

# THE BAILING WIRE

ABATE of CA. Magazine for Motorcyclists | Vol. 38 • ISSUE 12 • December 2019



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

### Lobbyist's Legislative Report



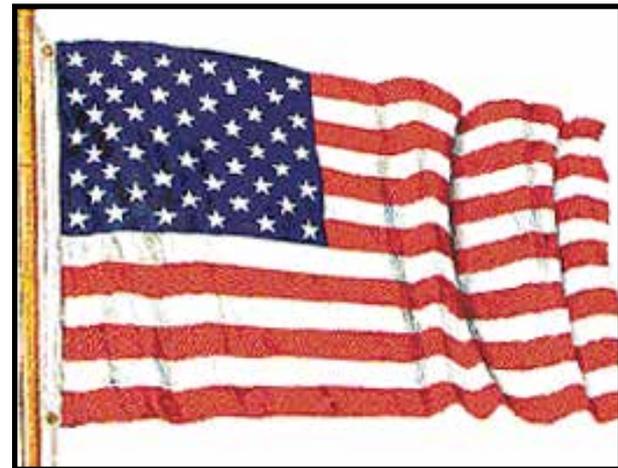
**LICENSE ENDORSEMENT!** The CMSP advisory Board, which I serve on as ABATE's representative, voted to support this class! Finally, after 2 years, ABATE's bill AB 1027 Acosta and SB 631 Jones were adopted by the CHP. Big win for experienced riders who can't take 3 days off work to do a beginner class, if they have riding experience and belong in an Intermediate level class. **Major Win FOR ABATE!**

Caltrans for the 10<sup>th</sup> consecutive year has posted their Highway Signs "Look Twice for Motorcycle Riders"! ABATE is responsible for pushing at the CMSP meetings for Caltrans to post these signs! We re-affirmed at the October CMSP meeting to continue again in 2020 and would like more postings throughout next year as well.

Lee Parks, President of Total Control (also a Business Supporter of ABATE and the Bailing Wire), presented his annual report to the CMSP and that for the past 5 years of his contract with the CHP California Motorcyclists Safety Program fatalities and deaths have GONE DOWN EACH YEAR!

See you at the ABATE January Board of Directors meeting in SoCal! Thanks to all who support the Dedicated Lobbyist fund to keep us in the Capitol protecting your rights to ride Motorcycles!

## American Brotherhood Aimed Towards Education



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by James Lombardo, Lobbyist  
The Lombardo Group –  
Government Relations  
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Merry Christmas and Safe Riding to ALL!  
The Legislature returns to Sacramento in the first week of January to deal with the leftover two year bills from 2019 - fast out of the gate for end of the Month Deadline!

We held one ABATE Bill while working with CHP, SB 631 by Senator Jones, which required the CHP to finally endorse and approve the CMSP provider to allow for a ONE DAY MOTORCYCLE SAFETY CLASS AND GET THE DL 389 FORM BY DMV - as an option to THE LOLLIPOP TEST MOTORCYCLE

### Joe Rendon Local 25



# What is ABATE?

ABATE is a motorcyclists' rights organization dedicated to preserving freedom of choice and freedom of the road on or off with emphasis on education and safety. Although not a club, our members are active in programs for public awareness and motorcycle safety and in supporting many types of charity events. There are no special requirements for joining aside from an interest in promoting motorcyclist's rights and safety with payment of the appropriate fees.

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## Executive Director Report

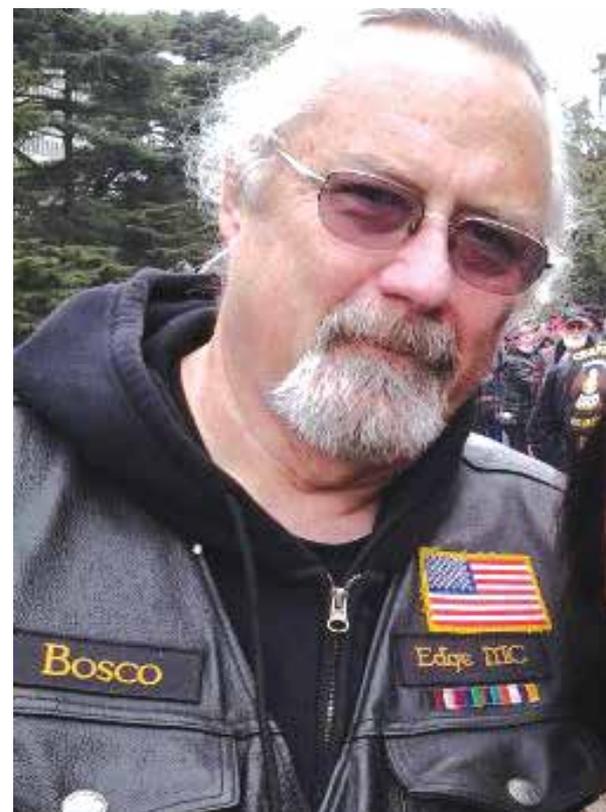
### by Mark Loudermilk, Executive Director

It looks like the Christmas season is finally upon us, despite the retailers thinking it started the day after Halloween. Thanksgiving just gets no respect in the retail world. And as a continuation from last month, PLEASE be careful out there. Driver distraction is at its peak.

It is quiet at the State political level this time of year, but we have a busy year coming up. This year the bill was passed making loud exhaust a fix it tickets again, but motorcycles were exempt from that. In 2020 we are working on fixing that. This year we tried to have an anti-profiling resolution, but it was a non-starter. Next year we have a new plan and will get the resolution before the State Legislature.

2020 is also an election year. We will be putting together our questionnaire for the candidates to find out where they stand on the issues we are interested in. Plus, the Resolution regarding profiling is still before the House of Representatives, having passed in the Senate already. So far only 115 Representatives, about 25%, have signed on as co-authors. We need to increase that number. So long story short, we have a lot of work ahead of us in the upcoming year.

We all have our wish lists this time of year and as we get older the list changes a little. In the year I have been allowed to hold this position some new things have found their way to my wish list and they all involve ABATE and get back to one of my main themes. As I have said before, ABATE is about the members and the membership decides if we succeed or fail. Many, many, many of our members work hard, contribute time and money, participate, and make ABATE work. I have enormous thanks for you all.



I also have enormous thanks for all the rest of the members who through their membership and contributions keep us running. My wish for you is to take the next step and become involved. When that call to action comes in your email, make that phone call or send that email.

Since we are coming into an election year, volunteer some of your time to your candidate. Let them know you represent ABATE. When elected, they remember who was there for them during the campaign. Develop a relationship with them, offering thoughts and listening to theirs. Working together we can have an effect on legislation.

I am reminded of the quote "All that is needed for evil to succeed is for good to do nothing". All that is needed for motorcyclists to lose their rights is for them to do nothing.

I wish everyone a Merry Christmas or Happy Holiday for your faith and see you all in the New Year. We have a lot to do.

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### 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.**

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, BOLT and any other motorcycle rights organization that strengthens our lobby on legislative issues and on motorcycle safety.

**ABATE OF CALIFORNIA INC**

**American Brotherhood Aimed Towards Education**

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**COLUMNISTS**

Bill Bish, Sporty Milligan, Jim Lombardo Sr, Jim Lombardo Jr, Mark Loudermilk & Norm E Newiger

**DEADLINES**

The deadline is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication for ALL materials. All run flyers, photos and ad copy must be camera ready.

**BUSINESS MEMBERSHIPS**

- (1) \$125 Gold Business w/ Blk/Wht Ad
- (2) \$200 Gold Business w/ Color Ad
- (3) \$250 Gold Business w/2X Color Ad

All Levels include (2) memberships with (1) address. Levels (1 & 2) ad size is (2 x 3.5) and Level (3's) ad size is (3.5 x 4) which is also published on our website [www.abate.org](http://www.abate.org) along with a link to your company's website. New Business Members received a Display Plaque. Following years are supplied with a year plate. New Business Members or Business Members with new Business Cards must mail them into the ABATE State Office.

**AD RATES FOR NON-BUSINESS MEMBERS**

(2 x 3.5) size Blk/Wht	\$15.00/Mo	\$150.00/Yr
(2 x 3.5) size Color	\$20.00/Mo	\$200.00/Yr
(3.5 x 4) size Color only	\$25.00/Mo	\$250.00/Yr

**NON-MEMBER ADS OR EVENT FLYERS**

(Ads & Flyers subject to approval by Editor)

¼ Page (5w x 7.8h)	\$150.00/Mo	\$1500/Yr
½ Page (10w x 7.8h)	\$175.00/Mo	\$1750/Yr
Full Page (10w x 15.5h)	\$150.00/Mo	\$3500/Yr

Color Ads add 25%

Color for an ad or flyer is extra and must be submitted showing color. All ads MUST be pre-paid for entire duration of ad run. Prices do not include any changes that you may want to make to existing ads placed with us.

Ads should be submitted electronically in a (.jpg) or (.tiff) format and emailed to [bailing.wire@abate.org](mailto:bailing.wire@abate.org) with payment either mailed to the address above or called in with a credit card number and billing information.

**CLASSIFIEDS**

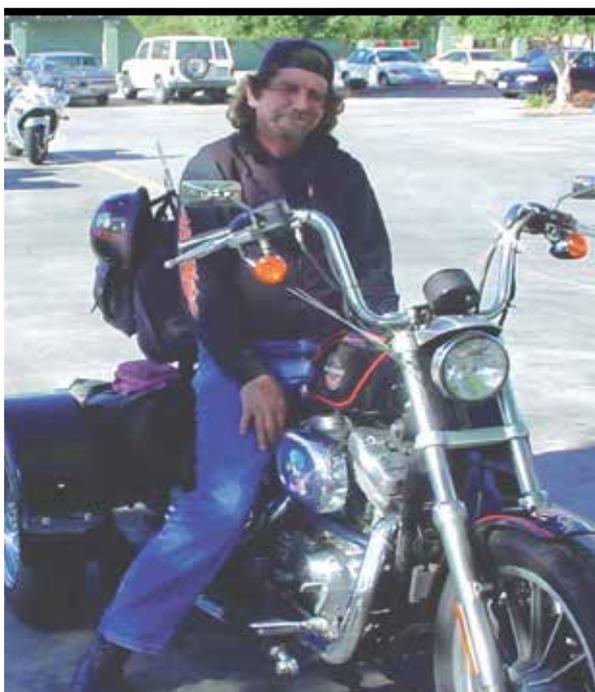
Members may advertise in the Bailing Wire at no charge and their ad will be run up to (3) issues.

