

The Bailing Wire

ABATE of CA. Newsletter for Motorcyclists Volume XXXIV ISSUE I-II

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

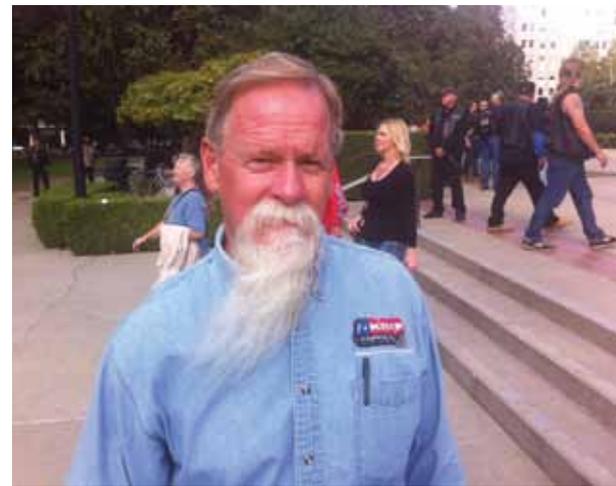
Jan-Feb 2015

Glenn Phillips Recieving 2014 Freedom Fighter Award from Dave Hastings

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Executive Director's Report



by Dave Hastings, Executive Director

Welcome back to the first Bailing Wire edition of 2015. We have had our first Board of Directors meeting already on January 10 in Cypress. We scheduled the second one for Fresno in May. We are picking up steam rapidly as we prepare to jump-start this year's duties.

I'm looking at many new opportunities for ABATE this year and I'm excited about some of our endeavors. I have taken an active role in the upcoming Southern Regional Rally scheduled for Mother's Day, May 8-10, 2015 and I want to encourage everyone to attend. Along with that, I'm going to ask every Local President to ask for attendees and volunteers to help with the Rally. This event has always been a cooperative effort of all of our southern California Locals and its success is directly linked to the attendance and the help of our members! Show up, bring your friends, work a little and play a lot, while we all raise funds for ABATE of California.

The second big fundraiser that we are involved with is the ABATE State Run scheduled for September 11-13, 2015 in Kernville. This year we

are partnering with a promotion company to run this event. It is a new experience for ABATE and again, the event's success depends on attendance. So pencil in both dates, be prepared to volunteer at the Regional Rally, and make your reservations for two fun filled weekends in 2015 that directly benefit your ABATE!

Keep your eye on the event listings in the Bailing Wire for Local ABATE events in your area and do your best to support them. And Presidents, please remind your Local members who your Local is supposed to be supporting and make sure a percentage of your Local's profits are returned to our State Office in 2015! Your Local can choose which fund the profit goes to or just give us a call at the State Office and we can advise you on which fund needs help at that time.

California has a new company taking over our motorcycle rider training program in 2015 and we have opened a dialogue with them regarding improving motorcycle safety for the riders of our state. This is an encouraging opportunity for us and I'm looking forward to more discussion on the subject. I will keep you informed of those discussions and any progress made in future editions of our Bailing Wire.

So, as you can see, a lot has been going on already in the first couple weeks of 2015 and I feel like we are going to have a very busy and productive year. ABATE has several important legislative goals already set and we are working hard to increase funding for our organization. We have four new Board members who collectively have a lot of prior ABATE experience under their belts and I'm confident we are all ready to get down to business. 2015 should be a good year for the riders of California and our ABATE organization. Stay tuned, we will have more for you soon!

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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.

ABATE Info or Message Line

1-760/956-1669

Fax 760/956-6519

<http://www.abate.org>

E-mail: info@abate.org

2014 State Officers

Executive Director

Dave Hastings 760/947-4700

2014 Regional Representatives

Region 2: "Lil" David Morena 916/616-9605

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Secretary

Nick Benson 760/447-4004

Treasurer

Mark Castellero 760/809-9148

Editor

John (Milky) Loudermilk 602/421-7516

azmilky@q.com

Assistant Editor

Tina Sanders 760/956-1669

Legislative Director

Chuck Pedersen 805/496-0323

Membership

Sporty Milligan 818/361-8800

Safety Officer Norm Newiger 805/368-6693

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David Morena 916/616-9605

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Insurance Adviser

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Nick Benson Sr. 760/447-4004

Dan Buse 760/807.7294

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Dave Hastings 760/947-4711

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Lee "Sporty" Milligan 818/361-8800

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Lobbyist's Report

by James Lombardo, Lobbyist

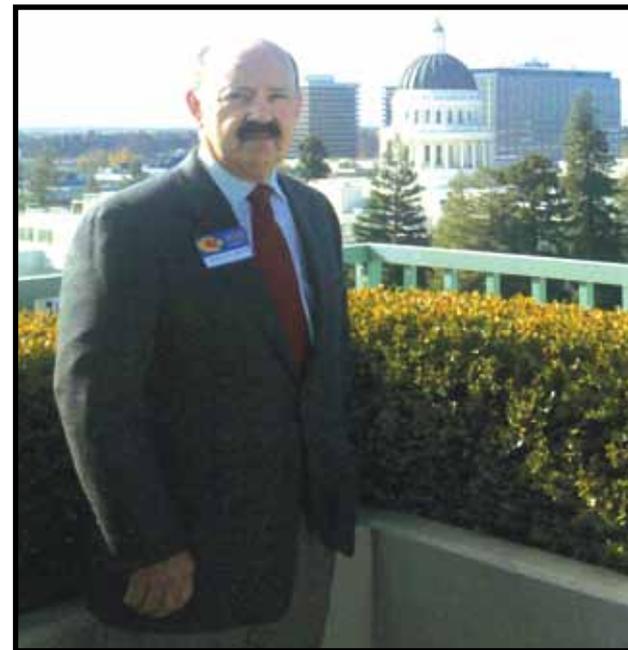
The Legislature returned January 5 with many bills already introduced last month, which was the beginning of the new two-year legislative session. AB 51 was introduced by Assemblyman Bill Quirk (D-Hayward) to place into statute legalizing motorcycle lane sharing in California.

Currently, we lane share because of guidelines developed by the CHP, DMV and Caltrans. Also, mainly because lane sharing is not technically *illegal!* An individual questioned the guidelines as being an underground regulation and forced the CHP, DMV and Caltrans to pull these guidelines from their websites and printed material, otherwise they could have been thrown out and lane sharing could then have been deemed illegal!

At the last ABATE Legislative/PAC meeting on January 10 in Southern California, there was much discussion about lane sharing and after a long debate, the position taken by our Legislative/PAC committee was to *Oppose* AB 51 unless amended to remove any speed limitations up to the posted speed limit, that a rider would have to maintain while lane sharing. I am following this as our number one issue this year to guarantee our right to continue to lane share.

The AMA is supporting the bill in its current form because they see that if it becomes codified in California they can use the bill's passage to promote passing lane sharing legislation in the other 49 states, not just California. **STAY TUNED AND WATCH FOR OUR ABATE ALERTS!**

Another bill that I have been informed will be introduced by Assemblyman Ken Cooley (D-Rancho Cordova), according to the draft language that I've seen, mandates that law enforcement officers receive motorcyclist anti-profiling training and education and local law enforcement agencies adopt written policies to discourage the profiling of motorcycle riders. If there is an identifiable cost to implement the bill's provisions, the Legislature would require that the state reimburse local police agencies for the cost, which could be in the millions of dollars. This, of course, would be discussed in the Assembly Appropriations Committee, should this bill pass out of the Assembly Judiciary Committee where it will likely end up.



The final bill I have heard being pushed to be introduced is one by the Motorcycle Industry Council (MIC) which I was able to block last session. It would allow all state law enforcement agencies to set up roadside noise checks for loud motorcycle exhausts! I am working the halls trying, once again, to block its introduction but with 30 plus new members of the Assembly and 4 new Senate Members, one of them may get duped into introducing an anti-noise bill. There are already enough loud exhaust laws on the books and we don't need any more!

These are only a few of the bills we will be following this year before the deadline for bill introduction and there will be **more than 2,500 bills introduced this session.**

If you thought the elections were over, think again. **THREE** Special Primary Elections have been set for March 17, and if no candidate gets over 50 percent, the top 2 vote-getters go on to the Special General Election follow-ups on May 19.

These elections will be held for state Senators who are moving on to Congress. The Districts are: Senate District 7 (Concord), 21 (San Bernardino County High Desert), and 37 (Irvine). As soon as ABATE gets questionnaires from all declared candidates, we'll post our recommendations.

