

The Bailing Wire

Newsletter for Motorcyclists

Volume XXXI

ISSUE VI

JUNE 2012

A Union of Motorcyclists
Dedicated to Freedom of the Road

American Brotherhood Aimed Towards Education



Lobbyist's Legislative Report

by James Lombardo, Lobbyist

AB 1890 by Assemblyman Jose Solorio will be heard in the Senate Transportation & Housing Committee. No date has been set for it, yet.

JUNE 5, 2012 ELECTION Headline — **\$16 Billion State Budget hole again! The June 15th deadline to pass a budget, or Legislators don't get paid, is also fast approaching.**

These problems are part of the big mess swirling in the State Capitol as I write this article. Chaos is a **MILD** word to describe what is taking place in the hallowed halls of the State Capitol. Groups being impacted by Governor Brown's revised budget, released yesterday and based on the April 15th taxes collected, have flocked to the Capitol Building and are swarming the halls with people once again protesting more cuts in their pet programs! Of course, our bills are being affected by this mess — it just spills over onto everything.

YES, I keep hearing RUMORS IN THE CAPITOL ABOUT A BILL TO BAN LANE SHARING. Nothing has been amended into a bill, yet. It can, however, happen up until they adjourn on August 31st.

I AM PUSHING our bills. **AB 1535**, by Assemblywoman Halderman that calls for the re-installation of *Motorcycles OK* signs on freeways, is stuck in the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file because of inflated, dummied up cost estimates.

AB 1047 by Assembly Transportation Committee Vice Chairman, Kevin Jeffries, to stop motorcycle only checkpoints is set for June 12th (tentatively) in the Senate Transportation & Housing Committee. **KEEP those letters coming in on both bills.**



The elections are *so important* this year. I have personally met with over 20 candidates who want ABATE's endorsement. I have already heard from **MANY** legislators and candidates how overwhelmed they are that biker citizens are working their campaigns *for free*. **THEY ARE SPREADING THE WORD FOR US!** If you haven't volunteered to work for some candidate yet, call Carol at the state office and we will find an important race for you to work in. As the Nike ad says, *Just Do It!*

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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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Executive Director's Report

by Greg Covell, Executive Director

Welcome all new and returning members! Our Southern Regional Rally is now over. How impressive it was to see many of our Locals represented at this event. The opportunity to meet with people from all over our great state and discuss ABATE in a casual setting was indeed invigorating, educational, and inspiring.

Elections and candidate support: Information on candidates is being processed now and should be available soon. Look to see who ABATE suggests and offer them help with phone calls, putting up signs, and/or canvassing. These are the candidates who will support us so we should support them where we can.

June 5 is nearly here - Get Out and Vote! All too often an election is won or lost by a very small percentage of votes from a very small percentage of those who could actually vote

One of ABATE's flyers caught the attention of the California Department of Justice (DOJ). The main item that caught the attention of the DOJ was the advertising of a poker run with a money payout for a high and low hand. And the second item was the "proceeds would benefit ABATE". ABATE being a 501 C (not-for-profit) the DOJ was concerned that a benefit was being held by ABATE and ABATE could be "cheated out of its' money". Promoters of fund-raisers must be registered, and the "charity" beneficiary must be named; "often-times big promoters put on fund-raisers and never turn money over to the charity", so they were looking out for ABATE. "And if the event is not registered - ABATE would have no



legal recourse to get the money." By the way, charities are "supposed" to receive 90% of the profits".

Poker runs for money and 50/50's are NOT LEGAL and SHOULD NOT BE on the flyers, nor conducted at anyone's event. Failure to comply has very serious consequences. It jeopardizes ABATE as an organization, - ABATE could lose its 501 C status, and the Local putting on the event could lose any monies the DOJ determines you collected, and of course federal fines and the pending expensive litigation. This won't stop us from having runs; we will just have to adjust our wording and activities.

It has come to my attention that Local 00 is not truly a Local that pays fees to support ABATE. It is meant to be a holding point for members who have lost their Local. It is not meant to be a permanent home and those in it need to find a Local, as soon as they can, in their area, to join and become active, supportive members of an active Local in ABATE of California.

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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 through 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.

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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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.
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 1/2 Page (10"W x 5"H) \$175.00 /Mo.
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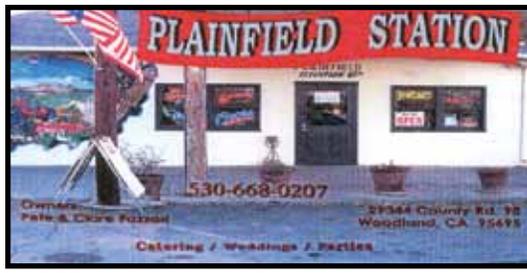
If you have any photos of ABATE motorcycle events please send them to us. They will be returned if you ask. Please include name of event, date, sponsor, etc. Must be received by the 10th of the month. You can email pictures in .jpg file to: bailing.wire@abate.org

Jim from page 1

We will be sending out a list of updated races to work in to all Local presidents and PAC Reps. *Stay tuned; Stay Involved* — we are near the finish line for the June 5th Primary Election, then a short break and once again to November 6th for the General Election.

Thanks again to all those who are working in Campaigns. It helps us all to pass good bills and defeat bad ones in Sacramento.

Thanks to all of the individuals and Locals who send contributions to the ABATE Lobbyist Fund.



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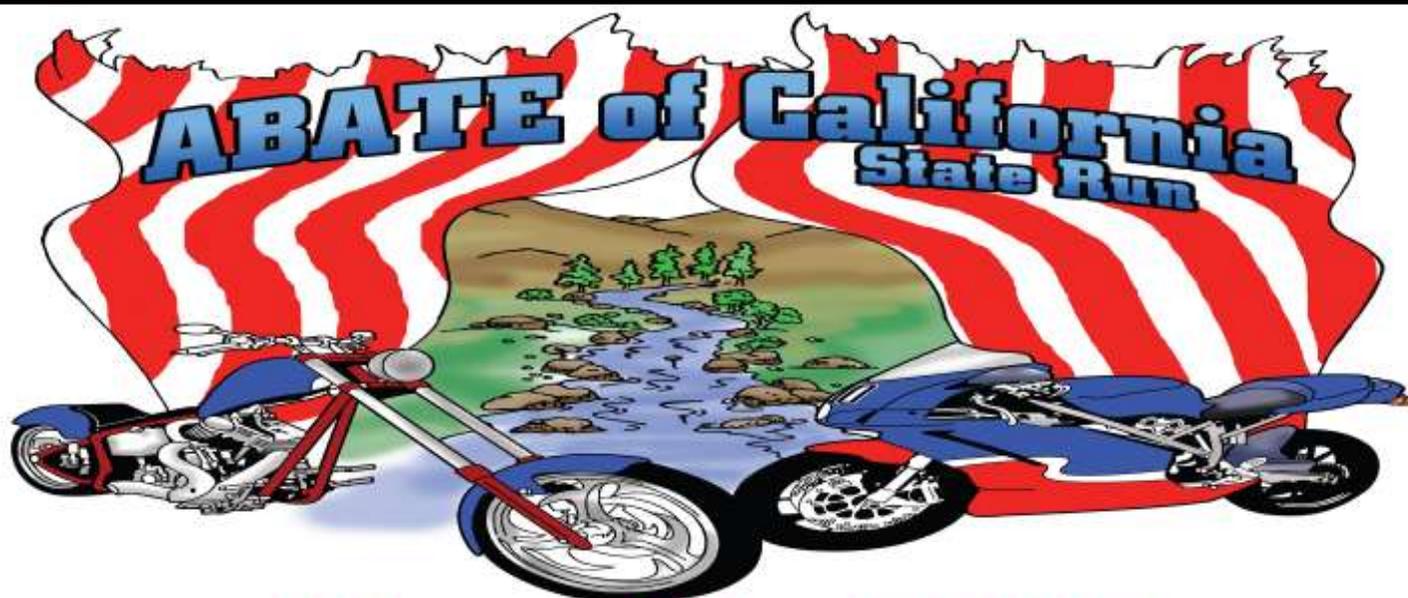
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Sign-In Opens: Pre-Reg. Entries 10:00 a.m. Friday, Non-Pre-Reg. 12:00 Noon Friday

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EVENT INFO: ABATE State Office 760-956-1669, Tina.sanders12@yahoo.com

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RV's _____ Single _____ Couple _____ Teens _____ Kids _____

Entry Fees Pre-Reg. Day of Event Pre-Reg. Deadline **8/15/2012**

\$30.00 Single \$35.00 RV's Must Pre-Reg. Adt'l \$10.00 Fee

\$40.00 Couple \$45.00 1st come 1st serve

Kids 13-17 - \$10.00, 12 & Under \$5.00 No Run Pin

Children 17 & Under Must be Accompanied by Adult

Pre-Order White Run Shirts (Design on Flyer) Deadline 8/15/2012

Limited Quantity & Style T-shirts on Site. Please Circle

Add \$10.00 ea. _____ Mens Short Sleeve S M L XL XXL or Tank S M L XL XXL.