**PHOTOS**

If you have any photos of ABATE events, please send them to us. They will be returned if requested. Please include name of event, date, captions, etc. They must be received by the deadline in order to be published in the next issue. You can email pictures in (.jpg) or (.tiff) to [bailing.wire@abate.org](mailto:bailing.wire@abate.org). All content is subject to approval by the Editor.

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.

# Membership Report



## by Sporty Milligan, Membership Chairman

Hi all! We're in the final swing for the Membership drive. That means it's time for you to really buckle down and get those last minute folks you have been trying to get as members. Give them the campaign speech on how be-

ing an ABATE member is good for their political health. Also, since it's also getting to the Christmas Season, an ABATE membership makes a nice Christmas gift to your friends. It shows you care about their biker political well-being!

So this Holiday Season take your supply of blue membership cards with you and you might get lucky like I did at the Shaggers toy run. At the ending spot, the Pearblossom County Park, I signed-up Popeye, the founder of his club, Brotherhood Aronymous. Since he lives in Oxnard 03/13 will get the membership, I get the sign-up!

Toy runs are where a large number of folks gather. If you run your pitch right, chances are you might sign-up a member or two. Good luck!

Local membership chairs, remember to do your best to encourage your renewing members to renew.

Remember there is unity and strength in numbers of members.

Membership Chair Sporty reporting.

## L 20 raffle prize winners



 <p><b>TEMPORARY RECEIPT</b></p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Check #: _____</p> <p>Date: _____</p> <p>Paid to: _____</p> <p><i>Tear off receipt and mail renewal card to:</i></p> <p><b>ABATE of California, Inc.</b> 20355 Murieta Street Apple Valley, CA 92307-9223 TEL: (760) 956-1669 FAX: (760) 956-6519</p> <p>Visit us on our website <a href="http://www.abate.org">www.abate.org</a></p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">(REV 02/17)</p>	<p>NEW <input type="checkbox"/> RENEWAL <input type="checkbox"/> ABATE # _____</p> <p>LOCAL # _____ DATE _____</p> <p>NAME: _____</p> <p>NAME #2: _____ <i>(If couple or business application)</i></p> <p>ADDRESS: _____</p> <p>CITY: _____</p> <p>STATE: _____ ZIP: _____</p> <p>PHONE: _____</p> <p>EMAIL: _____</p> <p><b>For your convenience...use your favorite credit card</b></p> <p>Charge My Credit Card: Mastercard <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Credit Card # _____ CVV# _____</p> <p>Exp.Date: _____ Signature: _____</p> <p>Membership Submitted By: _____</p> <p>I would like to donate: \$ _____ to the:</p> <p>General Fund <input type="checkbox"/> PAC Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Lobbyist Fund <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><b>Circle Type of Membership</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>1. Single .....</td><td>\$40</td></tr> <tr><td>2. Couple .....</td><td>\$60</td></tr> <tr><td>3. Sustaining (Single or Couple) .....</td><td>\$100</td></tr> <tr><td>4. Gold Business .....</td><td>\$125</td></tr> <tr><td>5. Gold Business w/Color Ad .....</td><td>\$200</td></tr> <tr><td>6. Gold Business w/2X Color Ad .....</td><td>\$250</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Add \$50 for Sustaining Membership</td></tr> <tr><td>7. Life Single .....</td><td>\$450</td></tr> <tr><td>8. Life Couple .....</td><td>\$650</td></tr> </table> <p>Life Members can Receive Sustaining Membership Status and Benefits for \$50/Year</p> <p><b>Mail to:</b> <b>ABATE</b> 20355 Murieta Street Apple Valley CA 92307-9223 <i>Freedom isn't FREE</i></p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: x-small;">(REV 02/17) - PR Printing (908) 387-0717</p>	1. Single .....	\$40	2. Couple .....	\$60	3. Sustaining (Single or Couple) .....	\$100	4. Gold Business .....	\$125	5. Gold Business w/Color Ad .....	\$200	6. Gold Business w/2X Color Ad .....	\$250	Add \$50 for Sustaining Membership		7. Life Single .....	\$450	8. Life Couple .....	\$650
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# Donations!! – General, Lobbyist & PAC Funds – THANK YOU!

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Thank you for your sacrifice, generosity, and above all, your faith in ABATE of California. We are proud of our long relationship with our California riders and we strive to serve your motorcycle needs to the best of our ability. Your donation will be used as you intended it to be, and we would like to say, “Thank You” and wish you a safe ride on every road you travel.

Sincerely,  
ABATE of California, Inc.

Thank you to the following:

### Donations to the General Fund:

Robert Boys & Jan Feth, Local 1  
Carol Mayner, Local 1

From ABATE Locals: 1, 3, & 19

### Donations to the Lobbyist Fund:

Robert Boys & Jan Feth, Local 1  
Earl Pattschull, Local 20  
Rick Mullaly, Local 33

From the ABATE Locals: 1, 19, 20, & 40

Thank YOU for your contributions in helping to preserve “Freedom of the Road” by supporting ABATE’s paid Lobbyist and the General Fund!!! Thank you to our Members that renew their Memberships and those that join us – that too helps in preserving and fighting for Motorcyclist’s Rights!! And of Course, the Locals that contribute to the funds regularly and when they do events. THANK YOU!! It’s a team effort, so thank you for being a part of the ABATE Team!

## ABATE of CA Open Positions

This year has been another one of great change. This means that we have some positions to fill. We need you! We need your fresh ideas and we need a bit of your time to continue to make ABATE the Motorcycle voice that it has always been.

Take a look at the positions below and if you think one of them is for you contact the State Office or any Board Member. We will need a short bio and a selfie sent to [bailing.wire@abate.org](mailto:bailing.wire@abate.org). See the Candidacy paper below for a little help.

Except for the Board position all jobs are appointed by the BOD. All candidates need to have been a member in good standing for at least 1 year.

If you ever thought you could do it better, now is the time to raise your hand. Let’s get into the conversation!

### BAILING WIRE EDITOR

The Editor shall be responsible for editing and publishing a monthly newsletter. The Editor has responsibility for the content, layout as well as the coordination of the printing in a timely manner. The Editor is assisted by other staff members and reports directly to the Board of Directors.

### STATE TREASURE

ABATE of CA needs a State Treasurer (ST.) Training to be provided and term would start in 2020. If interested, please contact Mark Loudermilk (951) 599-5234.

The ST is responsible for keeping a complete, accurate account of all ABATE monies. The ST shall furnish a quarterly internal financial statement and distribute to the Board of Directors. The ST also provides additional reports when required. Other duties include the preparation and filing of taxes, keeping track of ABATE’s tax and corporate status, as well as providing guidelines and assistance to Locals when needed. The ST reports directly to the Board of Directors.



# LOCAL REPORTS

## Local #01 Los Angeles



Hi All! Again Local 1's meeting is after the due date for the Bailing Wire, so this report will be a summary of what might happen at the meeting.

First the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Then the President's report, which consists of a packet review of recently passed bills.

Next is the review of the up-coming LA toy run, getting volunteers to collect signatures for the sign-in sheet and volunteers to work the ABATE booth.

We'll review the ABATE Local 1 fundraiser that happened on November 14<sup>th</sup> at Barragan's Mexican Restaurant in Burbank.

Next we'll get flyers out for Local 1's Polar Bear run, which is scheduled for February 23<sup>rd</sup>. There will be a report from VP Jim Nickla telling about up-coming events we need to attend - Local 19's Toy run on December 1<sup>st</sup>, Boozefighters MC Chapter 101's Toy run on December 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Then we'll have comments from the attending members, monkey business and, lastly, a good breakfast at a nominal cost from the Elks Lodge.

We appreciate the Elks Lodge located at 1616 4<sup>th</sup> Street in San Fernando allowing us space to hold Local 1's meetings. Please drop off canned goods to help the Elks Lodge support needy families in Tujunga.

Merry Christmas, Season's Greetings, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

Report submitted by ABATE Local 1 President, Sporty

## Local #03/13 Thousand Oaks/ Ventura County



Local 3/13 Officers and Members want to wish our entire ABATE of CA family a warm and happy Christmas and Holiday season!

This month we will celebrate with our newly elected Officers and our membership at our annual Christmas Pot-Luck & White Elephant gift exchange on Thursday the 19<sup>th</sup> of December, 7 pm, at the Elks Lodge. This is always a well-attended and fun time! We look forward to seeing all our members and friends, old and new and even those who always come 'out of the woodwork' to reunite in fellowship with us!

Next year promises to be successful and rewarding, with events and work aimed at preserving and improving motorcycle riding rights. Supporting ABATE makes a statement and sends money to work towards fair treatment of motorcyclists. Whether you ride with ABATE or ride with another group, being a member of ABATE and/or just participating in these events, contributes to the work we do protecting your motorcycle riding rights.

Our President, and ABATE's California State Legislative Director, Chuck "Chief" Pedersen, along with some of our officers, continue to network with various other groups, building alliances to assemble a formidable voice in Sacramento. Issues we are working on include a new "Anti-Profiling" bill.

Our Local 3/13 is always welcoming new members. Bike Nights are held the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month, 7 pm, at Azar's Sports Bar & Grill in Newbury Park; General Membership Meetings are on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays, 7 pm, at the Elks Lodge, 158 N. Conejo School Road in Thousand Oaks; and Sunday rides every second or third Sunday.

Come join us to any or all of these

events and bring your friends. Check us out on Facebook at [www.Facebook/ABATE313](http://www.Facebook/ABATE313) to follow our events and issues.

It's all about motorcyclists' rights across all clubs, groups & organizations!

Ride Free! Kathleen "MamaBear" B. P.R., Local 3/13

## Local #08 Orange County



Howdy all from Local 8! Well, it's the evening of the 14<sup>th</sup> of the month so our article is running early.

Local 8 canceled our November meeting in honor of Veterans Day. We will be getting together for the International Motorcycle Show in Long Beach and are planning our Christmas party potluck in December.

