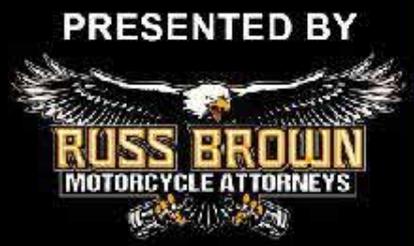


# THE BAILING WIRE

ABATE of CA. Magazine for Motorcyclists | Vol. 39 • ISSUE 2 • March 2020



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

### Lobbyist's Legislative Report

## American Brotherhood Aimed Towards Education



by **James Lombardo,**  
**Lobbyist**  
**The Lombardo Group**  
**Government Relations**  
**916.424.1148**

[info@lombardogroup.net](mailto:info@lombardogroup.net)

The Legislative Budget committees will be holding their subcommittee hearings on Governor Newsom's budget and making changes as they wish over the next few months. The policy committees will start their hearings officially in April.

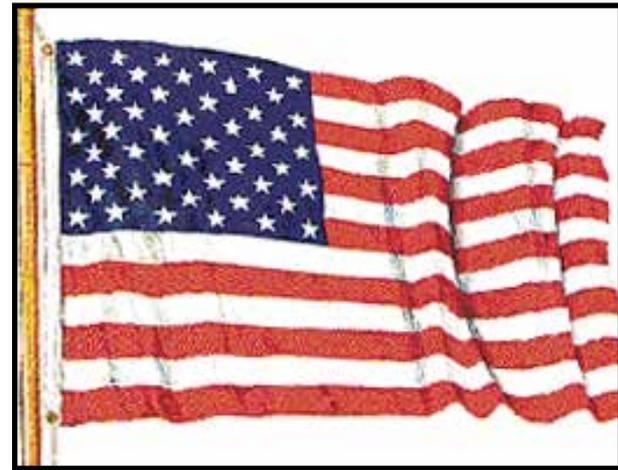
As the Bailing Wire goes to print, the final bill introduction deadline is February 21<sup>st</sup>! We will be reviewing over 2,000 introduced bills, coming through Legislative intent/effect that could impact our Freedoms to Ride! As this is the second year of a Two Year Legislative Session – expect lots of Spot Bills as the Senators and Assemblymembers use all their placeholders before they expire - Assembly 50 bills & Senate 40 bills per member over two years!

We will forward all bills pertinent to ABATE for review by our Legislative committee and get to work either supporting or killing the anti-motorcycle bills. Look to the April issue for a full list of these 2020 bills!

Thanks for your support of the Dedicated Lobbyist Account to keep the Lombardo Group in the Capital lobbying to protect OUR Rights!

To check who represents your area, and where their office is located, go to: <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/yourleg.html>

Want more details on a bill? <http://www.leginfo.legislature.ca.gov>



## Table of Contents

**Page 2 Exec. Report**  
**Page 3 Membership, Report & App**  
**Page 4 Donations**  
**Page 5-6 Local Reports**  
**Page 10 DMV News**  
**Page 11 VIP's & Events**  
**Page 13-14 Biker News**  
**Page 16 Sporty's Rides & Jr ABATE App. & Training**  
**Page 20 Merchandise**  
**Page 23 Business Members**

## Daniel Pfaffly L#8



# What is ABATE?

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

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## Executive Director Report

by Mark Loudermilk,  
Executive Director

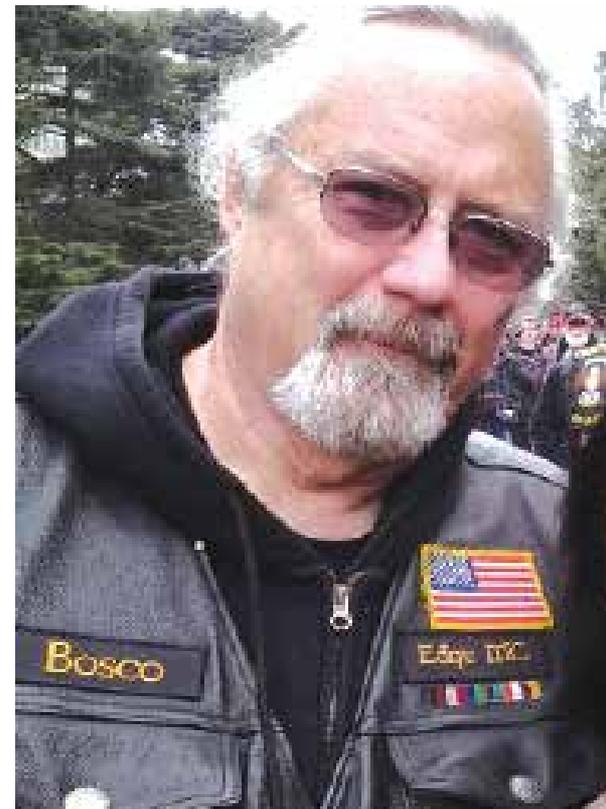
Welcome to March! Springtime is upon us, more daylight, and more riding. This month's message is quite simple. We have a right that many people around the world do not, the right to vote. We can participate in the selection of those who, in theory, represent us in our government, a right many around the world die trying to obtain.

We live in a Constitutional Republic where our rights are inherent, and we must be ever vigilant to prevent the government from infringing on those rights. You belong to ABATE because you want to protect our rights as riders and promote safety.

The importance of your voting cannot be over-emphasized. Don't fall for the "my vote is just one and doesn't matter". Not voting is a vote for those on the other side.

Vote by mail or go to your voting place on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. However you do, be sure to vote.

Respectfully, Mark



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[Jason@greenrivertaproom.com](mailto:Jason@greenrivertaproom.com)

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

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

**ABATE OF CALIFORNIA INC**

**American Brotherhood Aimed Towards Education**

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**PHOTOGRAPHERS**

Gill Mellen, Kathlean Butcher & Janet Wilhelm

**COLUMNISTS**

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

**DEADLINES**

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

**BUSINESS MEMBERSHIPS**

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

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

**AD RATES FOR NON-BUSINESS MEMBERS**

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

**NON-MEMBER ADS OR EVENT FLYERS**

(Ads & Flyers subject to approval by Editor)

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

Color Ads add 25%

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

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

**CLASSIFIEDS**

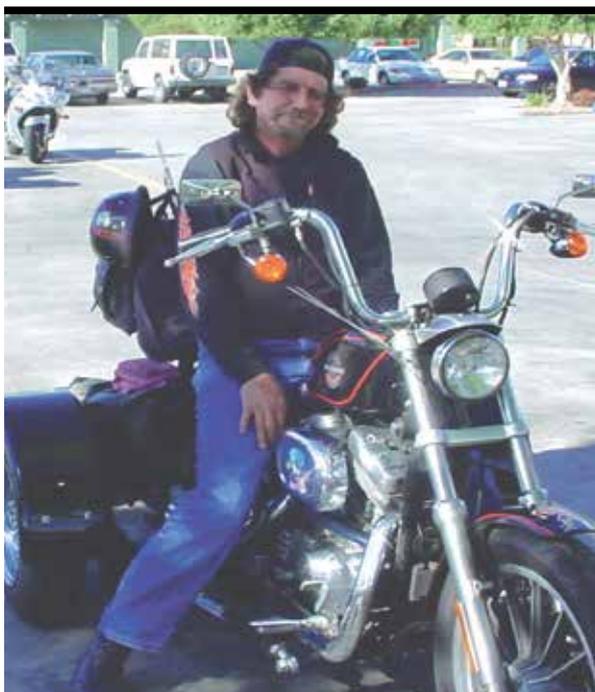
Members may advertise in the Bailing Wire at no charge and their ad will be run up to (3) issues.