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LOCAL NEWS

Local #01 Los Angeles



Hi all! Local 1 played hooky this month so its' president, Sporty, could be at the Southern Regional Rally. Actually the meeting spot were we have the Local 1 meetings did their Mother's Day breakfast.

So our regularly scheduled meeting will be the third Sunday in June at the Elks Lodge in Tujunga. Meeting starts at 9 am. Hope to see you there. Regards, Sporty Milligan

Local #02 Simi Valley



Hi All! Local 2 would like to thank all of our Volunteer Cooks (year round) and tonight's volunteer cooks were Denny and Jim! Another great \$5.00 meal, served with all the good fixin's. We start serving at 6:45 pm and our meeting starts at 7:30 pm. We have our meeting on the 2nd Tuesday every month at VFW Post 10049, 4242 East Los Angeles Ave in Simi Valley. Thanks to our gracious host!

After our Pledge of Allegiance Pres Ray got us going; he talked about Local 2's involvement with the city of Simi Valley and their proclamation that May is Motorcycle Awareness Month! This is a great achievement for ABATE because they, in their proclamation address, recognized ABATE as an organization that promotes all that we do. Right On!

VP Scott talked about the DOJ. I can't wait till I get real old and play Bingo for some real money! Stephanie filled in for Jane and read the minutes from the last meeting and did the treasury report. Safety man Norm talked about the haphazards of braking and how to practice braking etc. Guy our Ride Guy talked about SBR (Sweaty Buns Run) promotional promotions this year, and I thought he

did a great job in promoting it! Pat our membership person talked about our membership re-ups and it was encouraging.

We had several guests and guest speakers tonight, Chuck Pedersen from Local 3 talked about getting the Locals together and hooking up! Glenn Cheslock from Local 1 talked about politics and membership burnout.

Our super duper guest speaker was Scott Wilk, running for 38th district State Assembly seat. He talked about his career and what he plans on doing, if elected. It's a good thing for ABATE to get acquainted with politicians.

After all was said and done we had our raffle drawings with the good donated stuff going to lucky ticket holders; Pattibock won the membership drawing! The meeting went over but it was worth it.

Now that it's definitely riding season, make sure your bike is ready for one great summer of riding! Your brakes and tires should be at the top of the list for real safety riding, as well as completely going thru your whole bike, chrome accessories are expensive! Practice braking! Aggressive braking is better than locking your rear wheel and you will stop sooner!

I was over-hearing a conversation from a guest and he said he was impressed with our meeting; this made me think about all of us Volunteers, making it happen for ABATE. All I can say is Thank You to all who do this month after month! Ride with Respect if you want Respect! PTL norm e. new

Local #08 Orange County



Kick stands up at 8 am and I was on my way to the beautiful Mecca of Victorville, collecting riders along the way. The weather was beautiful and the roads were clear. All-in-all the ride to Shady Oasis Kampground was smooth and wonderful. By the time all the Local 8 folks had gathered we were just over a dozen strong scattered in a few different camp sites.

Shady Oasis welcomed us again this year with open arms, the pool was sparkly clean and the showers ran warm, the store was well stocked and the folks that run the campground were more than accommodating. We are grateful for the services provided and to the volunteers for the countless hours they have provided to bring us such a great

time every year. Your hard work has not gone unnoticed!!

The weekend kept us busy with vendors, raffles, and bike games and of course a band at night to dance to. Since we were camped next to the horse shoe pit we were privy to the horse shoe toss. A good time was had by all, with the clinking and clanking of horse shoes. There was much laughter and good times from each and every camp site we passed by and stopped to visit. And at night there was always the comforting sound and rumble of motorcycles coming and going.

With the dawning of Mother's Day the sounds turned to the breaking of campsites and the echoes of mothers through out Shady Oasis grateful for an amazing weekend with their ABATE family and friends.

Again our many thanks go out to all the folks that have dedicated many long hours to make this event such a success every year we are most grateful for your hard work, each and every year. Job well done!

Local 8 met May 14 with 11 attendees to discuss events on the horizon. Discussions of bills and upcoming opportunities to volunteer took place. We also discussed when we might, as a group, have a potluck. Pushing aside June as it seems to be too busy for our members, leaving July to be considered.

When all was said and done a Membership drawing took place and Eloise Black's name was drawn and since she was not present the entire \$13 dollars will roll over till next month.

Keeping the Rubber side down, Hawgete

Local #11 North San Diego



This month the Local 11 meeting fell on the weekend of the Southern Regional Rally in Victorville. We had about 15 or so members at the rally. It was good to see some of the members I know and a few I didn't. The weather was really warm and it was a great ride up and back.

We did not have a Local 'meeting' per se, but there was a lot of discussion over the course of the weekend.

What would a rally be without a little excitement? As the old saying goes "What happens at the rally, stays at the rally".

It was great to see Jimmy back in the fold. He says all is going well. Talk to you next month, Gary

LOCAL NEWS

Local #19 Pomona Valley

I just got back from the Southern Regional Rally and it was a lot of fun. The campground was nice and the weather cooperated all three days. It got a little warm but there was a nice breeze that kept it from getting too hot. The band on Friday night was The Pack and they were good. They had a variety of music they played for us. Saturday was another great day with rides, games, food and good company. If you haven't been to one of these events, you need to go. It's set up to be a weekend camping trip. Some folks like to "camp" at one of the hotels in Victorville. Whatever your choice, you will have fun if you go.

On another note, I would like to ask a question. Hey, Local 19, where is everyone? Attendance has dropped off at the monthly meetings, very few Local 19'ers showed up at the Southern Regional Rally and we are having trouble filling Primary Officer positions within our group. Are you losing interest or is your life just too full at this time? I know it is still early in the year but, before you know it, 2012 will be gone and we will need people for some of those slots if Local 19 is going to survive. Year after year the same few people are keeping Local 19 alive and most of them will not be able to continue for much longer. I want to ask each of you members to give some thought to the future of Local 19. Your help will be needed if we are going to survive.

Preparations are being made for the Toy Run again this year. We partner with the Pomona Valley HOG group to put on this event. All the toys go to Santa Claus Inc. to provide Christmas for underprivileged children. Anyone interested in this worthy effort is welcome to join us. There are still committees that need people to help.

I hope to see you at our next meeting. Meetings are still being held on the fourth Wednesday of each month at the Round Table Pizza on 4th and Mountain (Southeast corner) with a 7:00 pm start time. Come out and join us!

I look forward to seeing you out there on the road. In the mean time, keep the shiny side UP! Ed

Local #20 Orange County



The regular meeting of Local 20 was called to order at 7:00 pm in Costa Mesa, CA by Gill. 33 members and three guests attended. Welcome to

new member David Gallegos. After the Pledge of Allegiance, the meeting was opened with a prayer from Pastor Tom Longbrake.

There are three bills that are still in the works, going forward. The Transponder Bill, the Motorcycle Only Check points and adding "Motorcycles OK" signs to the freeway.

Spike told us that he and Gill met with Tom Daly this past week. He is currently the Clerk Recorder for the County of Orange. Before then, he was the Mayor of Anaheim from 1992 to 2002. Tom Daly is currently running for the position of Assembly member for the 69th District. He is an advocate for cutting wasteful spending and he is against the misuse of taxes. He was very interested in what both Spike and Gill had to say and impressed with their knowledge. We have been encouraged to vote for Tom Daly, if we live in his district.

Spike thanked everyone for the turnout for Byron Madwell's Blood drive; over 20 people donated blood and more gave DNA swabs for Bone Marrow registration.

Gill explained that the DOJ is now cracking down on Poker runs with money pay-outs and 50/50 on the grounds that they are illegal. The prizes and money can be confiscated.

More members are needed in ABATE and if anyone knows someone that is a HOG member or a member of a sport bike club, they are encouraged to get them in contact with Gill so that he can talk with them regarding ABATE.

