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# The Bailing Wire

ABATE of CA. Newsletter for Motorcyclists Volume XXVIII

ISSUE IX

**September 2009**

**L#2's Sweaty Buns Pics, pages 16-17**



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

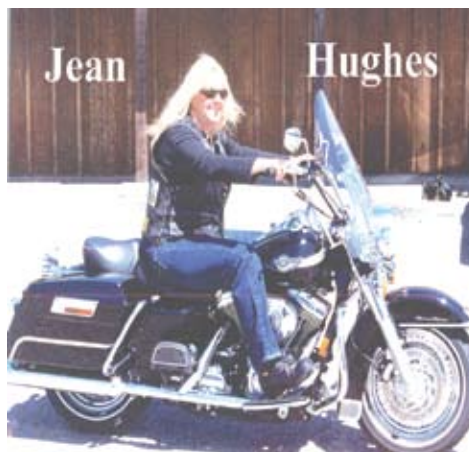
## Legislative Report

by Jean Hughes

**SB435:** Yes, we are still riding the SB435 roller coaster!!! As of this writing, the bill has not been amended, it is still a smog check bill, it could be heard before the legislature is out on September 15, its provisions could be put into another bill, it could go away until early next year - any number of crazy things could happen! This is the reason we have a lobbyist and Jim is working hard to keep his ear to the ground and his feet in the Capitol building so he can alert us when there is any action - on this or other motorcycle related legislation. Thanks to all of you who responded to the drive to raise some cash for Jim - he deserves it. He is still working for the same money we gave him to work *one* bill a year and we're working a lot more things these days.

**CMSP Advisory Meeting - July 2009:** As many of you know, ABATE of CA has held a spot on the California Motorcyclist Safety Program Advisory Committee since its inception and in my experience that usually consisted of us sitting in a meeting once

a year where the CHP and the Rider training Motorcycle Safety Program in California provider gave us all the information regarding how many riders were trained, number of rider training and enforcement. Anyway, as training sites, and other statistics, including a result of the input of the riding community, the recommendations of the Technical Assessment team and the requirements of the State Highway Safety Plan, several new things are going on...



Motorcycle Safety Program in California and we fell short, since the only programs are rider training and enforcement. Anyway, as a result of the input of the riding community, the recommendations of the Technical Assessment team and the requirements of the State Highway Safety Plan, several new things are going on...

The CHP produced two Public Service Announcements (PSA) which have aired on television stations in four major metro areas (Los Angeles, San Diego, Bay Area, Sacramento/San Joaquin). There are a lot of print media resources available for your meetings, etc. if you'd like maps of California (virtually indestructible with all the CHP offices shown), rider training information, ride straight information, etc. just let Carol know and we'll get some of these materials shipped to you.

The upshot of all this is that the CHP is working toward a comprehensive motorcycle safety program in California including, out-



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ABATE is a motorcyclists' rights organization (not a club) dedicated to preserving freedom of choice and freedom of the road, with emphasis on education and safety. Our members are active in programs for public awareness and motorcycle safety, and in supporting many types of charity events.

Included with an ABATE membership are a sew-on patch, membership card, and our monthly newsletter THE BAILING WIRE. There are no special requirements for joining aside from an interest in promoting motorcyclists' rights and safety with payment of the appropriate fees.

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Tim Tennimon 714/761-9502

Cynthia Witthans 760/946-0366

# Executive Director's Report

by Tim Tennimon, Executive Director

Our Northern Regional Rally was another well organized fun event. I want to thank Melissa Fulton for all the hard work, what a great location, just the ride there is worth the price of admission. I rode up 101, and you know what a beautiful ride that is, then just past Ukiah I cut across on Hwy 20 and made my way through some beautiful scenery around Clear Lake to Kelly's Kamp ground.



Melissa Fulton and the others from Local 28 put together a good group of vendors and had a really good band that rocked the camp ground well into the night. Melissa was also able to find quite a few generous businesses, because the raffle included a lot of goodies. Dave Walsh won the 50/50 and graciously donated a large portion back to ABATE.

Thanks Dave.

Sunday, when it came time to leave Kelly's Kamp ground, I headed east on Hwy 20 to the I 5, grabbed the north bound freeway entrance and set my sights on Redding anxious to visit some long time friends and long time ABATE members, Gary and Leigh Kruger. What a great location they have up there. After a short stay in Redding I was back on the bike heading due west on 299 past Trinity Lake to Route 3. I think that might be some of the most beautiful territory in the country. I continued on Route 3 to Route 36 where some of the road was only a single lane from one little uninhabited town to the next, wow what a beautiful state we live in. I worked my way to Hwy 101 thru the Avenue of the Giants to Hwy 1 and then I rode the coast all the way back to Southern California. I recommend that ride to everyone; can't wait till next year.

On to other important things: SB 435: Right now it's important that we continue to push hard against this bill. We have to remain vigilant. To quote Thomas Jefferson, "Eternal Vigilance is the price of Liberty," and no one realizes this more than we do. It's because of the dedication we have for freedom of choice and to the motorcycle life style that keeps the ABATE family moving forward and fighting; this is what makes us the strong movers and shapers of

motorcycle rights in this state. Every inch of ground we gain comes off the backs of the few that have had the foresight, determination and intelligence to see what the politicians, the insurance lobby and the others that think they know what's best for us are really up to. You are the enlightened ones so to speak and you have an extraordinary obligation to take the message to all that live in darkness, educate as many of the riding population as possible. Granted only a few are willing to pull their heads out of the sand long enough to open their eyes to what you have to show them, but through your diligence these poor uninformed souls can be lifted up and the light of truth as to what the government would truly like to do with us will shine on them, hallelujah.

Please remember charity begins at home. I am still amazed at how many people show up at all the various events to support various charities, but when ABATE holds an event most of those riders seem to disappear.

In closing, Tony Jaime is putting together one hellava good party at the river. This year's ABATE State Run is going to be great, so start making your plans now. The best thing to do is to pre-register today. Go to the ABATE website and check out the flyer to see some of the events and good times being planned at Frandy's Camp Ground in beautiful Kernville. See you folks there.

## Legislative Report, from page 1

reach to motorcyclists, share the road campaigns (yes, they are looking at using the amber alert signs), public education regarding motorcycle awareness, and of course, enforcement.

The data are showing more licensed riders than ever and increasing accidents and fatalities. The two main causes of motorcyclist at fault fatalities (74 % of all fatals) are speed and DUI, which comes back to us policing our selves.

We had a good discussion at the July Board meeting about whether there is improper reporting of fault in accidents, as two of us in the room had examples of accidents where another vehicle (car) caused the accident but the report was written to imply that the motorcyclist was at fault. This is something we have to watch, because in my friend's case, the

car hit his body and without a proper report his insurance wouldn't cover his expenses (which were substantial). Not sure how we'll gather and evaluate the data, nor where or how we will present it, but look for some requests soon.

**State Run, Bike Raffle and Other Fun Stuff:** No doubt that these are tough times for a lot of people; well, they are tough times for ABATE as well. We have cut expenses to the bare minimum but unless you all bring in one new member this year we'll be hurting!! So, there are a couple things you can do to help. If your Local is sitting on some \$\$, go ahead and send some to the State. You can designate one of three funds: General Fund, PAC Fund (only for political campaigns/candidates) or Lobbyist Fund (to pay Jim). Remember, without the mother ship we will all be lost.

