

ABATE of CA.
Magazine for
Motorcyclists
Vol. 41 • Issue 1
Jan/Feb 2022

THE BAILING WIRE



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A Union of Motorcyclists Dedicated to Freedom of the Road



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Local 3/13 - Chuck Pedersen & Kathleen Butcher



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California Redistricting Maps!

Congressional Redistricting 2022

Continues page 15

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Colton	STMC	909-430-3000	Sacramento	Safety Center Inc	800-825-7262
Cornoa	Ride Rite	951-736-8179	Sacramento	Harley Davidson of Sacramento	916-929-4680
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Lathrop	Eagles Nest Harley Davidson	209-307-7557	Simi Valley	MRE Corp	805-389-5303
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Long Beach	Westside Motorcycle Academy	310-395-0695	South San Francisco	Pacific Motorcycle Training	925-800-5109
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Monterey	Pacific Motorcycle Training	925-800-5109	Van Nuys	Ride Rite	951-736-8179
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Modesto	Modesto Junior College	209-575-6063	Walnut	Mt. San Antonio College	909-274-4220
Newark	2 Wheel Safety Training	510-784-8978	Wrightwood	Motorcycle Training Services, Inc	760-987-6652



For beginner training courses visit:
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For intermediate, advanced or 3-wheel visit:
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2022 State Officers

Chairman of the Board	<i>Lee Sporty Milligan</i> 818-361-8800
Secretary	<i>Gina Jones</i> 949-306-5445
Treasurer	<i>Tom Jones</i> 818-571-8303
Executive Director	<i>Rick Robison</i> 714-315-1150
Assistant Executive Director	OPEN
Lobbyists	<i>The Lombardo Group</i> 916-424-1148
Legislative Director	<i>Jim Lombardo Sr.</i> 916-424-1148
Assistant Legislative Director	<i>James Lombardo Jr.</i> 916-573-3849
PAC/Lobbyist Treasurer	<i>Dave Hastings</i> 760-947-4700
Membership	<i>Sporty Milligan</i> 818-361-8800
Assistant Membership Chair	OPEN
Public Relations	OPEN
Social Media Content	OPEN
Internet/Computer Technicians	<i>Joe B</i>
Website	<i>Jody "Mooney" Maxwell</i> 714-342-4876
IT Support	<i>Diane Davis</i>
Safety	<i>Norm Newiger</i> 805-368-6693
Discussion Group Moderator	<i>Dave Walsh</i> 805-486-1093
MRF Liaison	<i>Jody 'Moonie' Maxwell</i> 714-342-4876
MMA/ABATE Liaison	<i>Ruby Weber</i> 916-481-1549
ABATE Run Insurance Adviser	<i>Rusty Russell</i> 818-200-6729 Rusty_Russell@ajg.com
Email "Alerts" Blast Master	OPEN

2022 Board of Directors

Jody "Mooney" Maxwell	714-530-4636
"Sporty" Milligan	818-361-8800
Jeff Bassler	909-919-0783
James Lombardo Jr.	916-573-3849
Tom Jones	818-571-8303
Jim Lombardo Sr.	916-424-1148
David "D-Man" Seiler	714-833-9508
Jane Warthen	805-341-3386

OPEN 3 seats for 2022-2023

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.

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Make sure to comment accordingly

What is ABATE?

ABATE is a Motorcyclists' Rights Organization dedicated to preserving freedom of choice, 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, motorcycle safety and supporting charity events throughout the state. There are no special requirements for joining aside from an interest in promoting motorcyclist's rights and safety through Membership.

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Caroline Griffith & Janet Wilhelm

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Members, please Email In Photos!

COLUMNISTS

Bill Bish, Sporty Milligan, Jim Lombardo Sr, James Lombardo Jr, Rick Robison & Norm E Newiger

DEADLINES

The deadline is the 15th 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/ Black & White 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 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 Black & White	\$15.00 per month \$150.00 per year
(2 x 3.5) size Color	\$20.00 per month \$200.00 per year
(3.5 x 4) size Color only	\$25.00 per month \$250.00 per year

NON-MEMBER ADS OR EVENT FLYERS

(Ads & flyers subject to approval by Editor)

¼ Page (5w x 7.8h)	\$150.00 per month \$1500 per year
½ Page (10w x 7.8h)	\$175.00 per month \$1750 per year
Full Page (10w x 15.5h)	\$350.00 per month \$3500 per year

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 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. All content is subject to approval by the Editor.

Lobbyist's Legislative Report

by Jim Lombardo Sr., Lobbyist

The Lombardo Group – Government Relations

info@lombardogroup.net

January started out with a Bang! Governor Newsom proposed a 286.4 Billion Dollar State Budget. A huge increase, once again due to President Biden's Build Back America, which gave Billions of Dollars to all States, creating huge surplus' in almost all 50 States!

The Democratic controlled State Legislature responded with two bills, one in the Assembly and one in the Senate to have a Universal Health Care system run by the State. We will be watching this closely to make sure they don't EXCLUDE MOTORCYCLE RIDERS FROM COVERAGE! I'm sure it will work well – look at how well the Unemployment Development Department was run, giving out over \$20 Billions to our State prisoners and others!

Governor Newsom has an Executive Order to BAN the sales of gasoline powered vehicles by 2035, which of course will include Motorcycles. Many bills will be introduced this year on the subject. In 2024, gasoline powered lawn equipment and chain saws will be illegal to sell in California.

The deadline for bills to be introduced is February 18th, when some 2500 bills will be introduced. Our office will review and report back to the ABATE's Legislative Committee for support and oppose positions. Be ready to Lobby in support or opposition!

Every 10 years after the Census is completed the Legislative Districts are redrawn. That is the Congressional, State Senate and the Assembly. It already has caused two major Assembly Members to resign rather than run in the newly drawn Districts.

One, a good friend of Motorcyclists, former Chair of the Assembly Transportation Committee Jim Frazier and another the Chair of the Assembly Appropriations Committee Lorena Gonzales. Many others in Congress, the Senate and Assembly have as well. March 20th is the deadline for persons to declare running for the District races. We will review and the call for a Leg/PAC meeting to go over these races and suggest what races our Locals should try and help to elect MORE Motorcycle Friendly Legislators.

A busy year folks! Thank you to all that support the Lobbyist Fund keeping us at the Capitol fighting for Motorcyclists Rights!

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 through political and legislative action ABATE promotes motorcycle safety through education, training and public awareness.

Politics – Legislative: Bills At A Glance

Presented by The Lombardo Group, ABATE Lobbyist

SR-41 Caballero (D – Salinas) Motorcycle Profiling:

According to the Department of Motor Vehicles, there were 857,273 motorcycles registered in California in 2019. Motorcycle profiling is the illegal use of the fact that a person rides a motorcycle or wears motorcycle-related apparel as a factor in deciding to stop and question, take enforcement action, arrest, or search a person or vehicle with or without legal basis under the Constitution of the United States. Rallies to raise awareness and combat motorcycle profiling have been held in multiple states and six times at the California State Capitol since 2011.

**Passed Senate Floor Unanimously 39-0 on 7/12/21*

AB 958 Gibson (D – Los Angeles) Peace Officers: Law Enforcement Gangs:

This bill would define a law enforcement gang, a group of law enforcement officers within an agency that engages in a pattern of specified unlawful or unethical on-duty behavior, and would require law enforcement agencies to have a policy prohibiting law enforcement gangs and making participation, as specified, in a law enforcement gang grounds for termination. The bill would require an agency to disclose an officer's termination for involvement in a law enforcement gang to another law enforcement agency conducting a preemployment background investigation of that officer, as specified.

