can pan things out with the location in between meetings. Justin, Edgar and Rob have volunteered to be the pool and dart committee. This year we need to get some advanced tickets to the bar so they can sell them too as there were many requests last year and they didn’t have any. The last thing for pool and dart we need to think about is price for just band admission. People always get angry when they just come to see the band and have to pay the same as everyone else did for the whole day. After much discussion that never resulted in an answer we have decided to table the topic for next meeting.

**Rally Info:** Since the turn out for state rally has been declining steadily for years they have decided that something needs to be done to save our state rally. They are considering changing the rally to the weekend before Labor Day weekend instead of the annual Labor Day weekend. As a chapter we need to send our vote on this matter to the October BOD Meeting. Rally would still be held at the Meeker County fair grounds in Litchfield, MN. **Donald makes a motion to give the weekend before Labor Day Weekend a try for a few years and see if that helps bring in more people top our state rally, Edgar seconds the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.**

**Upcoming meeting dates:**

October 21<sup>st</sup> @ Joe and Julie Grotjohn's home in Hawley 7:30pm

November 18<sup>th</sup> @ NYM VFW 7:30pm

December 9<sup>th</sup> place to be determined 7:30 pm

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

Meeting Adjourned 8:30pm