# **The Bailing Wire**

**Volume XXX** 

**ISSUE IV** 

A Union of Motorcyclists Dedicated to Freedom of the Road

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**ABATE Meetings** 

## Lobbyist's Legislative Report

### by James Lombardo, Lobbyist & Assistant Legislative Director

As this article is being written, there's still no solution to the \$25 billion state budget shortfall, but our Sacramento legislators still had enough time to introduce over 2,350 bills, ABATE's two bills among them!

Meanwhile, ABATE's AB 695 authored by Assemblyman Chris Norby, to repeal California's mandatory motorcycle helmet law, is set for its first hearing in the Assembly Transportation Committee on April 25, at 1:30 pm in Room 4202. That's the same room we have had our hearings in before. If you can make it, PLEASE DO! Next year is an election year and ALL As-

sembly, Senate and Congressional Districts COME of future helmet law repealers by holding our elected officials' feet to the fire shouldn't care about. {to send a Thank you, email danny.martinez@asm.ca.gov in the subject write "I support AB695" and then your message.}



For you old timers, you will remem- mittee hearing on April 25! will be redrawn. We can change the OUT- ber that OUR Good Ol' Buddy Assy. Dick Floyd, because of reapportionment, was put MOTORCYCLE ONLY Checkpoin in the same District as Assemblyman Dave authored by the Vice Chairman of the with their votes to repeal a law they really Elder, another PRO HELMET vote. I found sembly Transportation Committee, Ke out from insiders, that then-Speaker Willie Jefferies, is set to be heard in April, a Brown was supporting a little-known City in the Assembly Transportation Comm Councilwoman from Carson, Juanita Mc- tee. Our bill will prohibit the CA Office Donald. I spoke with the Speaker's staff Traffic Safety (OTS) from issuing grants about our outrage over the Floyd Motor-

cycle Helmet law, and they told me the would put a good word in with her, for I told ABATE's State Coordinator, P Lax and PAC Director, Mike Osborn to her a visit. Which they did, and during the discussions with her, she said that she pro choice on the helmet issue and HU DREDS of ABATE campaign volunte showed up and worked to DEFEAT DI FLOYD!

We need to continue to WORK ELECTIONS; put up lawn signs; n phone banks and walk precincts. That how you elect friendly Legislators v will vote Yea on pro motorcycle issu Now, I need to get off my soap box you at the Assembly Transportation Co

Our other bill, AB 1047, to S Continued on page 3

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### ABATE OF CALIFORNIA NEWSLETTER

April 2011

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 notoreyclists rights and safety with pays 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 2011 State Officers Executive Director Tony Jaime 760/608-1975 Asst. Exec. Director- Ron Vonsild 707/761-4058 2010 Regional Directors Region 1: Lori Adams 707/263-4681 Region 2: "Lil" David Morena 916/616-9605 Region 3: Ron Vonsild 707/761-4058 Region 4: Vacant Region 5: Vacant Region 6: Ed Rogers 559/264-2891 Region 7: Linda Wright 818/400-8419 Region 8: Tom Lubbers 626/335-6508 Region 9: Steve Kawecki 909/910-1369 Region 10: Vacant Region 11: Vacant Region 12: Dave Connors 760/975-5953 Region 13: Yermo Ed 760/953-7353 Chairman of Board Sarge Matthews 818/968-3400 Secretary Sandra Lubbers 626/335-6508 Treasurer David Morena 916/616-9605 Editor John (Milky) Loudermilk 602/421-7516 Legislative Director Johnny O'Kane johnnyOKane@gmail.com Assistant Legislative Director Jim Lombardo 760/956-1669 Membership Sporty Milligan 818/361-8800 State Run Chairman Tony Jaime 760/608-1975 Safety Officer John Del Santo 619/223-0421 Merchandise Coordinator Tina Sanders 760/956-1669 Communications Officer Gill Mellen 949/632-9787 MRF Liaison Robert Cuthbertson IV 909/921-2159 Public Relations Officer Vacant Insurance - Contact the State Office Webmaster Dave Walsh 805/486-1093 **2011 Board of Directors** Lori Adams 707/263-4681 Bob Blatz 925/427-5135 Dave Hastings 760/947-4700 Tony Jaime 760/608-1975 Tom Lubbers 626/335-6508 Gill Mellen 949/632-9787 Sarge Matthews 818/968-3400 David Morena 916/616-9605 Lee "Sporty" Milligan 818/361-8800 Dave Walsh 805/486-1093 Cynthia Witthans 760/946-0366

### by Anthony Jaime, *Executive* Director

Greetings Brothers, Sisters, & Friends: I am writing to you this month from the heart. Tough times are upon us as an organization. We are not alone; individuals, entire families, other organizations, as well as local and state governments are all feeling the financial crunch of these tough times. As we've all heard many times, tough times call for tough choices, and the Board of Directors of ABATE of California is faced with making some tough calls right now to insure the survival of this organization. Some may not be too popular with all of the decisions that are being made but let me assure you that they are being made from economic necessity. I can personally attest to how tough life can be for folks in these times having experienced my own personal trials over the past couple of years. Recently, things improved for me with a new job and it has given me a sense of increased optimism for the outlook of ABATE.

I can't think of a single member of the Board of Directors of ABATE of California who has not been impacted by the financial downturn that America has been experiencing. Nevertheless, your Board of Directors has continued to work for the betterment and financial solvency of this organization, often at our own personal expense and with much time and effort invested. We do this because we believe in what ABATE of California represents, what ABATE has accomplished, and what ABATE has yet to accomplish. While there are many motorcycle groups and organizations out there, none have played the pivotal and significant role that ABATE has in fighting for the rights of motorcyclists in the State of California. Unfortunately, our dedication and hard work alone is not enough, and we need participation from everyone and all the Locals in the form of financial support.

In order to continue to operate with a balanced budget, the Board of Directors has made cuts where we can

but making cuts is not the only answer to our financial problems. Locals are going to have to come into increased compliance as well and contribute to necessary expenses such as Directors and Officer's insurance and to the Lobbyist Share program. Currently many Locals are not contributing their fair share to these expenses and it puts an unfair burden upon both the State office and the Locals that are contributing to fund these essential budgetary expenses. In addition, Locals need to comply with their quarterly reports to insure that they are covered by the D & O insurance. The D & O insurance is a yearly expense to each Local of approximately \$60 and the Lobbyist Shares are \$45.45 a month per share for each Local.

**Executive Director's Report** 



I am asking that every Local who has not already done so to send in your share of the D & O premium, and for every Local who is not contributing to the Lobbyist Shares to begin to send at least one share per month. Pass the hat or start a cussing fund or create a dollar donation at each monthly meeting but each Local should be contributing at least \$45.45 a month towards the Lobbyist fund. If every Local was contributing at least one share per month, we would have \$1499.85 a month going into the Lobbyist fund and that would Kampground, 16530 Stoddard Wells Road solve one financial problem for us. \$45.45 a month per Local is fairly inexpensive for what it provides us in Sacramento!

For far too long there has been a lackadaisical attitude among some of our Locals to not contribute to these essential budget items. That attitude needs to change and I am asking all Local Presidents to

take these matters up with their Local boards and members and start the ball rolling to help put us back on track to financial solvency. I know that many new officers and members may be unaware of these obligations but it is time renew our commitments to the guiding principles upon which ABATE was founded. Locals are free to raise revenue and are encouraged to do so but since Locals are operating under the not-for-profit tax-structure of ABATE of California, it is the responsibility of each Local to help support the parent organization by contributing to the various funds we have set-up to operate the corporation.

In addition, the Board of Directors would like to see each Local commit to holding at least one fund raising event per year that is dedicated to raising money for the General Fund. Folks, money won't solve all of our problems but it sure does grease the rails that this train runs on. We are all in this together and we all need to pull together as a unified team working in concert with one another to insure that ABATE of California can continue to do the work of safeguarding our rights as motorcyclists. As we all know, there are an incredible number of motorcycle related events out there every weekend, all of them competing for a limited number of dollars. Therefore, I would also encourage Locals to support each other by attending their ABATE events, which not only fosters good will among our membership but it also keeps our money flowing in the right direction to help us most. Charity begins at home.

With that thought in mind, I would like to close for this month by reminding all that the annual Spring Appeal for donations will be arriving in your mailboxes shortly and that this year's Southern Regional Rally will be held on Mother's Day weekend, May 6, 7, & 8 at the Shady Oasis in Victorville.

Please be generous in supporting the appeal and by making plans to attend the annual ABATE Southern Regional Rally fund raiser. We look forward to seeing you there.

That's it from my corner this month.

