

Hello, Friends-

Here is my July Tiger Tales article for you to check out-Hope you enjoy it. Feel free to share it with your friends. Have a great rest of the month!

All the best,

Tiger Mike Revere

Proud Lifetime Member #001, ABATE of Oklahoma, Inc.

### **TIGER TALES – JULY, 2012**

Hey, everyone in our Riding Family! I hope all of you are staying hydrated and beating the heat in what looks like is going to be another long, hot summer. Remember to do what you can to avoid the Heat Stress which can negatively impact both yourself and your machine. I'm excited about celebrating another anniversary of American Independence July 4<sup>th</sup>, and I hope you are too. I'm also looking forward to my 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday coming up on the 15<sup>th</sup>. To quote Mickey Mantle, a famous Oklahoman and one of my childhood heroes: "If I'd known I was going to live this long, I'd have taken better care of myself!" At least I'm still traveling in the company of dear riding Brothers and Sisters, which sure beats the alternative!

I was privileged to reaffirm that sense of belonging at this year's 27<sup>th</sup> Annual NCOM Convention, which took place May 10-13 in Indianapolis, IN. The Indiana Confederation of Clubs and ABATE of Indiana hosted an educational and informative event, which attracted over a thousand motorcyclists and Trikers from all over the Nation. The Convention provided opportunity to celebrate Michigan's establishing Freedom of Choice regarding Helmet Wear for adult riders, after a 37-year campaign. Heartfelt thanks to all in the Michigan Confederation of Clubs and ABATE that worked so hard for so long to make this happen! I'm especially appreciative of folks like MCOC's Lobbyist Angel, who was always at the Capitol in Lansing, and now is lobbying for Biker Freedom in Tennessee. She's a dear friend! The NCOM Convention focused on issues such as Motorcycle-Only Checkpoints in New York and Georgia, which HR904 advancing in Washington has been trying to de-fund. Go to [www.mrf.org](http://www.mrf.org) for more information. With New York's District Court upholding the legality of these Checkpoints, NCOM Attorneys could eventually bring this matter to the U.S. Supreme Court! There were a number of interesting seminars presented throughout the week, but a high point for me occurred during the Regional sessions, when our OK Confederation Board Members including ABATE each spoke to the group of over 200 on how successfully Bikers in Oklahoma work together in an atmosphere of Unity, Cooperation and Respect to make our state the best place in which to ride! We'll have further opportunity to expand on what makes things work in the Sooner State at the six-state NCOM Region 2 Conference scheduled for Saturday, November 17 in DeSoto TX. As NCOM Region 2 Director, I'm starting to plan with the Texas COCs, so I'll keep you updated! At the Silver Spoke Awards Banquet, South Dakota State Sen. Jim "Putter" Putnam received the Ron Roloff Lifetime Achievement Award. He'll be joining us for the Mid-South M.I.L.E. Biker Rights Seminars this October in Fayetteville, Arkansas. Lastly, the museum across the street from the hotel is hosting an "Iron Ponies" exhibit of antique, custom and landmark motorcycles until August 5. Bikes

featured included the Panheads from "Easy Rider" and "The Wild Angels", Evel Knievel's Sportster, and numerous old Indians and Harleys among other makes. It's an exceptionally interesting exhibit worth visiting if you're in Indy this summer!

Closer to home, LB52 is dead in Nebraska, so the Mandatory Helmet Law is still in place, as are Helmet Enforcement Checkpoints which will not allow you to proceed unless you're wearing a DOT-Compliant Helmet. Be very careful if you're headed that way en-route to Sturgis. Frankly, I'd recommend steering clear of the Cornhusker State entirely-Vote your conscience with your Tourist Dollars! Also, the jury is still out on Missouri's Senate bill authorizing Freedom of Choice after two House bills died in committee, but we'll receive an update by next month. Keep your fingers crossed-If MO achieves Helmet Freedom, you'd be able to leave it behind for the entire 110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary trip to Milwaukee in 2013!

COD ABATE's Twentieth Annual War Memorial Run to the Oklahoma State Capitol was held on May 28<sup>th</sup>, with over 300 Bikes, Trikes, and Four-Wheeled Vehicles taking part on a very hot day! COD Member Robbie Wicker was Road Captain again, and took us past the VA Medical Center where patients in front greeted our little Oklahoma Rolling Thunder! I was privileged to speak again on behalf of the Biker Community during the services, and everyone headed afterward to TWO luncheons, at the American Legion Post #73 in Del City and at the K-Saloon on High Ave. at Grand Blvd. Many thanks to both those Biker-Friendly establishments for their graciousness and hospitality! Be sure to join us for our Veterans' Day Parade on Sunday, November 11-keep checking out [www.codabate.org](http://www.codabate.org)

**TIGER'S TIP O' THE MONTH:** Bikers Nationwide are planning to follow Washington's lead in getting Biker Profiling outlawed, but to be honest, I profile drivers all the time to ensure my riding safety on the Road! For example: motorists driving with Handicapped Placards hanging from their mirrors-the ones that say "Important: Do Not Display While Driving". I'd give them a wide berth, as I do anyone I see Driving Distracted. It's far better to slow down on your bike, see and avoid-arrive at your destination safely!

Well, that'll do it for this month. As I close, I want to thank all members who worked at the Central OK District ABATE Information and Merchandise Booth at the Biker or Not.com Reunion and Party at Margarita Island in Oklahoma City June 1-3. The 50/50 Winner received \$210.00, which also benefited the Oklahoma Brain Tumor Foundation. While I represented ABATE at the Oklahoma Confederation of Clubs Presidents Meeting in Elk City, hosted by the Downed Bikers Association Western Plains Chapter on June 3, COD ABATE closed out the weekend with another Meet and Greet featuring Tallbear's delicious Indian Tacos, which were completely sold out. All told, we signed up TWENTY-FIVE ABATE Members over the three-day weekend! Thanks for listening, Ride Safely, Sober and Aware, and I'd look forward to seeing you in August. Stay Cool!!

Keep It On The Black Strip Between The Trees,

Tiger Mike