

The Bailing Wire

ABATE of CA. Newsletter for Motorcyclists Volume XXXII ISSUE IX

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

September 2013



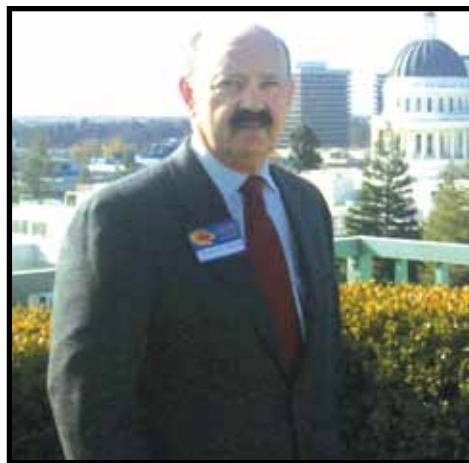
Lobbyist's Report

by James Lombardo, Lobbyist

The Legislature is in its closing weeks, and will recess September 13th, and then return in January, 2014. During the final days of its session, the Legislature is dealing with the Supreme Court's decision that will force thousands of prisoners convicted of serious crimes, to be released due to overcrowding. Governor Brown and the Legislature are attempting to come up with an alternative plan to house these prisoners because of the revenue wind-fall from the passage of the initiative that raised all of our taxes.

We hope to have a **HUGE** win for our new off-road ABATE members. SB 234, by Senator Mimi Walters and Assemblyman Tim Donnelly. The bill has been enrolled and presented to Governor Brown for his signature, he has twelve days to sign or veto it; if **Governor Brown signs this bill it will signify** to our off-roaders who changed the seating in their side by sides that they will be grandfathered in and these modified vehicles will always be legal for off-road use. Again, this would be a huge Victory for ABATE and our members.

We are **VERY** involved in protecting the rights of both highway and off-road motorcycling.



The lane sharing bill, SB 350, will **NOT BE HEARD UNTIL JANUARY, 2014.** *It's also important to note that our PAC voted at the May meeting to OPPOSE SB 350 as it is currently written.*

On August 8th, I attended the California Motorcycle Safety Program (CMSP) Advisory Committee annual meeting where I currently sit as ABATE's representative. The Committee moved as a motion to meet twice a year, rather than only once annually, and we will continue to be aggressive with motorcycle safety proposals. One of the proposals was mine. That is to have the Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) and the CHP do more motorcyclist safety Public Service Announcements.

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Education**

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What is ABATE?

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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Jim from page 1

Officer Shameil Coleman, the CHP's CMSP advisor, told the committee that because of my comments at last year's CMSP annual meeting, they moved forward with the current lane sharing public service announcements.

We can do more! So, if you have any ideas for new Public Safety Announce-

ments (PSAs), send them to our Legislative Director so that we can put them on the Legislative Committee agenda to discuss and vote on at our next meeting on October 26th in Fresno! **I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!**

Thanks, as always, to all of you who contribute to the Lobbyist Fund to keep me in the Capitol protecting our rights to ride!

Executive Director's Report

by Greg Covell, Executive Director

Back on task this month, I want to thank Norm Newiger from Local 2 for stepping up and providing a useful and informative safety article last month. Also, thanks to Glenn and his crew for their very successful efforts with the Motorcycle Raffle. This event took a tremendous amount of work on the part of Local 17.

Local 17 is quite active and provides a great example of what can be accomplished on a Local level by a small group of dedicated volunteers.

Many times this year I have been told that I should not expect too much from volunteers, nor should I push volunteers to accomplish more or do more than they have done in the past. Local 17 is a fantastic example of volunteers doing what they volunteered to do and succeeding to an extraordinary degree.

At the last Board of Directors meeting a committee was selected to review the By-Laws and we should have a report from them soon. I am looking forward to seeing their recommendations. Our next Board of Directors meeting will be in October (26th) and the meeting is set for Fresno.



I understand that the Board of Directors will have 6 slots open up for next year. If you think you or someone you know would make a good State ABATE officer contact Carol at the State office and get the particulars for nominations before election time. Remember – a volunteer job is still a matter of honor and responsibility. Make sure you can afford the time and have the skills and desire to do the job properly.

The State Run in Kernville is coming up and should be lots of fun. It is great chance to enjoy a weekend away from home and get in some easy country riding.

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PHOTOS

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Mission Statement

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

**ABATE of California now has their off road division up and running!
Join on Page 17.**

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To Join the On or Off Road Fight go to:

WWW.ABATE.ORG

LOCAL NEWS

Local #01 Los Angeles



Greetings all! Sporty again! Local 1's meeting on August 18 was, again, after the deadline for Bailing Wire submissions.

So, once again, we will present you with the following items: Local 1 meets at the Elks Lodge in Tujunga. Our meetings always start promptly at 9 am. The Pledge is recited by the membership. I, Sporty, will give the opening remarks. We will present up-dates of the current bills before the legislature in Sacramento. We will talk about the opening of our Local 1 Facebook page and the possibility of getting our Local 1 web page up and running better.

There will be discussions of who will get one of the 4 free entry tickets to the State run, which I purchased as president. This was the Local challenge for the State run. There will be a brief discussion on a group ride to the Frandy campground - the site of the State run - and raffle prizes for the State run. Local 1 will help at State run; Iceman is going to chair the raffle booth.

We will begin to discuss the ABATE booth for the Love Ride in October and who might be willing to man it. We will also discuss the possibility of a guest speaker from Russ Brown for our November meeting. Plus we begin to make plans for the Fred Jordan toy run in December.

We will determine if we need to elect new Local board members. There will be reports on membership and comments from the membership and, finally, closing remarks. It's going to be a busy meeting! Regards, Sporty

Local #02 Simi Valley

I got to our meeting early tonight, and enjoyed a double cheeseburger hot off the grill! What a great way to start off the evening. As it got packed within a few minutes, our volunteer cooks, Frank and Jim, were flipping burgers like pros! Thanks to you bros for the hard work. We all share in the cooking duties of our Local. We serve a fan-



tastic \$5.00 BBQ meal of burgers and hot dogs and sides and all the fixin's for your eating pleasure! We start serving at 6:45pm and our meeting starts at 7:30. We meet on the second Tuesday of the month at VFW Post 10049 at 4242 East Los Angeles Street in Simi Valley. The weather was awesome for the month of August. Many thanks to our gracious hosts!

Pres Ray opened up for us and talked about PAC stuff and the new laws regarding aftermarket stuff for ATV's. Also, with regret, we are not having our annual Sweaty Buns Run this year due to scheduling issues.

VP Scott talked about his trip to the Harley Davidson Museum in Milwaukee and encouraged all to check it out. Jane, our secretary, read the minutes, and Treasurer, Stephanie, gave us an update on our finances. Norm, our PR guy, talked about AMA's fight against the E-15 gas issues and where it's at as of today. He said we all need to get involved and go to www.americanmotorcyclist.com/rights and click on issues and legislation. We need to fight this! There are no motorcycles or ATV's that are approved to use E-15 gas and all manufactures will void their warranty if you use this gas.

Guy, our Road guy, talked about this year's 25th Golden State Rendezvous September 13-15th. He talked about last year's and encouraged all to go with him again! Guy also filled in for Andi our merchandize Lady and talked about our new line of shirts etc. Pat, our membership Lady, talked about issues regarding getting members and such.

We had a special guest tonight, Steve B from Local 1 - he was filling in for Sporty. He talked about Sporty's progress, which sounds good. Steve talked about getting contacts in the field and at businesses. Thanks for the info!

We had a pretty good turnout tonight and

we still miss all who could not attend. We had what I would say was a very informative evening with good discussions about the EPA, AMA and ABATE membership. It was very educational and worth the time at this meeting.

Please, everyone, come to the next meeting we will be discussing "nominations"! Ride Safer! PTL norm e.