Thanks again to all the individual members and Locals that contribute to the special designated Lobbyist Fund to keep me fighting on your behalf in the Capital.

AMERICAN CUSTOM IRON

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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 15

ABATE OF CALIFORNIA, INC.

American Brotherhood Aimed Towards Education

10240 7th Ave
Hesperia, CA 92345-2631
1-760/956-1669 Fax 760/956-6519
http://www.abate.org
info@abate.org

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EDITOR

John (Milky) Loudermilk
Assistant Tina Sanders

PRODUCTION & PROOFREADERS

Carol Cromwell & Caroline Griffith

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Bruce Waldron & Gill Mellen

COLUMNISTS

Bill Bish, Sporty Milligan, Jim Lombardo, Dave Hastings, Norm E. Newiger & 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.

Business Card size \$15.00/Mo \$150.00/YR
Business Card with color \$20.00/Mo \$200.00/YR
Super-Size Business Card with color \$250.00 Yearly only

A Super-Size Business Membership includes Business card on our website with a web link to your business.

ALL Yearly rates Includes a Business membership to ABATE Of California.

Business Memberships include two persons at the same mailing address, and a display plaque for the first year. Business cards need to be mailed to the ABATE State Office with membership application and appropriate fee.

Other Business Ads or NON-ABATE Event Flyers Rate:

¼ Page (5" w x 7.8" h) \$150.00/Mo \$1,500.00/Yr.
½ Page (10" w x 7.8" h) \$175.00/Mo \$1,750.00/Yr.
Full Page (10" w x 15.5" h) \$350.00/Mo \$3,500.00/Yr.

Color for an ad or flyer is extra and (ad copy, print ready) must be submitted showing color. All ads MUST be pre-paid for whatever duration you will be running the ad. Prices do not include any changes that you may want to make to existing ads placed with us.

Ads should be submitted electronically – in a jpg or tiff file – email to bailing.wire@abate.org and either mail payment to the address below or call with credit card number and billing information.

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\$125 - One Year Business Member Listing, Couple Membership and Display Plaque. Add \$75 per year for color business card.

CLASSIFIED Members may advertise in the Classified Section at no charge.

PHOTOS

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

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.

Recap of ABATE Board of Directors meeting held January 2015 in Cypress.

by Dave Hastings

Here is my unofficial recap of our first ABATE of California Board of Directors meeting of 2015 hosted by Local 20 in the City of Cypress. The official minutes will be available from our Board of Directors' Secretary at a later date.

This was our first meeting in Southern California in quite a while, and even though we experienced a steady drizzle and rainfall throughout the day it was well attended.

After the preliminary opening of the meeting, the Board of Directors elected/appointed our 2015 primary office holders and there will be no changes from last year except that Mark "Dogman" Castillero will assume the position of State Treasurer and give Lil' David Morena a well needed rest. "Thank You" Lil' David for your years of hard work in this position and for helping Mark transition comfortably into your old job.

I also want to thank our new Board of Directors members: Dan Buse, Mark Loudermilk, Sarge Matthews, and "Spike" for accepting a leadership position on our State Board. All of them will be an asset to our ABATE Board of Directors and I look forward to working with them in 2015 and beyond.

One last "Thank You" needs to go out to Jody Maxwell from Local 20 who did an exceptional job of filling in for our State Secretary, Nick Benson, who was in frozen Chicago, Illinois for his grandson's military graduation. Your minutes of these meetings were very clear and concise and we had them the following day! "Thank You" from the Board and everyone else in attendance at the meetings for volunteering to help and for your quick and accurate accounting of the day's events.

Now back to business. I am looking for people to become a Regional Representative for the Local Presidents in your area. If you are interested in the position or need more information to help you decide please contact me. We also have an opening for a State Public Relations Officer. If you are interested, contact Carol Cromwell at the State Office for more information.

A "Moment of Silence" was held for our departed members Frank Guzzo and Tom Watson of Local 17, and "Godfather" Ernie Dorsey of Local 40. Please keep them and their families in your thoughts as we start off the new year.

During my State Directors report I mentioned the progress on the 2015 Regional Rally planned for Mothers' Day weekend and asked everyone to attend or support the rally this year. We have a new committee and we are implementing some much needed changes to our Rally this year so come on out and help restore this Rally to its premier fundraising position on May 8-10th, 2015. We are working hard on securing corporate sponsors this year, but you are what make this Rally fun and worth attending. Save the date now, round up your friends and help support ABATE of California.

I also informed the Board of Directors meeting attendees of the change in our California motorcycle training program operator and my conversation and offer of assistance from ABATE of California. In return, they offered the use of many free training materials that we can use at our Local meetings and any special events that we may put on throughout the year. Hopefully we will see and open a new chapter of cooperation and sharing of mutual benefits between both of our organizations in 2015.

Under "Old Business" we had a presentation from Wendy Koro and Shawn Mahoney from Russ Brown Motorcycle Attorneys and after a very lively discussion we agreed to accept their offer of help to our ABATE organization. I want to thank Wendy and Shawn for their offer and also for their understanding and acceptance of the issues at hand and I look forward to their promise of help for the motorcycle community in California.

We also voted and approved to send "Dogman" and "Spike" to the NCOM Convention in May to represent ABATE of California.

The last important issue discussed was an offer from a promoter, "Notorious Entertainment" to operate our State Run in Kernville in 2015. After examining and discussing the offer we have decided to hire this company to promote and operate our State Run in 2015. This will be a new experience and a great opportunity for ABATE. I encourage all of our members to come to this event September 11-13, 2015 and check out the new ideas that will be incorporated into our event. Our profit, as always, depends on your participation so plan now to be there and do your part in making this event a huge success for ABATE.

The last item of the day was the presentation of the ABATE 2014 Freedom Fighter award. Glenn Phillips, President of Local 17 and all around good guy, was voted by our members statewide as the recipient of the 2014 award. I think it was one of the few times I've actually seen him at a loss for words and the surprise was evident on his face. Glenn graciously accepted the award and then in a quavering voice immediately dedicated it to our recently departed member "Godfather" from Local 40. Glenn said even though he was taking the award home and will always cherish it, he felt his friend was just as deserving and he will never forget him. I can't think of anything better to say than that to end a meeting.

Our next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for May 30, 2015 in Fresno. Be there!



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Scott Loeffler
Independent Agent / FAT Agency




Landstar Inway, Inc.
Fresno, CA
Phone: 559-271-3000
Fax: 559-271-3374
Toll Free: 800-538-3315
scottinway@sbcglobal.net

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LOCAL NEWS

Local #01 Los Angeles



Hi all! It's been a while since we last reported stuff in the Bailing Wire. Our December meeting was, as usual, small but spirited. We talked about the successful Fred Jordan toy run.

Brief discussion was also given to the possibility (and now reality - AB51 by Assemblyman Quirk) of a lane sharing bill. We also talked about the need to attend the first quarterly Presidents, PAC & Board of Directors meetings in January 2015. I also talked about memberships and if they were due, that you need to return your renewal to me ASAP. Steve B gave one of his last Run reports as he will be moving away sometime in January. With that we commenced to having a delicious breakfast provided by the Elks Lodge.

Our January meeting comes 3 days after the Bailing Wire articles are due. We will discuss the Polar Bear run, which will be on February 22, and continue to make plans for that run. Hopefully we will discuss the insurance for the run as well. I will report on the Presidents, PAC & Board of Directors meetings that were on January 10. This will conclude with the usual reports on the membership etc.

After the meeting a great breakfast will be served by the Elks Lodge for a nominal cost.

Regards, Local 1 President, Sporty

Local #02 Simi Valley



Our first meeting for 2015 is here! I thought I'd arrived early but didn't. There were quite a few members already enjoying our Delicious BBQ dinner! A special thanks to our volunteer cooks Guy and Scott! They started the New Year off right! We here at Local 2 serve a great \$5.00 BBQ dinner with all the fixin's. We are also blessed that we have access to the VFW bar for any type of drink you could want. We start serving at 6:45 pm and our meeting starts at 7:30 promptly. So there's plenty of time to hang out and enjoy before our meeting starts. We meet on the Second Tuesday of the month at VFW Post 10049, 4242 East Los Angeles Street in Simi Valley. Up front we would like to thank VFW Post 10049 for being a gracious host again and again! We definitely miss all who couldn't make this meeting and hopes to see you at the next meeting.

Our Pres, Guy, got us going with the Pledge of Allegiance and then talked for a little bit. VP Jim read to us a thank you letter from the VFW Post, and it's cool to thank one organization while being thanked by the organization you're thanking! I hope that makes sense.

