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The Bailing Wire

ABATE of CA. Newsletter for Motorcyclists Volume XXVIII

ISSUE XI

November 2009

**A Union of Motorcyclists
 Dedicated to Freedom of the Road**



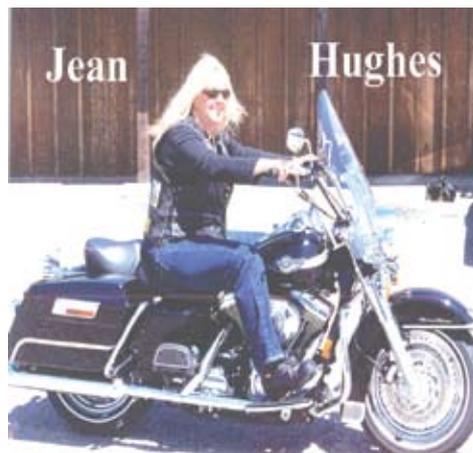
Legislative Report

by Jean Hughes, Legislative Director

This will be my last column as the Legislative Director for ABATE of CA. It has been my honor to work with so many wonderful people who care about their freedom and are willing to work to preserve a way of life that is quickly being eroded in America today. I have learned so much about how our Government works; some of it good and some of it down right scary. But I know this is still the best system out there and I am grateful that I was born on American soil.

It is frustrating, and somewhat hard for me to believe, that even though we have routinely gathered 7000 - 8000 letters of support for an issue, we have still not been able to gain the votes to meet our objectives. I believe that we should remain strong in our conviction to work through the legislature and the best hope for success in that arena is by working with candidates. I know there are many who routinely take the time and make the sacrifice to work with local candidates and they are the people who deserve the respect of all the bikers of California. All of our legislative victories of the past decade

(modifying handlebar height laws, stopping lane sharing bans, instituting tougher requirements for right-of-way violations, modifying red light regulations) are because of the folks who have taken the time to work campaigns. I hope that ABATE of CA will stay true to its grassroots efforts and continue to work campaigns.



I am leaving the PAC Committee in good hands, with Jim Lombardo (our Lobbyist) as the Legislative Director and Dennis

Stalter remaining as co-Legislative Director. Both of these men have worked tirelessly on behalf of ABATE and the riders of CA and I know they will serve you all well in the future.

2010 Legislation and Issues: SB 435 is still out there, as a smog check bill. Senator Pavley's approach seems to be to encourage local City Councils to issue Resolutions in Support of SB 435, since her bill was not getting the needed votes on the Senate floor. ABATE of CA was able to stop the Los Angeles City Council from issuing such a Resolution. Thank you to those who took the time to go to the Council meetings and convince the members that this bill is bad legislation. Be vigilant in your community against noise ordinances and Resolutions supporting SB 435.

Noise: ABATE has been warning its members for over a decade that noise would be an issue that could result in tough laws and measures against the riding community. Our objective has simply been to remind people to use common courtesy and common sense when enjoying that sound we all love - a well running motorcycle going down the road. Unfortunately, so many people

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ABATE is a motorcyclists' rights organization (not a club) dedicated to preserving freedom of choice and freedom of the road, with emphasis on education and safety. Our members are active in programs for public awareness and motorcycle safety, and in supporting many types of charity events.

Included with an ABATE membership are a sew-on patch, membership card, and our monthly newsletter THE BAILING WIRE. There are no special requirements for joining aside from an interest in promoting motorcyclists' rights and safety with payment of the appropriate fees.

ABATE Info or Message Line

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Region 7: Linda Wright 818/400-8419

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David Morena 916/616-9605

Lee "Sporty" Milligan 818/361-8800

Tim Tennimon 714/761-9502

Cynthia Witthans 760/946-0366

Jean from page 1

ple seem to think it is their right to shake the windows in every home or business they pass. Now that attitude is biting us all as there is serious movement afoot to institute new noise requirements. The American Motorcycle Association (AMA) has developed model legislation for municipalities to use to "adopt fair and objective" laws relating to motorcycle noise. The Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) have developed a new Standard J2825, which establishes instrumentation, test site, test conditions, procedures, measurement and sound level limits which are part of the model legislation. The ABATE PAC Committee will have to delineate an official position with regard to noise legislation, as the issue is too hot to ignore.

On a personal note: I want to say thank you to the many people who have been so supportive and have provided constructive input to the PAC and the Board while I have served in these positions. I have always tried to make sure that all perspectives were heard and al-

lowed the PAC Committee to be the guiding force for the PAC. I have made many life long friends and had some wonderful rides and adventures, for that I thank you!!! For those that are curious, I will be spending more time on Service and Mission projects to share the love and freedom that I have found in Jesus with those who are interested in hearing. If you have questions about making Jesus Lord of your life, I welcome the conversation! Take care, and God Bless, Jean

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ABATE of California Inc. neither endorses nor promotes the services of any particular Law Firm. We are committed to working with all MROs including NCOM, MRF, AMA, MMA and any other motorcycle rights organization that strengthens our lobby on legislative issues and on motorcycle safety.

Mission Statement

ABATE of California is committed to protect and promote the interests of the motorcycle community. ABATE exists to preserve and safeguard the individual rights and liberties of all riders thru political and legislative action. ABATE promotes motorcycle safety through education, training and public awareness.

Donations to ABATE Of California are not deductible for Federal income tax purposes. However, dues and fees may qualify as business expenses and may be deductible in limited circumstances subject to various restrictions imposed by the Internal Revenue Code.

MAIL-IN BALLOT

ABATE of California Board of Director's for 2010-2011.

Vote for one or no more than 6. Couple members can vote twice.

Ballots must be postmarked **NO later than December 10, 2009.**

Candidate bios are on pages 5 and 6.

- Lee "Sporty" Milligan
 - Cynthia Witthans
 - Tom A. Lubbers
 - Sarge Matthews
 - Tony Jaime
 - David Walsh
- Freedom Fighter Award 2009**
- Lee "Sporty" Milligan

(Membership number is with your name at the bottom of page 1)

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EDITOR

John (Milky) Loudermilk

PRODUCTION & PROOFREADERS

Carol Cromwell & Caroline Griffith

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Daryl Adams, Lana O'Brien, Gill

Mellen & all our Members

COLUMNISTS

Bill Bish, John Del Santo, Deacon,

Moxxsie, Splatt & Wild Child

DEADLINES

All run flyers and ad copy will be camera ready. Deadline is the 15th of the month prior to publication for ALL material for publication. bailing.wire@abate.org

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PHOTOS

If you have any photos of ABATE motorcycle events please send them to us. They will be returned if you ask. Please include name of event, date, sponsor, etc. Must be received by the 10th of the month. You can email pictures in .jpg file to: bailing.wire@abate.org

Lobbyist Report

by James Lombardo Sr, Lobbyist

The Legislature returned in mid October to more Special Sessions called by Governor Schwarzenegger. He has called *twelve*, so far, in his tenure as Governor. This is the most by any recent Governor in California's history. The budget crises have been the main reason for calling these sessions, but water, education funding and others have popped up as well. And, experts are predicting even more with all the spending cuts and state employee furloughs, the state may already be down another \$1 billion, or so, in income from their predictions when they passed the last fix-it budget in August.

I am watching all these Special Session activities, since our motorcycle smog inspection/noise bill could be inserted into any legislation during one of these deliberations. I would, of course, send out an immediate alert should this occur. Hopefully, our elected officials have enough to deal with, and will leave us alone until next year.

Please keep gathering signatures on our petitions opposing Senator Pavley's SB 435 until I say *enough!* Keep sending the completed petitions to Carol, at the ABATE state office. We will need all the petitions in the office about two weeks before the bill is set to be heard in the Assembly Transportation Com-

mittee; that is expected to be in mid January. Individual letters opposing SB 435 should still be sent to the Committee Chairman, Mike Eng, and to the Governor, as well. I picked up over 8,000 petitions in San Jose at the last ABATE Board meeting on October 10. That's about half of what we need. I would like to cover the table with them at the hearing when SB 435 is heard in Assembly Transportation Committee; so we have our work cut out for us!



At the last Board meeting we discussed many issues during the PAC session, including the upcoming election in Assembly District 72 to fill former Assemblyman Mike Duvall's seat. Tim Tennimon, Gill Mellen and Johnny O'Kane volunteered to meet personally with the various candidates to see how they stand on our issues. We will have recommendations for the Locals before the election on November 17, so please take one day and help a motorcyclist-friendly candidate return to that seat!

Both parties will be paying attention as to who shows up to work the election — so we don't want to be among the missing!

Get ready for a full legislative agenda on our plates in January — Pavley's smog test bill for bikes (or whatever else it morphs into), SB 1205 — our helmet repeal bill, possibly a bill banning, or tightening up on lane sharing and now that the American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) has proposed "model legislation," maybe a bill aimed specifically to reduce excessive motorcycle exhaust noise. It looks like cars and trucks with loud exhausts, booming car and residence stereos, noisy construction equipment, and annoyingly loud garden equipment, etc., also need to be specifically targeted for noise reductions too, if bikes are.

Plus, the Primary is on June 8, 2010 and the General Election on November 2, 2010. I will also be working on a new 2010 Voters' Guide and endorsements for candidates. So, look for a busy year for all of us in 2010.

Have a nice Thanksgiving & Ride Safe!

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Assemblymember Jose` Solorio's Birthday reception by Yvonne Tennimon

Shortly after the ABATE State Run there was a Birthday reception held in Orange County for Assemblyman Solorio that some of us were able to attend. A photo op with Gill, Spike, Ryan, Johnny O', Tim & and I.

It presented a nice opportunity to be able to speak with the Assemblyman about our issues and some of the local topics as well.



2009 State Run Raffle Report by Tina Sanders, 2009 State Run Raffle Coordinator

Thank you to all that donated raffle prizes for the ABATE state run, without your donations the raffle wouldn't have been a success!

Members that donated were: Jerry McClure, Jean Hughes, Peter Daniels, Cynthia Witthans, Sporty Milligan, Dave & Carol Hastings, Tony Jaime, Sharon, Laura Capron, Jim & Debbie Harmon, Widowmakers, Lil' David, Deacon, Lady Kay, Judy, Swanee, Diane Grant, Fran & John Del Santo, Teach Anderson, Essa DePew and Lori Adams. Thank YOU!

Locals that donated were: 00, 01, 02, 06, 11, 13, 17, 20, 23, 25, 27, 28, 38, 40, 44, 47 & 58.

Businesses that donated were: Monster Bike, Desperados Leather Apparel, Valley Fence, Grumpy Bears, Sierra Mountain Sports, Frandy Campground, Kernville Bear Store, El Rio Mexican Food, Central Park Deli, El Jacalito, Bikercrap.com, All That Glitters, Charla's Tools, Motorcycle Madness and Renegades Classics.

A special thanks to; Essa DePew, Carol Cromwell, Sporty Milligan, Jim Nickla and Steve Broughton for working the raffle booth. Daniel for pulling tickets and last, but not, least Ken Samples for keeping me on time.

If I forgot somebody, I apologize now. Thanks again to everyone!



Rodney

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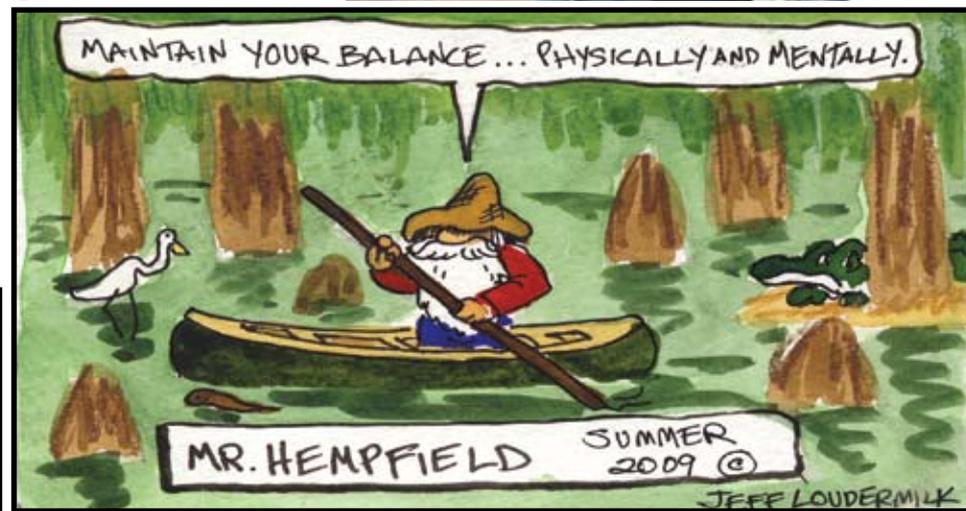
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Bios for Nominees for the ABATE Board of Directors

Lee 'Sporty' Milligan III



Hello ABATE Freedom Fighters! Sporty here and I am requesting your attention. Yes, I am again running for the Board of Directors. I still feel energized to carry on for another 2 years. I know you know my insight and tact and that I have been a Board member for several years. I have also served as your Membership Chairman for several years. I am currently President and Treasurer of ABATE Local 1, too.

I still am committed to doing my part to try and make things better for all California motorcycle riders. So with that said, I believe I am the man for the job on the Board of Directors. Working together we can make a difference.

Regards, Sporty.

Cynthia Witthans



Hi! My name is Cynthia Witthans and I am a Life member of Local 44 (High Desert). I have been around the motorcycling life-style since I was old enough for my Dad to sit me on the tank of a bike and graduated to sitting behind him as a passenger, and have been riding my own bike for awhile now.

I joined ABATE in 1998 looking for someone to ride with and to find a group that cared as much as I about the "rights of motorcyclists", and at the first meeting I was "hooked" on ABATE. I am also a member of the Patriot Guard Riders (2005), and have gone on quite a few of those support rides.