We do have sad news to report: We have lost ABATE life member Joe Mandeville. Joe began his ABATE membership with Local 9, when Local 9 closed he moved his membership to Local 8. He was a good friend and will be sorely missed. Joe was an avid motorcyclist who participated in many long distance events including several Iron Butt Rallies. Among his many accomplishments, Joe logged over 2 million motorcycling miles.

That's all for now.

Ride Smart, Ride Safe, Steve

## Local #20 Orange County



Continued on page 6

## Continued from page 5

We had 14 members at our November meeting. Topics discussed were profiling, getting stopped, etc.

Steve Shapiro spoke at the meeting. The best advice he got from a criminal attorney are the 3 most important things to remember: 1) Don't admit anything, 2) Deny everything and 3) Ask for proof. In an accident, take pictures, ask the witness any info, etc. Stop and write it down in a diary. If you have any questions criminal or civil, ask Steve and he can point you in the right direction. He will be happy to help you in any way he can.

Three raffle prizes were donated by Russ Brown, letter opener by Warrior and the \$25 Target card by Gill. Winners were RB charger/Token, letter opener/Prospect and Target card/Squirt.

Gregg of Azraels MC donated money to the Christmas party, which be on December 9<sup>th</sup> and Squirt donated the \$35 from the 50/50 to the party. Andy is preparing and putting the food together. You can bring a date, a friend or the kids. Let Gill know if you're bringing a kid so we can have a present for each one. The DAV gentleman that sat with us at the meeting donated \$20 to Local 20. Freddie aka Pastor Z would've been the lucky

winner of the \$149. It rolls over to December and names will be drawn until we have a winner.

Non Politically Correct Gill/Squirt

## Local #23 San Bernardino



To all who Love to Ride, Live to Ride and Ride to Live! We had a great Local 23 meeting today with 8 members in attendance, no guests. After the meeting I invited several to come out, sit in, be a part and get involved in our next meeting. Also we extended an invitation to any and all to meet us for a breakfast Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>. After breakfast we'll ride to the "One More from the Heart" in Loma Linda.

I read the Secretary & Treasurer's reports and our V.P., Bosco, filled us in on the news. AB 255 the Anti-profiling bill is in the House awaiting action, but not much is going on at the State level.

We had nominations for next year's Officers, some declined to run again as they are already over committed. The P's report was next, Ron had good news, our Yard Sale netted \$180.00. Bosco donated another \$20.00! What

a good guy! We recapped upcoming events.

We are looking ahead to next year to set up the Box of Love run to benefit the San Bernardino City Mission on June 6<sup>th</sup>. We'll keep you posted.

After the next meeting, which is on December 1<sup>st</sup>, we'll ride to Local 19 & Pomona Valley HD's Santa Inc. Toy run in Ontario.

Come to our meeting to ride with the Famous ABATE Local 23! We hope to see you!

Greg, ABATE Local 23 Secretary/Treasurer. GBU!

## Local #38 Imperial Valley

Hello ABATE members! I hope the Holidays are fun and festive. Our 22<sup>nd</sup> annual Local 38 Turkey Run is in the books. I will have all the details in the next issue of the Bailing Wire. We made our goal or at least came close.

I want to thank everyone who volunteered, donated and attended this very worthwhile event.

Our 27<sup>th</sup> annual Los Ninos Toy run will be on December 21<sup>st</sup>. There is a flyer in this issue of the Bailing Wire.

Local 38 won the Ice Chest raffle put on by Local 11! Our Local bought \$100 worth of tickets!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone!

Bye for now, Edward Aranda, President ABATE Local 38

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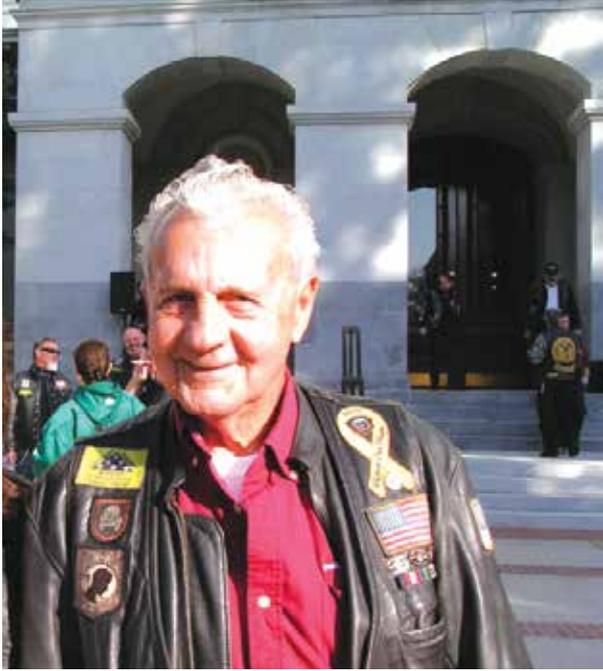
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# 2019 Freedom Fighter Nominees



## Nomination of Gill Mellon for 2019 Freedom Fighter of the Year

by Sporty Milligan

I would like to nominate Gill Mellon for this year's Freedom Fighter of the Year award. Gill has been a member of ABATE for 22 years.

In addition to being the President of Local 20 and member of the Board of Directors, he is the Public Relations officer for ABATE.

Gill works tirelessly to get the word out about ABATE, recruit new members, and represent ABATE in other organizations like the Southern California Confederation of Clubs.

He has helped cut expenses by getting business members and sponsorship, the most recent being working out the arrangement with Russ Brown Motorcycle Attorneys to sponsor the monthly production of the Bailing Wire.

And lastly, he along with other Local 20 members, have great relationships with his local politicians.

I feel he is deserving of the 2019 Freedom Fighter of the Year award.



## Nomination for Bill McBride as 2019 Freedom Fighter of the Year

By Jan & Mike Landers

Bill McBride purchased his first motorcycle in 1958, a 250CC Triumph Cub that he rode to Dixon High School. In 1972, after a few purchases of English bikes, he finally purchased his first Harley - a 1969 XLCH Sportster. Like many of us, his family grew and he could no longer afford the expense of motorcycling. In 1998 he attended an Easy Rider Bike Show and set his sights on a 1998 Softail Custom, which he bought soon after.

In 1999 Bill joined ABATE Local 17. He has volunteered for almost every ABATE event since then. He has served two terms as president of Local 17. During that time he worked on a partnership with the local Harley-Davidson dealer to create the Hot Rods & Harleys event, a very successful venture for ABATE and Harley. He also partnered with the City of Dixon to change the destination of our Annual Christmas Toy run from Vacaville to Dixon (due to restrictions from the City of Vacaville that make it difficult to help our local children). Moving our Toy run enhanced our partnership with the City of Dixon and was very successful. We still have a great standing with them to this day.

While Bill was President of Local 17 he worked with the Winters Chamber of Commerce, along with the help of our business members, to acquire the Winters Community Center for the final stop on our Annual FYAO run. At one time we had over 500 riders and at the end we had over 300 riders for the event. We used the Winters Community Center for many years and are always welcomed back by the City of Winters.

Bill has been dedicated to both of the ABATE Bike raffles to raise money for ABATE. During the most recent raffle he sold over 700 tickets and attended over 13 events to sell bike raffle tickets, including The Easy Rider Bike Show.

Bill continues to be active in Local 17 events and regularly volunteers to help on the sidelines, humbly, not wanting any credit or recognition for his contributions. He's been especially involved in the car and truck portion of The Hot Rod & Harleys event.

Whenever he's been called upon, he's attended the hearings at the Capital and consistently participates in the rides to support motorcyclists at the Capital events.

Bill has always been a person you could rely on to help out, no matter what he is asked to do.

In recognition of his past and present commitment to ABATE, we highly recommend Bill McBride for the 2019 Freedom Fighter of the Year award.

## 2019 Freedom Fighter Ballot

Local # \_\_\_\_\_

Member # \_\_\_\_\_

Name #1 \_\_\_\_\_

Name #2 \_\_\_\_\_

(If couple)

Vote #1

Vote #2  
(If couple)



Gill Mellon



Bill McBride

Ballots will NOT be counted if

- They are Anonymous
- Member is not current at time of tally (Dec 2019)
- Ballot is not legible

Ballots must be received or postmarked NO later than December 9<sup>th</sup> 2019

Mail to ABATE of CA 20355 Murieta St Apple Valley CA  
92307-9223

Scan and email to [info@abate.org](mailto:info@abate.org) (write "Ballot" in the subject line)

Fax to 1.760.956.6519 (no cover page needed)

## 2020/2021 ABATE Board Members Election

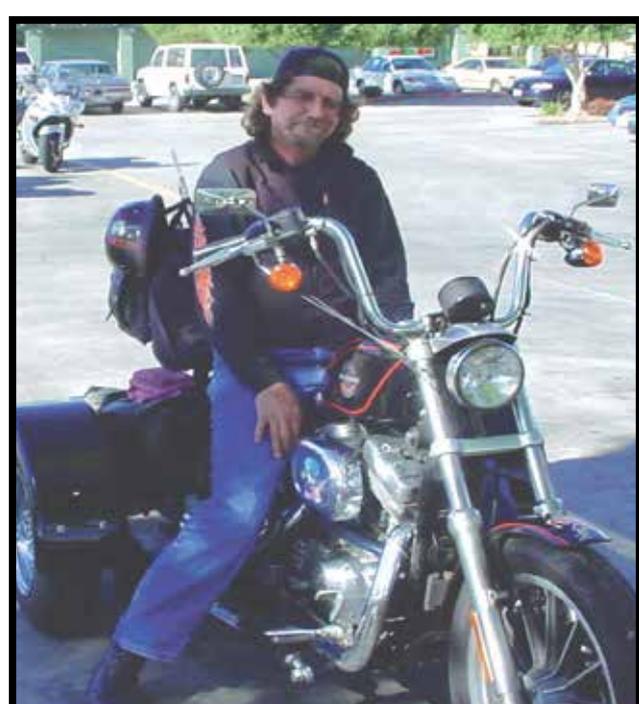
It is that time again! We need willing people to step up for our Board of Directors. The current Board Members, who are up for re-election, are: Sporty Milligan and Jody Maxwell. This leaves 4 seats open and available.

Any current Member may nominate another member to be placed on the Election Ballot. The nomination must be seconded by another ABATE Member in good standing. The nominee needs to have been a member in good standing for at least 1 year. These nominations should be made at any Local meeting, sent to the State Office or by contacting Mark Loudermilk at 951/599-5234

Information the State Office needs on a candidate is Name, Membership #, Local #, Full Address, Phone # & Email.