OK, if your Local isn't sitting on a big pile of extra cash, you can support the State Run. Buy a ticket even if you aren't going, or better yet, GO!!! Enjoy the location, the music, the food, the friends the fun!!!

Keep a look out for another Bike Raffle. This was a huge hit last year (thanks again to those who made it happen) and saved us financially and we are hoping to be able to do another one soon. So, when you see tickets, buy them, even if you really don't want a brand new bike!!!

Local 29 is planning a Laughlin Run October 16-18. What a great deal this is; you get to go to Laughlin, spend ¼ of what you'd spend during The Laughlin Run, enjoy a great weekend and support ABATE!! Seems like a win-win to me. Hope you'll take advantage!!

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.

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### 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, Deacon, Moxxsie, Splatt & Wild Child

### 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.
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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

## Lobbyist Report

by James Lombardo, Lobbyist

As the Legislature returns from their summer recess, lots of bills are awaiting final action. On a daily basis, I am monitoring SB 435, Senator Fran Pavley's motorcycle smog inspection program legislation. Thanks to all of you who have met with your local Senator, Assembly member and their staff during the recess. You have been told by many sources about what could happen with SB 435, especially from Senator Florez's staff.

The bill can come up anytime before the legislature adjourns September 15. As your lobbyist, it's my most important job — checking daily with the committee staffs and other sources to see if they're going to bring back the provisions of SB 435 **IN ANOTHER BILL!** The term we use in Sacramento, and maybe you've heard before, is "hijacking a bill." That means putting the SB 435 motorcycle smog inspection requirement language into another bill so it can go to the Governor this session.

This is the time of year that it often happens. As a lobbyist, this is when I use all of my friendly sources in the Capitol to help me find out what is going on behind the scenes. That's how

we found out Senator Lowenthal was thinking about putting in a ban on lane sharing/splitting, several years ago, and I was able to talk the staff out of introducing it.



As Chair of the powerful Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee, Pavley will have plenty of opportunities to find bills to put her motorcycle smog check mandate into. My goal/job is to **STOP** that from happening. She has until September 15 to do this.

Thanks to all of you Fresno Local 24 members who spoke with Senator Florez's staff, at your last meeting, and found out they might try to hear SB 435 on August 24. I checked with the staff and, so far, they are not planning a hearing. But they are aware we are **WATCHING!**

As I explained at the last PAC meeting, and to the Board and ABATE members who attended July's Ontario Board Meeting,

**KEEP THE PETITIONS COMING — DON'T STOP UNTIL SB 435 IS DEAD, SOMETIME NEXT YEAR!**

I hope you enjoyed riding this summer, I know I did — **Stay Tuned.**

**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.**

### 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.**

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Entry Fees      Pre-Reg      Day of Event      RVs Must Pre-Register by 8/15/09

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No Run Pin

# ABATE STATE RUN REPORT

by **Tony Jaime, State Run Chairman**

Greetings friends! This will be the last column I get to write to you before the State Run takes place in September. And hopefully, in the October column, I will be able to report to you that the State Run was a much needed financial success for ABATE of California. We all know that times are tough everywhere in the nation and many people are experiencing economic hardship. That is one of the reasons that the State Run is such an attractive proposition because there aren't too many events where you can have such a great time with week-end camping, fishing, poker run, bike games, live entertainment, and camaraderie and fellowship with freedom minded folks in such a great, scenic location for such a low cost. And the best part is that those of you who support the State Run are helping ABATE of California stay in business. And that is the business of monitoring legislation and protecting the rights of motorcyclists throughout the State of California.

On a recent trip to Reno to celebrate my birthday with my son, I saw a sign in the Carson City area that said, "There can't be a recession if we don't let one happen!" As we rolled down the road towards Reno, I mulled that statement over in my mind. At first, I thought what a load of malarkey but the more I thought about that statement the more it began to make sense, with a profound simple kind of logic. It goes to that simple premise of "We, the People", which I wound up getting inked on my left forearm while in Reno, a birthday gift, courtesy of Dave and Dan, two of the artists at Evolution Tattoo. "We, the People", do have a tremendous amount of power and influence, WHEN, "We, the People", choose to use it!

And right now I am asking "YOU, the People of ABATE of California", to help boost the economy of this great organization. As the sign said, "There can't be a recession if we don't let one happen!" The ABATE of California State Run is not just another motorcycle event, it is a major fundraiser for OUR organization and as such, it needs YOUR support! There is an old adage that says charity begins at home. As I browse through all of the motorcycle publications and online events calendars, I see advertisements for all kinds of charity runs benefiting one cause or another but the actual fact of the matter is that ABATE of California is the

only organization dedicated to helping out motorcyclists. While I fully support runs for good causes such as Veterans' benefits, food drives, and children's' toy drives, at some point we have to separate out all the corporate hoopla and focus on supporting the events that pay dividends to the riders of this state. By supporting the ABATE of California State Run and other ABATE events throughout the state, we are in essence engaging in our own "stimulus package!" And the major benefit is that it is one we do have control over. When you support ABATE by attending or donating to the State Run or other ABATE events, you at least know where your money is going and that it will be spent for a cause you believe in. And if you attend the ABATE State Run, it is a two way street because we are offering you a week-end of fun, relaxation, and camaraderie with your friends from all over the state in exchange for your support.



Based on the phone conversations I have been having this past month, I am very optimistic about this year's State Run. The President's Challenge to purchase four tickets has been working very well and I have had the opportunity to speak with most of the Local Presidents throughout California, and hopefully by the time you are reading this I will have spoken with all of them. That in itself is accomplishment of some magnitude, as after having spent four years on the Board of Directors, I still hadn't met or spoken with all of the Local Presidents. My goal is as close to 100% participation from all Locals in the state as we can possibly achieve.

Many Local Presidents have reported to me that they have several people from their Locals who are making plans to attend the State Run. That is very encouraging news. Ed Aranda from Local 38, Kevin Sorrel of

Local 23, and Ron Vonsild of Local 17 have all told me that several people from those Locals would be attending. Little Rick from the Bakersfield Widowmakers called me the other night and said their group would be attending the State Run. Way to go guys! Another encouraging sign is that I typed in ABATE State Run and did a Google search this morning. What I found was that as a result of a web presence through the My Space profile we have been linked to many sites with online events calendars besides the ones I submitted to. That is great news because it means that people statewide are aware of not just the State Run but ABATE in general. Folks, as much as many of us hate to admit that the world is a different one than the one we grew up in, the Internet has radically changed the way business is done in today's world. For better or worse, the Internet is here to stay and the fact is we may as well take advantage of it.

In addition, as I was browsing the net, I found a couple of gems that give us some sense of the history of the State Run as it has traveled around the state. One was an outdated website that still listed the Eagle's Nest in Porterville, which was a great location. Another was a listing from Billy Gordon & the Blue Rockers, a musical act that had performed three years in a row at the State Run in Paso Robles, which was before my days as an ABATE member. But the biggest nugget of all was a hit that took me to an outdated flyer for the 1997 State Run which was held at Butterfield Ranch outside Julian down San Diego way.