### 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 The Bailing Wire newsletter is published monthly by ABATE of California, Inc., with corporate mailing address at 10240 7th Ave. Hesperia CA 92345. All editorials, membership and advertising is to be sent to the corporate mailing address. Circulation: 10,000 monthly. Writton articles are the aminions of the

Written articles are the opinions of the authors and not necessarily the opinion of ABATE of California. Editor reserves the right to edit any copy.

### EDITOR

John (Milky) Loudermilk **PRODUCTION & PROOFREADERS** Carol Cromwell & Caroline Griffith **PHOTOGRAPHERS** 

Daryl Adams, Lana O'Brien, Gill Mellen & all our Members **COLUMNISTS** 

Bill Bish, John Del Santo, Sporty Milligan, Jim Lombardo, Dave Hastings, Tony Jamie, & Craig Griswold

### **DEADLINES**

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

AD RATES
Business Card \$15.00 /Mo.
\$150.00 /Yr.
Double Size Business Card W/Color
\$250.00
1/4 Page (5"W x 5"H) \$150.00 /Mo.
\$1500.00 /Yr.
1/2 Page (10"W x 5"H) \$175.00 /Mo.
\$1750.00 /Yr.
Full Page(10"W x10'H) \$350.00 /Mo.
\$3500.00 /Yr.
Full color ad is 25% extra.

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

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

### PHOTOS

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

### April 2011

### ABATE OF CALIFORNIA NEWSLETTER

### Jim from page 1

to law enforcement agencies to stage MOTORCYCLE ONLY Checkpoints and also require the OTS to conduct audits of the safety checkpoint grants to insure that law enforcement is complying!

This will be a major victory for motorcycle riders, who are being singled out for profiling. We will need letters and emails on this bill as well! Stay tuned and look for our action alerts for what you can do to stop this disgraceful discrimination against bikers! { to send a thank you – email craig.deluz@asm.ca.gov In the subject write "I support AB1047" and then your message.}

Special Elections: There is a special election runoff in the 4th Assembly District to replace current state Senator Ted Gaines for the Assembly seat he just vacated. Beth Gaines, his wife, won the Republican primary and is in a runoff with Dennis Campanale, a local Democratic. The District has a

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



General Fund PAC Fund Lobbyist Fund

45% Republican to 31% Democratic registration, and heavily favors Gaines to win. Election Day is May 3.

Governor Brown set May 17 as the special election date for the 36th Congressional District race. Los Angeles City Councilwoman Janice Hahn is running against a very good friend of ABATE, current Secretary of State Deborah Bowen, who carried ABATE legislation that increased penalties for drivers failing to yield the right-of-way to motorcyclists. Please get out and help send our friend to Washington D.C.

Thanks to all of the Locals that are contributing to the Lobbyist fund! See you all in Sacramento on April 25 - it's our Annual HELMET REPEAL BILL DAY IN SAC-**RAMENTO. LETS FILL THE HEAR-ING ROOM, AGAIN!** 



#### Mission Statement

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



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

hania1300@att.ne

utside deck / pool tables music / ice cold beer

#### **Circle type of membership** 1. Life Single \$450.00 2. Life Couple \$650.00 **3. Gold Business** \$125.00 4. Gold Business W/color \$200.00 5. Double Size Gold W/color \$250.00 \$30.00 6. Single (1 year) 7. Couple (1 year) \$50.00 Patch for New or Year Pin for renewal received? Yes $\square$ No D Mail to:

ABATE

10240 7th Ave

Hesperia, CA 92345-2631

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### WARENESS R FREEDOM & MOTOR

Sacramento - May 23, 2011 South Capitol Steps 11 am to 1:00 pm **Invited Guest Speakers** 

### MAKE YOUR PLANS NOW TO GET TIME OFF TO ATTEND!!!

Once again we will be gathering to bring attention to them want to push even harder to quiet your motorcycle or FREEDOM of Choice for Motorcycle Riders and to pro- get rid of them altogether! mote Motorcycle Awareness to other drivers to share the road with motorcycles.

in Sacramento to tell them in person about your views on mento, too!! legislation that is proposed or just to say "hi" and hope they can support your views. Please call them beforehand and dance this year; you just can't make a big impression with special room rate will be held until make an appointment. You can find their contact informa- only a handful of people in attendance. Attending the rally April 30<sup>th</sup>, so make your reservation tion at this web site -http://www.legislature.ca.gov/legisla- does a few things tors and districts/legislators/your legislator.html

While there, be sure to sign their guest book and leave a business card with their staff.

As we have done in the past, there will be "Sponsored" of Choice; free motorcycle parking on the North side of N Street between 10th & 14th Streets. Parking will be reserved from 8 important in that you took the time and extra effort to go to am to 6:00 pm. If you would like to sponsor a parking me- Sacramento to meet with them and their Sacramento staff, ter, (\$25.00/meter) please contact the ABATE State Office not just in their district office; either by email carol@abate.org or call 760/956-1669.

DO NOT RAP your PIPES on arrival or leaving the representing some imaginary group of invisible people; Capitol! Believe us, YOU will not be promoting a good image with how loud your pipes can be, in fact, it just makes about OUR Freedom of Choice.

urged to attend. This is our chance to be seen. The weather

It is also a great time to see your elected legislators should be even better at this time of the month in Sacra-

It gives support to the Legislators who are in support of our issues and trying to help us gain back our Freedom

It implies to your Legislator that Freedom of Choice is

It shows support for our paid Lobbyist, in that he is not

It shows the other Legislators that WE are concerned

There are rooms available at the Everyone is invited to attend. All motorcyclists are La Quinta Inn, 200 Jibboom Street, Sacramento 95814. Call 916/448-8100 to make your reservation and mention We look forward to having a HUGE crowd in atten- ABATE for the SPECIAL room rate. This before that date.

## **ABATE of CA**

invites ALL motorcyclists interested in preserving YOUR RIGHT TO RIDE to join us.

Meet and hear motorcycle-friendly legislators and invited speakers.

### State Capitol, south steps Monday, May 23, 2011 @ 11:00 a.m.

Free sponsored motorcycle parking on the north side of N St. between 10th & 14th Streets from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

### DO NOT RAP YOUR PIPES when arriving or leaving the Capitol!

Make an appointment to visit your Legislator before or after the rally. Go to www.ABATE.org and click the Allies & Info link to find your legislators.

Spend Sunday night at La Quinta Inn (200 Jibboom St., Sacramento) and ride as a group to the Capitol. Call (916) 448-8100 before April 30th and mention ABATE for the special room rate.

For more information call: Lil' David (916) 616-9605 or ABATE State Office (760) 956-1669



### Local #01 Los Angeles



Sporty here with the Local 1 report. Again my meeting ing Wire and we have not had our meeting.

Briefly folks, our meeting will take place at the Elks the results of the Polar Bear run. The PAC report consists of discussion of AB695, the helmet modification bill sponsored by Chris Norby. Then we will discuss AB1047, the bill to prohibit funding for motorcycle only check points. persuaded. Glen will give a membership report, Jim Nickla will do a publicity report, and Sarge (if he is here) might give a run plans to get a group to ride to Local 27's Bare Necessari- ner. Will there be another Halloween Poker Run this year? ties run in Riverside in April. The meeting will probably conclude with the group having the opportunity to purchase breakfast. Regards, Sporty.

### Local #06 San Diego



It was a great meeting overlooking beautiful Mission Bay in San Diego. There was a great crowd of members and visitors there. Our new President, Steve Martin, did a great job of running an interesting and fast moving meeting.

We had reports from our officers and then discussed legislative and judicial news, including Assemblyman Norby's AB695. We passed out slips of paper with "Find your

Legislature" links and links to all Assembly members. Our

post things that they need or want to sell.

About a dozen members of Local 11 were there, and

falls in that gray area where the reports are due for the Bail- up to \$436. This subject is titled "What Part of STOP don't laws to ticket lane splitting. you Understand?"

John gave a safety report regarding the type of hazards Tickets and, hopefully, folks will buy some. We will make discussed our upcoming 2nd annual Local 6 Spaghetti Din- in the planning. Don't know yet, but we will keep you all informed.

> All known up-coming events were read (you can also them.

> We meet at Kate Sessions Park in the Pacific Beach part of San Diego on the first Sunday of each month at noon. C'mon Down! John.

### Local #15 Contra Costa County



Hello from Local 15! DID YOU KNOW that things are Webmaster, Joe Tatro, said he is going to put a similar link on the move in Oregon; required helmets may be coming into our Local 6 Website, abatelocal6.org so that folks can off! Oregon HB3141 requires helmet use only for those ungo right to the website and be connected to their Legislators. der 21 years old. As of March 14 the bill is still being de-At the request of member Beata, our Webbie installed a bated and not yet scheduled for a vote. Lane splitting might "classified section" on our website so that **MEMBERS** can also be coming to Oregon, just as California considers again an anti-lane splitting bill.