Pres Guy also talked about supporting other Locals rides coming up real soon. Our Secretary, Jane, kind of read the minutes from our Christmas party - you had to be there! Our Treasurer, Pat, gave us our balance, PR Norm said read the Bailing Wire!

Bob, our new Ride guy, gave out a questionnaire for us to fill out hoping to get good feedback about our Local 2 ride scene for this New Year. Merchandise man, Scott, talked about our stock and getting some feedback about new merchandise etc. Membership reporter, Frank, was not available this month and Jane said we have members.

As the first meeting was kind of quick we all had a good

time. As the months progress we will definitely get busier and I hope that we have a good growth and camaraderie that surpasses last year.

It was good to see all that came to this meeting. We did have our serious moments and such, but we had a good time tonight and it went quick as I said before because of the fun we had!

Always ride safer than last time and check your tire pressure weekly during the winter months - with our crazy weather temperatures your tire pressure will fluctuate constantly. PTL norm e.

Local #06 San Diego County



HAPPY NEW 2015 to Ya'!!! Our ABATE Local 6 enjoyed another beautiful sunny day in San Diego although it was a little chilly and breezy. But our first meeting of the year on January 4 showed a great turnout with 35 in attendance. Five different clubs were represented as well as two members of the ABATE Board of Directors, Mark "Dogman" Castellero and Dan Buse, both from Local 11. We signed up five new members, four of which are ladies from the Graveyard Gamblers M/C.

Brian "Snowman" Trum, our President, reported on past events. And we want to thank all brothers & sisters who helped this past year. It truly couldn't have gotten done without you!!

The annual visit to the VA hospital Spinal Cord Injury ward was a huge success with the passing out of gifts to our beloved Veterans. There were so many gifts left over, that we donated them to the San Diego Naval Hospital.

The annual San Diego Toy Run went really well. And the toys were distributed on Christmas morning to the kids in National City at the "Frank King Christmas with Kids" event. It sure was good to see Charlene King again and we lined up over 200 brand new bikes to go along with the toys we collected.

We have a planned fundraiser event coming up March 21 at American Legion Post 460, 7815 Armour Street in San Diego. \$10.00 Shrimp & fixin's dinner served from 5 pm - 7 pm, live music 7 pm - 9 pm, door prizes and drawings. Please let us know if you plan to join us, so we can have enough for seconds!! Email: snowman1946@aol.com or text his cell (619) 855-9981.

Friend us on Facebook at ABATE of California, Local 6. Join us at any of our meetings, 1st Sunday of the month, Kate Sessions Park at High Noon!!! Hope to see ya!! Moe Giacalone

Local #11 North San Diego County



New Year's greetings from Local 11 North County San Diego! We hope everyone had a fantastic holiday season. Things will get busy here in 2015. We started the New Year with the elections of our Local 11 officers as well as having two of our own on the State ABATE Board of Directors.

2015 Local 11 Officers: President: Dan Buse, Vice President: Dick Beckton, Treasurer: Tim Clark, Secretary: Gary Elliott, PAC Rep: Mark "Dogman" Castellero, and Confederation of Clubs Liaison: Dick Beckton.

2015 State ABATE Board of Directors members from Local 11: Dogman and Dan Buse.

Congratulations to all!

The last 2 months had everyone busy with the holidays and no shortage of runs/events. We had the San Diego toy run and Christmas with the kids, the Frank King bicycle and toy give away in National City. Event headed up by Brian "Snowman" Trum of the BFMC who keeps it going. The ABATE Local 38 Turkey Run in El Centro was a success. Local 11 donated 10 turkeys to the less fortunate in the area.

The January meeting held this past Sunday, January 11, started with the Pledge of Allegiance. Prez Dan introduced the officers. Topic turned to the State Run in Kernville and a new organizational approach to the run that was discussed at the January Board of Directors meeting. As I said 2015 looks to be busy, much was discussed regarding the lane sharing, anti-profiling bills among others.

Dick has been tasked to work with the COC and Moose Lodge calendars to lockdown a date for the Local 11 fundraiser. Tim Clark gave us the treasurer's report. Dogman shared a ton of information on all the items above as well as the Associate membership program.

Doc from the Final Option MC is going to reach out to the sport bike community that comes down for their breakfast at Sweetwater Harley Davidson in National City. Need everyone we can get to be involved.

Opportunity drawing for December meeting was won by Prez Dan. He kicked it back to the Local - Thanks Dan! I won at the January meeting and did the same.

Much to talk about, not much space here. If you want to get on the email list for upcoming meetings and info, email me at gary.elliottabatelocal11@cox.net.

Later, Gary

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



December was cold and wet, so some of us at Local 17 took some time off from riding. We did our 28th annual toy run on December 7, returning the event to downtown Vacaville. Members also participated in other toy runs, the Wreaths for Yountville, and the laying of the Wreaths at the Sacramento Valley National Cemetery in Dixon. Our Christmas party at the Moose Lodge was well attended, and a whole lot of fun.

Our officers for the coming year are: President - Glenn Phillips, Vice President - Mike Todd, Treasurer - Toni Marshall, Secretary - Brian Hamlet, Membership Coordinator - Ron Vonsild, Run Coordinator - Mike Southward, Merchandise Coordinator - Gilbert Camou, Raffle Coordinator - Cody Russell, Newsletter/Run Cards - Dodie Dillon, and Media Coordinator - Shauna Manina.

Plans are underway for our 27th Annual Freeze Your Ass Off Run on March 7, dedicated to long-time member Tom Watson who we lost in November. We did a celebration of life for him in Dunnigan. We will be doing another celebration in memory of Frank Guzzo, who we also lost in November. We will be ordering patches for both Tom Watson and Frank Guzzo.

March 22 will be our Poker Tournament, a great event and fundraiser for our Local. We have set the following dates for some of our other activities: Spring Bingo on April 25, Hot Rods & Harleys on June 6, Memorial Ride on October 4, Fall Bingo on October 10, Christmas Party on December 5, and Toy Run on December 6.

We also have the Annual Capay Valley Almond Festival on February 22 and the 8th Annual Pop's Spring Freedom Ride on March 21.

Get out and ride, and get involved! We all know life is short and anything can happen. Make the memories now, attend the rides, and make a difference. Ride Safe, Ride FREE! Shauna.

Continued from Page 4

Local #20 Orange County



We had a very Merry Christmas December meeting. We ate turkey, Honey Baked Ham, mashed potatoes, green beans, corn, gravy, rolls and cranberry sauce. We talked, laughed and socialized. Then we had our choice of pumpkin, apple or cherry pie with whipped cream. It was great for all of the thirty members and the four guests that were at the meeting. A BIG THANK YOU to Iron Workers Andy & the Ladies of the American Legion for their help!

The dollar draw was won again by Scott Gottesman, (December meeting) so he went home with \$52.00. Twenty seven members and three guests attended January's meeting. Gill introduced Shaun from Russ Brown's law office who told us that Russ Brown will be running a monthly ad in the Bailing Wire.

Gill also said that we need more donations (to send in support for the Lobbyist & ABATE General Fund) so he encouraged us all to donate what we could.

The January ABATE Presidents, PAC & Board of Directors meetings were held at our meeting place. Our very own Spike is now a member of the Board of Directors along with Gill.

The Profiling bill is still working its way through the system and it is being worked on. Spike said that are about 900 or more new laws on the books for this year and as soon as he gets a list of all of them he will be sure we get a copy. One new law will make it possible for Veterans to have driver licenses that prove/show they are vets for an additional cost of \$5.00.

Mark St Julien's name was pulled for the dollar draw but wasn't at the (January) meeting, so the \$28.00 rolls over to next month. The politically incorrect Gill.

~~Leenie~~

Local #25 Sacramento



Lil' David called the November meeting to order at 7:00 followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Joe gave the treasurer's report. Ron had nothing new to report on merchandise, but Ruby funded and was selling new "Motorcycle Friendly Vehicle" www.abate.org window clings for \$3. Ron now has a new road name "TB".

Ruby said the group had collected over 2,000 signatures on the anti-profiling petition.

Lil' David called the December meeting to order at 7:08 followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Joe gave the treasurer's report. Gary, PAC, reported that in December AB51 the lane splitting bill was introduced. Our members are trying to figure out why we found out about this from AMA instead of thru our lobbyist. Lil' David passed out copies of the bill. The State ABATE has not made a stand on the bill yet (Editor's Note: See James Lombardo's article in this Bailing Wire). Our Local voted to oppose the bill as submitted. Nobody could explain why we need a law for something we can already do. If anything, the bill restricts lane splitting. Lil' David will vote against the bill at the up-coming PAC meeting.