**PHOTOS**

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

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

# Membership Report



## by Sporty Milligan, Membership Chairman

Hi All! It's the second installment of the Membership report and it is getting close to spring. That means some of the Locals will be doing springtime events. What a great chance to put a membership table at your event.

The bike nights will start in some areas, another chance to secure new members. Also a reminder to carry membership cards so you can catch the rider who is not a member.

For the presidents of the Locals, your membership chairs should put an emphasis on your Local's renewals. When you get a renewal you can send them a renewal trinket in the form of a couple of Membership raffles tickets. These raffle tickets help support the Membership drive by helping pay for the cost of the drive completely.

Remember my "Get a New Member" challenge. Do your part by getting a blue membership card filled out!

So in closing do your best to renew your renewals and surprise your membership chair with new member. There is unity and strength in numbers of members. Good luck!

Regards, Sporty, Membership Chairman

# ABATE Membership Challenge

by Sporty Milligan, Membership Chairman

Hi all! We had a Board of Directors meeting January 11<sup>th</sup> and the idea of a membership challenge within each Local was brought up. I am going to go one step further. I challenge each of you in ABATE to get at least one new member. Good hunting!

ABATE presidents do you often wonder how you might improve your ABATE Local meetings? Are they getting stale? Hopefully we can correct this dilemma.

It needs to start with the president's ability to change the format so the members will come back for the meetings month after month. How do we accomplish this?

You accomplish this by getting the members involved. Develop goals for the members to accomplish such as one member can be on the phone tree or email tree or to alert the members when the meetings will be scheduled. Encourage the members to participate in your runs. Encourage them to volunteer for events.

Another way to get Local participation is by getting members of your Local involved in selling! Such as the annual special raffle tickets for the membership drive

There are many ways to improve the quality of your meetings. Perhaps plan an after meeting ride with some of your members who attended the meeting. Ask for suggestions for a route and destination.

Now there are some members who are not meeting savvy, but they are your members just the same, so you need to keep them informed about stuff regarding PAC issues and general items about the workings of ABATE.

ABATE Local 1 is having their 33<sup>rd</sup> annual Polar Bear run. I have been reaching out to the membership to help support this annual event as it is a fundraiser for the Local.

**Sporty Milligan, Board of Directors member, Membership Chairman, President Local 1**

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

### Funds – THANK YOU!

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

Sincerely,  
ABATE of California, Inc.

Thank you to the following:

#### Donations to the General Fund:

From ABATE Locals: 1 & 25

#### Donations to the Lobbyist Fund:

Rick Mullaly, Local 33

From the ABATE Locals: 11, 17 & 40

#### Donations to the PAC Fund:

From the ABATE Locals: 25

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

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## 2020 National Motorcycle Profiling Survey

The 2020 National Motorcycle Profiling Survey has only 6 questions that are designed to help define the profiling trends so we can focus our resources in the areas that need it the most. Your participation will have a long lasting, positive impact on the community. This survey on average will take 4 minutes to complete.

The information collected in these surveys has been an essential part in lobbying efforts at both state and national levels, and without a doubt provide critical data points for the grassroots activist to intelligently communicate issues impacting the motorcycle community and influence change.

With over 23,000 survey participants from all walks of life, the National Motorcycle Profiling Surveys, with 99% accuracy, has proven that many motorcyclists are being targeted by law enforcement based on appearance. This information was the foundation of the argument that resulted in the Motorcycle Profiling Resolution (S. Res. 154) passing in the U.S. Senate with unanimous consent on December 11, 2018.

**\*\*NO PERSONAL DATA IS REQUIRED. YOUR PRIVACY AND ANONYMITY ARE IMPORTANT AND RESPECTED.** By asking for no more than your zip code, which is also voluntary, there is no personal information to maintain or protect.

<https://www.motorcycleprofilingproject.com/national-motorcycle-profiling-survey/>

## ABATE of CA Open Positions

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

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

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

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

### BAILING WIRE EDITOR

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

### STATE TREASURE

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

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

# LOCAL REPORTS

## Local #01 Los Angeles



Hi All! Our meeting on February 16<sup>th</sup> will start with the Pledge of Allegiance. We will briefly deal with the political issues. The main focus will be on our up-coming Polar Bear run. That should cover most of meeting.

I will encourage attendance at other Local's runs, our VP, Jim Nickla, will talk about stuff and finally there will be comments from the members.

Meeting will end and, those who want it, can get a great breakfast from the Elks Lodge at a nominal cost.

ABATE Local 1 President Sporty reporting

## Local #02 Simi Valley



Hi Everyone! I'm Jane, your ABATE Local #2 Secretary, writing this report for Norm e. Newiger, who is out sick. We all wish him well. I don't write as good a report as Norm e., but here goes.

We had a great meeting in February. Our cooks Frank Warthen, Membership and Scott Burton, Vice President cooked up some great burgers and dogs with all the fixen's. Thanks! Jim Kibbe, President and Steve Blevens, Sergeant at Arms are cooking for our meeting in March.

We then saluted the flag and started our meeting. Pres Jim Kibbe talked about new motor vehicle laws and the effect they have on riders. After a brief discussion, we went over preparations for our Local 2's 25<sup>th</sup> Sweaty Buns Run to be held July 26, 2020. This is going to be a big event, we are up for any suggestions.

Betty Kibbe gave our Treasure's report and said we are looking good. Pigface talked about up-coming rides and his last ride with the V.C. Riders of Moorpark, CA.

Frank Warthen gave our Membership report and said we are struggling to get new members. Younger riders don't seem to realize all of the hard work that ABATE does for all riders both on and off the road. We have Raffle tickets for the 2020 Memberships Drive.

Lastly we had our membership drawing. The name we drew was Norm e. Newiger, but he was not in attendance (get well soon) so the membership pot roles over. The more times you attend the meetings and sign-in, the more chances you have to win a portion of the membership pot, this month's portion was \$47.00.

Come to our meeting on the second Tuesday of the month at the VFW Post 10049, 4242 Los Angeles Ave. in Simi Valley to support ABATE of California. You'll have a good meal, enjoy our meeting and have a chance of winning \$\$\$! See you at our next meeting!

Your ABATE Local #2 Secretary, Jane Warthen

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



We are excited for what this New Year will bring. Mark your calendars for our upcoming Annual Leather Weather Run – March 29<sup>th</sup>. For details, see the flyer in this Bailing Wire.

Planning continues for the year's activities, with fun rides and runs, as well as sustaining our important mission of working on rider freedom legislation, including an Anti-Profiling resolution to be presented this year, further protecting our motorcycle riding rights.