It is not that lane splitting is "legal" in California, but presented a beautiful plaque to John Del Santo for his past that there is no lane splitting prohibition, and anything not and continuing work for Motorcyclists' Rights. One item explicitly prohibited, according to the Constitution, is althat we discussed was in the event someone gets a red-light- lowed. One could, however, get a ticket for "unsafe lane camera ticket, don't just roll over and pay it because they are changing", which, apparently, is not much used. Some other being knocked down in Appellate Court. A red light ticket is states also are in the same situation, but apparently use other

ON ANOTHER NOTE: California threatened to pass Our PAC rep, Douglas Findlay, gave a fine report. He a motorcycle smog-testing bill, but the smog test has been Lodge in Tujunga at 10137 E Commerce. We will discuss encouraged all members to contact their Assemblypersons, eliminated, leaving DOT compliant mufflers required for urge them to vote in favor of AB695, ask them what their late year bikes. If the bill is more exclusive for motorcycles feelings are towards the Bill, and then report back to Doug- than cars, this law might not meet Constitutional muster las so that we, and Jim Lombardo, know who needs to be if court-tested. Details on compliant exhaust systems are available at 1-800-242-4450.

ON THE SOCIAL SIDE: ABATE Local 15 had a great involving sharing the road with amateurs driving u-rent-um after-the-holiday-rush party in March complete with live report. I will start sales of the Membership Funding Raffle moving-trucks. Our Events coordinator, Moe Giacalone, band, food, and good companionship. More such events are

> LOOKING FOR A BIKE EVENT? One good source for goings-on is <u>www.motorcycleevents.com</u> - check it out.

WANT BRAGGING RIGHTS? On riding in the cold find them on our website, abatelocal6.org) Our liaisons with (or heat) but don't know the temp? A meat thermometer, beother groups made their reports. We're going to have to in- cause only the tip is heat sensitive, is an accurate and cheap quire about a liaison report from the American Legion Rid- source of knowledge - as long as the tip is in the shade. ers, as more and more of our members are now riding with Tie it on with a plastic tie, tip in the shade, and log in your rights. Keep it safe, LongRider Mike.

### Local #20 Orange County



March Madness! 36 people in attendance, 4 guests equal 3 new members. Welcome to Pastor Tom Longbrake, Arlene Peden (aka Leenie), Angus Lutz and Bobby Stone.

Assemblyman Chris Norby is sponsoring AB 695, the Helmet Repeal bill and Assemblyman Kevin Jeffries

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### ABATE OF CALIFORNIA NEWSLETTER

## IE.

is sponsoring AB 1047, the Stop Motorcycle Only Check Points bill. We need to email, fax and write letters to As- to North County Road, part of historic El Camino Real and semblymen Norby and Jeffries that we support these bills. into Carlsbad to the Flower Fields, but unfortunately there Bombard the offices - they support us and we support them. were no flowers! So they rode along PCH into Oceanside

ABATE, patch holders, sport riders or anyone that rides, we cool little place that had the best hamburgers, before headband together to be heard and we can prevail. We need to be ing back home. Everyone enjoyed the ride and made it back accountable for our actions.

Donate blood/DNA swab for bone marrow match for Byron. This takes places on 3/26/11 from 7:30am-1:30pm am, at Jenny's Family Restaurant, 7750 Palm Ave in Highin Downey. Byron has 6 possible bone marrow matches. If land. Come early and have a great breakfast, then join us you can't donate, volunteer for helping out with paperwork. for a ride. See ya there.

Hope everyone's working to get their city proclamation. the Denny's restaurant in San Bernardino, off Orange Show May 23 is the first ABATE Freedom Rally at the Capitol. Road. Kick stands are up at 7:00 pm. Destinations to be putting on April 16th. The ride will honor veterans. There's always a great turnout for this, rain or shine.

Mark Buck lost out on the \$98 which will multiply next month. Ride Safe, Ride Free and Happy Easter, Squirt.

### Local #23 San Bernardino



This month's meeting started off with a full house and then we had guests! A few members from Local 27 dropped in. We discussed up-coming events and shared ideas for recruiting new members.

Plans for our Annual Chili Cook Off (May 14) are well under construction. See the events calendar in this issue. All ABATE Locals are welcome. Admission is only \$5 per person. We will be judging deserts and salsas also. First place winners will receive a trophy. There will be raffle prizes and a 50/50 drawing. Bring your best chili in a crock pot ready to be served and let's see who has the best chili in Southern California!

After the meeting a few members took a nice ride down Spike spoke about the US Defender's program. and stopped at the Red Rooster, which turned out to be a safe and sound.

All of Local 23's meetings are held on the 1st Sunday, 9

If you can't make it on a Sunday morning, then join us determined. Tammy.

### Local #24 Fresno

Lanes for our meeting. PLEASE remember the restaurant be there. at Cedar Lanes as they treat us very nice letting us use the meeting room free of charge.

President Ed opened with the Pledge to the Flag followed by a moment of silence for Brian, Sherri's finance, who was killed in an accident.

Politically not much going on in Sacramento except dealings around the budget, but we do have two bills that go to committee soon. We had a vigorous discussion about the cost of event insurance. Ed and Scott will explore different providers and cost for coverage of our events.

Our next event is the AMMO Run on April 16. I hope you have made your room reservations, by the time you read this it will be too late.

Treasurer Ursula reported our balance is strong and we continue to send money to all three ABATE funds each month. Phil said membership down a bit, but holding and we have 10 business members.

Terry said we need to buy more ABATE merchandise as our inventory is too large. For the AMMO Run we will use the t-shirts currently on hand by printing them with Bailing Wires so we would have them in time for our meet-2011 and not order any extra.

that? Membership drawing was for \$70.00 and won by an Idea. Many members want to go for a ride together just Ralph Malveaut, unfortunately he wasn't at the meeting. Next month we draw for \$80.00. See you on the road somewhere. Bruce.

### Local #25 Sacramento



Good March meeting and attendance was nearly dou-Motorcycle Awareness Month is only a month away. on the first Friday of the month for a dinner ride. We meet at ble normal attendance. We had a guest speaker from the Tea Party Patriots come and speak about a ride they will be

> Also signed up a new couple and renewed a member that had let membership lapse.

AB695 Helmet bill will be heard for first time in com-On the second day of the month we gathered at Cedar mittee on April 25th. All that can should start planning to

> Remember May 23rd Freedom Rally! Any ABATE member that makes a purchase in my shop in the basement of the Capitol will get 15% off purchase. Gary.

### Local #27 Riverside



Our March meeting was highly successful. Our attendance continues to grow as does our membership input of ideas and improvements.

Last month I took a ride up to Hesperia to pick up the ing, which is on the 1st Tuesday of each month. But the The \$90.00 50/50 was won by Ed Rogers. How about side effect was that the postage was also saved. Then I got for fun. So, I proposed the idea of a group ride to pick up Bailing Wires on the months that would allow us to pick them up on a weekend.

### ABATE OF CALIFORNIA NEWSLETTER



day. Sounds like fun. Look out Carol here we come.

Lots of things coming up and I'm sure your calendars are filling up as fast as ours is. Stay active, visible and ac- American Legion Hall, 5477 Feather River Blvd in Marys- Services will make the modifications within 2-3 weeks." cessible and pretty soon people start to notice. Want to know what's happening here locally? Check our website calendar at www.abatelocal27.org. Keep your Eyes Wide Open, Greg Covel.

### Local #33 Yuba City

To err is human, to forgive is divine. I am not sure who said that, but it is pertinent to my report this month since I made a couple of errors in last month's report! First correction: Our annual Motorcycle Awareness Day in the Park is Sunday, May 1st (not the 7th). Second correction: Club members "Vittles" and "Fixins" with Sisters of Scota WMC will be serving their "doggone dogs", chips and a soda for a small donation at the yard sale April 16th and 17th. Please accept my apologies.

Once again, the Bok Kai Festival dodged the rain on its 131st annual parade and festival. Several ABATE Local 33 members walked the parade route handing out flyers to the public. President Steve worked hard all day educating the "regular folks" about what we do to preserve our Constitutional Rights and freedom! We will continue to educate people in the Yuba/Sutter area about motorcyclists and the good that we do at every parade, festival or event we attend!

I hope to see many of you at the ABATE of CA Freedom & Motorcycle Awareness rally May 23rd at the State Capitol South steps! I FINALLY was able to get the day off from work for this important event. Don't forget to make an appointment to see your Legislators to advocate for our AB-695 helmet repeal bill and AB-1047 prohibiting grant money disbursement for motorcycle only checkpoints.

Here is a great chance to help our Local by donating any unused items for our yard sale April 16th-17th. Drop good friend.