Local #03/13 Thousand Oaks

Local 3 and Local 13 have decided to merge the two Locals. We will carry the new Local name of 3/13. Our meetings will continue to be held at the Thousand Oaks Elk's Lodge in Thousand Oaks; every third Thursday at 7 p.m. The two Locals had a great turn out for our first "meet-and-greet" at the Chuy's in Camarillo.

As president of Local 3, I will continue in this combined role. Dave Blackburn, Local 13 President will continue to support both organizations in an advisory role to help me adapt to Local 13's membership, administration, merchandise and general funds. I look forward to a new future as Local 3 learns from the vast experience Local 13 has and we collectively work to return Local 13 to their original status.

Local 3 will be having our 5th Annual Trivia Run on September 28. We will be starting at our meeting place, the Thousand Oaks Elk's Lodge, 8:30 am to 10:00 am. Watch for our flyers on our Facebook and B.O.N. websites. We are also starting an ABATE Bike Night at the Hooters in Thousand Oaks.

Lastly, I want to say something to each Local out there that is struggling: I experienced many meetings where I was the only one in attendance; but I now know that if you commit to your principles, stay focused and undeterred, things get better. I am proud to be the President of two great Locals. Chuck Pedersen, President of Local 3/13

Local #11 North San Diego County



LOCAL NEWS

Hey all! Our meeting this month started as usual with the Pledge of Allegiance and the president's report. Prez Dan Buse reported on the Board of Directors meeting in Cypress. The overall consensus is membership has to grow. Pac Rep Dogman suggested we carry the ABATE cards with meeting location information and hand them out at gas stations, restaurants etc. or wherever you run into bikers.

Speaking of membership; Local 11 has a new member – finally - Robin Buse. Welcome Robin. Seems like we already know you!

We also need to get the word out about the Off road Division. There are hurdles ahead for that group as well. We also need to keep reaching out to the sport bike community.

Prez Dan also ran down a lot of the upcoming events including the local Democratic and Republican meetings coming up. Visit San Diego Harley Riders Website for good event information.

Pac Rep Dogman has a call to action list of 25 people for the COIR. Dogman is running for the Board as well - he has our vote here at 11.

Treasurer Tim Clark ran down how much money we don't have. The opportunity drawing was won by ME! Donated it back. We are still pulling together ideas for a fundraiser. Will keep you posted. Regional Director Dave won the small gift bag and Preacher Dick won the bumper sticker! Talk at ya next month, Gary

Local #15 Contra Costa County



From Dennis Seace - President Local 15: ABATE Local 15 has reached a point where we as a group need to decide our future. Over the last year your Officers have attempted to do things to improve the participation of the membership and strengthen

our ranks in our community. We have gotten a little traction in this area but it is not enough. Also our Officers have been pulled in many directions due both to work and personal responsibilities, me especially. We are unable to spend the time to keep this moving so we are asking our Local membership to volunteer to become a member of our board and to help grow our ranks. Now more than ever it is important for us to get the word out on Riding Rights and the education of the riding public.

Attend our membership meeting on October 2 at Fuddruckers, and become an active participant in the organization. I will not be able to continue as the President of our Local and we are looking for the next great leader of our Local. Looking for you at the meeting, Dennis Seace – President Local 15

From Greg Howe - founding President: We started this Local with 19 members back in March 1990. We have had our ups and downs over the years and our membership had a high of 215 members at one time. We have dwindled down to a small core of us that continue to meet every month. Every current or past member needs to get involved and show up at the October 2 meeting. Help us make a decision, and either volunteer to take an officer position and help the Local grow in 2014, or lets vote to close the Contra Costa Local if no one is willing to take the officer positions needed.

The Local takes the direction that the membership wants, we need you to come to the meetings on October 2 AND November 6th meetings (they are the FIRST Wednesday of each month) and make a decision on what we as a Local should do. Down the road, Greg Howe - founding President

Local #17 Solano & Napa Counties



Local 17 had a very tough July as we lost a long time member, Laura McKinnon, and Bob Krempin, another member, suffered severe injuries in an unfortunate motorcycle accident. Thank you to all that attended the Board of Directors meeting on July 20th and raising \$190.00 from passing the hat for Laura's daughters. At our membership meeting the following day we raised a whopping \$2076.00 for her kids. Judy's had pot luck after the meeting with lots of love and support shown for Laura's family. THANK YOU ALL! The following weekend a large group of us met at Judy's Wild Wrangler Saloon per the family's request to ride to a beautiful ranch and thunder in on the bikes for Laura's Celebration of Life where we were treated to refreshments, music and great food. Many of Laura's family spoke of fond and loving memories that were shared through Laura's life. Ride On Laura Angel. Bob is out of the hospital and continuing to heal. Our thoughts and prayers are with you Bob.

Since we missed this column last month, I would like to give my sincere thanks to the nearly 30 volunteers that made our 16th Annual Hot Rod and 19th Annual Ride-in Bike show a resounding success. A big shout-out to Iron Steed Harley-Davidson for all their support and work also! Our bike raffle made a nice chunk of \$\$\$ for ABATE of California and some for our Local, too. Great job everyone!

Nine of us made it to the Belden Town Run and had a blast relaxing along the river. Thanks Richie for having us! Good music, good food and great friends made for a wonderful weekend. Look forward to this again.

Thanks to all our renewing members! We had over thirty renewals that are supporting our rights for freedom on the road!

We got "Cheese", the winner of the State Membership Drive raffle to join as a new business member - Young's Performance Cycle. Welcome aboard Cheese! Eagle Eye Engraving also came back as a business member. They make the wonderful trophies for our annual Hot Rod and Ride in Bike Show. Thanks Richard and welcome back!

Local 17 upcoming events include our Memorial Run for fallen members on October 6th starting at Judy's Wild Wrangler at 10 am. On October 13th we have our annual Fall Fun Run starting at STR8 Shooters at

LOCAL NEWS

9:30 am for sign ups. Please see our flyers in this Bailing Wire or visit the State website www.abate.org or our website at abate17.org. Mark your calendars for the next Board of Directors meeting to be held on October 26th in Fresno. Until next time, ride safe and play hard, Glenn

Local # 19 Pomona Valley

At our last meeting at Round Table Pizza we had a visitor, Jeff Neu, Community Relations Specialist for Route 66 Inland Empire California (Route 66 IECA). He talked about his organization, which is to restore a historic former gas station in Rancho Cucamonga. They will be having a Car and Bike show on August 17th at Rockin Pizza Pub in Upland and a Poker Run on October 19th.

Vice President Kevin Dragoman came in with Carl Jr coupon booklets to help raise money for the upcoming Toy Run held at the Elks Lodge in December. This year the run is celebrating its 25th year.

There are plans to do a ride to present a plaque to one of Local 19's supporters later this month, don't want to let the details out just yet, I'll do that next month. Donald Kline, Local 19

Local #20 Orange County



36 members and 7 guests attended our meeting tonight. Gail and Jason from American Income Life Insurance Company (New Business Members) visited us to explain that, as ABATE members, we now have Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefits of \$3,000.00 at no cost to us and we will soon be getting the enrollment paperwork in the mail. (Gill will be mailing this information to his Local 20 Members.) We will also receive a Health Services Discount Card for up to 60% discounts on prescrip-

tions, vision, hearing and chiropractic care along with Child Safe Kits.

Doreen also visited us and told us about a Luncheon & QuarterMania that will take place on September 14 to benefit returning veterans. Gill told us that for returning Vets there is a 290 day wait for medical care and sometimes longer because of government cutbacks.

Spike told us that we need to support officials that support us and that we need to stand together more now than ever because the government is trying to take away many of our freedoms. We have to stand together because there is strength in numbers.

Make plans to join the following events: Charity Fundraiser for Military Family by Azrales M/C August 24th, the 25th Annual Golden State Rendezvous on September 13th – 15th at the Frandy campground in Kernville, and the 7th Annual Downed Biker Rally by Bikers for Christ on October 5th.

