



## **BOARD HIGHLIGHTS**

### **August 2021**

Since 2000, the Deaf Bikers of America (DBA) has been in existence on an informal basis, meeting every five years; 2000, 2005, 2010, 2015 and 2020 postponed to 2021 in Sturgis, South Dakota during annual Sturgis rallies. During the 2015 DBA rally, Deaf bikers agreed that the DBA group needed to become formalized in order to accept donations through a nonprofit status. Since 2017, Deaf bikers voluntarily jumped in to become board members helping with getting the DBA incorporated with an official nonprofit status. The DBA name and logo were trademarked for Deaf Bikers to identify with our Deaf Bikers. Board highlights since 2017 are as follows:

- Incorporated by the State of South Dakota
- Obtained nonprofit status
- Branded DBA logo with its official trademark
- Fund raised over \$11,000 for the foundation's operations and 2021 DBA rally.
- Manage the DBA website including the 2021 DBA rally information is up and running.
- Partner with Route 1 (formerly Route 66 productions) to manage the Store on DBA apparel.
- Monitor DBA Facebook
- Rescheduled 2020 DBA Rally to 2021 DBA Rally from 80<sup>th</sup> to 81<sup>st</sup> Annual Sturgis Rally because of the pandemic.
- Sold DBA patches to Bikers.
- Thanked donors with DBA patches.

- Developed DBAF Advisory Committee Guidelines.
- Obtained sponsors and donors to help with the 2020, and now 2021 DBA Rally event.

Under the leadership of Ben Soukup as its president of the DBA Foundation with the original board members; Peter Bailey; Vice President, Bobbie Beth Scoggins; Secretary, Paul Stefurak; Treasurer and Board at Large; Bennie Lacks and Bobby Skedsmo, their leadership and volunteerism are deeply appreciated.

Following the 2020 DBA rally postponement, we have had new board members; Kelby Brick, BevJean Charles, Steve Longo and Richard McCowin replacing Paul Stefurak, Bennie Lacks and Bobby Skedsmo. Special recognition and acknowledgment must go to Patty Kuglitsch for her behind the scene support in doing various DBA projects from Day One helping and supporting in getting the DBA Foundation off the ground. Also, Bennie Lacks for his role in selling DBA patches. Each board member contributed greatly in web maintenance, fund raising and monitoring FaceBook pages among many other tasks required of board members.

Special recognition goes to Tri-Chairs; Byron Bridges, Bobbie Beth Scoggins and David Soukup for their work in staging the 2020 DBA Rally. When the 2020 rally was postponed, the current chair Jeff Willoughby and his committee picked up the work and carried on to a great 2021 DBA rally.

Last, but not least, the Board appreciates Deb Kuglitsch's graphic design work including the original 2020 DBA Rally web pages for the DBA Foundation.

Furthermore, the Board wishes you safe journey to Sturgis and see you at the Kickstands. Live to ride! Ride to Live!