On the 6th of March was Local 23's meeting and we donations off at Rick Brown's Propane, 5826 Lindhurst went to visit. Their suggestion was that we ride together Ave in Marysville. Last year the yard sale brought in over tiative to propose that a "No Parking" space be changed into next month after their meeting - about 10:00 am on a Sun- \$600. So come on over to Rick Brown's and help us beat a Motorcycle Parking spot. His motion was heard and the last years total!

> and cabbage dinner before our meeting. JUST \$8 to support of motorcyclists. them in their fight against cancer.

### Local #40 Bakersfield



With ABATE our voice is heard. The more support we give to ABATE, we give to ourselves, the louder our voice. AB 695 (helmet repeal) and AB 1047 (stop motorcycle only their city officials - May is Motorcycle Awareness Month. check points) are in need of our voice. Motorcycle only check points are wrong, a type of racial profiling. I am ask- gional Rally here in the High Desert. ing you to please send your representative a letter or e-mail supporting these bills.

Thank you Jim for all your hard work. I also want to

I also want to thank Steve "Studabiker" M for his ini-

response was, "There is room at the location to modify the Our meeting is always the 3rd Thursday, 7 pm, at the existing gore to create a motorcycle parking area. General ville. This Thursday we will be supporting the Legion Hall The spot is here in Bakersfield on R Street at the intersec-Relay For Life team by chowing down on their corned beef tion of 20th Street. Thank you Steve for continued support

ABATE Local 40 is now meeting at Rusty's Pizza, Till next time, keep yer knees in the breeze! Grumbles. 5430 Olive Drive in Bakersfield (west of Hwy 99, Olive Drive exit). Social from 6 pm to 7 pm, meeting starts at 7 pm. Omar.

### Local #47 Barstow



Howdy All! Hope every Local has made contact with

Local 47 is making plans to enjoy the Southern Re-

ABATE needs you all to attend the freedom Rally in Sacramento on May 23.

OK now everyone get out and buy and sell memberthank Robert "Sleepy" L for his continued support. He is a ship raffle tickets. We need you to do what you can to help ABATE grow. Yermoeddy.



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April 2011

Gloves

\$200

Retail - \$65.00

Wallet Chains

SIFUU

**Bob Mendoza's** 



### ABATE OF CALIFORNIA NEWSLETTER

## Pac/Lobbyist Report

### by Dave Hastings, Treasurer



Due to the tough economic conditions California and the rest of our country is enduring, ABATE of California has suffered a financial crisis too. Our General and Lobbyist very closely at our operating Funds are normally depleted at this time of the year but this year has been worse than expected. Because of the usual winter weather related riding slowdown we always look forward to spring and the promise of longer days and more riding events

he Problem Solvers

to replenish our ABATE funding accounts. Our "Spring Appeal" request should be arriving in your mailbox soon and I sincerely hope you will find a way to contribute this year. Each of us personally, and probably most of our employers, cities, schools, churches, etc. are in some form of financial trouble this year. Hopefully you are among the few who have not been severely impacted by this financial meltdown, First, make sure your Local is but all of us have had to tighten our purse strings and probably know someone who has suffered greatly. The requests for help have been spread widely and indiscriminately across the spectrum of our friends and neighbors. ABATE needs your help in these trying times too, and hopefully you will find a way in your motorcycle freedom account! heart to offer assistance.

ABATE, like you, has looked expenses and we have already made many necessary cuts and we will continue to look for more ways to stretch your limited funding dollars. Every family has faced this dilemma and you reach the point where there is nothing left to cut without

severe breakdowns in your family's lifestyle such as loss of the family home, repossession, or breakups/ divorce of the family unit itself. Has ABATE of California reached this point yet? Hopefully no, and with your financial help this dilemma can be averted. The bottom line is this; ABATE needs to increase income to make up for annual price increases and inflation, if we are to survive. fulfilling its financial obligations to your ABATE family funds, and then give generously of whatever amount you can personally contribute. These two actions will enable ABATE to continue to repay your generosity "with interest" and make sure it's deposited safely away in your

### THANKS TO ALL THAT DO. AND THOSE THAT DON'T. **PLEASE TRY TO!**





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### ABATE OF CALIFORNIA NEWSLETTER

### April 2011

## **Sporty's Rides**

### by Lee 'Sporty' Milligan

Hi all! This is Sporty and this month's column is going to be brief. As you know, I had a mishap on the bike and messed up my knee. I have been laid up and have not been able to ride.



OK Sporty, what have you been doing with yourself lately? I was laid up for a week, February 28 thru March 3, and then went back to work. Things were looking better and then on the evening of March 7,

after getting home from work, I got the flu and was real sick the rest of the week.

My "little truck that could" needed to get fixed because the negative battery cable was not report. Flash: You Presidents have holding onto the battery post and it caused the check engine light to glow on. Dealer fixed that Funding Special Raffle Tickets. They problem and then a day later the oxygen sensor malfunctioned and the check engine light came on again. Dealer fixed that and I also had them fix the thermostat as well. So hopefully nothing, tickets. PLEASE sell them and turn the other than what I know needs to be fixed at a

Ok. On March 11 I got my truck and after that my wife took me to the bike dealer in Santa membership drive cost FREE. Clarita and I rode my bike home. It felt good to be back on two wheels, but I am going to be cautious about riding. On Tuesday, March 15, I rode the bike to work and that was relatively smooth.

Sometimes in a person's life stuff happens. number of members ABATE has. Just like the tough spot ABATE of California is going through. I believe we can survive this and for the troops to get new members, it come out better. Hopefully I will have something is equally as important to keep them! profound to talk about for next month's column. Without the renewals, we're dead in the OK remember, please go and support ABATE runs and events. Regards, Sporty.

## **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

### by Lee 'Sporty' Milligan, **Membership Chairman**

Hi all! Membership Chairman Sporty here with this month's Membership received your allotment of Membership were sent to you based on the number of members you have, so some of you got only 50 tickets and some of you got 100 money and the completed ticket stubs in later date, happens to the "little truck that could".to the state office. By selling these tickets you will once again help make this year's

Get yourself off your duffs and get us some new members. Unity and strength in number of members is the motto for successful membership getting. So do your best this year and help increase the

Renewals: While it is important water. Have you got members of your Local that renew, but you don't see them

often at meetings? Include them in your reminder emails; by keeping them in the loop, you keep them in the fold and they respond with a renewal. Finally, by doing all this you will accomplish your goals of building up your Local and State ABATE as well. Take care, regards,

#### Sporty.



Successful students earn a DMV DL389 certificate and may walve the riding test at the DMV. There are more that 90 CMSP training sites in California ready to serve you. Your family and friends. CMSP

accepts ASAP Scholarships!





### **ABATE OF CALIFORNIA NEWSLETTER**

## COAST TO COAST BIKER NEWS

### **Compiled & Edited by Bill Bish**

MOTORCYCLISTS AWAIT ROAD- made it clear that any roadway checkpoint contact their federal officials to "solicit their lies. "Our soldiers fought to give Westboro BLOCK RULING: Motorcycle riders whose primary purpose is general crime support against grant money being used by the right to free speech," said Mike Todd, across the country are anxiously awaiting a control constitutes an unreasonable search the Federal Government to induce other a member of the Patriot Guard Riders from decision from the U.S. District Court for the and seizure under the Fourth Amendment States to participate in such discriminatory Reading, Michigan, noting the irony. Northern District of New York which they and is presumptively unconstitutional. Not- actions!"

hope will declare New York's "motorcycle withstanding that fact, the progress reports only" roadblocks to be unconstitutional. The which the police prepared on the check- introduced in New Hampshire (HB 148) and for the majority, saying of free speech; "It so-called "safety checkpoints", which target points specifically state that the grant funds California (AB 1047) to prohibit any state can stir people to action, move them to tears well-known motorcycle events, force motor- are used "for overtime for intelligence gath- law enforcement agency from accepting of both joy and sorrow, and -- as it did here cyclists to leave the roadway, regardless of ering and the subsequent criminal and traf- federal funding to establish motorcycle-only -- inflict great pain ... we cannot react to that any wrongdoing, and have their persons and fic enforcement." The police admit that the roadside checkpoints.

property inspected for equipment violations, checkpoints, which focus only on equipment proper paperwork, DUI and stolen VIN violations and forged and stolen VINs, do numbers. The National Highway Transpor- not address any of the major causes of motation Safety Administration (NHTSA) is torcycle accidents such as reckless driving, now providing Federal funding for law en- driver inattentiveness and alcohol impairforcement to conduct such motorcycle-only ment.

checkpoints nationwide despite objections The case, Wagner et al. v. The County raised by members of Congress and legal of Schenectady, et al. could wind up in the U.S. Supreme Court. The future of motorcy-

**BILLS INTRODUCED TO PRO-**

Wisconsin Reps. Jim Sensenbrenner,

checkpoints.