The dollar draw tonight totaled \$106.00 and Greg Ohlaver's name was drawn, he was present and won the money. Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm. The next monthly meeting will be at 7:00 pm on June 12 in Costa Mesa. ~Leenie~

Local #21 Antelope Valley



We changed our meeting to 2nd Thursday of the month. Three people showed up! Here's a second pitch-in to make up for last month. Hope we all had good times at the Southern Regional Rally. Love, Daryl

Local #24 Fresno

With Ed still getting well from his recent body work, Scott opened the meeting with the Pledge to the Flag. There were about 32 members present.

MAJOR ANNOUNCEMENT! CEDAR LANES IS CLOSING! OUR NEXT MEET-

ING WILL BE AT YOSEMITE FALLS CAFE, SHAW & BLACKSTONE AREA.

In general the AMMO run did OK. The weather for several days before did not help, even though the weekend was clear, but cool. We did make money and gained several new members. In fact one of the members that joined that day won the ABATE Donation Drawing.

Treasury report is positive, 55 paid at the start of the AMMO Run and several more joined along the way. We voted to send the regular monthly amount to State ABATE.

We had a good discussion on safety with a member telling about his recent accident. It really showed how a great riding experience can turn ugly in a very few seconds.

Chuck went over the rides and happenings. The Mountain House Run is on Saturday, May 19, with the Flat Track Museum the next day. Both are excellent events. Phil's membership report shows 103 members and 14 business members.

Our Donation Drawing included some sweet chocolate prizes and \$50.00 won by Jim. The membership drawing of \$100.00 was won by Robert Long; unfortunately he was not at the meeting.

Ray is still recovering from his triple bypass; please keep him in your prayers.

REMEMBER, NEXT MONTH WE MEET AT YOSEMITE FALLS CAFE. Bruce.

Local #27 Riverside



The ABATE Southern Regional Rally held on May 11th - 13th was a great fun event. Met lots of people, watched the games, the weather was perfect (not too hot) and the band was fantastic. I offer many thanks to the Southern Regional Rally Committee for their hard work.

May is a very busy month with many activities and June looks to be just as busy. Come to the events, even for just a short while, and meet people you haven't seen lately.

June 5th is Election Day - make sure you vote. Many elections are determined by only a small percentage of the people who can vote because so many don't bother to vote at all.

One of ABATE's flyers caught the attention of the California Department of Justice (DOJ). They contacted the business that was going to be used for the Local's sign-in and then was directed to the person who was hosting the event, and in turn a couple of other people were informed and finally came to the attention of the ABATE State office.

The main item that caught the attention of the DOJ was the advertising of a Poker run with

LOCAL NEWS

a money payout for a high and low hand. And the second item was the "proceeds would benefit ABATE".

Poker runs for money and 50/50s are NOT LEGAL and SHOULD NOT BE on the flyers, nor conducted at anyone's event. Failure to comply has very serious consequences. It jeopardizes ABATE as an organization, - ABATE could lose its 501 C status, and the Local putting on the event could lose any monies the DOJ determines you collected, and of course federal fines and the pending expensive litigation. This won't stop us from having runs; we will just have to adjust our wording and activities.

Local 23's run is on May 19, Local 27 is assisting with the Riverside Chili Cook-off / Car & Bike Show on May 26, and Local 27 will have a booth at West Coast Thunder (Soboba location) on May 28. Hope you made it to all of them.

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



As you know we did not have a meeting in May because the Southern Regional Rally was on the same weekend. Many of our Local 44 members attended the Rally and as usual we had a great potluck dinner Saturday evening. Nobody



in Local 44 ever leaves hungry when our "motor home queens" set the table. The Rally had great bands on Friday and Saturday nights and you had to pick and choose events to partake in because so many things were happening at once. As usual, we stayed up too late and the sun came up too early, making for an extremely short weekend. Good food and good times, what more can I say? If you missed out make plans now to attend the State Run in Kernville come September and we will do it all over again!

Remember our annual **Local 44 run** will be on **Saturday, June 2nd**. Sign in begins at Victorville Harley Davidson between 9 & 11 am with a great ride and party ending at the VFW at 10184 Hesperia Rd in Hesperia. Come on out, bring your friends, and help us celebrate another great day! For additional info contact Bob @ (909) 772-2451.

New time, new place, don't miss it! Local 44's regularly scheduled meeting on Saturday, June 9th, will be at the **Victor Valley Moose Lodge, 10230 "E" Ave in Hesperia at 9:30 am**. Get there a few minutes early, have breakfast and catch up with old friends in our new, larger meeting location. Stop by, check it out, and don't forget to bring your friends for our ride after the meeting!

"This ride we call life goes by too quickly, hang on tight and always remember it's just miles and smiles!" Dave.H.

Local #52 Grass Valley



Hi Folks! Man, it looks like summer is here! Not that we suffered much of a winter, but I'm stoked! Lots of events and some great riding.

During last month's meeting we held a special election of sorts. President Pam had to resign

due to work commitments and Steve Shoemaker fledged back up to hold the slot. Since he is relocating in the near future (possibly this summer) we needed to get the President and VP slots filled. Yours truly, disregarding the old Navy rule "Never Again Volunteer Yourself", accepted the nomination. For clarification, that was an old joke in the Navy and should never be applied to ABATE or any other motorcycle rights organization. I digress. Former pres Don Dickerman stepped up for VP, Mary Kirby was voted in as Secretary, former Pres Shoe is keeping events coordinator, Crystal is Treasurer, and Ed Lawson carries the big stick as Sgt. At Arms. That's the crew in a nutshell.

I "logged in" for the first online Board of Directors meeting and it was pretty cool. There are a few bugs to work out, but what a great idea to take advantage of modern tech and save folks some time and travel bucks, especially during a time of pretty steep gas prices. One of the key points was ABATE's membership with an emphasis on the ratio of registered bikers compared to ABATE members. The push is for membership of more of those registered bikers! Please get the word out. Here's my take: There's a huge population of folks that just can't possibly imagine adding another iron to the fire. That's ok! If you can't dive in and attend meetings and spread yourself even thinner, at least JOIN! It's power in numbers. The volunteers will be there. Let's light the fire!

OK, upcoming events include but are not limited to the Marine M/C run on May 5, Local 52 Swap Meet at Lone Wolf Cycles on May 6, Gold Country Lions Poker run on May 12, the Freedom Rally on May 19, Union Hill Car Show & Motorcycle Fest on May 19, Renegade Classics of Grass Valley Swap Meet on May 26, and the Grandfather's NORCAL M/C Campout on June 1 - 3rd. For details give me a ring or e-mail.

That's it for now. See you on the road! Gunner (530)263-8071 - craig@twogunnerscusion.com



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 Ken & Glenice Hatfield (Local 44);
 Lisa Garber & Bruce Hersch (Local 1);
 Greg & Diane Howe (Local 15);

Larry James (Local 31);
 Lady Kay (Local 25);
 Roger Krost (Local 5);
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 John Loudermilk (Editor, Local 13);
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 Ken & Raeanne Nuttall (Local 27);
 Johnny O'Kane (Local 22);
 Bart & Wendy Perry (Local 6);
 David "Deacon" Phillips, (Local 25 & Founder of ABATE of CA.);

Tim & Yvonne Tennimon (Local 22);

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!!!

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Pac/Lobbyist Report



by Dave Hastings, Treasurer

I, along with many of you, just returned home after attending our 18th annual Southern Regional Rally. What does this have to do with PAC you ask? Gregg Imus, a candidate for Congressional District 8, asked for some quick "microphone time" to address our attendees and we gladly obliged. Mr. Imus is an ABATE endorsed candidate and avidly supports our issues regarding motorcycle rights in California and, if elected, he will be a staunch supporter of our freedom in Washington D.C. too! Remember the old days when we had numerous candidates at our Rally? The few minutes Mr.

Imus addressed our members brought back many memories of past Rallies and the one on one opportunities our members had to meet and greet our elected officials and their office staff. Hopefully we will have the opportunity to have some of the primary election winners at our State Run in September so you can personally evaluate their position on our causes before the November elections. If they ask, I'm sure we will set aside some time for a short presentation to our members.

Please offer your support, help, and vote to the candidate of your choice in both the June primary and general election in November.

The Regional Rally and the State Run are both homecomings of sorts for our members in the sense that we get to catch up and visit with friends from all over our state and country that we may only see once a year at these specific functions. Please pencil in these two events on your "must do" calendar every year and remember every cent of profit from these two events is returned to "your" ABATE of California!

Donations are still steadily trickling in and I want to say "Thank You" to the individuals and Local's that continue to pay our ABATE bills every month. Hopefully some of the Local runs will occur soon and we will begin to see donations from the proceeds of these events arrive at the State Office. Either way, small or large, every donation helps keep our doors open and our organization active and focused on what we do best, protecting your motorcycle rights.