All candidates need to submit a biography and picture of themselves to be published in the Bailing Wire. All bios must be less than 450 words and submitted in a Word document to [bailing.wire@abate.org](mailto:bailing.wire@abate.org). Your pic must be in (.jpg) format and submitted along with your bio.

Here's some info that should be included in the Bio: Number of years a member, Local #, past and/or current positions held, other qualifications, goals for ABATE, other info that would be useful for members to know.



Hi all! This is Sporty Milligan current ABATE Board of Directors member and State Membership Chair. You know where I stand on the issues that affect your right to ride.

With that said, I am again asking you to support me as a Board Member with your vote. We can accomplish much and need leaders to guide the membership. I feel that I can bring that leadership to guide us into the future.

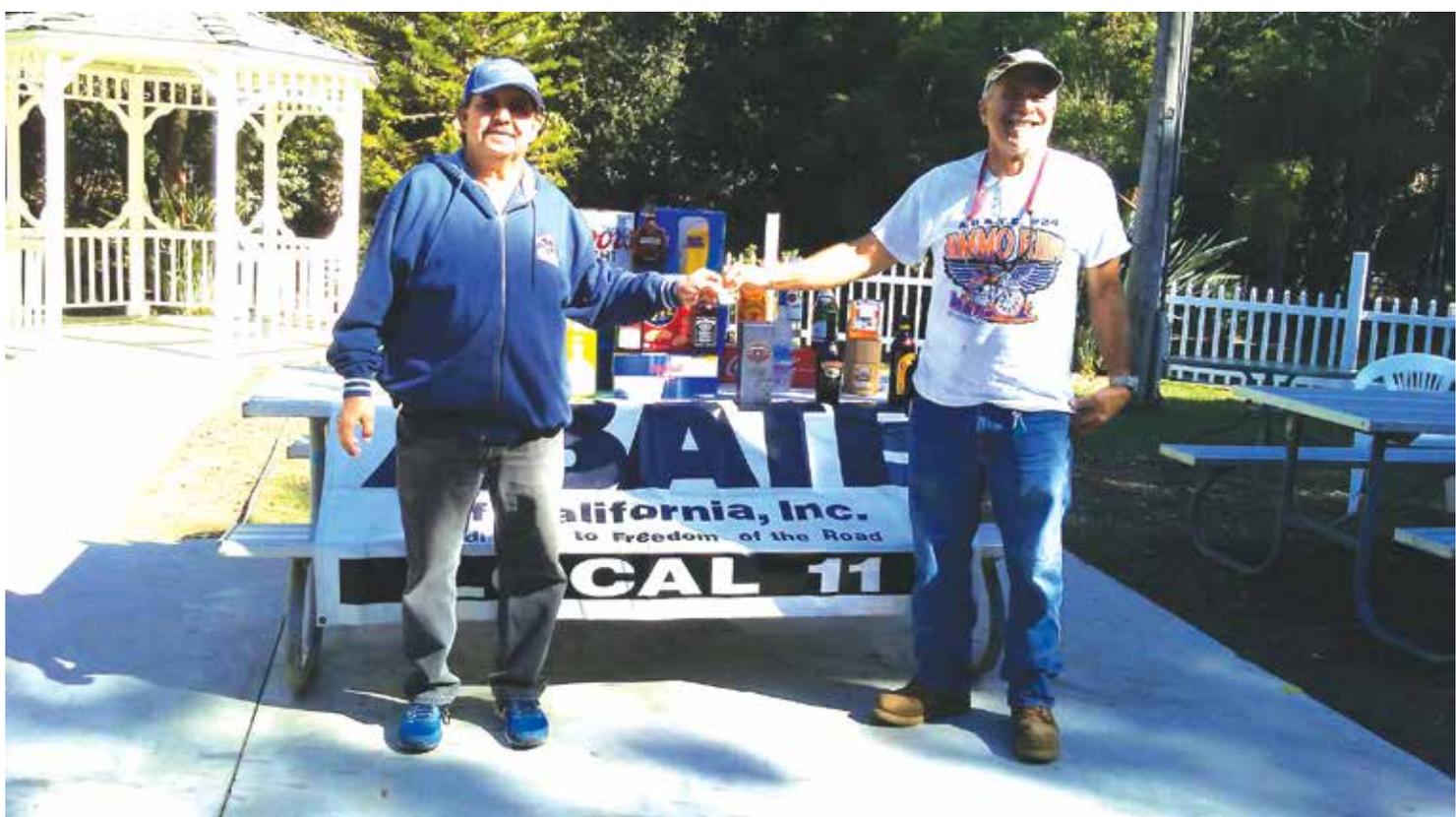
You get no bull pucky from me, just the ability to do whatever it takes to protect your right to ride. I stand by my words. So, consider electing me to the Board once again.

Sincere regards, Sporty Milligan, Current Board Member.



My name is Jody "Moonie" Maxwell and I am the newest volunteer member for the ABATE of California Board of Directors who accepted and finished out a one-year term this year. I am asking that you allow me to continue on for a full 2-year term. I have been an ABATE member for over 12 years and a motorcycle rider since the 1970's. I hold a liaison position in the Southern California Confederation of Clubs (COC) and am an officer in my ABATE Local 20. I enjoy participating in motorcycle events and attending National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM) informational conferences in various locations throughout the United States. Thank you for your consideration. Jody

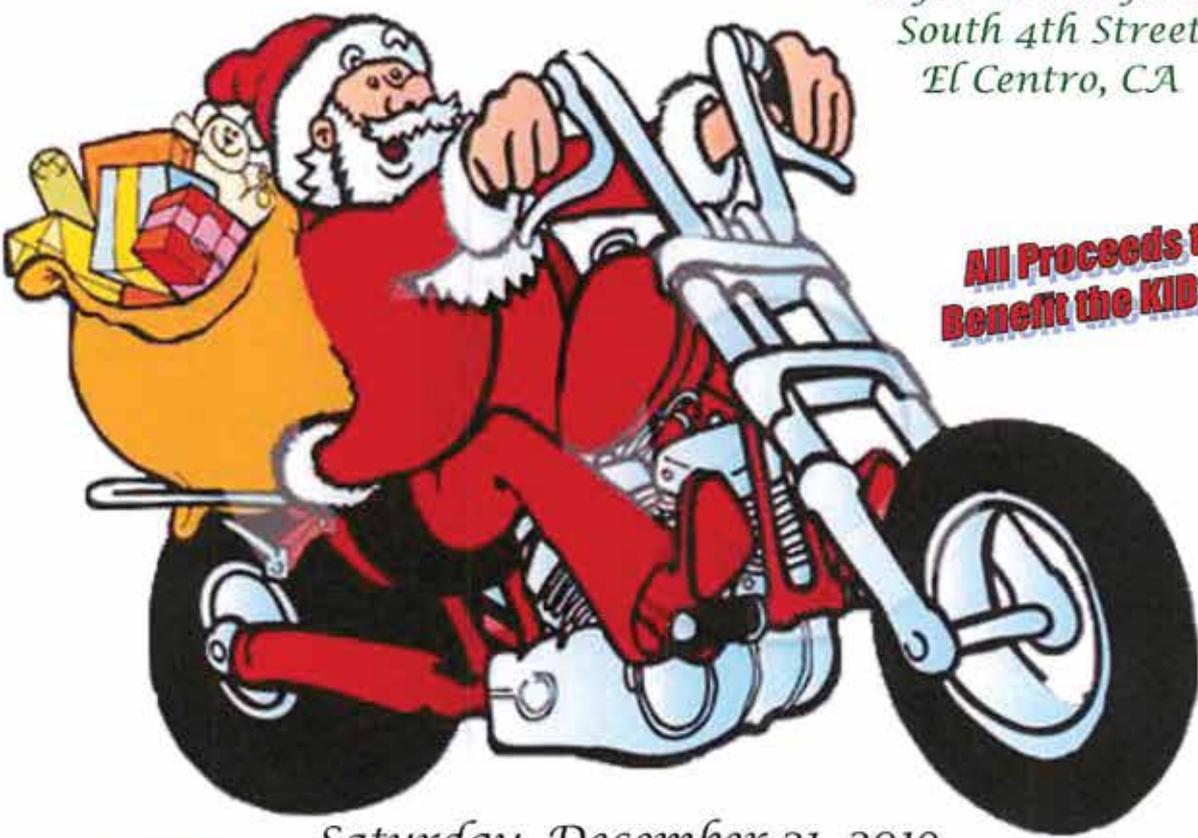
## Local 38 wins Local 11's Holiday Loaded Ice Check Raffle



**ABATE LOCAL 38**

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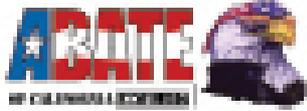
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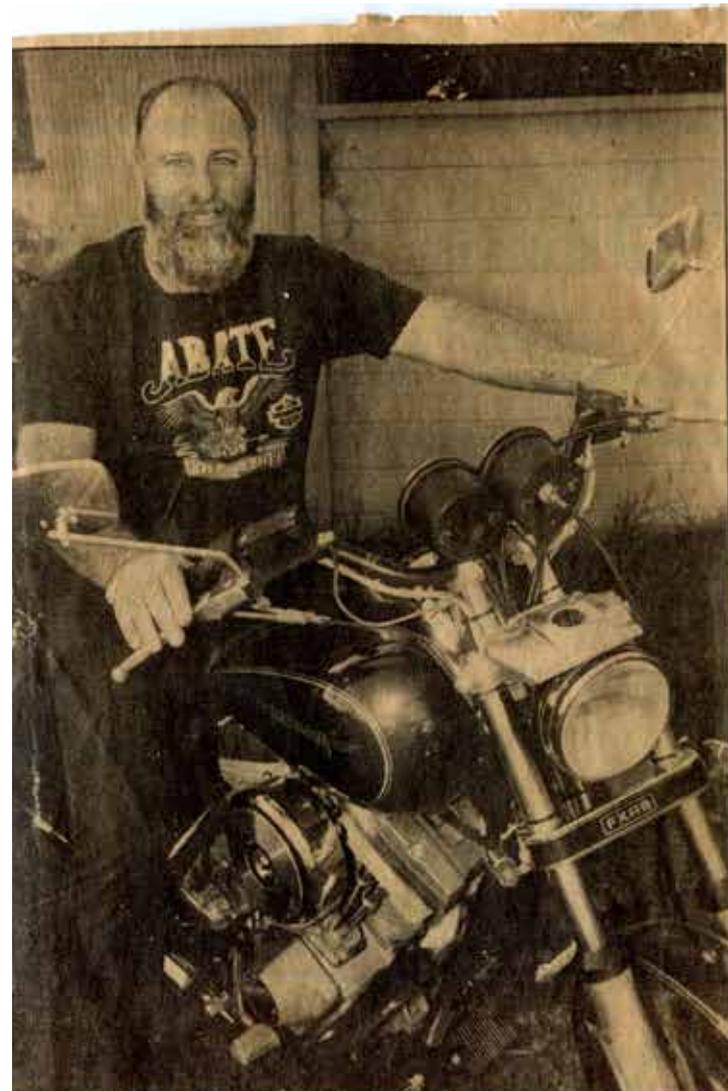
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## Newspaper article from 1986



Sitting proud on his American-made motorcycle, John Loudermilk, 46, Ventura, works for what he feels is an issue of freedom

# Motorcycle helmets opposed

## Battle cry: Let those who ride decide

By Dave Stone  
S-FP staff writer

People who ski sometimes break their ankles, but there are no laws requiring skiers to wear leg braces.