The New York lawsuit is the first to clists' rights hangs in the balance. challenge the constitutionality of motorcycle checkpoints. The plaintiffs are being represented by Proner & Proner, led by N.Y. Aid HIBIT MOTORCYCLE-ONLY CHECKto Injured Motorcyclists (AIM) Attorney **POINTS:** Even as Georgia police prepared Mitch Proner, a motorcycle-riding lawyer to launch the nation's first federally-funded who has a long history of doing "pro bono" motorcycle-only checkpoints during Day-(free) legal work to protect the rights of motona Bike Week, lawmakers in Washington torcyclists. The Proner law firm commenced were taking steps to cut federal funding for the lawsuit on behalf of four motorcyclists the controversial practice. who were detained at two separate checkpoints, as well as representing the interests Paul Ryan and Tom Petri introduced House of ABATE of New York and the National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM).

challenges from the biker community.

The checkpoints in question are funded by a grant from the New York Governor's Traffic Safety Committee and the troopers who work them are paid overtime. Although the stated purpose of the checkpoints is to promote safety, the majority of the more than a thousand tickets which were issued during the first year of the checkpoints had nothing to do with safety and instead focused not prevent crashes," Petri said in a news re- In particular, the Patriot Guard Riders were on non-safety violations such as loud pipes. The written guidelines for the checkpoints specifically state that one of the purposes for unscheduled inspections, so why are mo- incendiary demonstrations waged by Westof the checkpoints is to look for stolen and torcycle riders being harassed?" forged VINs and the police readily admit that they often have undercover members of unconstitutional use of motorcycle-only tolerance of homosexuality. their gang and auto theft units working the checkpoints being implemented in Georgia, activity.



SUPREME COURT RULES IN FA-Resolution 904 on March 3rd that would pro- VOR OF MILITARY FUNERAL PROhibit the secretary of transportation from TESTORS: Freedom of Speech was conproviding funds to state and local govern- sidered by our Founding Fathers to be our ments for the use of motorcycle-only traffic most important Constitutional right, which

is why it is the First Amendment to the Bill "The first step in motorcycle crash pre- of Rights, but the U.S. Supreme Court's revention should be rider education and in- centruling favoring the rights of hateful procreased awareness. Taxpayer money should testors over the dignity of a military funeral not be spent on helmet checkpoints that do doesn't sit well with some motorcyclists. lease. "Also, it's outrageously intrusive. No- formed in 2005 to protect the funerals of body is suggesting pulling cars off the road fallen warriors and shield mourners from the boro Baptist Church, which claims soldiers' "We stand in solidarity against the deaths are "divine retribution" for American

The High Court ruled 8-1 on Wednescheckpoints looking for signs of criminal and may be coming to your state soon," said day, March 9th, with only Justice Sam Alito Escondido Paul, National Lt. Commander dissenting, that the First Amendment pro-

According to Proner, the Supreme of the US Defenders, in issuing a Call To tects hateful protests at military funerals, Court of the United States has repeatedly Action (CTA) urging all motorcyclists to despite the pain they cause grieving fami-

> Although describing the court's holding In related news, bills have been recently as narrow, Chief Justice John Roberts wrote

> > pain by punishing the speaker." He said the national commitment to free speech requires protection of "even hurtful speech on public issues to ensure that we do not stifle public debate."

> > The case arose from a protest at the funeral of a Marine who had died in Iraq, Lance Cpl. Matthew Snyder. As with hundreds of other funerals, members of the Westboro Baptist Church of Topeka, Kansas, appeared with signs bearing such messages as "Thank God for Dead Soldiers" and "America Is Doomed".

> > Albert Snyder sued regarding the intentional infliction of emotional distress at the funeral of his son, and won an \$11 million jury award that was later reduced by a judge to \$5 million, but the verdict was overturned by a federal appeals court that ruled the Constitution shielded the church members from liability. The Supreme Court's decision upholds the appeals court ruling that threw out a \$5 million judgment to the dead Marine's father.

> > Dissenting Justice Alito strongly disagreed, likening the protest to fighting words, not protected by the First Amendment. "Our profound national commitment to free and open debate is not a license for the vicious verbal assault that occurred in this case," he wrote.

> > Westboro's antagonistic tactics have resulted in a torrent of legislative activity rarely rivaled in the annals of First Amendment history, with 41 states and the U.S. Congress having passed laws limiting funeral protests, usually establishing minimum distances and time constraints, while numerous munici-

> > > **Continued on Page 12**

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### ABATE OF CALIFORNIA NEWSLETTER

### April 2011

### Coast from page 11 palities have also passed funeral-protest or-

dinances at the local level.

### **RIDING OUT THE RECESSION:**

With gasoline prices approaching \$4 a gallon, commuters are turning to more fuel efficient motorcycles to save money. Sales and interest are up across the country, and many motorcycle dealers anticipate the popularity of motorcycles to increase even more.

Signs that the two-wheeled world is getting back on the road to recovery are coming from not only improving motorcycle sales, but also by the financial health of bikers themselves. Fewer bikers appear to be making late payments or defaulting on their motorcycle loans, according to a report issued by Fitch Ratings, a credit rating agency working with Harley-Davidson's Financial Services (HDFS) division.

In addition, the report also notes the improving market for previously owned motorcycles is again gaining strength, in part due to reduced inventory levels at dealers. This would allow for any repossessed motorcycles to be sold for a better price than they may have the year before.

#### NEW JERSEY LIFTS BAN ON SUNDAY MOTORCYCLE SALES:

New Jersev motorcycle dealers are rejoicing that they can now sell bikes on Sundays. Governor Chris Christie signed a bill into law allowing the Sunday motorcycle sales on March 3<sup>rd</sup>; though the measure does not affect the state's ban on Sunday automobile sales, nor does it apply in Bergen County where Blue Laws continue to prohibit the sale of most nonessential items on Sundays.

State Senator Donald Norcross introduced the legislation after a Camden County dealership complained about losing customers to stores in nearby Pennsylvania and Delaware as a result of the Sunday ban, adding that most motorcycle buyers tend to make purchases on weekends.

"With our dealerships closed for business on Sunday, consumers were heading across the river to make their purchases at bike shops in neighboring states," said Nor- chairs of the caucus, despite a gunman's vi- maker demands multi-tasking, young chilcross. "Especially in this economy, we need cious attack on Giffords. to give businesses the tools they need to re-Reps. West and Giffords were both re- when children are involved, people tend to

main competitive." Motorcycle businesses in Indiana and rectors to receive the coveted Silver Spoke

bans on Sunday bike sales.

### CLE CAUCUS EXPANDS: Newly-elect- For further information, or to register for leader. ed U.S. Rep. Allen West (R-FL), who was the NCOM Convention, visit www.ON-Aaccused by his incumbent foe of belong- BIKE.com or call (800) 525-5355. ing to a "biker gang" because he was supported by the South Florida Confederation Caucus.

ate about motorcycling and who work to dangerous drivers by profession. promote the interests of motorcyclists. The process.

"I'm very pleased to be able to join the biker magazine, "Wheels on the Road".

tatives Tim Walberg (R-MI), Tim Griffin folks rank so high? Distraction. (R-AR), Reid Ribble (R-WI) and Jeff Denham (R-CA) as the most recent motorcycle those on the other end of the study, deemed chael Conaway (R-TX), John Duncan (R- "Professions that demand multi-tasking -TN), Bob Filner (D-CA), Randy Forbes (R- being on the phone, moving VA), Walter Jones (R-NC), Doug Lamborn fast on a tight schedule - are (R-CO) and Tim Walz (D-MN).

Reps. Michael Burgess (R-TX) and and, from there, more ac-Gabrielle Giffords (D-AZ) founded the cidents," said Sam Belden, Congressional Motorcycle Safety Caucus vice president at Insurance. on June 26, 2009 and currently serve as co- com. "On the other hand, though the job of a home-

cently selected by the NCOM Board of Di- take their time and use greater caution."

Wisconsin have also been trying to overturn Award - Legislative at the upcoming 26th

AMERICA'S MOST DANGEROUS ZIEN INJURED IN MOTORCYCLE ACof Clubs, has become one of the newest DRIVERS BY PROFESSION: Chances CIDENT: As we prepare to go to press, members of the Congressional Motorcycle are the car that cut you off in traffic was NCOM has just learned that longtime bikdriven by an attorney, or a judge, or govern- ers' rights activist Dave Zien, a former The bi-partisan caucus is comprised ment worker or maybe even a dog groomer, Wisconsin state senator and record-setting of members of Congress who are passion- according to a new study listing the most long distance rider, was involved in an early

Resolutions supporting the goals of May gerous Drivers By Profession," with 44% said, and used its proprietary data.