So, until next month, sign up a new ABATE member, and "THANKS TO ALL THAT DO, AND TO THOSE THAT DON'T PLEASE TRY TO!"

Donations

General, Lobbyist, & PAC funds THANK YOU

"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!!

General Fund:

ABATE Locals: 2, 17, 19, 21, 23, 24, 27, and Rick Mullaly L#60;

Lobbyist Fund: 2, 6, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 24, 27, 40, and Dale Gretzinger L#25;

PAC Fund:

ABATE Locals: 17, 21, 23, 24, 27, and Mario Balderas L#25;

We also received **Extra** donations from Local 17's and Local 27's Events - THANK YOU!!

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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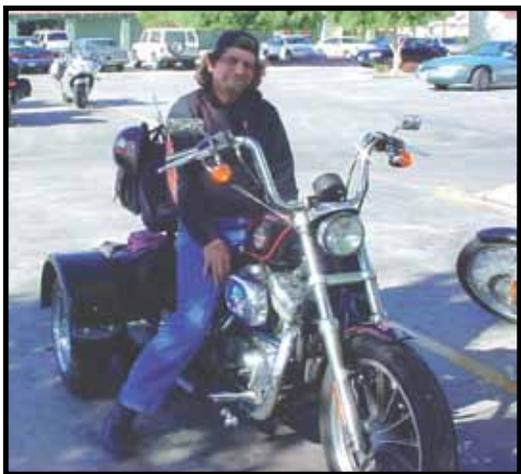
Sporty's Rides

Membership Report

by Lee 'Sporty' Milligan

by Lee 'Sporty' Milligan, Membership Chairman

Boy am I beat! It's been a rough day like the dog whose paws went on a giant piece of sand paper rough. As you know I work for four LA County Agricultural Commissioner's office Weed Abatement. At work we have just started our tractor season. So for the next 5 weeks and some change I will be out in the field showing our tractor vendor what lots he has to disk; then if the parcel lot we're disking needs frontage and side trim, that's my job. Get out my trusty weed eater and whack, whack weeds. Yeaks!



This past weekend we concluded our Southern Regional Rally. Hopefully we made some money that will go to the state office. I am in charge of the raffle booth as the chairman. With that said, I had to bring all the stuff necessary to run the booth. It gets transported in the little truck that could, my '89 Toyota 2 by 4. I went to the rally on Thursday so we could set up the booth. Who is 'we' you might ask. It is none other than Local 1 member Jim Nickla. He rode his bike and followed behind me. We arrived at the camp grounds no worse for wear just after 2 pm.

Carol's daughter, Tina, made me stuff to eat which was chicken and potato salad. It was quite good. When I go on these camp-out type runs, it is sometimes difficult for me because there is not a real good choice of healthy stuff to eat. I sometimes just half to wing it.

So now we're set up and we get to relax and enjoy the evening. Folks I slept in the bed of my

truck with my sleeping bag and flannel blanket used as a pillow. Slept ok except for the fact I kept tossing and turning and Mother Nature determined my early Shakespeare rendition of "to pee or not to pee". That can be said as a standard happening of camping out when we're older.

Ok as far as the rest of the weekend goes Friday we started getting raffle prizes. That was great. My other Local 1 helper Ed 'Iceman' Mathis arrives and was there to assist the booth. I also have Patty C from Local 27. She was the women in the booth and was a big help as well. Filling out the crew was Local 1 member Steve B and pitching in was Lil' David from Local 25 in Sacramento. My personal thanks goes out to all the Locals who brought raffle prizes and to the vendors that pitched in with prizes as well. An abundance of prizes and lots of winners!!

So Friday night I slept in my sleeping bag on one of the tables. Boy was that a little tough. Again toss, turn then "to pee or not to pee" until the bladder can't take it any more.

Saturday was hell day as we did the raffle at 1 pm, 2 pm, 3 pm and 4 pm. We closed the prize raffle at 4:30 pm. All the unclaimed prizes are then taken to the Awards ceremony, where I call out ticket numbers till all the unclaimed prizes were gone.

Same sleeping conditions for Saturday night as Friday night were in order - tossing and turning and the famous "to pee or not to pee" syndrome. Sunday morning we said our good byes after cleaning up the park. Not too much to clean up. I left by 11 am and got home by 1:30 pm.

I am relieved that we had a successful event. It should bring much needed revenue to the state office which helps pay our bills.

It's pay back time, so I will be attending Local 23's run Saturday, May 19. Should be fun. Gotta figure out the campaign schedule as well. Yeah it's campaign season and we need to help the candidates out that are in our corner. Phone calls etc, so get busy!

Ok I've drawn a blank so I will close with my saying "We fight to prevent tooth decay", a.k.a. bad laws against motorcyclists. Regards, Sporty.

Members, that is what makes up the core of ABATE. Hopefully you are getting members and your Local is participating in the membership drive.

Membership funding drive donation tickets: Hopefully you are tantalizing the troops and are ready to begin the donation offering pitch. You can be creative in the way you go about selling these. To those who have already got folks to donate a dollar to get a ticket, "Thanks!" To you other guys, "Get busy!" They need to be sold. The winner will be selected at the July Board of Directors meeting.

Again, if you have membership questions, my door is always open at Sportymilligan@yahoo.com. As always, don't forget to reward your renewals with something like a trinket.

Thanks my friends for listening. Regards, Sporty

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COAST TO COAST BIKER NEWS

Compiled & Edited by Bill Bish

CONGRESS TO CONSIDER MOTORCYCLE-ONLY CHECKPOINTS: In Congressional action on the federal highway bill, a conference committee has been named to consolidate the House-passed bill H.R.4348 and Senate bill S.1813. Language to prohibit federal funding of Motorcycle-Only Roadside Checkpoints is contained in H.R.7, and riders are encouraged to contact their congressional members to urge the conference committee to adopt that wording into the final measure.

LEGAL BATTLE CONTINUES AGAINST MOTORCYCLE ROADBLOCKS: Although the first round in the battle that the law firm of Proner & Proner is waging on behalf of motorcyclists to prevent the New York State Police and other agencies from conducting motorcycle-only checkpoints was won by the police, AIM (Aid to Injured Motorcyclists) Attorney Mitchell Proner believes the judge's ruling overlooked the evidence that motorcyclists were targeted for reasons other than safety.

The challenged checkpoints were set up in proximity to well known motorcycle events. Motorcyclists traveling to those events were forced off the roadway by the police, regardless of any individualized suspicion, and compelled to undergo inspections. Although the inspections were termed "safety" inspections, the majority of tickets issued at the checkpoints were for violations unrelated to safety and the prevention of motorcycle accidents.

The attorneys of Proner & Proner are appealing the District Court decision to the 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals. On March 21, 2012, Mitch Proner filed a lengthy brief arguing that the checkpoints clearly constitute an unreasonable search and seizure under the Fourth Amendment. Oral argument will probably take place this fall with a decision soon thereafter.

Proner has vowed to take the fight all the way to the Supreme Court if necessary. As a rider himself and a trial lawyer, Proner is intent on defending the rights of all riders who are being unfairly targeted. "Our right to be free from unreasonable seizures was a gift from our founding fathers which must be defended regardless of personal cost."

SENATOR KLOBUCHAR HONORED FOR PROTECTING RIDERS' RIGHTS: Minnesota Senator Amy Klobuchar has been awarded the Motorcycle Industry Council Chairman's Award for her invaluable efforts in stopping the ban on youth ATVs and dirt bikes, and for saving the Recreational Trails Program.

For more than two years, the power sports industry was banned from selling youth sized ATVs, motorcycles and snowmobiles, inadvertently



swept up in comprehensive legislation known as the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act - a law intended to protect children from harmful lead content in toys.

"When our industry needed a champion, Senator Klobuchar rose to the occasion, worked with her colleagues, and led the effort to ensure that youth ATVs, motorcycles and snowmobiles were excluded from the law," said MIC chairman Larry Little.

Minnesota manufacturer Polaris hosted the award presentation and the company's president and CEO Bennett J. Morgan also recognized Klobuchar for her work on a critical amendment to the transportation reauthorization legislation known as the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act.

Klobuchar, a first-term democrat elected in 2006, also introduced an amendment that sought to restore the Recreational Trails Program, which benefits outdoor recreation including snowmobiling, ATV riding, off-road motorcycling and other off OHV use.

PENNSYLVANIA PROPOSAL WOULD MANDATE SAFETY COURSES FOR YOUNG RIDERS: A bill aimed at increasing the safety of young motorcycle riders has passed in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives 181-1 and is on its way to the Senate.