The comradery and the interest in our mission is contagious! Our Local 3/13 continues to grow and evolve. We've been riding with and making new friends in other clubs and groups, spreading the word that ABATE's legislative activities help all riders. It's all about motorcyclists' rights across all clubs, groups and organizations!

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

We are a group that is making things happen; being involved in Lane Splitting last year, and now the Anti-Profiling Bill this year! Join us to be an effective voice in matters of motorcycling rights!

Our Local 3/13 is always welcoming new members. Bike nights are held the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month, 7 pm, at Azar's Sport's Bar & Grill in Newbury Park. General membership meetings are on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays, 7 pm, at the Elks Lodge, 158 N. Conejo School Road in Thousand Oaks. And Sunday-Funday rides every second Sunday all year - weather permitting.

Come join us to any or all of our events and bring your friends. Check us out on Facebook [www.facebook.com/ABATE313](https://www.facebook.com/ABATE313) to follow our events and issues.

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

Ride Free! Kathleen "MamaBear" Scribe, Membership & PR, Local 3/13

## Local #08 Orange County



Coming together our small but mighty group had a productive meeting for February. We are grateful for the outpouring with our swap meet event. Having been involved with the Long Beach Motor Cycle Swap Meet, we discussed our profits and gains with a Local reach out.

Many people spent time discussing issues near and dear to their own hearts. We discussed our "outreach" methods and how they might work in the upcoming June 28<sup>th</sup> swap meet where we will happily be spreading the word. There is no time like the present to clear out all those unused treasures. All our proceeds go directly to ABATE to fund the various needs of the organization.

We also discussed having joint meetings with other Locals a few times a year. Always good to hear from others and have input that might be new to us/them.

As a reminder, don't forget to sign up for Legislative alerts on the ABATE website. Always good to keep informed.

Our monthly "opportunity" drawing was won by Danny Kelly. He gave the windfall back to ABATE. Way to go Danny, thank you!

Always rubber side down, Local 8's Hawgette

## Local #20 Orange County



AB-390 is officially dead. The exhaust law stays the same (2018). Flashing light signs are up and down PCH. Stop, take pictures and send to Gill.

Discussed HR5234, the new 2020 laws, the dos and don'ts of being stopped. 1 point (and a fine) will be added to your license if caught with a phone in your hand. Gill said Vote for Harley Rouda.

Newport Beach DEMO Andy is getting together a poker run starting at LAHD and ending at Cooks. He will have more info next meeting.

Continued on page 6

### Continued from page 5

Talked about setting up a booth at the Orange car show in April. Doreen spoke of the Veterans Recognition Night 17 April. 22 May is a Vet's presentation luncheon at Cottonwood Church with a car and bike show.

Getting 50 more raffle tickets from Janet. Russ Brown donated the charging system.

Rick Robison President/Squirt Secretary

### Local #38 Imperial Valley

Hello ABATE Members and Friends! I hope everyone is well. It is March and that means it's Ice Chest Raffle time! This is our biggest fundraiser of the year.

We need to get the tickets sold. The money we raise primarily benefits our right to ride. This pays our share of the lobbyist fund and helps state office.

This year we are calling it the Deuces Wild Fun Run, mainly because it falls on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. It will start at Coyne Powersports, located at 4th Street & the I-8 Freeway in El Centro. They will be providing breakfast and we should have Starbucks coffee.

There are a few different stops this year. Our end location will be Rocky's Bar and Grill in El Centro. Come join the fun and you could win an ice chest on wheels full of booze and snacks. See our flyer in this issue of the Bailing Wire.

Local 38 meets at La Fonda Bar & Grill in El Centro, 6:30 pm, the last Thursday of the month. Come help us plan our next ride.

Bye for now, Ed Aranda, President, ABATE Local 38

### Local 20 raffle winners



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victorvillehd.com

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A.B.A.T.E. Local 24 Presents:

★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
21st Annual  
**ABATE**  
Of California, Inc.  
Dedicated to Freedom of the Road

**AMMO RUN**  
LOCAL 24

**Destination: Morro Bay**  
**Date: April 18th & 19th**  
**Sign up: Brooks Ranch Restaurant @ 9AM – 10am**  
Chestnut & 99—Southbound ramp  
\$20 single rider / \$30 a couple  
**Depart: KSU 10AM**

**Places to Stay:**

Bayview Inn	1.800.742.8439
Sea Air Inn	1.805.772.4495
Pacific Shores Inn	1.800.222.9915
La Serena Inn	1.805.772.5665

**Sign up for ABATE membership today and your ride entry is free.**

There will be a 50/50 Raffle and many more prizes to win!  
**Drawing for Prizes: 6:30pm @ Sirens Bar in Morro Bay**

**A** **ABATE**  
Dedicated to Freedom of the Road

**ABATE Local 3/13**  
**Leather Weather Run**  
**Sunday, March 29, 2020**

**\$20 - Rider**  
**\$15 - Passenger**

**Cash Prize for High & Low Poker Hand**

**Check In:**  
**8:30 a.m. - 10 a.m.**  
**Azar's Sports Bar**  
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**FREE T-Shirt for Each Entry**  
**Raffle Prizes**

**Lunch for Each Entry**

**For More Info Contact:**  
**JP @ 805.231.1689**

# ABATE LOCAL #38



## Deuces wild

Annual Ice Chest Fun Run

Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

### Start location:

**Coyne Powersports**

2351 S. 4<sup>th</sup> St., El Centro, CA 92243

Registrations: 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Donation \$10.00 per person

### End Location:

**Rocky's Bar & Grills (Denny's)**

1445 Ocotillo Dr., El Centro, CA 92243

### For more information

Contact: Ed 760-554-8843

*(Note: available drawing prizes is dependent on participation)*

# IT'S A DRAWING! - IT'S A PARTY!!!

## WIN THIS ICE CHEST ON WHEELS !!!

### CONTENTS OF THE CHEST:

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**MARGARITA MIX**

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**PARTY MIX**

ABATE LOCAL #38 RAFFLE. \$5 PER TICKET. DRAWING TO BE HELD May 2, 2020  
FOR MORE DETAILS, CALL: ED ARANDA 760-554-8843  
NEED TO BE 21 TO WIN. NEED NOT TO BE PRESENT TO WIN.