I'd like to share some of that advertisement with you which describes the location of the 1997 ABATE State Run at the Butterfield Ranch. It read as follows: 24 miles outside of Julian and NO GAS in Julian after 6:00 pm. The NEAREST GAS is 36 miles East of Butterfield Ranch. Located 10.5 million miles from Mars; 10,000 miles SOUTH of San Francisco; 100 miles EAST of San Diego, 500,000 miles North of the Antarctic Circle and 50,000 miles West of Laughlin. Wow, that was a State Run that was a long ways from anywhere, especially gas. Fortunately, this year's State Run is much closer, and has many amenities available and most of them are within walking distance.

The other noticeable thing that struck me was that the contact names of the folks putting on the run were all very familiar. Peter Daniels, Sarge Matthews, and Kathy Theodore are all names that have been associated

with the State Run for many years. Robin Shane and Sarge League are a couple of other ABATE members who have put a lot of work in on the State Run. Leon Dailey and Russ Howard from the Southern Regional Rally are another pair of ABATE stalwarts who have spent many hours working to accomplish successful fundraising efforts on behalf of all of us in ABATE. And I know there are a whole lot of other names I am leaving out but those are the ones that immediately spring to mind. That does offer a degree of continuity but on the other hand, it tends to wear folks down. I know we are all busy people with full lives, families, and work concerns but a little effort and support of the State Run and all ABATE events goes a long way towards accomplishing our goals.

Which brings me to my last point: The State Run is exactly that, an event that is for all of the membership of ABATE of California to participate in, support, and take pride in. So with that thought in mind I am asking each and every one of you to step up and contribute whatever you can and however you can. There are many opportunities and ways in which we can all help make a difference. The best way would be if you could attend the State Run, but if you can't be there in person a donation would be of great benefit. Other ways are to support the run by purchasing Quilt Raffle tickets. Yes, the ABATE Quilt made by Lady Kay is making yet another appearance. The State Run is also in need of raffle items and Tina Sanders is coordinating those efforts at the State Office. Folks, I can't stress enough how much your support means to ABATE of California and how much we appreciate all that you do for this organization. With that, I am going to sign off for this month. See you all in Kernville at the State Run on September, 18, 19, & 20.

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# Pac/Lobbyist Report

## by Peter Daniels, Treasurer

ABATE NEEDS YOUR HELP! This article will be direct and to the point. We need to help OUR organization. In the upcoming months ABATE is going to have problems meeting its financial commitments. Last year the General Fund received a huge shot in the arm from the proceeds of our first motorcycle raffle. This year we did not have a motorcycle raffle. For years ABATE's largest fund raiser has been the Southern California Regional Rally. This year that rally broke even. Several other fund raisers have been down too.

The good news is that our expenses are the same as the last several years. The bad news is that our income is down 'big time'. The initial reaction of most is to cut expenses. However, ABATE is run like a clean machine and there are very few expenses to be cut. I also think just cutting expenses is the lazy way to try to fix a problem.

WE NEED INCOME! To raise income people have to get off their butts and do something. People have to think. People have to ACT. If the hours devoted by folks reading and writing on the 'discussion line' were devoted to fund raising for ABATE, we would be a prosperous and a more effective organization.

1000 new members would solve the problem overnight. Sign up your brother, sister, mother, and fellow motorcyclists. How about the guy at work who rides and is clueless? How about your HOG, BMW, Yamaha, etc., groups?



Does your treasury have a bunch of dough sitting in it? Send some of it to the ABATE General Fund. I don't care what you do but do something. Go to your Local's meeting and suggest, or a least, ask what the Local is going to do to help ABATE survive in the future.

In order to survive the General Fund needs your help NOW! Come on people! The ABATE General Fund needs your help NOW!

Thanks to all that donated to the PAC Fund last month. They are: Locals 2, 13, 14, 17, 19, 21, 24, 27, 28, 35, Guy Corrigan (L2), Lloyd Egan (L28), and Dave Walsh (L13) (who attended the Northern California Rally at Kelly's Kamp, won the 50/50 and donated part to the PAC.) Special mention re: Locals 17's donation.

Thanks to all that donated to the Lobbyist Fund last month. They are: Locals 1, 6, 13, 14, 15, 17, 19, 21, 24, 25, 27, 28, 35, 40, & 44. Special mention re: Locals 13, 17, 25, & 44.

Thanks to the following folks that have responded to the annual fundraising letter for the Lobbyist Fund. They are: Robert Rickerson (L17), Terry & Laurie Porter (L27), Clayton LaBaw (L1), Tom Kirchner (L20), Steven Barnes (L38), John Scott (L44), Wade Linch (L1), Honda Ray Fleischman Jr. (L27), Rick Mullaly (L60), Lloyd Egan Sr (L28) & Jerisy Pericola (L15).

**Thanks to all that do. To those that don't do, Please do!**

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# Chairman's Report *by Sarge Matthews*

## Economy Sucks

Are we going to be able to survive? We are trying to do what we can and we already know we can not please all the people all the time, so we are trying to have all the people (ABATE of California) survive during this fiscal crisis. This year our income is down a minimum of approximately \$30,000. So what can we do to help our organization keep the doors open?

Let's see, no money from a bike raffle, no money from the Southern Regional Rally, no money from Northern Regional Rally and some Locals donations are down. So what do we do? Stop mailing the Bailing Wire to our members and make it available on line for people to go to our website (another story, we hope to work out all the kinks by Jan 2010) and open it in a PDF file or the best method to do that.

We will continue to ship/mail/UPS boxes to our Presidents and to our businesses that currently get them; that way members that are unable to access the internet will still have a couple of methods to receive and have a hard copy available for them. Those that **absolutely** cannot get one any other way, the office will look at it on a case-by-case basis. Do we have a solution for that yet? Not that I am aware of, but we do have approximately 4 months to work that one out also. One solution *might* be to have those that want one mailed to pay approximately \$1.25 per issue to be sent first class mail as we will no longer do bulk mailings for the Bailing Wire.

These few simple steps will save us approximately \$13,000 a year, \$900 a month on mailings, savings of approximately \$2-3,000 more on printing and folding. We would be able to drop our printing down approximately 22-

2300 pieces a month. Was this an easy decision? No, not by any means! The Board of Directors discussed and discussed this very issue over an extended period of time.

One way the Locals can save money is to have someone sponsor the cost of their flyers. For example, Aid to Injured Motorcyclist - put their logo on the bottom of your flyers and they will pay **UP TO \$250** for printing cost thus saving the Locals some money on printing and then maybe they can make a little more and donate more to the state office and one of our various funds. Hell, put on your flyer's printed by "ABC muffler shop" if they want to pay for that. But think of it this way, one club in Tennessee put on four runs + was reimbursed to the tune of \$850.00 for their 4 runs. Lets see, we have approximately 45-50 Locals, if each does 1 run (most do more) at say a savings of \$100.00 each, that would generate approximately another \$5,000.00, but lots more could be available. See the flyer on the flyer program in this issue, you don't need to use him, but he will pay for the privilege to advertise on your flyers. We need to think out of the box.

NOW the next question is: HOW DO WE GENERATE MORE MONEY/FUNDS? Attend the ABATE STATE RUN this September 18-20. Attend more ABATE runs, then other types of runs. Charity should begin at home (ABATE of California). Please pass on your ideas that might/may generate money to help ABATE, help us think out of the box, plus it should be something the majority of the Locals can get behind and support.

Hope to see you all at the next Board meeting (October 10) in San Jose. Until then, take many safe rides, be careful out there and hopefully, we all will weather this storm and come out OK.