The legislation sponsored by Rep. Seth Grove (R-Dover Township) would require anyone seeking a Class M (motorcycle) junior driver's license to complete a free state-approved 15-hour safety course. The course "gives younger riders good fundamentals," Grove said.

Anyone under 18 would have to take the course, which highlights areas such as drinking and driving, defensive driving, and proper motorcycle techniques.

"Experience counts when it comes to motorcycle safety," Grove said. "Operating a motorcycle is very different than driving a car and my goal is to increase the safety and awareness of Pennsylvania's young motorcyclists."

Also under Grove's bill, riders on a class M learner's permit and under the age of 18 must complete 65 hours of practical driving and have held the learner's permit for six months before they can take the junior license exam.

Currently, riders have to pass a test in order to get a riders' permit, which is valid for one year, and then pass a driving test to get a motorcycle license.

A course, called the Pennsylvania Motorcycle Safety Program, is optional but is not required. If a rider takes and passes the course, they automatically receive a class M license.

KANSAS LEGISLATURE STREAMLINES MOTORCYCLE LICENSURE: Kansas Governor Sam Brownback has approved a measure to allow class M motorcycle license applicants who have successfully completed prior motorcycle safety training in accordance with Department of Defense instruction 6055.04 (DoDI 6055.04) to receive their license without completing further written and driving testing. House Bill 2459 was sponsored by Rep. Tom Sloan (R-Lawrence), and was signed into law by Gov. Brownback on March 21, 2012.

PERMANENT MOTORCYCLE WARNING SIGNS INSTALLED ACROSS U.S.: To kick off National Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month, "Watch for Motorcycles" signs are being donated and installed by Allstate Insurance to help prevent motorcycle crashes at intersections.

Currently, there is no standard sign for motorcycle awareness, and Allstate aims to standardize warning signs for motorcycle safety to target dangerous intersections in more than 30 cities across the country this year.

The yellow, diamond-shaped signs were developed by Allstate as part of its "Once is Never Enough" program, an awareness campaign that encourages people to look twice for motorcycles at intersections.

The permanently installed signs caution motorists to "Watch for Motorcycles" at intersections, which is where most multi-vehicle collisions occur for riders. The signs were designed to establish a standardized warning device that can be used by any local or state agency and would be recognizable to riders and motorists across the country.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 46% of all multi-vehicle crashes occur at intersections, oftentimes as a result of a vehicle turning left, impeding the motorcyclist's right-of-way.

Continued on Next Page

Continued from Page 12

DIXIE ABATE PROMOTES SAFETY & AWARENESS: Alabama riders gathered on April 28 for a police-escorted high-profile ride to the state capitol at high noon to promote May as Motorcycle Awareness Month; "This ride should give us publicity to advertise to the driving public that they need to work harder to be aware of us as we share the road with them this season," read an official statement from Dixie ABATE, one of the newest members of the National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM).

"I want to emphasize to drivers of cars and trucks that GOOD DRIVERS JUST DRIVE," Vickie Rumble of Dixie ABATE told WSFA-12 News. "Our goal is to completely eliminate motorcycle crashes, whatever their cause."

After the rally, Harley-Davidson of Montgomery graciously offered riders a complimentary lunch, and the Barber Motorsports Museum in Birmingham offered them discounted admissions.

Dixie ABATE petitioned the NCOM Board of Directors for membership and was approved unanimously during the recent NCOM Convention in Indianapolis over Mothers Day weekend.

NCOM proudly welcomes Dixie ABATE as our newest NCOM Member Group, joining in unity with more than 2,000 other rider groups, clubs and organizations; including Motorcycle Rights Organizations (MROs) from nearly 40 States, and 57 Confederations of Clubs from 36 States and three Canadian Provinces.

WEIRD NEWS: MAN SUES BMW FOR GIVING HIM A HARD TIME: While an extended state of arousal after a motorcycle ride might sound like typical rhetoric of the two wheel crowd, one man is now suing BMW Motorrad USA and the maker of an aftermarket seat after a motorcycle ride left him with an erection that wouldn't go away.

The California man is claiming that a BMW motorcycle and a dealer installed custom seat are responsible for causing priapism - which thanks to TV advertisements for erectile dysfunction we now know is an erection lasting four hours or longer.

According to an excerpt from the complaint; "Plaintiff was riding his 1993 BMW motorcycle equipped with a Corbin-Pacific seat. The ride lasted approximately two hours each way to plaintiff's destination, after which plaintiff developed a severe case of priapism. Plaintiff alleges that this condition was caused by the ridge-like seat on his motorcycle, negligently designed, manufactured and/or installed by defendants."

The suit filed in the Superior Court of San Francisco County seeks damages for lost wages, personal injury, medical expenses, product liability, and negligent infliction of emotional distress.

HELMET LAW VIOLATORS WILL BE SHOT: A remote village in Zamboanga City in the Philippines, which is trying to promote eco-tourism, has banned motorcycle riders from wearing

a full-face helmet and warned that violators will be shot.

A huge tarpaulin sign now hangs on the entrance of Lumayang, and the new village law has attracted strong criticism from various sectors because of its extreme warning. Frederick Atilano, the village chieftain, insists the new law will make their 1,600 residents safe from hired killers, who usually ride tandem on motorcycles and wear full face helmets to conceal their identity.

"This is for the safety of our people against killers. We are banning the use of full face helmets in Lumayang because we wanted to protect the safety of everyone. Motorcycle riders who insist on entering Lumayang with their full face helmet will be shot," he told the Mindanao Examiner, adding that they also put up a checkpoint in the village to ensure the implementation of his order.

Lawyer Aminola Abaton, the regional director of the Land Transportation Office for Western Mindanao, said Chief Atilano's order to ban the use of helmets violates the Republic Act No. 10054, also known as the "Motorcycle Helmet Act" law which was signed in March 2010 and is centered on the very safety of the motorcycle riders and the law must at all times be complied with.

Abaton said according to the helmet law, any person caught not wearing the standard protective motorcycle helmet will be punished with a fine of P1,500 for the first offense; P3,000 for the second offense; P5,000 for the third offense, and P10,000 and confiscation of the driver's license for the fourth and succeeding offenses.

QUOTABLE QUOTE: "Education's purpose is to replace an empty mind with an open one." ~ Malcolm Forbes (1919-1990), millionaire publisher, recipient of NCOM Silver Spoke Award for Commerce in 1988

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Motorcycle Safety Report

by Steve Guderian, Safety Officer

Science, Research & Testing; the Most Effective Ways to Prevent Motorcycle Crashes

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

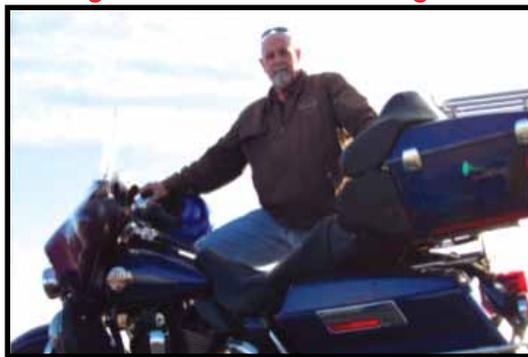
First off let me start out with a big “THANK YOU” to all ABATE members who worked hard to put on what I would consider to be a very successful Southern Regional Rally. I had a great time and a number of very, very good conversations with lots of different members. Yes I do tend to talk, a lot, but for the most part it is about safe riding which shows the passion that I have for this topic. Second, I would like to thank all of the people who helped me out either by taking my survey or riding through my cone pattern so I could time how long it takes to move around a stopped vehicle. I said that I would report on the survey and testing and I will provide some simple information. I am going to continue to do the survey and timing because I need more information in order to develop clear patterns and information. Since I still need information I have to be careful what I report so that I don't influence anybody who might still take the survey and ride in my car maneuver. Rest assured that since the CA ABATE members were a big help to me. My first report, when I get a high enough numbers of riders, will be for the Bailing Wire.

So, here are some partial observations from the testing on the timing to move around the vehicle, please remember there is no right or wrong, this is just raw data that really doesn't mean anything until it is put into a context with something: 1) Riders tested tended to stop less than a car length away from the rear of the “test vehicle.” 2) Riders tested tended to take more than 2 seconds to completely move around the vehicle. 3) Style of motorcycle, i.e. Cruiser, Bagger or Sports Bike had no apparent effects.

As for the survey questions here are some general partial observations, again there is no right or wrong this is just raw data with no context: 1) Some riders surveyed don't commute at all on their motorcycles. 2) No one source of motorcycle related information was favored. 3) Riders surveyed tend to enjoy riding. 4) Riders surveyed are interested in safety.