And why aren't hunters forced to wear bulletproof vests, or mountain climbers forced to use ropes?

These are questions that perplex John Loudermilk, 46, Ventura, a man who rides an American-made motorcycle and who'd rather not wear a helmet when riding.

Loudermilk, a heavy-equipment operator, is the state treasurer of a motorcycle rights group known as ABATE — the American Brotherhood Aimed Toward Education.

He is working to defeat proposed legislation that would force every motorcyclist to wear a helmet.

"It seems to me the people who are lobbying for helmet laws are the ones who manufacture the helmets," he said recently. "They're out to make a buck."

"It's all a matter of freedom, if you ask me. I don't care if somebody wants to wear a helmet, I'm all for it. I'm not against people wearing helmets at all. But I don't like wearing a helmet, and I definitely do not want someone telling me I have to."

His and ABATE's message is

not popular with those in the medical field. He acknowledges that the establishment seems at times to universally nod its approval of helmet legislation.

Loudermilk wanted a brief forum where he could state his case without the, "Yes I'm right, no you're not" arguments so prevalent in the helmet-law controversy.

The relatively new group, which has about 300 members in the Ventura County area, espouses many aims, including safety courses and motorcycle education. ABATE supports recent laws that set aside \$2 from each motorcycle registration for safety programs.

The group also works to improve the image of the so-called biker, men and women who like riding large, American-made motorcycles, and who wear black leather gear.

"This image of the biker is bunk. It's a creation of the media, and those movies," Loudermilk said, referring to such films as the "Wild One" or the Hells Angels movies of the '60s. "Bikers are just ordinary people, good people."

Nowadays, however, most of ABATE's efforts are concentrated on stopping the proposed helmet legislation.

Loudermilk said ABATE is not against a helmet law for minors, but his organization believes

adults should be left to decide for themselves.

Indeed, ABATE's current battle cry is "Let those who ride decide."

Points that Loudermilk likes to make include:

— Most states that passed a mandatory helmet law have since repealed it.

— Helmets that have been dropped or are more than three years old are no longer considered safe protections.

— A helmet loses its ability to absorb shock in speeds exceeding 15 mph.

— The weight of a helmet can snap and break a neck during a collision.

"Motorcycle riding is dangerous, just like skiing or mountain climbing is. A helmet isn't going to save you if you do something stupid or if someone pulls out in front of you. But education will," Loudermilk said.

"What it all boils down to is freedom. I love the wind hitting me in the face. I feel free, and I love my freedom. The thing I'm in ABATE for right now is for my freedom."

"I don't make no money off of this. This whole week I worked on ABATE stuff. I worked up until 11 last night, didn't watch TV or nothing. And I'll probably be working until late tonight on it because I like my freedom."

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Sustaining Members (VIP's) receive a mailed copy of the Bailing Wire, the months it is printed, a yearly certificate of Appreciation, suitable for framing, their membership card with VIP printed on it, and their names printed on this list. ABATE of California appreciates their extra support.

## ABATE Events for 2019

You can also go to our website [www.abate.org](http://www.abate.org) and Events Calendar to download available flyers.

**December 1st** – ABATE 19 – 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Toy Run (see flyer this issue)

**December 7<sup>th</sup>** – ABATE 17 – Holiday Party (see flyer this issue)

**December 15<sup>th</sup>** – ABATE 1 – 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual LA Toy Run with Glendale Harley-Davidson (see flyer this issue)

**December 21<sup>st</sup>** – ABATE 38 – Imperial Valley Los Ninos Toy Run (see flyer this issue)

### ABATE Events for 2020

**January 11<sup>th</sup>** – 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Board Meeting – American Legion (#354) 8071 Whitaker Buena Park CA

**February 23<sup>rd</sup>** – ABATE 1 – 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Polar Bear Run (see flyer this issue)

**June 6<sup>th</sup>** – ABATE 23 – Box of Love Run

### Bike Nites:

**ABATE Local 3/13** – 1st Thursday of the month (See flyer in this issue for details.)

If you have a date for your event, and no details or flyer yet, you may still submit your dates, so others can pencil it in on their social calendar. Then submit your flyer in time for the Bailing Wire and to be posted on ABATE's website.

ALL ABATE Events must have event insurance

Contact the ABATE State office for information.



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**Please Remember the LA Toy Ride**  
**Coming December 15, 2019**



### ABATE “Brothers & Sisters” Lost in 2019

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- Richard Padilla, Local 1
- Jim MacMillan, Local 3
- Alfred “Podunk” Duran, Local 23
- Lee McPherson, Local 44
- Frank Klein, Local 1
- Glen Barton, Local 11
- Papa John Railton, Local 1
- Jim Schlachter, Local 17 (7-3-2019)
- Jim Schrader, Local 44
- Jeff Ozanne, Local 44 (10-6-2019)
- Joe Mandeville, Local 8 (10-17-2019)

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## NCOM Biker Newsbytes



THE AIM/NCOM MOTORCYCLE E-NEWS SERVICE is brought to you by Aid to Injured Motorcyclists (AIM) and the National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM), and is sponsored by the Law Offices of Richard M. Lester. If you've been involved in any kind of accident, call us at 1-(800) ON-A-BIKE or visit [www.ON-A-BIKE.com](http://www.ON-A-BIKE.com).

NCOM BIKER NEWSBYTES  
Compiled & Edited by Bill Bish,  
National Coalition of Motorcyclists  
(NCOM)

**RPM ACT REINTRODUCED IN THE U.S. SENATE:** The "Recognizing the Protection of Motorsports (RPM) Act", S. 2602, was reintroduced in the 116th Congress on October 18, 2019 by Senators Richard Burr (R-NC) and Joe Manchin (D-WV) along with 24 original cosponsors. The bipartisan bill clarifies that it is legal under federal law to modify the emissions system of a motor vehicle that is converted for race-use-only, and protects Americans' right to convert street cars and motorcycles for motorsports competition.

"The RPM Act confirms that transforming motor vehicles into race cars used exclusively for competition does not violate the Clean Air Act," according to the Specialty Equipment Manufacturers Association (SEMA), adding; "This American tradition was unquestioned for nearly 50 years until 2015 when the EPA took the position that converted street vehicles that compete on the track must remain emissions-compliant, even though they are not driven on public streets or highways."

The EPA also maintains that the equipment used to transform a street vehicle into a race car is prohibited and is to be addressed in the bill.

"American racing runs on traditions," said Senator Burr. "For more than 50 years, motorsports enthusiasts have purchased cars and modified them to race, off of public roads. However, this tradition was threatened when the Obama EPA attempted to make these modifications illegal. This legislation upholds Congress' intent of the Clean Air Act and protects motorsports, for professionals and amateurs alike, for years to come."

Motorsports competition involves tens of thousands of participants and vehicle owners each year, both amateur and professional. Retail sales of racing products make up a nearly \$2 billion market annually. A majority of the estimated 1,300 race tracks operating across the U.S., including oval, road, dirt and off-road tracks, feature converted race vehicles that the EPA now considers to be illegal.

**TARIFFS ON EUROPEAN MOTORCYCLES AVOIDED:** This past summer, representatives from KTM, Indian Motorcycle and the Motorcycle Industry Council (MIC) testified before the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) in Washington, D.C. to oppose the proposed tariffs of up to 100% on motorcycles, parts and accessories arriving from European Union countries. This would have had a devastating effect on motorcycle manufacturers – especially the OEMs from Italy (Ducati, Aprilia, Moto Guzzi), Austria (KTM), Germany (BMW) and the United Kingdom (Triumph), among others.

Fortunately for the motorcycle industry, on a global scale, these proposed tariffs have been averted, according to the MIC. "Had the tariffs been enacted, that would have meant extremely high prices for our American consumers of European motorcycles, parts, and accessories," said Erik Pritchard, incoming MIC president and CEO. "Increased costs would have even discouraged motorcycle riders from performing routine but critical maintenance, such as brake pad and tire replacements, due to potential doubling on the price of parts."

**FEDERAL LEGISLATION WOULD LIMIT ETHANOL BLENDING IN U.S. FUEL SUPPLY:** A bipartisan bill has been introduced in Congress that aims to prevent Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) blending obligations from requiring ethanol to make up more than 9.7% of the total volume of gasoline projected to be sold or introduced into commerce in the U.S. for a given calendar year.

Introduced by U.S. Representatives Bill Flores (R-TX) and Peter Welch (D-VT) on May 7, H.R. 2540, titled the "Food and Fuel Consumer Protection Act of 2019," would cap the ethanol mandate and stop the federal government from forcing E15 fuel into the market and ensure continued availability of E10 and ethanol-free gasoline (E0), which is safer to use in motorcycles and smaller-engine vehicles and gas powered equipment.