You might also recognize me as the ABATE State Merchandise Officer and the one who has been pushing for Motorcycle Awareness Rest stops throughout the State of California, I have been an ABATE Board member for the past two years. I am the type that takes on a commitment and volunteers for more, but I will follow-through with my commitments and see it through. If I see something that I think could be improved upon, I don't just point it out, I work out how to do it then present the idea for the opinion of others.

I look at ABATE Of California, Inc., as a business, I also run my own successful company and feel that I would be a competent asset to the Board.

I would like to be re-elected to the ABATE Board of Directors to continue to have representation from the High Desert and to serve our members throughout the state. I would like your vote - but if not, please Vote for someone.

Tom A. Lubbers



Tom Lubbers has been a motorcycle enthusiast all his life and an ABATE member for several years. He currently serves as

president of Local 5 (San Gabriel Valley); a position he has held for the last four years.

For the last 30 years Tom's professional career has been in the area of machining; presently serving as a consultant for Xerox Special Information Systems in Monrovia. In his current position he oversees the transformation of theoretical design into tangible prototype product.

Tom is passionate about the protection and retention of our personal freedoms, especially as they relate to motorcyclists' rights. He has been diligent in his efforts, through ABATE and other MROs, to encourage fellow riders about their individual responsibility to be proactive, and not complacent, in the fight to preserve our rights.

Tom and his wife, Sandy, are long-time Glendora residents. During their free time they can be found on two-wheels and have logged nearly 95,000 miles on his 2003 Road King.

Sarge Matthews



If you don't know me by now, you must be living under a rock. I've been a member of ABATE since 1986, and have served on the Board for approximately 21 of those years. I've served as president of Local 1, where I currently serve as run coordinator and vice president. I also served as State Run Coordinator for 10 years and through that run, raised thousands of dollars for ABATE. I have had several titles in the motorcycling community in my long varied motorcycle rights career, so to speak. Chairman of the Board of ABATE of California for the past two years, Am a national officer in my motorcycle club, am the liaison for the Southern California Confederation of Clubs, Executive Coordinator for NCOM,

was a union steward and vice president of my union.

A vote for me is a vote for leadership. As you can see by my experience, I have been fighting for the under dog for a long time. I believe in freedom and have always been in the front lines of the fight. I've been known to be somewhat "politically incorrect" from time to time, but I always speak my mind and I am not afraid to be on the unpopular side of an issue if I think it is right.

Some of the things ABATE has accomplished in the last two years are: We stalled the Smog bill, got the handlebar height raised on motorcycles, got the MC signs back on the HOV lanes, and other issues. Also one of the (maybe) unpopular ideas was to go to a electronically monthly newsletter to save our organization money - the economy sucks and it also affects us.

I am asking for your vote because I have the experience, I have the integrity and I have the balls to make the tough decisions. I won't let you down. Ride safe and be careful out there, Sarge.

Tony Jaime



Well, by now I'm thinking many of you know who I am. I came into ABATE in a whirlwind when Jeff Ozanne, Dave Hastings, & Larry Roberts from Local 44 all came to Ridgecrest and I attended my first ABATE meeting. Dave Cornelius set the whole thing up, we had barely enough people to start a Local and we were off and running and it seems like I've been running ever since. Looking back now on my seven years with ABATE of California, those years have been jam packed with a lot of fun, excite-

Bios for Nominees for the ABATE Board of Directors

ment, road trips, sacrifice, tragedy, joy, and an entire new extended family of friends.

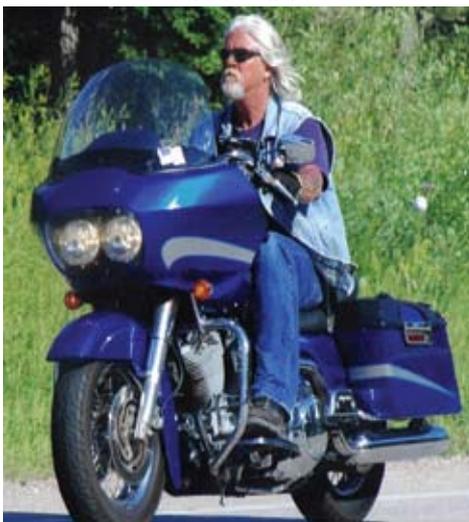
I served for four years for no fewer than four different Chairmen of the Board and four different Executive Directors. During those years on the Board I served in various capacities for ABATE and have been involved in many hard decisions and pushed for modernization and change. An original member of Local 58, I serve also as vice president. I am currently serving in my second stint as the State Run Chairman and hopefully by the time you read this bio, I will have had good news to report regarding this year's State Run.

Although a bit naïve regarding what ABATE was all about when I first started, my first year on the Board of Directors taught me some hard but valuable lessons. Experience is a valuable commodity and I have gained a lot of experience that I can bring to the table if elected to the Board again. Another thing that I gained in those years is the respect for all those who have gone before me in ABATE, and in the process, I have earned the respect of those who have worked along with me to achieve common goals. While I am still a relative newcomer in terms of years compared with some, the experiences I have had thus far have made me a seasoned veteran in the never-ending campaign to maintain and preserve our freedoms, liberties and way of life.

Those who know me best, know that I am honest, forthright, a little outspoken at times, and no stranger to controversy. They

also know that I am passionate about my beliefs, loyal to my friends, quick on my feet and able to improvise, determined and if given a task to accomplish, I will do my absolute best to see it through to completion. I won't try to snow you with a lot of political campaign promises except to say that, if elected, I will always represent the best interests of not just a vocal few but the entire membership of ABATE and give you my best efforts. Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely, Tony Jaime.

David Walsh



My name is Dave Walsh, and I'm running for the Board of Directors of ABATE of California. I've been a member of ABATE of California for 11 years. A couple years

after joining Local 13, Ventura County, I became Secretary. After that, I was Vice President for 3 years, and I've been the President the past 3 years. I also was Secretary to the Board of Directors for a couple years. I am a member of the AMA, and a member of BOLT.

We've had a mandatory helmet law for 17 years now. This affront to our freedoms and rights as Americans may just be one of many that have eroded away, or been taken from us when we weren't paying attention. It is my line in the sand, and this fight is the principal reason I joined ABATE of CA.

This year SB435 reared its ugly head, and I believe it to be the most important legislative fight before ABATE at this time. We have to fight this or see more of our freedoms disappear. This law is a waste of time, effort, and money that would be better spent elsewhere. We can and will beat this bill.

Classified

For Sale: 2008 Harley-Davidson Road glide. Dark Blue Metallic Pearl Paint. 103 cu kit with cams, installed by El Cajon Harley-Davidson before purchase. Tour Pak; Lowered air shocks, plus extra chrome. 2,500 miles on it. Asking \$18,900.00 or Best Offer. Ask for Eddie 760/337-8372 or edward_A12@yahoo.com

Apathy and burn out seem to be our biggest enemies, bigger than Dick Floyd ever was. None of us are immune, but we all keep on doing what we can. I've seen a lot of ABATE members busting their humps to make this organization work, to make ABATE of CA better. That is an inspiration to me, and a big reason why I've decided to run for the Board of Directors.

As brothers and sisters in this organization, it is important to have each other's backs, to be there to support each other. We may disagree, there's nothing wrong with that, but we must still show the respect we each deserve, and support each other in our efforts to preserve and retrieve our freedoms and rights.

I can't promise anything except to do my best on the Board of Directors. I believe I can help the organization, otherwise I wouldn't be running. I'm sure not doing it for the pension plan. I'd appreciate your vote. Dave Walsh.

Wanted: Job & Room. My son going to UTI, Sacto. He needs a job in the motorcycle field or related mechanical industry; he has welding certs. Needs a room to rent, too. Contact Rick Swanson at rchrdsanson@yahoo.com or 559-212-7765. Thanks, Swanee.

Executive Director's Report by Tim Tennimon, Executive Director

State of ABATE

How is ABATE doing? Well at this time we are running a bit in the red. This is why we are going to electronic distribution of the Bailing Wire. As we move through these hard times that seem to have touched all areas of our lives, ABATE, as with many other organizations is faced with financial challenges. Trying to find areas to cut is something the Board of Directors takes very seriously and is doing a great job at squeezing every inch of freedom fighting effort from every dollar that comes to ABATE. One area we had to take advantage of is in the distribution of the Bailing Wire to our members via the ABATE website. This is a move that a number of other organizations have taken advantage of and we desperately need to make the

same move. Most people now days use their computer to some degree as a regular part of their lives and to point and click and have the Bailing Wire at their fingertips is a service that many will appreciate.



But here are the facts; the delivery of the Bailing Wire to businesses and Locals will not change, the delivery (postage expense) to the individuals by way of bulk mailing will stop in January 2010. This will save roughly \$900.00 (nine hundred dollars/00) a month. Now the savings as result of the reduction in printing costs due to members receiving the Bailing Wire via their computer and not hard copy will result in roughly \$300.00 (three hundred dollars/00) per month. The total savings for ABATE will be approximately \$13,200.00 (thirteen thousand, two hundred/00) dollars or more every year. There are ways of off setting some of the expense of publishing the Bailing Wire and ABATE is exploring some of these avenues, one of the areas we need

help in is marketing. If you can help with any aspect of marketing; selling and advertisement opportunities on our website or in the Bailing Wire please contact the state office.

So in closing remember, just go to "abate.org" and on the home page click on "The Bailing Wire" link and you will have the Bailing Wire at your finger tips in seconds.

And while you're there, check out our new merchandize page, browse around and check out some of the new products ABATE has to offer, they can be purchased on line through paypal. Another added benefit is on the membership page where you can pay for memberships on line.

Thanks for your support.

Pac/Lobbyist Report

by Peter Daniels, Treasurer

Remember last month when I reported on the Los Angeles City Council being asked by Senator Fran Pavley to pass a resolution supporting the Motorcycle Smog Check Bill, SB435? The first meeting resulted in the resolution being tabled as the City Council members wanted more info from agencies like the Air Quality Management District. The second meeting was after the deadline for October's Bailing Wire, so I thought I'd bring you up to date.

At a late September Los Angeles City Council meeting the resolution was brought up again. The City Council had 'discovered' that the bill, SB435, would very likely be amended when reintroduced in 2010. They thought it would be inappropriate to vote on the resolution under those circumstances. The resolution was withdrawn and there was no vote.

Gee, I wonder if our phone calls, letters, faxes, and emails had anything to do with them 'discovering' that the bill would likely be amended? Again, thanks to those that discovered this resolution was being introduced before the City Council.

Thanks to those that attended the City Council meetings, especially the first one as there was only a two day notice. Thanks to all that phoned, faxed, wrote letters, and emailed the members of the City Council between the first and second meeting.



I am sure some of the City Council members remembered us. One member ran for State Senate some years ago and beat his powerful incumbent opponent by about 100 votes. We worked for him in that campaign and I'm sure more than 100 motorcyclists in his district voted for him. Then there is a member who participated in a parade around a district where he was campaigning for a colleague. We led that parade. Then there is a member who came to an ABATE meeting seeking our support and we gave it to him. Then there is a member who has worked with an ABATE member on non-motorcycle issues and was willing to listen due to their mutual respect.

ABATE of California must get back to 'basics'. 2010 is an election year and we must work campaigns. If I had to decide to work campaigns or introduce a bill to amend the helmet law, I would choose the former. When the time comes those elected will remember who 'worked their campaigns'.

Thanks to all that donated to the lobbyist fund last month. They were

Locals 1, 5, 6, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 24 & 27, James Mitterer (L17), Rick Mullaly (L60), Jim Brown (L6), John Del Santo (L6), Jonathan Jones (L28), Kenneth Jackson (L8), Dean Hummer (L12), Robert Boys (L1), & Renee Davies (L6).

Thanks to all that donated to the PAC fund. They were Locals 10, 14, 17, 19, 21, 23, 24 & 27, & Kenneth Jackson (L8).

Thanks to all that do. To those that don't do, please do!

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Local #01 Los Angeles Cty

Greetings folks! As last reported for September, we played hooky so we could attend the State run as our meeting was the same weekend.

I will tell you that Local 1 is going to be having their breakfast meeting at the Tujunganga Elks Lodge. We will discuss various information, such as this year's demise of the Love Ride Cal Bike Week booth due to economics.

We will discuss SB435 and how we as a Local can help get the necessary petitions signed for this to be defeated. We will make plans for our toy run - the first talk of it for December 13. Next we will discuss the local rides that we might all want to attend. Finally we will also talk about an alternate event happening at Cycle Gear in Newhall on October 24 & 25, which we might help Local 2 do.

There will be the usual treasury report, membership report, and publicity report. Finally Sporty's \$20 give-away for being at the meeting. Thank you for reading. Regards, Sporty.

Local #02 Simi Valley

October crept up on us real fast; this is our first wet meeting in a long time. We experienced a small turnout for the first time in months. I don't know if it was the rain or some good television shows; I hope it was the rain. I heard someone say we only meet 12 times a year, where is everybody? Great question, all I know is we miss you no matter what your excuse is; we need everyone here because your input is as important as your attendance. Thanks to Ray and Steve for cooking a great \$5 dollar dinner, even wet BBQ is good!

As usual, our Secretary Jane opened up with the minutes. Our VP, Steve, talked about Local 2 getting more involved in our local scene - what a great idea!

Steve also talked about our elections. Here are the results: President - Ray Arsnow, VP - Scott Burton, Secretary - Jane Warthen, Treasurer - Stephanie Arsnow, Merchandise Coordinator - Guy Corrigan, Membership Coordinator - Pat Burton, Run Coordinator - Rick Flores, Safety Coordinator - Norm Newiger, PR Rep - Norm Newiger, Sergeant At Arms - Pattibock and Guy Corrigan,

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AMA Rep - Jane Warthen, and PAC Rep - Linda Wright.

We have new blood now running the top positions. Thanks to all the previous officers for your dedication, you set the bar high; the new blood is going to raise it higher because you all set great examples. Again thanks for the years of hard work!