**Signed into Law*

SB 66 Allen (D – Santa Monica) California Council on the Future of Transportation: advisory committee: autonomous vehicle technology:

This bill would require the secretary to establish an advisory committee, the California Council on the Future of Transportation, to provide the Governor and the Legislature with recommendations for changes in state policy to ensure that as autonomous vehicles are deployed, they enhance the state's efforts to increase road safety, promote equity, and meet public health and environmental objectives. The bill would require the council to be chaired by the secretary and consist of at least 22 additional members, selected by the chair or designated, as specified, who represent, among others, transportation workers, various state and local agencies, and a disability rights organization. The bill would require the council to create subcommittees focused on one or more specific topics and to form one subcommittee led by the Office of Planning and Research focused on furthering the state's environmental, public health, and energy objectives, as specified. The bill would require the subcommittee to submit policy recommendations to the council and the Legislature by January 1, 2024, and to make those recommendations publicly available. (SUPPORTING)

**Held in committee and under submission*



www.abate.org

2nd Quarterly ABATE of California Meeting for 2022
April 2, 2022 On-Line Meeting with ZOOM Video
Conferencing ABATE Meeting Schedule

Presidents/Officer Meeting 9:00am – 9:45am

PAC Meeting 10:00 am – 11:45 am

Break

ABATE Board Meeting: Immediately after the Break

Login/Call In Early - Meeting Will Start On Time

Links to be provided in late March

ATTENTION ABATE MEMBERS

We are in need of an Email Blast Person.

This is someone who has computer knowledge and can learn the software that we use to do this.

You will be under the direction of the Executive Director and Office Manager as to when these communications will need to be sent out.

Requirements include: Current ABATE member and computer savvy.

Submit applications to: info@abate.org

Thank you,

Sporty Milligan

Chairman of the Board

SB What? AB Where?

Want more details about a bill? Whether it's in the Senate or Assembly in Sacramento, go to:

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/>

Executive Director's Report

by Rick Robison, Executive Director

Happy 2022 from ABATE of California Executive Director.

We started off this year with our first quarterly Board of Directors meeting. We met in Simi Valley, California. Our host was Local 2. It was well attended! They had lunch for us and the bar was open. Thank you to Local 2 for hosting our meeting and as always Thank You to Russ Brown for your Sponsorship!

At the meeting we discussed a variety of subjects. One of the things we discussed was how to boost our numbers at the Local level. It was suggested that we use social media: Facebook, Instagram and Tic Tok to keep members and the "public" interested in ABATE. I use Facebook for Local 20 to keep everyone in my Local up to date on meetings and events. It was also suggested the Locals try to use Instagram more than Facebook for a broader, more youthful outreach.

I am working on an Instagram account for Local 20. If someone would like to volunteer to help ABATE of California start and maintain an Instagram page, please contact the ABATE of California office. As I said, we need to get more riders involved in ABATE for us to survive in the future.

We also discussed the new Bailing Wire format! If you're reading the Bailing Wire at this moment then you're looking at it! Please let us know how you like the new format.

We are looking for content that would interest our readers and any other suggestions. We are also trying to get more business members to advertise in the Bailing Wire. If you have a business and would like to advertise in the Bailing Wire, please contact the office. The Bailing Wire magazine is distributed throughout California at many local businesses. You can even view it on line at www.abate.org.

If you are interested in joining ABATE, or making a donation, you can do this on our webpage. Also ABATE of California's 2022 Membership Raffle has kicked off with a chance to win \$250 at our 3rd Quarter Board of Directors meeting in July. Contact your Local to purchase your tickets!

Remember WE all are in this together!

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.

Total Control
Motorcyclist Training Courses



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info@totalcontroltraining.net

Membership Report

by Sporty Milligan, Membership Chairman

Hello All! We have a new year and a fresh start. Yes, we're beginning the 2022 Membership Drive. It will be the same formula that we have been using for the past years. The Membership raffle tickets we sell will make the Membership Drive cost free.

This year there is an extra catch! There will be a \$50 prize to the member who sells the most tickets. So, with that said we have given the Locals their allotment of tickets. So, get to work and sell those tickets!

With the just concluded 2021 Membership Drive, the winners are: Sporty Milligan - \$50 3rd place, Glenn Phillips \$100 2nd place, and \$150 1st place to ABATE Executive Director, Ric Robison. As you can see, our 2021 Drive has been successful.

Okay now we'll get to the gist of this Membership report. How do you successfully sign-up new members and keep current members? This is a problem that has plagued organizations for many years.

For my Local 1 have developed a formula that has worked reasonably well. Information is the key to maintaining and keeping the membership informed. This is what I do to achieve that aim. I put my members with email on a special list. When something comes up, I send an email to my members on the list and - bam! - they're informed.

I have been doing this membership gig for a long time, but I don't pretend to know all the insights to membership, so I have to sometimes reach out to my members and ask for suggestions.

Our goal this year is to reach out, sign-up new members and retain the ones you presently have. In future reports we will discuss ways to accomplish that objective.

In the meantime, do your best to sign-up new members and retain the ones your Local currently has. There is unity and strength in numbers of members.

Sporty Lee Milligan, Current Membership Chairman.

For Those Members who want to help or hold office contact your Presidents or Board Members Yet to be Announced

WANTED:

A person committed to our rights and protecting them.

If you have the passion and can give a little of your time, please fill out the Candidacy Paper printed here and send it in along with a selfie to bailing.wire@abate.org

Local Reports

Local #01 Los Angeles

Hello All ABATE Members! This Local one report will not cover just a review of the last meeting, but will be developed into a monologue of events concerning ABATE Local 1.

For starters, I have been the President of Local 1 for many years. I took over from the last President, Mr. Peter Daniels, when he stepped down years ago. Sadly, he passed away in September 2021. It was Peter who got us the Sunday morning meeting gig. We had a couple who were members of the Elks Lodge in Tujunga and suggested we have our meetings there on the 3rd Sunday when the Lodge had breakfast. So that is where we currently are doing our meetings. They are a good group of folks and we're treated well. So, if you're in the neighborhood, come to our meeting and get breakfast! It's well worth the trip.

Okay when the pandemic hit, Local 1 went to Zoom meetings as the Elks Lodge closed. One of Local 1's members knew the President of the Valley Chapter of the 44 club. They kindly allowed us use of their club house, a unit in a small industrial complex, in North Hollywood. We appreciate the lending of their club house. Thank you!

This month we're at the Elks Lodge in Tujunga again.

Since this is January, we're in full swing for preparations for the 35th annual Polar Bear run. This year it will be the Peter Daniels Memorial Polar Bear Run. Run pins have been ordered and paid for. We have our AMA Charter and we will soon be getting insurance for the run.

I need to make flyers for distribution to various areas. I will have Debra Dunn, who has a printing company and graphic arts supply company, do the flyers this year.

At our meeting we'll discuss the recent first quarter Board of Directors meeting that was held at Local 2 in Simi Valley on January 8th. We will discuss the distribution of Membership raffle tickets and continue to plan the Polar Bear run.

So, as you can see, Local 1 will be busy for the months of January and February. Stay tuned for more next month!

ABATE Local 1 President Sporty Milligan reporting.

Local #02 Simi Valley

Happy New Year Everyone! Our first meeting of the year! We meet on the second Wednesday of the month at VFW Post 10049 located at 4242 East Los Angeles Street in Simi Valley.

It's 100% true! We changed our meeting day from Tuesday to Wednesday! A first for me and others as well. It's been happening on Tuesday for at least 15 years that I know of and I'm sure some old fart is going to tell me over 20 years or more ago.

Our meetings will now start at 7 pm instead of 7:30. Text or call Jane for more info, if needed.

We talked about our Local holding the Board of Directors meeting here earlier this month. It was a success, as I witnessed it! Good food, good drinks, good comradery, and a fun filled prize drawing contest that was very interesting - might I say!

It took a lot of work to make this happen and a major thanks to all that helped with the meeting - it was worth it!

We missed all who couldn't attend our meeting and we will see you at the next one.

Ride safer than last time and you will be able to repeat as needed!

PTL norm e.



FOR SALE: 2015 Softail Deluxe

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Well maintained.

Color is Moroccan Pearl with gold flecks.

Detachable saddle bags.

Accessories are from the Nostalgic Group.

Pink slip in hand and registration is good through April 2022.

Asking \$14K.

If interested call 760-371-1841 and leave a message



Lawmakers Head to the Exits in 2022

Happy New Year! As is the case every two years, 2022 is an election year for much of Congress. All 435 members of the U.S. House of Representatives, and 1/3 of the U.S. Senate are up for reelection in November. Add state and local elections to that and literally thousands of elections will take place this year.

