

The Bailing Wire

Newsletter for Motorcyclists

Volume XXXI

ISSUE XII

DECEMBER 2012

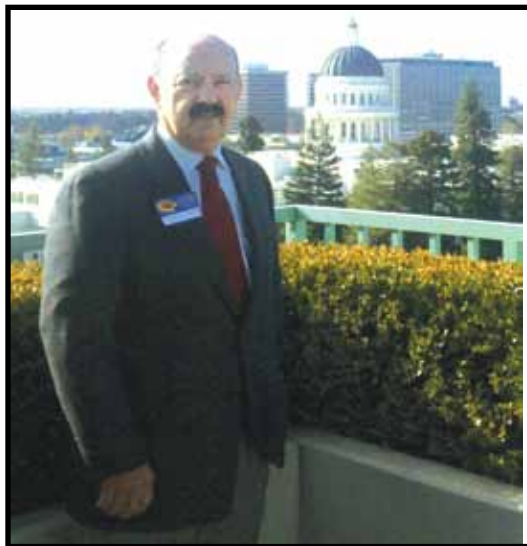
A Union of Motorcyclists
Dedicated to Freedom of the Road

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 now has their off road division up and running!
Join Page 25.

Lobbyist's Legislative Report



by James Lombardo, Lobbyist

The results of this election have turned conventional political wisdom upside down. Long-time incumbents, and candidates favored to win their races, have been soundly defeated or their opponents just squeaked by as late returns come in.

Does that mean that biker issues of *Freedom of the Road* have also been dashed? No, it means that we will need to work that much harder! Remember, just three years ago, when a bill was introduced that called for motorcycle smog checks? Our response as to submit thousands of petition signatures and the smog check portion of the bill was dropped. So, get ready for the same kind of grassroots involvement to pass legislation important to bikers and to defeat bills that threaten **OUR RIGHT TO RIDE!**

The Democrats now have 54 votes in the Assembly and 27 votes in the Senate! They can pass any constitutional amendment to be placed on the ballot, and they can also pass any tax or fee increases with the 2/3 majority they now have. They can even override a Governor Brown veto, should he sign a bill they didn't want.

As far as the election went, ABATE did pretty well with the candidates that we endorsed. As of the date of this article (with a few seats still undecided), 58% of our endorsed candidates won in the state Senate, 66% won in the Assembly (not counting dual endorsements where our endorsed candidates won regardless of the outcome), and finally 65% of our endorsements won in Congress. Pretty impressive, considering this election provided the most upsets in decades!

At the Board meeting in October, we discussed expanding the scope of ABATE to help others with **FREEDOM** issues - the Strength and Core of motorcycling, no matter what you ride! In the final days of the last session, AB 1595, by then Assemblyman Paul Cook, was introduced and then hijacked (putting new language into an unrelated existing bill, by design to hide its real intent, or confuse the public).

It was missed, or intentionally ignored, by all of the existing **OFF-ROAD GROUPS!** ABATE had tons of calls for help to undo this bill that makes it illegal not to wear a motorcycle helmet for anyone riding in a Rhino, or Side x Side off-road vehicle. It also banned small riders whose feet did not touch the floor boards from legally riding in these vehicles. Also, aftermarket seats were outlawed. It had already been signed by the Governor since it had **NO OPPOSITION FROM ANYONE UNTIL AFTER HE SIGNED IT.**

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American Brotherhood Aimed Towards Education

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

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

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Asst. Exec. Director- Vacant

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Sarge Matthews 818/968-3400

Gill Mellen 949/632-9787

David Morena 916/616-9605

Lee "Sporty" Milligan 818/361-8800

Executive Director's Report

by Greg Covell, Executive Director

Greetings: The Election Cycle for this year is now over and whether you like it or not the people of California have decided who will represent our concerns and govern this Great Country and our Grand State of California. While many that we, as motorcyclists, supported did not achieve their goal, they will not forget our efforts. We must now work a little harder and be a little more vigilant as we progress into the New Year.

Reconnect with your Locals and members. We must work to grow ABATE into a strong visible and effective organization. Don't let negative thoughts lead your actions, but force positive thoughts and actions to show people that we are still here, still growing, and still fighting for the rights, privileges and safety of all motorcyclists in California.

It is essential for every Local to visit at least one bike night and or motorcycle event every week and set up a table showing off ABATE. Use the Bailing Wire as your guide, promote your



sponsors - business members, hand out flyers and encourage membership. Action and understanding promotes growth, growth promotes visibility and visibility promotes influence. In order for us to make a difference on a political level it is essential that we have credible influence in Sacramento

Remember to support and attend ABATE functions first and other functions as you wish. Family comes first in the upcoming Holiday Season. Make supporting ABATE a part of your family activities this year.

I've said it before and I'll say it again: "Complacency and apathy is easy and comfortable - but in the long run the cost of doing nothing is very high."

I am ABATE of California.... are you? Keep Your Eyes Wide Open

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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.

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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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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PHOTOGRAPHERS

Gill Mellen & all our Members

COLUMNISTS

Bill Bish, Steve Guderian, Sporty Milligan, Jim Lombardo, Dave Hastings, & Craig Griswold

DEADLINES

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

AD RATES

Business Card \$15.00 /Mo.
\$150.00 /Yr.
Double Size Business Card W/Color \$250.00
1/4 Page (5"W x 5"H) \$150.00 /Mo.
\$1500.00 /Yr.
1/2 Page (10"W x 5"H) \$175.00 /Mo.
\$1750.00 /Yr.
Full Page (10"W x 10"H) \$350.00 /Mo.
\$3500.00 /Yr.

Full color ad is 25% extra.**BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP SPECIAL -**

\$125 - One Year Business Member Listing, Couple Membership and Display Plaque.

Add \$75 per year for color business card.**CLASSIFIED**

Members may advertise in the Classified Section at no charge.

PHOTOS

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

Jim from page 1

We did assist in passing a follow-up bill providing a temporary grace period to pass legislation to allow seat modifications and youths to ride as passengers. **BUT STARTING THIS JANUARY 1, 2013**, all persons riding in Rhinos **WILL HAVE TO WEAR HELMETS!**

ABATE has formed a new **OFF-ROAD advocacy division AND WE WILL BE ADDRESSING THIS WITH A BILL IN JANUARY.**

I will see you at La Quinta Inn in Sacramento, on January 12, 2013 for our next Legislative/PAC meeting and Board Meeting.

Thanks again for supporting your Lobbyist in protecting our ever precious **Freedoms of the Road!**

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State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Telephone #: _____ (with area code)
Sponsored by: _____ (Parent/guardian/grandparent)
Their Membership #: _____ (Sponsor)
Junior Membership receives patch when new _____ \$5.00
Renewing Junior membership – renewal pin _____ \$5.00
Junior ABATE Membership # _____
(Usually the same as sponsor and expires when sponsor's membership expire)

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Tear off receipt and mail renewal card to:

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Exp. Date _____ Signature _____

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General Fund ☐ PAC Fund ☐ Lobbyist Fund ☐**Circle Type of Membership**

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| 1. Single | \$40 |
| 2. Couple | \$60 |
| 3. Sustaining (Single or Couple) | \$100 |
| 4. Gold Business | \$125 |
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Nominees for ABATE Board of Directors 2012-2013

Bio Bob Blatz



My name, for those who don't know me is, Bob Blatz. I have served on the ABATE of CA State Board of Directors for the last two years. I am also Region 3 Regional Director, Locals 14, 15, and 17 and am in charge of trying to organize the Northern Regional Rally to be held in Belden Town in July of 2013. I was Local 15's President for 5 years but decided to let some new blood take over that role. I'd like to make this short and sweet. I require your vote to remain active on the State Board of Directors.

I have attended almost all of the State Board meetings since I became President of Local 15 almost 6 years ago. I'm a firm believer in our Policy and Procedures manual and recommend that all of our leaders whether Local or State glance at it once in awhile.

So just don't sit back; get out at state and national elections and please support me for a renewal in the ABATE of CA election. Thanks for your time.

Bio "Rebel" Ruthi Wolfson



I have been riding motorcycles since I was 11. I am now 61. I have spent a career of nurs-

ing researching with other medical professionals how accidents had occurred and if a helmet was or wasn't the cause of the injury. Researching trauma has been my forte' throughout my career along with researching insurance fraud.

I broke my neck when my 3/4 HJC, DOT approved helmet broke my cervical spine in my worst accident ever. It was written on ER report as well, as by the surgeon. I can't imagine life without a motorcycle. I AM a Disabled Biker. And I still ride.

Experience: Trauma Nurse Practitioner/Legal Nurse Consultant 42 Years. Involved with ABATE of CA as member back in late 1970's, then President of Local 25 since July 2011. ABATE of Chicago, IL, Safety & Education Coordinator for 17 years. Prior to that Legislative Coordinator. Suncoast Brotherhood of Dunedin, FL (previously ABATE) Lifetime Member. Founder & Author, of the Motorcycle Safety & Awareness Program of Greater IL & FL. Taught 10,000+ high school courses. Hosted Motorcycle Safety talk show on WKRS Radio Talk Show, 1990's. Advocate for Disabled Nurses Rights Nationwide. Advocate for Disabled Bikers Rights with Media Coverage. Author of Domestic Violence Programs for Emergency Rooms. Medicare/Medicaid/Insurance Fraud Investigator until retirement. At present on Tuesdays and Thursdays I speak on the Phil & Bill Radio Talk Show about ABATE Legislation plus other events.