So how does the information above affect riders right now? Well it doesn't. In order for the information to be helpful more people need to be interviewed and timed. Right now there simply is not enough numbers to say anything for certain. However, I can say this, no data is bad data, and when the currently available data is looked at there are some trends that are starting to appear. If these trends hold as more people are interviewed and timed, then they can provide some useful information that riders can use to be safer on the roadway.

Let me go back to the definition of rider safety that I previously provided. Motorcycle rider safety: The primary goal of rider safety is the prevention of crashes with a secondary goal of injury prevention and survivability in the event of a crash. These goals are accomplished through a complex system of component areas working together such as research into rider actions and human factors, rider and roadway user ed-



ucation and awareness programs, prompt medical attention for riders when needed, and manufacture and roadway design changes for rider safety.

Well, at the CA ABATE Southern Regional Rally we did a little bit of testing and research as noted in this definition. Let's presume that we noticed some characteristics as to how riders stopped behind the car. So, we can use this characteristic stopping information to adjust how painted pavement markings are placed on the roadway. This will help riders avoid markings, which are slippery, when moving and this can help reduce crashes.

Let's also presume for the moment that the riders surveyed showed high numbers for riding in groups. How much group riding safety information is out there right now? Me personally, I am aware of very little. So, if we can start developing some best practices for group riding then we can again do something to reduce crashes.

Again let's presume that the surveyed riders showed a high interest in rider safety and they want to know when new, reliable safety information comes out so that they can judge it for themselves. In other words, maybe there is some truth to the statement “In order to make the right decisions, motorcycle riders need the right information.”

There is another very important piece of information associated with the little bit of research and testing that was done. Going back to the definition of motorcycle rider safety, it says there are two types of safety categories, crash prevention and injury prevention. Crash prevention is the primary category because injury prevention, or injury reduction, is associated with a crash that has already occurred. If a crash can be prevented in the first place, then injury prevention or reduction is a moot point. In other words, it is far more effective to prevent crashes than trying to reduce or prevent injuries when a crash occurs.

The two examples given from the presumed testing and survey results have the potential to be used for crash reduction motorcycle rider safety countermeasures. This is effective and good for all riders. And it is possible from some simple research and testing.

If you think back to a previous safety piece, I looked at the effectiveness of the 12-15 second look ahead distance. I voiced a concern that maybe this was too far ahead because it tended to put too much information into the limited information pipeline to our brains. And, that a distance that far ahead does not really constitute any real threat or hazard to us. A quick note, the research and the science also shows that things 12-15 seconds ahead do not represent an immediate hazard. Nobody says looking “upstream” is bad unless it is done at the expense of missing something that does constitute an immediate hazard.

Since writing that piece I had an opportunity to attend training on driver roadway performance/human factors. This training was an evaluation of the current data and research that has been done for drivers using the roadway. Part of this research included “Gap Acceptance.”

A very rough description of “Gap Acceptance” is that drivers intending to cross a roadway from a side road, make a left turn or merge into traffic tend to accept a gap of 6 seconds for the approaching vehicle as being too close to safely make their intended movement. In other words, if I am riding down the roadway and a car waiting to make a left turn sees me and that driver estimates that I am about 5 seconds away, that driver will tend to wait for me to pass before making their turn. If they believe that I am more than 6 seconds away, they will tend to make their turn.

This research also shows that in heavy traffic where roadway users, which is drivers and us riders, have to wait for a longer period of time in order to make a move, will tend to reduce their gap acceptance. That is they could make their movement if they believe they have a 4 second gap, or less at times of heavy traffic with long waits.

I have to say again, I am not saying that we should never scan ahead 12-15 seconds or maybe even further when we can. There are times when looking this far ahead can be effective. What I am suggesting, is that as riders we need to be aware of the complete roadway conditions we are riding in and that the current research suggests the greater hazards to us are closer to us so this is where our attention should be. One other very important point about this research to keep in mind, even though it was done with drivers in vehicles, some of these drivers are also motorcycle riders. So this information does apply to us as riders.

Just a few last points to go over again. We are responsible for our own safety. Yes we do want to push motorcycle rider awareness on the roadways, but people will always make mistakes. We cannot rely on other drivers or riders to keep us safe, we have to do it ourselves. No safety technique or practice is absolute. Crashes can still happen to anybody, and unsafe riders can ride without crashing. The best we can do is try to give ourselves the best potential at being safe. The more we increase the potential of our riding safety, the longer we should be able to ride without incident. Conversely, sooner or later the odds will catch up to that unsafe rider in a bad way.

I hope I have showed in this piece that research, information and data gives us the best chance at solid rider safety information. There are a lot of different sources of information out there in many forms. It is always proper to verify the source of any safety information that you hear or read about in order to make sure that the information is good. I will always try to provide the sources of my information, but anytime I don't, please ask me to do so. You need to be sure you are getting the right information in order to make the right decisions.

As always, thoughts and information are always welcome email anytime. I am always interested in anything that anybody has to say or wants to talk about when it comes to rider safety - I kind of think I showed that at the rally - sorry I just can't help myself.

My next trip to So Cal where I will be available to meet with anybody will be the July Board of Directors meeting.

Email, Galileo-g@sbcglobal.net

CA State Capitol Building Tour

by Ruthi Wolfson, President Local 25

On April 21, 2012, at 2:00 pm, Local 25 and guests ventured on a tour of the CA State Capitol building led by tour guide Robin. We started on the first floor of the Rotunda and for an hour received a history lesson on the State of CA. We also received a legislative lesson by our very own Lobbyist, Jim Lombardo, who was also present for this tour.

We toured all floors of the Rotunda, the galleries of both the Assembly and the Senate. The Senate houses a picture of our first President, George Washington, and the Assembly houses our 16th President, Abraham Lincoln. However, Lincoln I think is the third president's picture to hang in the Assembly.



The galleries where we sat are where all guests can sit during the sessions going on in both the Assembly and the Senate. The red room is the Senate. The green room is the Assembly. These rooms do not contain the original decorations, as they were given away to anyone who wanted them



when the Capitol was being revamped. So unfortunately many of the chandeliers were reproduced. However, the desks inside of the Assembly are the original ones that were bought for only \$14.95 each. We were told that during open sessions in the Assembly, metal chairs are brought in to the Assembly floor and placed beside the desks. This is where the guests or Senators who are attending this session will sit.

There are large black walls that when lit up, will give the names of the members of each house and how they are voting on a bill. Also on their desks are different colored buttons to vote on the bill or law at hand. They are allowed to change their vote, ONLY if the change does not change the context of the bill or law at hand.

If you look on the 2nd floor of the Rotunda, you will notice that three sets of tiles were placed wrong inside their larger design. Joe Rendon picked this out quickly. The hallways took three years to re-tile, as they needed to be cleaned out and resurfaced.

We went into the old building where many of us bikers have visited our local assembly/sen-

ate people. Ron DeLano had his picture taken in the old water fountain. On one side of the hallway are the Assembly offices and on the other side are the Senate Offices. There are photos on each side with pictures of the Speaker of each house along with every Assembly or Senate member's pictures. There is also a TV screen showing the room numbers of their offices along with their telephone numbers.

We went to the Gallery of the Governors. This is a wall of portraits of several governors of the State of CA. One of which became President of the USA. Each Governor was able to contract his own artist to draw his picture. I along with others, think a 10 year old drew one of the pictures, but I am not saying for which Governor that is. You will have to take a walk and see for yourself. Governor Ronald Reagan's portrait had to be covered with glass fiber, because there were way too many people touching the photo and almost destroying it. Two of the portraits look like photographs, but in reality all are oil paintings. Awesome artistry done to those walls. Jim Lombardo gave us a history of that section of the Capitol, telling us about offices that had been in that section where the staircase was. Robin, our tour guide, told us that the original staircase, which sits there now, was given to a local diocese who in turn returned the staircases to the Capitol.

We all agreed to have the group photo taken by the Governor's Office. All in all we had a very great time. I still wish we had more people in attendance, but those that were there, I'm sure, will agree it was a learning experience.

2012 ABATE Events

ABATE Of California, Inc web site www.abate.org/Events

June 2 – ABATE Local 44, High Desert – Annual Run (see flyer this issue)

June 23 – ABATE Local 13, Ventura – Annual Callous Cheeks – Details TBA

July 21 – ABATE Quarterly meeting – Place TBA, (will be in Southern CA.)