We drew Stu Orton's name for the dollar draw but he was not at tonight's meeting so the \$40.00 rolls over to next month. ~Leenie~

Local #23 San Bernardino



Our first and second Burger Burns of the year were a success. Thanks to everyone who came out and supported our events.

We also participated in the TaTa3 Breast Cancer Fundraiser. We were cooking hamburgers and hot dogs for all the hungry attendees. TaTa3 raised over \$2600 this year to purchase wigs for women who have lost their hair from the chemo and radiation treatments during their fight against breast cancer. **Pics on pages 23-24.**

ABATE Local 23 and 27 sponsored the Pie Eating contest and we enjoyed watching the contestants devour the lemon meringue pies.

As always, our meetings are on the 1st Sunday of each month at 9:00 am at Vicky's Restaurant in San Bernardino. Everyone

is welcome to come visit, and have a good breakfast to start your day. Be Safe out there, Tammy Odell

Local #24 Fresno

On the 13th about 46 members gathered at Yosemite Falls Café in Fresno for a lively August meeting. Doug opened the meeting and Dallas led the Pledge to the Flag.

The big news is we will host the State Board of Directors meeting on October 26. Meeting will be at La Quinta Inn on Fir Street. That is North of Herndon off Fresno Street on Fir. Let us have all of our members and any from the surrounding area be at the meeting. It starts at 0900 in the Conference Room.

The September Day ride will be on September 7. Meet at Christi's Place at 1000. We will be riding some really neat old time roads in the Sierra National Forest to the historic Jones Store. If you have never been there it is well worth the trip. If you have been there you will want to return.

The End of Summer Run to Santa Cruz will be October 5 & 6. Meet at Denny's (Jensen & 99) at 0830. We have a block of rooms until September 8 at the Ramada Inn, 831-426-6111. Mention ABATE Local 24 for the special rate. We will do a ride on Sunday in the Santa Cruz Mountains. This is a ride not to miss.

Looking way ahead, our Christmas Toy Run to the Valley Children's Hospital will be on December 7. Meet at Christi's Place between 0900 and 0930. We are due at the Hospital at 1000, so don't be late. This is an emotional run, but the kids really appreciate what we do and they love Harley Davidson toys.

Ursula reported our Treasury is in good shape and we voted to send the monthly 3X3 to State ABATE. Phil is on a long motorcycle ride. Membership holding at 120+.

Lots of good prizes donated and Travel Director Ray donated a sack of beads to go with each prize. The ABATE prize of \$145 went to Scott. No membership drawing was held. See you next month, Longrider

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Motorcycle Safety Report

SAY WHAT? I CAN'T HEAR YOU!

by Norm e. Newiger, Local #02 Safety Officer

Ears come in all sizes and shapes and from my observation, most of us have a pair and they are not a matching set, close but not cigar. Some ears are extra large and some are tiny, then there's the average size - I hope I'm in that category. Most ears are like side scoops on your head, some are like a baloney cut exhaust system slicked back, some stick out like air brakes on an F15 fighter jet! The point is that no matter what size or type of ears you have we are all subjected to noise pollution, especially when we ride! The most dominating noise I hear is my pipes (or the person riding next to me as well) and the wind. The wind noise I hear dominates the noise my pipes make when I hit a certain speed. The pipes sure make a sweet noise and I tolerate them easily, but the wind creeps up and the sweet sound is drowned out, bummer.

There are many styles of helmets, from novelties to high cut, full face, and whatever you can get away with, hmmm, no helmets! Most helmets we choose don't offer any protection for your ears, but some offer somewhat low rating protection, just because they cover your ears. We get certain types of helmets for various reasons, we want to look cool, or we don't like the confinement, it doesn't matter because we all have different opinions anyway. Besides we want to look as cool as our bikes, right! Then there's the geek looking type of helmet that we would never be caught wearing.

The full face helmet probably offers you the best protection for noise levels when you are riding. The only setback about this is



that your head weighs five pounds more and grew in size 15%. This is not a fact, just an observation. It could be more pending on the size of your head! We should never rely on any helmet for ear protection, even though some offer more than others it's still not an excuse to not have any type of protection.

Have you ever been to some type of motorcycle event, and you see the multitudes of bikers and their passengers that don't use any type of ear protection? The number that doesn't will surprise you, what could be their excuse for not having any type of ear protection? When you think about it there aren't that many choices to make to protect your hearing. Check this out, the pipes on your bike are loud let's say, but when you pass the 35 miles per hour speed, the wind noise starts dominating your ears, the speed is approximate, but if you need to confirm this then get on your bike and test it out. This may differ because not all of us have

the same hearing and some may already have some hearing loss, but do this to see for yourself.

Think about this; you were riding your bike all day, maybe stopping here or there for some refreshments etc. and you decide to go home. Your ride is from, let's say, a gentle cruise to breakneck speeds. The sensation of riding and the speed in which you travel has your adrenaline pumped. You get home in record time. You've left your buds behind eating your dust and you get into your pad and it's all quiet, except the noise you now hear - is it a buzzing or ringing sound? It's not the phone or doorbell. Here's a hint, it's inside your skull, maybe on both sides. I would say with confidence that most people have experienced this phenomenon. It's called TTS, Temporary Threshold Shift. This is a temporary shift in your hearing due to overexposure to loud noise. Has this happened to you before?

I remember going to a rock concert in my youth and after enjoying the loud music I would be half deaf and my ears were ringing as I left. Do you remember doing this? It would eventually go away and I probably escaped damaging my ears permanently because I did it once in a great while. If I did this every other day I would probably be deaf right now! I would gamble on this and say we've all done this before. That effect is the same as riding without ear protection. If you ride most of the time and you don't have any type of ear protection you will start to see this Temporary Shift become a permanent one with the unpleasant side effect of a constant ringing or the good ole' buzzing of the ears. This condition is usually related to the beginning of hearing loss and I'll tell you like all the doctors would say, "It's not

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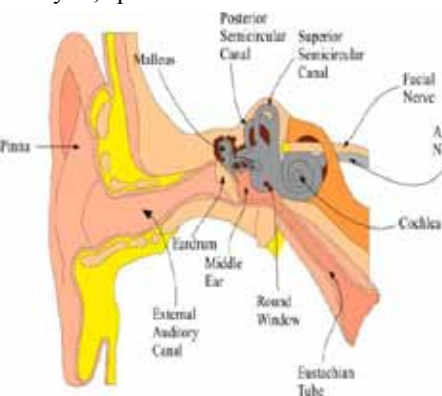
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Safety Report

Continued from Page 9

a good thing". For me I don't want a hearing aid just to hear my pipes blatin that sweet sound only a Harley makes, do you?

Is the ear just another organ in the body? Is your ear an organ that you're only concerned with when it troubles you? We are just humans and we don't care about something unless it becomes a problem, i.e. tooth-ache, major gas, dysfunction and ear ache! Check this out! You wear eye protection because you don't want to loose your eye or eyes – right? With all the cool looking shades you want to look just as cool as you can while riding your bike. God forbid if you loose an eye or eyes, it makes it real hard to ride as far as I know, but you'll do whatever it takes to protect them – right? Just think about losing 50% of your hearing, maybe more or less it doesn't matter if you know you lost some of your hearing. Hearing loss is permanent, once it's gone you'll be wearing a hearing aid or you will be going around saying, "EH! Say what? I can't hear you, speak louder!"



This is what we need to protect, both of them! Remember, constant exposure to loud noises is one of the leading causes of hearing loss. The tiny hair cells in the inner ear, the ones that convert sound to the electrical impulses that are sent via the auditory nerve to the brain, are permanently damaged by loud sounds, i.e. loud pipes, wind, loud music, etc. One of the most important facts about hearing loss is that it is a gradual thing, excluding a freakish accident. As we get older and have been riding for years our

hearing is not as good as it was in our youth. You'll know when! When you will see the volume level on your TV maxed out!