I have attended every hearing at the Capitol this past year as President of Local 25, except for one. I have multiple media contacts for the rally events here in the Capitol as well as contacts throughout the state. As President of Local 25, I have networked with MMA, as well as the independent motorcycle associations. I attend meetings of as many clubs/orgs/associations as possible to spread the word of legislation and to promote ABATE. We no longer have 4-6 members show up at our meetings, we actually now fill the dining room at Denny's. I encourage participation of all members even to do something small. Before I became President I started letter writing campaigns to legislators and we hand deliver them to the Capitol. We are a growing Local now. Slowly that is.

My best skill of all is that I have spent my career doing research in the medical field and in the motorcycle genre. As a Board member I can devote my time to working for the better of the organization, as in retirement, I have the time to sit and research more, plus have the time to continue my Capitol visits as well.

"Rebel" Ruthi Wolfson, RN, BSN, TNS, LNC
Legal Nurse Consultant

Bio Lil' David Morena



Every time they pass a law, we lose a little more freedom! That's why I joined ABATE of California back in 1990. I have learned that politicians are like little boys and dogs; you have to keep an eye on them!

I hold, or have held, various positions within ABATE of California. Currently on the State level, I'm a Board Member, Treasurer, Regional Director and an individual PAC member. On the Local level I have held the President and Vice-President of Local #25.

I ride and want to ride tomorrow, so I'm committed to fighting for our rights to ride! I ask for your vote to continue our fight. Thank you.

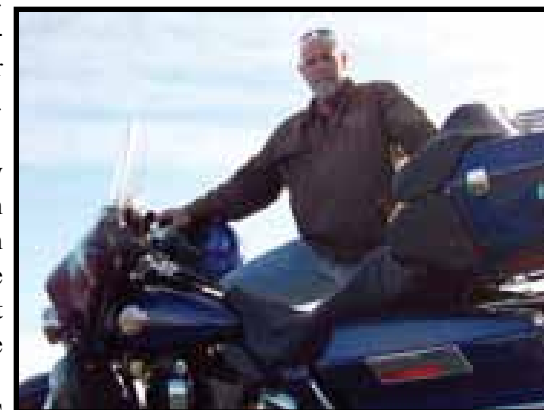
Bio Ed "Iceman" Mathis

Lil' David Morena nominates Ed "Iceman" Mathis for ABATE of California Board of Directors. Iceman has been a motorcycle enthusiast since 1969 and is currently the Vice President of the Shaggers M/C and Assistant Director of the Hi Desert Trikers BTW.

He is a past Modified Motorcycle Association of California (MMA) Division 5 Manager and has served on the MMA Board of Directors.

Iceman has been attending the California Freedom Rally for 20 years and would be a valuable asset to the ABATE of California Board. I ask you for his vote. Thank you.

Bio Steve Guderian



Continued on next page

Bios Continued from page 4

I am running for one of the open Board of Director positions. My current position as state Safety officer has shown me the true state of motorcycle rider rights. From this experience I have learned that for the most part the state motorcycle safety committees and personnel have little respect for us, if any at all. This is completely unacceptable for all riders in California. We, ABATE of California, need to – no, we must change this perception if we are to be able to gain even the most fundamental rights for all riders. We, ABATE of California, have to change our approach and way of doing things so that we can gain the trust of all riders and the respect of all people associated with the motorcycle community. This is not a short term plan, rather it is a long range goal that is going to need a concentrated effort from current members, and from the future members we are going to enlist.

I use to be on the other side, the government safety side. I know how they think, how they act, and what their weak nesses are. This knowledge along with the known commitment of the ABATE Board of Directors and general membership can move us forward into the position of a dominate motorcycle rights organization, which is something all riders in California deserve.

As a motorcycle rider, a motorcycle rider safety expert and a motorcycle rider concerned about

my rights, I am committed to moving ABATE of California into a position of strength in the motorcycle riding community. No other motorcycle rights organization in California is in the position to do what ABATE can do and I want to do my best to make sure that ABATE of California can completely fulfill the destiny that is before it.

Respectfully, Steve Guderian.

Bio Dave Hastings



Hello, my name is Dave Hastings and I would like to serve another term on the ABATE State Board of Directors. By now I think most of you know me so I'm not going to spend much time on

my past positions and record. Suffice it to say that I feel ABATE of California currently has a very capable and dedicated group of individuals holding statewide office and I would like to retain my position as a contributing member of this organization and its Board of Directors. I feel I still have the drive and ambition to better our organization and with the help of my fellow elected officers we will be able to ensure both the direction and focus of our ABATE for the next generation of riders in California. Please give me your vote on election day and I will do my best for you and our organization. Thank You, Dave H.

Bio Gill Mellen



I will run for the Board again this year. I have been on the Board since 2006. Spike and I got Assemblyman Jose Solorio to do the Transponder bill and I will work for all of you again if you want me on the Board again. Thank you, Gill

2012 Freedom Fighter Nomination

by Nick Benson Sr

My nomination for Freedom Fighter of the Year would have to go to Mark Castillero "Dogman" of the Boozefighter M/C and ABATE Local 11 member. Back in May of this year, Dogman emailed me regarding some of my posts to the discussion line. He was looking for a way to get more involved in the political process but had some reservations as he had never done anything like this.

I gave Dogman a few basic ideas for getting involved and he ran with all of them! First he got involved with the Greg Imus 8th Congressional District Campaign. Dogman not only made a large monetary contribution to Greg Imus, but took a list of Wrightwood phone numbers and made political calls to numerous Wrightwood residents even though he lives in San Diego and is not even in the 8th Congressional District.

Next, he jumped into the 76th Assembly District (Oceanside) and is helping with the Sherry Hodges' campaign.

Finally, Dogman got involved with the Todd Zink campaign against our nemesis Fran Pavley and traveled to meet with Todd Zink and pledge his support when the time comes, but also made a sizable monetary donation to Zink!

These donations come from his own pocket during times that are economically challenging to say the least! With the exception of Sherry Hodges,

his help is going to ABATE's friends and endorsees in districts that are not even close to where he lives! Now that is motivation!

To go from being someone that is not involved, to jumping in with both feet (and wallet) within just a few short months is nothing less than awesome! Dogman deserves the recognition of someone that puts their money where their mouth is and is truly an inspirational Freedom Fighter that the rest of us should use when setting the proverbial bar!

by Lil' David Morena

I would like to personally nominate Elmer Simeon for the 2012 Freedom Fighter award. Elmer, our one man band has been playing free at our ABATE events for the last 3 years! He has been a Local 27 member for over 10 years and is always distributing the Bailing Wire to local shops.

I ask for your vote for Elmer as our 2012 Freedom Fighter.

by Dave Hastings

I would like to nominate Nick Benson Sr for the 2012 ABATE Freedom Fighter award. Nick has been a long time member of ABATE of California and has held numerous positions

in our organization. He is currently a member of our state Board of Directors and has been very active during the 2012 election cycle. Nick has personally helped with the campaigns of several of our high desert politicians, but more importantly he has provided accurate information and reliable statistics regarding those campaigns to anyone who has requested it.

Nick has also been very active in educating the off-highway riders regarding the new side-by-side regulations that were signed into law by Governor Jerry Brown and take effect in January of 2013. Nick has hosted meetings with the off-road riders and spent many hours researching and informing people about this new law that will severely impact the off-road families of California. He was the original "Paul Revere" rider who informed us of the new law coming and now he is spear heading the fight to modify and ultimately stop the enactment of this poorly written piece of legislation.

So, in his short tenure on our ABATE state Board of Directors, Nick has been extremely active in supporting the freedom of all riders rights, both on and off road, and I feel he is very deserving of the 2012 Freedom Fighter of the Year award!

LOCAL NEWS

Local #01 Los Angeles



Hi all! We're still alive and our meeting will be Sunday, November 18. I hope we will have a reasonable turn out. Focus will be on the upcoming Fred Jordan Skid Row Toy run. We'll be talking about our Polar Bear run, which is the end of February 2013. And we'll also have a discussion centered on the past elections - what the heck just happened?

So all that plus more and a cheap priced breakfast will make for an exciting meeting. Regards, Sporty Milligan, President Local 1, Sporty.

Local #02 Simi Valley

President Ray got us going, after our Pledge of Alliance! Pres Ray talked about our situation with the VFW and we all approved our pledge in helping them out with a check when we can and



Commander Chuck was very appreciative! Pres Ray is also our PAC man and talked to us about who won, i.e. Pavley something, and talked about a possible merger/off road division and our image as well, thanks pres for all the hard work you do for us.

VP Scott talked about the membership scene. Our hardworking secretary Jane read the minutes, Treasurer Stephanie said we are in good standing with our finances. Pat our membership person rocks! Guy our Ride guy talked about our upcoming ride this weekend, woo hoo!

Norm PR man talked about GAS, and the direction the government would like to go, the E 10 gas issues and the possibilities of it going to E 15 which would be a bad thing if you are into performance. Norm talked about additives to put into your gas tank to combat Ethanol and what it does, you had to have been there to hear his excellent report!