July 22 – ABATE Local 2 (Simi Valley), Annual Sweaty Buns Run – (flyer this issue)

September 14, 15 & 16 – Annual Golden State Rendezvous (aka ABATE State Run), Kernville, Frandy Campground & an ABATE Business Member.

October 13 – ABATE Local 17, Solano & Napa Counties – Fall Bingo 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 **Run insurance** – contact the ABATE State office for the information.

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Tech Tips

by Craig Griswold

Gas

When I was a kid I worked at Mel's Chevron, located in the little one horse town of Colfax, CA. The full service gas station was a dying breed back then, but there were still a few around. Mel was my first real mentor in work ethics. Man, if you were on the clock you had better be doing something productive. Standing watch over the gas station was not one of the tasks. No customers to help? Start washing windows or scrubbing oil spots. When a car pulled in they got damn near everything but a tune-up along with a tank of gas. That sounds like the old days, but it was only the early 80's. Since then, gas stations have evolved into primarily self serve outfits. Gasoline has changed as well.

This month we'll hash over some gouge on the fuel that feeds our scoots, an interesting topic in more ways than one. Several years back, when we thought two and a half bucks a gallon was appalling, I heard somebody say that a gallon of gas is still cheaper than a gallon of milk. Nice analogy, but I don't consume 150 gallons of milk per month! Either way, the more expensive this precious commodity becomes, the more inclined we'll be to get out on two wheels. Let's talk about some of the "ingredients" in gasoline and what they mean with regards to performance.

Breaking fuel down to the degree of a chemistry lecture would not only bore most folks to tears (including me), it would be counterproductive. Who cares? But there are a few elements that have significant importance to folks. The first thing that comes to mind is octane.

For starters, a fuel's octane rating is nothing more than that fuel's ability to resist detonation. Detonation, the great engine destroyer is also known as pinging and spark knock. Ideally, combustion is a controlled, uniform event. A nice clean flame front traveling across the top of the piston at just the right time is the intent. When fuel burns in more of an uncontrolled manner, due to insufficient octane, it results in detonation. The sound could be characterized as marbles banging around in the cylinders. Higher octane ratings by themselves will not give you better performance. Higher octane does allow an engine to operate with higher compression and the result, with all other things equal, is higher performance.



I used to run 87 octane all year round in my stock, cool running EVO. Compression was 8.5:1 and the oil never seemed to get above 180 degrees. My Twin Cam has a bit more compression, so I can get away with 87 in the coldest months of winter, but I'll start running 91 as soon as the weather starts to warm up.

It's safe to say that you can run the lowest octane fuel that doesn't cause your engine to ping. Here comes the big HOWEVER, the cost difference when filling the tank on your bike is certainly less significant than that of an auto, so it goes without saying that it's always better to err on the side of engine safety and run what your manufacturer recommends.

While at the pump, if you're not watching the price readout spin through the numbers in an unreadable blur while the gallons ticker is barely moving at all, you might wonder what all the mumbo jumbo is under the octane number. It is the formula that was used to calculate the octane rating, which by the way, is not a true octane number. It is what is called an "antiknock index" number (AKI). This number is the average of two octane numbers arrived at by two different kinds of tests. One is called ASTM Research Method and is often abbreviated R or RON. The other is the ASTM Motor Method, M or MON. The antiknock index number on the pump is then this average, or $R + M$ divided by 2 = AKI. A rule of thumb is that the Motor Method octane number (MON) is approximately five points less than the AKI. That's a fun fact, but gets us down in the weeds quite a bit.

To round off the topic, we should discuss what additives are used to set the octane level of a given fuel. Lead was the major ingredient from the early 20's up until the late 90's. It also served double duty as a valve wear preventative. Due to health and environmental concerns, it was phased out. Valves and seats were redesigned with

harder materials. Additives to replace lead such as MTBE, ETBE, and Ethanol were introduced.

In conclusion, running race fuel in your stock Harley is wasting money. You're still not going to outrun that Hayabusa. If you're not sure which is best, check to see what the manufacturer of your bike recommends or just run 91 in the tank and play it 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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The following information is from the CA DMV: Medical Conditions and Driving Safety

Many health issues can impair driving - lapse of consciousness is a common one that can potentially cause great danger to you and other drivers on the road. Disorders characterized by lapses of consciousness can result from many different types of medical conditions.

Epilepsy is the most common of these disorders, and is defined as recurrent and unprovoked seizures. Sleep disorders can also manifest themselves as a loss of consciousness. In order to keep the roadways safe, the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) will take the appropriate actions when a driver has been diagnosed with a lapse of consciousness disorder, which may include license suspension, revocation or putting the driver on probation. Placing drivers on medical probation allows the DMV to continually monitor the drivers' medical condition. There are two types of medical probations for drivers with lapse of consciousness disorders- Medical Probation Type II and Type III.

Placing a person on medical probation allows drivers with controlled epilepsy and other disorders characterized by a lapse of consciousness to continue driving while being monitored by the DMV. Once diagnosed, the driver needs to show

control for at least three months to be qualified to be placed on medical probation to be able to continue driving. If the driver does not have control over their symptoms, they may have their license revoked to eliminate the danger they pose to themselves, as well as other drivers.

Medical Probation Type II is for drivers who have achieved three-to-five months of control over their seizures. The driver must provide consent for his or her physician to complete the Driver Medical Evaluation and submit it to the DMV as required.

Medical Probation Type III is for drivers who have achieved six months or more of control, but where a risk of another seizure may still exist due to other medical factors. Medical Probation Type III requires the driver to regularly report the status of his or her disorder to the DMV by completing the Medical Probation Reporting form. The decision to place a driver on Medical Probation Type III should be based on the driver's medical history and reliability.

The decision to place a driver on Medical Probation Type II or III is based on a combination of considerations, which may include: *Seizure type and severity, medical and lifestyle history, the seizure-free period prior to the last episode.*

In order for Medical Probation Type III to work effectively, the driver must be honest and forthcoming about any episodes they experience.

It should not be granted if the driver has exhibited past evidence of noncompliance, withholding information from a physician or inconsistent statements.

No probation is needed for drivers who have achieved six or more months of control and who have no coexisting medical conditions that would aggravate the driver's seizures.

The DMV has the authority to terminate or modify the conditions of probation whenever good cause exists. If it appears that a driver's lapse of consciousness disorder has become unstable or it is suspected that the information reported is fraudulent, the driver will be requested to have his/her physician complete a Driver Medical Evaluation. If necessary, a reexamination will be scheduled or an immediate suspension of the driving privilege imposed.

For more information on safety tips for those with lapse of consciousness disorder, visit www.DMV.ca.gov.

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Thank you, California Department of Justice, for reminding us of the limits of our rights and freedoms

by Greg Covell, Executive Director

The posting and advertising of your events on the various web sites on the internet, facebook, etc., are working quite well, and the Department of Justice is busy looking at them.

They are working so well – that one of ABATE’s flyers caught the attention of the California Department of Justice (DOJ). Unfortunately that wasn’t so good, as they contacted the business that was going to be used for the Local’s sign-in and then was directed to the person who was hosting the event, and in turn a couple of other people were informed and finally came to the attention of the ABATE State office.

The main item that caught the attention of the DOJ was the advertising of a Poker run with a money payout for a high and low hand. And the second item was the “proceeds would benefit ABATE”. ABATE being a 501 C (not-for-profit) the DOJ was concerned that a benefit was being held by ABATE and ABATE could be “cheated out of its money”.

Promoters of fund-raisers must be registered, and the “charity” beneficiary must be named; “often-times big promoters put on fundraisers and never turn money over to the charity”, so they



were looking out for ABATE. “And if the event is not registered – ABATE would have no legal recourse to get the money.” By the way, charities are “supposed” to receive 90% of the profits”.

So there you have some of it – The Poker run could be registered – however – only ONE registered Poker run per year could take place for the whole State, not each Local Event throughout the year. ONE ONLY.

Next came some more education – what is legal and what is NOT. We probably all have had some idea, just not practicing it. Shame on US! Poker runs for money and 50/50’s are NOT LEGAL and SHOULD NOT BE on the flyers,

nor conducted at anyone’s event. Failure to comply has very serious consequences. It jeopardizes ABATE as an organization, - ABATE could lose its 501 C status, and the Local putting on the event could lose any monies the DOJ determines you collected, and of course federal fines and the pending expensive litigation.

Any type of “game” that can be considered “gambling” is illegal period. You can hold games that require skill of the participant, and you can have “fun runs” give a raffle ticket for the winner. Also mentioned was Bingo runs – that one was debatable, and the suggestion is to clear the legality of having it with your County or City ordinances for their requirements first. IF they do not give permission, don’t have it.