What's been interesting about this year's congressional races is the number of lawmakers who are retiring, and not seeking reelection. While every year has a handful of retirements, 2022 might set a record! As of this week, 37 Representatives (26 Democrats and 11 Republicans) as well as 6 Senators (1 Democrat and 5 Republicans) have announced they will be stepping down at the end of the year.

The reasons for retirements vary, some are seeking higher office, others are fed up with Washington D.C. and others are simply avoiding potential election defeat. Regardless of the reason for these departures, it's surprising that nearly 10% of lawmakers are headed for the exits.

There are two important things you, as a Motorcycle Riders Foundation member, should take away from these retirements. First, if your elected official is retiring, have they been supportive of MRF priorities in the past? In the final months of their time in D.C., many congressional offices will change their tune on issues and be more supportive of topics they avoided in the past. It doesn't hurt to reach out again, and push for MRF priorities before the lawmakers are gone for good. Ask the MRF D.C. team if we can help!

Second, with so many vacancies around the country, it's a great time to get to know new candidates. Getting in on the ground floor and building relationships early in the process is one of the best ways to impact change and support your fellow bikers. In 2020, bikers in Michigan developed an early relationship with a candidate for office months before the election. That candidate won and became a U.S. Representative! She still fondly remembers the support she received early on from riders in her district. So, get involved early and introduce yourself to the new crop of leaders headed to D.C.

Below is the current list of lawmakers departing their current positions. This list will grow in the coming months, keep your eyes and ears opened and stay up to date on who represents you in D.C. Reach out to the MRF D.C. team if you have any questions about the changing make up of Congress.

- Alabama:** Brooks (R-H), Shelby (R-S)
- Arizona:** Kirkpatrick (D-H)
- California:** Bass (D-H), Lowenthal (D-H), Roybal-Allard (D-H), Speier (D-H)
- Colorado:** Perlmutter (D-H)
- Florida:** Crist (D-H), Demings (D-H), S. Murphy (D-H)
- Georgia:** Hice (R-H)
- Illinois:** Bustos (D-H), Kinzinger (R-H), Rush (D-H)

- Kentucky:** Yarmuth (D-H)
 - Maryland:** Brown (D-H)
 - Michigan:** Lawrence (D-H)
 - Missouri:** Blunt (R-S), Hartzler (R-H), Long (R-H)
 - New Jersey:** Sires (D-H)
 - New York:** Reed (R-H), Suozzi (D-H), Zeldin (R-H),
 - North Carolina:** Budd (R-H), Burr (R-H), Butterfield (D-H), Price (R-H)
 - Ohio:** Gonzalez (D-H), Portman (R-S), Ryan (D-H)
 - Oregon:** DeFazio (D-H)
 - Pennsylvania:** Doyle (D-H), Lamb (D-H), Toomey (R-S)
 - Texas:** Brady (R-H), Gohmert (R-H), E.B. Johnson (D-H), Vela (D-H)
 - Vermont:** Leahy (D-S), Welch (D-H)
 - Wisconsin:** Kind (D-H)
- Democrat (D) Republican (R)
Senate (S) House of Representatives (H)

About Motorcycle Riders Foundation: The Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) provides leadership at the federal level for states' motorcyclists' rights organizations as well as motorcycle clubs and individual riders. The MRF is chiefly concerned with issues at the national and international levels that impact the freedom and safety of American street motorcyclists. The MRF is committed to being a national advocate for the advancement of motorcycling and its associated lifestyle and works in conjunction with its partners to help educate elected officials and policymakers in Washington and beyond.



In our Dec Issue we mistakenly identified our new State Secretary Gina Jones as Gina Gilliam. We apologize for the mistake.

PAC – Lobbyist Treasurer’s Report

by Dave Hastings, Treasurer

As most of us know, ABATE of California is struggling financially along with most of our fellow business entities here in California. We can blame it on an aging motorcycle rider base, declining membership, or a lack of Local Officers and new recruits who are willing to accept responsibility and leadership. We can also blame it on lockdowns brought on by the Covid Pandemic. We can insert any other excuse or reason you want in this paragraph, but the bottom line is the same – as membership declines so does our revenue.

I’ve held the position of PAC and Lobbyist Treasurer since my departed mentor, Peter Daniels, stepped down and I’ve never seen our funds for these two accounts in the shape they are currently in. Are we paying our bills? Yes, but as I stated above, we are struggling to do so.



Where do we go from here? I’m asking YOU that question. Do we throw in the towel and simply dissolve our organization? Do we continue to struggle along waiting for some miracle to save ABATE before we all take our final ride home? Or do you and I finally decide to put into motion a plan to return ABATE of California to the number one motorcycle rights organization in the country?

It can be done, but it’s going to take all of us, not just me, not just you, not just him or her, but ALL OF US! Let’s help our State Board of Directors and Local Officers in 2022 by working together on a path and implementation schedule to return us to a financially sound, viable organization protecting motorcycle rights in California.

No one wants to be on a ship that’s sinking, but if we all work together, we can bail this old ship out and restore it to its former glory. We have intelligent, common-sense people from all walks of life who have dedicated a large part of their free time to help preserve and protect our motorcycle rights in California. Don’t let their efforts and enthusiasm go to waste. Let’s ALL help get our ship back on course.

YOU are the key. Send us a donation if you have the funds to do so. If that’s not possible, volunteer your experience and wisdom. Assume a leadership position at the State or Local level. Offer a helping hand to someone carrying more than their share of the load.

Together WE made ABATE of California one of the most admired and respected “grass roots motorcycle organizations” in the country and working together we can again lay claim to that title.

The choice is yours – what’s it going be?

Freedom Fighter Winner

When I think of Ed Aranda and ABATE Local 38, I always say, “the little Local that Does” and in addition to the members of our El Centro Local it is in part to its President Ed Aranda.

Ed has been a member of ABATE going on 30 years and has worn many hats during his tenure: Member, Treasurer, Vice President and Current & Past President.

The first turkey run in Imperial Valley was in 1998. 11 people showed up and they contributed 26 turkeys between 3 charities. Now, between 380 to 500 turkeys are distributed to 14 charities. It’s been a total of 24 years of blessing the community with these turkeys.

The Imperial Valley Los Nino’s Toy Run is in its 30th year. It started as Valley Independent Bikers then Abate 38 took over after the first year. Each year hundreds of toys are handed out to the kids of the Imperial Valley.

Both Runs wouldn’t be around as long as they have without Ed at the Helm and the large number of Sponsors that donate money and resources. This extensive list can also be attributed to Ed’s dedication to these events and his community.



When I asked him if he has any highlights he recalls about being an ABATE member all these years, he said going up to Sacramento to lobby for the helmet law back in the day and the many bikes that showed up.

He is a great person and has a lot of heart for ABATE. He wants to make sure it keeps going and we keep serving our communities as we have.

I can think of no one more deserving of the Freedom Fighter award. Please join me in voting for Ed!

Submitted by Rocio Green, Co/VP and Board Member ABATE Local 38 El Centro CA communities as we have.

by Norm e. Newiger

How To Start 2022 For Dummies

Welcome back me! I missed me for just a little over a year and I'm still recovering and waiting to not be in a recovery mode anymore. Time will tell though. Due to the fact that I had 5 operations in 3 months, a total of 110 days in bed, and I also fell on my face one night that resulted in internal bleeding and another 5 days in the hospital, I decided to take the year of 2021 off. My biggest question is: Did I miss anything?

I feel as though I woke up from a bad dream to another bad dream, it seems that we're still fighting the pandemic, ourselves, inflation and more inflation! I'm never at a loss for words, but I was for most of 2021. I've come to realize that having an operation at a certain age, and being diabetic as well, can change your mindset quickly, but 5 will loop you into another zone and possibly another zip code as well without leaving your body.

That was me and I got to thinking; I'm a fighter and I have been fighting body battles for the last 5-10 years and I have not lost yet, thank God. I had a lot of time to reflect and wish and hope to see any kind of health improvements that I could do for myself. It was not easy. One of the biggest issues I had was mental health. It's something I know about, but I was never really affected by it before. I knew something wasn't right, and it wasn't a big problem. For me it was about adjusting, being positive and taking the right amount of time off and then some.