Safety report was also done by Norm; he talked about riding and knowing your limitations, i.e. your level of experience versus the people you ride with. It's important that you don't match your experience with others just because you're riding with them, its way better to get home safe, even if they say you ride like grandpa!

We all thanked our volunteer cooks Frank and Paul, great job! We serve a great \$5 meal and this time it included some really good chili made by Paul! We serve our great \$5 meal at 6:45 until 7:30. We meet on the second Tuesday of the month at VFW Post 10049, 4242 East Los Angeles Street in Simi Valley.

We had our elections and pretty much it's the same personnel that was re-elected and was re-elected! We talked about our Local 2 Christmas Party here at the Post and will do it on December 6 at 6:30. It will be one Fun Party that you can't miss - did I say BBQ tri tip!!!

We had a huge amount of prizes, and a great turn out for that, and Jane was victorious in the membership drawing.

Yes it's the time of year for festivities, please be more responsible and more cautious as people are in a hurry and have too much on their mind and you might meet by accident and that would not be good! So ride safer and always get to your destination with thanks! PTL norm e. new

MAIL-IN BALLOT

ABATE of California Board of Director's for 2013-2014.

Vote for one or no more than 5. Couple members can vote twice.

Ballots must be postmarked **NO later than December 14, 2012.**

Candidate bios are in Oct. & Nov. Bailing Wires.

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Robert J. Blatz (Bob) | <input type="checkbox"/> "Lil David" Morena | <input type="checkbox"/> Gill Mellen |
| <input type="checkbox"/> "Rebel" Ruthi Wolfson | <input type="checkbox"/> Dave Hastings | <input type="checkbox"/> Ed "Iceman" Mathis |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Steve Guderian | |

Freedom Fighter Award 2012

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mark Castellero "Dogman" | <input type="checkbox"/> Elmer Simeon | <input type="checkbox"/> Nick Benson Sr |
|--|--|--|

Name _____

Member Number _____

Couple _____

**Bios are on
pages 4 & 5**

Mail Ballot to:
ABATE-BALLOT

10240 7th Ave.

Hesperia CA 92345-2631

LOCAL NEWS

Local #08 Orange County



Hello from Local 8! Well the year is quickly coming to a close! Elections are over and no matter what your Party affiliation it reminds us that the United States of America is still the greatest nation on earth! Many thanks to all those who worked tirelessly to keep our democratic system of government alive.

The October "Trick or Treat Run" came in at a profit and Local 8 will be donating to both the PAC and Lobby funds!

We were informed that our member Larry Pfaffly lost the trial for his helmet ticket by Declaration. A trial by Declaration is kind of a trial by mail. On November 13 he was in court for a "Trial De Novo" - a new trial in court that you can request if the Trial by Declaration goes against you. He had submitted a Discovery Request to obtain all the information that the officer had pertaining to the case. Larry advised that they ignored the request, and the officer knew nothing about what makes a helmet compliant (legal to use). He also said the officer lied by saying the helmet had no DOT sticker. In the end, the ticket was dismissed. Larry plans on filing complaints about the officer lying under oath and the city attorney ignoring his discovery request.

Local 8 continued with additional members voting for State Board members and nominations were held for our Local 8 2013 officers as well.

As the holidays draw near don't forget our "Potluck Christmas Party" on Monday, December 10!! Bring a dish to share, and if you want to have some more fun, bring a \$10 - \$15 "White Elephant Gift".

Jim Fortier won the membership drawing of \$42 but wasn't present and the money rolls over again! It really does pay to show up!

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to All! Be Safe & Ride Free! Linda

Local #11 North San Diego



Well, another month gone by. Where did this year go? Anyhow, Local 11 had our first meeting at the American Legion Hall in Escondido - our new location - on November 11. Nice to be indoors this time of year with the exception being we live in So Cal, so I cannot say it was cold.

We had a guest speaker, Senator Joel Anderson, who gave us some political insight to the workings of the California senate and how he positively perceives ABATE.

On October 21 we had a presence at the Escondido Street Fair, got some exposure and shook some hands. Marie Waldron, running for State Assembly, stopped by the booth for a chat and a photo op. All in all it was good to get out into the community. We will be doing more of that coming up.

VP Dave Caldwell gave us the event rundown. Two of the important ones locally are the Saddletamps blood drive on Saturday, November 17, at San Diego HD and the 32nd annual San Diego Toy Run that is on Sunday, November 25. Tim Clark gave us the treasurer's report.

Ride sage, Gary

Local #13 Ventura County



November's meeting is also the meeting we do nominations for the Local Officers. We have left the nominations for ALL positions open until December's meeting before we do elections. Scott let us know that he would accept the nomination for President, however, he is looking for work outside of the area and may not be able to serve in this position for the entire year. So, now's the time to get more involved in your Local and help out with the way things are run. Remember, it's YOUR Local, take some "pride in ownership."

We discussed the election results that will affect our area and what is possibly coming down the pike from CARB, the BAR, and the CHP in the year ahead.

Our annual Christmas Party/Bad Santa Gift Exchange will take place the same night as December's meeting night - December 13, 2012 at 7:30 pm at the VFW in Pt. Hueneme. Bring food to share and a wrapped gift and let the fun begin!

By the time you read this, Chopperfest will have come and gone and our General Fund will be a few hundred bucks richer!

Bob Goode won the Membership Raffle and would have collected the cash had he been present. Therefore, the money rolls over to next month. Scott won a drawing and donated it back for next month.

A BIG THANK YOU to new members Brett and Judy for bringing in all the fixin's for chili dogs. We sold them for \$2 a piece and gave all the proceeds to our General Fund. Now we're making money! If you're looking for a New Year's resolution you can keep...resolve to get more involved in YOUR Local. Ride safe!

Local 22 South Bay

To our brothers and sisters in ABATE of California,

ABATE Local 22 is sad to announce the tragic loss of our Vice-president Johnny O'Kane. Who died on November 4th. He was a tireless advocate of motorcycle rights. He will be greatly missed.

Local 22 will NOT meet the first Thursday of December, instead we will meet the 2nd Thursday, December 13th at the Chowder Barge in Wilmington. All are welcome to attend, share a story and a laugh during our meeting. Suzanne

Local #24 Fresno

We had about 44 members at our November meeting. Ed opened with the Pledge to the Flag and led a discussion on where to hold our meeting. The current location at Yosemite Falls Café on Blackstone is crowded and noisy on our meeting night. Alternatives at Granite Park also have the same problem. Manager at the current location is willing to give us exclusive use of the whole room, if we meet on Tuesday, instead of Wednesday. Our tentative plan is to change in January 2013 to the second Tuesday of the month at the current location.

Our December meeting will be on Wednesday, December 5. Our December 8 Toy Run to Valley Children's Hospital will be over by the time you read this. A proud note is that \$1275.00 was pledged and collected for purchasing toys for the run. Special mention is due for the North Fresno HOG Chapter #228 that donated \$250.00. Added to the ABATE prize part of our Christmas Fund we have over \$1700.00 for toys. THANK ALL OF YOU FOR THIS GENEROSITY!

Local 24 Officers for 2013 were confirmed. Ed is stepping down as President and will take a more active role as an Area Coordinator. Doug Biggerstaff will be President. Scott continues as VP, Jim as Merchandise Coordinator, Phil as membership, Ursula as Treasurer. Chuck is stepping down as Ride Coordinator and Ray will take this position.

LOCAL NEWS

Bruce will do some things towards the PAC Coordination, and maybe take a few photos.

Phil reported membership is at 137 plus 18 Business members. Ursula reported our bank balance is looking good. Proposal to send an extra monthly check to State ABATE this month seconded and passed. December will be a total of \$1500 split three ways, Administration, Lobbyist, and PAC.

Our \$40.00 membership prize was won by Rich Smiley—OOPS not in attendance, so next month the prize will be \$50.00. The ABATE Drawing of \$105.00 was won by Sheri Lock who donated it back. Thank You. Bruce.

Local #27 Riverside



ABATE Local 27's Turkey Rally has this year morphed into a Turkey and Toy Rally. This event, on December 8, benefits the Salvation Army and the residents of the Riverside area that are in need this Christmas season. It is sponsored by ABATE Local 27, Discount Hydroponics, KCAL 96.7, Jam Sportswear, and Mommy Inc. On behalf of the Salvation Army we are accepting unwrapped children's toys, and non-perishable food items. Come to the Discount Hydroponics parking lot. All are welcome. There will be prizes, raffles, vendors, food and beverages from 10 am to 6 pm. Listen to KCAL 98.7 for details.

Local 27 now boasts more than 30 business members and are contacting "lost members" who have missed their renewal notices.

We are still very busy going to different events in the Riverside area to educate and spread "the word" of ABATE. We manage to set up a table 2 to 4 times a week and we are making a difference.



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If you find that you have the need to support ABATE a little more and become more involved in the decisions being made, Commitment is the key, but Follow Through opens the door.

Local 27 elections will be held in December and newly elected officers will start their duties at the end of the meeting.

Come one come all. Learn what you can, and say what needs to be said. Be a part of the solution and not part of the problem. Want to know what's happening here locally? Check our website www.abatelocal27.org.

Keep your Eyes Wide Open, Greg Covell, President Local 27, gcovell8@gmail.com

Local 44 High Desert



Local 44's 2013 Officer Elections will be held at our December meeting so please make sure you attend and have a hand in determining the future success of our Local.