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Money, Money, Money: How Can I Make Some Money For ABATE?

by Steve Shoemaker,
Event Coordinator Local 52

It seems that the toughest job that we have as ABATE Locals, is to keep the state coffers filled. At Local 52 in Grass Valley we are small and suffering from reduced volunteerism just like all of you. All of which makes it very difficult to raise money.

For years we ran the "Mystery Run" here in the foothills. Cost us about \$600.00 in up front money for insurance and a DJ, and required 12-15 volunteers to run it; not to mention the multitude of man hours required to solicit raffle prizes. A lot of solicitation and organizational work that usually ended up on the shoulders of 3-4 volunteers.

Well; I got the seemingly brilliant idea of doing a yard sale one year. Little did I know how that would turn out! Again, lots of man hours required to gather and store the 'donations', 5-6 volunteers to run it. Plus soliciting a great high traffic spot to hold the yard sale. Well we ended up with a yard sale that covered 20' x 100' of clothing, household goods and just general crap. We did have a little 10' x 10' square of Harley take off parts donated by myself, Two Gunners and 49er Auto & Bike Repair.

After the day was done we took a pick up truck full of stuff to the local Hospice and another full

truck to the dump. We made \$400.00 that day; and would you believe that \$200.00 of that came from the little 10' x 10' square of Harley parts! That was the last time we did a yard sale or a Mystery Run!

After that I solicited parts from the local shops and our members to take to M/C swap meets in our area. Now I have 3 sections of shelving set up in my garage for parts storage. About a small pick up load. I use those parts to help out our members when needed as well as go to 2-3 swap meets a year. Swap meets are way cool! It takes me a half hour to set up the canopy, our Local banner and my cooler of beverages. Then I spend about 4-5 hours talking to bikers about bikes, parts, ABATE, women and stuff like that. During the course of those few hours I usually sell \$300-\$500 worth of stuff. I don't set prices, I just tell the buyers that all funds go directly to ABATE, just make me a fair and reasonable offer and I will probably accept it.

I just left a swap meet Sunday at 'Lone Wolf' in Auburn, I left the house at 6:30 am was set up by 7:30 and left there at 11:30 with \$335.00 in donations for ABATE. So what are you waiting for? Swaps meets are not only fun they are an easy way to make money!

DISCLAIMER: *IF a Local is going to do this they will need to inquire of their local city or county of any permits that might be required to participate in an established swap meet or yard sale.*

Local 52 Grass Valley

On May 8th, 2012, the city of Grass Valley Mayor Jan Arbuckle presented Craig Griswold with their Motorcycle Awareness Proclamation.



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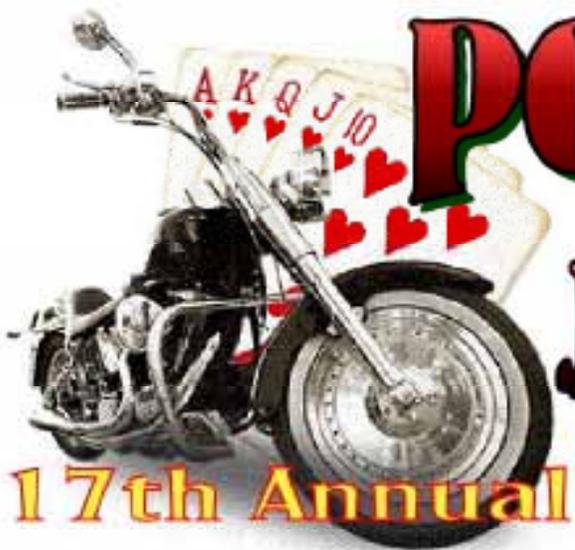
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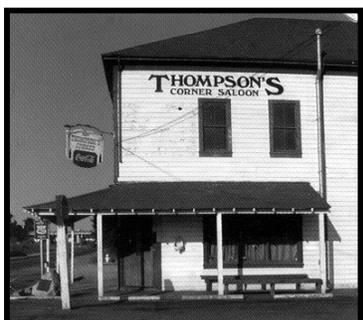
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Biker Rights Run by Don Kline

ABATE Local 23 of San Bernardino recently held their Biker Rights Run, formerly named the Biker Rights Poker Run, but since the Department of Justice said otherwise it became a Rights Run. Instead of cards drawn at each stop each run participant received a ticket for a chance at winning a gift card from Biker Supply House in San Bernardino (ABATE Business Member) and which incidentally was the check in spot. There was coffee, donuts and water if any rider needed to fuel up before hitting the road. Three vendors were set up at Biker Supply House selling Jewelry, specialty coffee and specialty peanut butter.

Twenty-three riders took part including; Sporty Milligan President of Local 1 & ABATE Board Member; Robert Cuthbertson, President of Local 19 Pomona Valley and his friend Bree; Lee and Lorraine Davidson from Local 27 Riverside and several members from the Partners.

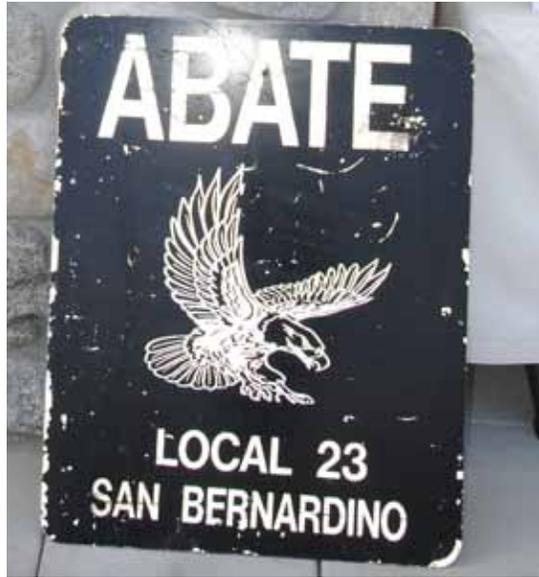
After our first stop at Biker Supply House, we only got directions to the next stop, where we get future directions, after a jaunt through Riche Canyon, Moreno Valley and up Lamb Canyon into Beaumont to Beaumont Motorsports.

The next stop was a nice cruise via back roads to Calimesa Boulevard to Belts and Buckles a popular destination for many riders in the Inland Empire.

After getting the third ticket we were directed onto more back roads to Wright Bros (ABATE Business Member), over on Outer highway 10 just outside of Yucaipa. Here Ratchet Ron from Local 23 was passing out the tickets.

The Last stop was just a short trip to AJ Barile's Chicago Pizza (ABATE Business Member) on Yucaipa Boulevard. Here Jack Howell from Local 27 had a booth set up outside to promote ABATE and provide information. Next to Jack were Beads and Baubles selling clothing and other unique items. Across the lot members from Local 23 were busy with tickets and setting out the prizes for the drawings.

Most everyone ended up inside the patio area for some pizza and beverages and music. After a while lunch was finished and the prizes were awarded. Everyone who came and participated had a good time.



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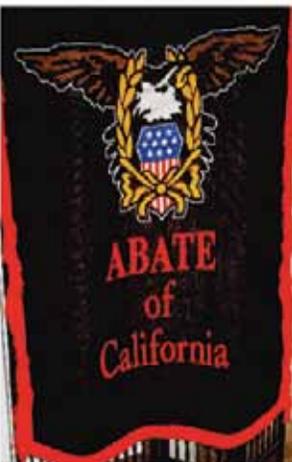
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Simi Valley - Local #02-Reg#8

Steamer Arnow 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 Gabriel Valley - Local#05-Reg#8

Tom Lubbers 3rd Mon - 7:00 PM
626/622-9237 Peppertree Restaurant
1020 E Route 66, Glendora

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 Oakvale Country Store
buse13@cox.net 14900 Oakvale
Escondido

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

Solano & Napa Counties - Local #17-Reg#3

Glenn Phillips 3 rd 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



ABATE MEETINGS

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 Dvision St
661/586-5555 Lancaster 93535
ron.sundquist@sbcglobal.net

South Bay - Local #22-Reg#11

Suzanne Palmiere 1st 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 & Blaskstone, Fresno

Sacramento - Local#25-Reg#2

Rebel Ruthi Wolfson 3rd Thurs-7:30 PM
916/320-6439 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 #03-Reg#2

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

Palm Springs - Local #36-Reg#10
Closed

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
760/954-1227 10230 "E" Ave.
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

Colfax - Local #60-Reg#2

Larry Burch 2nd Thurs 7:00 PM
530/613-0912 Grand Father's Club house
301 Railroad St.
Colfax


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