So you need protection? What you need is the good old fashion earplugs. There are many types of earplugs and the cost ranges from a few bucks to major bucks. If you're really desperate and need them, you can use cigarette butts (I learned this in the Army!). I do recommend the one with the filters and make sure they are not still lit. First of all, you have the cheap foam ear plugs and I do mean they're cheap! They are okay, but it feels like I'm stuffing a marshmallow in my ears and they feel like they start working themselves out while riding. You can gravitate to the next level (around \$20 bucks) and buy nice earplugs from a music store, that's where I get mine. Being a hard core rocker at the time, my ears were ringing after every band practice and I couldn't hear myself think! I shopped until I found an earplug that lets you hear everything but also protected your hearing.

The ones I use have a filter in them and they reduce the noise by more than 20%, allowing you to hear everything without compromising what you're hearing. The next level of earplugs is the silicone molded earplugs. I'm sure most of you have seen the multitude of ads out there. I've seen these companies at events and they will make them for you on the spot as well (approximately \$30.00 and up). How cool is that? And for a few bucks more, probably a lot more, you can have molded in the ear monitor earplugs - the cream of the crop - especially if you have a killer stereo on your bike.

You have to be more than smart when you're wearing any type of ear protection; you can't relax thinking all is good because you've conquered one problem. Stuff happens and maybe a certain noise you need to hear can prevent an accident or major motorcycle related problems. You don't want to notice all of a sudden a trail of black smoke two miles long coming from your back end!

Do you know what NRR is? The answer is "NOISE REDUCTION RATING". What does this mean? All earplugs have a rating for reduction of noise to your ears. You have to figure out what works for you because you might have a wind shield or a faring setup or a full face helmet, so you might not want an earplug with a high rate of noise reduction. Therefore shop around and get what's comfortable for you. Most companies that sell earplugs have websites that offer information about their products. Check all of them out and compare the information so you can make the right choice. You might end up buying a couple of sets before getting the one's you like. You can have multiple sets for different types of riding situations. It's good to have a back up set in case you loose yours.

There are many types of earplugs out there and the costs are practically free to big bucks. It's what you want that counts, because everyone is different. Everyone has their own philosophies about hearing loss. Being protected is what counts the most. You have to make a conscious effort in doing this. It should be as standard as putting on your sunglasses or helmet.

If you think it's macho not wearing earplugs or worried some people may laugh at you, well at least you'll be able to hear them! Just remember ear plugs help reduce the permanent effects of hearing loss. To all you older people, this is not a younger generation thing, the sooner you start protecting your ears, the longer you'll be able to hear more. It is better to be safe than sorry and I'll tell you, down the road when you get older and have used earplugs, you'll be happy when you don't have to say, "EH? Say what? Can you speak up? I'm hard of hearing!"

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Pac/Lobbyist Report

by Dave Hastings, Treasurer

I would like to start off this month's article with a question: "Have you contributed to ABATE either directly or through your Local at some point during the last eight months?"

Summer is winding down and autumn's cooler weather will be here before long and many of you will either choose, or depending upon where you live, be forced into curtailing the miles you put on your motorcycle. I know some of you can ride year round, but many don't and ABATE contributions drop off sharply during our California "winter months". So check with your Local's officers and make an effort to support your motorcycle lifestyle before the bike is put on the "maybe" list of things to do this winter. We can use your contribution to fund whatever dedicated account you wish to contribute to and if you are not sure where the donation is needed just call the State Office for a suggestion.

If you are a member of Local 00 we definitely need a direct donation from you because of your independent status. Obviously "00" is just a holding tank for our independent members and as such does nothing to raise any additional funds for our organization besides your annual dues. This is why I'm making a direct appeal to you, our "00" members, to contribute on an individual basis.

Yes our Bike Raffle was successful, our Regional Rally helped out with a nice con-



tribution, and I'm hoping we will see a few more Local events that help off-set our expenses. But, we are a not-for profit organization and rely heavily on your support and individual donations to meet our obligated expenses. Please check your donor status and help out if possible. Are we broke? No, but just for a moment, think of the things we could accomplish if the funding was there.

ABATE needs to increase its advertising and reach out to more riders if we want our membership to grow. ABATE needs to offer more to its current members if we want

to retain them. ABATE needs to increase spending on rider education programs to help improve rider safety statewide. ABATE needs to reach out to motor vehicle operators to help lower our involvement in motorcycle accidents caused by their careless driving habits.

All of these programs (and the ones that you are thinking of that I omitted) cost money and that is why we are constantly asking for your contributions. Help us help you. Step forward with your ideas and goals and then help us set up a funding mechanism to make them a reality.

Our ABATE training team (consisting of Locals and members statewide) offers you and your Local the opportunity to be successful by sharing great ideas, well planned events, and hard work. Nothing is ever easy. Ask for help and we will do our best to offer guidance, suggestions, and prior knowledge concerning a safe path to ensure your success. Join our team and play to win because failure is never an option, it is merely a choice!

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

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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.

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COAST TO COAST BIKER NEWS

Compiled & Edited by Bill Bish

FEDERAL BILLS WOULD PROTECT MANUFACTURERS OF ETHANOL FUELS:

Even as motorcyclists and others are calling for further research and testing of fuels containing ethanol, and the fact that E-15 (gasoline containing 15% ethanol) is not approved for use in any of the millions of motorcycles on and off-road, two bills have been introduced in Congress to protect the fuel industry from lawsuits resulting from its use.

Illinois Congressman John Shimkus, otherwise a longtime friend of motorcycle riders, has authored H.R.1214, the Domestic Fuels Protection Act of 2014; "To provide liability protection for claims based on the design, manufacture, sale, offer for sale, introduction into commerce, or use of certain fuels and fuel additives."

Likewise, Texas Congressman Gene Green has offered H.R.2267, the American Fuel Protection Act of 2013, which "Deems a claim for liability against a qualified entity as a claim against the United States for damages resulting from, or aggravated by, the use of transportation fuel containing ethanol in concentrations greater than 10% to operate an internal combustion engine. Abrogates U.S. sovereign immunity and makes the United States exclusively liable for such claims. Limits awards to actual damages sustained by a claimant. Defines "qualified entity" to mean an entity engaged in the manufacture, use, sale, or distribution of: (1) transportation fuel or renewable fuel, or (2) products which use transportation fuel. Grants U.S. district courts exclusive jurisdiction of any civil actions on such claims."

Both bills have been referred to committee, and either proposal would indemnify fuel manufacturers and suppliers from legal actions for damages caused by their product, leaving U.S. taxpayers to foot the bill for clean-ups from leakage and limiting their liability to actual damages by a claimant, such as the out-of-pocket cost to rebuild an engine damaged by E-15 gas.

MISSOURI INITIATIVE MAY PUT RIDERSHIP TO A VOTE:

The secretary of state's office has announced that a petition to restrict passengers on motorcycles has met standards for circulation, and supporters can begin collecting signatures to get the proposal on the 2014 ballot.

The proposal, to be put to voters to decide, would require Missouri motorcycle



operators to be at least 21 and complete a rider-safety class before they could carry passengers. The restrictions would not apply to those who have had a motorcycle license for the previous two years and were born in 1984 or earlier.

The first violation would be a misdemeanor or with a fine of up to \$300. Penalties would increase for repeat offenses.

PINK PLATES PANNED BY MAINE MOTORCYCLISTS:

The Maine lawmaker who was the driving force behind the popular pink ribbon breast cancer awareness license plate in that state says the response to creating a motorcycle version has been lukewarm.

The Maine Cancer Foundation says nearly 70 people have committed to the motorcycle license plate, but 500 pre-orders are required for the Bureau of Motor Vehicles to begin production.

State Representative Meredith Strang Burgess (R-Cumberland) has told the Journal Tribune newspaper that she's setting a deadline of year's end for collecting pre-orders. If the pre-registrations are gathered, it will take three months for the state to produce the plates before the first ones will be seen on Maine motorcycles.