We have scheduled a street clean-up for December 1, 2012 at 10:00 am (weather permitting).

If you would like to help out please call me at (760) 244-0212 (work) or (760) 947-4700 (home) to volunteer. Because of the holidays this will be our last chance for 2012 but we will be back out in 2013 to clean again.

Remember our upcoming Christmas Party will be held on December 8, 2012 at the Moose Lodge in Hesperia. Great dinner menu, a live band, beverages available from the bar and a fun evening with your Local 44 friends, what more could we ask for! If you wish to participate in the gift exchange please bring a corresponding male or female gift for each person in your party who wants to take part in the exchange. As in the past, we will provide a "gift donation" ticket to each participant when they bring in a gift and then each participant will receive a gift when the exchange begins. What a superb way to close out 2012. If you need more info please call George Butterfield at (760) 954-1227.

Speaking of Christmas, a big "Thank You" to everyone who participated and donated to our Toy Drive in conjunction with the Cadillac Ranch in Apple Valley on November 10. The event was very successful and very well attended with great food cooked by our own Local 44 chefs and a very good live band keeping the house entertained. We can all rest assured that there will be a few more smiles on the faces of some of our Victor Valley children that were probably not expecting to receive gifts at their house on Christmas Day. Thank you all for your kindness and generosity and Merry Christmas & Season's Greetings to one and all! Dave H.

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 Robert DuVall (Local #33);
 Hank & Kris Hallmark (Local 44);
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 Greg & Diane Howe (Local 15);
 Larry James (Local 31);
 Lady Kay (Local 25);

Roger Krost (Local 5);
 James Larson (Local 6);
 John Loudermilk (Editor, Local 13);
 Robert Martin (Local 22);
 Jerry McClure (Local 44);
 Mike & Linda McIntyre (Local #00)
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 Sporty Milligan (Local 1);
 "Lil' David" Morena (Local 25);
 Ken & Raeanne Nuttall (Local 27);
 Johnny O'Kane (Local 22);
 Mike & Mary Osborn (Local 13);
 Bart & Wendy Perry (Local 6);
 David "Deacon" Phillips, (Local 25 & Founder of ABATE of CA.);
 Carl Smith & Barbara Kennedy (Local 14);

Tim & Yvonne Tennimon (Local 22);
 Bob Warren (Local 1);
 Esther Webb (Local 23);

For their "Sustaining Membership" – and anyone else who signs up as a Sustaining VIP Member will receive an individual copy of the Bailing Wire snail mailed to them (the month it is physically printed); a Certificate of Appreciation (suitable for framing); their individual Membership card with their name and V.I.P. printed on it; And their names printed in the Bailing Wire under Sustaining ABATE Members.

A Special thanks to our Sustaining Members!!!

DONATIONS – General, Lobbyist, & PAC funds –

"Thank You" to everyone who has dug into their pockets and sent in donations, and to those of you that are adding some extra \$\$ to your renewal!! We are going to do our best to list all of our donors and if we leave you off of our list, please contact Carol at our State Office or Dave Hastings and we will get your name on next month's list. You all deserve to be thanked!!

Donations to the General Fund:

Robert Boys & Jan Feth, L1;

Yermo Eddy, L47;
 Godfather, L40;
 Clayton LaBaw, L1;
 Rick Mullaly, L60;
 Nancy Nemecek, L6;
 Schapiro & Leventhal (towards Run to the Capitol);
 Tim & Yvonne Tennimon, L22;

ABATE LOCALS to the general Fund:

2, 3, 11, 17 (Event), 19, 21, 23 & 27.

ABATE Locals to the Lobbyist Fund:

2, 3, 6, 17, 19, 21, 23 & 27.

Donations to the PAC FUND from ABATE Locals:

3, 17, 21, 23 & 27.

The words "thank you" just seems so minimal, but until some other words can convey our gratitude for your donations, it will have to do.

So "Thank You" to one and all! And please, if you haven't donated yet, you can mail your donation to: ABATE of CA; 10240 7th Ave; Hesperia, CA 92345-2631. Write in the memo which fund you would like to support.



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Pac/Lobbyist Report

by Dave Hastings, Treasurer

Well November 6 is here and gone. What seemed like a full year of work is over and another election cycle is in the books. Were we winners or losers, it just depends on which side of the fence you sit on. Actually ABATE of California did very well with our endorsed candidates because we are not affiliated with any specific political party and we will support every candidate that pledges their help in charting a course that helps us retain and enhance our motorcycle rights.

On a more personal basis I worked very hard for a candidate that ultimately came up short at the polls, much to my disappointment. Is it the end of the world? Not hardly. All politicians and political parties are beholden to not only the people who elected them but also the voters that supported another candidate for their office. Every office holder will need to uphold promises made, and at the same time, find a way to appease the disgruntled voters who supported someone else. Re-election success is directly tied to voter support and ultimately, that support is based on the candidate's ability to represent every voter in their district.



Whether your favorite candidate won or lost is immaterial at this point, the only thing that really matters now is the office holder's ability to plot a course that will satisfy your needs and

wants. The next election cycle started the moment the polls closed and tomorrow's election will be based on today's success. Help every office holder statewide understand our motorcycle needs and wants and if they get us lost make sure we hold them accountable the next time you go to the polls.

Is it a perfect system? No, every one of us understands that. But this country and our voters are still envied worldwide. Win or lose, American voters have the opportunity to freely and safely express our choices about not only who leads us but also the direction we want to travel in. So if your map route was headed somewhere else, don't panic and assume you are hopelessly lost, just pull your map and your ABATE compass back out and chart a new course. There are miles and miles of roads on every map, and you and your ABATE compass will find another road to make sure we all get home safe and sound.

"THANKS TO ALL THAT DO, AND TO THOSE THAT DON'T, PLEASE TRY TO!"

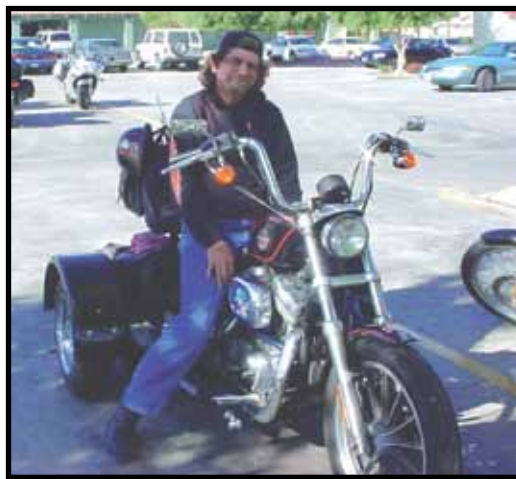
Sporty's Rides

by Lee 'Sporty' Milligan

Hi all! Sporty here with this month's scribe on the happenings of me. The elections in my neck of the woods were not so good. As you may know I campaigned for Todd Zink. I was invited to attend his election night affair in Westlake, but with my work schedule starting time of 6 am I had to pass. That did not mean I did not follow the election night coverage via the internet. When I went to bed Todd was leading 52% to 47%, but when I woke up he was losing.

"What did you do wrong?" some of you are going to ask. Could it be from a lack of help from the motorcycle community? Perhaps that might have made a slight difference but the areas where we sucked were the San Fernando Valley and possibly Topanga Canyon.

The last 2 weekends were precinct walking in various parts of Simi Valley. The first day I partnered with a young lad who was 21 years old. We worked for about four hours doing the lords work for Todd Zink. Thank God it was an area that is flat then returned to the base camp, Todd Zink's Thousand Oaks office. The next day I worked by myself. I was exhausted because I was attempting to do a whole precinct in a couple of hour's time, but I finished my day and promised to do more



walks the following weekend. It seems I am a solo artist because I ran a whole precinct doing both the odd and evens.

Ok so I showed up the next weekend and there was a good amount of folks there to do the walks. Once again I ran solo; however this time in order to save my strength and complete the run I drove my truck to each address, odd and even, on the streets and – surprise! - the area got done.

The Valley, where Ms. Pavley won votes big time, is very liberal and that is how she won the election. Folks like the promise of freebees and that's what you get with folks like Pavley. So I am

not sure there is, at this point, anything we can do to stop the juggernaut that is called liberal entitlements. Beware!

So this is going to be an annoying year with the possibility of "I don't like motorcycles" Fran Pavley as the State Senator for District 27 possibly trying to pull another fast one on the biking community and attempt to do smog checks on us again. Beware.

Ok. So on November 11 I went on the Shaggers poker toy run. It started at Lancaster High School and ran a route to the Pear Blossom county park. I saw my Shaggers buddies and won a nifty blanket as a raffle prize. They served tri-tip burgers and hot dogs etc. I had a cold ride up and a cold ride down, but it's worth it to see friends.

We have our own ABATE state elections and hopefully you will have voted for the candidates that you feel best represent ABATE.

To summarize: The months of October and November were spent trying to get a candidate, Todd Zink, elected. It is a process that goes something like this: The meet and greet. The putting up of campaign signs, precinct walks and phone banks, and finally the nail biter - election night. It's a shame Valley politics are so condescending and liberal.

Ok, till next time when we can have some fun, you know my motto, there is strength and unity in numbers of members. Signing off, regards, Sporty.