# How many of these driving laws and tidbits do you already know?

Orange County Register - November 29, 2019

- When you hit a crosswalk button at a traffic signal, the voice is often a man's because it offers low-range frequencies that are easier for people who are visually impaired to understand, and the same for those who have some hearing loss.
- Got a complaint for Caltrans? File your beef at [csr.dot.ca.gov](http://csr.dot.ca.gov).
- Anyone can get "HONORING VETERANS" placed at the bottom of his license plate, but more specialized plates require documentation proving that the driver deserves to sport such accomplishments, such as "LEGION OF VALOR."
- Although a lot of firetrucks and engines don't carry front license plates, under the law they are supposed to.
- Many drivers must take the behind-the-wheel test at the Department of Motor Vehicles only once — when first getting a driver's license. Old age is never a reason to have to take it again. But some must to prove that a mental or physical problem doesn't cause too much trouble on the road.
- Caltrans workers sometimes sit in chairs on freeway overpasses and count the vehicles below and the passengers inside them.
- Thousands of vehicles with license plates from Mexico, Canada and states outside of the lower 48 have accounts set up to pay tolls on the 73, 241, 133 and 261 toll roads.
- Buses, under the law, can use car-pool lanes.
- It costs more to put in concrete rather than asphalt lanes on freeways, but concrete lasts at least 40 years instead of asphalt's 10 or 15.
- Grooves on concrete freeway lanes are to prevent skidding, even when the lanes are dry. Asphalt doesn't need them.
- Vehicles can be covered while parked on public streets in California, but law enforcement personnel can take a peek to grab the license plate number.
- The best positions for your hands on the steering wheel are at 8 and 4 o'clock, says the Automobile Club of Southern California. If an air bag deploys, the hands are less likely to fly hard into the face than if they're at 10 and 2 o'clock.
- Caltrans says ramp meters discourage vehicles from converging onto freeways in packs, which could force those already on the freeway to slow or even stop.
- In a lot of California cities, owners can be cited if their vehicles are parked on public roadways in the same spot for more than 72 hours.
- Newfangled brake lights that go on and off real fast are legal, if they flash four or fewer times in four seconds.
- In California, motorists pay 80.45 cents per gallon of gas in taxes, the nation's most.



Jim Radcliffe



Never miss the latest news from the CA DMV. Sign up now for **DMV News Alerts!** It's an easy way to receive up-to-date information from the California Department of Motor Vehicles. This new tool also offers customization to obtain specific DMV related topics, such as AB 60, autonomous vehicles, and office openings and closures.

Go here to get started: [https://www.emailalert.dmv.ca.gov/DMVEmail\\_Alert/](https://www.emailalert.dmv.ca.gov/DMVEmail_Alert/)



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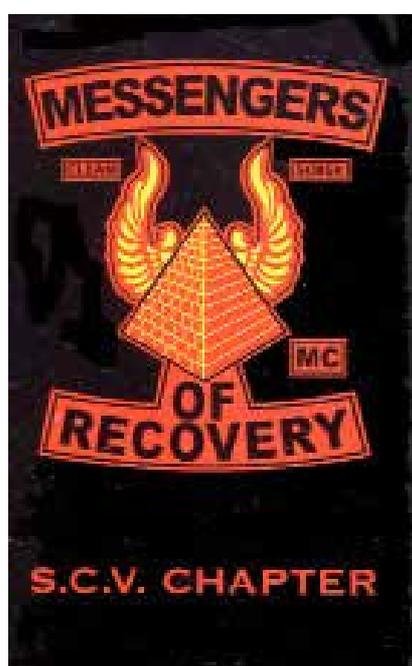
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Go to [www.abate.org](http://www.abate.org) Drop down "About ABATE" and click on "ABATE Discussion Group"

After reading the rules enter your email and click "subscribe"

Subscribe to ABATE Discussion

Email:

After verification of your membership you will be able to join the Discussion



### A Union of Motorcyclists

[www.abate.org](http://www.abate.org)

### Second Quarterly ABATE of California Meeting for 2020

April 11, 2020

On-Line Meeting with  
FreeConferenceCall.com

### ABATE Meeting Schedule

ABATE PAC Meeting: 9:00 am – 10:45 am  
11:00am – 11:30am Break

ABATE Presidents/Officers/Board Meeting: 11:45am – Conclusion of Business

\*\*\*\*\*



Audio Information	
Dial-in number:	(605) 313-4166
Access code:	785507 PIN
Online meeting ID:	janet949

Link To Attend On-Line: <https://join.freeconferencecall.com/janet949>

Please Login/Call In Early - Meetings Will Start On Time

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# Saturday March 7th 32nd Annual F.Y.A.O. Run

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OR  
Bill McBride at 707-486-3185

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All Colors Welcome!

## Abbreviating 2020 on legal documents: Does this leave you open to fraud?

By Alex Meier

Saturday, January 4, 2020ABC7.com

For anyone who's logged onto social media this week, it's impossible to miss this viral warning: *Do not abbreviate 2020 on legal documents.*

This warning apparently started as a meme, which was then [shared by a police station in a small Maine town Wednesday](#) and picked up by news outlets nationally.

"When signing and dating legal documents, do not use 20 as the year 2020. March 3rd, 2020 being written as 3/3/20 could be modified to 3/3/2017 or 3/3/2018. Protect yourself. Do not abbreviate 2020," the meme, posted to East Millinocket Police Department's Facebook page, read.

Al Redmer, Maryland's insurance commissioner, also noted that someone, like a landlord, could easily change the abbreviated date "20" to "2021," giving the appearance that a payment never went through.

Started signing checks or legal documents this year? Think twice before abbreviating the year 2020. Someone could easily change the date by adding a few numbers. [#Preparedness](#) [#Fraud](#) [#StayProtected](#)



[The Better Business Bureau](#) wrote that checks, bank drafts, pay orders, bills and legal documents are susceptible to alteration, so fraudsters may look to take advantage of the decade change.

At this time, no evidence indicates that this specific forgery tactic has been successful. East Millinocket Police even updated their original post with clarification, stating:

"Please understand that we handle scam and fraud calls on a regular basis so we try to provide our small community with tips to avoid potential problems. Of course we understand that all dates can be altered. Criminals are always looking for ways to take advantage of people. This meme provided a tip that we felt has some validity so this is why we shared it. It is not intended as legal advice or a warning, only as a cautionary tip to consider."

Yet consumers should always be vigilant, as check fraud accounted for 47% -- or \$1.3 billion -- of industry deposit account fraud losses, [according to an American Bankers Association report](#). To prevent yourself from becoming a victim of fraud, make sure to regularly scrutinize bank statements for incorrect or fraudulent charges.

If you have a problem, notify your bank ASAP. All banks and credit card companies give you 60 days to report fraud after it appears on your statement.

# Sustaining VIP ABATE Members Thank you for the Extra Support!

**ABATE Local #01**

Mike Burton  
Lisa Garber & Bruce Hersch  
Sporty Milligan  
Bob Warren

**ABATE Local #02**

Patti Bock  
Scott & Pat Burton

**ABATE Local 3/13**

Chris Hodapp  
Keith & Sharon Johnston  
Mike & Mary Osborn

**ABATE Local #06**

Bart & Wendy Perry

**ABATE Local #08**

Steve Howe  
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Tim Sr. & Yvonne Tennimon

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**ABATE Local #17**

Greg & Diane Howe  
Denny "Budman" Kobza

**ABATE Local #19**

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**ABATE Local #24**

Mike & Linda McIntyre  
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Donald & Susan Noblin  
Ronald Tibbetts

**ABATE Local #38**

Rocio & Edward Green

**ABATE Local #44**

Hank & Kris Hallmark  
Dave & Carol Hastings  
Ken & Glenice Hatfield  
Nina Ozanne

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

Danny Jackson  
Owner  
m 618-363-7287  
brasstapdanny@gmail.com  
The Brass Tap - Vacaville  
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# ABATE Events for 2020