Lil' David attended the Confederation of Clubs meet-

ing in Stockton. Bikers are receiving tickets for dark face shields. Attendees were unhappy about lack of publicity for the Unification Rally, nobody (in Stockton) knew about it.

Lil' David made a motion to roll over officer duties, 2nd by Gary, and approved. Ruby suggested passing out flyers at the Easy Rider show. David Smart will have copies of AB51 to pass out also.

Meeting adjourned at 7:28. David S., secretary.

Local #52 Grass Valley

Another one in the books! 2014 wasn't too shabby. We added membership, participated in more events, and I think 2015 will be even better! I challenged everyone last year to bring in at least one new member. I'm doing

this again. Just one! Talk to your off-road and metric riders. Get the word out! If you frequent a motorcycle friendly business, ask them to join as business members.

We faired pretty well in the elections arena too. The win/loss results as follows: Board of Equalization - 2 of 3 (66%), US House of Representatives - 7 of 9 (78%), State Senate - 7 of 11 (64%), State Assembly - 23 of 31 (74%).

The local's Christmas party was a blast! Thanks to all who helped and attended. BIG kudos to VP Don for setting us up with The Willo (Business Members) and a HUGE thanks to Mike and Nancy for the awesome food and service. Nobody does steak better! This was the first year we implemented a gift exchange too. A suggestion from Brenda Whittington that really turned out to be a good time!

Cheers! Craig.

ABATE LOCAL #1

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SUNDAY FEBRUARY 22, 2015

\$12 Singles

\$18 Couples



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FIRST 100

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May 8-10, 2015

www.abateSRR.com

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RV INFO. - JEFF OZANNE (760) 948.2186 - E-mail: Jozz477@hotmail.com

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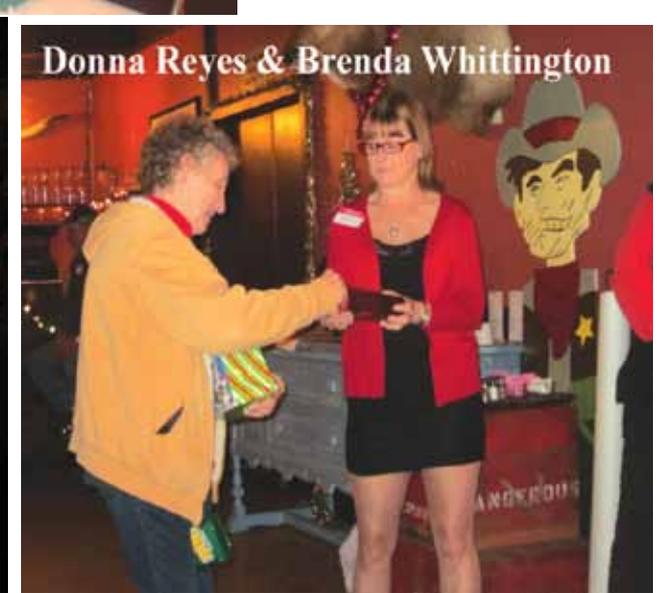
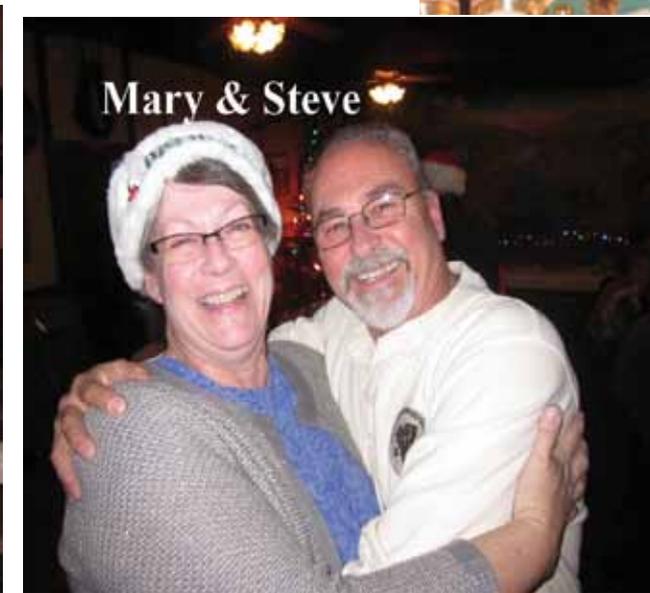
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Local # 52 Christmas Party

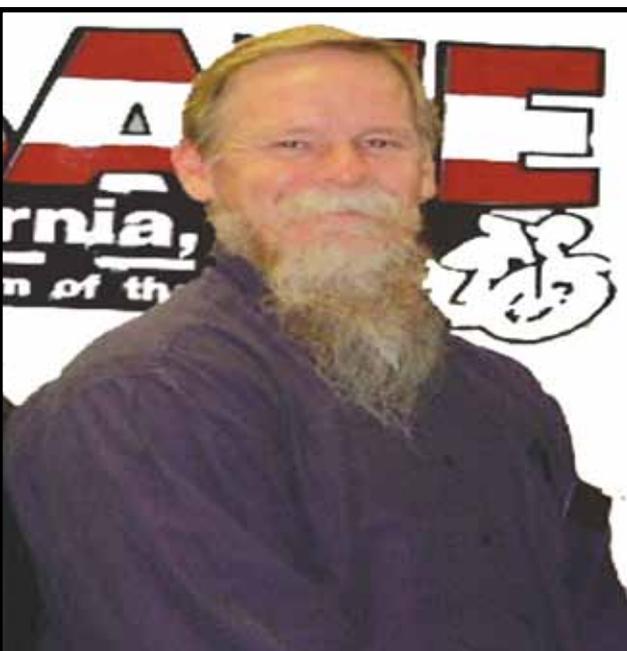


Local # 19 & Pomona Valley H.O.G. Toy Run



Local # 1 Fred Jordan Toy Run





Pac/Treasurer's Report

fic stops or personal contact with motorcycle riders. Senator Cooley is going to introduce the legislation and ABATE of California has already made a commitment to support this legislation when introduced.

Even if you have not personally dealt with profiling you have probably, at one time or another, been affected by it simply because you ride, visit establishments where other riders congregate, or attended a run where you may have been under the watchful eye of law enforcement. All of us have probably had our license plates ran while out on a ride, even if an actual stop or police contact was not made. Again, these actions were performed simply because of our outward appearance or based on our mode of transportation. Hopefully this legislation and training will curtail some of these police activities unless they are truly justified and warranted by our actions not simply our appearance, friends, or the motorcycle that we ride.

The second important bill that has been introduced is AB51, introduced by Assemblyman Bill Quirk, concerning lane sharing. This bill will codify, or write into law, lane sharing in California. Although commendable, it has some serious flaws. First, lane sharing is already allowed in California and any time legislation is introduced it can be modified or amended before it actually becomes law. During this process we may end up with something completely opposite of what we thought we would have when the bill first started down the legislative path to our governor's office for a signature. Second, AB51 limits lane sharing to speeds under 35 mph so it would radically

change the current practice of allowing lane sharing up to the posted speed limit of the road you are traveling on. ABATE feels there are already enough laws to deal with lane sharing in the California vehicle code book and we do not need any more at this time. Thus we cannot support this bill as written and must find a way to have it withdrawn. If it successfully moves forward, this bill must be amended to better serve the riders of our state before we can support it.

These two pieces of legislation, along with whatever else is lurking on the sidelines to be introduced, are going to take up a lot of our time and energy this year. Please be prepared to face them both head on and hopefully we will prevail on both issues while we keep a watchful eye for anything else that affects our motorcycle lifestyle in California in 2015. Come to our ABATE PAC meetings and get personally involved and don't forget to help fund our Lobbyist.

If you have any info regarding possible motorcycle legislation or upcoming meetings concerning motorcycle issues in California, please contact our State Legislative Director Chuck Pedersen at (805) 496-0323 or email Chuck.Pedersen@gmail.com immediately. The ride you save may be your own!

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

ABATE "Brothers & Sisters" Lost in 2015

Ernie "Godfather" Dorsey, Local 40 (passed in December 2014);



Rest In Peace, May they ride Forever Free.

On Behalf of ABATE - our heartfelt condolences also go to James Lombardo whose Mother, Hazel Lombardo, passed away on January 14th.