House Resolution 2540 has been referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

**"GREEN ICE INITIATIVE" IN ILLINOIS PROMOTES GRASS-FREE STREETS:** ABATE of Illinois and Sangamon County Sheriff Jack Campbell have joined

together on the "Green Ice Initiative" to keep the streets safer by spreading the word about the dangers of grass clippings on roadways. Dumping grass clippings on the road, they said, not only clogs storm sewers, it presents real dangers to motorcyclists and bicyclists. It is also illegal.

Josh Witkowski, the state legislative coordinator for ABATE of Illinois, told KPVI Channel 6 News in Pocatello, IL that the problem is often worse in rural areas, where grass can reach 2 or 3 feet before someone cuts it. The clippings then blow onto the roadway, sometimes 2 inches deep, where it can remain a hazard to riders for days.

Witkowski said he was aware of at least two fatalities, one in Kentucky and one in Illinois, where grass on the road was a factor.

As with so many other safety issues, Witkowski said it will take both education and law enforcement to create change. Dumping is a violation of the state's litter law.

**FEDERAL DATA SHOWS "OUTDOOR RECREATION" IS POWERFUL ECONOMIC DRIVER:** Motorcycling, ATV riding, and side-by-side driving are among the country's three largest outdoor recreational activities, when ranked by economic output, says a new federal report.

According to newly-released data from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), the top three conventional outdoor activities generated \$9.1 billion in economic output in 2017. Outdoor recreation accounts for 2.2% of U.S. GDP, creating \$778 billion in gross output supporting 5.2 million jobs. And, it's a growth sector.

According to the BEA release, its Outdoor Recreation Satellite Account "shows that inflation-adjusted (real) GDP for the outdoor recreation economy grew by 3.9% in 2017, outpacing the 2.4% growth of the overall U.S. economy. Outdoor recreation is responsible for a larger share of GDP than many major industries, including chemical products manufacturing, farming and ranching, mining, and utilities.

The bureau defines "conventional" outdoor recreation as activities done for pleasure, such as camping, hiking, hunting, and fishing, and involving some physical effort.

The economic data on the national and, for the first time ever, state levels reinforce what the outdoor recreation industry has long believed: Outdoor recreation is a powerful driver of national and local economies and it is growing faster than the U.S. economy as a whole.

This is the second consecutive year that the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), an agency of the U.S. Department of Commerce, has released formal, national-level data, a notable milestone for the industry now identified as a unique sector of the economy.

**Continued on Next Page**

**Continued from page 13**

“Having a rich set of both state and national data on outdoor recreation to draw upon will inform decision-making by businesses, policymakers, and managers of public lands and waters,” notes the Motorcycle Industry Council (MIC).

**MOTORISTS URGED TO “SEE BIKE SAY BIKE”:** The University of Nottingham in England has found that when car drivers audibly say the word “bike” when seeing one at an intersection could drastically reduce the chances of an accident.

One of the most common types of accidents for motorcyclists is a driver pulling out in front of them, traditionally referred to in the U.S. as “R-O-W”, or left-turn Right of Way violation. Previously, such incidents have been interpreted as failures to see the bikes, but a professor at the University of Nottingham thinks it has more to do with forgetting they were there at all.

Dr Peter Chapman has conducted research that he claims proves that car drivers see the bike on the road but that their brain ‘forgets’ it is there at all.

The study found that drivers were five times more likely to fail to act to an oncoming motorcycle than you would be if a car was positioned in the same place and at the same speed. Dr Chapman and his team have not completely got to the bottom of why a car driver does this, but they think the car driver’s brain becomes distracted between the time they see the bike and when they decide to pull out.

The theory is that speaking the word “bike” aloud when you see one approaching at a junction could help to strengthen the memory of seeing the motorcycle, helping to prevent the brain from overwriting it with what the driver wants for lunch or how late they are for that meeting.

It is hoped that drivers resorting to such nursery-rhyme type of memory games can

help them become safer drivers – possibly avoiding the necessity of enacting harsher penalties for dangerous and careless driving.

**AUSTRALIAN AUTHORITIES DEPLOY A.I. CAMERAS TO DETECT TEXTING DRIVERS:**

If you feel somebody’s watching you, it may not be paranoia. While modern mobile devices are the ultimate tools of convenience, when in the hands of drivers these handheld computers also contribute to increased accidents and fatalities on our roadways -- particularly for motorcyclists who are more vulnerable. To help curb distracted behavior behind the wheel, Australia has deployed surveillance devices that peek inside the passenger compartment and sanction those driving under the influence of smartphones.

During the pilot phase of the Mobile Phone Detection Camera (MPDC) initiative, 8.5 million vehicles were checked from January 2019 to June 2019 in the Australian state of New South Wales. Though citations weren’t administered during the test period, 100,000 drivers were caught handling devices while operating their vehicles.

Once the pilot phase ends, violators will receive a \$344 AUD fine (about \$230 USD) and a 5 point penalty on their driving record. Drivers also have little clemency with the system as the MPDC can be fixed or mobile, works day and night, and operates in all weather conditions.

By the end of 2019, Australia will deploy 45 MPDCs with plans to expand the program through 2023.

**HARLEY-DAVIDSON TO LAUNCH GROUP-GUIDED CRUISE CONTROL:**

Harley-Davidson has applied for a patent that will enable groups of riders to maintain a constant speed thanks to kinematics and radar-guided cruise control. This new type of adaptive cruise control is specifically aimed at Harley’s current target demograph-

ic; groups of riders.

Adaptive cruise control is nothing new in the world of four-wheeled transportation, but now a major motorcycle manufacturer has stepped in with a system that is claimed to allow a bike to lock on to another bike and keep a set separation distance or separation time from the target bike while offering the rider the chance to pick multiple bikes or cars within a lane to follow.

The Harley system incorporates a transceiver that can ping out the bike’s location to other vehicles on the road, so with a group of riders sharing the same piece of tarmac, and using the same H-D adaptive cruise control system, a group of bikes can track and monitor the location of each other in real-time for a safer and more controlled group riding experience.

**WORLD RECORD HARLEY GATHERING:**

Paris Harley-Davidson, a dealership located in Paris, Texas, recently set a new Guinness World Record for the “Most Harley-Davidson Motorcycles in a Parade”.

The number to beat was 2,404, which was held by the Hellas Motorcycle Club in Greece since 2010, and on October 5, 2019 the Paris H-D parade crushed that mark with 3,497 motorcycles. Harley enthusiasts from 48 states, Canada and Europe traveled to the event to take part in the historic gathering.

“WE DID IT! We brought it home to AMERICA,” posted motorcycling philanthropist Adam Sandoval, a participant known for riding to every Harley-Davidson dealership in the lower 48 states with his dog Scooter to raise money and awareness for our military and their families.

Paris H-D was quick to give props to local law enforcement and first responders, along with countless volunteers and supporters.

**QUOTABLE QUOTE:** “If they can get you asking the wrong questions, they don’t have to worry about the answers.”

~ Thomas Pynchon (b. 1937), American novelist

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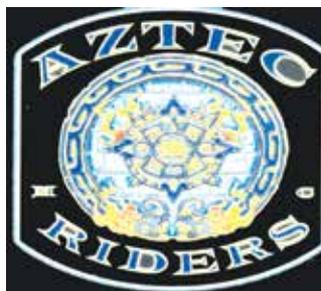


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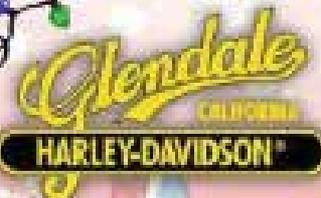
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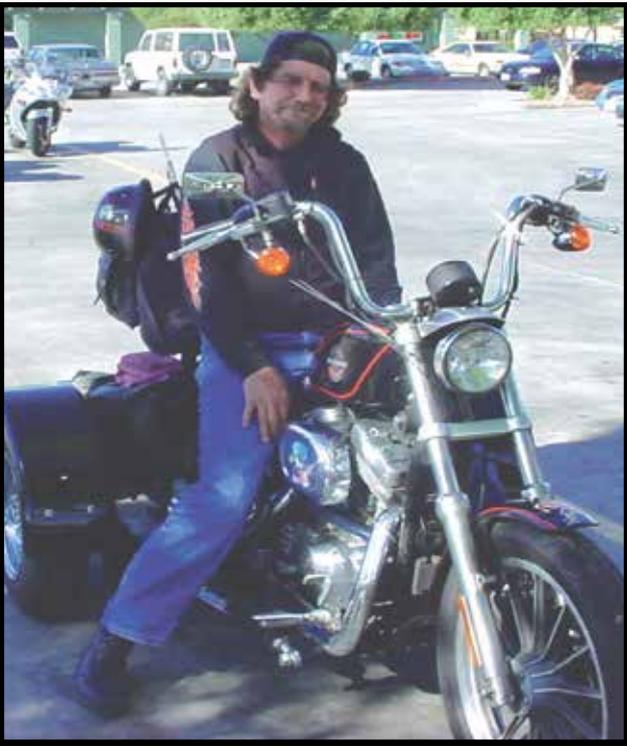


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## SUNDAY DEC 15TH

## Sporty's Rides



### by Sporty Milligan

Hi all! It's time again for Sporty's Rides where the rubber meets the pen or computer and the tales of Sporty are set to prose. However some of this month's events are again filled with sadness.

Now first off I will start with the Messengers of Recovery ride that took place November 2<sup>nd</sup> at Antelope Valley HD in Lancaster. From my house in San Fernando it is approximately 50 miles. So to say the least it was a chilly ride to the dealership. The password was Burr!

I took off from the dealership with my Shagger buddies. The first stop was the Rock House in Lake Elizabeth. The boys wanted breakfast, so breakfast it was. I had decaf coffee of course. We had breakfast then took off to complete the rest of the route through 138 - great ride - and back to the dealership. Lunch was hamburgers, chilly beans and hot links. I got lucky and won a good raffle prize, a HD steering wheel cover.

I saw one of ABATE Local 1's members, Nicholas Novosel, who just happened to show up to get a part for his V-rod. He renewed his ABATE membership! Thank you! Groovey!

I left after a fun day with the Shaggers and Messengers of Recovery. Thanks for a good run provided by the Santa Clarita Valley Messengers of Recovery, an ABATE Local 1 business members.

The next day was the monthly meeting of the Shaggers, also in Lancaster. This meeting usually lasts about an hour. We discussed the final plans for our Toy run, which took place November 10<sup>th</sup> - more on that in moment. On

the way home I stopped at Crazy Otto's off Santiago Road in Acton. I had a country fried steak breakfast and decaf coffee. Rode home over the Sierra hwy.