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COAST TO COAST BIKER NEWS

Compiled & Edited by Bill Bish

SPECIAL DELIVERY: This year's national Christmas Tree is being delivered to Washington, D.C. in a specially-decorated Mack truck driven by former U.S. Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell, a long-serving member of the National Coalition of Motorcyclists Legislative Task Force (NCOM-LTF) and member of the AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame.

As an avid motorcyclist, Campbell was one of motorcycling's staunchest allies in Congress, representing Colorado from 1993-2005.

"It is a privilege to drive the tree for the U.S. Capitol from Colorado this year," remarked Campbell, who still has his commercial driver's license. The 2012 Capitol Christmas Tree tour began November 9 in Meeker, CO where the 73-foot Engleman spruce was harvested, and will take nearly a month to reach the Capitol with scheduled stopovers in Colorado, Oklahoma, Texas, Missouri, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Virginia.

ARIZONA TO ELIMINATE ANNUAL MOTORCYCLE EMISSIONS TESTING: Maricopa County is the only place in America that requires emissions testing for motorcycles, but it won't be for much longer according to a recent report from MMA of Arizona Lobbyist Bobbi Hartmann, who is also a member of the NCOM-Legislative Task Force; "The EPA is about to APPROVE the ADEQ's State Implementation Plan (SIP), requesting the ELIMINATION OF EMISSIONS ON MOTORCYCLES IN MARICOPA COUNTY!!!" Emphasis included, so you can read into it the emotion and thrill of success after ten years of effort to eliminate the last motorcycle emissions test in the U.S.

After the Kentucky Motorcycle Association (KMA/KBA) successfully removed motorcycles from their state's emissions testing several years ago, Arizona was the lone state to still require it, but testing was limited to only Maricopa County (Phoenix) after motorcyclists successfully lobbied to end emission tests for motorcycles in Pima County (Tucson).



Hartmann reports that she recently received a call from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), stating that although they had been expecting a "Disapproval Notice" from the EPA due to revised ozone levels at the federal level, their D.C. headquarters issued a Reversal of Opinion and approved their request for elimination of yearly motorcycle emissions in Maricopa/Pinal County (AREA A).

"ADEQ expects the proposed EPA action to be signed this week and published in the Federal Register within 2 weeks," explained Hartmann. "That starts the approximately 30 day Public Comment and EPA response to Public Comment period. Once that is complete, the EPA will sign the final action and then have 2 weeks to publish that in the Federal Register. The entire process should be FINAL and EFFECTIVE 60 days from that time frame, so the elimination of yearly emissions on motorcycles in AREA A should be effective by the end of first quarter of 2013 or before. It seems that all of our efforts from 2002 until now have finally paid off!!"

CONGRATULATIONS to the motorcyclists' lobbying team representing a coalition led by ABATE of Arizona, the Modified Motorcycle Association (MMA) of Arizona and the Arizona Confederation of Motorcycle Clubs (ACMC).

NOW HEAR THIS!: A flurry of scientific and medical studies lately have identified an inordinate amount of hearing loss in motorcyclists, due not to "loud pipes" but rather to air rushing past our ears at deafening intensities at highway speeds. After accelerating, most of the sound that a rider hears isn't engine noise, it is wind noise, and audiologists admit that even helmets do not provide much protection against hearing loss caused by wind buffeting in and around a helmet.

Indeed, acoustical engineers say that audible wind noise inside a helmet can reach rock-concert levels as high as 115 decibels, and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health warns that exposure to noise at 100 decibels is safe for only 15 minutes and permanent hearing loss can result from prolonged exposure -- so motorcycle riders in particular should pay attention to the warning signs: a ringing sound in the ears immediately after exposure, and hearing voices and other sounds as muffled.

Noise-induced hearing loss isn't reversible, but it is preventable. While even the most expensive helmet won't provide significant protection against noise, an inexpensive pair of foam earplugs, readily available at drug stores, can reduce sound levels by 20 to 25 decibels.

However, this simple solution may also be illegal. Even though riders have come to recognize that noise can be a serious health issue, many U.S. jurisdictions prohibit the use of earplugs, and one long road trip could take a rider through numerous changes in state and local laws.

Just ask Aid to Injured Motorcyclists (AIM) Attorney Ralph C. Buss whose client, a truck driver from Michigan, was pulled over while riding his motorcycle in Ohio and given a ticket for wearing protective ear plugs!

Continued on Next Page

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Continued from Page 12

The rider contacted ABATE of Ohio seeking assistance, and while ABATE looks into modifying the existing law to make allowances for motorcyclists to wear ear protection, they referred the motorcyclist to attorney Buss regarding the citation, which is a moving violation that in addition to a fine carries a 2 point penalty that could put his CDL (Commercial Drivers License) and livelihood in jeopardy if he's found guilty.

Although some states like California have changed their laws to allow riders to use hearing protectors, and Maryland allows custom-made earplugs only, most passed such laws years ago to thwart the use of stereo headphones while driving. The codes do not distinguish between earphones and earplugs; one being used for audio equipment and the other used for hearing protection -- so without case law to establish legislative intent, obsolete laws like Ohio's need to be rectified, which according to Buss "is exactly why motorcyclists need organizations like ABATE to not only watchdog the legislature, working to pass pro-motorcycle laws and prevent anti-bike bills from passing, but also to clean-up old laws that need to take into consideration both motorcycles and motorcyclists."

GEORGIA RIDES TOLL FREE: HOT lanes are replacing the HOV lanes on some interstates in Georgia starting with I-85, and will require a toll for their use by all vehicles except those which are exempt. Fortunately, just as motorcycles are able to use the existing HOV high occupancy lanes, they will be also permitted in the HOT lanes toll-free as exempt vehicles, but will need a Peach Pass device.

Peach Pass devices are available from Georgia's State Road & Tollway Authority at 1-855-PCH-PASS (724-7277), or you can find more information at www.peachpass.com.

CALIFORNIA RESTRICTS PICKETING AT FUNERALS: California Governor Jerry Brown has signed legislation restricting protests at military and other funerals.

Senate Bill 661, by Senator Ted Lieu, D-Torrance, prohibits picketing a funeral within 300 feet of a burial or memorial site beginning one hour before a funeral and ending one hour after, having been amended to comply with a 2011 Supreme

Court decision regarding protests of military funerals by members of the Westboro Baptist Church, known for its anti-Semitic and anti-gay views.

"Since time immemorial, society has respected the dignity and sacredness of putting the dead to rest," Lieu said in a prepared statement. "This bill recognizes the sanctity of funerals by placing reasonable time, place, and manner restrictions on disruptive protestors."

MOTORCYCLES REMOVED FROM NTSB MOST-WANTED LIST: Although the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) has called upon states and the federal government to pass motorcycle helmet laws for all riders, this year's annual "Top Ten Most Wanted List" of the agency's most important safety priorities no longer lists any motorcycle safety concerns.

After making the hit list the past three years, which are recommendations to government bodies that are often put into place through further laws and regulations, NTSB Chairman Deborah Hersman indicated that "Safety areas are dropped from the list when meaningful progress has been made."

COULD YOUR NEXT BIKE TALK...TO CARS?: Could your future Honda motorcycle converse with the car coming out of the side street up ahead to alert the driver that you're approaching?

Well, only if they are each fitted with technology that can communicate with similarly-equipped vehicles to keep each other out of harm's way, according to the picture Honda painted at the 19th World ITS (Intelligent Transportation Systems) Congress, held in Vienna in October.

The "Motorcycle Approaching Indication" application is a connectivity system that warns both driver and rider when it detects that there is an obscured vehicle potentially approaching their direction of travel. Honda first proposed such a system in 1999, and demoed a version in 2008 on a Gold Wing. It has since refined ITS for more compact bikes, and so far warning systems for the two most common types of car-bike collisions - T-boning and being cut off by a car turning left - have been demoed successfully.

ITS could potentially also communicate with roadside infrastructure, warning of hazards in the road.

WEIRD NEWS: BIKE THIEVES CRASH INTO ONE ANOTHER: Two heads aren't always better than one, as TWO bike thieves have landed up in the hospital after crashing their stolen motorcycles - into each other.

The bungling bikers collided and crashed on a roundabout in Sussex, England, after the two stolen bikes were seen being ridden at high speed together shortly before the collision.

DON'T SMILE FOR THE CAMERA: New Jersey residents may not have much to smile about in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy, but that'll make it easier to comply with the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission's ban on smiling for driver's license photos.

That's because, according to the National Motorists Association (NMA), drivers showing off their pearly whites apparently confuses the new facial recognition software New Jersey launched earlier this year. The stated aim of the system is to prevent people from acquiring driver's licenses under alternate identities by comparing photographs in the database.

New Jersey is not alone in its integration of facial recognition into the driver's licensing process. According to the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators, most states use some form of driver's license facial recognition.

Welcome to the world of biometrics -- the use of unique physical or behavioral characteristics to verify an individual's identity, and as surveillance cameras become ubiquitous and capable of recording finer detail, tracking of individuals (whether they're in their cars, or not) will become easier and easier.

In the wake of 9/11, policymakers called for stronger national standards to verify the identity of driver's license applicants. This led to the Real ID Act of 2005 which established requirements for a national identification system based on the driver's license. Among the 18 benchmarks the states must comply with is the implementation of facial recognition. Despite being enacted seven years ago, Real ID has not been fully implemented. Many states, citing a range of privacy and budget concerns, have rejected the act through statute or legislative resolution, or have simply refused to comply.