## YOUR FLYER HERE

### ATTENTION MOTORCYCLE CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS:

In an ongoing effort to support and promote the activities of NCOM member organizations and/or Confederation of Clubs member groups and affiliates, the Aid To Injured Motorcyclists program is offering to pay for the printing of run flyers whenever the small ad strip below is incorporated into the flyer. In return we ask that an AIM display box with free stickers, magnets, and info cards be prominently displayed at the front registration table at the event.

We at AIM/NCOM realize that one of the most costly aspects of putting on a run or rally is the printing of the flyers. Therefore, to assist in ensuring a successful event AIM and the Law Offices of Richard M. Lester will reimburse the pre-approved printing costs for submitted flyers, (not to exceed \$250.00).

Simply call us at (800) -ON-A-BIKE and let us know the quantity and cost of the printing and send us a sample of your proposed flyer. After production of your flyer please send the original receipt and the flyer directly to our office 21054 Sherman Way- Third Floor Canoga Park, California 91303 attn: Aleiza.

Good luck with your event!

Ride Safe,

Richard M Lester  
Founder



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# LOCAL NEWS



## Local #01 Los Angeles

Our August meeting will be fun filled with lots of stuff on SB435, the smog bill, and talk about invites to various events.

There was no meeting last month due to Sarge and myself being at the Northern Regional Rally - fund raiser and fun stuff.

OK so this meeting we're going to encourage participation in the State Run at the Frandy camp grounds in Kernville. There will be the usual treasurer reports, membership stuff and publicity stuff as well.

Directly after the meeting we're doing a booth at the downed officer ride; so I hope to get members and more signatures for the petitions against SB435.

This is kinda of lame reporting, but our meetings are on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday and the Bailing Wire reports are due by the 15<sup>th</sup>. So it's kinda tough to report on the current meeting because it hasn't happened yet! So that leads to a mixed bag of reporting items. But we're still standing! Regards, Sporty

## Local #02 Simi Valley



This is great, one great cool August summer night, a great hamburger and all the fixins with cold drinks, the best way to start out our meeting! Thanks to our Pres Tom and VP Steve for cooking (it's about time they did something besides talking). We are located at VFW Post 10049, 4242 East Los Angeles Ave in Simi Valley. Food is served at 6:45 pm and our meeting starts at 7:30 pm or as we call it "the second round".

Tom got us going again and our faithful Secretary, Jane, spilt the beans about us and what we did. Linda/Moxxie told us about the

PAC stuff and bill info and she gave out stickers that say, WATCH FOR MOTORCYCLES. Thanks for your help, again!

We went down the line from our officer's reports and we are doing quite well, although we could use more members. Oh yeah, check this out! We got 5 new members from our Sweaty Buns Run! They are Todd & Lori Swaffer, Michael Miller, Fred & Debbie Hottenroth, Chris Tripp, Burton & Betty Johnson. Welcome! And Pat and Scott Burton renewed! Thank you all for making ABATE stronger!

After talking about how successful our Sweaty Buns run was, our Pres Tom put a motion on the table to make a donation to ABATE of \$1,000.00. After serious discussion, we came to the conclusion that ABATE needs this money; times are hard all around, and, after all, this is what it's all about, at least in my eyes, yours I hope as well!

I'm glad that we could help. We are not boasting about this and we are not challenging any other Locals, we just wanted to share how much we have grown since our most challenging year we had back in 07. Now we are on a positive path and don't want to look back. The one thing that I notice about our meetings is that they are fun, fact filled, and the camaraderie is what keeps us there.

Besides being the Safety O, all I want to say is, it's not just the people who drive cars that are our biggest safety concerns, it's us and how we act on the road. I know that we can teach the general public about our safety concerns, but all it takes is one idiot biker to set us back because when a car driver sees one knucklehead biker they think we are all like that. We all know that that is wrong but that's just the way it is. So when you're out there, respect all traffic and don't let rage or stupidity rule your day, PTL Norm e. New.

## Local #03 Thousand Oaks



Hi to our fellow ABATE Freedom Fighters. Local 3 is busy organizing our Learn n' Run Historic Trivia Tour. The date is October 3 and we hope that everyone can attend this event. We wanted to do something different. So instead of a poker run, we are promoting a trivia run. This run will introduce everyone to some of the cool locations and points of interest in the Ventura County area. There will be several stops where our riders will answer questions about that stop location. The more right answers the higher your score. The winner will be pulled from the group of riders with the most correct answers.

The event will start and end at the Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge, 158 North Conejo School Road. They are famous for their Santa Maria style BBQ. There will be raffle prizes and drawings and cash prizes. Call Chuck at 805/493-0323 for more information.

Local 3 is having a great year. Our attendance is fantastic and we want to see our old members back at our meetings. Local 3 meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday each month, 7:00 pm, at the Elks Lodge. Your President requests that you attend the next meeting and support ABATE's efforts to kill the California smog bill SB-435. This bill has the huge potential to dramatically change our motorcycling lifestyle. We cannot let this happen. Local 3 has had many letter writing meetings and there are more necessary. We need your help to make our voice heard. We need your membership.

## Local #05 San Gabriel Valley

Hello from Local #5! Prior to our ABATE meeting we had a Joy Ride wrap-up meeting. Each member had a few minutes to put forth what they felt was the good, the bad, the ugly and the beautiful of it all. All in all the comments took on a very positive tone. We raised \$15,000 for Bienvenidos, a nice chunk of change we will hand over to ABATE State and seed money for next year.

We had a visitor, Waxie, from Waxie's Hawg Heaven that vowed to buy a business membership. So please, when in Glendora stop by and support his business at 620 W Route 66, Glendora.

Tom brought everyone up to date on SB435. We talked about attending the State PAC and BOD meetings and discussed at-

tending the State Run.

One of our Joy Ride sponsors, In the Wind, asked their City (Covina) if they could have motorcycle parking in front of their store. The City granted it and sent their guys out to stripe the street. Tom Lubbers and his wife Sandy are drafting a thank you letter from ABATE to the City of Covina thanking them for working with a local biker business.

Jeff talked about the bikes in the La Verne 4th of July parade. Said "The 4th of July went well in La Verne. There were 170 bikes." Sharon talked about The Unforgettables - Wheels & Wings event. It is Saturday, August 29. It is a poker run that ends with a car & bike show, etc. at March Airfield.

Thanks for reading, Glen (Professor) Pine

## Local #06 San Diego County



It was another day of terrific weather at our monthly meeting overlooking beautiful Mission Bay in San Diego! We meet on the first Sunday of each month at Noon - c'mon down! We have more and more members attending each month from Sweetwater HD HOG.

We had a blast on the Fourth of July, joining the Annual Helmet Law Protest ride. There were at least a 100 people there, and we took off, hair in the breeze, flags flying, and rode to San Diego Harley for a good party, and food cooked by Reggie! Five new members decided to join us! Welcome to Robert, Jim, Carl, Paul, and Patty!

The local Gendarme was aware that the ride was going to happen, but chose to not be around. They spent a ton of money in court the last time they issued a bunch of tickets, and I guess they decided to not do that again. \$\$\$\$.

We printed some really neat "Freedom Fighter" t-shirts for the occasion; Keith Lim's



picture is cool on the shirt! And congratulations to Jeff Diamond for winning the contest for the best design for the new ABATE State t-shirt.