BIKERS ROUSTED AFTER SHOOTING SUE POLICE:

Members of a motorcycle club claim their constitutional rights were violated when Arizona officers roused them at gunpoint at a campsite where a man shot his wife and two others before killing himself at a 2011 bike rally near Flagstaff.

The Sons of Hell have filed a federal law-

suit last week against the Arizona Department of Public Safety and the Coconino County Sheriff's Office seeking monetary compensation. Its members claim officers were trying to collect information for a criminal street gang database, even though they knew club members weren't involved in the shooting.

MOTORCYCLISTS LAUNCH \$100M SUIT AGAINST QUEBEC INSURANCE BOARD:

The Motorcyclist Movement of Quebec, which represents more than 8,000 motorcyclists in the province, says sky-high hikes in insurance premiums are unfair and discriminate against motorcycle owners, and held a protest in downtown Montreal to launch a \$100 million class-action lawsuit against Quebec's automobile insurance board (SAAQ).

The organization's president and founder, Michael Mosca, says license plate registration fees have increased by 400% since 2008. "They're being discriminated upon. It's a very abusive law," he says.

However, the SAAQ says the premiums are needed in order to compensate victims involved in motorcycle accidents. The board adjusted insurance premiums after a review revealed a \$109 million deficit in 2006. While Mosca admits that motorcycles are higher-risk vehicles, he claims that "When there are accidents between cars and motorcycles, 94 or 95% of the time it's the car's fault, so the motorcyclist is being punished when he's not at fault."

Instead of increasing fees, Mosca suggests the SAAQ should do more to educate people about road safety, adding that it's time people change their minds about motorcycles. "Motorcycles consume less fuel, they cause less pollution, less damage to the roads, which is beneficial to the whole planet," he said.

NEW LAW COULD DOOM MOTORCYCLE FIRMS IN EAST AFRICA:

Motorcycles account for over 65% of motor vehicle registrations every month in Kenya, but new rules requiring motorcycle assemblers to use locally generated parts, when no companies in East Africa are manufacturing them, could spell doom for motorcycle firms.

Manufacturers are raising the red flag over the new law, in force effective July 1st, which stipulates a 25% duty remission on motorcycle assemblers who fail to ad-

Continued on Page 15

Coast from page 14

here to the new regulations which require parts such as seats, mudguards, wheel rims, break-gears, exhaust pipes, tires, chassis, batteries and shock absorbers to be manufactured within the East African Community (EAC).

Assemblers are concerned about the capacity of the region to produce the specified parts, and they say such a move is likely to compromise safety standards, kill employment opportunities and make motorcycles unaffordable. "The EAC region lacks capacity to produce these parts," said Honda Motorcycle Kenya Ltd chairman, Isaac Kalua. "Currently, there is no particular company that can produce any of these parts."

The new law crafted by the EAC seeks to encourage consumption of locally produced materials, but it is now causing jitters within the manufacturing fraternity. The Kenya Association of Manufacturers (KAM) called the decision "a bit premature" and KAM Chief Executive Officer Betty Maina told Business Beat, "We are currently investigating to establish whether there is local capacity to produce those parts in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania before we advise the Government on the timing of that decision."

MOTORCYCLE HELMETS BANNED IN PHILIPPINE CITY DUE TO BOMBINGS:

For an easier identification of criminals, local authorities in Cotabato City have banned the wearing of motorcycle helmets after several deadly car bomb blasts. City police said the measure will help them identify known criminals in the area, and are also hoping that the city council will support their move, radio dzBB has reported. Several countries had cautioned their nationals to take precautions in traveling to Mindanao, in the Philippines, due to the bombings. Cotabato City is a mixed Muslim-Catholic city on the main southern island of Mindanao where Muslim insurgents have waged a decades old rebellion that has claimed 150,000 lives.

PANAMANIAN RIDERS TO BE REQUIRED TO WEAR NUMBERED VESTS AND HELMETS:

Amid nationwide protests from motorcycle riders, a controversial new set of laws may soon force motorcyclists in Panama to emblazon their license plate number on reflective vests and helmets.

Following objections from motorcycle clubs, the Transport Authority (ATTT) decided to postpone the enforcement of the decree regulating the new safety standards for motorcycles, Resolution 904, which was originally set to begin July 24th. Motorcyclist groups in this Central American country say that the measure will not help reduce the use of motorcycles in acts of crime, such as drive-by shootings, and they also insist that the measure is unconstitutional.

Ricardo Mosquera, the President of the Motorcycle Association of Panama, described the move as arbitrary, and as an imposition. "At no time were we consulted on this new standard, it also strikes me as having been negotiated with whoever is going to sell the vests. Moreover, a criminal could simply make a vest bearing any number, commit their crime, and the innocent would then be blamed," Mosquera told Panama-Guide.com.

ATTT head Roberto Moreno said that motorcyclists only disagree with the use of numbered helmets and vests but are not opposed to driving with their lights on, and they also have no qualms about restrictions on driving on sidewalks and shoulders of the roads and in the middle of streets and avenues around the country.

BMW DEVELOPS INFLATABLE SAFETY CLOTHING:

BMW Motorrad and Dainese have announced that they are to cooperate in a joint development of innovative motorcycle safety clothing, partnering to develop motorcycle rider equipment with fully integrated inflatable protectors.

The first product to emerge from the cooperation will be the DoubleR RaceAir one-piece leather suit designed exclusively for use on racetracks, and the next stage will be to develop the Dainese D-Air Street System as a retrofit solution for BMW Motorrad. The system is scheduled to be launched in 2015, following successful completion of all the crash tests. BMW Motorrad customers will then be able to retrofit the innovative safety system to their motorcycles.

Based in Germany, BMW Motorrad is the only motorcycle manufacturer to have developed the complete range of rider equipment ever since the 1970s - from motorcycle helmets to rider suits, boots and gloves. The ABS pioneer says it has always regarded motorcycling and safety as being inseparably linked and anchored in the "Safety 360°" principle, which breaks down the overall concept of safe motorcycling into three facets: safety technology in the vehicle, safety deriving from rider equipment and safety through rider training.

FEDS PETITION FOR MANDATORY ANTI-LOCK BRAKES ON ALL STREET BIKES:

The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) and the Highway Loss Data Institute (HLDI) have petitioned the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to upgrade the Federal

Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 122 Motorcycle brake systems (49 CFR 571.122).

"This standard should be strengthened to require ABS on all new motorcycles manufactured for on-highway use in the United States," wrote the IIHS and HLDI in joint letter on May 30, 2013 to NHTSA Administrator David L. Strickland.

Research by IIHS and HLDI indicate that ABS reduces the motorcycle fatal crash rate by an estimated 31% and the collision insurance claim rate by an estimated 20%.

ALLSTATE INTRODUCES "GOOD RIDE GRANTS" FOR MOTORCYCLE SAFETY IDEAS:

Allstate Insurance Company announced the newest initiative under its Rider Protection Project portfolio - a series of programs all focused on making the roads a safer place to ride. The Allstate Good Ride Grant contest will award a combined total of \$25,000 to five contest winners with the best ideas for advancing motorcycle safety and awareness.

Now through August 31, 2013, contest applicants may submit their Good Ride Grant submissions through the designated tab on Allstate Motorcycle's Facebook page at facebook.com/AllstateMotorcycle. Entries are welcome from anyone, including local governments, dealerships, rider clubs and individuals.

A six-person judging committee will determine the top 15 finalists, whose ideas will then be featured on the Allstate Motorcycle Facebook page where fans can vote for their favorites and the top five will each receive a \$5,000 grant to help put their ideas into action.

QUOTABLE QUOTE: "Every man owes a part of his time and money to the business or industry in which he is engaged. No man has a moral right to withhold his support from an organization that is striving to improve conditions within his sphere." ~ Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919) 26th President of the United States

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

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

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

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

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

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

Off-Roaders - Protect Your Rights - Join Us NOW

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

*A printed edition is available every other month.