At 65 it's not easy being me. Like others, I have my medications for everything and health restrictions for the precautionary life I lead. I have had a love affair for riding since I was a kid in '67. I graduated to bigger bikes as the years went by. I still have that love for riding, but now I have to adjust myself as I get into riding after being down for about 14 months. It's hard, but doable because I'm doing it a little at a time while extending my distances. It's important for me to know my limitations because I've lost a few friends this way and I know the price they paid. I've always preached that if you don't feel good about riding that day, then don't. You have 364 other days that you can. This is really important for you to know because sometimes peer pressure makes you do things against your thoughts or more importantly, your feelings. Take it with a grain of salt and live another day!

I am very optimistic about 2022. I want to ride and ride with a meaning rather than just racking up the miles. When you miss a year or more, it just needs to happen because of all the changes. If you were laid up, then just riding thru the four seasons is a must. We are having a great start of this new year and getting on the road is a must. The weather has and will be continuously great in January, I hope.

Anybody get a new ride from Santa? I sure didn't. I'm fine with my Heritage Softail. We are truly blessed with pretty much year-round riding and we don't have the excuse of hibernating our bikes, but for some they do, albeit a short one. So, restarting our riding cycle the next question would be: When was the last time you set up your bike for year-round riding?

During the winter holidays is when I like to go through my bike in detail. A slow kind of examination of critical and non-critical things that are pretty much preventive maintenance oriented. I like to call it a major detailing of my bike to including mechanical work done by others, or wrenching it myself, from the ground up to the tippy tops of my ape hangers. I have no time frame for doing this. It's more working off a checklist and making my bike safe as well. I truly believe that if your bike is in top running condition, it's as safe as the rider or I should really say, it's safe to ride! Getting to know your bike has always been important to me. That's why I do the major detailing at least twice a year, about 6 months or so apart.

Now let's talk about tire pressure! I know it's my pet peeve, but it's for real. Everyone who has a vehicle that has air in rubber tires knows something about tire pressure. You need it to roll. Here is the main reason you should be concerned about tire pressure: Under inflated tires! Riding on tires with too little air pressure is dangerous. First of all, they will generate excessive heat, damage your tire, tire failure, adversely affect your cornering ability, make your bike feel mushy, reduce your tire life, increase fuel consumption, and can cause fatigue cracking.

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MOTORCYCLE ATTORNEYS

When you have low tire pressure, your bike will feel heavy, especially the front end of your bike. Handling and steering become laborious just on simple turns or leaning as you round a turn. Your bike could feel like it's hopping as you lean into a long winding road. I have experienced this before, and it's very dangerous if you're traveling at a high speed (that's me). The best way to handle this is to slow down gradually until it stops hopping.

Just remember this; heat is the enemy of tires, under inflated tires generates additional heat by flexing more than they should, while a properly inflated tire runs cooler. You will feel low tire pressure. The only remedy for this is air!

A tire's pressure can change by 1 PSI for every 10 degrees Fahrenheit of temperature change. As temperature goes, so goes pressure. Plus, you lose approximately 1 PSI of pressure per month. That's why most tire manufacturers recommend you check your tire pressure once a week. There's nothing wrong with your tires, it's just physics!

There are hundreds of tire manufactures in the world and they all express proper tire pressure and tread depth as the most important things you, as a consumer, can control. I must admit I'm kind of a nut about this, I always ask me buds, "When was the last time you checked your tire pressure?" It's true.

I actually rode to the first 2022 ABATE Board of Directors meeting. I was happy to see everyone there, for me it was meeting people that I never met in person before and seeing friends that I haven't seen in a while. I love being a part of the ABATE family. I enjoy everybody and their contributions every month and the hard work displayed year after year. It's a pleasure and an honor to be a part of our continuous history in the making!

I hope that we have a successful year and provide the people with the correct information for their safety and rights as a motorcyclist. I, like a lot of people, just don't know what's in store for us as a nation or state in 2022. We have plans and thoughts, but as I see it, it could change overnight, week by week, or month by month. I just don't know or care to predict what could happen. So, as far as 2022 goes, I'm just going to see how it unfolds monthly and make plans with the thought of it being canceled or delayed or re-scheduled, again!

How do I start 2022? Let's make the best of it, as if it never existed (you know the baloney between these parentheses) and start living all over again, to include riding without restrictions on destinations or just being free to live life as we see it, on two wheels of course!

Ride safer than the last time and you will enjoy 2022!



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I would like to donate: \$_____ to the:
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- | | |
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Freedom isn't FREE

Sporty's Rides

by Sporty Milligan

Hello All! The pandemic is still with us but I have found ways to duck out and do events safely, such as a ride or two. We just had our first quarterly Board of Directors meeting and I will again serve as Board Chairman and Membership Chairman. Yes, I am still Local1 President and Treasurer. Since I am retired, I have had time to do these jobs better than if I was working a regular job. I enjoy doing this work. The motorcycle politics is a cause that allows me to kinda do my part to help prevent tooth decay aka bad laws against motorcyclists in California. We shall see how it goes this year.

When I last left you, I was getting ready to do the Shaggers Christmas Toy run that was on November 14th. It started at Lancaster HD. When I got there, I volunteered to do a check point at our restaurant check point in Rosemont. My partner was my Shaggers member whose nick name is Gorilla. We worked there until the sweeps showed up.

Off we went to the end spot, the VFW in Quartz Hills. Those guys ride hard and we were flying to the end spot. At the VFW we had our group's stuff set up and did the raffles throughout the afternoon. They had a bike show, which my bike, the 2007 1200L, got a trophy for rat bike. Okay the kids were the big winners in this as there were a lot of toys for them. I went home with a smile on my face.

November 17th and again on December 5th I made two cold rides to Santa Clause Inc in Ontario to prepare for the 33rd annual Local 19 Toy run. On December 5th I drove my pick-up truck as it was really foggy and hard to see. Plus, I was carrying my stuff for the ABATE booth. The actual event vender booths were located at the VFW, which is across the street from Santa Clause Inc. It was still foggy until about 11 am, then started breaking up and by 12 pm had become nicer. The event closed by 2 pm and by 3:30 pm I was on my way home. Thanks to Local 19 and Santa Clause Inc for a job done well.

On December 4th I attended the Calabasas Highway HOG Chapter Christmas breakfast at the Canoga Park Elks Lodge. It was an all you could eat affair. We had raffle prizes etc. The food was great and fellowship was in the air. I went home after the breakfast as I needed to prepare for the Local 19 toy run the next day.

Our monthly meeting was originally scheduled for December 19th, but our LA Toy drop was the 19th. So, we had our monthly meeting on December 16th at 44's clubhouse. Good meeting and we had breakfast at Norms restaurant.



The day before I went to Glendale HD for the Golden State HOG Chapter meeting where I paid my dues for the year 2022. We then took off to Oxnard to have lunch at a place called Toppers Pizza. Food was ok and the company and ride there was fun. After eating, I said my goodbyes and went home.

Sunday, December 19th, was the LA Toy run drop off at the Ronald McDonald House in LA. I volunteered to be at Glendale HD to tell the folks that came where to go to drop off the toys they brought. While I was there, I had a visit from one of my ABATE Local 1 members, Larry Meyers. He had an expensive HD jacket that he could not use as it was too big. So, I paid his membership for the year. Being in the leadership rolls sometimes has benefits like a nice jacket. Thanks Larry!

Well, the last event was the first ride of the year. It had two starting points, Glendale HD and Mulholland HD. The ride went to the Rock Store where I had a nice turkey burger and decaf coffee. I renewed one of my past members, Kevin Tomlinson! That was nice! I left after the meal and coffee.

This concludes my adventures for the new magazine style Bailing Wire. I hope you enjoy reading this as much as I did writing it.