The Boozefighters MC overnighter was a kick! And the Memorial Run for Local 6 members Barry and Carol Sandberg went off really well.

We have updated our Local 6 e-mail list, so more of you should be getting notification of events and dates and news. Have any questions about the Local? You can e-mail John at [mcbwaycool@yahoo.com](mailto:mcbwaycool@yahoo.com), or phone him at 619/223-0421. Our Local 6 website is in good shape now, too. Check it out at <http://abatelocal6.org/index.html>.

So get your knees in the breeze, enjoy the weather and c'mon down for one of our meetings! We'll buy the coffee! John Del Santo

## Local #08 Orange County



Another month has come and gone, and we got together for our monthly meeting. Several references were made to the issues bikers have been having in LA with street gang members. I'm sure we are all aware at this point of the slaying in LA by gang members of bikers at a family bike night charity event. Apparently they hadn't gotten gang "permission" to hold the event in their area. So the gang members shot up the place, killing 3 and injuring others. What a shame that was!! Not only this incident but another in LA of gang members actually hitting bikes with their car on the freeway! This is just nuts!! Please be aware and be careful when riding in LA!!

The helmet offense issue was brought up with a bit of a solution to fight the tickets. A "Helmet Ticket Package" has been generated with the intent to make it available on the ABATE website. The package recommends three steps when fighting a helmet ticket and provides documents to help in executing all three steps. Hopefully this package will encourage more people to take a stand and fight these tickets!

1] Go to the police agency that wrote the

ticket and ask them to check the box on the citation that makes it a correctable offense. Only works if you were wearing a helmet. The CHP is treating helmet tickets as "correctable". Before citing for a "non-compliant" the officer has to contact his Sergeant for authorization. If the ticket is checked correctable, get the correction signed-off and you're done.

2] Fight the ticket via "Trail by Written Declaration". In effect, you fight the ticket by mail. If you win, you win. If you lose, you can request a "Trail de novo". You can start over and fight your ticket in court. The old verdict goes away.

3] Fight your ticket in court. We provide a Trial Brief to fill out.

Our 50/50 was won by Mike White, congratulations! And Janet Halverson's name was drawn from the membership can. Too bad she wasn't there to win it!! We also set up a Trick or Treat Run meeting date so we can iron out details to make it the most fun poker run experience ever! Look for our run flyer in the Bailing Wire and your favorite bike shops!

## Local #11 San Diego County (North)



The August turnout at Oakvale was excellent, with about 25 folks in attendance, plus 2 folks who are now new members! Tim covered membership renewals, phone tree ops and the availability of a limited number of "POW/MIA" display flags for sale. The Treasurer's report was covered, after expenses we still have some \$\$\$ in the treasury.

Also Tim covered the major points of the recent Board of Directors meeting held in Ontario. We need to continue our fundraising efforts to replenish the funds which have been utilized to make several donations to the PAC Funds of deserving CA legislators who have been supporting ABATE. We need to keep the petitions going against SB 435 and for AB 1205 - remember 2010 is just around the corner and those bills will be back. We,

# LOCAL NEWS

as an organization, need to get the ABATE name out to the media more frequently. The Board is looking at the need to recruit a PR rep to address the media. To save costs, the Bailing Wire will switch from postal mail to e-mail distribution in January. The website will also have the Bailing Wire for online viewing and copies will still be available through your Local officers and our Regional Rep Dave Connors.

Remember that elections are coming up soon. September 15 is the deadline for both Board of Director positions and for nominations to the Freedom Fighter of the Year award. As a Local, we also wish to extend our heartfelt thanks to Sporty Milligan for his recent very generous donation to ABATE.

As a tool in raising funds for ABATE, commissions are now paid to ABATE by the "Internet" for transactions handled through the portal [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com). Use "American Brotherhood Aimed Towards Education - ABATE" as your charity and then run your search. Subsequent sales done through this search engine will also benefit ABATE.

We have been advised that some "jurisdictions" are ticketing riders who have "Get Back Whips" on their M/C's - be aware. Our friend Phillip Reynolds is now a Planning Commissioner for the town of Campbell CA - he is an ABATE Member and supporter.

On the other hand, our not so friendly Senator Christine Kehoe is "Termed Out", but will most likely be running for the Assembly again. We, as an organization, need to do all we can to assist her opponent when the time comes. We need to send a strong message to those politicians who do not have our best interests in mind. Let's be part of the solution to see Ms. Kehoe not be elected to any office.

Ride Safe, Dave.

## Local #14 Alameda County



Hi everyone! Thanks for attending the meeting in August. We now have a new business member, The Diamond Lane, from our very own Local member Don Nicolas. Thanks Don! Thanks Carl Smith and Barbara Kennedy for renewing your membership.

Thanks Animal, Randy Brunzlick, Jessie "Night Train" Lane, David Grimes, Scott Thayer, Billy and Pam for your generous donations to our account. And thanks to our guests Ben from San Leandro and Robert and his club. Thanks for all the great information and stories you guys provided. Please come back again!

As usual the meeting was full of great information. If you don't know, SB435 is temporarily on hold, but may be introduced again, so keep getting those petitions signed and sent in.

The next State Board Meeting is October 10 in San Jose hosted by Local 32. So don't forget to mark your calendars. If you never attended a Board Meeting, you should. Check out the ABATE of California website. It's been updated and is full of information.

We're in the middle of a great riding season. Don't forget to make sure you're properly insured and have the proper coverage.

I hope to see you at the ABATE State Run in Kernville. Well until we meet again. RIDE SAFE. Franklin

## Local #15 Contra Costa County



Hello from ABATE Local 15! We had a great turn out at our July meeting. Come join us for current information on motorcycle rights, local rides, and just good company. We meet at Fuddruckers Hamburgers in the Willows Shopping Center off of Diamond Blvd in Concord on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm.

At the meeting Prez Bob Blatz provided some useful information about Motorcycle Helmet Enforcement in the form of CHP Information Bulletin No 209, dated April 9, 2009. Hopefully a PDF version of the Bulletin

will be posted on the ABATE Local 15 web site. Carrying a copy should help you dodge a CHP helmet ticket.

ABATE is not just about helmet laws - ABATE is all about individual integrity, dignity, and freedom; the right to be left alone to make your own good or bad decisions regarding your own health and safety. The compulsory helmet laws are clear and convincing evidence of the disdain our elected "servants" hold for our capacity for self-determination. Safety laws can, in themselves, lead to injury: I was riding bareheaded in non-helmet Montana, and was thrown off of a bike during a high-speed wobble. The added weight of a helmet under those circumstances would have likely broken my neck. We should have the right to make personal decisions, as well as to take the responsibility to live with the outcomes.

Do your part to defend not just your right to make your own helmet decisions, but your right to make your own personal decisions in all areas of your life. Ride Tall, Longrider Mike.

## Local #17 Solano & Napa Counties



Local 17 did an awesome job of supporting the Northern California Regional Rally at Kelly's Kamp, which is why the meeting date was changed for July. I ran into some folks who came from Local 15 to promote their run (August 23, ends at Port Costa, a very fun place), they were laughing that we had more folks at our "non-meeting" than they get at some of their meetings. You guys are great the way that you support the Local, and events like the Regional!!

And the way that you support ABATE of CA! Thanks for the donations to the General Fund, PAC Fund and Lobbyist Fund. It takes the support of the Locals to keep our organization running, so your support is very much appreciated.