Shawnee, our membership coordinator, said that Simi Valley HD and Shirley and Vance Scott renewed their membership. Thank you very much! Linda, our PAC person, talked about the important stuff. We get great info from her - well, she takes her job seriously. Thanks for all your efforts! Kevin, who does our web page, says we are switching to Facebook and was busy already, thanks!

Sporty stopped by and talked about important ABATE stuff and the LA city council meeting, which was also attended by Ray and Scott. Thanks for all your efforts.

Local 2 meets on the second Tuesday of every month, serving great food for \$5 bucks starting at 6:45 pm, and the meeting starts at 7:30 pm. Our meetings are held at VFW Post 10049, 4242 East Los Angeles Ave in Simi Valley.

This is the time of the year when we need to reinforce our safe riding habits. With wet and cold weather, we need to make sure we don't become the wrong statistic. We need to keep on the look-out for the other drivers and riders as well, Ride safe and share the road! PTL Norm e. New

Local #05 San Gabriel Vly

Hey, from Local #5!

At our last meeting Tom spoke about the Defenders Program and NCOM. Please consider getting your Local involved. If you have questions, either Moony, Tom or myself would be happy to answer them. It involves a very simple emailing campaign that goes way beyond what we ABATE members can do on our own.

Tom, once again, brought everyone up to date on SB435 (nothing has changed). Honda Ray spoke about self discipline regarding motorcycle noise. I know it's kind of like 'preaching to the choir' as most of us (you reading this article) do discipline ourselves, however, I believe the point he was trying to make is that we need to reach out to others. When given a chance if we can let one of the obnoxious noise makers understand that they are only hurting themselves, along with the rest of us, then that is what we should do.

HR also spoke about the One More

From The Heart run which is a great cause that our local has supported and will continue to support for many years.

Thanks for reading, Glen (Professor) Pine

Local #06 San Diego County



It was another fine day for a Local 6 monthly meeting, overlooking beautiful Mission Bay in Sunny San Diego. We had a good sized bunch of riders here today, all interested and involved in the meeting. We did our Judicial Report, telling everyone what's in the wind, reminding folks to let us know if anyone gets a ticket that they don't think is right and getting a photocopy of the ticket to us.

We discussed the proposed 'DOT CERTIFIED' changes to FMVSS 218, and HR 1253 about the HIPPA loophole, a report on Handlebar Whips, and the new SAE J2825 Sound Test Standard. John & Fran Del Santo, certified as Motorcycle Sound Test Technicians, will be doing Decibel Meter sound checks following our November 1 meeting for anyone who wants the sound level checked on their own bike. This will be for ABATE MEMBERS ONLY, but you can become a member that day, on the spot, if you wish! Such a deal!

For our PAC report, we discussed the HR2057 "Right to Repair" bill, and HR 3311 which is a new way for you to get screwed at the gas pump.

John has been in contact with CHP Sgt Mike Thomason, discussing Safety Training and Motorcycle Awareness programs. John gave him reports on the very successful programs that have been running in Wisconsin and Texas, programs being run by an alliance of Motorcyclists, CHP units, the Sheriff's Dept, Insurance companies, NHTSA, and local tavern owners. These two states have been lowering their motorcycle accident rate and death rate while the rest of the country's rates have been rising despite the fact that these two states have Freedom of Choice Helmet laws for adults. The CHP and ABATE of California are checking these programs out.

Moe Giacalone has been working full speed ahead getting our October 31 Halloween Poker run ready. Slammer from the BoozeFighters MC won the 50/50, and donated his winnings back to the Local's treasury. Check out our website at www.abateocal6.org! John

Local #11 San Diego County (North)



The October turnout at Oakvale was holding steady with 30 members present. Tim covered membership renewals, phone tree ops and the availability of a limited number of "POW/MIA" display Flags for sale. The Treasurer's report was covered, and after expenses we still have money in the treasury. The ABATE General Fund and the Lobbyist Fund will again be sent donations.

The State Run did quite well and looks to be our best run for this year. Long time member and founder, Deacon, with Lady Kay, even came in from Arkansas. Local 40 was the largest group in attendance along with the Widow Makers. Local 11 held down second place and also had several "early birds" - good job.

Don't forget that elections are coming up. Be sure to vote for Board of Director positions and for Freedom Fighter of the Year award. Also, don't forget to use the portal www.goodsearch.com and use "ABATE..." as your charity when you run Internet searches.

In the LA County jurisdictions, they are cracking down on loud pipes and also "dangerous" lane splitting. Additionally, it seems that unlicensed motorcycle drivers are becoming more of a problem, especially the 16 to 24 year old group.

Our hostile legislators are now seeking city endorsements to support SB 435. If you hear of this happening in your city, make an effort to speak out or write to your city councils in opposition.

In our favor, HR 1253 has passed the Assembly requiring insurance companies to notify customers in advance of all activities which they consider dangerous and which are not covered by their insurance policies. This bill is awaiting Senate approval now. Also, HR 2057 (Right To Repair) will re-

quire manufacturers to fully disclose repair info to independent shops. Work is also being done to standardize the Noise Level/Sound Test Standard (J2825) which is supported by the AMA. In the San Diego area, John Del Santo of Local 6 is now Certified and can test your motorcycle sound level - see him at the Local 6 meeting (November 1st) in Kate Sessions Park.

Run reminders - ABATE Local 6 Halloween Run October 31, Boozefighters #15 Charity Fundraiser November 1 at the Kraken, Border Patrol Fallen Officers Benefit Ride at El Cajon Harley on November 7, and ABATE Local 38 Turkey Run November 21 in El Centro.

In the raffle, Dan won body jewelry and Paige won the 50/50 money. Ride Safe, Dave

Local #14 Alameda County



Thank you all who attended October's monthly meeting. Especially Dennis who once again filled in for Joe. Our condolences to Joe, he had to fly to Pennsylvania to attend his father's funeral. Thank you Animal, Carl Smith and Jessie Lane for your generous donation to our account. The meeting was well attended and it was great seeing you all.

Thanks to members of Road Dogs for showing up. I hope the meetings have been informative and wish more of you would think about becoming ABATE members.

Thanks Carl, Barbara, Jeff, Larry, Dennis and I for showing face for Local 14, by attending the State Run in Kernville, and informing us on how great the run was. I hope more of our Local members will attend next year. The only comment I had was there was no grass.

I apologize for not attending the last Board meeting, but I had a previous engagement. I did find out that the Board voted on paying a company a minimal amount of money to work on our web page and fix all the glitches that a lot of members are having. Also Yve from Ride Rag is our new PR lady and she came and talked about what she needs from the Board. Presidents and members, contact your area's local media - newspapers, radio and TV. We can only do this

with your help. Call your chamber or look on the internet and type in this information and get her the phone numbers. I believe the Web page is a very important tool for us and ABATE. Without a quality Web page it's difficult to stay current with the times. So please assist Yve with the information she needs so she can assist us better. Well, until we meet again. Ride Safe. Franklin.

Local #15 Contra Costa County

Hello From ABATE Local 15!! Well, Santa is loaded, and coming your way again. Hmmm, did that come out wrong? The Local 15 Christmas Party and trap shoot is in the planning stages and is shaping up well! The party will be on Saturday, December 12 at the Martinez Gun Club, 900 Waterbird Way in Martinez (Marina Vista exit 680). Trap shooting will be from 5:00 - 6:30 pm (bring your own shotgun, no guns inside club). Complimentary hors d'oeuvres will be served during the social "hour", 5:00 - 7:00 pm. Dinner will be from 7:00 - 8:00 pm and will include BBQ ball tip and chicken with all the fixin's catered by Kinders. The live band will be there from 6:00 - 10:30 pm. And of course, we will be having a great raffle. And the best part? All of this for only \$25.00 per person, in advance, prior to November 30. You can purchase tickets at any Local 15 meeting - third Tuesday of each month, 7:00 pm at Fuddrucker's Hamburgers in the Willowpass Shopping Center in Concord. Or, send a check made out to ABATE Local 15 to P.O. Box 269, Concord, CA 94522. Any questions? Want to help with the party? Call Bob at 925-586-7376. Donate some raffle prizes. If yours is judged the best of the donated prizes, you will win a one year single membership to ABATE!!

And then there is the other business of ABATE: SB435 - required smogging for California bikes is still lurking around. Keep a look out and keep on informing your representatives of your opposition to this bill. Also, keep an eye on your home town, as Los Angeles and other city councils are being encouraged by Senator Pavley to issue resolutions in support of SB435.

Local 15 is taking nominations for all officer positions. If you are interested, contact Bob at 925-586-7376. Voting will be at the November meeting.

Talk about great tunes, Local 15 will be in symphonic form again this year, singing Christmas Carols and delivering gifts to a selected nursing home in Antioch on December 19. We will be meeting at the Loveridge IHOP (International House of Pancakes) in

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Antioch at 9:00 am for breakfast; then next door at Devil Mountain Harley Davidson at 10:00 am to depart for the home. Come join in delivering some Christmas Joy. Bring a wrapped gift for a resident of the home.

Parties, Legislation, and Christmas Spirit - all the business of ABATE. Ride Safe, Longrider Mike.

Local #17 Solano & Napa Counties



Local 17 has had a busy month. We had a Memorial Run on October 4 that was to take time to remember all of our fallen brothers and sisters. The Memorial service was held at Plainsfield Station in Woodland. Thank you, Frank Guzzo for putting this event together.

The following weekend was the final Bingo run of the year and we would like to thank our run coordinator Roddy Blizzard for a well organized and wonderful day that he took a lot of time planning for our Local. We had plenty of food and lots of helpers at every stop.

At our meeting in September Assemblywoman Mariko Yamada came to listen to our concerns regarding the smog bill and how it will affect all of us. She listened to our concerns and took notes on suggestions from our members on details that she would look into for us pertaining to the bill. We would like to thank Greg Coppes in helping organize this meeting.

We now have a website abate17.org. Thank you to Patty Coppes for setting it up for us.

Our final upcoming events for this year are our Annual Christmas Party held at the Moose Lodge in Vacaville on Saturday, December 5 and the following morning, Sunday, December 6 we will meet back at the Moose Lodge for our Annual Toy Run.

There were no biker bucks at this meeting. Linda Hines won \$74 in the 50/50 and donated \$25 back to the Local. Thanks Linda for your generosity.

Great job Local 17! Michele.

Local #19 Pomona Valley

It's October already and I just can't seem to keep up. Between work and play, play seems to be losing out lately. Anyone having the same problem? Our September meeting had us thinking about nominations for next year's officers, date changes for meetings in November and December (because of the holidays) and having a picnic to invite some of the members who haven't been making it to the meetings lately. Summer months make it difficult for some folks to attend all the meetings, but that gives us a good reason to cook up some burgers and hot dogs to have some fun.

We have changed the November meeting to Wednesday the 18th because of Thanksgiving and the December meeting to Wednesday the 16th so we can take care of business and still allow time for everyone to make their travel plans at this busy time of year. Hopefully this reminder will get people out to B's Sports Bar & Grill on the correct nights.

Nominations for 2010 officers will be during the October 28 meeting and the voting will take place at the November meeting. Try to be at the meeting **November 18** and vote for your new leaders. If you were nominated, don't forget to vote for yourself. It is good to see new folks getting more involved in the Local 19 activities.

Honda Ray was our guest speaker and talked about "One More From the Heart" again this year. He also volunteered to help us with the Local 19/PV Hog Toy Run again this year. I can only hope he made it to the picnic to enjoy a free burger and dog.

As for the picnic, everyone was invited and the burgers and dogs are provided by Local 19. Our VP, Diane, is organizing a potluck for side dishes and desserts. Dr. Fil, from Casa Colina Hospital, is invited and our friends from the American Legion Riders Chapter 777 are presenting him with a check for some funds they raised during a recent event.

This month's article is a bit different from the usual but I ran late and still need to see if I can get the folks at the Bailing Wire to slip us in. They are a great bunch and I hope they know how much they are appreciated.

The weather's cooler and it's wet out there some days so be safe. Stay warm and dry and, as always, keep the shiny side up! Ed.

Local #20 Orange County

We had a very short meeting for October. We had 22 members present and 5 guests. A very warm welcome to our newest members Charles and Carmen Ash. Our guests this month were Taco, Steve, No Name, Maywood and Whitey. Whitey has been around ABATE since the 1970s and attended all of Basil's (Packer) meetings.

The POW/MIA flag will once again hang on the wall at the Starting Gate. It will not come down again. This is representing those that are still missing or not accounted for.

The Board meeting, held in San Jose, was hosted by Local 32. Attendance was low. Spike and Gill represented our Local. Johnny O'Kane represented his local #22. The ABATE website took 1 year to get it to where it is now. It has to be tweaked a little more.

For the January 2010, Local 20 might host it or Local 2 but that is still in the works. Sarge said he does not like the Starting Gate to host the Board meetings. Why is that Sarge?

Bike raffle tickets were given out to Louis, Mark (Prospect/Edge MC), Cheryl, Carl, Bill, Moonie and Tim. The tickets are \$10 each. The drawing for the bike will be held on September 18, 2010 at the State Run in Kernville. See Gill if you need more tickets or want to sell them.

Topics of discussion were SB 435 (smog bill); we have to stop it dead in its tracks. Complaints about loud pipes from many people are a big issue. Bikers don't crack their pipes. The "wanna be" bikers are the ones that do this and make us look bad.

Spike gave a brief PAC report, discussed SB 435 and AB 1205 (?). Mike Duvall (Assembly District 72) resigned and the top three contenders are John McMurray, Linda Ackerman and Chris Norby for his position.

Spike (Vice Chairman of COC) will be attending NCOM meeting in Portland, OR this month. He is very good friends with Mr. Jim Hernandez, a criminologist professor. He is a former police officer who switched over to the bikers side. He saw how they were treated. He will report back his findings next month. ABATE, NCOM, COC,

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Defender's Program and the Christian Unity clubs are united to help each other to defend our rights and protect our freedom.