The next week, November 8<sup>th</sup>, was a sad day. It was the funeral for Jeff Ozanne. The funeral took place at a cemetery in Victorville. I took my little truck that could. The 1989 Toyota pick-up needed a road trip. I went the northern route, 14 fwy to 138 to SH18 to Victorville. The funeral was moving and when the box with his urn was placed in the ground I got choked up emotionally.

We went to Hesperia to Jeff's house for a celebration of life. There was a good size gathering of folks who knew Jeff, including Dave Hastings who gave a fitting tribute to Jeff in a song he wrote. I got up and said nice stuff about how Jeff's work on the Regional Rally helped support ABATE and that we stand for freedom of the road and how he was a good freedom fighter for biker's rights. RIP Jeff, your life had substance and meaning to a whole lot folks.

The next day I went on a poker run. It was the first memorial run for Richard Padallia. He was the first president of the VFW Riders of Post 2323 in Granada Hills. I got there and said my Hello's. This was a simple route. You went to several VFW Posts and returned to the first one. One slight problem - there were no directions to check point 3, the VFW in Simi Valley. I got the address and when I got to Los Angeles Ave it dawned on me that I would be going to ABATE Local 2's meeting spot. They had a cheese and pepperoni plate set up for quick snacks.

Check point 4 in Canoga Park was cool, but you can tell that they allow you to smoke in the hall. Yeaks. Back at the 2323 VFW Post in Granada Hills we had pulled pork sandwiches, coleslaw, water and chips.

They said nice things about Richard and they gave stuff to Richards's wife. Raffle prizes were put in bags with a Raffle ticket attached. When they called out the Raffle tickets for the bags, I won a Harley beanie and scarf. Had a nice day.

November 10<sup>th</sup> was the Shaggers Toy run in the Antelope Valley. It started at Antelope Valley HD in Lancaster. They were doing the same route as last year's Toy run. Said hello to Kat who I have known for many years from the old Van Nuys HD days. Got a quart of oil - I am riding my 2002 Sporty and it is showing its age

with some new oil leaks along with the base gasket leak. I am working on finding someone cheaper than the dealership to fix it.

Started the route, got to check point two, the Shaggers club house, and low and behold there was Christy in her friends Ford Explorer. She followed behind me all the way to the County Park in Pearblossom off hwy 138. We had a good lunch. I had Sanka decaf packets and hot water so I was ok with that. I won a pair of sunglasses. After the raffle and music ended, Shaggers group photos were taken. Then I went home.

Tonight, November 13<sup>th</sup>, I'm going to ABATE Local 19's meeting at the Elks Lodge in Ontario. Local 19 will hold their Toy run at the Elks Lodge on December 1<sup>st</sup>.

On November 14<sup>th</sup> ABATE Local 1 is having a fundraiser at Barragan's Mexican restaurant on Victory Blvd in Van Nuys. I will raffle off the sunglasses along with the HD scarf and beanie I recently won.

This concludes this month's Sporty Rides. As always, do ABATE runs and sign-up new members!

**Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!**  
Scribe Sporty reporting

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# Motorcycle Safety Report



**by Norm e. Newiger,  
Safety Officer**

## Say Goodbye 2019

I can't believe it's almost the end of the year. Just two major Holidays and the end of the year party to flow into the beginning of the New Year. For me this is when madness gets rolling. It's a slow start just right after we mush our brains trying to recover from the one hour fiasco of daylight savings, and trying to prep our mushy brain into Holiday mode, which is not right in my mind. As I age, it gets harder to transition, especially when I'm sober! Not really as I don't drink.

We did have our yearly fires. It seems to be our bad misfortune of unpredictable events. After the wind storms calmed down, here we are, another devastating fire here and there and the re-building of lost or damaged property. It seems to always be at the end of the year. This trend has to stop. I'm tired of watching the news people repeating everything over and over again. The good news is that we have some really great people doing the work - the firefighters!

So now that it's nearing the end of the year, how was your year in riding? Was it worth remembering for the good things and not the negatives? I hope you all were lucky enough to have ridden unscathed. I know that as far as statistics go some didn't make it, some were severely injured, some hospitalized with lesser injuries, some were minor injuries and nearly all had bike damage. That's always a given considering it's usually car vs bike.

I couldn't tell you about the thousands of one-person motorcycle riding accidents that were minor and not worth reporting to an insurance agent. I'll bet that I'm not the only one that had a minor one vehicle crash, in fact I've lost count - well not that many anyways.

Everything has changed. The season, the weather, gas prices, time of day, gas prices, etc. It's that time of the year when darkness is upon us before we get off work and if you rode to work in the daylight, you'll be riding home in the dark - if you get off at 5 or later - and that's a totally different riding experience. There's that time of the day when it's still light but surrounded by darkness. It gives you kind of a tunnel vision as

you drive or ride westerly. On the other spectrum, as I ride easterly I'm riding almost blind to those coming west. It's like we become small and hard to see because of that darkness behind us while the light is in their face. It's the same if it was a car, especially a small dark car.

Riding in the dark is great! It's more challenging, which means paying more attention to what you can't see and being more prepared to see the unexpected. As we ride in darkness, we lose some of our peripheral vision and how much we lose is based on how dark it is. This is important stuff because riding in the mountains at night can be treacherous. Playing dodge deer with yer bike ain't fun. Even having to think about it while you're riding is demanding - true story.

Off the mountain and in the city you are almost invisible no matter how lighted the city is. Your bike lights are the most visible you'll be unless yer an idiot and dress like a Christmas tree at night. They have reflective vests and body suits that sport reflective designs if you feel you need to be seen. Those are usually worn by them metrics moto scooters people!

We're no strangers to darkness. I know it's just being prepared so we can enjoy night riding. The one thing we lose is eye contact with the drivers. This is mostly at intersections. I can't see if the person knows I'm there or not. It's like trusting and hoping. It is a judgement act you'll do automatically because you hope they're really paying attention while driving. With today's technology it has its benefits for us riders. We have better lighting and light systems on our bikes, our braking systems are tighter and you can get aftermarket products to enhance all your safety needs as well. The newer automobiles have good safety devices in them which will help us in the long run - such as accident avoidance systems, haptic steering and blind spot warnings.

Accidents can change lives. The severity of an accident can leave permanent scars on the mind as well as the body and sometimes both. I have seen people quit riding because of one or both and I cannot blame them. We are all different. How we deal with the violence of an accident is as different to one another as east is to west. I know a few people that quit riding out of fear, not because of an accident or disability, but because they think it's just too crazy out there and have decided not to risk their lives.

I do disagree though. Fear is a disease you get when you have no confidence in your abilities, let alone trusting the multitudes of drivers on the roads of life. We are not taught fear, we let it manifest in our brain to the point to where it stops us from taking risks! Risk is chance that equals freedom. Chance is opportunity to enjoy all that you risk! We all hope to be carefree, especially when we ride, but is taking the risk worth it? I say "Yes" 100%! My love for riding is coming home safe so that I can do it another day. The pleasures, the joy and the mysteries are worth the risks - period!

Motorcycle riding is a life style no matter what you ride or how long you've ridden. The love of an open road with the wind in your face is priceless. The more experience you get riding only makes you more road worthy because you have to constantly educate yourself and make

motorcycle safety a priority while riding. I have seen too many road dawgs get plowed because of overconfidence or because they trusted other people on the road of life. It's not our road only, it's for every one of all skill levels and vehicles. It's only scary if you say it is. I'm confident with my level of safety awareness in all that I do. I need to enjoy that freedom you get while riding. There is no other choice for me. I am limited in what I can and cannot do. As long as I can ride, I won't worry about flying that plane I dreamed of or chase the sound of speed etc. My financial status and age let me know of my reality and there is nothing wrong with it!

As I said with my new car that has all the bells and whistles, I'm still at odds with the technology for vehicles (excluding 3 and 2 wheelers). It's challenging to trust in your vehicle's newest technology while driving. The one thing that bugs me the most is the haptic steering wheel. Like I said before it will keep you in your lane whether you like it or not. It's compensating your vehicle with little to no regard for the other person's safety whether they're in a car or on a motorcycle. Case in point that I'm dealing with is giving the rider room to pass in my lane and now with the haptic steering wheel it pushes me back to the center of the lane and then I have to fight the steering wheel because of the pressure that the haptic steering wheel does. Hopefully the rider passes me before my car won't let it. That's the problem I'm facing and, yes, I could turn it off whenever I want to, but I'm kind worried if it would lead to an insurance ordeal because I turned off one feature that my car has.

I know I talked about this in last month's article. Who's really responsible if your car's safety features cause an accident against your will? And another thing that WE ALL must be aware of is that the auto manufactures are making more safety features for their cars. They are giving us, on a timely schedule, a little advancement here and there hoping that we will become more receptive down the road of driverless vehicles.

They are not doing this quietly. In fact just watch a car commercial. They will show you their latest advancements for their vehicle and it's not a standard for the industry, it's for their vehicles only and all others must adapt quickly or else they'll lose out on the new technology for vehicles. It's happening really fast. When they conglomerate all the safety features in the new cars as a collective group, they could perhaps have a driverless vehicle. It's going to happen no matter what. We cannot stop progress as they call it. We can only make sure that we pretty much trust a computer.

Please watch out for the hurried, harried masses out there because they will come towards the end of November and then start over in early to mid-December and last until the last day of this year. We all know this. We are a part of it as well.

On a hunch, I think we will be able to ride until the New Year and then some. The temperatures will not stop us because we don't know what that white stuff is. We all need to ride year round because we can and that's priceless!

Have a Safe, Sane and Happy Holidays and New Year!