Another way to support our organization is to attend the State Run on September 18-

20 in Kernville. We're getting ready for our Local fall events, the Bingo Run and Memorial Run (October 4). Stay tuned for more information as the dates approach.

Did you know that you can donate blood and credit it toward ABATE Local 17? We have an account that has been set up for many years. Just make an appointment at the Blood Source 866/822-5663 (centers in Vacaville and other cities) and ask them to credit it to ABATE Local 17.

Our condolences to Frank Guzzo, on the loss of his wife, Judy. Both of whom have been solid supporters of Local 17 for many, many years. You know your ABATE family is here for you Frank, just say the word!! It's been a tough year with the loss of Dennis Smith and now Judy.

Biker Bucks at the July meeting was won by Mark Stout, who wasn't present, so at the August meeting it will be \$100. It pays to go to meetings! The July 50/50 was \$48, won by Frank Guzzo, who donated it back to the Local. Thanks Frank, you are so generous.

Take care, ride safe and ride often!! Jean

## Local #19 Pomona Valley

Our July meeting was fun and there were 27 people in attendance. It's always great when there is a good bunch of people getting together. The current meeting place is B's Sports Bar and Grill. They have offered to extend their happy hour on our meeting nights and serve up cheap tacos. We positioned ourselves differently at this meeting and it seemed to go a bit better. It can still be a challenge when two or three people talk at the same time.

We took care of the regular business of minutes and reports from membership and the treasurer after the Pledge of Allegiance. Johnny talked to us about tire inflation and it's affect on handling and tire life. It seems that many don't check this enough. Hot and cold weather will affect tire pressure and these checks should be performed at least once a month.

Robert talked about Bill SB435 and the fact that no amendments have been made to this bill. We still need to fight this one. He also let us know about a new standard from SAE International that was released in May of this year. Standard J2825 is a safe, simple and affordable way for officers to measure sound levels of motorcycles. Watch out for this

# LOCAL NEWS

one. Robert also had copies of CHP Bulletin No.209 regarding helmet law enforcement. It is getting harder for a CHP to issue a citation for a helmet law violation.

Steve talked about the ABATE State Board meeting and asked that all volunteers show up at B's at 8:45am to get preparations underway. Local 19 is proud to have the Board meeting at our location and we want to make our visitors comfortable. The President's meeting starts at 10:00 am with the PAC meeting at 11:00 am. The Board meeting is at 1:00 pm and Steve let everyone know they could attend any one or all meetings. Chris S suggested all Local 19 members attend just to see what takes place. It should be educational.

The membership raffle was for \$83, but Jennifer wasn't there and it rolls over to next month. Mark's raffle winners were Vonnie, Will, Paulette and Sharon. Come and visit us next month. With extended happy hour and cheap tacos, you are bound to have a good time. As always, keep the shiny side up! Ed.

## Local #20 Orange County



Gill made copies of the smog bill petition and distributed to our members. Take them to business members' shops and runs and get them signed. Copies will be made and sent to every member on the Transportation Committee. You can give them to Gill or mail them to 2052 Newport Blvd #6, Costa Mesa, CA 92627.

A few weeks ago, Spike and Gill met with Mike Duvall at Cook's Corner. Tonic and Cowboy met him also. He is a very personable guy and is always in the ABATE corner.

Discussion was held on how to attract new business and new members. Louis (Aztec Riders) said that they are starting up their bike night again on August 28 and he took a stack of sign up cards for it.

On August 30 we will have a booth at Irwindale Speedway right on the strip. Moonie, Squirt and Gill will be there. At the time of our meeting, volunteers were still needed to help out. It gives us a break to see what is going on and speak to vendors for possible sign up of new business members and regular members. A new banner was made to adorn the front of the table. The pop-up cover, tables and chairs will be provided. Doreen will have a booth right next to us.

The Hessian's run at the Elks Club in Westminster is on August 16 and the Ironworkers L433 have their run on August 23. Robert Gladden missed his \$70 this month. That's just more money for the September winner. Ride Safe, Ride Free. Squirt

## Local #21 Antelope Valley



Ron and Roz showed up. They always make for a fat pitch. I guess this is the only reason I come when they do! No, I love em dearly and Mark and Glen. Thanks to all that showed up even if you didn't pitch in. So many good things were discussed. Glad I was late.

Our annual toy run is coming up. Glen and his organization, Happenin' HQ, are putting it together and don't need me except to man the raffle booth and get a few donated tables. I like that Glen a lot.

So help some Very Special Children in the Antelope Valley! Happenin' Headquarters 13th Annual Toy Run will be held Sunday, November 8, from 11 am to 5 pm at The Moose Lodge, 44545 Division Street in Lancaster. With a \$10 new toy donation for Moose Charities you'll enjoy music from Black Daniels Band, autos, cycles, vendors, ABATE Local 21 Poker run, food, 50/50 raffles, prizes, games and Santa.

More info @ [www.alleygl.org](http://www.alleygl.org) or call Santa at 661/947-3734. Bring the family for a great time! See you there.

Also see you at the State Run and have a great life. Later for now, Daryl.

**Continued on page 12**



# Sporty's Rides

by Lee 'Sporty' Milligan

Greetings from the email computer of Mr. Sporty. There was a time when I would be writing this report from my web TV reporter. Like the Bob Dylan's song line "the time's they are a changing". Yes boys and girls they are changing - ARE you enjoying that hope and change you were promised? Yea, right!

Come on Sporty quit the goofy stuff and get to the meat and potatoes of your report. Well if you insist. I will begin with my adventure to the Northern California Rally at Kelly's Kamp. That run was in July and I left on Thursday so I would not have to do the whole trek on Friday. Besides I had an extra vacation day so I used it.

The ride up to Sacramento was uneventful as usual. (Note: Plan a side trip along the way for next time.) Took the standby Route 99 because of the gas stations along the way and rest stops as well. However it was getting late and I needed to stop so I stopped at a Shell station and was told the next town would have motels. Yea Baby. I must have been mind-warped because I stopped before entering the town of Dunnigan and took a room at the Hacienda Hotel. The place had the layout like the motel in the movie Psycho. You guys remember the Bates Motel and the shower scene and - Bam! - Norman Bates. Kind of goofy don't you think. Anyway they had satellite TV, which was a pain to operate because I messed with it and - Bam! - the screen says welcome to Dish Network 500 and I get three hundred channels. Awesome!

However when I shut it off and tried to restart again it only played Dish Network informational with two Barbie and ken announcers. So I got the motel to switch rooms to see if the other TV worked better. It was no better and I finely gave up. Jeez what a pain. Had I bothered to go one mile further I would have run into a group of real motels with real TVs!



I was needing to eat so I ate at Wendy's and had a salad with chicken pieces on it. The salad dressing was probably too salty, but I used it anyway. The restaurant was in the Pilot Truck Stop. Breakfast was at the restaurant near Wendy's and darn I can't remember the name of it. Too bad because I should have had dinner there. More selections for the heart attack victim like me. Good eating and a healthy life style and you might live longer. Yea baby.