Local 19 gave us two free tickets for the December 6 Toy Run. They went to Carl and John/Cheryl. Thomas Martin lost out on the \$102. It went into the kitty for November's drawing. Ride Free, Ride Safe. Squirt.

Local #22 South Bay

Meeting kicked off for October at Walkers Café. We had a very good showing of people and it seems that we are building each month when it comes to member participation. There was some discussion on signing up new business members and what the details are in getting this done. It was stressed that each time we go out and drop off Bailing Wires, we should look into signing up those businesses as ABATE business members.

Next we discussed the City Council meeting at L A City Hall. Members of ABATE showed up for two separate meetings to voice our strong opposition to them supporting SB 435. It seems Fran Pavley has tried to gain some support for her smog bill by getting Resolutions from cities that back her agenda. It was nice to see the City Council of LA shoot down her efforts and show some common sense. This bill is not needed! Please show your appreciation and everyone that wrote, faxed or called do the same again with a sincere "thank you".

Along those same lines we felt it important to make sure that we all get in front of any political figures we can regardless of where they are currently positioned. Many of these people will continually move up in their careers and it's always good to have some allies in Sacramento. We also wondered how ABATE can work on making them members, even if it's a non-paying one it may very well pay off. Maybe we could even "gift" some memberships.

One of the members that attended the State Run gave a brief description of it. He summed it up pretty well as "It was hot." Other than that he felt it all went well. I think

everyone would like to see more attendance, but there is always so much competition for people's time here in California.

Our last discussion, which garnered quite a bit of time, was about how can we do a better job of marketing to the masses of people in this state that ride, but just don't know about, or seem to have interest in ABATE. Many ideas were thrown around from better web presence to flashier marketing materials. One idea that we did agree upon was to continue setting up our Local 22 booth to pass out information and gain more signatures against SB 435. We are planning on doing that at the Ironworkers MC annual Toy Run in November. The rest we decided to try and come back at a later date with a little more information and see if we could come up with some new ideas.

That's all for this month, Zap.

Local #23 San Bernardino

Show up and vote at November's meeting! Local 23 leadership nominations were taken at September's meeting, and now it's time to vote in the new leadership. So all of you Local 23 members, mark November 1 on your calendar, and please show up and exercise your right to vote. And before I go any further, as always, I want to extend a warm Local 23 "Hello" to all of our fellow ABATE members and anyone else that might be reading the Bailing Wire!

Did you have a good time at the State Run? We sure did! Nearly a dozen of us Local 23 members loaded up our scooters and headed north to Kernville. The ride up was perfect, with Kevin leading us through a very scenic and twisty canyon pass into Bodfish. However, no ride with Kevin as our tour guide is complete without a u-turn. And sure enough, with 5 hours of riding behind us and Kernville in sight, he led us astray. A quick fix (that means u-turn) and we were back on track and all arrived safely at Frandy Campground.

We could not have asked for better weather, a better place or better folks to spend the weekend with. And of course, what happens at Frandy Campground should

probably stay at Frandy Campground, but if I know this group, it won't! Yes, there are some good stories to tell. We all had a really great time and congrats to Kevin and Bea for taking home the weenie bite trophy. Oh and I heard those two also took the weenie bite trophy home from the Local 27 poker run as well. As for those of you that missed the State Run, all I can say is that you missed a fantastic weekend of riding and camaraderie. We are already looking forward to next year's run.

Coming up on November 8 is the Annual "One More from the Heart" run. Local 23 members, as the event gets closer, please check your email as I will be sending out our staging time once we nail it down. Local 23 will travel directly to the center to help ensure that the incoming bikes get into the parking area safely and, as always, we are hosting the post event Mystery Ride. So all you Local 23 folks, please plan on attending and helping out with parking and the Mystery Ride.

That's all the Local 23 news that is news, so until next month, ride safe and keep fighting to protect our Freedoms of the Road. And one last reminder to my fellow Local 23 members before I close, show up and vote! Russ

Local #24 Fresno

Just some quick notes from our October meeting as I have to get packed up for our End of Summer Run to Santa Cruz this weekend.

President Ed opened the meeting at Cedar Lanes with the Pledge to the flag. General discussion was about the various bills in the State Legislature. We all need to keep our ears to the ground about SB 435, the motorcycle smog (noise?) bill. There is a movement trying to get city councils in the state to endorse this bill. If an attempt is made to do this in our area, we need to attend the council meeting and protest. Check the Bailing Wire for more information on this.

Treasurer's report shows we are still on the positive side. Motion made and carried to keep sending \$300.00 per month to state ABATE. Also decided to contribute \$100.00 to the Baby Survival Run as we are not attending this.

No membership drawing as Phil is off again to some exotic place. Our business members once more donated a bunch of good prizes for the drawing. A BIG THANKS! The 50-50 of \$84.00 went to Wes who only kept \$20.00 gave the rest back. Thanks much Wes.

by Lee 'Sporty' Milligan

Hi all! Sporty here with the monthly tales of me and my three bikes - aka the 2002 Sporty 883 Voyager Touring Solution, the 2002 883 Sporty and the 2007 Sporty 1200 Low Model. We're going to start with old news - Flash! Sporty get his rig fixed! After quite an absence, I finally got my rig attachment fixed so it can be utilized on the 2002 883 Sporty. Yea Baby.



To break the stalemate I decided to take the rig to the state run in Kernville at the Frandy Campground. Since I had not installed the rig in quite some time, it was not as easy as it says in the instruction manual. But after trial and a lot of error, I got the sucker together. Ta-da! (Fan fair at this point,) I was really excited at the accomplishment. By the way, for your information the 883 has over 77,000 miles on it and has not been taken apart. If I treat her right, I should get approximately 90,000 miles on it before a major operation.

The game plan for the State run was to arrive a day early so I could help Carol and Tina set up the raffle booth. Ok. That Thursday, fully loaded, I proceeded to take off on my journey. I was a spectacle as I was not sure how the rig would react. However, I quickly remembered all the do's and don'ts of rig riding. I stopped, as I usually do, in Castaic for a final bungee cord check, bells and whistles check and get more money from the Chase Bank; then I was off.

Leaving Castaic I stopped at the Frasier Park rest stop. There I got my first look at the new modern retro designed Camaro. The dude driving informed me that his cost only \$18,000. I asked him why it was so cheap and he said it was because the factory set the pricing and not dealer. There was no dealer mark-up pricing like Chrysler is doing with their Dodge Challenger model.

Now leaving the rest stop. The rig is doing ok at this point. The Map Quest route takes you to Hwy 58, and then you head up to the Lake Isabella area. At a gas station area I had a truck driver dude stop and inquire about the rig. So for the better part of 15 minutes I gave him a brief story line on the rigs' qualities.

Ok, I finally reached the campgrounds and this year I set up my tent near Carol's area. She is one good person, because they made chicken for me that all I had to do was peel of the skin to eat. We got the tent set up and later set up the raffle booth area for Friday. It was fairly relaxed and apparently it had the promise of being a great weekend.

The run was the same weekend as our Local 1 meeting, so we played hooky and will resume the meetings in October.

Friday not much was happening; friends seeing friends and what have you. The usual camp town ladies stuff. We were selling raffle tickets at the booth and, yes, Virginia it's exciting as hell. Saturday morning we had the ride in bike show where I entered the rig. Yea Baby! It got the novelty look, but did not win any awards - too bad.

Later that morning tragedy struck when it was learned that Jim and Debbie Harmon, while going to a friend's home, close by, were struck by an older woman who accidentally crossed the road and wound up in the lane that Jim and Debbie were in on their motorcycle. Sadly, they were killed. These folks belonged to the Widow Makers M/C and ABATE Local 40 in Bakersfield. It was a shock, but, thanks to the bravery of Local 40 and the Widow Makers, they preformed the bike games as had been scheduled.

I worked the raffle booth the rest of the afternoon. Thanks to our Local members, Jim Nickla and Steve B, for helping in the booth as well. Local 1 also had Sarge and Louise and little Daniel in attendance as well as Steve and Linda Kerr. Thank you all who came and supported this event.

Well with the tragic accidental death of Jim and Debbie Harmon, we had a memorial service to attend, and, yes, I went. Let's just say it was a somber event, one that I felt compelled to attend. This type of event is never easy and it seems as you get older they are more frequent.

My next excursion was the Board meeting in San Jose. I took Thursday off so I could spend the evening at my brother's house in Atascadero before I finished the ride to San Jose. It was an ok ride to Atascadero and the evening was ok. My sister-in-law, Diane, made a chicken dinner for me.

Friday morning the ride was cold, as the weather is changing so much, that in King City I stopped and looked for my cold weather mask. Yes, I found it buried in my saddle bags. Yes, relief was in sight. So it made the rest of the trip ok. I am riding on the 1200 Low Model this trip. Now some of you at this point are saying that it must be nice to have choices on what to ride. Well, yes, it is. Thank you very much.

Friday night we had a pre-Board meeting. Saturday we had the Presidents' meeting, the PAC meeting and the Board meeting. They all went well. I'm looking forward to another year with the Board of Directors and being able to serve my ABATE Freedom Fighters across this great state.

After the meetings I went with Skip from Local 35 in Monterey to visit Linda McIntyre who had been in a terrible accident on the way home from Street Vibrations two weeks prior. After an operation to have one of her legs removed, Linda seems to be bearing up well, all things considered. The accident was not her fault. Apparently a big rig truck traveling in the opposite direction lost a tire and it flew across the freeway divider and struck Linda's bike and her causing her to crash.

Please keep all our members and friends and families in your prayers as they are all so vulnerable out there on their bikes as they ride down our roads and highways.

Bye for now folks. Till next time, do something nice for Sporty and ABATE, like getting a new member and attending an ABATE function. Regards, Sporty.

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A final note: Mama T was back. It sure is good to see you on your feet again. Bruce.

Local #27 Riverside



Greetings all! From the routed IE! In this context I mean 'Partied Out'!! For this month I will defer all other business to our ABATE Local 27 Poker Run (or not). Look for my article about this elsewhere in this issue of the Bailing Wire.

Don't forget to go to our new WEB site at abatelocal27.org to keep up on Local things going on and sign up for our Newsletter that will keep you posted on the Local 27's happenings.

With our Poker Run (or not) over, we now need to start planning the Bare Necessities run for 2010, so be at our next meeting! C'ya, HR.

Local #29 Morongo Basin



Hi All! Well summer is gone and fall is definitely here! Cool, crisp mornings with gentle breezes and leaves falling. Winter is on the way! Watch for icy patches and other items in the road!

ABATE Local 29 held its last meeting at Wine and Roses on October 8. **Starting in November we will be meeting at Las Casitas Restaurant in Yucca Valley at 6:30 pm the second Thursday of each month.** For directions call Marty at 760-367-1694. Many of us are coming early to have dinner, the food is outstanding and the meetings

are over by 8:00 pm (most times earlier) and some of us are staying for the entertainment in the same building after the meeting. We do hope you all will come out and join us! Everyone is welcome!

At last night's meeting we had 13 people in attendance and we discussed our Local 29 Laughlin run. If you missed it this year, mark your calendars for next year so you don't miss this awesome event in 2010! It is always the third weekend in October at the Aquarius in Laughlin. We have so much to offer, you surely don't want to miss it again! Watch next month's Bailing Wire for news on this year's run!

We also discussed our next run, which will be Sunday, November 15. We will be riding as a group to Parker, AZ from Yucca Valley, going through 29 Palms. Sounds like a wonderful ride and a great time! Everyone is welcome to join us, so please come on out and meet us at the Park 'n Ride in Yucca Valley at 9 am on November 15 and have a great day with friends!

Meantime have fun riding, don't forget the safety issues, and keep the shiny side up! Miss Lou

Local #36 Palm Springs



October 9, 2009: At the end of the this year Niki Lopez (Membership Chair - 4 years) and Ray Lopez (President - 2 years) will step down as Officers for ABATE Local 36 Palm Springs.

Nominations for the new Officers for 2010 shall be held at the next Thursday night meeting on November 12. Elections shall be held at the meeting on December 10. **Come out and support your Local.**

At our last monthly meeting on October 8, we had 2 people show up - Vice-President

LOCAL NEWS

Grumpy and myself. There will be no Toy Run this year due to lack of interest. Ray.

Local #38 Imperial Valley

Hello ABATE members! Our Local has been hard at work preparing for our 12th annual Turkey Run. It is on Saturday, November 21. This funds most of the events we do for the year, plus it gives back to the community. The need is up, but donations have been down.

Ken Samples went to the State run and I've been to quite a few meetings, including Yuma, AZ Hog and ABATE Local 11's meetings. I've never been to a place that was so easy to get to! Actually they were real nice, especially Connie. Great place.

The Toy Run co-sponsored by our Local will be on December 19. It starts at Lucky's and ends at Hot Rods and Beers in Holtville. Should be a nice ride. This event will benefit the Betty-Jo McNeece Receiving Home. It is a shelter for abused or abandoned children.

We need help now more than ever. Come to the meetings, volunteer and/or support the events. Bye for now. Thanks, Eddie Aranda, President

Local #40 Bakersfield



Our October 13 meeting began with prayer, lead by Whit, "Just Whit", followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Our members expressed and shared their heartfelt and loving memories of Jim & Debbie Harmon who we lost on September 19. On October 4 there was a celebration of the life we shared with Jim & Debbie. A Life filled with selfless love and friendship. Thank you.

Out of respect for me and everyone, Jim & Debbie's officer positions will not be permanently filled until our January elections.

For the interim, the Local unanimously voted for Teach to be our temporary Vice President and he will remain as the PAC representative. Thank you, Teach. Stephanie will be the Treasurer and will also continue to assist with our minutes. Thank you, Steph.

We all joined in signing a petition to oppose SB435. Everyone will keep an ear out for any local measures to support SB435, so if any come our way we can rally against it.