Classified

FOR SALE: Complete 5 speed gear set, shift forks, Compensating Sprocket, Primary chain and bearing door from 1997 Road King. Like new, 2K miles. \$650. Contact Glen (818) 344-4656.

FOR SALE: I have an "almost" new aftermarket speedometer, 8-1/2" face, 306 miles. It fits an early model Harley-Davidson XL Sportster or a FXR Low Rider model. Handlebar mount with rear reset knob and mechanical front wheel drive. Bought from JP Cycles in January 2014. Paid \$109.00. Want \$75.00 cash. Leave a message for Steve B. from Local #01 with Sporty, 818.361.8800.

by Dave Hastings, Treasurer

With the election season behind us we can finally get back to work with our elected officials and their staff and try to make California a better place for motorcycles.

We are going to have a couple of very important and possibly even game changing pieces of legislation to deal with in 2015.

First is the anti-profiling legislation that should be introduced this year. If you ride a motorcycle anywhere in California, this piece of legislation will be important to you. The California legislation is modeled on a bill that was successfully passed in the state of Washington that provides updated anti-profiling training and affects police activity when making traf-

2015 ABATE Events

www.abate.org Events Calendar

February 22 - ABATE Local 1 - Annual Polar Bear Run (see flyer in this issue for details.)

March 7 - ABATE Local 17 - Annual Freeze Your A** Off (see flyer in this issue for details.)

March 21 - ABATE Local 6 - Fundraiser event at American Legion Post 460, 7815 Armour Street in San Diego. \$10.00 Shrimp & fixin's dinner served from 5 pm - 7 pm, live music 7 pm - 9 pm, door prizes and drawings. Please let us know if you plan to join us, so we can have enough for seconds!! Email: snowman1946@aol.com or text his cell (619) 855-9981 (no flyer).

March 22 - ABATE Local 17 Annual Poker Tournament, a great event and fundraiser for our Local. (Details TBA)

April 25 - ABATE Local 17 Spring Run (Details TBA)

May 8-10 - Southern Regional Rally - Victorville, Hosted by ABATE Local 44 (hopefully a flyer in this issue), Sponsored by Victorville Harley-Davidson. Please do your part to help make this event a success.

May 30 - 2nd Quarterly ABATE Meetings - Fresno

(Details TBA), ABATE Members, please attend, these meetings are not just for Officers and Local Presidents.

June 6 - ABATE Local 17 - Hot Rods & Harleys (Details TBA)

September 11-13 - ABATE State Run, Kernville, Frandy Campground. (Details TBA)

October 4 - ABATE Local 17 - Memorial Ride (Details TBA)

October 10 - ABATE Local 17 - Fall Run (Details TBA)

December 5 - ABATE Local 17 - Christmas Party. (Details TBA)

December 6 - ABATE Local 17 - Toy Run. (Details TBA) We also have the Annual Capay Valley Almond Festival on February 22 and the 8th Annual Pop's Spring Freedom Ride on March 21.

All event flyers that have been received are also on ABATE's website Event Calendar - can be downloaded and printed in a PDF format - ABATE LOCALS - Don't Forget To Get Your Event Insurance, contact the ABATE State Office.

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BILL W'S SOBER PACK

BILL W'S
AA MC
HIGHER POWERED SOBER PACK

Motorcycle Safety Report

by Norm e. Newiger,
Safety Officer

Winter Riding? Yes!

Happy New Year! I for one hope to do a lot more, and whatever I do, hope that it is better than what I did before! This New Year our beautiful state of California has over 900 new laws as of January 1! And we know it's an ongoing process throughout the year as well. Last year in America there were over 40,000 new laws passed! This year there will be more than last year! While most will be new, a lot of old laws will be amended, which in my mind is new again.

I'm somewhat perplexed about some of these new laws that strangle our freedom. I don't get it. You can pretty much grow and smoke weed but you have no choice on wearing a helmet! And I'll boldly say there are a lot of weed smoking drivers and riders out there, yesterday, today and tomorrow, but don't get caught riding without a helmet! I just want to have a choice because it's called Freedom. The focus should be about motorcycle safety overall rather than isolated laws that do or don't do protect us. The marijuana law change and the relaxed attitude toward it are opening doors to everyone's safety. Just like alcohol it will increase accidents, deaths, major injuries, etc. Education will be in the front of all things after the constant problems as these new laws allows. We will react again as soon as we get fed up with all the new tragedies.

As I write this in the first few days of the New Year, it's winter here and it's cold in Southern California. And with that said it should be illegal! Riding in cold weather is a good thing - I'm not talking about riding in the snow, although you can if the roads are clear and dry. It's a good thing if you are prepared; temperatures can change up to 40+ degrees in a day. In the mountains just being on the backside in the shade can be 20+ degrees colder. I don't ride those modern day bikes with hand and seat warmers and I don't have a fairing or windshield, just a Softail with apes so I'm like a funnel kite, bring on the coldness! I do prepare myself though, packing extra layers as needed and different types of gloves in my saddle bags. I kind of have a grandma theory about this, and I pack for everyone, just in case one of my riding buds is stupid. You can get hypothermia riding in cold weather. You set this action by increasing the wind chill factor as you ride. Here is an example of what I'm talking about: If you're riding at 40mph and the temperature is 40 degrees the wind chill factor is 27 degrees. If the temperature is 30 degrees then the wind chill factor is 13 degrees. If you're on the shady side of a mountain or riding in cloudy skies and the temperature drops suddenly to 20 degrees then the wind chill factor is -1 degrees. It could happen that fast! Being exposed to these conditions can lead to frostbite quickly.

When you ride when it's cold your primary goals should be to keep your body warm and avoid hypothermia. Hypothermia is a condition brought on by the body's temperature dropping lower than it needs to function normally. The initial symptoms include shivering, feeling sluggish and sleepy etc. This could happen at any given time and to be prepared is a must because in cold weather the temperature fluctuates constantly and possibly drastically. Being prepared doesn't mean a full face helmet, leather jacket with liner, thick winter gloves, riding chaps and two pairs of socks on. It's a good start though. It is about layers and spare clothes at your access. Moisture or wet clothes are not a good thing while riding in cold weather. If you bring extra clothes for the layering effect, then change and add or even take off as needed, especially socks. Your feet do sweat in cold weather and your feet can get frostbite. It is very important to bring extra socks with you. I learned this in cold winter training in the Army. For me, there is nothing worse than really cold toes while riding!



I cannot afford the high dollar winter riding clothes and accessories. I have to make do with what I have and be old school. Like most people I have the necessary clothes to ride safely in the winter. It's about being prepared properly. Being prepared is not limited to just having extra clothing or accessories, we have to be mentally prepared as well. Can you deal with slurpy freeze brain while riding? As we ride in cold weather our body feels thick and our reaction time is slower even though for the most part we feel okay. To compound this we wear cumbersome clothing as well, I guess it's the price we have to pay to enjoy riding year round. Although unpopular to say this, alcohol will not make you warmer, it will make you feel warm at first but then you'll feel colder than before. Hydration is important; you can get dehydrated in cold weather and not realize it. When you're all dressed up you start sweating as soon as you ride, it's normal reaction from being warm and trying to cool down, and the air is much dryer than summertime. Drinking plenty of water is a good thing.

Being prepared for what could possibly happen is just being smart. No matter what season we ride in, we all plan our ride in advance if it involves a ride of certain mileage. The wind in cold weather is the enemy, you can use rain gear to repel the wind or any other type of clothing that repels the wind, thus your body will sweat more, what to do? Like I said before conditions can change real fast during winter riding. Here are a few emergency things you can do if you're not prepared and get caught up in a ride and the weather changes. You can use newspapers under your jacket for insulation, if you can't find a store of any kind that sells cheap rain suits; you can use large plastic trash bags (cut out 3 holes like a poncho) to keep you dry and or warm, remember it's about keeping your vital areas warm, i.e. torso and lower extremities. I have done this before and it's a bit noisy but it worked! My tool pouch that travels with me has a few pairs of latex gloves. If your gloves and liner don't work well you can do this, leave your liner on then use latex gloves then the leather gloves. It's a good emergency wind barrier you can use. If you feel too cold then find a place where you can warm up and drink hot coffee while your body recuperates. If there isn't someplace to stop, then pull over and maybe do some calisthenics until you get warmer. Changing your wet clothes for dry ones is

also important, especially the socks!

Now comes the biggie! Check your tire pressure before you ride! Tires in cold weather are very important for road stability. Your tires do get hard and will eventually heat up as you ride but when you stop for a certain time they will get cold and hard again. Just do it!