QUOTABLE QUOTE: "The price of freedom of religion or of speech or of the press is that we must put up with, and even pay for, a good deal of rubbish." ~ Robert H. Jackson (1892-1954), US Supreme Court justice



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ABATE Local 24's Turkey Run by Bruce Waldron

On a brisk morning in Clovis, Local 24 gathered to once more look for the elusive Turkey. Gathering at Kimmie's place in Clovis, some fueled up with the outstanding Steak and Eggs breakfast. Others warmed up with coffee.

Somewhere around 1100 the well organized ride began. Everyone went in their own direction towards the Kings River and Kelly's Beach in Reedley. Most seemed to be able to find it, but then some detoured through Sanger? I, of course, followed the prescribed directions as the instructions directed. I can only say "What a lonely ride," but it was a nice day with blue sky.

Somehow, everyone ended up at La Cantina in time for the catered Mexican dinner - Enchiladas, rice, beans, and chips & salsa. No turkey was found. Oh well, maybe next year. What an end for a really great day and a fun ride.

Oh by the way, the ABATE prize was taken home by Ray.



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ABATE Local 24's Turkey Run by Bruce Waldron



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Motorcycle Safety Report

by Steve Guderian, CA.
ABATE Safety Officer

WHO IS LOOKING OUT FOR YOU?

"In order to make the right decisions, motorcycle riders need the right information"

I just got back from attending a couple of conferences, one of which was a state safety conference. My topic for discussion at both meetings was motorcycle rider safety. I had an opportunity to meet and talk with a lot of different safety minded people about a lot of different things. As a result of these conferences and the conversations I had, as well as some other things that I have recently read about, heard about or learned about the question that keeps coming up for me is "who IS looking out for me as a motorcyclist?"

I think that this is a very important overall question for all of us as motorcycle riders to keep in the back of our minds for all situations that apply to motorcycling and motorcycle riders. I think this is a particularly important question to always be thinking about when anybody tells riders that they are there to help them. Over the last few weeks I have heard a lot of people say that they want to help motorcycle rider safety. But, as I listened further, I discovered that through their own riding ignorance they really weren't "looking out for me as a rider." Instead they were simply spitting out ideas and information they had heard from a government entity who told them what the best information was. As for my answer to this question, it is "nobody but me." I think that it is not good when we as motorcycle riders can't be sure of who is trying to help us and look out for us.

Don't take this to mean that I am saying we can't trust anybody. That is not what I am saying. There are a lot of people out there with good intentions but they just don't know what they are doing, or they have to answer to a higher authority that does not know much about motorcycles and motorcycle rider safety. When we get a chance to talk



to any of the people who really do want to help, it is our responsibility as motorcycle riders to help educate them as best we can. From what I am seeing, we as riders have a lot of educating to do for anybody who is not a rider, and this is where CA ABATE can come in help move people and non-riders forward.

I learned a lot about what is going on in the motorcycle rider safety community over the last few weeks; hopefully I will get to write up some papers about some of the things I came across. Something to think about, if non-riders don't really understand the things that affect us as riders, then how can we ever get them to understand the rights that we need? Don't we need them too as part of our Rider's Rights Cause?

OK, done with the political stuff, on to the safety message. I really do like this statement, "Who is looking out for you" because it really does apply to everything we need to do as motorcycle riders, including for our safety while riding on the street. Consider this; you are riding your motorcycle down any type of street or roadway out there. No matter where you might be riding at some point there will be some kind of other traffic on the roadway with you. So here is the question for when this happens to you, "who is looking out for me?" Or more specifically "is that other driver (or rider because motorcyclist cause problems for other motorcycle riders too) looking out for me?"

The first answer for most people to this question is "NO, they are not looking out for me." This

is not a bad safety position to have, but I have a little problem with a total negative attitude when riding. Let's ask the question in the converse form, is that other driver or motorcyclist trying to hit me and kill me? No, they are not and studies going back into the late 80's confirm that car drivers are not trying to kill motorcycle riders.

SIDE NOTE, back in 1989 Harry Hurt released a report with Dr. Paul Olsen. Dr. Olsen did not believe that so many drivers in the Hurt report did not see the motorcycle. So, Dr. Olsen and Hurt went back and looked at all of the intersection and path intrusion crashes from the original Hurt report. They found out that in half of these collisions, there was a vision obstruction. In other words, when people said they could not see the motorcycle, half of them were in fact telling the truth. Why haven't we heard about this before? It is a 25 year old study and Hurt himself was part of it using his own data. I guess it didn't fit into a non-rider policy maker's agenda. So, "who is looking out for you?"

And, previous studies as well as one from earlier this year are starting to say that motorcycle riders may not be giving other vehicle drivers a fair chance to see the motorcycle and rider. A study out of France that was done using a driving simulator was released in February of this year. This study looked at color contrast between motorcycles and riders with respect to the surrounding environment. That is they had simulated motorcycles that were a bright color with a rider wearing a bright color. The other motorcycle was a standard black or dark color and the rider was wearing black or gray.

Think about the color of the roadway environment, the pavement is black or grey. And, the most common color of cars is black, white and grey or silver. When you look at it this way, it is possible to see that a black or dark gray motorcycle with a rider wearing similar colors could pretty easily blend in with the background and the environment.

Continued on next page

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Safety from page 18

The photo shows the blending of the trike, rider and roadway.

Photo from *Rider Magazine* 10-2012 issue pg 18.



In the study, drivers were put into the simulated car and drove through a traffic environment where they were told to acknowledge when they first saw a motorcycle. When motorcycles were approaching from the rear, drivers did not really see the bright colored motorcycle sooner than they saw the dark colored motorcycle. However, when the motorcycle approached from the front the driver saw the approaching bright colored motorcycle and rider at 290 feet, and they saw the dark colored motorcycle and rider at 256 feet. The study did not indicate if it was daytime or nighttime driving conditions. The study did have side-approach situations, that is a situation where a car is going to cross the path of the motorcycle. The indication in the study is this scenario corresponds with a front approaching motorcycle.

The conclusions in the study are that having contrasting (bright) colors compared to the roadway environment can give other drivers the opportunity to see you. As for me, I wear bright yellow all of the time. I am actually uncomfortable riding when I am not in a bright color, particularly when I am riding at night and in the rain. I completely understand that this is not the typical riding uniform of Levis and leather. But, when I am walking by people and they call me Big Bird or say that I am bright enough to be visible from the space station, I know that I am being seen like I want to be seen when I am on the roadway. In my riding experience I have also had cars and trucks start to pull out in front of me and then stop. For me, I like to be seen. So giving up the riding uniform of the day when I ride is fine with me.

So if you are riding around on the roadway with other cars, trucks and motorcycle and you are asking the question "Who is looking out for you?" we have to remember that you have to give the other people on the road a chance to see you. Said another way, for your own safety and well-being you have to give everybody else using the roadway the opportunity to see you so that they can "look out for you." Or, you can wear the motorcycle riding uniform of the day, blend in with the background roadway environment and cuss at everybody who doesn't see you and cuts you off.

A couple of other interesting pieces of information from the study out of France, experienced motorcycle riders driving a car saw a motorcycle at a further distance than drivers who had no motorcycle riding experience. The conclusion was that motorcycle riders who drive have a greater awareness of where a motorcycle might be. With respect to our state safety people and lane sharing, this begs the question as to why they have not

released the lane sharing best practices guideline. Specifically, the state's own study shows that 47% of the driver population does not know that lane sharing is allowed. They have an opportunity to educate these drivers, which creates an awareness of where a motorcycle might be, which in turn has the potential for collision avoidance.

What was the question again, "Who is looking out for you?"

A second item from the France study, experienced motorcycle riders are much more aggressive at scanning the roadway than drivers with no motorcycle riding experience. This is consistent with the research that I was involved in that showed motorcycle riders have a larger overall scanning area. In other words, experienced motorcycle riders look for or at more things than car drivers do and they look over a greater area.

This too is an interesting piece of information, I don't think it would be too hard for state safety people to look at some motorcycle crashes involving another vehicle and see how many of the car drivers were also licensed to ride a motorcycle. There might be a potential for some insight into driver awareness messages here... what was that you asked, "Who is looking out for you?"

As always, thoughts and information are always welcome email anytime. Questions... got any questions, send them to me and I will answer them in a safety piece. Safety is all about each rider so any question you may have, it is important... Email, Galileo-g@sbcglobal.net

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Membership Report

by Lee 'Sporty' Milligan, Membership
Chairman

Hi all! The end of the 2012 Membership Drive is really near and in January we will announce the Winners at the Quarterly Board Meeting in Sacramento. The Christmas Toy runs will be the last opportunity to try and get new members. Do your best to obtain some before the drive ends. I know we can reach out and get new members. If we put our minds together, we can perform good things.

Don't forget your renewals! They are the backbone of this organization. Reward your long time members with some trinkets. Again, please keep your renewals happy and content and they will be back again for another thrilled packed year!

So that is it in a brief nutshell. Thanks for reading this informative message on membership.

FOR SALE: 2005 Screaming Eagle Electric Glide. 50,000+ miles, well maintained, needs some touch up paint, have a lot of extra parts. Asking \$12,000.

Also camping trailer that pulls behind scooter. Folds out to fit a queen size bed off the ground with storage below. Asking \$3,000.