On behalf of Local 40 thank you to: Scott, President of Harley-Davidson of Bakersfield; Rodger, Manager of Renegade Classics; Bobby & Kelly owners of Bikersfield; and a very special thanks to Little Rick & Stephanie Sommer. You all are awesome, thank you for your donations, your time and place of business to raise funds for our fallen Brother & Sister Jim & Debbie Harmon. It's a great feeling to know your hearts are always open to the motorcycle community.

ABATE is not about any one individual. ABATE represents everyone who rides a motorcycle. ABATE member or not, the freedoms we fight to keep belong to all.

YOU can help support ABATE by doing these things: 1] Joining ABATE and continuing your membership annually. 2] Writing your Senators, Assembly representatives to support Motorcycle Freedoms. 3] Participate at ABATE events. Omar, President.

Local #47 Barstow



Howdy All! Hope you all have been riding and spreading the word that we must unite and stand together.

Local 47 rode to Lucerne Valley for a Toy Run.

I was able to attend Local 44's monthly meeting and was glad to hear the High Desert will hold a raffle to win a Harley from Victorville Harley. Watch for more info in the Bailing Wire.

Local 27 had a fun Poker Run; great job to all who helped.

OK, let's ride! Visit a Local near you. See you at "One More From The Heart" on November 8. Yermoeddy

Compiled & Edited by Bill Bish

COAST TO COAST BIKER NEWS

WORLDWIDE MOTORCYCLE SALES PROJECTED TO RISE:

Global demand for motorcycles, including electric bicycles and mopeds, is forecast to increase 7.6% per year over the next five years, reaching 114 million units by 2013. "This growth is being fueled by rising standards of living in developing parts of the world, making motorcycles a more affordable alternative to walking, bicycling or using mass transit," states a recent study of the worldwide motorcycle market.

Sales value will expand at a slower pace, climbing 7.2 percent annually to \$66.6 billion in 2013, because of an expected decline in sales-weighted prices due to fast market growth in low priced electric motorcycles and smaller internal combustion engine (ICE) motorcycles. These and other trends, including market share and product segmentation, are presented in "World Motorcycles", an industry analysis released September 23 by The Freedonia Group, Inc., a Cleveland-based international business research firm.

The study forecasts that electric motorcycles, which are extremely popular in China, but account for a minimal share of demand in most other parts of the world, will register the strongest market advances. Sales of battery-powered bicycles, scooters and other two-wheelers will be driven by their generally lower purchase prices, low cost of operation and lack of harmful emissions. However, ICE motorcycles will continue to account for more than 95% of all demand outside of China in 2013.

Researchers predict that the strongest rise in sales will be registered in the Africa/Mideast region due to several factors, including the fastest population growth of any region, the lowest median age and the lowest (but climbing) per capita GDP. Population increases and higher standards of living will also help stimulate demand in the Asia/Pacific region, which will post the second strongest gains, followed by Eastern Europe (rising from a very small current market base) and Latin America. China alone will account for 55% of all additional sales through 2013, spurred by very strong electric motorcycle demand and solidifying its position as the biggest national motorcycle market. Growth is also expected to be healthy in Indonesia and lower-volume markets like Nigeria, the Philippines and Vietnam.

SCALED BACK MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENT STUDY UNDERWAY & UNDER FIRE:

The first major study of motorcycle crashes in nearly 30 years is underway in Los Angeles, as researchers attempt to pinpoint why resultant fatalities have soared over the last decade. The last in-depth investigation

of motorcycle crashes in the U.S. -- the Hurt study -- was released in 1981.

Efforts to update that information have been stymied by funding issues, reports the Los Angeles Times, and the study will be a scaled-down version of what was originally planned, and some motorcycle groups are criticizing the effort including a leading industry-backed safety group that says the sample size will be too small to properly resolve the questions.



The National Transportation Safety Board originally recommended that the study include a sample size of 900 to 1,200 crashes. But researchers at Oklahoma State University, tapped to conduct the new study, said use of such a large sample would cost \$10 million to \$12 million, far exceeding the federal government's \$4.2-million estimate. The Motorcycle Crash Causation Study is currently moving forward with a sample size of 300 crashes.

The Motorcycle Safety Foundation, a nonprofit group funded by major manufacturers, had offered \$2.8 million in 2007 for a study if it included a sample size of 900 crashes, but the group refused to contribute to the abbreviated study because industry and safety experts believe it "will not provide adequate sampling to achieve appropriate statistical significance and may not provide new insights," the organization said in a statement. "This limited study will likely lend only a minimal degree of validation to the major, already known contributing motorcycle crash factors."

There are about 100,000 motorcycle crashes in the U.S. each year, 5,290 of which resulted in death in 2008. According to the MSF, major crash factors include rider error,

such as over-braking and running wide in a curve; and alcohol involvement.

"SMART AGING" STUDY INVESTIGATES BRAIN STIMULATION WHILE RIDING: Yamaha Motor has announced a second round of joint research into "Smart Aging" with Tohoku University in Japan on the subject of the relationship between motorcycle riding and brain stimulation.

The focus of this research will be the measurement and analysis of the cause and effect relationship involved in the operation of various types of vehicles and brain stimulation and measuring the changes in such stimulation over time by means of data gathered from a long-term mass survey in the market.

The findings of the first research project in 2008 included: When riding a motorcycle, the brain of the rider is stimulated; Differences in brain use and level of brain stimulation can be observed in motorcyclists who ride regularly and in motorcyclists who have not ridden for extended periods; Incorporating motorcycle riding into daily life improves various cognitive functions and has positive effects on mental and emotional health such as stress reduction.

The second research project has now begun and Yamaha will provide motorcycles for the study, make its test courses available for subject testing, and solicit test participants and staff. Testing will continue through December, and Yamaha hopes the results will contribute to the vitalization of the motorcycle market.

MEN AT HIGHER RISK OF HEARING LOSS:

From motorcycles to lawnmowers, life is full of noise, but new research shows that it presents a bigger danger for some people than others.

A study of more than 5,000 people in the United States aged 20 to 69 found that males were three times as likely to have noise-related hearing loss as women. The research was recently presented at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Otolaryngology -- Head and Neck Surgery in San Diego, California.

Occupational and recreational noise exposure, as well as service in the armed forces, are likely explanations for why men are at greater risk, said Dr. Hamid Djalilian of the University of California, Irvine, Medical Center, who collaborated on the research.

While the study did not focus on specific root causes, anecdotally Djalilian sees patients whose hearing problems most likely stem from music at concerts or night clubs, or

outdoor activities with "powered instrumentation" such as chain saws and motorcycles.

Sound travels in the ear as vibrations of air molecules, and hearing loss can result from both duration and loudness. Activities such as hunting and motorcycle-riding, which men typically do more than women, create high levels of noise that may impair hearing. Some of the hearing damage is temporary, but a small portion is permanent, and these permanent losses accumulate over time because hair cells in the inner ear may not grow back after being damaged or destroyed.

Noise-induced hearing loss is the number one preventable kind of hearing loss, experts say, and if you are concerned about losing your hearing while doing a noisy activity, wear earplugs.

BUELL MOTORCYCLE COMPANY OUT OF BUSINESS:

After 26 years of building American-made sportbikes, the Buell Motorcycle Company has reached the end of the road, and officials thanked their customers, employees and dealers for an unforgettable ride.

"I will always be proud of what we have accomplished. It is a testimony to what a small group of passionate and inspired people can do, and with brilliant innovations, we've produced some of the best-handling bikes of all time," said Buell Chairman and Chief Technical Officer Erik Buell. "I personally look forward to exploring how I can continue to work with Harley-Davidson to bring advanced product technology to riders."

Parent company Harley-Davidson announced that it will "discontinue" the Buell product line in the wake of dismal economic conditions and declining motorcycle sales, and will "focus both our effort and our investment on the Harley-Davidson brand, as we believe this provides an optimal path to sustained, meaningful long-term growth," said Harley-Davidson CEO Keith Wandell.

Buell Motorcycle Company President Jon Flickinger said a limited number of new Buell motorcycles remain available for sale through authorized dealerships, and also stressed that Harley-Davidson will continue to provide replacement parts and service through their dealership network and that warranty coverage will continue as normal for Buell motorcycles.

Founded in 1983 by Erik Buell, the Buell Motorcycle Company has produced more than 135,000 motorcycles and won numerous design accolades and awards, as well as countless races and championships around the world, including the prestigious AMA Pro Daytona SportBike Championship in 2009.

Harley-Davidson also announced that it would divest the MV Agusta/Cagiva proper-

Coast from page 13

ties, acquired last year at a cost of \$109 million.

AUSTRALIAN BIKERS VICTORIOUS IN COURT: Two members of the Finks MC who had been banned from meeting other bikers under strict anti-association laws passed in South Australia designed to disband outlawed "bikie gangs" by restricting their movements, appealed their case to the Supreme Court which has ruled the orders were invalid.

Similar anti-bikie legislation is pending in Queensland and New South Wales, but members of the United Motorcycle Council, a biker lobby group formed in response to the laws, says the high court's ruling should come as a warning to the government that such laws are "illegal and unconstitutional".

A UMC spokesman said the decision was a victory for members of clubs and organizations everywhere. "The laws give police unfettered power to use secret, false and illegally obtained evidence against individuals, take away the right to an open and fair trial, and reverse the time-honored presumption of innocence," said Ferret. "They trample long-standing legal and civil rights of all citizens, and they have no place in a democratic and civilized society."

WEIRD NEWS: MUSLIM EXTREMISTS BAN WOMEN FROM MOTORCYCLES:

Hamas, a militant Islamic political party that governs the Gaza Strip, has banned women from riding motorcycles. Effective immediately, Gaza women will not be allowed to drive motorbikes and men are forbidden from carrying them as passengers, raising fresh concerns over the movement's ultra-conservative agenda.

In a decision that would raise eyebrows in other parts of the globe, the Interior Ministry said it was banning women from two-wheelers to limit accidents and to "to preserve citizen safety and the stability of Palestinian society's customs and traditions".

The group insists compliance with the campaign is voluntary and reflects Gaza's conservative ways, but reports have surfaced of offenders being beaten or arrested.

The move is the latest step in an "Islamification" campaign by Hamas, which has been classified as a terrorist organization by the U.S. and European Union. Hamas seeks to impose a strict interpretation of Islamic code, including obliging female lawyers to wear headscarves in court and attempting to ban the display of women's underwear in shop windows.

AIM ATTORNEY RALPH VINJE KILLED IN RIGHT-OF-WAY VIOLATION: Aid to Injured Motorcyclists is saddened to report that North Dakota AIM Attorney Ralph Vinje, 67, of Bismarck, N.D. has died from injuries suffered in an accident while on his way to work. According to police reports, Vinje was northbound and was struck at an intersection by an eastbound car whose driver failed to obey a Yield sign.

Vinje was a well-known attorney in the area, handling criminal defense and civil cases. He was a longtime Aid to Injured Motorcyclists attorney who served as legal counsel for the Confederation of Clubs of North Dakota and provided legal representation to motorcyclists in accident cases and other litigation proceedings. He represented ABATE of North Dakota in a battle over a noise ordinance in Bismarck that discriminated against motorcycle enthusiasts.

Over the years, Vinje fought to stop a law that lowered the legal driving limit for alcohol from .10 BAC to .08, and also tried to prove sobriety checkpoints unconstitutional.

In court, Vinje was known for his mild manner and calm demeanor, while outside of the courtroom he enjoyed the outdoors as an avid hunter, fisherman, traveler and motorcyclist who rode his motorcycle every Wednesday afternoon as long as the weather was good with the Freedom Riders Motorcycle Club.

He also was part owner of the Broken Oar Bar in Mandan and was a Vietnam veteran who earned a Bronze Star for his service to our country.

His daughter-in-law, Tiffany Johnson, told the newspaper that "He was a rebel spirit" who had helped scores of people with battles that needed fighting.

QUOTABLE QUOTE: "A nation of sheep will beget a government of wolves." Edward R. Murrow (1908-1965) U.S. broadcast journalist



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2009 State Run Report

by Tony Jaime, 2009 State Run Chairman

Greetings Brothers, Sisters, & Friends! The 2009 ABATE State run is in the books and it was successful by any measure. We raised a bit of revenue for the General Fund, people enjoyed themselves and had fun. Although we didn't make a huge amount, we are faced with a tough economy and that we made money at all is success enough, considering that the Love Ride 26 was cancelled due to the economy. Even though the State Run was an overall success, it was an extremely bittersweet experience due to the tragic accident on Saturday morning, September 19 that claimed the lives of our friends, Jim & Debbie Harmon. It is a fact of life that all of us who ride have come to accept; that we could be taken out by a cage at any moment, but it is still very hard to take, especially when it involves those who are close to us.

Jim was a member of the Bakersfield Widow Makers, Chairman of the Bakersfield Toy Run, and Vice-President of ABATE Local 40. Debbie worked at Renegade Classics motorcycle apparel, was vendor coordinator for the Bakersfield Toy Run, and Secretary/Treasurer for ABATE Local 40. It would be hard to find two more likeable, service-minded and genuinely nice people who were well known for their willingness to go out of their way to help others in need. They were well liked and respected by many people from all walks of life. The Kern County motorcycling community, the Widow Makers and ABATE have suffered a great loss. Jim & Debbie were truly two wonderful souls who were inseparable in life as husband and wife. I feel some solace in knowing they are now together for all eternity and riding with the angels. We will miss you Jim & Debbie!

I want to express my thanks to Teach Anderson, Little Rick, and the rest of the Bakersfield Widow Makers, Whit, Godfather, and Local 40 for finding the strength to carry on with the Bike Games after suffering such a terrible loss. The Widow Makers & Local 40 members dedicated this year's games in honor of Jim & Debbie. The first pass through the slow race path was a touching memorial pass by the Widow Makers. These are some really great people and I'm honored to call them my friends!