Here is the full list of Insurance.com's suffered a broken hip. Congressional Motorcycle Caucus to work study of most dangerous drivers by profes-

Please keep Dave in your thoughts and enthusiasts on the caucus. Other members the least dangerous drivers. To that end are prayers, and NCOM wishes him all the best include Reps. G.K. Butterfield (D-NC), Mi- athletes and homemakers, the agency said. on his road to recovery.



dren are often along for any car ride. And

**OUOTABLE OUOTE:** "In matters Annual NCOM Convention over Mother's of conscience the law of majority has no Day weekend May 5-8, 2011 at the Hyatt place." ~ Mohandas "Mahatma" Gandhi CONGRESSIONAL MOTORCY- Regency in Albuquerque, New Mexico. (1869-1948) Hindu Spiritual and Political

### BREAKING NEWS FLASH: FOR-MER WISCONSIN SENATOR DAVE

morning crash on Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup> while

A study conducted by an online insur- attending Daytona Bike Week, and was tak-CMSC has actively highlighted the safety ance agency found that lawyers snared the en by helicopter to the Tallahassee Memorial of motorcyclists by passing Congressional No. 1 spot on a Top 10 list of "Most Dan- Medical Center and placed in intensive care.

According to news accounts, an SUV is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month, claiming a prior accident when receiving a traveling in front of Zien on Interstate 10 drawing attention to Ride to Work Day and car insurance comparison quote from Insur- attempted to change lanes, lost control and ensuring that motorcycle safety is remem- ance.com. Findings were based on accident flipped onto its side. Zien, 59, was unable to bered in the transportation reauthorization claims as a percentage of quotes, the agency avoid the overturned vehicle. Early reports indicate that Zien lost part of his left leg and

Zien is a longtime member of the with my esteemed colleagues on issues re- sion: 1-Attorney/Judge; 2-Financial pro- NCOM Legislative Task Force who fought lated to motorcycling," said West, who is in-fessionals; 3-Government worker (GS6); against helmet laws and for bikers' rights deed an active motorcyclist who contributes 4-Bartender or Waiter; 5-Business Profes- during his 13 years in the state Senate, from political articles for a local South Florida sionals; 6-Dog Groomer; 7-Marketing/Ad- 1993 to 2006. He's been inducted into both vertising professionals; 8-Barber/Stylist; the Sturgis Motorcycle Hall of Fame and the West joins with fellow U.S. Represen- 9-Coach; and 10-Nurse. So why did these AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame and rode more than 1 million miles on a 1991 Harley-That was apparently the opposite for Davidson Sport Glide.



## **Spring Has Sprung** by John Del Santo

Old Man Winter is melting away and the good riding days are upon us. Those of you who have been riding all winter will be able to do so with a lot less clothing, and those of you who have not been able to do much winter riding will be suffering from PMS (Parked Motorcycle Syndrome) and will be itching to get out on the road.

How has your bike weathered the winter? Are there any cracks in the tires? Do the tire stems look sound? Give them a twist. How about any cracks in those rubber hoses or chafing on any electric wires? Is there anything on the bike moving that shouldn't, and does everything move that should? Tighten it, lube it, and kick it a couple of times.

There are some bike owners who sat out the cold months in front of the TV, and who will be out there on the first warm day showing off, and end up in a ditch or shoving the rider next to him into oncoming traffic. Be it riding, skiing, or playing the fiddle, if I haven't done much of it for three months, then you're not going to do it extremely well. If someone hasn't been riding very much, they should be aware of their limitations and work into it gradually. They may even want to pop down to the local MSF training area and spend a day on an Experienced Rider Course like the BRC-2, www.msf-usa. org. (The Motorcycle Safety Foundation

is a member of ABATE.) It's good for tuning up skills and costs a lot less than most chrome parts you could buy for your bike. Besides, a good rider never stops learning.

Is some club hosting a big spring ride? Be aware of who you're riding next to in that group. If you don't know them, don't ride near them. If they do something stupid, tell them about it and then make them go ride somewhere else. Don't worry, their feelings have probably been hurt before.

The flowers are blooming and the bees are buzzing. Many allergy medicines will slow your reaction time considerably. Read the label, "Don't operate heavy machinery" isn't just referring to a bulldozer. Because of the spring run-off, we can expect some washed-out sand right around the next bend in the road. On some of those back canyon roads there is a constant trickle of water across the road and there may be moss growing under the water, which is about a hundred times more slippery than sand.

So Spring has Sprung! Enjoy the weather, enjoy the roads. Let's get in the wind and RIDE!

# **Help ABATE**

Help ABATE by Doing What You Love Search the Net with

www.Goodsearch.com/?charitvid=900395

#### by Tim Tennimon.

Yea that's right, surfing the net. ABATE of CA has been okayed to be listed on Goodsearch and provided with a web-link designed for our specific purpose. All you have to do is visit www.goodsearch. com/?charityid=900395 and use it as you would any other search engine.

That's it, think about it! You can support ABATE with the click of a mouse. This easy to use search engine, Goodsearch.com, which is powered by Yahoo, donates 50 percent of its revenue to the designated organization, that'd be ABATE of CA. It works save the link to your favorites then out to be about a penny per search.

Because it's powered by Yahoo, vou can be assured of a safe web browsing experience with quality search results. A number of other organizations are already using this tool with great results. Think about it; if 500 of our supporters performed just two searches each day, we would generate \$3,650 a year for ABATE of CA. If we get even more of our supporters, their friends and family to use this search engine, that amount could increase considerably.

In addition to what ABATE can earn by using this search engine, if you purchase something using the "Good-

shop" link we can increase our revênue even more. By making a purchase at any of the "Goodshop" partner retailers, a small percentage of the sale goes to ABATE.

There are a number of retailers that allow you to purchase products on line then pick them up at the store location nearest you. Let's say you need copy paper, you could visit "Goodshop" via our web link make the purchase through Staples with the In-store Pickup option and bam; there it is, what an easy fund raising tool.

### **Remember**, visit

www.goodsearch. com/?charityid=900395

open it up and give it a try.

**ABATE thanks you for your support.** 





# **2011 ABATE Events**

**April 16<sup>th</sup>** – ABATE Local 27; 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Bare Necessities Run; Riverside (see flyer this issue).

April 16 – ABATE Local 24 – Annual AMMO Run (contact Local President – Ed 559/264-2891 for info.)

**April 30** - ABATE Local 17's Spring Bingo Fun Run. Signin: 9am @ Miss Darla's, 110 Peabody Road, Vacaville. 1st Game 10am. \$5 Donation per card per stop; no limit. Ride, Play and Ride some more. Join ABATE day of the event & get 1 card free at each stop.

May 6, 7 & 8 – Mother's Day Annual Southern Regional Rally; High Desert (See Flyer this issue).

May 14 – ABATE Local 23 Annual Chili Cook-off – 1:00 pm (see

their Local report for some info and call Local 23 President, Kevin Sorrell 909/793-1112 for the rest of the info.) Show and 14th Annual Car & Truck Show. All makes and model welcome. 12 Bike categories plus Best in Show; 5 Car and 1 Truck

May 22- 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarterly Board Meeting – Sacramento – La Quinta Inn; 200 Jibboom St; Call 916/448-8100 and mention **ABATE** for special Room rate.

May 23 – Freedom & Motorcycle Awareness Rally – State Capitol, South Steps

11am; Parking on N Street between 10<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> Streets from 8am to 6pm. Make an appointment with your Legislator and visit them in Sacramento before or after the rally.

June 12 - ABATE of California Local 17 in conjunction with Iron Steed Harley Davidson presents our 17th annual Ride-In Motorcycle Show and 14th Annual Car & Truck Show. All makes and models welcome. 12 Bike categories plus Best in Show; 5 Car and 1 Truck Category plus Best in Show. Register by 5/31/2011 and cost is \$20.00; after 5/31, \$25.00. Food, Fun & Drink. For more information contact Mike (707) 486-6454 or Steve (707) 479-2126.

June 18 - ABATE Local 21, Palms to Pines Poker Run - Beautiful 2 hr Scenic Ride & Help AV Kids! Enjoy Music Jam, Lunch, 50/50, Raffles, Prizes. \$15 Poker Run Signup 10-Noon at the Crossroads Tavern (661)724-0911, 43840 Lake Hughes Rd, Lake Hughes, CA 93532. RSVP: (661)947.3734 or (661)948.1170. Online: WWW. <u>ABATE21.ORG</u> / <u>mailto:ABTRN@</u> <u>ALLEYGL.ORG</u>. Sponsored by Daryl's Plumbing and ALLEYGL. ORG

**July 9** – ABATE Local 44 – Annual Route 66 Event (details TBA)

**September 10** – ABATE Local 19- 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Thunder IN the House to benefit Casa Colina "trauma center" (flyer is posted on ABATE's web site www. abate.org).

### September 16, 17 & 18 – ABATE State Run – Frandy Campground; Kernville

Please email your ABATE Event information (in Microsoft word document) and Flyers (in a JPG file) to <u>bailing.wire@abate.org</u> 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.