Well anyhow the oriental lady who

worked at the cafe made me decaf coffee and it had a fist full of coffee grounds in it - yuck. She meant well and the truck driver who was putting too much sugar in his coffee politely told me to mind my own [f@#\\$%^&^business](#). So I was starting out having a swell day. Took off on the I-5 north and got to the Shell station at I-5 and Hwy 20. This is a unique station in my book as they have many nice gift trinkets which were reasonably priced. I purchased one for the raffle booth at the run. Well after two more decaf stops I finally arrived at the camp grounds. Yea baby.

I got my tent set up and decided to take a nice swim. I wear briefs that can pass for a bathing suit so, yes, it was nice considering it was 95 plus degrees. Incidents Saturday morning: Dave Welsh Local 13 and Mac Henderson Local 52 were going to ride for breakfast close by. Leaving the area where we were camped we had to go up a gravelly slope where, of course, I got stuck in a rut. Where is the V8 juice when you need it? Well, Sporty, how stuck were you? I was so stuck that I could get off my bike and it did not fall down. Yaks! Now that is stuck. Of course I yelled out, "Help me, help!" And the lady in the trailer near by said, "Is anyone going to help that poor man?" Blazing Saddles comes to mind. Great! I gave the guys a photo shoot, but never the less I was helped out. Finally made breakfast and had pork chops and hash browns and eggbeaters and of course decaf coffee.

The rest of the weekend went well. There are some entertaining photos of the bike games that I was involved in - something

to do with balloons. The size of the crowd was kinda small, but by and large Local 28 did their best to accommodate the folks that showed up. Thanks to Melissa and the fine folks of Local 28 for a great time had by me. That is what the brotherhood of ABATE is all about.

So I am planning to do a couple of rides soon and our Local is putting a booth at the downed officers' ride August 16. So we'll see what that nets us. Meanwhile it's riding to work on either my 2007 1200L Sporty or my 2002 883 Sporty and one day a week I take the little truck that could, my 89 Toyota, that has been given the honor of being in the 100 thousand mile club. Yea baby! On a side note: The little truck that could recently went in for a minor surgical procedure called "replacing the starter solenoid" and a valve adjustment. So she's feeling much better now after also being well oiled and lubed.

Life is OK. They are working me hard at my job with the county, but I hold my own. Yes I can still use a weed eater and chainsaw with the best of them, but I occasionally get my bumps and bruises due to the medicine I take.

That is it for now. Later, Regards, Sporty.

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Continued From Page 10

## Local #22 South Bay

Meeting at Walkers Cafe. Cook was early and all over it and the dishwasher was humble. Steve volunteered to take on the sergeant of arms role, thanks. New faces are becoming familiar, Nick, Carl, and Jennifer returned as members after some time off, WELCOME back.

There was talk about the smog bill, Board meeting in Ontario, State run, Local 22 past and present, upcoming elections, Bailing Wire, lots of opinions and options thrown around. Thanks a ton to those who showed and everyone else is invited to join us on the 1st of September. Walker's Café, 7:30 pm, 700 W. Paseo Del Mar; San Pedro. Later, JohnnyO

## Local #23 San Bernardino



**ATTENTION LOCAL 23 Members!!!**  
**September's meeting has been moved to September 13, the 2nd Sunday of the month.** Please mark your calendars and make plans to attend. Also, next year's leadership nominations will be taken at the September meeting, so if you are wishing to make a nomination or be part of next year's leadership, you don't want to miss this meeting.

I'm sorry I missed you all at the last meeting, but I heard that it was a standing room only crowd and we signed up a new member or two. Good job Local 23! And let's keep up the good work and high attendance.

Local 23's Burger Burn seems to have fallen on some hard times this year. After postponing July's Burger Burn, so that we could get our ducks in a row, we were unable to secure a new location for the August Burger Burn. I'm not sure what the plans are for September, but I'm sure it will be a topic of discussion, so bring your ideas along with you to the September meeting.

So, we will see all of you Local 23 members on September 13 - right? And don't forget, if you want to step up and be a part of next year's leadership or you wish to nominate someone, you need to be there

to throw a name in the hat. And please don't forget to bring a new member along, let's try and top last month and sign up at least three new members.

Until then, ride safe and keep fighting to protect our Freedoms of the Road. Russ.

## Local #27 Riverside



Greetings! Our meeting place for the last several years, Hot Rod Pizza, has closed. We have a new spot: Denny's Restaurant, 2925 Van Buren Blvd in Riverside 951/352-2994.

I am tellin' you folks things are a happenin' out here! At our first meeting at the new digs, Denny's, we filled the room. Cozy it was. The Denny's staff appeared to take good care of us, but I'm here to tell you folks I was the last to leave the room and there was only a few bucks on the tables for the waitresses. If you get service, a tip is proper, let's not short the help.

Our events committee is just out doing themselves on our Local 27 Poker Run or Not. Greg, Kenny, an Hack Jowell have managed to put a new twist on a very old screw. Of course they are getting some help from Danny'O and Darlene da' Babe. Excitement abounds. Step up! We will need your help, no doubt. Get yer paws full of fliers an get out there and spread the word. LET'S GET A BIG TURN OUT FOLKS!!!

Hack Jowell has coerced Greg Covell's young son, Timothy, da pooter whiz, to put up a Local 27 website. It's up an' a runnin'. We are working to get more content on it, but check it out at [abatelocal27.org](http://abatelocal27.org). It's very impressive and we owe young Tim a big debt of thanks. The Local voted a \$29.00 monthly hosting fee. Hopefully selling advertisements will offset that cost and maybe even make some \$\$ for the cause.

# LOCAL NEWS

At the meeting we were favored with a new business member, Renegade Classics, owner Cory Miller. I know you all will join me in giving him a big Local-27 hidey-ho an' welcome aboard! All year Cory has graciously welcomed Local 27 to have a table at Renegade Classics' monthly Bike Night, held the 2nd Saturday of the month at 7209 Arlington Ave, Suite F. Call 951/637-6700 for directions. He has an ample, friendly crowd, Check it out.

Folks in closing I wanna say I'm excited about the activity I see within the Local. Some new blood is starting to make its presence known. I met Elmer & Connie Simeon; Elmer had the night off and came up with his wife. They are real nice people and have been members for some time, Great to meet ya!

There are some things in the works. Make it a point to start attending the monthly meetings as we can always use the input and want to be sure you have an opportunity to participate.

Mt. View/TK Fliers (November 8<sup>th</sup>) are hot off the press an ready for distribution. C'ya, HR.

## Local #28 Lake County



Thanks to everyone who supported our Northern California Rally at Kelly's Kamp ground in Upper Lake. We ended up with a little over 100 people, many of them came just for the day and we really appreciate all of you. Next time you see Sporty, ask him about how he buried his back tire?? What a guy, riding all that way

from the San Fernando Valley, bringing a prize to donate and just being there with us. Dave Walsh from Local 13 also showed up and won the 50/50, donating \$100 of it to the PAC Fund, which was sent off under his name. Cynthia & Gary Witthans came in their motorhome with the grandkids from Apple Valley. Cynthia worked with Lori Adams (Local 28 past president and current ABATE Board Member), selling the 50/50 tickets - great job! We also had the Chairman of the Board, Sarge Mathews, Lil' David Morena and Tim Tennimon join us. It was good to see Mac Henderson for the run. Jean Hughes registered but wasn't able to make the trip.