While I'm thanking people, I want to thank my friends and Local 58 members, Sharon Scott, Laura Capron, Allen Soard, and Doug & Judy Gerard who were all immensely helpful in making this year's State Run a success.

This year's State Run actually started on Thursday when many early birds showed up in addition to those of us who were there to set-up. Sporty, Tina, and Carol were there setting up their campsite when I arrived. The Widow Makers had a great party and BBQ feast going on Thursday night and fed me some great chicken and beef fajitas, complete with rice, beans, and tortillas. Little Rick is one helluva chef! Larry Gonzalez of Old River BBQ and his group were there and ready to feed the hungry as well. Johnny and Denise Ash and their friends, the Stricklands from Bakersfield, came early too. Local 11 had an early contingent and the folks from Cyclefish were there as well. Two other early birds who showed up were Deacon and Lady Kay, who rode from Arkansas! Finally, about midnight, we were set up and ready. A few of us took a walk down to the river, enjoyed a cold beverage and the clear night skies of Kernville.

Friday started off well with people riding in throughout the day and setting up camp. Many folks took advantage of this year's Scavenger Hunt which seemed to be very popular. Local 44's Hank Hallmark was the winner this year, although Steve Kerr came in a close second, decided only by the tie-breaker which was how much their wives spent in the participating business establishments. Hank donated his winnings back to ABATE.

Local 13 made a strong showing as they camped out close to Local 11. Tim Clark was running around in some really strange looking glasses making everyone laugh. Little David showed up as did Yermo Eddy and the guys from Local 47. Friday evening was mellow with everyone enjoying the friendly confines of Frandy Campground, the river, fresh mountain air, and clear night skies. I again enjoyed the hospitality of the Widow Makers on Friday night as they served up some great tri-tip.

Saturday began with the Ride-In Bike Show and it was well attended with some really unique and striking bikes. Red-Dog from Lifestyle Riders took Best Overall, while Jeff & Shirley Parsons took Best Old School. Deacon took Most Bugs and Lady Kay took Longest Haul. Most Chrome went to Robert Strickland and the Best Ratt Bike went to his wife Tina Strickland, riding a Red Cushman scooter with a picnic basket and a Toto look alike on the back.

We rolled right into the Poker Run, in which the Hi-Hand went to Local 58 member Pat Gant who also happens to own and operate Grumpy Bear's Retreat in Kennedy Meadows and they have an upcoming poker run next month. Lo-Hand went to Elmer "Smitty" Smith who rode all the way from Vacaville, CA and is President of ABATE Local 17. Smitty confided to me that this is the first time he has ever won a poker hand. Congratulations to the winners!

Riders kept filtering in all day long as the party grew in size. Tim Tennimon and his lovely wife, Yvonne, arrived as did Local 6 President John Del Santo and his wife, Fran, who took some great shots of the event. Eventually, around three o'clock we began the bikes games and after some good contests, the winner of the slow race turned out to be Jeff Parsons. Locals 23 & 27 were well represented as Big Art Rubio, Kevin Sorrell, Elmer Simeon, along with Deacon and Rocky Russell put up some good competition, but Jeff took top honors this year.

There was also a great field of competition in the Weenie Bite. The winners were Kevin and Bea, and I have to say that Bea demonstrated some great talent in that contest, much to the delight of the audience! Paige from Local 11 was the winner of the 50/50 contest and she was generous enough to donate \$100 of her winnings back to ABATE also.

After all of that, it was time for entertainment, and the New Blues Order, who are special friends of mine, played some excellent music. A very appreciative crowd formed and a virtual small private concert was held with many folks finding their feet leading them up to dance. It capped a day of festivities and emotion that came to a peak at the end of the night with a special dance

performed by some very beautiful, talented and gifted ladies who attended this year's State Run.

Sunday morning saw early risers tearing down, packing up, and heading back home. For some, a long journey was involved and for others, just an hour or so. I sincerely hope all made it home without incident. I thank you all for attending the 2009 ABATE State Run in Kernville. While it was a lot of work, it was gratifying to see so many old friends and to also make some new friends.

We are already making preparations for next year's State Run, which will again be held at Frandy Campground in Kernville on September 17, 18, & 19, 2010. Someone will be the lucky winner of a 2010 Harley-Davidson FXDC Dyna Super Glide Custom motorcycle at next year's State Run.

Letter to the Editor

Hello everyone, this is Linda Hoy and Bill Crull (Lifetime ABATE members) who have just returned from the State Run in Kernville. We had a great time. Kudos to Tony Jaime and his gang who put the run together. Kernville is beautiful and Frandy Campground was very generous with us. It was fun and very relaxing. It is so wonderful to reconnect with old friends and make new ones. And if you haven't tried El Rio Mexican Restaurant, do yourself a favor next time and go there, excellent Mexican food.

I hope we have all returned home fired up and ready to sign up more new members in ABATE. The horrific loss of two of our members in a head-on collision should only strengthen our resolve to continue our fight for motorcyclist's rights and to raise awareness of motorcycles on the road. We can do so much if we add to our numbers and raise our collective voices.

We look forward to seeing you all at the Northern and Southern California ABATE Regional Rallies.

Linda & Bill.



ABATE STATE

Run Pics

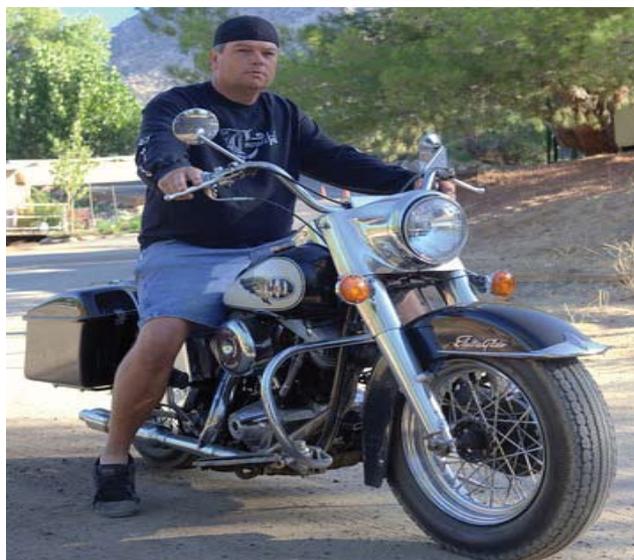
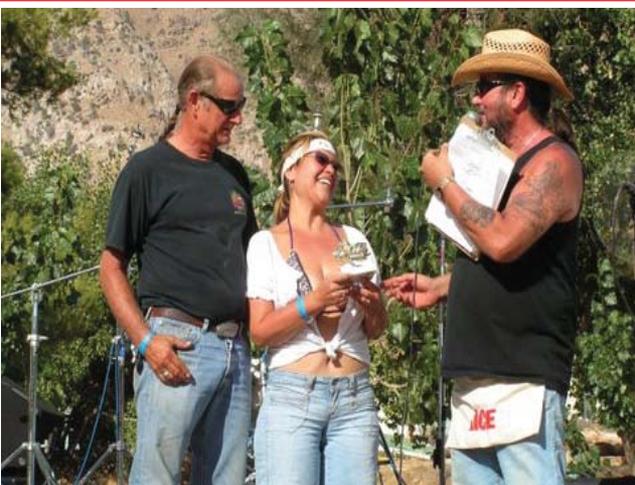
Pics by Gill Mellen, Hank Hallmark, & Tony Jaime



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The Drawing will be held at the 2010 State Run September 18! Winner need not be present to win!

For Tickets – Contact YOUR Local ABATE President (their information is on the back page of the Bailing Wire) or Cynthia Witthans at 760/946-0366.

A Special Thank YOU to Victorville Harley-Davidson for providing the Motorcycle!



Local 24's End of Summer Run

On Saturday, October 10, about 18 bikes and 23 or so people gathered at a local Denny's for the End of Summer Run to Santa Cruz. President Ed said "Let's go" and we headed west across the great central valley towards the Coast Range. Passing through downtown Raisin City and near Tranquility it was a great day for a ride. Weather was cool, but skies were clear.

The grape vine leaves were changing color and unfortunately so are many of the orchards. Signs proclaimed this to be a "Congress Created Dust Bowl." Due to lack of water many of the orchards have every second or third row of trees dying. Farmers are trying to save some of the trees in hopes of surviving.

We reached the foothills and began to climb and it cooled even more. A rattlesnake looking for sun warmed pavement was no match for us. Arriving at the Panoche Inn it was time for a break. We continued on up the Panoche Road towards Hollister, stopping at the Hole for a bite to eat. From here it was on to San Juan Bautista and Daisy's Saloon. Someone scored a bright red jacket at "Harley Used" and the ice cream shop next to Daisy's was real good also.

It was really getting evident that summer has about ended as we rode towards Santa Cruz where the University Inn awaited us. It was an excellent riding day. We split up for dinner; some did Italian, some Chinese, and some Burger King.

On Sunday, some were slow gathering in the morning, but soon we were off to La Honda Road for a ride in the Santa Cruz Mountains. At the Apple Inn there was a large Ducati group gathered across the street. Continuing on up La Honda I was a ways back from our group. As I came around a curve there was a very bad three sport bike wreck in the road. Some of their friends had set up traffic control and another friend was doing emergency EMT. Three riders were down; my offer of help wasn't needed, so I continued on. Our group was ahead of the wreck.

I stopped at Alice's Restaurant and after thinking about it, I decided to return to Santa Cruz. As usual at Alice's there was every kind of exotic motor vehicle you could imagine. Two wheels, three wheels, four wheels; it was there. The rest of our group rode back via Felton and other back roads into Santa Cruz. It was another great day of riding.

On Monday, folks departed when they wanted to and took different routes home. I went down Highway 1 to Cambria and back to Fresno.

Let there be no doubt, when Ed said this was the end of summer run, it was the end of summer! Bruce.



Local 27's Poker Run (or not) by HR, Local 27 President

The Elks Lodge on Brockton in Riverside has seen some strange sights, but none stranger than these! Local 27's run committee, consisting of Greg Covel, Kenny Nuttal, and Jack Howell, staged an event of awesome proportions. The Local 27 membership owes these folks a big slap on da back for all they have done to pull this off.

This was truly a great event and fund raiser, and it DID raise funds! The run Committee could not have done this on their own; so first we must acknowledge the fine folks that stepped up!

The vendors were corralled by none other than Dangerous Darlene and her able keeper Danny'O. There was a good mix of shopping as well as Lynette McLean, the massage therapist, who seemed to be doing a brisk business rubbing folks the "right" way. I can tell you from personal experience, you sit in her chair and you just float away in her talented hands.

With everybody riding such shiny scoots these days (what's a Rat?), seems they like to get them cleaned up before they even get done with the day riding. T-Lee's Cycle Detail was swamped with bug-crusted machines to clean up so folks could go home with them gleaming! I hate to see such a cute lil thing work so hard, but she was grinnin all the way to the bank!

Team 27 also cornered the great band, Jay Gordon & the Penetrators, that pierced the clouds with their brand of rock 'n roll; just the way we like it, lively!

BBQ duties were headed up by Elmer Siemon and Richard Cox. All feasted on burgers 'n dogs with chips 'n tater salad 'n a soda. Beverages were also available inside the Elk's Lodge.

One great benefit of these events is ya get ta see people that just can't make the monthly meetings like Kenny's blushing bride, Raean, and the lovely Mrs. Jack Howell, as well as Fred and Pat Commack who manned the raffle both with Ider 'n Jerry Snyder.

One real God-send is David Waites and his wife, Jackie. This young couple was there to help and help they did. Folks this is truly great to see, as these kids are the future. I hope we did not scare them off, but I do hope we can mentor them to lead Motorcycle Rights into the future. We need to find a way to get more of these fine young folks on board.

Speaking of which, we had 8 new members sign on including Lee and Lorraine who finally made good on their threat to join.

High hand went to Jim Feduska while low hand went to Jerry Taylor. The Mystery Hand (?) went to Kimberly Gilbert. Over at the Bike Games arena we held the Slow Race and the Weenie Bite which were won by Gene Martinez and State Weenie Bite Champs Kevin 'n Bea Sorrell; what a pair. Hats off to the youth again, one of the models from KCAL gracefully agreed to be our Flag Starter for the slow race, which sent old hearts racing, then decided to give the weenie bite a try. She showed gumption where her peers remained wall flowers. The young folks found out though that goin slow ain't as easy as us old folks make it look.

I just mentioned KCAL, our Inland Empire premier rock radio station. Jack Howell somehow got us tied in with their promotions department and they helped promote us and arranged for the stops on the run. Then to top it off on-



air personality, Jimbo, borrowed a scoot from ABATE Local 27 business member, Skip Fordyce, and signed in with his friends and did the run his, own-damn-self! He appeared to have a very good time though he did not talk about the weenie bite competition when he went back to work Monday!

The afternoon wore down and the remnants began to get restless for the final awards and the closer 50/50, which went to LAPSED ABATE Local 27 member, Lisa Molina, who walked off with 99 bucks. It's hoped that she will renew soon now that she can afford it!

This year's event was a real event as in new roads were traveled, bridges were built and crossed. The KCAL thing can help bring not only new members, but young ones ta boot. Jack is to be commended for his initiative. They had us in the studio and on the air. I got to mention our opposition to SB 435, but I must confess even I had knocking knees and I may not have waxed as eloquent as I could have!

A big THANKS to the Riverside Elks for allowing this pandemonium to occur on their land.