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

- March 7<sup>th</sup> – ABATE 17 – 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual FYAO Run (see flyer this issue)
- March 29<sup>th</sup> – ABATE Local 3/13 – Leather Weather Run (see flyer this issue)
- April 11<sup>th</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Board Meeting On-Line (see flyer this issue)
- April 19<sup>th</sup> – ABATE Local 27 – 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Bare Necessities Run (see flyer this issue)
- April 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> – ABATE Local 24 – 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Ammo Run (see flyer this issue)
- May 2<sup>nd</sup> – ABATE Local 38 – Deuces Wild Fun Ride & Annual Ice Chest Run (see flyers this issue)
- May 2<sup>nd</sup> – ABATE 17 – 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas Hold'em Tournament (see flyer this issue)
- May 8<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> – NCOM Convention Indianapolis (see flyer this issue)
- May 19<sup>th</sup> – MRF Bikers in the Beltway DC (see flyer this issue)
- May – ABATE Local 23 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Box of Love
- June – ABATE Local 17 – 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Ride in Bike & Car Show
- July 11<sup>th</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Board Meeting Piccadilly Inn Fresno CA
- July – ABATE Local 17 – Summer Bingo
- July – ABATE Local 2 – 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Sweaty Buns Run
- August – ABATE Local 17 – 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Sarah's Memorial Run
- September – MRF Meeting of the Minds
- October 10<sup>th</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Board Meeting On-Line

- October – ABATE Local 17 – Memorial Run & Fall Bingo
- October – ABATE Local 3/13 – 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Biker Trivia Run
- November – ABATE Local 24 – 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Turkey Run
- November – ABATE Local 11 – Ice Chest Raffle
- November – ABATE Local 38 – 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Turkey Run
- November – 30<sup>th</sup> Annual One More from the Heart
- December 25<sup>th</sup> – ABATE Local 6 – Santa with the Kids
- December – ABATE Local 19 – 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Toy Run
- December – ABATE Local 1 – 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual LA Toy Run with Glendale HD
- December – ABATE Local 38 – Imperial Valley Los Ninos Toy Run

**Bike Nites:**

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

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

ALL ABATE Events must have event insurance  
Contact the ABATE State office for information.

Motorcycle Riders Foundation  
 12TH ANNUAL MICHAEL "BOZ" KERR  
**Bikers Inside the Beltway**  
 NATIONAL MOTORCYCLISTS' LOBBY DAY  
 May 19, 2020

Join fellow riders from across the country to help educate lawmakers on the issues that impact your right to ride!

Pre-event briefing May 18, 2020  
 Event May 19, 2020

Governor House Inn, 6850 Arlington Blvd, Falls Church, VA 703-532-8900, room rate \$89 (cut-off date April 27)  
 Clarion Hotel, 6633 Falls Church, Arlington, VA 703-532-9000, room rate \$125 (cut-off date April 27)

Pre-register at [www.mrf.org](http://www.mrf.org) (by April 27)

Sponsored by the Motorcycle Riders Foundation  
[www.mrf.org](http://www.mrf.org) | 202-546-0983

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I Lobbied Congress for Bikers' Rights (Available 2020-2021)

Short Sleeve and Long Sleeve available

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## ABATE "Brothers & Sisters" Lost Too Soon

Tom "Major Tom" Lubbers, Local 19 (November 19, 2019)  
 Kay Cardwell, Local 17  
 Carlos Aguilera, Local 17  
 Frederick Thomas, Local 23 (2-15-2020)  
 Dwayne Benson, Local 1 (12-13-2019)

**Rest in Peace, May they ride Forever Free.**

Yes! I wish to help support ABATE's efforts to protect our motorcycle rights!

Go to [www.abate.org](http://www.abate.org) and click on "Donate Now"

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## NCOM Biker Newsbytes



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

### NCOM BIKER NEWSBYTES

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

ALL MOTORCYCLE RIDERS URGED TO SUPPORT FEDERAL ANTI-PROFILING MEASURE: The National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM) and the Confederations of Clubs is calling on all motorcyclists nationwide, from patch holders to independents, to contact their Congressional Representatives to ask for their support of House Resolution 255, a bipartisan anti-profiling measure being considered in the U.S. House of Representatives that is identical to Senate Resolution 154 passed by unanimous consent in the U.S. Senate on December 11, 2018.

H.Res.255; "Promoting awareness of motorcycle profiling and encouraging collaboration and communication with the motorcycle community and law enforcement officials to prevent instances of profiling," was introduced early in the 1<sup>st</sup> Session of the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress (2019-2020), on March 26, 2019 by Rep. Tim Walberg (R-MI), and currently has over 125 bipartisan co-sponsors.

As defined by both nonbinding Congressional resolutions, S.Res.154 & H.Res.255, "motorcycle profiling" means "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."

Concerned riders can contact their U.S. Rep. by calling the Capital Switchboard at (202) 224-3121 and request that they join their colleagues in cosponsoring H.Res.255 to help thwart law enforcement from unfairly targeting motorcycle riders for traffic stops, questioning and citations.

RPM ACT TO PROTECT RACING HAS BEEN REINTRODUCED IN CONGRESS:

Legislation to protect the right to convert street vehicles into dedicated racecars - known as the RPM Act - is "well positioned" to become law in 2020 now that new versions of the bill have been introduced in Congress, according to the Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA), an industry trade association representing the specialty automotive industry.

U.S. Representatives Patrick McHenry (R-NC), and Raul Ruiz (D-CA), along with 30 bipartisan co-sponsors, introduced H.R. 5434, the Recognizing the Protection of Motorsports Act of 2019 on December 16, 2019, complementing the Senate's version of the bill, S.2602, introduced October 18, 2019 by Senators Richard Burr (R-NC) and Joe Manchin (D-WV).

The RPM Act, if passed, would reverse the Environmental Protection Agency's 2015 interpretation of the Clean Air Act that it does not allow a motor vehicle designed for street use -- including a car, truck, or motorcycle - to be converted into a dedicated racecar. The bill also would protect the motorsports-parts industry's ability to sell performance products.

The legislation cleared several major legislative hurdles in the previous Congress, including passage by the U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee and hearings in the House and Senate.

The practice of converting street cars into competition vehicles went unquestioned for nearly 50 years until 2015, when the EPA took the position that converted vehicles must remain emissions-compliant, even though they are no longer driven on public streets or highways.

Motorsports competition involves tens of thousands of participants and vehicle owners each year, says SEMA, with most of the vehicles being raced on the estimated 1,300 race-tracks operating across the U.S. are converted vehicles that the EPA currently considers to be illegal.

CONGRESS EXTENDS TAX CREDITS FOR ELECTRIC MOTORCYCLES: The U.S. spending bill recently agreed to on December 17, 2019 includes extension of tax credits for home EV charger installations, electric motorcycles, and fuel-cell vehicles. These credits were previously extended through the end of 2017, though that time the extension was retroactive, as taxpayers didn't know about the incentive during the incentive period. Now, those credits have been extended retroactively again by Congress - covering the last two years, since 2017 - and have been extended forward to the end of this year.

Due to an amendment made to the year-end spending bill, taxpayers will once again qualify for a 30% rebate (up to \$1,000) on costs associated with the installation of an EV charging station, a 10% credit (up to \$2,500) on 2- or 3-wheeled electric vehicles such as electric motorcycles, and a \$4,000 credit for the purchase of a new fuel-cell vehicle.