Scribe Sporty

Check Out Your Locals Facebook Page

ABATE of California

ABATE Local 1

ABATE Simi Valley

ABATE Local 3/13 - T.O/Ventura

ABATE of California, Local 6

ABATE Local 8

ABATE #17 of Northern California

ABATE of CA - Local 19

ABATE Local 20

ABATE of California - Local 23 - San Bernardino

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ABATE of California Local 44

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44 TOTAL CONTROL/CMSP

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ABATE Events for 2022

Events:

March 6th – ABATE Local 1 – 35th Annual Peter Daniels Memorial – (see flyer this issue)

March 26th – ABATE Local 23 – San Bernardino City Mission Box of Love (see flyer this issue)

April 2nd – ABATE of CA 2nd Quarter Board Meeting Via ZOOM – (see flyer this issue)

April 7th - 9th – MRF Meeting of the Minds (Location to be announced)

Bike Nights:

ABATE Local 3/13 – 1st Thursday of the month (see flyer this issue)

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.



NEWS RELEASE

2415 First Ave., Sacramento, CA 95818 | dmvpublicaffairs@dmv.ca.gov | 916-657-6437

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 10, 2021

Newsom Administration Takes Immediate Action to Support the Efficient Movement of Goods Through California Ports

DMV to nearly double capacity for commercial driving tests, builds on Governor Newsom's executive order and USDOT partnership to address supply chain issues

Sacramento – Building on Governor Gavin Newsom's [executive order](#) and [federal partnership](#) to address the global supply chain crisis, the California Department of Motor Vehicles is taking immediate action to tackle the commercial truck driver shortage and keep goods moving quickly between California's largest ports and major distribution centers.

In an effort to safely and efficiently license more commercial drivers and help address the national shortage of workers in this industry, the DMV today is announcing actions that will nearly double its capacity to conduct commercial driving tests in the coming months.

"With today's announcement, we'll get more truckers on the road to get goods where they need to go faster," said Governor Newsom. "The supply chain crisis is not a California specific problem, but we've taken swift action to relieve congestion and increase our capacity to move goods quickly."

The DMV will now offer Saturday commercial driving test appointments at three additional offices – Fullerton, Montebello and Winnetka – bringing the total number of Saturday test sites to 15. The Department began offering an extra testing day at select locations earlier this year and is also training more staff to administer the tests and redirecting examiners to the areas of greatest demand to significantly expand capacity.

"There is a real need to increase the number of safe truck drivers in California to transport goods. Our goal is to give everyone who needs to take a test for a commercial driver's license the opportunity to be tested within 30 days if they meet the requirements," said DMV Director Steve Gordon. "Depending on the location, prospective commercial drivers can get an appointment for a test within a week."

The DMV currently administers approximately 5,000 commercial driving tests each month statewide. Once it fully implements the strategic staffing changes, combined with expanded Saturday testing, the DMV expects to add another 4,700 appointments a month. Because the highest demand for tests is in the greater Los Angeles area, the DMV's main focus for staffing is in Southern California – with flexibility to respond if appointment availability starts to lag in other regions.

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the DMV has taken numerous steps so commercial drivers can continue delivering essential products and supplies without having to worry about visiting a DMV office. The DMV has offered [commercial driver's license extensions](#), and began offering [more commercial driving services online](#), including medical certificate updates, CDL renewals, and motor carrier permit renewals. The DMV also no longer requires drivers with an out-of-state commercial license to take a knowledge or skills test when transferring to a California commercial license with the same class and endorsements. The DMV continues to look for ways to improve services and make more appointments available.

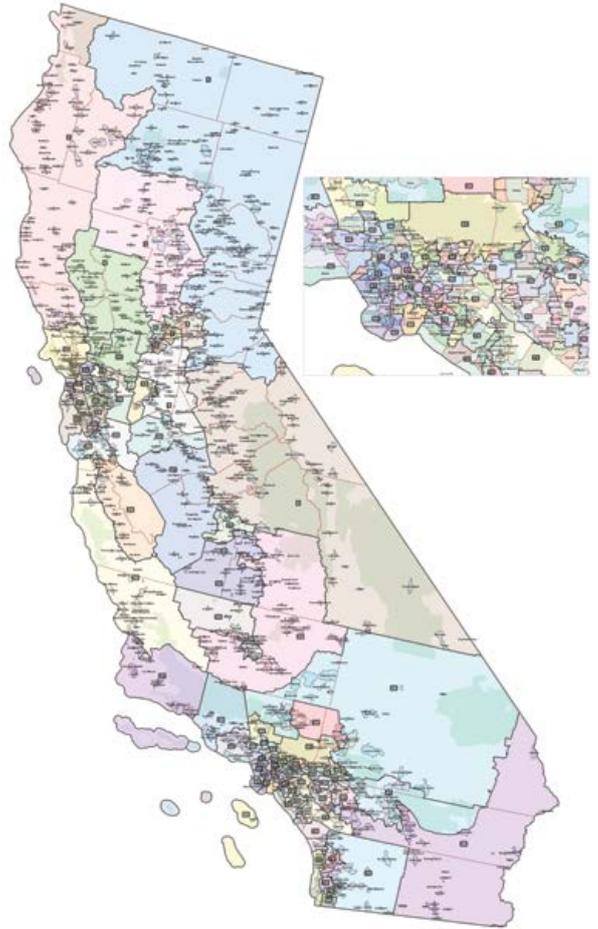
The Governor's Executive Order also directs the Department of Finance to work with state agencies to develop longer-term solutions that support port operations and goods movement for consideration in the Governor's Budget, which may include port and transportation infrastructure improvements, electrification of the goods movement system from port to delivery and workforce development. The Order builds on earlier efforts this year by the Governor's Office of Business

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Senate Redistricting 2022



Assembly Redistricting 2022



California's public commission adopted new congressional and legislative districts for the next decade, starting with June 2022 primaries and continuing for the next decade. Redistricting happens once every 10 years, after every census, it's the second time that California's redrawing is being done by a 14-member independent commission:

The commission submitted a 221-page final report (<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Ig2P8gmVxMxfDdW11zQIYAg2eLdy-2HT/view>) to the secretary of state.

Slower population growth in California means the state lost one of its 53 U.S. House seats this year

Congressional districts each have about 760,000 people, state Senate districts are larger, with nearly 1 million Californians.

While the Democratic majority in the state Senate might shrink under the new map, Democrats' hold of the Assembly could grow. They now hold 60 of the 80 seats.

Look for more Updates from ABATE's Legislative Directors as June Primaries approaches



THE AIM/NCOM MOTORCYCLE E-NEWS SERVICE is brought to you by Aid to Injured Motorcyclists (A.I.M.) 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.

Compiled & Edited by Bill Bish,

CONGRESS APPROVES FEDERAL HIGHWAY

BILL: Following extension after extension, deferring action for more than a year, the so-called infrastructure bill, or highway bill to reauthorize highway funding projects, passed on November 12, 2021 after the U.S. House of Representatives agreed to the Senate's version and passed a 5-year, \$1.2 trillion highway funding bill, dubbed the INVEST ACT.

Unfortunately for bikers, who have lobbied Congress extensively on various transportation issues contained in the House measure, after all this time there's scant little to celebrate. The Senate version does include reestablishment of the Motorcyclist Advisory Council (MAC) to advise the U.S. Department of Transportation on motorcycle matters, and allocates increased Section 405 grant funds dedicated for motorcycle safety.

But left out of the new law are hard-fought issues such as anti-biker profiling by law enforcement, expanding prohibitions on motorcycle-only checkpoints, and autonomous vehicle operation oversight.

NEW HEADS-UP HELMET DISPLAY TECH HAS ALMOST LIMITLESS POTENTIAL:

Swiss firm Aegis Rider AG is using augmented reality to create a helmet that seamlessly integrates information into the view ahead. It's an idea with virtually limitless potential, from providing real-time hazard warnings by highlighting threats as they emerge, to coaching the rider with suggested speeds and cornering lines, or presenting safety instructions superimposed on the road itself.

Already undergoing tests as a third-generation prototype, the system features on-bike cameras and a central computing unit allied to sensors monitoring speed and lean angle as well as GPS data to locate the bike. This gets cross-referenced with detailed maps that include info about speed limits and road characteristics.

Although it would be possible to display such warnings on a traditional dashboard, there's a risk that this would take the rider's eye off the road, so the system is integrated with an augmented reality helmet with heads-up display in the visor.

The system also monitors the helmet's precise position and orientation in relation to the bike, so the warnings can be superimposed at just the right spot. Aegis Rider is supported by ETH Zurich university where company founder Simon Hecker was awarded his PhD for research on autonomous driving systems.