One more thing: Black ice. It's out there, whether day or night even in Sunny California, underpasses and bridges are good places where this happens, as well as shady places and where water leaches onto the road and freezes over. This is when you can't panic. When you come to this situation, you have to think about the same thing as riding in the rain or crossing water, no jerky movements or locking your brakes. Yes you can slow down slowly and go through it without incident. It does happen that fast, it appears out of nowhere and you have to think that it could be anywhere. Sand is another issue as well. Street service people use sand for your safety and you know what could happen! It's the same as washouts on curves due to over flooding or the poor design of roads.

It doesn't matter if you're riding in the mountains, high desert or even in town you have to be prepared from the very beginning. Like getting weather reports from multiple sources and finding out the road conditions of your planned ride. It's really easy to do nowadays and it could save your life!

Ride safe this year and enjoy the year round scenery that California, or wherever you are provides, after all it's our freedom!

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For more information and to make an appointment call 310/578-2500 and mention you are with ABATE. (You will need to show your membership card as proof of current membership in ABATE of CA.) We are located at: 4644 Lincoln Blvd, Suite 404 in Marina Del Rey, 90292. Our website is www.oceanbreezedentals.com

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

Donations!! – General, Lobbyist & PAC Funds – THANK YOU!!!!

Thank you to each and every one of you who have contributed to these various funds through the end of 2014 and the beginning of 2015; 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!

We will do our best to recognize your generosity by listing and thanking you here; IF we leave your name off, please contact Carol@abate.org or Dave Hastings 760/947-4700 and we'll list you next month. (Most times it's just a matter of when the mail arrives and the Bailing Wire deadline.) But it never hurts to follow-up.

Our THANK YOU THIS MONTH... (Received up to January 15th) GOES TO the following:

For Donations designated for the **General Fund**:

Southern Regional Rally 2014;
Louie Karle, L#17;
Reggie & Avril Mackay, L#11;
And Nicholas Burnett "heard good things about

ABATE" and sent a donation.
And from ABATE Locals: 2, 8, 11, 19, 21, 23, 24 & 38.

Donations to the Lobbyist Fund from:

Glen Erickson L#19;
Mike Kachic, L#19;
Rick Mullaly, L#52;
Doug Silveria, L#24;
And ABATE Locals: 1, 2, 11, 17, 19, 21, 23, 24, 27, 38 & 40.

Donations to the PAC Fund from: ABATE Locals: 8, 17, 21, 23, 24,

Thank you ALL for your donations!!
Donations are welcomed at any time for any fund... you can snail mail checks payable to ABATE of CA; 10240 7th Ave; Hesperia, CA 92345-2631. In the memo please indicate which fund(s) you want your donation applied to.

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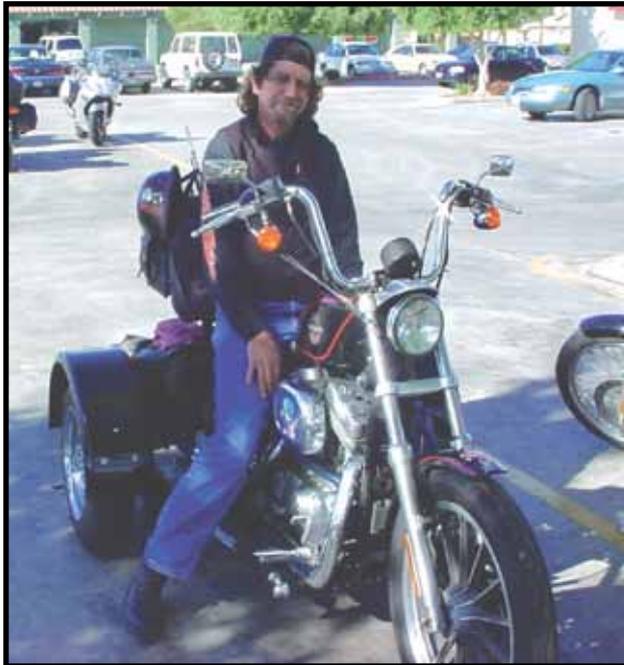
by Lee 'Sporty' Milligan

It's a brand new year and full of excitement and issues that we will need to be aware of. My report begins with the medical aspects. I am getting stronger and will be attempting to get back to work in the near future. I am also going to see my prosthetics shop Essential prosthetic and ask them some important questions on foot issues (types of shoes and boots I need to wear or can wear. etc.) loosening and tightening of the stump. This will happen January 14 in the pm. So the medical process is still with me but it's getting better.

Ok we're shifting gears to the way back machine. As last reported, I had attended the Shaggers Christmas poker run. That was November 9. I am driving at this point so on Thanksgiving I drove up to Santa Barbara to spend Thanksgiving with my brothers and sister at my sister's house. I had a great time and we remembered my mom and dad on this day. They have been gone since 2006 and 2008 respectively.

Other than doing AA meetings locally nothing was happening. On December 7 I went to the Local 19 and Pomona Valley HOG Chapter annual toy run at the Ontario Elks Lodge. My Local at our November meeting donated money so they could purchase 3 bikes and helmets for needy kids. I enjoy this event very much because I get to see my ABATE friends from the area. They have a lot of vendors there as well so it was a good day.

The next week on Saturday, December 13, I was in Riverside for the Local 27 toy run at a place called Hydroponics. Trouble was I got lost but eventually found the place after finally figuring out that Riverside is several more miles down from the freeway. I had a good time and also visited with friends I have not seen for a while that belong to ABATE Local 27. Another fun afternoon.



The very next day, December 14, was our Skid Row toy run and it was a very good day. The sign-in table was prepared before I arrived. My crew showed up; Jim Nickla, Glen C, Jeri Alexander, Iceman, Steve B, Sharon Anderson and Gloria who helped work the sign-in table. The other Local 1 members got donation money and the insurance form signed. The event takes place at Glendale Harley Davidson. The combination of the HOG chapter, the staff of Glendale HD, and ABATE Local 1 all do their part to make this a good event for all concerned. I get to see members of Local 1 who don't always show up to the Local meetings. Never-the-less the benefactors' of the

bikers' generosity are the children of Skid Row. Bless you all.

Nothing goes on the rest of the month except I finally got my 2002 883 Sportster to Casey's Motorcycle shop in Pacoima. With the help of the mechanic, I decided to get the bike back to running condition as a total rebuild is just too expensive. The transmission is going to get some needed attention and we're going to address some minor leaks as well as putting the Voyager kit back on. January 12 I went to check on the status and the owner stated that they had ordered transmission parts, so there is progress being made.

I took "the little truck that could", my 1989 Toyota 2x4 pickup truck, to Junior at DSI Industries in Van Nuys. Junior has all the parts to make it handicapped compatible, however now it's a matter of getting the space in their shop to do the project. I'll call on January 15 to see when I can bring it in to get the work done.

The weekend of New Year's I went to an AA dance at the San Fernando group's hall. Had fun. Then on New Year's Eve I did a shift at the San Fernando group's AA alcahthon. My group puts on a good event for those who suffer from drinking too much. There is a 50/50 raffle and we gave away a 42 inch Vizio TV.

The last event in this ride report was the first quarterly Board of Directors, PAC & President's meeting in Local 20's meeting spot in Cypress. The meetings went well, we have legislative issues of concern this year, and the Board looks like it will meet the challenges put before us. Thanks Gill for securing this fine venue.

The Membership drive for 2015 has started; get your new members so they can help us in the fight of Preventing Tooth Decay (bad laws from happening in California).

That is it for now. Till next time, regards, Sporty

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

by Lee 'Sporty' Milligan, Membership Chairman

Hi all! Welcome to 2015! The winners in the 2014 annual Membership drive are: Third place \$100 to Gill Mellen, Local 20 with 10 new members; Second place \$200 to Dogman, Local 11 with 15 new members and First place \$300 to Glen Phillips, Local 17 with 17 new members. Honorable mention goes to Kimko, Local 63 with 9 new members. Congratulations! And thank you for your efforts in the 2014 Membership drive.

First place \$300 to Glen Phillips, L# 17 with 17 new members.