In closing I say a great presidential thanks and a tip of the hat to all! C'ya, HR



The Membership Committee Announces It's 11 th ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

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Second Place - \$200.00

Third Place - \$100.00

The Rules:

- 1.No Minimum number of memberships required to qualify.
- 2.The campaign begins January 1, 2009 and ends December 31st 2009. Only NEW Memberships received by the State Office on or between these dates will qualify for campaign-credit. Memberships submitted or POSTMARKED before January 1st or after December 31st will not be included.
- 3.You must be a current member of ABATE of California to participate.
- 4.Your name must be included as the source on each application you submit, and it is YOUR responsibility to promptly confirm that your name is included on applications phone/fax/mailed by you.
- 5.The person credited with the highest number of NEW memberships will be awarded the top prize. In the event of a tie, the winner shall be selected by a random drawing to be conducted by the Membership Committee.
- 6.WINNERS of the Membership drive will be announced and receive their Prizes at the ABATE State Board Meeting in January 2010.
- 7.All Membership types are considered equal for the purposes of credit. No extra credit will be given for Couple, Gold Business or Life Memberships.
- 8.Membership Committee Members and their family members are not eligible to win.
9. Renewals do not count as new membership for the campaign.
10. The Local that retains their current members as of January 1st to the end of the campaign and gains 50 new members by December 31st will win a personal bonus of \$75.00 from the Membership Chairman – Sporty!
- 11.All decisions of the Membership Committee are final.

GOOD LUCK AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Membership Committee Chairman –Sporty 818/361-8800

Membership Report

by Lee 'Sporty' Milligan,
Membership Chairman

Hi all! I am reporting that we're in the home stretch of our drive. With that said, I need to remind the presidents about the membership retention information I sent you earlier this year. I hope you're putting the information to good use. Let me know your thoughts on it by e-mailing me at mrsportyiii@yahoo.com.

Once again I will remind you about doing the trinket program for your renewals. It's quick, easy and lets the renewals know you care.

We're going to have to do some brain-storming to determine how I might better serve you, the membership. Folks I need ideas, so please help Old Sporty out with some suggestions on how you get members.

Ok. Your goal is to get me a least one new member by the end of the year. Any takers on the goal? So at your toy runs this season try and get new members.

Finally please try to retain your members. I know in a crazy economy that can be a chore, but do your best. The more members we have the better ABATE is.

Thanks for listening. Regards,
Sporty.

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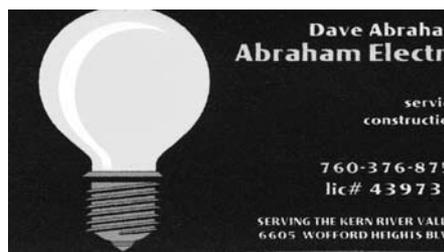
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by Tim Tennimon, Executive Director

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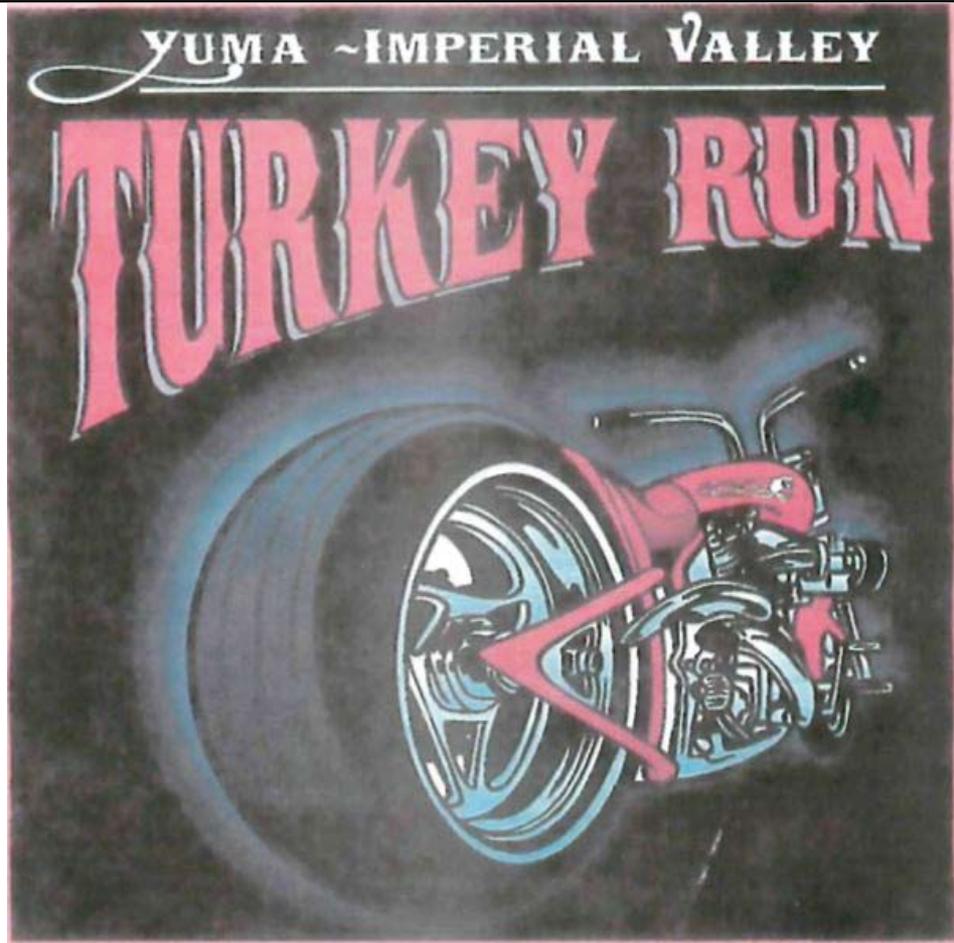


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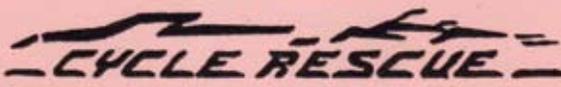
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ABATE Of California EVENTS

2009 ABATE Events

November 1 – ABATE Local 47 – Ride to the Devils Play Ground. Sign-up at Peggy Sue's 50's Diner; 35654 Yermo Rd; (I-15 & Ghost Town Rd.) in Yermo 92398. from 9a to 10 a. \$20/ person includes Lunch. More info at sign-in. Contact Yermo Ed at 760/254-3833 or vermoeddy@aol.com

November 8 – Totally Kids aka One More From the Heart - Loma Linda – Specific donations - contact Honda Ray 951/279-4370 or Local 27's web site www.abatelocal27.org for the flyer.

November 8 – ABATE Local 21 - Happenin' Headquarters 13th Annual Toy Run - from 11 am to 5 pm at The Moose Lodge, 44545 Division Street in Lancaster. With a \$10 new toy donation for Moose Charities you'll enjoy music from Black Daniels Band, autos, cycles, vendors, ABATE Local 21 Poker run, food, 50/50 raffles, prizes, games and Santa. More info @ www.alleygl.org or call Santa at 661/947-3734.

November 21 – ABATE Local 38 – Turkey Run. Sign-in 9 am at Lucky's Parking Lot; 351 Wake

Ave; El Centro 92243. \$7.00 + a Frozen Turkey (includes a dinner ticket). More Info call Ed 760/337-8372

December 5 – ABATE Local 9 – 13th Annual Toy Drive – Noon – 6 pm Swallow's Inn; 31786 Camino Capistrano; San Juan Capistrano 92675; Bring an UNWRAPPED Toy and receive a free raffle ticket. Food, Drinks available. Live Music by the Helicopter. More info – Cory 949-633-1576; Cheryl 949/493-3188

December 6 - ABATE Local 19 and Pomona Valley Hog 21st Annual Toy Run to benefit Santa Claus Inc. Ontario Elks Lodge, 1150 W. 4th Street, Ontario, Ca 10 AM to 2 pm; \$8.00 and One New Unwrapped Toy.

December 12 – ABATE Local 15 Annual Christmas Party & Trap Shoot. Martinez Gun Club; Advance Tickets ONLY Before November 30th - \$25/person Includes Meal. Purchase tickets at their meeting or Call Bob 925/586-7376 abate15@yahoo.com

December 13 – 22nd Annual "Skid Row" L.A. Toy Ride – ABATE Local 1

and Glendale Harley-Davidson. Pancake breakfast 9 to 10:30am. Departure time 11am. All participants please bring at least one NEW unwrapped toy for a homeless child. More info – Peter Daniels 800/866-6601 or Richard at 818/246-5618 ext 108.

December 13 – ABATE Local 40 – 26th Annual Bakersfield Toy Run & Food Drive to Benefit the Salvation Army of Kern County. This year's event in Memory of Jim & Debbie Harmon co-founders of the Bakersfield Toy Run and Food Drive.

Meet at Beach Park – Oak & 21st Street 7 am – Group parade to the Kern County Fairgrounds 10:00am. Entry fee – One New unwrapped toy & one Non-Perishable food item OR \$20/ person. Sherry 661/399-0340 aalcovette1970@sbcglobal.net or John Mullin 661/588-5106 johnmullin@gmail.com

2010 Events

May 7, 8 & 9 - Southern Regional Rally

Northern Regional Rally

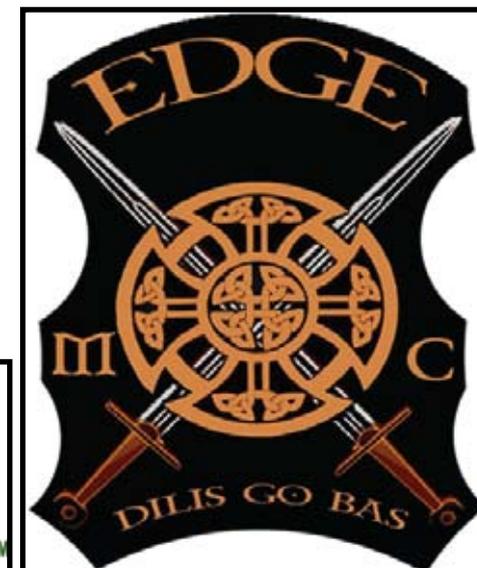
June 19 - ABATE Local 19 & Casa Colina – Thunder In the House

September 17, 18 & 19

ABATE State Run - Kernville

September 18 – ABATE Bike Raffle Drawing - Frandy Campground

Please email your ABATE Event information (in Microsoft word document) and Flyers (in a JPG file) to bailing.wire@abate.org by the 15th of the month to be listed in the next issue.



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Lane Sharing - What's That???

by John Del Santo

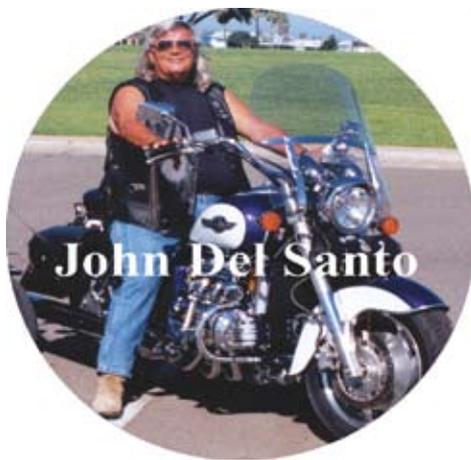
If you ask 30 different people their opinion on Lane-Sharing, Lane-Splitting, or White-Lining, you will get 34 different answers. So let's kick some of them around.

Lane Sharing - or Lane Splitting - is not legal because it is not mentioned in the California Vehicle Code, and it is not illegal because it is not specifically prohibited in the Vehicle Code. For many motorcyclists throughout the country, from that standpoint, we're the envy of the nation. Some of the violations that we can be cited for when we are splitting are: 1] "speed too fast for conditions" - Although it is not written anywhere, most law enforcement officers will not bother you if you are moving at 10 - 15 MPH faster than the traffic you are splitting. Some police in town consider any lane splitting on city streets to be "too fast for conditions".

2] Then there's "unsafe lane change" or "changing lanes without a signal" - You can get those if you are popping back and forth from lane to lane to lane, instead of just sharing a lane. 3] "Following too close" while you are setting up for a move - Following too close to allow safe reaction time is always unsafe. 4] Then there is the catch-all of "improper passing". And 5] the most severe is "reckless driving" which happens when a combination of laws are being broken.

But, "getting a ticket" is just chump change. Being run over by a big car, now that's serious! That's the one we want to avoid!

Our headlight is on high beam, (if we don't have a modulating headlight), one finger is on the horn button, and other fingers are covering the brake and we're not hanging in anyone's blind spot - being prepared.



When you decide to lane-split, pick your spot and time. Is the other traffic slowing down? Or are you near an exit or merge? If you lane-split now, your chances of getting caught in someone else's mistake have increased. Which lane are you sharing? The general consensus is that the HOV lane is the safest, if there is one, followed by splitting the #1 and #2 lanes (counting from the center divider to the right shoulder).

Who are the drivers in those cars that we are passing? Some of them are daydreaming and don't have a clue what's going on around them, and some of them are from out

of state and have no idea that lane-sharing is allowed and a bike is going to pass by close to their window. These are the ones that are startled when it happens. Some of them spend more time in their car than they do at home in the living room and consider their car their "Domain". These people get angry with lane-sharing motorcyclists, feel that you are "cheating" somehow, and may try to squeeze the lane shut, or even toss things out of their window. "Whew!"

Do "loud pipes save lives" like that helmet sticker reads? Don't count on it! So many of them have their windows cranked shut, the radio and air-conditioner on, and talking on the phone. These drivers have so much going on that they couldn't even hear a fire truck coming up on them, let alone a motorcycle! And most of them don't hardly ever look in their mirrors.

When we are lane-splitting, we are only about eight inches away from the hospital. A friend says "Ride as if they're trying to kill you." Having the right to lane-share is a great thing, but we need to be smart and aware when we use that maneuver. Dr Harry Hurt, who led a motorcycle crash causation study in the late 1970's, was asked to summarize his advice regarding motorcycle safety in one sentence, he replied, "There is no magic bullet other than getting smart."

Bakersfield Toy Run In Memory of Jim & Debbie Harmon

The 26th Annual Bakersfield Toy Run and Food Drive to benefit the Salvation Army of Kern County will be held on Sunday, December 13 2009 in memory of Jim & Debbie Harmon, co-founders of the Bakersfield Toy Run.