He said: "I ride a motorcycle myself, so I'm aware of the large gap between the safety systems of modern cars and motorcycles."

Initially, Aegis Rider want to have a version targeting tech-savvy early-adopters in production by next summer, with later developments leading to more affordable, mainstream versions in the future.

"The pace of this industry is so fast that there are many more opportunities down the road, even to the point where computer element could be in the cloud, transmitting directly to the helmet using 5G."

U.S. EXPERIENCES LARGEST 6-MONTH INCREASE IN TRAFFIC DEATHS EVER:

U.S. traffic deaths soared in the first six months of 2021, making for the most deadly 6-month period ever recorded. An estimated 20,160 people died in motor vehicle crashes on U.S. roads, an 18.4% increase from the same period in 2020, announced the U.S. Department of Transportation's NHTSA (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration).

Traffic deaths surged after Coronavirus lockdowns ended in 2020 as more drivers engaged in unsafe behavior like speeding and lack of seatbelt use, according to NHTSA behavioral research findings. That made for the largest six-month increase ever recorded in the Fatality Analysis Reporting System's history, which has been in use since 1975.

As U.S. roads became less crowded, some motorists perceived police were less likely to issue tickets because of Covid-19, experts said. Incidents of road rage and driving under the influence were also found to be higher than before the pandemic. Travel on U.S. roads was up 13% in the first half compared to a year earlier.

"This is a crisis," noted Pete Buttigieg, the transportation secretary, adding that the rising traffic deaths left "countless loved ones behind," he said. "We cannot and should not accept these fatalities as simply a part of everyday life in America."

Buttigieg announced the Department's first-ever National Roadway Safety Strategy to launch in January with a comprehensive set of actions to reverse the current trend.

The initiative will be rooted in the Safe System or approach to roadway design that takes human error into account, first put into effect in Sweden's Vision Zero in the 1990s, with the goal of eliminating all road deaths and serious injuries.

ELECTRIC COALITION PLANS MASSIVE INCREASE IN CHARGING STATIONS:

In America, with its wide-open spaces, one of the biggest hurdles to EV adoption is range anxiety, and while cars manufacturers have made great strides in addressing this issue, electric bike OEMs still face an uphill ride due to size and shape limitations. Still, all EVs traversing American roads could stand to gain if the National Electric Highway Coalition has its way.

Simply stated, the NEHC wants to provide DC fast charging infrastructure along "major U.S. travel corridors" by the end of 2023. With current projections estimating that around 22 million EVs will take to U.S. roads by 2030, the Edison Electric Institute estimates the need for around 100,000 EV fast charging ports readily available from coast to coast.

That's a tall order, considering the U.S. Department of Energy currently lists a total of 5,644 DC fast chargers across

the entire United States. By the EEI's own estimates, that's nowhere near enough.

A total of 53 separate energy companies across the U.S. formed this NEHC power company coalition, with most being investor-owned energy companies from whom many of us receive our electric bills every month.

"EEI and our member companies are leading the clean energy transformation, and electric transportation is key to reducing carbon emissions across our economy," according to EEI President Tom Kuhn. "With the formation of the National Electric Highway Coalition, we are committed to investing in and providing the charging infrastructure necessary to facilitate electric vehicle growth and to helping alleviate any remaining customer range anxiety."

AI BEING DEVELOPED TO PREDICT AND AVOID COLLISIONS: Honda has announced that they will be embarking on an ambitious program to help make our streets safer by incorporating predictive Artificial Intelligence technology into driving and riding Honda automobiles and motorcycles.

"Honda will strive for zero traffic collision fatalities involving Honda motorcycles and automobiles globally by 2050," said Honda CEO, Toshihiro Mibe. Mibe also added that to eliminate motorcycle collision fatalities especially in emerging countries, Honda will "continue to strengthen research on safety technologies that enable motorcycles and automobiles to safely coexist and lead the way in realizing a collision-free society."

With Honda's "Safe and Sound Technology," information about potential risks in the traffic environment, which are detected based on information obtained from roadside cameras, onboard cameras and smartphones, will be aggregated in the server to reproduce that traffic environment in the virtual space. In that virtual space, in consideration of the conditions and characteristics of each individual road user, the system predicts/simulates the behaviors of road users at high risk of a collision. Then, the system derives the most appropriate support information to help the road users avoid such risks.

Such support information will be communicated intuitively to automobile

drivers, motorcycle riders, and pedestrians through "cooperative risk HMI (human-machine interface)," which will make it possible for the system to encourage road users to take action to avoid a collision before it happens.

According to Honda, the company is targeting the testing and effectiveness of the system within the next few years, while standardization with industry-wide private-public collaboration will commence after 5 years. Honda also hopes to deploy the technology for "real world" applications sometime after 2030.

MOTORCYCLE EVENTS ONCE AGAIN CANCELED DUE TO CHINA VIRUS: Just as we thought the world was beginning to return to some semblance of normalcy, the global pandemic seems to be striking back with a vengeance, especially as majority of the Northern Hemisphere is right in the thick of winter. Several countries have seen massive increases in Coronavirus cases, particularly worrisome mutations, which unfortunately spells disaster for numerous motorcycling events - be it indoors or outside - such as The Elephant Rally, iconic IMOT, and high-adrenaline Supercross Dortmund, as biker gatherings across Europe are being postponed or have gotten the axe.

The racing scene, too, is not left without its casualties, as the Dortmund 2022 motocross series has also been canceled.

With worldwide travel bans, health mandates and safety restrictions once again set in place to curb the spread of the virus, hopes remain high that the events we motorcycle riders are so passionate about will return to the calendar soon.

OF CONCERN; 4 OUT OF 5 KINDERGARTNERS CAN'T RIDE A BICYCLE: Ryan McFarland, the founder of Strider kids bicycles, told his motorcycle industry audience at the Orange County IMS Outdoors event that today only one in five kindergartners know how to ride a bicycle.

Similarly, most young drivers today have never learned to use a clutch to drive a car with a manual transmission.

Most motorcycles require both balance and use of a clutch, and in the past one could assume that new motorcycle customers would already be familiar with both.

Not-so-much today, but the motorcycle industry is aware of both of these challenges, and are developing new rider programs, power assist bicycles, and new technologies such as clutchless shifting and continuously variable transmissions, as well as more affordable rides.

No, today we can't count on as many kids riding bicycles or teens learning to drive a stick, but the motorcycle industry is working hard in other ways to attract new riders.

THEFT ALERT: THIEVES USING APPLE TECH TO TRACK VEHICLES OF INTEREST: Apple created AirTags to help users find commonly misplaced items like keys or luggage. When paired to an Apple device via Bluetooth, each AirTag allows the owner to track the item's whereabouts. Hidden AirTags have even been used to track down stolen vehicles, including motorcycles.

However, AirTags don't just let the user track their belongings, they also allow thieves to track other people's property. Authorities have discovered that crooks are stashing AirTags on luxury vehicles, out of the owner's sight. Once the thief tracks the automobile (or motorcycle) to the owner's residence, they can steal it once out of the public's eye.

"Inspect your vehicle regularly and call police if you notice any suspicious potential tracking devices," suggested the York Regional Police in Ontario, Canada. "If possible, park your vehicle in a locked garage," and "consider purchasing a quality video surveillance system."

QUOTABLE QUOTE:

"Those who foolishly sought power by riding the back of the tiger ended up inside." ~ John F. Kennedy (1917-63) 35th President of the United States



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Calexico Chronicle

Bikers Play Santa on Los Niños Toy Run

Some 50 Bikers Participate in ABATE 38 Event; Run Started in 1981

by Katherine Ramason December 19, 2021

EL CENTRO — Rain or shine, pandemic or no pandemic, ABATE 38 said bikers won't forget the kids.

Close to 50 bikers roared up to the Betty Jo McNeece Receiving Home south of El Centro on Saturday morning, Dec. 18 to deliver hundreds of toys to the youths of Imperial County.

The Los Niños Toy Run has been going since 1981, when the Valley Independent Bikers made deliveries to the receiving home that was once known as Los Niños. The receiving home is for children temporarily taken from their parents' or guardians' care.