With the political issues that are coming before us - the lane sharing bill, the anti-profiling issue etc. - we need to keep our membership numbers intact. The overall numbers have been relatively consistent, but we can make them better. I am sure in your Locals you have had first year members that have failed to renew. This is a difficulty we will try to address this year. To help me out with the issue of keeping first year members, a concerted effort shall be worked on and suggestions of how we can possibly keep first year members around for a second and third year and so on must be obtained. So, once again, I am asking you for suggestions on how to improve the issues of keeping the first year members - and all renewals. Email your suggestions to me at sportymilligan@yahoo.com

We are going to do a trial membership called the Associate membership. That way they can do a first year trial membership to see what ABATE is all about and within that year will then consider joining as a paying Member. These are Free memberships, there are exclusions and are written on the back of each application. Each Local has 10 applications to use at their discretion for new Single memberships. These will not be credited to recruiting New Members for the Membership Drive, only paying memberships. I am hopeful that all the Locals will embrace this program as another way of building up your Local numbers.

We are again going to do the annual Membership drive. As long time ABATE Local 1 member Mr. Peter Daniels has told me in the past, the Membership drive needs to be done annually. The Locals support in this annual endeavor has been critical to the success of the Membership drive.

The Membership drive goes from January 1 to December 31. The raffle ticket sales for the drive go from April 1 to June 30. These raffle tickets will be \$1 each. The Locals will get an allotment of raffle tickets before April 1. The selling of these raffle tickets pays the entire cost of the Membership drive. The \$250 drawing for the winner of the raffle tickets will be held at the July Board of Directors meeting.

So again when the call comes for you to sell those raffle tickets, please sell your allotment when you receive them.

I hope we continue to build up our membership. If you need membership supplies, contact Carol at the state office.

Regards, Sporty Milligan, Membership Chairman





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

MINNESOTA ANTI-PROFILING MEASURE INTRODUCED: A proposed anti-profiling bill before the Minnesota House would create rules to reduce perceived profiling of motorcycle riders and would require several law enforcement groups to draft anti-profiling practices when dealing with the riders. Once drafted, law enforcement agencies would then have to train every officer and verify that with the state.

House File 59, "Motorcycle Profiling," was filed on January 12, 2015 in the state House of Representatives and referred to the Public Safety and Crime Prevention Policy and Finance Committee, and the bill stems from claims that police have been pulling over motorcyclists without reasonable cause: "Purpose. The legislature finds that the reality or public perception of motorcycle profiling alienates people from police, hinders community policing efforts, and causes law enforcement to lose credibility and trust among the people law enforcement is sworn to protect and serve. No stop initiated by a peace officer should be made without a legitimate reason; the fact that someone rides a motorcycle or wears motorcycle paraphernalia is not a legitimate reason. Law enforcement policies and training programs must emphasize the need to respect the balance between the rights of all persons to be free from unreasonable governmental intrusions and law enforcement's need to enforce the law."

The measure defines "motorcycle profiling" as "(T)he illegal use of the fact that a person rides a motorcycle or wears motorcycle-related accouterments as a factor in deciding to stop and question, take enforcement action, arrest, or search a person or vehicle with or without a legal basis under the United States Constitution or Minnesota Constitution."

HF 59 is co-sponsored by Rep. John Petersburg (R-Waseca) who said that he signed on to the bill in part because he heard claims of profiling on the campaign trail. In October, he attended a forum hosted by American Bikers for Awareness, Training and Education, or ABATE. "Because they're riding motorcycles and wearing motorcycle gear, they're getting stopped," Petersburg said.

A representative for ABATE of Minnesota told the Owatonna People's Press that an anti-profiling bill was among the group's top legislative priorities. Minnesota was the first and only state in the country to enact a biker anti-discrimination law; Minnesota Statute Section 60A.12, enacted in 1998 states in part: "A place of public accommodation may not restrict access, admission, or usage to a person solely because the person operates a motorcycle or is wearing clothing that displays the name of an organization or association."

S.C. BILL AIMS TO REQUIRE CHILD SAFETY SEATS AND BELTS ON MOTORCYCLES: A bill that would require babies and small children to be secured to a motorcycle with seat belts is under consideration by South Carolina lawmakers.

S.C. state Rep. Joseph Daning (R-Berkely Co.) filed legislation (H. 3040) that would require a standard, rear-facing child safety seat to be used for motorcycle passengers from birth up to 1 year of age, and for a belt-positioning booster seat with both lap and shoulder belts for children younger than 7 and weighing 40-80 pounds. "We take care of our children in cars, but they're so unprotected on the back of motorcycles" said Daning, who added that the bill was prompted by constituents who feared an ex-spouse would ride their children on a motorcycle.

Rep. Bill Taylor called Daning's proposal "government overreach" and said motorcyclists are a safety-conscious community, but child-safety advocates support Daning's efforts. Only a handful of states impose a minimum age for riders, and South Carolina is not one of them according to the Children's Trust of South Carolina, pointing out that 25 children required emergency medical attention due to motorcycle injuries in the state from 2007 through 2009.

ABATE of SC state coordinator, Ralph Bell, emphasized that there have been no fatalities of passengers under 7, and said changing the law would hinder charity events. Dennis Welborn, the state legislative coordinator for ABATE told the Morris News Service that "Its passage would cause much more harm than good," and in particular, mounting a child safety seat on a motorcycle would change its center of gravity, making it unwieldy, affecting its handling and braking abilities.

MSF CONTRACTED TO MANAGE INDIANA MOTORCYCLIST SAFETY PROGRAM: The Motorcycle Safety Foundation has been awarded a four-year contract by the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles to provide motorcycle training, beginning March 1, 2015. The contract award marks the end of the state's training relationship with ABATE of Indiana, which had been training riders since the 1970s. According to Jay Jackson, ABATE Ex-



ecutive Director, more than 125,000 students completed its courses during that time. The ABATE Board of Directors voted not to renew its contract.

The MSF will oversee Indiana's statewide training locations, provide an Indiana-dedicated website and online class enrollment function and administer all aspects of training, including MSF's extensive quality control program.

Indiana law requires would-be motorcycle riders to first obtain a learner's permit, and then pass a motorcycle skills test or present a certificate of completion from a BMV-approved motorcycle safety course. After March 1, Hoosiers who pass the MSF Basic RiderCourse will not need to take Indiana's on-cycle skills exam.

"We'd like to recognize ABATE of Indiana for their achievements in providing motorcycle training over the past several years through the state's network of training sites and trainers," said MSF Vice President Robert Glad-

den. More than 7.5 million riders internationally have completed motorcycle training using MSF's curricula in the foundation's 40-plus year history.

VEHICLE DATA PRIVACY CONCERNS VOICED IN MONTANA: A Montana House panel recently heard a bill to give vehicle owners more control over the large stores of information now accumulated by newer cars and trucks, and motorcycles. House Bill 78, sponsored by Rep. Ryan Lynch (D-Butte), would give vehicle owners more control of that data by codifying provisions stating that only owners, lessees and authorized representatives can gain access to recorded data in the event of a crash.

Insurance companies already make use of telematics -- the many pieces of data that reflect driving habits -- but insurance lobbyists say they're willing to sit down with supporters and hammer out a bill that's agreeable to everyone.

This is just one of several privacy bills the Montana Legislature will consider this session and, if enacted, the law would become the nation's strongest driver-privacy act.

GLOBAL MOTORCYCLE MARKET PROJECTED TO EXPAND: The worldwide demand for motorcycles is forecasted to grow by 6% annually to over 132 million units by 2018, valued at \$120 billion, according to a 502-page study released this past December by Freedonia Market Research.

Four major trends will drive growth through 2018: 1- An increasing number of households in industrializing countries will be able to afford motorcycles as personal incomes rise. 2- Sales of electric bicycles (e-bikes) and other electric models are projected to rise sharply outside of China from what are currently very modest levels of demand. 3- Motorcycle sales in a number of countries will be spurred by government programs aimed at reducing environmental pollution caused by automobiles. 4- Market advances will accelerate in a number of important markets such as Brazil, Indonesia, Thailand, the U.S., and Vietnam.

However, further gains will be restrained by slowing growth in China, the world's leading market for motorcycles, because of the large number of motorcycles already in use there. Market gains will also be dampened due to substitution by consumers of light vehicles for motorcycles in China and other industrializing countries.

MOTORCYCLE INJURIES & FATALITIES ON DECLINE: The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has announced that motorcycle fatalities have dropped for the second year in a row, representing the largest drop in fatalities for any road user. According to the Fatality Analysis Reporting System, motorcycle fatalities for 2013 dropped from 4,986 to 4,668; and the 6.4% decrease was the largest percentage drop of all vehicle categories.

Fatal motorcycle crashes involving alcohol dropped by 117 deaths, or 8.3%, also the largest decrease in the category.

NHTSA also reported a drop in the number of injured motorcyclists from 93,000 to 88,000, a 5.4% drop, again the largest decrease in the category.