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DON'T TREAD ON ME

Sporty's Rides

by Lee 'Sporty' Milligan

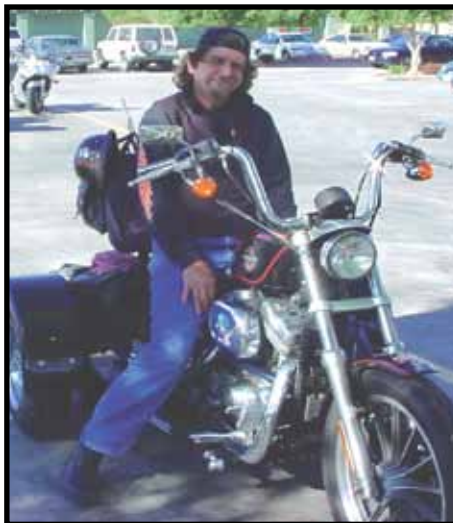
Hello all! Once again I am writing mainly about my recovery from my accident. As of this writing it will be about 4 months of recovery time. You might remember that I had an external fixator on my ankle area and it extended below the knee. Well in July I had a surgery to remove that fixator and it was replaced with synthetic bone marrow and my natural bone marrow and set with a steel plate. They then had me again use my bone stimulator which is attached to the area of the surgery on my leg. This is used to stimulate bone growth. It is electric wave pulses so it makes my leg tingle along with the nerves that tingle. Very uncomfortable to say the least.

I am taking a medicine called Nortriptyline at night. This medicine is to help calm my damaged nerves. I would not take this if I was younger because the drug has a lot of side effects. One side effect is you might get suicidal - pretty scary. It is still debatable as to whether it is working.

Ok so Tuesday, August 6th I developed an infection on the area of the recent surgery. We went to the hospital and my doctor was concerned that it was infected. He ordered some lab tests - 6 vials of blood were drawn! And he prescribed some more medicine to prevent the infection called Cephalenxin. I was taking it after the surgery 4 times a day until I ran out of the prescription. So I'm back to taking it 4 times a day.

Thursday of that week, August 8th, I had my first physical therapy session on my ankle. So things were looking better and I got exercises to do.

On Friday my leg looked red and swollen



so we called the doctor again at noon. Left a message for a call back to my house. About 4 pm doctor called and said you need to go to the emergency room. I was there from 6 pm to 10 pm. They took another 6 vials of blood, took an ex-ray and then gave me the Cephalenxin intravenously. So I have an infection called cellulitis. We're monitoring it and hoping for the best. I have a call to my doctor to see if this will interfere with the physical therapy on my ankle. Hopefully he will give me a good answer as to whether I can continue with my physical therapy stuff soon.

That's where I am with my recovery. It is a long, slow process that I hope you never have to go through. As we get older it takes longer to heal, etc.

Now you're asking, "What are you doing ABATE wise?" First off I am still able to write my columns so that has not changed. I am also able, through the goodness of my best one Renee, to continue to lead my monthly meetings at the Elks Lodge in Tujunga. I have been working to get things happening for the State run with a couple of my Local 1 members, Steve B and Wildman, who have been a big assist in putting out the word about the State run. Steve B has also gotten t-shirt sponsors, including the lady Vern who owns the world famous Rock Store in Cornell. She had an "In Memory of Ed" put on the State run t-shirt for her late husband. Steve B also got his eye doctor to buy a sponsor spot. Wildman has been assisting me by passing out run flyers. So we are working to make things happen. I also got my wife to do my Target shopping for raffle prizes for the State run. And Iceman aka Ed Mathis is going to man the raffle booth at the State run with his crew of Local 1 members.

Ok so do your part by attending the 25th annual State run in Kernville at the Frandy Campground. As of this writing we still have time to get the word out on the event.

I am missing the road very much. It's a pain to be confined to the house. When I am able to ride again I am going to be a better rider. So with that thought, be careful on the road. Regards, Sporty



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ABATE 2013 Events

www.abate.org Events calendar

September 7 – ABATE Local 24 (Fresno) – Day Ride; Meet at Christi's Place at 1000 in Madera

September 13 – 15 – Golden State Rendezvous – (aka) ABATE ANNUAL State Run – Kernville, CA. (see flyer this issue)

September 15 is the deadline for ALL Board and Freedom Fighter nominations. Email submissions to Bailing.wire@abate.org in a word document and pictures in a jpg file.

September 28 – Local 3 (Thousand Oaks) – 5th Annual Learn 'N' Ride Biker Trivia Run (see flyer this issue)

October 5 & 6 – ABATE Local 24 (Fresno) – End of Summer Run to Santa Cruz; Meet at Denny's, Jensen & 99 at 0830. We have a block of rooms until 9/8/13 at the Ramada Inn, 831/426-6111. Mention ABATE Local 24 for the special rate.

October 6 – ABATE Local 17 (Solano & Napa Counties) – Fallen Riders Memorial Run (flyer this issue)

October 13 - ABATE Local 17 (Solano & Napa Counties) – Annual Fall Run (flyer this issue)

October 26 – 4th Quarterly ABATE Meetings (last one for the year!) Hosted by ABATE Local 24, Fresno. A Block of rooms have been reserved for October 25 at the La Quinta Inn under the name "ABATE of California". Call 559/449-0928. La Quinta Inn is located at 330 E Fir Avenue; Fresno, CA 97370. The Quarterly meetings will be on October 26th in the Conference room at La Quinta Inn. Approximate start time at 9:00 am.

November 23 – ABATE Local 38 (Imperial Valley) – Annual Turkey Run

December 1 – ABATE Local 19 – 25th Annual Toy Run, Toys to Benefit Santa Claus, Inc. (see flyer this issue).

December 7 – ABATE Local 24 (Fresno) – Christmas Toy Run to the Valley Children's Hospital. Meet at Christi's place (in Madera) between 0900 and 0930. We are due at the hospital at 1000, so don't be late.

December 8 - ABATE Local 17 (Solano & Napa Counties) – Annual Toy Run

All Event flyers that have been received are also on ABATE's website www.abate.org on the event calendar with their respective details (sign-in times, Location, Cost, etc.) and can be downloaded in a PDF format.

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

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

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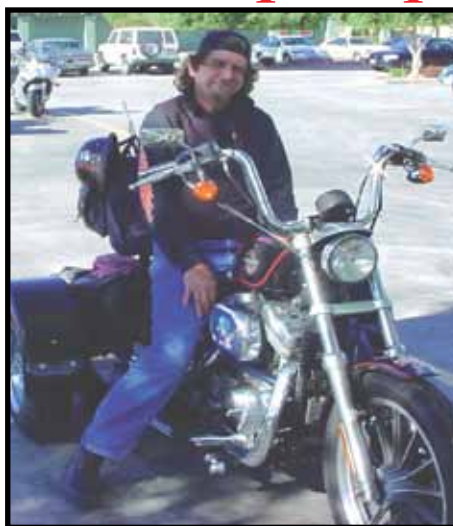
by Lee 'Sporty' Milligan,
Membership Chairman

Hi all! Never let an opportunity pass you by. When you're out and about have yourself armed and ready to strike to get potential members. In your arsenal of items, which are to help you get members, you need the following:

1. Membership application card. Request them from your Local president or request them from the state office. However as a last resort you can get them on line from the website under "Join ABATE". Just print them out and make copies.

2. Have your approach talk practiced. The more you practice your spiel the better you will get at approaching folks to tell them the benefits of joining ABATE. What can be used for your spiel pitch? Well it depends on the type of riders you are trying to attract. For example sport bike riders might need a spiel such as: "Hi I am (your name) and I belong to ABATE of California a motorcycle rights organization that works to protect your rights to ride. I am here today to ask you to consider joining ABATE because we can help you out when issues come up that affect your way of riding. By joining ABATE you will be part of the solution not the problem to effectively combat issues that affect all riders."