The toy run was later picked up by the ABATE 38 chapter in 1992, said club President Ed Aranda and the goal is still the same: to bring toys to children who would not have anything on Christmas.

"It's one of those things that we keep doing, because even in the rain people keep showing," Aranda said of a past year when it poured on the Los Niños run.

Under clear skies, Saturday's event began at Coyne Powersports in El Centro, where participants were treated to a breakfast at the shop and an auction before taking off. Close to 50 bikers were out at the run from the Imperial Valley and outside the Valley as well.

Each biker brought in at least one toy for the run and toy donations came in from other people who happened to pull up just to give, filling up the truck that would take all the toys to the receiving home. The Yuma HOG (Harley Owners Group) chapter even rolled in with a van full of toys in tow.

Yuma HOG just finished its own toy run last weekend, according to HOG's Saul Lerma, which was supported by members of the ABATE chapter.

"We try to do what we can to support Los Niños Toy Run," Lerma said. "We take time to try and get as many toys as we can and make this an annual event."

"It's cool to have toys with bunch of hardcore bikers," Johnny Lopez said. "You see beards and leather pants and hardcore hip hop music, and they are giving out toys to the kids."



Edward Green carries a stack of toys into the Betty Jo McNeece Receiving Home south of El Centro during the ABATE 38 Los Niños Toy Run on Saturday morning, Dec. 18. | KATHERINE RAMOS PHOTO

"It just feels great to give to those unfortunate," said Edward Green with IV Moto, who has been a part of the run for four years.

"I enjoy this. It's nice to help out kids that are not privileged or don't have parents," said Sandra Arzola of ABATE, who was riding for the second year.

El Centro City Council member Edgard Garcia made an appearance with his sons to both donate toys and to participate in the morning auction.

"Anything that can bring joy to the community, especially the children, especially underprivileged children, to give them the joy of Christmas is a great thing," Garcia said.

All the toys donated, the monetary donations, and the money from the auction before the run will go to the Betty Jo McNeece Receiving Home. Other donations came from Costco, Las Chabelas, the Courtroom, El Centro Motors, and Green's Jewelry.

The receiving home helps between 300 to 500 children every year from ages 0 to 17 that have been abandoned, taken away from parents, physically abused,

or with mental-health disabilities.

Betty Jo McNeece administrator Pablo Cerda said the toys are not just given out at Christmas but used year-round at the receiving



Freddy Armenta of Westmorland adds his toy to the pile in the back of a truck before "Kick stands up!" is called at the ABATE 38 annual Los Niños Toy Run on Saturday, Dec. 18 to benefit the Betty Jo McNeece Receiving Home south of El Centro. | KATHERINE RAMOS PHOTO



ABATE 38 President Ed Aranda takes a handful of gifts and toys into the Betty Jo McNeece Receiving Home south of El Centro on Saturday, Dec. 18 during the Los Niños Toy Run. | KATHERINE RAMOS PHOTO

home, sometimes even given to children on the day they arrive to ease the pain of the bad day, which was echoed by Aranda.

Cerda added that the home also gives toys to foster kids in general throughout the year. Money raised at the auction is used to buy gift cards for the teenagers that end up at the home as well.



Edward Green carries a stack of toys into the Betty Jo McNeece Receiving Home south of El Centro during the ABATE 38 Los Niños Toy Run on Saturday morning, Dec. 18. | KATHERINE RAMOS PHOTO

“We really, really depend on and appreciate this event, and the kids look forward to it every year,” Cerda said.

Usually there would be a big lunch for the bikers at the end of the run at Las Chabelas in Brawley or special time with Santa for the kids at the home, but due to COVID restrictions that was not part of this year’s event.

Yuma HOG’s Lerma said they will all return next year to continue the annual tradition that has helped put a bright light in many children’s lives.

“We’re going to continue supporting because it is all about the children, and that’s why we are here for, that every child gets a toy for Christmas,” Lerma said. “We just want to make sure that every child wakes up with a toy.”

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Calexico Chronicle

Bikers' Bird Run Hits Two Dozen Years

Imperial Valley's ABATE 38 This Year Gave Out Over 400 Turkeys and Had Nearly 140 Riders

by Katherine Ramoson November 21, 2021

EL CENTRO — The roar of dozens of bikers revving their engines at same time, the screech of tires spinning on asphalt, and the cheers of scores of leather-clad riders marked a time-honored tradition: the annual ABATE 38 Turkey Run.

On Saturday morning, Nov. 20, close to 140 bikers gathered at the Walmart parking lot in El Centro to load up on turkeys before setting on motorcycles (and truck beds deep with frozen turkeys) to deliver the birds to charities around the Imperial Valley.

"This has been a labor of love for the last 24 years," ABATE 38 President Ed Aranda said before the caravan of motorcyclists left the Walmart parking lot.

The annual turkey run started as an idea to help Imperial Valley charities that get little to no funding, Aranda said, and started small. The first run had only 11 bikers and provided only 26 turkeys to three local charities.

This year, however, more than 400 turkeys were donated to a dozen Imperial Valley charities and riders participated from Mexicali, San Diego, and Yuma.

Recipients of turkeys included House of Hope, Neighborhood House in Calexico, St. Joseph's in Holtville, Faith Assembly, Bethel Asamblea de Dios, Sweet Home Missionary, One Way Silent Ministries, Cancer Resource Center of the Desert, Holy Tabernacle, and the Imperial County Office of Education. The number of turkeys provided depended on the need, according to Aranda.

Every rider who signed up donated \$10 and one turkey. ABATE donated \$2,000 worth

of turkeys and Walmart donated \$200 worth as well. In the end, three truckloads of turkeys pulled out of the parking lot and followed the long line of bikers to deliver the Thanksgiving dinner centerpieces.

"A lot of people right now probably can't afford a turkey and will at least get half a turkey on their plate," said rider Richard Hernandez, who been participating in the run since its first year. "We try to help kids, adults, anyone who is in need."

Yuma HOG (Harley Owners Group) chapter take part every year in support of the run, and President Reynold Jerome says a run that helps the community, whether it's in Yuma or in its sister community of the Imperial Valley, is something the group is always happy to support.

"There's no better feeling that you're helping somebody," Jerome said. "Especially with COVID, everybody is in need,

people lost jobs, or whatever reason we want to make sure they have a Thanksgiving dinner."

"It feels surreal like coming here and seeing all the clubs and independent riders this community has for this run," biker Joshniño Supapo said. "I'm glad that I came out and can't wait to start this caravan."

This was the first year on the turkey run for the Chrome Divas, an all-women riding group. This is also the Chrome Divas first time participating in any large run.

Grace "Clutch" Blakley with the Oceanside chapter of Chrome Divas was happy to do something to help a community.

"It feels really neat, it feels really nice," Blakely said. "That's our goal, to do more community runs in the future."

A big turkey lunch was served to all who participated afterward the run, courtesy of St. Mary's Catholic Church in El Centro.



Bikers ride through the parking lot of Walmart in El Centro on Saturday, Nov. 20, before the start of the 24th ABATE 38 Turkey Run. | KATHERINE RAMOS PHOTO



Pickup trucks loaded down with dozens of frozen turkeys were ready to follow the nearly 140 motorcyclists taking part in the 24th ABATE 38 Turkey Run on Saturday morning, Nov. 20. | PRISCILLA BROWN PHOTO



Members of ABATE 38 load frozen turkeys into the beds of pickup trucks, which were to follow the nearly 140 motorcyclists as the turkeys were distributed to numerous charitable organizations in the Imperial Valley on Saturday morning, Nov. 20. | KATHERINE RAMOS PHOTO

Aranda said he plans to keep going with the run as long as he can, but he is already beginning to look at passing the torch to someone else, though he plans to stick around for the 25th annual run.

“It’s a labor of love and the Lord is willing to let me do,” he said.