Motor vehicle fatalities overall decreased by 3.1% from 2012-2013 and injuries declined 2.1%.

FEDERAL LEGISLATION REINTRODUCED TO CURB MOTORCYCLE-ONLY CHECKPOINTS: Motorcycle-only checkpoints would be discouraged under a bipartisan bill reintroduced January 8, 2015 by a group of senators in the new 114th Congress. The bill would prohibit the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration from issuing grants to states to fund motorcycle-only checkpoints.

Sponsoring senators say such roadblocks are discriminatory, where riders are specifically targeted by police to check that their vehicles meet state standards for noise, handlebar height, tire condition and other requirements, including helmet compliance.

The states of California, Louisiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Illinois, New Hampshire and Virginia have all passed legislation to prohibit motorcycle-only checkpoints.

CONGRESSIONAL BILL CALLS FOR ETHANOL STUDY: Once again, on January 6, 2015, U.S. Rep. James Sensenbrenner (R-WI) reintroduced a bill in the new Congress calling for further study of ethanol and its effect on internal combustion engines.

H.R. 21 would repeal the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's waiver decision related to E15 fuel and the authority of the agency to grant further decisions in the matter, until the EPA seeks an independent scientific analysis of the effects of gasoline containing up to 15% ethanol.

Sensenbrenner said, "Our constituents use boats, motorcycles, snowmobiles, cars, lawnmowers and tractors. They deserve to definitively know what E15 will do to the engines they rely upon."

No motorcycles or ATVs are currently on the approved EPA list for E15 use, and the use of E15 can void manufacturers' warranties.

WEIRD NEWS: YOUTUBE VIDEO LEADS TO STUNT RIDER ARREST: A cop couldn't corral dozens of reckless riders who took over a California highway, performing dangerous stunts and taunting the officer, but the marauders left an obvious trail on social media.

One stunter, armed with cameras mounted on the front of his motorcycle and helmet, filmed what turned out to be incriminating evidence that later led to his arrest.

The video, posted to YouTube and garnering over 1.5 million views, shows several brazen bikers popping high speed wheelies and buzzing a California Highway Patrolman, who is also on a motorcycle and attempting to pull over one or more riders before giving up due to safety concerns. As the officer backs off, bikers are seen exuberantly pumping their fists in the air in a short-lived victory celebration.

Three weeks later, following an internet trail including personal information posted in social forums, police busted the 32-year old stunt rider who recorded -- and shared -- video of the wild ride and arrested him at his house in Brentwood on felony accessory and obstruction charges, as well as a marijuana grow operation in his home.

QUOTABLE QUOTE: "The highest patriotism is not a blind acceptance of official policy, but a love of one's country deep enough to call her to a higher plain." ~ George McGovern (1922 - 2012) American politician, historian & author



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Motorcycle Riders Foundation Awareness & Education (MRFA&E)
was established to promote motorcycle awareness and education due to an ever-increasing rider population. No one is more concerned with rider safety than riders themselves, and obviously those best suited to educate newer riders are veteran riders.

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Tech Tips by Craig Griswold Spark Plugs II

Last month we hashed over the fundamentals of spark plugs. Now we can take a look at how spark plugs can help diagnose engine problems and assist in tuning fuel delivery.

We can start with a normal spark plug. A light tan to grey color is indicative of normal combustion.



Carbon/fuel fouled plugs are a result of an overly rich air/fuel mixture. The appearance is a black, sooty deposit on the electrode and insulator.



Using plug condition (plug reads) to tune fuel delivery is fairly straight forward. Although not difficult to do with a carbureted bike, it's nearly impossible to accomplish with a fuel injected set up unless the fuel tuner has a manual adjustment for the basic operating ranges. Precise tuning by adjusting maps would be far too tedious and should be accomplished on a dyno, auto-tune systems notwithstanding! We'll cover EFI tuning in a future issue.

To tune your carbureted bike, plug readings must be accomplished in separate, distinctive operating power bands (circuits). For each circuit, the bike must be operated in that specific rpm range.

As an example, if you're checking the low range you will have to ride the bike in that rpm band (for V-Twins it would be just off idle to approximately 2500 rpm), then pull in the clutch lever while chopping the throttle and immediately shut down the engine. Coast to a safe location and pull the plugs. The condition will be indicative of fuel delivery in that circuit. Disable the accelerator pump (if equipped) or your readings will be inaccurate. Keep in mind that the rpm parameters will vary a few hundred rpm for different carburetors. You'll have to read up on your particular carb and tune accordingly. We have a series on carburetor tuning that covers most of the popular brands. We will re-run these articles in future issues. The process is the same for mid-range and top-end tuning. Keep in mind that conducting tuning runs on public roads can be dangerous. Use a closed course where traffic variables and other hazards are not an issue. Of course the safest option is a dyno tune by a shop. No road hazards to worry about!

Ride safe!

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(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 Facebook).

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MEMBERSHIP FORM

A Union of Motorcyclists

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

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

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

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

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

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

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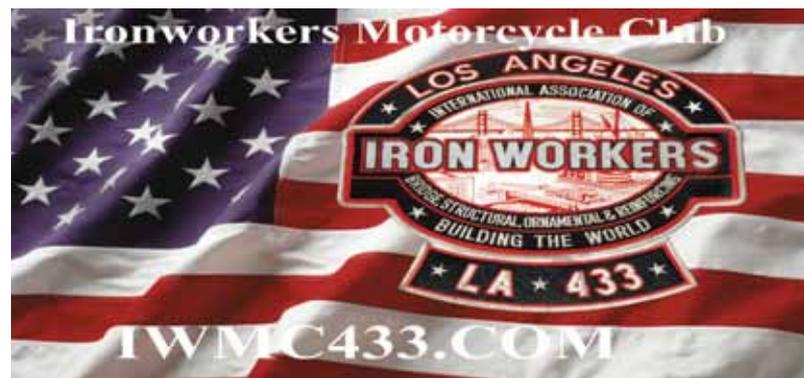
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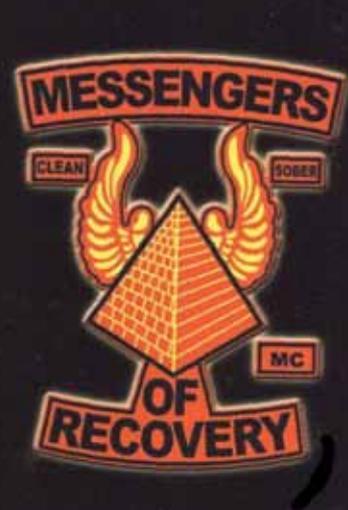
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Guy Corrigan 2nd Tues 7:30 PM
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Chuck Pedersen 3rd Thurs - 7:00 PM
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Steve Howe 2nd Mon.7:30PM
American Legion #354
8071 Whitaker
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South Orange County - Local #09-Reg#11

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Costa Mesa 92627 5646 Corporate Ave.
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Ron Sundquist 2nd Thurs - 7:00 PM
37230 52nd St. East AV Roadhouse
Palmdale 93552 320 W Ave J2
661/586-5555 Lancaster 93534
ron.sundquist@sbcglobal.net

South Bay - Local #22-Reg#11

Suzanne Palmiere 2nd Tues - 7:00 PM
310/245-0543 Meet with Local 20
suzpalmiere@aol.com

San Bernardino - Local#23-Reg#9

Ed Pelton 1st Sun 9:00 AM
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Kenny Nuttall 1st Tues - 7:00 PM
P.O. Box 7070 American Legion
Riverside CA 92513 2979 Dexter Dr
951/377-5772 (in Fairmont Park)
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Marty Rapp 2nd - Thurs - 6:30 PM
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760/367-1694

North Valley - Local #31-Reg#2

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

Yuba City - Local #33-Reg#2

Steve Katen 2nd Tues. - 7:PM
530/749-1003 American Legion
5477 Feather River Blvd.
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Imperial Valley - Local#38-Reg#12

Ed Aranda Last Thurs - 7:00 PM
760/337-8372 La Fonda Bar & Grill
220 Wake Ave.
El Centro, CA 92243

Bakersfield - Local#40-Reg#6

Robert Zamora 3rd Tues. 7:00 PM
661/330-9366 Rusty's Pizza
5430 Olive Dr
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High Desert - Local#44-Reg#13

Dave Hastings 2nd Sat. 9:30 am
760/947-4700 Eagles Order #4181
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Barstow - Local #47-Reg#13

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Yermo CA 92398
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 Meet with Local#44
760/447-4342

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Kimko 310/907-6174 1st Monday 7:00pm
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