These credits previously expired at the end of 2017, but will now be available through 2020. The credits are available retroactively so, presumably, this means that taxpayers can and should file amended returns for previous years.

HELMET REPEAL EFFORTS ACROSS THE COUNTRY: Since 1966, when Georgia became the first State to require helmet use by law, America has gone through periods of nearly 100% conformity with every state except California passing mandatory helmet laws, through two federal helmet law mandates, both since repealed, to today with only 19 states and the District of Columbia requiring helmets for all riders.

Now, with state legislatures back in session entering the new year, several of those states are hoping to be the next to nix their lid law, following most recently Arkansas (1997), Texas (1997), Kentucky (1998), Florida (2000), Pennsylvania (2003) and Michigan (2012). Louisiana weakened its motorcycle helmet use law in 1999, but re-enacted it in 2004.

Already this year, West Virginia has introduced bicameral legislation on January 10<sup>th</sup>, HB 2070 in the House and SB 153, in the Senate that would allow you to operate or be a passenger on a motorcycle without a helmet, provided the rider is 21 or older and has held a motorcycle license for at least two years. In addition, SB 154 would allow certain out-of-state residents to ride a motorcycle in West Virginia without helmet.

Missouri, which last session passed a helmet repeal through both houses of their legislature, only to see it vetoed, once again, by their governor, has introduced another bill on January 9<sup>th</sup> to exempt persons 18 or older with a valid motorcycle license from wearing protective headgear while riding a motorcycle or motortricycle.

In New York, A6895, introduced January 8<sup>th</sup>, provides that motorcyclists over the age of 21 shall be exempt from the requirement to wear a helmet when operating or riding a motorcycle, while A3004 "requires motorcycle users to wear helmets that meet the federal motor vehicle safety standards and which have been impact-tested by the U.S. department of transportation, the commissioner of motor vehicles or by an independent laboratory approved by the commissioner of motor vehicles."

Meanwhile, companion bills A214/S320 authorizes the commissioner of transportation to conduct a comprehensive study of the efficacy of motorcycle helmets.

Vermont's legislature is considering S203, an act relating to motorcycle helmets, which "proposes to amend the motorcycle helmet law to only apply to motorcycle operators and riders under 21 years of age and creates an exemption from the motorcycle helmet requirement for those operators and riders who are participating in a parade."

The number of registered motorcycles in the U.S. is near historic highs, with more than 8.4 million registered motorcycles as of 2014, according to the U.S. DOT's Bureau of Transportation Statistics. This is up from 4.3 million in 2000, nearly doubling over the past two decades.

NEW DRIVER ACCOUNTABILITY LAW IN OREGON: Effective January 1, 2020, it is now a CRIME for a (grossly) negligent driver to

**Continued on Next Page**

## Continued from page 13

injure a motorcyclist or their passenger. It also requires careless drivers who injure riders or passengers to attend safety school and perform 100-200 hours of community service including driver training and traffic safety.

"I am proud to have written this bill and presented testimony to the Oregon Legislature," says Oregon Aid to Injured Motorcyclists (AIM) attorney Christopher A. Slater, who also serves as legal advisor to the Oregon Confederation of Clubs (COC) and ABATE of Oregon. "Hopefully this new law will help drivers to look for motorcycles and reduce rider injuries."

**WASHINGTON STATE ENDEAVORS TO MAKE ROADS SAFER:** The state of Washington passed some important motorcycle-related legislation that went into effect as of January 1, 2020 in an effort to increase motorcycle safety by making motorcycle endorsement testing more rigorous, and also increased penalties if you're caught riding without a license.

Previously, the cost of getting caught without a motorcycle license was lower than the cost of actually taking motorcycle training classes, but as of 2020, it'll now cost you less to obtain the proper training than it will to get caught riding without a license. The full penalty for riding without a license will now cost \$386, with all fees considered.

Part of this has to do with Washington state's Target Zero highway safety plan, which aims to get serious injuries and fatalities on state roadways down to zero by 2030. An ambitious plan, to be sure, but one key point regarding motorcyclists is the state's intention to make the permitting and endorsement process for motorcyclists be a more meaningful evaluation of their skills and also making endorsement testing more difficult for riders seeking to get a license.

**MOTORCYCLE MARKET TRENDS:** As another year comes to a close, it is a great time to reflect on what has been generally a successful year for the Powersports industry, according to Jeremy Jensen, president of the Motorsports Group at Wells Fargo CDF, who reports some consistency from previous

years, unexpected strengths, and a few areas of opportunity for next year:

**UTVs:** Retail of side-by-sides saw a nice rebound in the second half of the year, some of which was weather driven, and the segment continues to grow in the mid-single digits per year.

**ATVs:** Sales of ATVs have been consistently solid throughout the year, and expected to be up by low single digits by the end of 2019, with much of the growth coming in the 400-600cc sector. Given typical cannibalization of ATV by the UTV sector, this is a promising result year over year.

**Motorcycles:** Overall, motorcycle retail sales are very similar with 2018 levels, however, different product groups are driving strength and weakness. Sport bikes, which was a successful sector last year (specifically <500cc), has fallen back. Off-road bikes, however, will be up by double digits percentage with dual sport models also posting growth this year. Heavyweight motorcycles remain a key industry challenge as the industry continues to adjust to the preferences of the millennial generation.

Product innovation continues to be strong with technical advancements, new models, and improved performance and comfort. Whether it's being able to connect your phone, a more advanced GPS system, or an improved suspension, vendors are leveraging technology and looking for ways to enhance the rider experience.

From a dealer standpoint, a great area of opportunity is continuing to focus on building the local rider community. Organized events, let people feel and experience the products, introduce diversified groups of people to powersports, and continue to leverage social media as a way to reach new audiences.

Manufacturers have their own unique approach. They're shifting to smaller displacement vehicles at lower price points and an in-

creased focus on bringing new technological elements to the vehicles. This allows riders of all backgrounds and experience levels to have access to the industry and feel connected to the broader community. "In the end," Jensen advises, "we're trying to encourage a lifestyle, not just a product."

**HONDA PATENTS VERTICAL AIRBAG FOR MOTORCYCLES:** The idea of fitting an airbag to the front of a motorcycle has been around for almost as long as the airbag itself, and Honda pioneered the technology on its Gold Wing over a decade ago, but for the system they recently patented, the airbag launches vertically in front of the rider instead of mounting atop the center console.

The main problem for motorcycle designers wanting to incorporate one on a bike is packaging. While cars have plenty of space within the dashboard, side pillars and seats to stash the airbag and its inflation hardware, motorcycles are almost always devoid of such space. The new system that Honda has just registered shows a small, airbag system that is compact enough that it can be mounted within the front-end bodywork of a small motorcycle or even a scooter.