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# Merchandise Order Form

Description	Item #	Price	Quantity	Extended Price
ABATE Freedom of The Road Oval Sticker 9" x 6"	06-160	\$1.55		
ABATE CA Embroidered Bear Patch	07-177	\$4.00		
ABATE Emblem – Large 12" x 9" – Embroidered	07-174	\$16.58		
ABATE Emblem –Medium 6" x 4" – Embroidered	07-175	\$11.76		
ABATE Emblem – Small 4" x 2" – Embroidered	07-176	\$3.43		
ABATE Motorcycle License frame – Top	06-180	\$5.77		
ABATE of California pin (3 color Gold/ White/Blk)	07-172	\$1.39		
ABATE Justice – PAC Patch – Black/White	07-178	\$1.39		
ABATE Justice – PAC Patch – Color	07-179	\$1.39		
Make Check Payable & Mail to:  ABATE of Ca – Merchandise 20355 Murieta St Apple Valley, CA. 92307-9223	Sub – Total	\$		
Make Check Payable & Mail to:  ABATE of Ca – Merchandise 20355 Murieta St Apple Valley, CA. 92307-9223	Add 10% S/H	\$		
	Add 8% Sales Tax			
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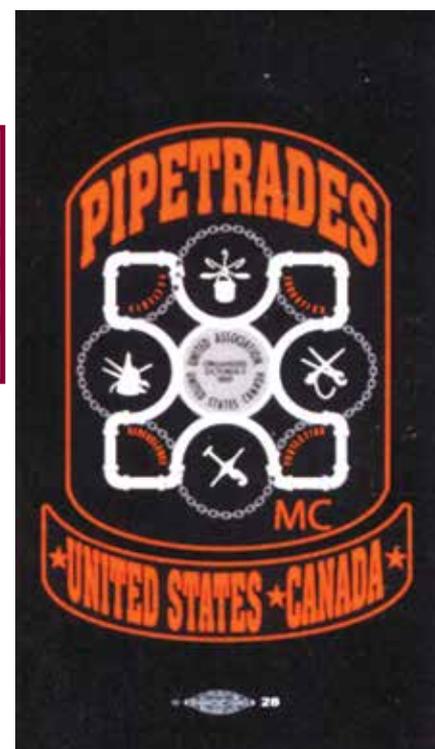
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### Attention ABATE of CA Membership!

You asked for it and you got it – Scoot Shots on the front page..... but I am running out of pictures! Please look through your phone and forward to me any that you have. Any format is fine just send along a name and a local #. Thank you so much for the help. Janet



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### A Union of Motorcyclists

ABATE of California, a leading organization in protecting motorcycle rights in California, is proud to offer our "Off-Road" Division to fulfill our desire to protect the riding rights of ALL riders in California, both on and off-road.

Recently the off-road community was caught totally off guard by the passage of Assembly Bill 1595 that severely impacts the ability to modify and use "upgraded" off-highway side-by-side vehicles.

AB 1595 prohibits the use of (approved/sanctioned racing style) seat belt harnesses, prohibits the addition of full roll cages, and requires mandatory helmet use in these and ONLY these vehicles.

Portions of this law went into effect on January 1, 2013 and all parts of the law were enforced on July 1, 2013. AB 1595 had an immediate and very negative impact on side-by side safety and prevents the use of many of these family recreational vehicles that have been upgraded with additional safety equipment.

Please join ABATE of California in our quest to repeal this poorly written legislation and help us restore the rights of side-by-side owners statewide who use these vehicles for safe and responsible family off-road recreation.

Your annual membership will help us retain a full time lobbyist to watch out for future negative off-road legislation. With everyone's help, we can beat these laws, without your help, we could lose all of our off-road freedoms. Join us now!

#### Off-Roaders - Protect Your Rights - Join Us NOW!

- Single** .....\$ 40.00  
(Membership patch 1<sup>st</sup> Year / Annual pin each successive year / add \$10.00 for printed Bailing Wire\*)
- Family** .....\$ 60.00  
(2 Membership patches 1<sup>st</sup> year / 2 annual pins each successive year / add \$10.00 for printed Bailing Wire\*)
- Sustaining Single or Couple** .....\$ 100.00  
(Membership patch 1<sup>st</sup> year / Annual pin each successive year / Annual Certificates and includes printed Bailing Wire\*)
- Gold Business** .....\$ 125.00  
(Black and white business card in Bailing Wire and includes printed Bailing Wire\*)
- Gold Business w/ Color Ad** .....\$ 200.00  
(Same as Gold Business but with color business card size ad in Bailing Wire)
- Gold Business w/ 2X Color Ad** .....\$ 250.00  
(Same as above but double size color ad, and posted on our web site with a link to your business)
- Single Life Membership** .....\$ 450.00  
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- Family Life Membership** .....\$ 650.00  
(2 Life Membership patches and 2 Membership cards)

Our Bailing Wire newsletter is available every month online @ [www.abate.org](http://www.abate.org)  
\*A printed edition is available every other month



- Single     Family     Sustaining Single or Couple     Gold Business
- Gold Business w/ Color Ad     Gold Business w/ 2X Color Ad
- Single Life Membership     Family Life Membership

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name #2: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Visa / MC #: \_\_\_\_\_ CVC# \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to donate \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the General Fund / PAC Fund / Lobbyist Fund

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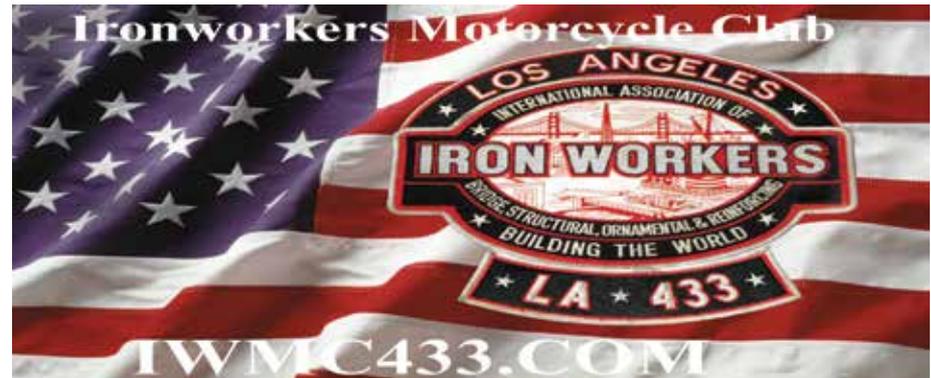
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## Los Angeles County - Local #01-Reg#8

Sporty Milligan 3rd Sun - 9 AM  
1616 4th St Elks Lodge  
San Fernando 10137 Commerce Ave  
818/ 361-8800 Tujunga, CA 91042

## Simi Valley - Local #02

Jim Kibbe 2nd Tues 7:30 PM  
VFW Post#10049  
4242 E Los Angeles Ave.  
Simi Valley 93063  
jimkibbe53@gmail.com

## Thousand Oaks/Ventura Local#03/13

Chuck Pedersen 3rd Thurs - 7:00 PM  
805/496-0323 Elks Lodge  
Chuck Pedersen@ 158 N Conejo School  
gmail.com Thousand Oaks  
91362

## San Diego County - Local #06 Reg#12

Snowman 1st Sun - 12 Noon  
P O Box 501946 Kate Sessions Park  
San Diego CA 92150 Pacific Beach  
619/855-9981 92109

## Orange County - Local #08- Reg#11

Steve Howe 2nd Mon.7:30PM  
PO Box 5473 American Legion #354  
Buena Park, CA 90622 8071 Whitaker  
562/298-6236 Buena Park  
santabeard@yahoo.com 90621

## San Diego County (North) - Local #11-Reg#12

Phillip Sanchez 2nd Sun - 11 AM  
559/907-2391 Escondido Moose Lodge  
25721 Jesmond Dene Rd  
Escondido 92026

## Alameda, Contra Costa, Solano & Napa Counties L#17

Glenn Phillips 3rd Sun.- 10:00 AM  
P O Box 148 Judy's Wild  
Vacaville 95696 Wrangler Saloon  
707/624-6310 4826 Midway Rd.  
Vacaville CA 95688

## Pomona Valley - Local #19- Reg#8

Jeff Bassler 4th Wed - 7:00 PM  
C/O 9648 Calle Vejar Round Table Pizza  
Rancho Cucamonga 1020 N Mountain  
91730 Ontario, CA 91729  
909/596-9685



## ABATE MEETINGS

### Orange County - Local #20- Reg#11

Gill Mellen 2nd Mon - 7:00 PM  
2129 Harbor Blvd American Legion Post 132  
Costa Mesa 92627 143 S Lemon St  
949/632-9787 Orange, 92866  
gillabate3@gmail.com

### San Bernardino - Local#23

Ron Morris 1st Sun 9:00 AM  
909/794-6563 Vicky's Restaurant  
502 S Waterman Ave  
San Bernardino CA 92408

### Fresno - Local#24

www.abatelocal24.org 2nd Wed - 7:00 PM  
Yosemite Falls Cafe  
4020 N Cedar Ave.  
Fresno 93726

### Sacramento - Local#25

Lil' David Morena 3rd Thurs - 7:00 PM  
916/616-9605 Denny's  
3520 Auburn Blvd.  
Sacramento 95821

### Riverside - Local#27

Bob Marshall 1st Tues - 7:00 PM  
I.G@ abatelocal27 American Legion  
2979 Dexter Dr.  
(in Fairmont Park)  
Riverside, CA 92501  
drbobmarshall@yahoo.com

### North Valley - Local #31

Larry James 2nd Tues - 7:00 PM  
Panighetti's  
530/893-4827 2760 Esplanade  
Chico 95973

### Yuba City - Local#33

Steve Katan 1st Tues - 7:00 PM  
530/749-1003 American Legion  
5477 Feather River Blvd  
Olivehurst 95961

### Imperial Valley - Local#38-Reg#12

Ed Aranda Last Thurs - 6:30 PM  
Edward\_A12@yahoo.com  
La Fonda Bar & Grill  
1950 South 4th St.  
El Centro, CA 92243

### Bakersfield - Local#40

Robert Northam 3rd Tues. 7:00 PM  
Kilroy16@yahoo.com Rusty's Pizza  
5430 Olive Dr  
Bakersfield 93308

## High Desert Local 44/47-Reg #13

Cindy Demel 2nd Sat. 9:30 am  
C.demel@ Eagles Order #4181  
verizon.net 16195 Main St  
Hesperia 92345

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## 2019 Regional Representatives

Region #8 (L1 & L19)  
Sporty Milligan  
818/361-8800

Region #9 (23 & 27)  
Mark Loudermilk  
951/599-5234

Region #11 (L8 & L20)  
D-Man  
714/833-9508

Region #12 (L6, L11 & L38)  
Dave Connors  
760/208-7232

Region #13 (L44)  
Yermo Eddy  
760/953-7353