### ABATE Visits Assemblyman Chris Norby

### by Spike, Local #20

Board member, Gill Mellen, Local 20 Legislator Director, Spike, and ABATE members from Locals 5, 8 and 20 gathered at 1400 N. Harbor Blvd, Suite 601 in Fullerton for the Open House of Chris Norby, Assemblyman for the 72nd District. We were able to meet Assemblyman Norby in person, visit his new office and show our support to him for his legislative efforts on behalf of the biker community.

In February 2011, Assemblyman Norby introduced Bill AB695 that will greatly scale back the scope of California's mandatory helmet laws. Though it would not repeal the existing statute, it would amend California's helmet law, Vehicle Code section 27803, to provide that riders over the age of 18, with at least two years' riding experience, would be exempt from the law and not have to wear a helmet.

ABATE of California is leading a massive grass-roots effort and you are being asked to contact your legislators to urge passage of this bill.

We applaud Assemblyman Norby's bill, thank him for his support and look forward to working with him in the future.

To send your thank you - You can send an email to <danny.martinez@ asm.ca.gov> and in the Subject write "I support AB695" and your message/ reasons for support. Back Row (L-R) Jeff Bassler, Tom Lubbers, Dan Kelly, Moony, Mark Steele. Front Row (L-R): Linda Kelly, Assembly Member Chris Norby, Debby Steele.



### ABATE OF CALIFORNIA NEWSLETTER

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ABATE OF CALIFORNIA NEWSLETTER

April 2011



## Polar Bear Run Pics Pics by Glen Cheslock







Polar Bear Run Pics Pics by Glen Cheslock







## Polar Bear Run Pics Pics by Glen Cheslock









## **New ABATE of CA Bulletin Board**

### from Dave Walsh, **Moderator** & President of Local 13. **ABATE of CA**

### To all ABATE Members.

As announced at the quarterly meetings (Jan. 8), we have been working on a new Bulletin Board to replace the Google Groups Discussion Line we now use. This forum type format is similar to that used by nearly every special interest group on the internet. It is a different look than the current Discussion Line, and while not perfect, will be a major improvement over what we're using now.

Just like the current Discussion Line, you must be a member in good standing of ABATE of CA. Members will need to reregister for the Bulletin Board, even if you are currently a member of the Discussion Line, transferring your membership there isn't feasible. Only registered members will be able to see the Bulletin Board. The Bulletin Board is web-based, not email

based, so there is no email option to get the This will take you to the registration page to the administrator, who will review your discussion line. You will be able to choose asking for a bit of information: whether or not to get email notifications of the email based Discussion Line.

We will run the new Bulletin Board and you will login with. the old Discussion Line concurrently for the of February. I understand that it will be awk- your password. ward for a while, but it will allow us the time so to speak.

To register for the Bulletin Board go this want to call yourself. web address: http://www.abate.org/bulletin-This will take you to the Login page. I sug- address that you use. gest you Bookmark this page or add to your Favorites, depending on what browser you remember for use when you login. use to make it easy to find in the future. We will be adding a link from the main website; to enter, then hit the "Register" link at the we just haven't gotten there yet.

Near the bottom, left hand side of the registration process. Login page is a link to register, click on that.

application to make sure you're not Sen. User Name: For this, we ask that you Pavley. Upon approval, we'll shoot an email when there has been a new post added to a use something simple, such as your 1st ini- back to you notifying you of confirmation. thread. This should end the spam problems tial and last name, all in lower case and with- You will then be free to login and access the out any spaces. i.e.: jsmith. This is the name Bulletin Board. Go to the Login Page that you Bookmarked and enter your User Name

First and Last Name: That should be and Password.

next month and a half. The hope is that we fairly self explanatory. This will also allow Once on the Bulletin Board, move your will abandon the Discussion Line at the end us to identify your account should you forget cursor to hover over "ABATE Forums" in the Title Bar. A drop down menu will appear

Display Name: Also known as your showing the various Groups we have for to get used to the format and kick the tires, screen name. This can be your real name, various subjects. Click on one and you will your road name, nickname, or whatever you be taken to that Group.

Email Address: We will need this to be a seamless transition. There will be a board/Login.aspx (if the link doesn't work, send notifications to you, some of which will learning curve for most all of us here, but cut and paste the address into you browser.) be explained, so make sure it's a legit email it shouldn't be too difficult. Feel free to ask

Password: Create a password you can ing through this learning curve with you. I'd

bottom of the page in order to complete the Local members. Hopefully we can get

the Bulletin Board. An email will be shot off tool for ABATE of CA. Thanks.

I'm not going to pretend that this will

questions, but please be patient; we're go-

much rather learn how to rebuild a 6 speed Then there's a security code you need transmission than learn this web stuff.

> Presidents, please forward this to your enough participation that the Bulletin Board

You will not get immediate access to will become an effective communication







### **Tech Tips** by Craig Griswold

This series of Tech Tips will shed some light on cams, including terminology, technical specifications, applications, and installation tips. This will benefit both the home mechanic as well as the non-mechanic in making an educated decision when the horsepower bug bites. We get more questions on cams than any other performance topic. Exhaust systems are probably a close second.

Here in part one we'll cover common terms which we hope will assist in understanding subsequent discussions.

Bolt In: This is a common term used to describe mild performance cams that can be installed with no other engine modifications (heavier valve springs, rocker box clearancing, etc.)

*Lift*: In the cam specification, intake and exhaust lift are the actual valve lift. This amount of lift is the product of the maximum lobe height and the rocker arm ratio.

Duration: The amount of time, expressed in degrees of crankshaft rotation, the valve is open. One of the most critical, and often times overlooked, specification for a cam. Most commonly measured at .053" of lift at opening and closing, although this can vary by manufacturer.

Overlap: Also measured in degrees of crankshaft rotation, the amount of time the exhaust and intake valves are both open. Stock cams generally have little to no (and sometimes negative!) overlap due to emissions.

Lobe Separation Angle (LSA): Just as the name implies, this is the angular separation between the intake and exhaust lobes.

In part two, we'll discuss how all these terms come into play, and bring the cam selection picture into focus. (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).

**Donations to the ABATE General Fund have been** received from: Daniel Ott L#17; Ed Culbertson L#1; ABATE Locals: 2, 14, 21, 23, 24, & 27. Thank you Folks for your is appreciated!!

**Donations...** 

verv long this month, and that happens around this time of vear. Unfortunately the expenses and the Local who signs up the do not. Our annual appeal letter will be reaching your mail box soon, and next month I hope to have a REALLY LONG list of those who responded. Whatever you can afford is appreciated, no matter the dollar amount! Thank \$200; & \$100; (First, Second YOU!!

We also have the Membership Raffle tickets in the hands of your Local

Presidents, you can buy them at the meeting or even help out, by taking some to sell to your friends and neighbors – a Buck apiece and a chance to Win \$250.00 (drawing at the July Board meeting, and you do not have to be present to win!). Just donations this past month, it to repeat what Mr. Sporty wrote The sales of these tickets will keep the membership Drive self-The list of donations isn't funding. And in case you missed the info from Gill – the Local who recruits the Most Members, Most BUSINESS Members will each receive \$100.00; this is on top of the Individual ABATE Membership drive who recruits the Most Members this year. Winners will receive \$300; & Third Place). So it is even more imperative that ALL of the Membership Raffle Tickets are sold and turned in by July FIRST.



### PAGE 24

### **ABATE OF CALIFORNIA NEWSLETTER**





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### ABATE OF CALIFORNIA NEWSLETTER

### by John Del Santo Better Than Average used is nowhere near the distance needed to Mar

The motorcycle riders that I know wouldn't be considered "average" people by any stretch of the imagination. Their attitudes and personalities are strong and individual, their choices of machines vary widely in style, design, function and power, and even amongst riders, there does not seem to be such a thing as an "average" rider. We work at it. And so to maintain that image we should certainly work at NOT being "average" in our riding skills.



The average auto driver really doesn't have much of a clue about what's going on around them, and the average driver is involved in a collision about once every five years. The average following distance used is nowhere near the distance needed to slow or stop in time if the driver in front hits their brakes hard, because the distance needed to slow or stop a moving vehicle is a lot further than the average driver realizes. When the average driver changes lanes, they usually steal the following distance of the car that they moved in front of, thus putting themselves into harm's way or they make lane changes into the next lane too close behind another vehicle, putting them into a good position to become road kill.

The average drivers don't check their mirrors very much, and they'll often make a move without checking the blind spots around them, or even know where those blind spots are. The average driver doesn't consider space, weather or light conditions. With their "Me First" ego attitudes they assume that everyone sees them and knows what they're thinking about doing, and they don't expect other vehicles around them to make any sudden or unexpected moves. The average driver is paying attention to almost anything else except the patterns and action of the traffic around them, and when they have a cold or had a bad night's sleep, they don't realize their perception and reaction time will suffer for it, and that they will need to allow more following distance to compensate. More than thirty percent of fatal collisions involve alcohol, and alcohol contributes greatly to single-vehicle motorcycle fatalities.