**QUOTABLE QUOTE:** "History doesn't repeat itself, but it often rhymes." ~ Samuel Clemens (a.k.a. Mark Twain) 1835-1910, American writer, humorist



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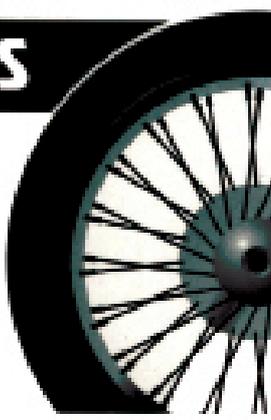
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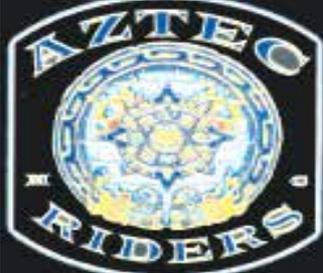
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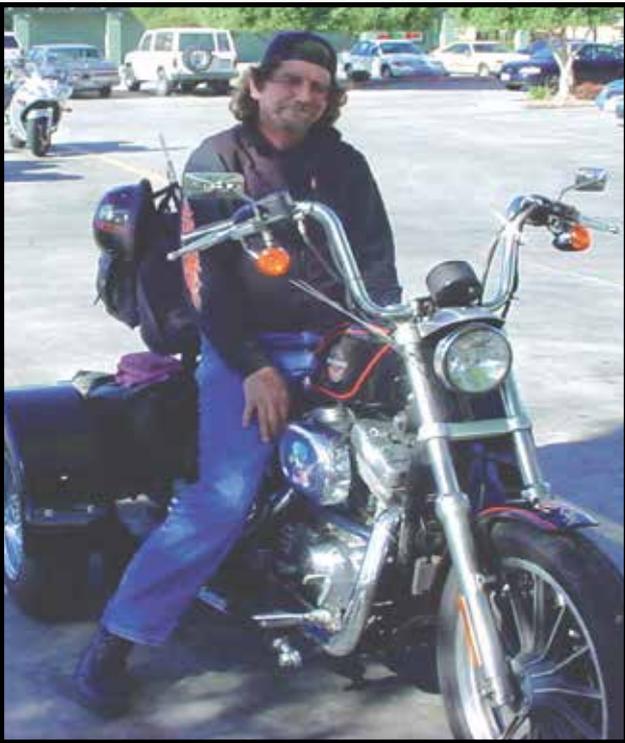
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## Sporty's Rides



### Sporty's Rides

by Sporty Milligan

Well another chapter in the misadventures of me, Sporty Milligan. The travel log of what happens to a guy who enjoys riding HD Sportsters. So here goes.

I begin this month's trek by saying things are getting kinda expensive when your retirement funds don't cover all the stuff you want to do out there in riding land.

As you know Local 1 is getting ready for its 33<sup>rd</sup> annual Polar Bear run. In order to make a successful run there is lots of planning to do. We'll see about how that materializes as I have to create a route that goes from a starting point to ending point. The route has to be challenging, but not dangerous for the average rider's skills. Fair enough, Sporty. So is the route challenging enough? Well that remains to be seen as I had to do the route several times in order to get the bugs out of it. Consideration for road closures comes to mind. So I have to do a final route check in order to double check the left and right turns and worded directions to make sure they are right before we spend money printing the route instruction sheets. So at this point it remains to be seen if the route will be successful. More on that next month.

Another thing about doing a run is getting raffle prizes. I have been collecting raffle prizes from Local 1's business members. I go to the dealerships and ask them to donate prizes for our cause. I have doing this for a long time and am fairly sure we will be ok on this score. A successful run needs volunteers and hopefully at Local 1's monthly meeting that will be accomplished.

It's important to get folks to come to your run so you have to visit places and carry run cards that tell people when and where the event is. If you have all your ducks in a row, you can have a successful run. More on that issue next month.

I only did a couple rides this month. I went to the Top Rocker breakfast meeting. I finally joined the Top Rocker HOG Chapter at their monthly breakfast meeting. Don't know how that will pan out. We shall see. After the meeting, I went to the dealership and later that day went to Bartels to start the process of getting raffle prizes and that made my day go ok. When you have a positive attitude, it is good toward getting things accomplished.

Sunday was the Shaggers meeting in Lancaster at their club house. My 2002 1200L Sportster was running rough. I probably shouldn't have ridden it because I destroyed the clutch. However the meeting went well and several of the guys are planning on doing the Polar Bear run. I nursed the bike home.

I had an idea that I really messed up my bike and the following Tuesday I confirmed that at Born Free Cycles when I picked my other bike. My best one, wife Renee, answered the phone by saying, "So the repairs are going to cost us \$5,000 right?" No only \$1,357 or so for a complete clutch rebuild. It should be ready in a week or so as of this writing.

Final item for this month's column: Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, Santa Clarita HD offered demo rides. I was scheduled to ride

a Sportster 48, but the dude in the previous group wrecked it - hit a median barrier and broke the front wheel. So I rode a 1200 Iron with antilock brakes and a digital tac. Bike was nice, but I would need to set it up with my body forward controls etc. I ate from the burger truck that was there and spent time with Robert Patrick, the owner. He's a fun guy and donated a hat for a raffle prize - thanks!

That's it for this month's Sporty's Rides column. Be safe and attend ABATE events!

**Scribe Sporty**

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# California Attorney General to Investigate LAPD Gang-Framing Scandal

LA Times FEB. 10, 2020

By [LEILA MILLER](#), [ANITA CHABRIA](#)

The California Department of Justice announced Monday it will conduct its own investigation of the [Los Angeles Police Department's use of a statewide database of alleged gang members](#) after allegations that officers falsified records to enter people in it.

California Atty. Gen. Xavier Becerra said his office has been in touch with the LAPD regarding its use of CalGang, an online index containing detailed information about more than 88,000 Californians suspected of being involved in street crime, and will independently audit some records entered by the LAPD, review the department's internal controls and policies, and observe its retraining sessions for personnel on the use of the database.

Becerra said that someone's erroneous placement in the database could lead to them being subjected to unwarranted scrutiny by law enforcement agencies.

"Right now, the [LAPD's inputs are under the microscope](#)," said Becerra.

The LAPD previously announced it was [investigating up to 20 officers](#) in its inquiry of officers that allegedly fabricated information from field interviews to enter people into CalGang. Monday, LAPD chief spokesman Josh Rubenstein said 19 officers are currently under scrutiny. Along with the investigation, LAPD has announced reforms for using the database, including greater internal oversight. In a statement, LAPD Chief Michel Moore said that the gang database is a crucial tool to solve violent crime and that it would fully cooperate with the state attorney general's office.

"We are committed to holding anyone who falsified information accountable," he said.

The state action comes amid ongoing controversy over CalGang.

Beginning in 2018, the California Legislature gave oversight of CalGang to the attorney general after a scathing audit found the database lacked meaningful state oversight and contained questionable records — including children who were entered when they were as young as 1. Becerra at the time froze additions to the database while it was reviewed, ultimately purging thousands of records. But thousands more have since been added.

Becerra's office was also tasked with crafting statewide regulations for the use of CalGang. Those regulations have been the subject of intense debate between law enforcement and community activists, who have said CalGang lacks transparency. Though the rules were slated for completion by Jan. 1, their finalization has been pushed until at least the summer.

At issue is [how much and what kind of evidence](#) should be required before someone is added to the database. Currently, law enforcement add someone based on information such as the clothing a person is wearing, the neighborhood where the police encounter occurred and identification as gang members by "reliable" sources.

The public has no access to CalGang, though, and some community activists say those criteria are too loose and subject to abuse — including racial profiling. The database is comprised predominately of black and Latino men.