3. Have your list of ABATE accomplishments handy as well because they will enforce the need to join ABATE. Be patient, be polite.



4. Have your "you have just met ABATE" member cards with you and invite the prospective members to your next Local meeting. Hopefully with this you will be able to establish a good rapport that will lead to another new member.

The above mentioned approach will work with any type of riders you're trying to get in the fold. Just remember to know what your talking about be positive and polite.

This portion of the report is for Local's presidents: Remember to establish a rapport with the members so when the time comes for your member's renewal they will be glad to renew. How you treat your members goes a long way toward establishing a yearly renewal.

Keep in contact with your members either by phone, email or snail mail. At the meet-

ings be attentive to your members' needs. Making members feel a part of your Local and ABATE is a key to the success of the Local.

When you get a renewal, make the renewing member feel that he is an important member of the group by acknowledging the fact he renewed with a thank you note from you as president.

These items that I have expressed in my column will help establish a good relationship with all the members of your Local whether or not they are regular attendees to your Local meetings.

So in closing this column, remember the keys to getting members and keeping your members is to be polite and respectful. Make them feel welcome and a part of your Local and ABATE.

Remember that ABATE's membership drive is on-going! There is unity and strength in number of members.

Regards, Sporty



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Thank you to everyone who has contributed to these various funds either by sending separate donations or by adding extra dollars when you renew! Large, small and in-between donations all add up when combined – so – THANK YOU!!!!

For those of you in attendance at the July Board Meeting you heard about and saw these donations presented to ABATE's State Treasurer. So for those of you who weren't there ... The State-wide Bike Raffle handled by ABATE Local 17 donated a significant amount to the General Fund!! (Thanks to Glenn Phillips, and Jim Schlachter for keeping it organized; and all the rest of the folks that bought and sold Bike Raffle tickets.) Southern Regional Rally Committee Co-Chair and Treasurer Ron & Lizz Morris presented profitable donations to the General Fund and the Lobbyist from the Mother's Day weekend. (Thanks to the people that worked it all year and those that attended that event too!)

We will do our best to recognize your generosity by thanking you here, if we leave

you off – please contact carol@abate.org or Dave Hastings 760/947-4700 and we'll get you on next month's list. YOU ALL deserve a pat on the back and to be thanked!!!

Thank you for the terrific response to our fund raising letter that was mailed to you too – our Members response is Awesome – THANK YOU!!! There were 5 levels of suggested donations, and the top 4 were used the most (Friend of ABATE; Bronze, Silver & Gold Donors). Thank YOU!! You all are the BEST!!

Donations to the General Fund (from individuals and ABATE Locals):

Jim Brown (L#6 and renewed his 3 Super size Business ads);
Jesus Godinez (L#19);
Henry James (L#47);
Locals: 2, 11, 19, 21, 23, & 24.


Donations to the Lobbyist Fund (from individuals and ABATE Locals):

Daniel Bradley (L#6);
Dale Gretzinger (L#25);
Rick Mullaly (L#52);
Vic Repstad (L#52);
Locals: 1, 2, 6, 11, 13, 17, 19, 21, 23, 24 & 40.

Donations to the PAC Fund (from individuals and ABATE Locals):

Vic Repstad (L#52);
Locals: 11, 17, 21, 23, & 24.

Thank you to one and all; donations are welcomed anytime – you can snail mail (payable to) ABATE of California, 10240 7th Ave; Hesperia, CA 92345-2631. In the memo write which fund(s) you want it applied to.



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by Craig Griswold

EZ Clutch Install

There are two types of kits available. One introduces a lever to the ball and ramp mechanism and is sold by several different aftermarket suppliers. There are applications for 2000-2012 Big Twin, 87-99 Big Twin, and 86-93 Sportsters.



The other is a kit that is a direct replacement of the ball and ramp mechanism and the diaphragm spring, sold through Harley-Davidson. Since the latter uses a reduced effort spring, it may not be suitable for higher horsepower applications. Where that threshold is defined is not known to us. From experience, we can say that stock engines 80-96 cubic inches with mild performance upgrades did well. In this month's column, we'll discuss the lever style install and cover the Harley-Davidson kit in a future issue.

To install the lever style kit, follow your service manual on procedures for removing the clutch release cover.



Most models will require at least partial removal of the exhaust system. Once the side cover is off, installing the kit is a piece of cake. In a nutshell, you will be bolting

on a lever to the end of your clutch cable; a force multiplier of sorts.



The spacer included in the kit is installed on the threaded portion of the clutch cable and takes up some of the slack that is introduced from the extra travel. Without it, most cables will not have enough adjustment in the turnbuckle to compensate. A word of caution: This spacer will preclude a significant amount of thread engagement between the clutch cable and cover. Although the instructions do not call out for any modification, we remove about .100" of material from the spacer to get a few more threads exposed. This still gives us plenty of adjustment in the cable. Don't over tighten the cable!

Re-install the clutch release cover and complete all adjustments in accordance with service literature. The advertised reduction in pull is 40%. I can tell you from experience the difference is nothing short of amazing!

Ride safe!

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

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20 Bakataries M/C
Cypress 714/329-8388