Will sell both together for \$13,000. Serious offers only! Swanee @ 559-362-0225 or swanee86669@yahoo.com.

Johnny O'Kane 1957-2012



To our brothers and sisters in ABATE of California, Local 22 is sad to announce the tragic loss of our Vice-president Johnny O'Kane, who died on November 4. Johnny was also: ABATE Of California's discussion line Moderator (Until he "fired" himself); our ABATE Legislative Director and served as a Board of Director starting in 2011. A member of the IronWorkers MC #433, and the Business Agent for Ironworkers Local 433.

He was not only a tireless advocate of motorcycle rights, but he also made sure that his Iron Worker riding folks were also current Members of ABATE. He will be greatly missed.

An Irish wake was held on November 17th. Cards may be mailed to the O'Kane family: C/O Ironworkers 433 MC; P O Box 433; Whittier, CA 90605-3435.

January 12, 2013 Quarterly Board Meeting.

Hosted by ABATE Local 25, Sacramento. Reservations are to be made directly with La Quinta Inn. 200 Jibboom St.; Sacramento 95811

Call 916/448-8100 for your reservation.

Use "Code" name of "ABATE Local 25" for the Special room rate of \$52.00 plus tax/night.

There must be 20 rooms reserved to use the meeting room for Free.

The Cut off date for the special pricing is DECEMBER 21ST, 2012.

ALL ABATE Members are welcome and encouraged to attend, all ABATE Local Presidents and State Officers should attend to keep you and your Local informed of your organization's plans for 2013.

Since this will be the first Quarterly meeting for the 2013 Board of Directors, (and you have voted for the Board by then), this is when the State Officer Elections are held, positions filled and appointments, of certain State positions, are made by the ABATE Board.

If you are inclined to fill an Officer position, please contact a Board Member anytime between now and before the meeting is called to order on the 12th. The start time of the meetings will be published when they are confirmed.

The pay is nil, but YOUR Volunteering for an Officer position to help support Your organization is priceless!

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FREEDOM COALITION FEST
Illustration of a motorcycle and rider."/>



by Craig Griswold,

Engine Oil Change

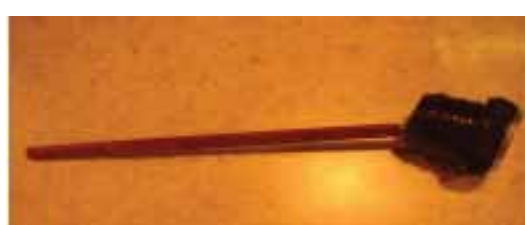
If you're following the recommended service interval for your bike, you should change your oil every 5,000 miles. If you frequently ride in harsh conditions (high temps, stop and go traffic, etc.) it wouldn't hurt to change it sooner, but 5,000 is pretty safe with modern oils, especially synthetic. I won't dive into the weeds on the synthetic vs. fossil oils. We covered that extensively in a previous series.

Bring the engine up to full operating temperature. This accomplishes two things. Cycling the oil through the system suspends deposits which will ensure a higher percentage of removal. Secondly, hot oil pours easier and will drain more efficiently. Drain the oil and remove the old filter. If you're drain plug is the type that uses an o-ring or a sealing washer, replace it. If it's a magnetic plug, note the debris stuck to the end. A little is normal, but full on shavings are a reason for cause. As a side note, if you're changing more than one of the fluids, use separate containers for draining. It makes studying the oil for abnormalities much easier.

Install a new filter. Keep in mind that the Twin Cam and Evolution filters appear identical and have the same threads. They are not interchangeable. The TC filter has a heavier filtering media (density measured in microns) compatible with the higher pressure output of the Twin Cam oil pump. This filter would restrict oil flow in an Evolution motor, enough to potentially damage the engine. Additionally, the TC filter has an anti-back flow valve, a requirement due to the Twin Cam's

plumbing. Oil is filtered before it gets to the engine, just the opposite of the Evo.

Different models have different capacities. Regardless of the model you are working on; do not add the full capacity listed in your service literature. Subtract a pint or so and top off after the motor has been brought to full operating temperature. Over-filling almost always results in "exterior lubrication" and could even be dangerous if your rear tire is part of that equation. Unlike an automobile, the relatively small oil capacity of a motorcycle allows for significant fluctuations in the oil level reading on the dipstick with regards to temperature. This can register as much as a full pint. Harley's use rigid and pivot style dipsticks. Some models need to be checked on the side stand, some upright and level. Check your service manual for specifics. The dipstick style does not directly correspond to the checking procedure!



Harley's are notorious for "carryover" in their breather systems. This is that awesome phenomenon that results in oil leaking out of the air filter and blowing down the right side of the bike. Along with a few aftermarket band-aids, which sometimes help, we find that the best method of reducing the probability is running the oil level a bit low. Most dipsticks have a high and low mark.



Splitting the marks and keeping that level at or just above that line will do the trick.

It is important to note that after a good warm up, let the bike stand for a few minutes before checking the oil level. This is especially important with bikes that have an "oil pan" as with most Dyna's and Touring models. The oil that gets trapped in the baffle will give you a false reading. As the bike sits, this oil drains back down to the bottom of the pan and can make a huge difference in the dipstick reading.



Unless the dipstick reads damn near empty, do not add oil to a cold bike. This is probably more applicable to Evolution models with an oil tank that is located above the oil pump. When the oil pump check valve gets along in years, it allows oil to drain into the bottom end (sumping) when the bike sits for periods of non-operation. With a few quarts sitting in the cases, the initial start up usually leads to that issue of "puking" out of the breather system.

Next month we'll change the primary fluid.

Ride safe!

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

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Locals 8 & 20's Halloween Trick or Treat Run

by Daniel

Hello All! We've been pretty busy the last few months getting ready for our 7th Annual Halloween Trick or Treat Run on October 28 at Cook's Corner.

It was a really nice day for a bike ride and there were a lot of people at Cook's. We had three great bands that played different types of music, a bike show, a costume contest, a tattoo contest and a bunch of great raffle prizes.

Local 8 and 20 want to thank all of the great people that volunteered and attended the run - especially Keno's, Life Styles Cycles, L.A. Harley Davidson, Hooters and Cook's Corner. We look forward to next year.

The winners from the 7th Annual Halloween Trick or Treat Run are: Bike Show - John Demott, Best of Show; Hannibal, Best Stock & Jinx, Best Custom. Karla Fisher won for Best Costume.



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Locals 8 & 20's Halloween Trick or Treat Run



2012 ABATE Events

ABATE Of California, Inc
website www.abate.org/Events

December 2 – ABATE Local 17 – Annual Toy Run – Vacaville Moose Lodge; 6585 Gibson Canyon Rd; Vacaville.
Contact info – Glenn 707/624-6310 or glennphilips01@comcast.net

December 2 – ABATE Local 19 – Annual Toy Run

December 9 – Annual “Skid Row” L.A. Toy Ride – ABATE Local 1 and Glendale Harley-Davidson.

December 14 – ABATE Board of Director's Ballot – must be postmarked today!!!

Make plans now for ...2013

January 12 – ABATE QUARTERLY MEETING – SACRAMENTO
La Quinta Inn (See Separate Info)
Please attend your organizations meeting.

Welcome and meet the new ABATE Board of Directors, and welcome back the returning Board Members. (Bike Raffle Tickets will be available for Sale at the meeting too.)

February 24 – ABATE Local 1 – Annual Polar Bear Run

March 2 – ABATE Local 17 – Annual Freeze Your Ass Off

April 7 – ABATE Local 17 – Annual Spring Fun Run

May 6 – (Tentative) - Motorcycle Awareness & Freedom Rally – State Capitol – SOUTH Steps

May 10 – 12 – ABATE Southern Regional Rally

June 2nd – ABATE Local 17 – Hot Rods & Harleys (at Iron Steed H-D in Vacaville) & Bike Raffle Drawing

July 26 -28 – ABATE NORTHERN Regional Rally

October 6 – ABATE Local 17 – Fallen Riders Memorial Run

October 13 – ABATE Local 17 – Annual Fall Fun Run

December 8 – ABATE Local 17 – Annual Toy Run

Please email your ABATE Event information (in Microsoft word document) and Flyers (in a JPG file) to Bailing.wire@abate.org by the 15th of the month to be listed in the next issue. Your flyers MUST be in a jpg file to be used in the Bailing Wire. Your event flyer will also be on the ABATE web site on the Events Calendar.

