

ABATE of WI Lobby Day & Reception

With the Wisconsin Senate schedule not being announced until after the first of the year, ABATE of WI had its hands full organizing a lobby day to promote some of our agenda for 2007. I'm proud to announce that we had a great turnout in spite of this and no legislators can say they weren't informed on the issues that concern motorcyclists in Wisconsin. ABATE addressed concerns about two bills currently circulating in the Assembly, one having to do with cellphone use while driving, and the other having to do with licensing concerns with the elderly. We also were there to ask for funding for our plan to reduce impaired riding by motorcyclists. We were well received by our legislators and more information about it will be available in our June newsletter. Our reception afterwards



was also well attended and gave our members the opportunity to talk with their legislators in a more social atmosphere. ABATE would like to thank the St. Croix Valley Riders for their donation that helped offset the costs of hosting this event. If you would like more information about our position on these bills or would like to join ABATE of WI and protect your rights as a motorcyclist, please visit our website at abatewis.org.



Jerry and Tom

"Biker Day at the Capitol" as seen by Preacher

Just a quick note on my day at the Capitol in Madison for "Biker Day at the Capitol" held Feb. 20th. I have never been to the capitol for this reason, and the time spent was very interesting.

Accompanied by Tom Barten and Ron Wallace we headed to our first scheduled meeting with Amy Sue Vruwink. She took time out of a meeting to listen to our thoughts and get an idea of what is important to us. Amy Sue does attend the Memorial Day Blue Knights ride from Rapids to the King Veteran home, so she does enjoy the time on 2-wheels. It is also at this time I met Allen of Wisconsin Rapids, who got the Day off school to attend the "Lobby Day" with his dad. This was his first time to the Capitol, and from all the pictures he was taking, he was definitely having fun.

Next stop was Jerry Piotrowski of the 86th district. He also came down out of a meeting to meet with us. The 45 minutes spent with Jerry talking the issues regarding motorcycles was real rewarding while we discussed senior drivers, and drivers that are on their cell phones, road surfaces, the "share the road" program, just to name a few items. Jerry himself rides a bike, so he is in touch with what we are looking for.

The other two scheduled meetings were with Senator Julie Lassa and my most looked forward to meeting with Rep. Louis Molepske Jr. who were both no shows due to one reason or another but their staff listened for a time to us.

So do I recommend you attend "Lobby Day", Yep!! See you next year.



Amy Sue, Tom, Ron and 9 year old Allen

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