

TIGER TALES - DECEMBER, 2012

A hearty hello to my Riding Community as we get ready to close out an eventful 2012! As I begin this, I'd like to request all of you to have a good thought and a prayer for the victims of Hurricane Sandy that are trying to recover from so much devastation in the Northeastern U.S. I hope all of you are getting ready to take part in a full slate of activities that all your ABATE Chapters are hosting to benefit those less fortunate among us as the Holiday Season approaches. December will begin with the Naysayers MC, members of which are in our Chapter, launching its 33rd Annual Toy Parade in Midwest City the first Sunday of the month, and our Central OK District will be kicking off its 20th Annual Feed the Children Toy Parade a week later. Check out our Chapter Website at www.codabate.org <<http://www.codabate.org/>> for more information. By the time you read this, we will have honored our Military by hosting our sixteenth annual November 11 Veterans' Day Run to the State Capitol War Memorial Park. Many thanks to all of you for taking the time to pay tribute to our Armed Forces who have sacrificed so much to safeguard our Freedom. Who can appreciate that more than we who dedicate ourselves to defending Motorcycling Liberty?

On the heels of what I felt was a successful ABATE Party on the Plains (where COD hosted the People Games), Central OK District held a Chili Cookoff the second weekend of October at the Tailgate Grill to benefit the Oklahoma City Infant Crisis Center. Over ten participants submitted delicious and varied types of chili, and there wasn't a bad batch in the bunch! There were lots of Door Prizes to give away, and the 50/50 winner walked away with a pretty nice chunk of change. Thanks to all who worked so hard for this successful event, especially Scott and Amy Schulz. I was especially gratified to see so many families with kids attend, as well as younger riders who enjoyed a great time with their greybeard counterparts! This fun event helped set the stage for our Chapter Elections the following week, and I'd like to congratulate our Chapter Officers for the 2013 term. Stick was re-elected as our Vice-President, and Pat McManus will serve another term as Chapter Representative to the State Board. Additionally, Tonya Vires was elected as Secretary, Amos Tallbear as Treasurer, Scott Schulz and John Dries as Sgts-at-Arms, and Denise Titus as our Alternate Chapter Representative. Oh yeah, I was re-elected Chapter President, and I look forward to continuing to work closely with the Chapter and State Officers as we continue to make Oklahoma the best state in which to ride.

Knowledge is power, and one of the ways our Motorcycling Community stays politically powerful is through information sharing. Over 210 Motorcycling Rights activists from a five-state region got together for the 21st Annual Mid-South MILE Seminars October 26-28 in Fayetteville Arkansas. I was privileged to give a presentation entitled "NCOM, SMROs and COCs: Partners in Liberty" about how Freedom Fighters in these Organizations work together in an environment of Unity, Cooperation and Respect to meet challenges and threats facing all Motorcyclists regardless of background. The 2013 MILE

will take place in Oklahoma, so keep watching the ABATE State Website and www.midsouthmile.org <<http://www.midsouthmile.org/>> for more information! Over 300 Motorcyclists and Trikers attended the last OK Confederation of Clubs Meeting November 4 in Bartlesville, where we were able to discuss ABATE's preparation for the 2013 Legislative Session and the upcoming NCOM Region 2 Conference November 17 in Dallas TX. This six-state regional get-together will feature educational seminars on diverse topics including challenges for the Sport Bike community, which seems to be the latest incarnation of the Negative Biker Stereotype. The Conference will also feature a Rights Forum with multiple SMROs represented, a regional Confederation of Clubs summit, and a Christian Unity get-together. You can obtain more information at www.aimncom.com <<http://www.aimncom.com/>> and check out a Meeting Agenda at the COD Website. Please make plans to attend-I'll look forward to seeing you! Also, check out the OK Confederation Website at www.okcoc.net <<http://www.okcoc.net/>> and see what our EIGHTY member groups are doing to improve our working together in the cause of Freedom!

Tiger's Tip O' The Month: In a very short time, we'll welcome the arrival of winter, and the challenges of Winter Riding along with it. First, be sure to ride with extra awareness for those inattentive motorists not expecting motorcycles to be sharing the road with them in cold weather. Also, prepare your machine for the extra stress of winter by making sure components like batteries and tires are in good shape or replaced, and that you're dressing in layers to avoid the slow-developing negative effects of hypothermia and frostbite. Increase your awareness of possible ice or windy conditions which can cause you to lose control. Winter Riding in Oklahoma can be exhilarating and joyous-if you're properly prepared for it!

As we get ready to close the books on 2012, I want to thank all of you, regardless of political affiliation, for getting out there and voting in what I'm sure will turn out to be one of the singularly momentous elections in American History. Voting is one of the most precious rights we have as American Citizens and one our Military keeps in harm's way to protect. Don't squander that Right or take it for granted-take your role seriously and vote every Election Day! Remember: When you Vote, the Choice is yours; if you don't, the Choice is THEIRS! I'm very grateful, especially during Thanksgiving, for the privilege of living in a Nation that cherishes Liberty such as ours, and for working with such special folks as my ABATE Family to help keep it free! I wish good health and happiness to you all, even as some of us face health challenges with our loved ones and some of our ABATE Members recover from recent Bike Wreck injuries. Hang in there, Bulldog, Ray-Man and Radar! Best wishes to you and yours for a very Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas, and I look forward to our celebration of a bright and prosperous New Year. We're certainly going to kick off 2013 the right way as we get together for the Oklahoma SMILE at the OKC Biltmore in January! Check out a flyer at www.abateofoklahoma.org <<http://www.abateofoklahoma.org/>>

Keep It On The Black Strip Between The Trees,

Tiger Mike