

Greetings!!

Hoping everyone has settled in for the cold! That was a rather quick Autumn/Fall...

First off let's all remember those who have served this country unselfishly. I know that I am one month late but our Veterans should always be at our forefront and never be forgotten.

I would like to discuss why ABATE of Washington is considering changing from a 501c4 to a 501c3. This was also discussed in last months newsletter and at BOD.

Washington State Gambling Commission has decided, per state law, that ABATE of Washington does not qualify for a gambling license as a 501c4 and unless we change to a 501c3, our gambling license will be pulled and there will be no more fundraisers, raffles, 50/50, etc. You all should have received a 'ballot' to make your choice. It was sent out to all members of ABATE who have a valid email on file, is current in membership status and has not 'opted' out of emails from Constant Contact and/or ABATE of Washington.

STEAM/BOD was very well attended and hopefully informational to you. Getting everyone together yearly helps us all exchange ideas, learn how to make each group successful and encourage growth to ABATE of Washington!

There is a group working on next year's Spring Opener. The logistics and coordination of many that it takes to put it together is something else! We strive to make it better each and every year.

Black Friday is also fast approaching. Please, reach out to the legislators for your area and set up meetings. More information will be forthcoming so please stay tuned.

Nominations for several 'officer positions will be held at the January BOD meeting. **Per Policy 7.1 ELECTION OF STATE OFFICERS:** Nominations for State Executive Officer positions will be entertained only at the January Board of Directors meeting. Qualifications for officer positions are under **Bylaws 6.3 EXECUTIVE OFFICER QUALIFICATIONS/ELIGIBILITY.** If you or someone you know is interested in being an officer and meets the qualifications, please consider running.

Happy Holidays to you all. May you share your table with loved ones, family, friends and neighbors.

Andy McAfee
State Coordinator