Many drivers and riders think that a couple of drinks won't affect their operation of a vehicle and the first sense affected by alcohol is a person's judgment.

As riders, we need to be better than average - a LOT better - so that we can keep ourselves from being involved in collisions caused by those average drivers. Because when a motorcyclist is involved in a collision we suffer more than the average amount and severity of injuries - a LOT more!

Do you practice turning and unexpected stops along the way as you ride? On the weekend there are some courses available at StreetMasters, <u>www.streetmasters.info.com</u>, or the new Advanced Rider Course (ARC) by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation, <u>www.msf-usa.</u> org. That ARC course, done for the military as "Sportbike" and now available to the public, is said to be challenging for experienced riders.

Here is a link to a quick Rider Perception quiz that has some good info; it contains a "Road Sign test" and a "Collision Traps" test, <u>http://www.msf-usa.org/riderperception/</u>. And if you would like to check out some good reading, there is a great book titled *Proficient Motorcycling...The Ultimate Guide to Riding Well* by David L. Hough, from Bow Tie Press.

Let's work at building and keeping our riding skills and techniques at a point way beyond average. Knowledge is Power! Be Aware! Be Alert! And Be Exceptional!







### ABATE OF CALIFORNIA NEWSLETTER

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# **Blowing in the Wind**

### by John Del Santo



Do you want to talk about exciting!! You're toolin' down the road on your bike on a beautiful sunny day when out of the blue comes a 4' X 8' piece of plywood, flipping off the roof of a car, tumbling through the air at you! Wow!! Super Adrenaline Rush!!! Do I have time to move to another lane? Is someone in the next lane? Will the plywood shift to

another lane before it lands? If I have to hit it, at what angle should I try to hit it? If I brake hard enough to avoid it, will the car behind me have enough room to stop before he squishes me? Decisions, decisions, decisions, and you only have about one second to make them.

Seeing the problems a little earlier would be a definite advantage. Are you aiming far enough up the road to see cars swerving around something or to see a bunch of brake lights come on all of a sudden? Just about everybody is driving a van or SUV these days. If you're following one of those, you can't see through it, so leave enough following distance to see around it. Do you have enough space to stop or accelerate out to someplace safer?

The most common foreign objects to find lying on the road are bungee cords, and the hook on those can puncture a tire. The next most common things to find lying on the road are the things that bungee cords were holding down. As we're riding down the highway, we check bad, be ready to alert them with your horn. out the cargo on the vehicles in front of

us. If we can't see any visible tie-downs, we don't stay there! The average driver has no clue as to how much force the wind of popping out of the back of pickup can create.

They'll watch the news on TV and see a 65 mph gale blowing down houses and tall trees on the Florida coast, and yet they'll put wooden chairs, a mattress, or an empty garbage can in the back of a pickup and drive down the highway at 65 mph and expect the stuff to stay there! Expect sudden attacks by beach chairs, empty coolers, barbecue grills, couch pillows, living room chairs, and aluminum ladders. You can run across these anytime, but more so in the hotter weather you'll find big pieces of truck tire, for just about anything that's out there "road 'gators", on the highway. If you see a piece fly off a truck, expect more pieces to be launched at you real soon.

When this stuff appears on the road, how will the car in the lane next to you react? Will they brake in a straight line, or will they get all freaky and swervey? If you're in their blind spot when things go Once that foreign object is on the

road, will it stay still where it is? Big plastic bed liners have a nasty habit trucks. Recently, a rider saw a bed liner lying in the next lane of a freeway as he approached, "Whew, got lucky on that one!" And as the van in front of him passed the bed liner, the vacuum in the air behind the van sucked the bed liner into his lane where his motorcycle smashed into it. Major damage! Major bummer!

It sure would be nice to expect a clear highway in front of us. But until we can fence off a couple of hundred miles of road, and not allow anyone else on it, we'll just need to stay alert and be ready where it shouldn't be.

So, be aware, get your knees in the breeze, and Ride Safe!





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Simi Valley - Local #02-Reg#8

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

Thousand Oaks-Local#03-Reg#7

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

San Gabriel Valley - Local#05-Reg#8

Tom Lubbers 626/335-6508 3rd Mon - 7:00 PM Peppertree Restaurant 1020 E Route 66, Glendora

#### San Diego County - Local #06-Reg#12 İst Sunday - 12 Noon

John Del Santo P.O. Box 7998 San Diego CA 92167 619/223-0421

Kate Sessions Park Pacific Beach Orange County - Local #08-Reg#11

#### 2nd Mon.7:30PM Faviola Andaya P O Box 550 Anaheim CA 92815 714/471-6749

American Legion #354 8071 Whitaker, Buena Park

South Orange County - Local #09-Reg#11 2nd Tues. 7:00 PM

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Mike VanBuskirk	3 rd Sun 10:00 AM	
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Sacramento -Gary Haller 916/726-6703

Riverside - Local#27-Reg#9 1st Tues - 7:00 PM Greg Covel P.O. Box 7070

American Legion 2979 Dexter Dr, (in Fairmont Park) Riverside, CA Riverside CA 92313 951/522-3434 www.abatelocal27.org

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Sacramento 95821

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### Marty Rapp P.O. Box 2334 51572 29 Palms Hwy Morongo Valley 92256

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### North Valley -Local #31-Reg 2nd Tues - 7:00 PM Last Call Lounge 876 East Ave. Chico

Larry James 530/893-4827

Santa Clara Valley - Local #32-Reg#4 Dtt Last Sun. 9:30 AM Dan Scott 950 Meridan Ave#19 San Jose 95126 408/903-7623

Sherwood Inn 2988 Almaden Expy San Jose

#### Yuba City - Local #33-Reg#2

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

### Hanford - Local #34-Reg#6

Meets with Local#24 1st Wed - 7:00 PM Cedar Lanes 3131 N. Cedar, Fresno

#### Monterey Bay - Local #35-Reg#4 Call for info 760/956-1669

Palm Springs - Local #36-Reg#10

John "Grumpy" Grubb P.O. Box 460 Rancho Mirage 92270 760/564-4336 jgrubb123@aol.com

4th Sunday – 8:30 AM American Legion 400 N Belardo Rd. Palm Springs

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

Last Thurs - 7:00 PM Steve Mitosinka SOBE's 1151 S 4th St. 660 W State St El CentroCA 760/996-2093 El Centro **Bakersfield - Local#40-Reg#6** 3rd Tues. 7:00 PM **Omar Macias** 661/832-5240 Rusty's Pizza 5430 Olive Dr 661/900-8690 Bakersfield 93308

High Des	sert - Local#44-Reg#13
Jerry McClure P.O. Box 3094	sert - Local#44-Reg#13 2nd Sat - 9:00 AM
PO Box 3094	Eagles Fraternal Order 16195 Main St.
Victorville CA 92392	16T95 Main St.
760/948-0491	Hesperia
Bannin	g - Local #45-Reg#10
Trine Howell	Call for Meeting Info

760/323-9860

Modesto - Local #46-Reg#5 Call for info 760/956-1669

#### Barstow - Local #47-Reg#13

67387 Mission Dr.

Cathedral City 92234

Zermo Eddy	2nd Sat-9:00 AM Meet with L#44
PO Box 521	Eagles Fraternal Order
Vermo CA 92398	16195 Main St.
760/254-3833 or 760/953-7353	Hesperia

Hemet - Local #48-Reg#9 Meet with Local#27

### Humboldt County - Local #50-Reg#1

Barbara Kennedy 707/946-2248

Call for meeting place & time

Calaveras County - Local #51-Reg#5 Call for info 760/956-1669

Steve Shoemaker P.O. Box 356 Chicago Park 95712 530/798-0001

Grass Valley - Local#52-Reg#2 iker 3rd Wed - 6:30 PM Larry & Lena's Pizza & Grill` 95712 15690 Johnson Place Hwy#49 Grass Valley

### Owens Valley - Local#53-Reg#13 Meet with Local#58

West San Fernando - Local#54-Reg#8 Meet with Local #1

> Visalia - Local #57 - Reg#6 Meet with L#24

#### Ridgecrest - Local #58-Reg#13

Dave Cornelius 760/447-4342

3rd Sat 10:00 AM Mickey's Pub 1661 W. Triangle Dr. Ridgecrest

Kern River Vallev Lake (KRV Lake) Local#59-Reg#13 Meet with Local 40 or Local 58

### Colfax - Local #60-Reg#2

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

Local #61 Shasta County-Redding Call for info 760-956-1669