20 Bill W's Sober Pack
Stanton 714/393-8556

20 Crossroad Riders
Anaheim 714/299-2080

20 Freedom Coalition Fest
Lakewood 714/331-9362

20 Harbor Radiator Air
Conditioning
Costa Mesa 949/645-4810

20 Illusion Cycles
Westminster 714/894-1942

20 Jonnys MetalWorks
Aliso Viejo 949/481-1720

20 Leons Transmission Service
Garden Grove 714/534-3300

20 Lifestyle Cycles
Anaheim 714/490-0155

20 Nikki's Flags
Newport Beach 949/646-5166

20 Viet Nam Vets/Legacy Vets
MC
Santa Fe Springs www.
VNVMC-CA.com

22 Ironworkers MC #433
Whittier www.IWMC433.com

24 Art Douglas Plumbing
Heating
Fresno 559/222-5306

24 Christi's Place
Madera 559/395-4873

24 Complete Drywall Services
Clovis 559/323-9138

24 Dunlap Sports Grill
Dunlap 559/338-0160

24 Garlock Collision Repair
Specialist
Fresno 559/229-6900

24 Guerrero Door Service
Fresno 559/276-5581

24 Hagerty Collector Car
Insurance
Fresno 559/455-3913

24 Harley-Davidson/Buell
Fresno
Fresno 559/275-8586

24 Landstar Inway Inc
Fresno 559/271-3000

24 Mathews Harley-Davidson
Fresno 559/233-5279

24 Puma Construction &
Restoration
Fresno 559/275-6100

24 Rogers Truck Sales &
Service
Fresno 559/264-2891

24 Skyline Club Cocktails &
Eatery
Clovis 559/250-7531

24 Steve's Boat & Propeller
Repair Serv
Madera 559/432-9407

24 Studio Motors
Clovis 559/287-1256

24 Tamarack Machine Works
Sanger 559/876-1703

25 U S Cycle & Tire
Folsom 916/988-7760

27 AJ Barile's Chicago Pizza
Yucaipa 909/435-5489

27 American Metal Recycling
Riverside 951/776-4080

27 Bail Bonds
Riverside 1-888-GET-BAIL

27 BikerSpots.com
Moreno Valley BikerSpots.com

27 BMW Motorcycles of
Riverside
Riverside 951/353-0607

27 DanKat Industries
Norco 951/315-3905

27 Discount Hydroponics
Riverside 951/689-4575

27 Duke's Bar & Grill
Riverside 951/248-1143

27 Harrison's Koi Farm
Riverside 951/369-9998

27 Heart-N-Soul mc Riders
Riverside 951/941-4484

27 Jam Sportswear
Redlands 909/798-4552

27 Jerry's Brake & Alignment
Riverside 951/371-5390

27 Kim's Sports Bar & Grill
Riverside 951/634-3015

27 LVR Racing
Riverside 951/500-6068

27 Matrix Tacos
Riverside 951/880-3494

27 Mihali Cycles
Riverside 951/788-2453

27 Motopia Moto
San Bernardino 909/885-8900

27 Music In Motion
Riverside 909/286-8927

27 Riverside Scooters
Riverside 951/534-0411

27 Rubidoux Tire & Brake
Riverside 951/788-0996

27 Shane's Auto Dynamics
Riverside 951/688-3596

27 Skip Fordyce Motorcycle
Center
Riverside 951/785-0100

27 The Chopper Gallery
Temecula 951/699-9090

27 The Chopper Place
Riverside 951/687-6655

27 The Lucky Greek
Riverside 951/737-3162

27 Union Air Conditioning
Costa Mesa 866/352-1987

27 Wright Bros Customs
Redlands 909/794-1593

27 Zorba's Restaurant
Riverside 951/662-9189

31 Halls Harley-Davidson
Chico 530/893-1918

38 Butler's V-Twin & More
LLC
Imperial 760/336-4695

44 Desperados Leather Apparel
Hesperia 760/947-2000

47 Nick's Computer Works
Barstow 760/253-4736

52 The Willo
Nevada City 530/265-9902

52 Two Gunners Custom Iron
Penn Valley 530/263-8071

52 Wild Fire Construction
Nevada City 530/265-5493



CROSSROAD RIDERS

AN ADULT FAMILY HARLEY-DAVIDSON
MOTORCYCLE ENTHUSIAST RIDING GROUP

MEETINGS HELD: 3RD THURSDAY
OF THE MONTH @ 7:00 PM

GIOVANNI'S PIZZA

922 WILLIAMSON AVE.

FULLERTON, CA. 92832

www.Crossroadriders.net

Los Angeles County - Local #01-Reg#8
 Sporty Milligan 3rd Sun-9 AM
 1616 4th St Elk's Lodge #2098
 San Fernando 10137 E. Commerce
 818/ 361-8800 Tujunga, CA 91042

Simi Valley - Local #02-Reg#8
 Steamer Arsnow 2nd Tues 7:30 PM
 661/251-8360 VFW Post#10049
 4242 E Los Angeles Ave.
 Simi Valley

Thousand Oaks-Local#03/13-Reg#7
 Chuck Pedersen 3rd Thurs - 7:00 PM
 Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge
 805/496-0323 158 N Conejo School
 Thousand Oaks

San Diego County - Local #06-Reg#12
 Snowman 1st Sun - 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
 Daniel Pfaffly 2nd Mon.7:30PM
 American Legion #354
 8071 Whitaker
 Buena Park
 714/649-2516

South Orange County - Local #09-Reg#11
 Cory Toroian Meets with L#20
 949/496-2936

San Diego County (North) - Local #11-Reg#12
 Dan Buse 2nd Sun - 11 AM
 busel3@att.net American Legion #149
 760/807-7294 230 E Park Ave
 Escondido

Ventura County - Local #03/13-Reg#7
 David Blackburn Meet with L#3
 805/402-3943

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.
 925/827-9973 E260 Concord

Solano & Napa Counties - Local #17-Reg#3
 Glenn Phillips 3rd Sun.- 10:00 AM
 P O Box 148 Judy's Wild
 Vacaville 95696 Wrangler Saloon
 707/624-6310 4826 Midway Rd.
 Vacaville CA

Pomona Valley - Local #19-Reg#9
 Chris Stowers 4th Wed - 7:00 PM
 POB 2033 Round Table Pizza
 Rancho Cucamonga 1020 N Mountain
 91729 Ontario, CA
 909/525-6950



ABATE MEETINGS

Orange County - Local #20-Reg#11
 Gill Mellen 2nd Tues - 7:00 PM
 2104 Continental Ave. American Legion
 Costa Mesa 92627 5646 Corporate Ave.
 949/632-9787 Cypress CA 90630

Antelope Valley - Local #21-Reg#13
 Ron Sundquist 2nd Thurs - 7:00 PM
 37230 52nd St. East Moose Lodge
 Palmdale 93552 44545 Division St
 661/586-5555 Lancaster 93535
 ron.sundquist@sbcglobal.net

South Bay - Local #22-Reg#11
 Suzanne Palmiere 2nd Thurs - 7:30 PM
 310/245-0543 Chowder Barge
 611 N. Henry Ford Ave.
 suzpalmiere@aol.com Wilmington 90744

San Bernardino - Local#23-Reg#9
 Kevin Sorrell 1st Sun 9:00 AM
 909/793-1112 Vicky's Restaurant
 502 S Waterman Ave
 San Bernardino CA

Fresno - Local#24-Reg#6
 Doug Biggerstaff 2nd Tues. 7:00 PM
 559/222-5306 Yosemite Falls Cafe'
 Shaw & Blackstone, Fresno

Sacramento - Local#25-Reg#2
 Lil' David Morena 3rd Thurs - 7:00 PM
 916/616-9605 Denny's
 3520 Auburn Blvd.
 Sacramento 95821

Riverside - Local#27-Reg#9
 Greg Covel 1st Tues - 7:00 PM
 P.O. Box 7070 American Legion
 Riverside CA 92513 2979 Dexter Dr
 951/522-3434 (in Fairmont Park)
 www.abatelocal27.org Riverside, CA 92513

Morongo Basin - Local#29-Reg#10
 Marty Rapp 2nd - Thurs - 6:30 PM
 P.O. Box 2334 Odd # Months
 29 Palms CA 92277 Call Marty for Location
 760/367-1694

North Valley - Local #31-Reg#2
 Larry James 2nd Tues - 7:00 PM
 Last Call Lounge
 530/893-4827 876 East Ave. Chico

Yuba City - Local #33-Reg#2
 Steve Katen 3rd Thurs. - 7PM
 530/749-1003 American Legion
 5477 Feather River Blvd.
 Olivehurst

Imperial Valley - Local#38-Reg#12
 Bob Brown Last Thurs - 7:00 PM
 616 Tangerine Dr Puerto Nuevo Restaurant
 El Centro, CA 92243 201 N Imperial Ave
 760/352-7995 El Centro

Bakersfield - Local#40-Reg#6
 V.P. Robert Zamora 3rd Tues. 7:00 PM
 661/330-9366 Rusty's Pizza
 5430 Olive Dr
 Bakersfield 93308

High Desert - Local#44-Reg#13
 George Butterfield 2nd Sat. 9:30 am
 P.O. Box 3094 Eagles Order #4181
 Victorville CA 92392 16195 Main St
 760/954-1227 Hesperia 92345

Barstow - Local #47-Reg#13
 Yermo Eddy Meet with L#44
 PO Box 521
 Yermo CA 92398
 760/254-3833 or 760/953-7353

Grass Valley - Local#52-Reg#2
 Craig Griswold 3rd Wed - 6:30 PM
 21183 State Hwy 20 Alta Sierra
 Penn Valley Pizza & Grill'
 530/263-8071 15690 Johnson Place
 Grass Valley

Ridgecrest - Local #58-Reg#13
 Dave Cornelius 3rd Sat 10:00 AM
 760/447-4342 Call for meeting place

Regions With Local info:
 Region 2: Director Lil' David Morena
 25, 31, 33 & 52.
 Region 3: 14, 15 & 17.
 Region 6: Director Ed Rogers
 24 & 40.
 Region 7: Director - Vacant
 3/13 & 3/13.
 Region 8: Director Tom Lubbers
 1 & 2.
 Region 9: 19, 23, & 27
 Region 10: Director Vacant
 29.
 Region 11: Director Gill Mellen
 8, 9, 20 & 22.
 Region 12: Director Dave Connors
 6, 11 & 38.
 Region 13: Director Yermo Eddy
 21, 44, 47 & 58.