Close of 140 motorcyclists were signed up to participate in the annual ABATE 38 Turkey Run on Saturday morning, Nov. 20, which left from the Walmart parking lot in El Centro. | PRISCILLA BROWN PHOTO

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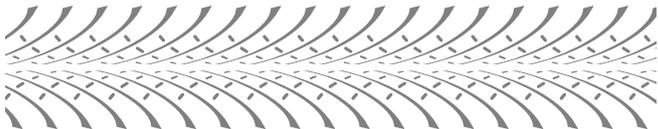
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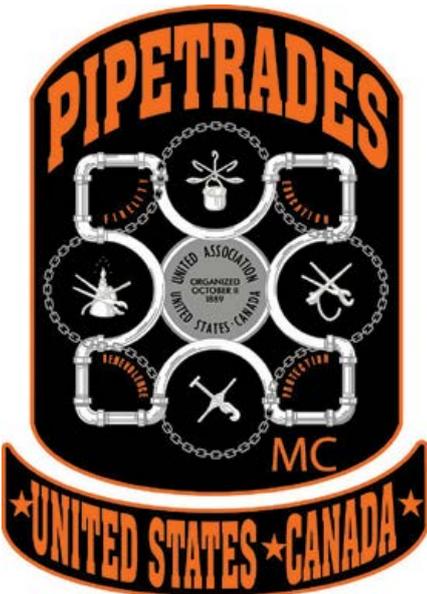
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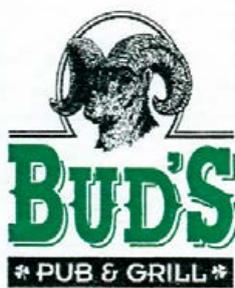
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FACT OR FICTION - HELMET USE:

On a nearly annual basis the media in this country is inspired to report stories about motorcycle fatalities on our nation's roadways. Invariably, these stories paint motorcycle rider deaths as a product of irresponsible riders who live in states that have some level of helmet choice. Frequently they report statistics that prove their narrative but fail to paint a full and complete picture. The lens with which these stories are reported often takes the naïve view that crashes can be made "safer" if only bikers somehow followed government helmet mandates.

The only true solution to motorcycle safety and reducing fatalities are proactive measures, which prevent a collision from occurring at all, rather than reactive steps that may or may not offer some level of injury mitigation only after a crash has already taken place. Rider education, which prepares motorcyclists to interact with other roadway users by learning and practicing the skills necessary for hazard avoidance and developing a strategy to deal with real world traffic, is the primary component of a comprehensive motorcycle safety plan. Additionally, educating all motor vehicle operators to be alert and free of impairment as they share the road with others is critical in deterring crashes caused by inattention.

When coming across these stories keep in mind some facts that are omitted from their reports. Fact: Over the last decade motorcycle related deaths have varied between years but for the most part remain flat. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) data from 2019 shows 5,014 deaths, a decrease from the 2008 5,307 deaths NHTSA recorded. In that same time period registered motorcycles increased from 7.7 million in 2008 to 8.7 million ten years later. In other words, there are a million more bikes on the road and there were 300 less deaths.

Fact: Twenty-nine percent of motorcycle riders involved in fatal crashes in 2017 were riding without proper licensure at the time of the collision. A valid motorcycle license includes a rider having a valid driver's license with a motorcycle endorsement or possessing a motorcycle only license. Proper training and licensing are fundamental parts of motorcycle safety, taking unqualified riders off the road is a commonsense solution to lowering motorcycle fatalities.

Fact: The lack of a helmet mandate in the 31 states who have allowed freedom of choice does not prohibit someone from choosing to wear a helmet. In fact, a 2019 U.S. Department of Transportation audit showed that states without mandatory helmet laws still saw 56.5% of riders choose to wear a helmet.

Fact: A 2019 U.S. Department of Transportation Fatality Analysis Reporting System report showed that in crash study data, where helmet use was known, 36% of motorcyclists killed were not wearing a helmet. Conversely 61% of motorcycle fatalities involved a rider wearing a helmet. The remaining 3% had unknown usage. These numbers closely mirror NHTSA data on overall helmet usage which shows 64% of riders wearing helmets.

Fact: Despite the constant drum beat from safety advocates, the media and Washington D.C. bureaucrats about the ills of helmetless riders, state legislatures continue to trust the judgment of bikers. Just last year Missouri passed a modified helmet law allowing the choice to ride without a helmet to those who are qualified. In at least three other states, West Virginia, Maryland, and Nebraska there are active campaigns to change their helmet mandates and let those who ride decide.



About Motorcycle Riders Foundation The Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) provides leadership at the federal level for states' motorcyclists' rights organizations as well as motorcycle clubs and individual riders. The MRF is chiefly concerned with issues at the national and international levels that impact the freedom and safety of American street motorcyclists. The MRF is committed to being a national advocate for the advancement of motorcycling and its associated lifestyle and works in conjunction with its partners to help educate elected officials and policymakers in Washington and beyond.

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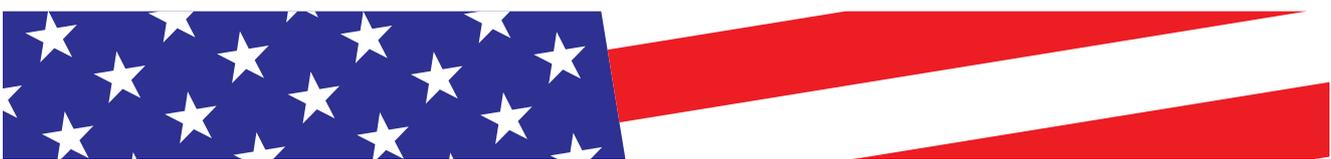
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Sporty Milligan
3rd Sunday — 9 AM
Elks Lodge
101347 Commerce Ave.
Tujunga, CA 91042

Simi Valley

Jim Kibbe
2nd Wednesday — 7:00 PM
VFW Post #10049
4242 E Los Angeles Ave.
Simi Valley, CA 93063

Thousand Oaks/Ventura

Chuck Pederson
3rd Thursday — 7:00 PM
ElksLodge
158 N Conejo School
Thousand Oaks, CA 91362

San Diego County

Snowman
PO Box 501946, San Diego CA 92150
1st Sunday — 12 Noon
Kate Sessions Park
Pacific Beach, CA 92109

Orange County

Daniel Pfaffly
2nd Monday — 7:30 PM
American Legion #354
8071 Whitaker St.
Buena Park, CA 90622

Alameda, Contra Costa, Solano & Napa Counties

Sal De Renzi
3rd Sunday — 10:00 AM
Judy's Wild Wrangler Saloon
4823 Midway Rd
Vacaville, CA 95688

Pomona Valley

Jeff Bassler
4th Wednesday — 7:00 PM
Round Table Pizza
1020 N .Mountain Ave.
Ontario, CA 91672

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Local #02

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kath55344@gmail.com

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619-855-9981

Local #08

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dpfaffly@gmail.com

Local #17

707-483-7445

Local #19

909-596-9685

Orange County

Rick Robison
714-315-1150
local20abate@gmail.com
2nd Monday — 7:00 PM
American Legion Post 132
143 Lemon St.
Orange, CA 92866

San Bernardino

Ron Morris
1st Sunday 9am
TBD Call Ron for details

Fresno

Joel Ross
559-298-0650
jross1@myedgmail.com
1st Wednesday — 7:00 PM
Seven Cafe & Grill
25 Shaw Ave.
Clovis, CA 93612

Sacramento

Lil' David Morena
3rd Thursday — 7:00 PM
Denny's
3520 Auburn Blvd
Sacramento, CA 95821

Yuba City

Steve Katen
1st Tuesday — 7:00 PM
American Legion Post #807
5477 Feather River Blvd.
Olivehurst, CA 95961

Imperial Valley

Ed Aranda
760-554-8843
Edward_A12@yahoo.com
Last Thursday — 6:30 PM
Applebee's
2421 Cottonwood Dr.
El Centro, CA 92243

Bakersfield

Darren Billesbach Jr.
360-296-9335
darrenzemail17@gmail.com
2nd Tuesday — 7:00 PM
Rusty's Pizza
6675 Ming Ave. (at Ming & Ashe)
Bakersfield, CA 93309

High Desert

Dave Hastings
760-947-4700
davesautorepair@aol.com
2nd Saturday — 9:30 AM
Fraternal Order of Eagles
16195 Main St.
Hesperia, CA 92345

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