In a proposal last summer, Becerra suggested cutting back on the reasons a person could be added to CalGang. In December, he reversed on tightening regulations after objections from law enforcement members, who argued their expertise in gang identification should be taken into account, and that such discretion was necessary because gangs have become more adept at evading scrutiny.

Becerra said Monday that his office was continuing to work on the regulations and would accept public comment on the latest version.

The regulations, he said, "should help us build a system that is workable, accountable and helps us get it right."

This is the first time since taking oversight of CalGang that the attorney general has investigated an agency over its use, Becerra said. He cited the lack of finished regulations as one bar for implementing full oversight.

"Until our regulations are actually implemented, we don't have the infrastructure we will need to have in order to conduct these investigations," Becerra said.

The LAPD [places more people on CalGang than any other law enforcement agency in the state](#). From Nov. 1, 2017, to Oct. 31, 2018, the period covered by a 2018 report by the attorney general's office, it was responsible for 20,583 records — more than 20% of the records in the database.

The current scandal came to light after a Van Nuys mother received a letter early last year from the LAPD saying her son was identified as a gang member during an interview with officers. She believed her son was misidentified and reported it to a supervisor at a nearby police station. Officials then reviewed body-worn camera video and other information, and they found inaccuracies they attributed to the officer.

Moore has said the investigation into the alleged falsifications initially focused on three officers and expanded to others who worked with the original three, and then on to others associated with those officers. He has recommended the criminal prosecution and firing of one officer and has referred that person's case to the Board of Rights, an internal disciplinary appeal panel. Another officer, Metro Officer Braxton Shaw, is already the subject of a review by the Los Angeles County district attorney's office.

The LAPD's data-driven culture has also come under scrutiny by critics who suggest that officers filled in the cards to artificially boost their statistics. The Times obtained what is known as a platoon recap sheet for the Metro Division, which shows that officers were measured daily in 16 categories such as their confiscation of guns, citations and arrests. Field interviews of gang members were among the categories used to measure productivity.

Department officials have said there are no incentives for officers to complete more field interview cards.

"There's no target [number]," said LAPD Assistant Chief Horace Frank. "There's no incentive for anyone to breach the law."

The scandal already led the department to make changes to how it handles CalGang. Now, body camera video is reviewed and compared with officers' reports of their field interviews before anyone is added to the database. A more robust appeals process that allows people to be removed from gang databases is also being instituted with multiple layers of oversight.

Frank has said that the department has begun training its officers to be much more specific when identifying on a field interview card the evidence that may allow someone to be added to the database. An officer will have to explain, for example, why a particular area should be deemed a gang location if that is a reason for inclusion.

"We're requiring our personnel be much more specific in their articulation of why some of these criteria have been met," he said.

Becerra said that his investigation will also include reviewing of body-worn camera video and other recordings, and will expand to records entered across the department, not just in the Metro Division.

Becerra said the recently passed reform legislation on CalGang gives his office the authority to suspend or revoke a law enforcement department's use of the database if an investigation finds misconduct. Becerra said he could not comment on how many people have been entered erroneously into the database because the investigation was just beginning. He also could not answer questions about how far back his investigation would extend.

"Our role is to make sure that good, accurate information is being entered into the database so that all the agencies that use CalGang ... know that the system has integrity," Becerra said. "The CalGang database is only as good as the information that is put in it."



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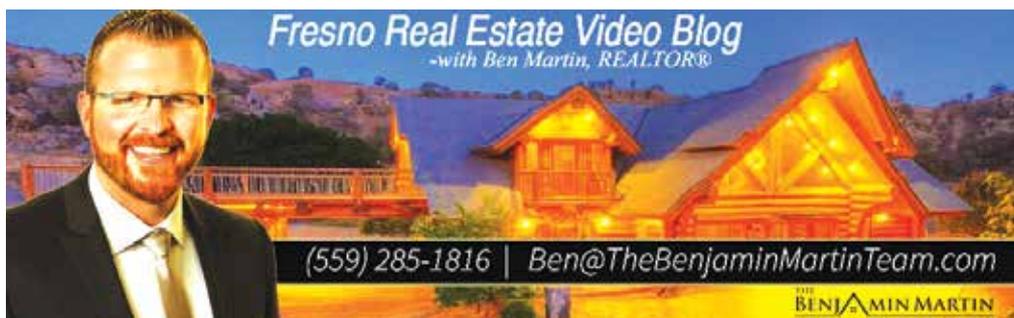
M/M



Check us out...  
[www.bikersforchrist.org](http://www.bikersforchrist.org)  
[www.rushingwindministries.org](http://www.rushingwindministries.org)  
Phone: (760) 940-0257

### Attention ABATE of CA Membership!

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

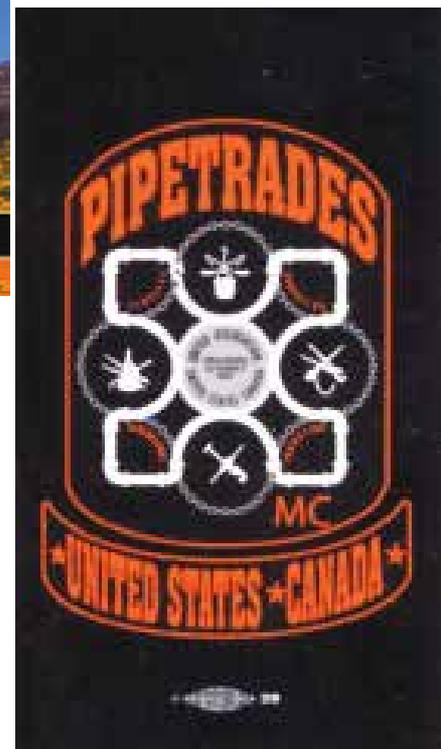


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### A Union of Motorcyclists

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name #2: \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Visa / MC #: \_\_\_\_\_ CVC# \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 I would like to donate \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the General Fund / PAC Fund / Lobbyist Fund

Mail To: ABATE of California 20355 Murieta St Apple Valley CA 92307-9223  
 Tel (760) 956-1669 • Fax (760) 956-6519 - Questions? Contact [nick@abate.org](mailto:nick@abate.org) or [dave@abate.org](mailto:dave@abate.org)

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

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

## Simi Valley - Local #02

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

jimkibbe53@gmail.com

## Thousand Oaks/Ventura Local#03/13

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sal De Renzi 3rd Sun.- 10:00 AM  
1324 Callen St Judy's Wild  
Vacaville CA 95688 Wrangler Saloon  
707/483-7445 4826 Midway Rd.  
Vacaville CA 95688

## Pomona Valley - Local #19 Reg#8

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



## ABATE MEETINGS

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

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

### San Bernardino - Local#23

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

### Fresno - Local#24

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

### Sacramento - Local#25

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

### Riverside - Local#27

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

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

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

### Bakersfield - Local#40

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

### High Desert Local 44/47

Dave Hastings 2nd Sat. 9:30 am  
760-947-4700 Eagles Order #4181  
davesautorepair@aol.com 16195 Main St  
Hesperia 92345

WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER



## 2019 Regional Representatives

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

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

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

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