Don't forget to get your Event Insurance – contact the ABATE State office for the information.


www.abate.org

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MEMBERSHIP FORM

A Union of Motorcyclists

ABATE of California, a leading organization in protecting motorcycle rights in California, is excited to announce the opening of 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 go into effect on January 1, 2013 and all parts of the law will be enforced on July 1, 2013. AB 1595 will have an immediate and very negative impact on side-by-side safety and prevent 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

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Sustaining Single or Couple \$ 100.00
 (Membership patch, Certificate for framing and includes printed Bailing Wire mailed to you when printed')

Gold Business \$ 125.00
 (Black and white business card in Bailing Wire and printed bailing wire sent to you when printed)

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
 (Life Membership patch and member card)

Family Life Membership \$ 650.00
 (Two Life Membership patches and member cards)

Our Bailing Wire newsletter is available every month online @ abate.org

**A printed edition is available every other month.*



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 ☐ Gold Business
 ☐ Gold Business w/ Color Ad
☐ Gold Business w/ 2X Color Ad
☐ Single Life Membership
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Glendale 818/246-5618

01 Messengers of Recovery/San
Fernando
Sylmar 818/523-7434

01 The Rocking Horse Ranch
Altadena 626/296-2961

02 Cycleworks Etc
Thousand Oaks 805/778-9212

02 Live Ride Christian Church
Simi Valley 805/306-0042

02 Simi Valley Harley-Davidson/
Buell
Moorpark 805/552-9555

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San Diego 858/566-4858

06 Edie + Jim
San Diego 858/566-4858

06 Graveyard Gamblers MC
Oceanside 760/908-1451

06 Hurricane Biker Girls MC
San Diego 858/688-1221

06 Sweetwater Chapter H.O.G.
San Diego 858/566-4858

11 PRO-TRAIN
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22 faceuptofred.com
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Claremont www.IWMC433.com

23 Biker Supply House
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24 Harley-Davidson/Buell Fresno
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24 Steve's Boat & Propeller Repair
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24 Stonehouse Tavern
Auberry 559/855-4800

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& Detail
San Bernardino 909/201-1311

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27 Kim's Sports Bar & Grill
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27 The Chopper Gallery
Temecula 951/699-9090

27 The Chopper Place
Riverside 951/687-6655

27 The Lucky Greek
Riverside 951/737-3162

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H.R.'S BEAR PATCH

3 X 3 1/2 PATCH

You probably recognize this patch from way back, originating from Local 27 Honda Ray

Order Form 11/2012

	Item #	Qty.	Price	Total
ABATE Hat Red/Gold	06-141		\$ 15.00	
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Medium 6 X 4	07-175		\$ 25.00	
Small 4 X 2	07-176		\$ 15.00	
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ABATE of California Knit Blanket 60 X 60	07-137		\$ 55.00	
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ABATE T-Shirts Men's	Qty.		Qty.			Qty.
Navy Pocket Medium 07-191			Ice Gray Medium 07-194		Sponsor T's	
Large 07-192			No/Pocket Large 07-195		Medium 09-218	
X-Large 07-193			X-Large 07-196		Large 09-219	
			XX-Large 07-206			

NEW Educate NOT Legislate Men's White T-Shirts				Long-sleeve No/Pocket		
W/Pocket Small 11-321		No/Pocket Small 11-315		Small 11-326		
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Large 11-323		Large 11-317		X-Large 11-329		
X-Large 11-324		X-Large 11-318		XX-Large 11-330		
XX-Large 11-325		XX-Large 11-319		XXX-Large 11-331		
		XXX-Large 11-320				

Total Men's T's X \$ 20.00 =

ABATE Tank Shirts	Qty.		Qty.
Medium 08-213		Large 08-214	

Total Tank Shirts X \$15.00 =

ABATE T-shirts Women's	Qty.		Qty.
Powder Blue S/Sleeve Large 07-200		X-Large 07-210	
Heather L/Sleeve Large 07-202			

NEW Educate NOT Legislate Women's White T-Shirts				Long-sleeve		
Short-sleeve Large 11-334				Small 11-337		
X-Large 11-335				Medium 11-338		
XX-Large 11-336				Large 11-339		
				X-Large 11-340		
				XX-Large 11-341		

Total Women's T's X \$20.00 =

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XX-Large 07-303			

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Sporty Milligan 3rd Sun-9 AM
 1616 4th St Elk's Lodge
 San Fernando 91340 10137 E. Commerce
 818/ 361-8800 Tujunga, CA

Simi Valley - Local #02-Reg#8

Steamer Arsnow 2nd Tues 7:30 PM
 661/251-8360 VFW Post#10049
 4242 E. Los Angeles
 Simi Valley

Thousand Oaks-Local#03-Reg#7

Chuck Pedersen 3rd Thurs - 7:00 PM
 842 E Avenida De Las Flores Elks Lodge
 Thousand Oaks 91360 158 N. Conejo School
 805/496-0323 Thousand Oaks

San Diego County - Local #06-Reg#12

Snowman-ABATE #6 1st Sunday - 12 Noon
 C/O Boozefighters M/C Kate Sessions Park
 P.O. Box 501946 Pacific Beach
 San Diego CA 92150
 619/855-9981

Orange County - Local #08-Reg#11

Jered Yates 2nd Mon. 7:30PM
 5031 Tripoli Ave American Legion #354
 Los Alamitos CA 8071 Whitaker, Buena Park
 714/393-7174

South Orange County - Local #09-**Reg#11**

Cory Toroian 2nd Tues. 7:00 PM
 949/496-2936 Call for Meeting Place

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

Dan Buse 2nd Sun - 11 AM
 760/807-7294 American Legion Post 149
 buse13@cox.net 230 East Park Ave
 Escondido CA 92025

Ventura County - Local #13-Reg#7

Scott McCool 2nd Thurs. - 7:30 PM
 VFW Post #3935
 300 Surfside Dr.
 805/657-2454 Pt. Hueneme CA 93041

Alameda County Local#14-Reg#3

Houdini 1st Wed 7:30 PM
 510/575-1500 The Florence
 37349 Niles Blvd., Fremont

Contra Costa County - Local #15-**Reg#3**

Dennis Seace 1st Wed - 7:00 PM
 P.O. Box 269 Fuddruckers
 Concord CA 94522 1975 Diamond Bl. #E260
 925/827-9973 Concord

**ABATE MEETINGS****Solano & Napa Counties - Local #17-****Reg#3**

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

Pomona Valley - Local #19-Reg#9

Robert Cuthbertson 4th Wed - 7:00 PM
 P O Box 4664 Round Table Pizza
 San Dimas 91773 1020 N Mountain
 909/921-2159 Ontario CA

Orange County - Local #20-Reg#11

Gill Mellen 2nd Tues - 7:00 PM
 2104 Continental Ave. Franciscan's Best Western Inn
 Costa Mesa, CA 92627 2642 Newport Blvd.
 949/632-9787 Costa Mesa CA 92627

Antelope Valley - Local #21-Reg#13

Ron Sundquist 2nd Thurs - 7:00 PM
 37230 52nd St. East Moose Lodge
 Palmdale 93552 44545 Division St
 661/586-5555 Lancaster 93535
 ron.sundquist@sbcglobal.net

South Bay - Local #22-Reg#11

Suzanne Palmiere 2nd Thurs - 7:30 PM
 310/245-0543 Chowder Barge
 suzpalmiere@aol.com 611 N. Henry Ford
 Wilmington 90744

San Bernardino - Local#23-Reg#9

Kevin Sorrell 1st Sun 9:00 AM
 Vicky's Restaurant
 909/793-1112 502 S. Waterman Ave.
 San Bernardino

Fresno - Local#24-Reg#6

Ed Rogers 1st Wed. 7:00 PM
 559/264-2891 Yosemite Falls Cafe'
 Shaw & Blackstone, Fresno

Sacramento - Local#25-Reg#2

Rebel Ruthi Wolfson 3rd Thurs-7:00 PM
 916/459-7266 Denny's
 Abate.ca.local25@gmail.com 3520 Auburn Blvd.
 Sacramento 95821

Riverside - Local#27-Reg#9

Greg Covell 1st Tues - 7:00 PM
 P.O. Box 7070 American Legion
 Riverside CA 92513 2979 Dexter Dr,
 951/522-3434 Riverside, CA 92513
 www.abatelocal27.org

Morongo Basin - Local#29-Reg#10

Marty Rapp 2nd - Thurs - 6:30 PM
 P.O. Box 2334 Odd # Months
 29 Palms CA 92277 Call for meeting Location
 760/367-1694

North Valley - Local #31-Reg#2

Larry James 2nd Tues - 7:00 PM
 Last Call Lounge
 530/893-4827 876 East Ave. Chico

Yuba City - Local #33-Reg#2

Steve Katen 3rd Thurs. - 7:PM
 530/749-1003 American Legion
 5477 Feather River Blvd.
 Olivehurst

Imperial Valley - Local#38-Reg#12

Bob Brown Last Thurs - 7:00 PM
 606 Tangerine Dr SOBE's
 El Centro CA 1151 S 4th St.
 760/352-7995 El Centro

Bakersfield - Local#40-Reg#6

Omar Macias 3rd Tues. 7:00 PM
 661/832-5240 Rusty's Pizza
 661/900-8690 5430 Olive Dr
 Bakersfield 93308

High Desert - Local#44-Reg#13

George Butterfield 2nd Sat. 9:30 am
 P.O. Box 3094 Victor Valley Moose Lodge
 Victorville, CA 92392 10230 "E" Ave.
 760/954-1227 Hesperia 92345

Barstow - Local #47-Reg#13

Yermo Eddy Meet with L#44
 PO Box 521
 Yermo CA 92398
 760/254-3833 or 760/953-7353

Grass Valley - Local#52-Reg#2

Craig Griswold 3rd Wed - 6:30 PM
 21183 State Hwy 20 Larry & Lena's Pizza & Grill'
 Penn Valley 15690 Johnson Place
 530/263-8071 Hwy#49 Grass Valley

Ridgecrest - Local #58-Reg#13

Dave Cornelius 3rd Sat 10:00 AM
 760/447-4342 Mickey's Pub
 1661 W. Triangle Dr.
 Ridgecrest