Motorcyclist and auto enthusiast of all types are asked to gather at Beach Park at Oak and 21st Street starting at 7:00 am for a group parade to the Kern County Fairgrounds at 10:00 am.

Entrance fee is one new unwrapped toy and one non-perishable food item or \$20.00 donation per person. There will be live musical entertainment, food, refreshments, vendors, toy run t-shirts and run pins. A Large variety of door prizes will be awarded. These items have been donated from Advanced Beverages, Tuff Shed, IKEA, and many other merchants throughout Kern County. There will also be a 50/50 drawing.

All the proceeds will be donated to those less fortunate families here in Kern County through the Salvation Army.

This event is open to the entire community and everyone is urged to attend. For more info: Sherry (661) 399-0340 aalcovette1970@sbcglobal.net or John Mullin (661)588-5106 johnmullin@gmail.com. Vendors: Twila Williams (661) 302-0048 twlwlms@aol.com.

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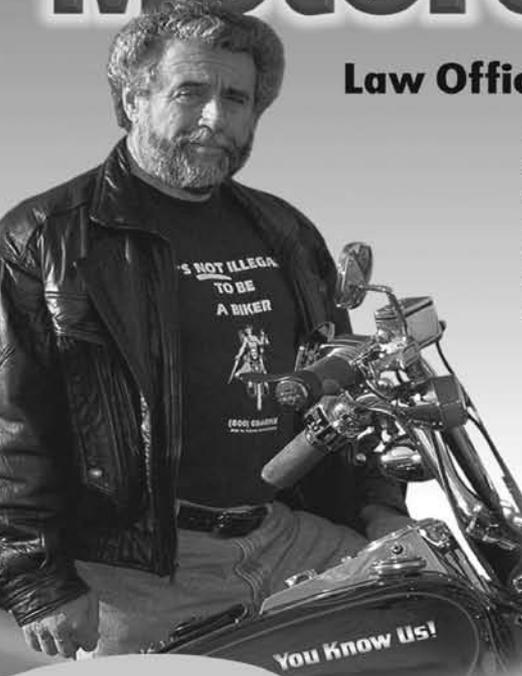
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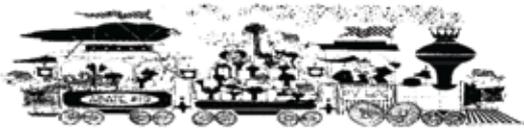
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Tribute to Jim & Debbie Harmon

by Yvonne Tennimon

We were sitting at the entrance of Frandy campground at the State Rally when an SUV pulls up, Fran Del Santo got up to speak to the driver, then she backs up with a look of shock on her face. The driver had just informed her that there was a head on collision and two of ours were involved. Debbie Harmon was being taken by helicopter to emergency; Jim Harmon would be going by ambulance to emergency. Their condition was grave. A motorist had lost control of her vehicle running into their lane. I was saddened when I spoke with Fran; John, Tim, Tina, Carol, Tony – we were all in shock. Several Widow Makers and ABATE members mounted up to follow-up on the accident, our friends, our people, our members, our freedom fighters had taken a hit.

Debbie and Jim were going to meet their friends with plans to return to manage the bike games. We had just discussed the invitation Jim and Debbie had extended to us to spend the weekend with them, go riding, and have a good time because that's what it

usually was with them. The Widow Makers picked up the torch for freedom by filling the void at the bike games that Jim and Debbie left. Those activities that ABATE conducts for participants that bring in the monies to continue the fight for Motorcycle Awareness, keeping a vigilant position for our rights - like the smog bill.



ABATE named the Jim and Debbie Memorial State Run in honor of their contribution, and what a contribution they impacted. Helping 2000 families that have been down and out, the Salvation Army mentioned at the Calvary Memorial Church, along with a toy run that has brought smiles and relief to countless children each year for 26 years. The Salvation Army said they would have to wait and see what happens this year without Jim and Debbie. Their grandson played and sang a tribute song he wrote to his grandparents.

They did the right thing and left a legacy and I ask ABATE members to do the right thing by continuing this toy run. I am asking that members contribute, if they can't make it, that we pick up the torch making the toy run a bigger and better event in dedication to Jim and Debbie.

ABATE can make a ripple effect through the community of Bakersfield or a Tsunami of good to the families that Jim and Debbie brought hope, smiles and relief to in hard times. I think Jim and Debbie deserve ABATE members and any others to mount up like Chariots of Fire and carry on the toy run assuring the Salvation Army won't be at a loss to help those in need this year.

We Love you! We Miss you! Sunday, October 4, 2009, your harvest was plentiful. The seeds of love sowed by you throughout the years were seen that day in full bloom. I thank God for allowing me the privilege of knowing you, the privilege of earning your love and the privilege of sharing everlasting memories with you. You both will live forever in our hearts and in the hearts of many.
Love You!

**Omar, President of ABATE
Local 40.**



Tech Tips by Craig Griswold Tires - Part II

Last month we covered some basic maintenance issues and touched on a few points for tire selection. This column will address tire size data and define a few terms as well.

There are three common tire size systems. Metric (i.e. 130/90-16), Alpha (i.e. MT90HB16), and Inch (5.00H16). For comparative purposes, the following chart shows the equivalent between the three. Be advised! This does not imply interchangeability. Check with a reputable shop, your service literature, or manufacturers' data for specific applications.

Front Tires:

Metric	Alpha	Inch
80/90	MH90	2.50/2.75
90/90	MJ90	2.75/3.00
100/90	MM90	3.25/3.50
110/90	MN90	3.75/4.00
120/80		4.25/4.50
120/90	MR90	4.25/4.50
130/90	MT90	5.00/5.10

Rear Tires:

Metric	Alpha	Inch
110/90	MP85	4.00/4.25
120/90	MR90	4.50/4.75
130/80		5.00/5.10
130/90	MT90	5.00/5.10
140/80		5.50/6.00
140/90	MU90	5.50/6.00
150/80	MV85	6.00/6.25

Breaking down the three systems is as follows: 1] The Inch system is fairly self explanatory. It is nothing more than the tire width in inches. 2] The Alpha system correlates to a specific tire size; however, there are no definitions for the letters themselves. 3] The metric system is fairly easy. Take the 130/90-16. The 130 is the width of the tire in millimeters. The

90 is the aspect ratio, which is the tire's height, measured as a percentage of the tire's width. For our example above, the tire will have a height that is 90% of 130 mm, or 117 mm. "Low profile" tires have an aspect ratio less than 80. The 16 is the bead diameter (rim diameter) in inches. The only head scratcher here is why they mix inches with a metric label. Maybe the same reason we all have to have two sets of tools in the box!

Speed ratings are also good to know. Here are the letter designations as they apply: R=106 MPH, S=112 MPH, T=118 MPH, H=130 MPH, V=150 MPH, W=168 MPH and Z=150+ MPH (Contact Manufacturer).

Hopefully we were able to sort out some of the alphabet soup. As always, if you are in doubt with regards to application, condition, etc., check with a reputable shop.

(Craig Griswold and Mary Kirby are the owners of Two Gunners Custom Iron in Penn Valley, CA. Questions and comments can be sent to e-mail: twogunners@gmail.com, or call 530-263-8071. Additional information can be found on the web at: twogunnerscustomiron.com).

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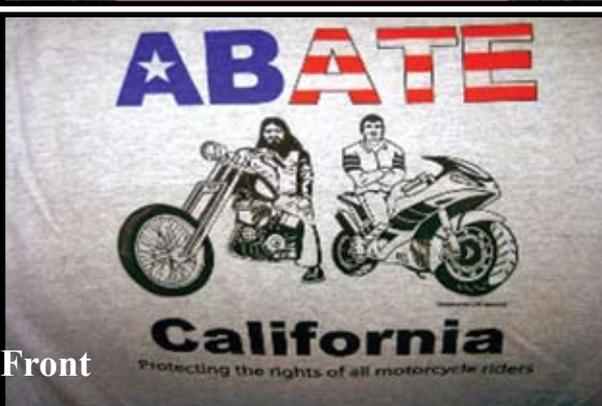
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1452 W. Holt Blvd.
Ontario, CA 91762

Orange County - Local #20-Reg#11

Gill Mellen
2052 Newport Blvd #6
Costa Mesa, CA 92627-7140
949/632-9787

2nd Tues - 7:00 PM
Starting Gate
5052 Katella Ave.
Los Alamitos, CA 90720

Antelope Valley - Local #21-Reg#13

Ron Sundquist
37230 52nd St. East
Palmdale 93552
661/586-5555
ron.sundquist@sbcglobal.net

1st Thurs - 7:00 PM
Primos
Valley Central near Walmart
Lancaster



ABATE MEETINGS

South Bay - Local #22-Reg#11

Suzanne Palmiere
310/326-3667
suzpalmiere@aol.com

1st Tues - 7:30 PM
Walker's Cafe
700 W. Paseo Del Mar
San Pedro

San Bernardino - Local #23-Reg#9

Kevin Sorrell
909/793-1112

1st Sun 9:00 AM
Jenny's Family Restaurant
7750 Palm Ave, Highland

Fresno - Local#24-Reg#6

Ed Rogers
559/264-2891

1st Wed. 7:00 PM
Cedar Lanes
3131 N. Cedar, Fresno

Sacramento - Local#25-Reg#2

Diane Wheeler
916/351-5623

3rd Thurs - 7:00 PM
Mountain Mike's Pizza
8112 Madison Ave. Fair Oaks

Riverside - Local#27-Reg#9

Honda Ray
P.O. Box 7070
Riverside CA 92313
951/279-4370
www.abatelocal27.org

1st Tues - 7:30 PM
Denny's Restaurant
2925 Van Buren
Riverside

Lake County - Local#28-Reg#1

Melissa Fulton
707/263-1845

1st Thurs - 7:00 PM
Call for meeting place

Morongo Basin - Local#29-Reg#10

Marty Rapp
P.O. Box 2334
29 Palms CA 92277
760/367-1694

2nd - Thurs - 6:30 PM
La Casita Restaurant
57154 29 Palms Hwy
Yucca Valley

North Valley - Local #31-Reg#2

Larry James
530/893-4827

2nd Tues - 7:00 PM
Last Call Lounge
876 East Ave. Chico

Santa Clara Valley - Local #32-Reg#4

Dan Scott
950 Meridan Ave#19
San Jose 95126
408/603-8968

Last Sun. 9:30 AM
Sherwood Inn
2988 Almaden Expy
San Jose

Yuba City - Local #33-Reg#2

1st Tues - 7:30 PM
American Legion
5477 Feather River Blvd. Marysville

Hanford - Local #34-Reg#6

Meets with Local#24

1st Wed - 7:00 PM
Cedar Lanes
3131 N. Cedar, Fresno

Monterey Bay - Local #35-Reg#4

Jackie Favolora
831/659-9313

1st Wed - 7:00 PM
Caruso's Corner
2101 N. Fremont St. Monterey

Palm Springs - Local #36-Reg#10

Ray Lopez
P.O. Box 460
Rancho Mirage 92270
760/206-9696
rlascape@aol.com

2nd Thurs - 6:30 PM
The Fireside Lounge
696 Oleander Rd.
Palm Springs
760/327-1700

Imperial Valley - Local#38-Reg#12

Ed Aranda
P.O.Box 2362
El Centro CA 92244
760/337-8372
edward_al2@yahoo.com

Last Thurs - 7:00 PM
La Fonda Restaurant
548 Broadway
El Centro

Bakersfield - Local#40-Reg#6

Omar Macias
661/832-5240
661/900-8690

2nd Tues - 7:00 PM
Rusty's Pizza 1751 White Lane
Bakersfield

High Desert - Local#44-Reg#13

Gary Withans
P.O. Box 3094
Victorville CA 92392
760/946-0366

2nd Sat - 9:00 AM
Eagles Fraternal Order
16195 Main St.
Hesperia

Banning - Local #45-Reg#10

Trine Howell
760/323-9860

Call for Meeting Info
67387 Mission Dr.
Cathedral City 92234

Modesto - Local #46-Reg#5

2nd Fri - 7:30PM
Call for Meeting Info
209/571-3137

Barstow - Local #47-Reg#13

Yermo Eddy
PO Box 521
Yermo CA 92398
760/254-3833 or 760/953-7353

1st Thurs - 7:00PM
VFW #2143
25190 Main St.
Barstow/Lenwood

Hemet - Local #48-Reg#9

Meet with Local#27

Humboldt County - Local #50-Reg#1

Barbara Kennedy
707/946-2248

4th Wed
Call for meeting place & time

Calaveras County - Local #51-Reg#5

Jerry Yates
Box 549
Mountain Ranch, 209/754-5778

2nd Wed 6:30 PM
Call for meeting place

Grass Valley - Local#52-Reg#2

Don Dickerman
P.O. Box 472
Grass Valley 95945
530/273-2086

3rd Wed - 6:30 PM
Larry & Lena's Pizza & Grill
15690 Johnson Place
Hwy#49 Grass Valley

Owens Valley - Local#53-Reg#13

Meet with Local#58

West San Fernando - Local#54-Reg#8

Meet with Local #1

Visalia - Local #57 - Reg#6

Dave Olsen
559/936-5909

1st Wed 7:00PM
Meet with L#24

Ridgecrest - Local #58-Reg#13

Darryl McGee
P.O. Box 539
Ridgecrest 93556
760-793-0302

3rd Sat 10:00 AM
Mickey's Pub
1661 W. Triangle Dr.
Ridgecrest

Kern River Valley Lake (KRV Lake) Local#59-Reg#13

No information at this time

Colfax - Local #60-Reg#2

Chuck James
707/972-8180

2nd Thurs 7:00 PM
Grand Father Station
247 Railroad St
Colfax

Local #61 Shasta County-Redding

2nd Tues 6:30 PM
The Palo Cedro Inn
9191 Deschutes Rd, Palo Cedro