Thanks to the following Local 28 members who made this all come together: Lori Adams, Pam & Lee Paulson, Wink Winckler ran some fun bike games and gave out great plaques to all the winners, Steve Bellah, Ron & Cheryn Chips, our official BBQ cooks, Steve & Pat Sayers for running registration on Saturday. Dave Adams (no relation to Lori) is an ABATE member from Santa Rosa who's been coming to our meetings, worked with John and I all day Friday. Jeanie and her friend Jim ran the bar both nights, keeping those happy libations flowing.

Friday night, Lori arranged for a very talented DJ Taj and he provided a great evening of every kind of music anyone would want to hear. We had a table full of raffle prizes that were given away to lots of happy folks on Saturday night during one of the breaks of the LC Diamond Band. When it was time for them to quit, Sarge rounded up some more bucks and they played another 30 minutes. The weather was perfect at night even if it was a little hot during the day.

We are looking for a new meeting place again, so if anyone is interested in joining us for the September meeting, give me a call at 707/263-1845 and I'll let you know the location. Maybe we'll see some of you on the Lake or Mendocino County runs or maybe at Street Vibrations, primarily in Virginia City,

Continued on page 15



Compiled & Edited by Bill Bish

**MULTI-FACETED MOTORCYCLE BILL ENACTED IN TEXAS:** Senate Bill 1967, authored by Texas State Senator John Carona (R-Dallas) and sponsored by Representative Norma "Da'Lady" Chavez (D-El Paso), introduces many motorcycle-related changes in the Lone Star State. Included in the bill are:



1) Funding by Texas Department of Transportation for a public awareness campaign to promote motorcyclist safety and the concept of sharing the road with motorcyclists.

2) Changes to the definition of a motorcycle to include certain enclosed three-wheeled passenger vehicles.

3) Changes to the licensing requirements for enclosed three-wheeled passenger vehicles.

4) A requirement for all applicants for a motorcycle license or endorsement on a regular or commercial driver's license to provide proof of successful completion of a basic motorcycle operator training course.

5) Penalties for failure to yield the right-of-way violations resulting in bodily injury range from \$500 to \$2,000 while those resulting in serious bodily injury range from \$1,000 to \$4,000.

6) A prohibition against stopping or detaining a motorcycle operator or passenger solely to determine whether the person has successfully completed a motorcycle operator training and safety course or is covered by a health insurance plan.

7) A requirement for the Department of Transportation to develop a standard of proof of health insurance coverage for adult motorcycle operators and passengers.

## COAST TO COAST BIKER NEWS

8) A requirement that all driver education courses or driving safety courses include information on motorcycle awareness, dangers of failure to yield the right-of-way to motorcyclists, and the need to share the road with motorcyclists.

Governor Rick Perry signed the bill into law on June 19; it becomes effective September 1, 2009.

"We made history, Warriors," exclaimed Sputnik, State Chairman of the Texas Motorcycle Rights Association (TMRA-II) and Chairman of the National Coalition of Motorcyclists Legislative Task Force (NCOM-LTF). "We owe Da'Lady and her entire staff a huge debt of gratitude for all the work they did for riders this session."

### MISSOURI RIDERS SEEING RED:

For most drivers red means stop. But if you're riding a motorcycle or a bicycle in Missouri, it will soon mean stop, but only sort of. A new Missouri law that takes effect August 28 allows motorcycle and bike riders to run red lights, but only if they stop first and the signal remains red for an "unreasonable time."

Missouri will join a growing number of states that have enacted similar laws, which are intended to address occasions when motorcycles or bikes aren't detected by traffic signal sensors in the road. Many traffic signals are triggered by a magnetic reaction coupled with wires embedded in the pavement. The wires are sized in such a way that they are more likely to be tripped by a car or truck, but some motorcycles and bikes tend not to trip the signal because they have less mass and are made with parts that aren't attracted to a magnet.

In cities with intersections patrolled by red-light cameras, when a picture is taken of a red-light runner, police should be able to apply the law by looking at video of the possible violation, and if a rider does get a ticket the new law will provide a defense.

Missouri is the eighth state to pass this kind of law since 2002, and three other states considered similar legislation this year.

### NY STATE POLICE SUED OVER MOTORCYCLE-ONLY ROADBLOCKS:

Upstate New York has earned a reputation as the speeding ticket capital of the country, but even with overeager state troopers patrolling the highways, motorcyclists feel singled out by law enforcement. That's why one rider/attorney is taking the state police, along with county and state officials to court.

According to legal documents filed by Mitch Proner, Aid to Injured Motorcyclists (AIM) Attorney for New York, the state's institution of roadblocks exclusively for motorcyclists is unconstitutional: the motorcyclist and personal injury lawyer claims that without justifiable cause, the checkpoints infringe on riders' First Amendment rights to freedom of assembly and association and their Fourth Amendment right to freedom from unreasonable search and seizure.

For nearly two years now, the New York State Police (NYSP) have been conducting highway roadblocks diverting only motorcyclists from the state's roadways to perform "safety checks". According to ABATE of New York, "Since motorcycles operated in New York are already required to pass annual safety inspections, the current NYSP initiative continues to serve only to harass, intimidate and inconvenience motorcyclists traveling upon the state's roadways. Further, motorcycle-only roadblocks of this nature are a discriminatory and unconstitutional infringement upon an individual's right to travel without interference, and an abuse of discretionary power as acknowledged by the New York State Court of Appeals."

Proner told Autoblog.com that he is filing the federal class action suit at the Federal Court for the Northern District of New York on behalf of his fellow riders. ABATE of New York has pledged support of the class-action initiative brought on behalf of the National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM).

### CITIES MUFFLE MOTORCYCLE NOISE:

Many state legislatures and city councils are making lots of noise about motorcycles, with new ordinances popping up across the country to silence loud exhausts. "Loud Pipes Save Lives" has been a biker mantra for years, but politicians spurred by citizen complaints have discovered new ways to muffle unwanted exhaust tones.

The Albuquerque City Council voted 6-3 earlier this month to approve an ordinance making revving of motorcycle engines downtown a vehicle nuisance. Amending Section 7-10-3 ROA 1994, The Vehicle Nuisance Ordinance now reads: "It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in exhibition driving in the Downtown Quiet Zone by operating a vehicle in a manner that willfully creates excessive engine noise because of revving the engine to magnify the engine noise."

Bikers blasting through East Greenwich, Rhode Island may want to steer clear of town if their exhaust systems aren't the proper match for their bikes. The Town Council unanimously passed an emergency ordinance in late July allowing the police to pull over and levy fines on bikers if the noise-rating data stamped into the chrome of their exhaust doesn't match the label on the bike frame. Modified exhaust systems are outlawed.

The ordinance, now in effect, provides for fines \$500 for the first offense, and jumps to \$700 the second time and \$1,000 for the third and each subsequent violation. Buddy Cardoso, president of the Rhode Island Motorcycle Association, who said his group supports courteous riding, inquired that if the labels have to match, "What do you do, throw away the motorcycle if the exhaust wears out?" Owners of other vehicles are allowed to use after-market exhaust systems, and it is unfair to single out bikers, he said.

In West Virginia, the Charleston City Council let it be known loud and clear that nuisance noise will not be tolerated, and unanimously passed an ordinance on August 17 to crack down on loud music, barking dogs and revving of car and motorcycle engines in residential areas, with fines up to \$250.

In an attempt to silence community concerns regarding excessive motorcycle exhaust sound, the Boston City Council fast-tracked enactment of Docket 0658 on June 3, 2009. The new ordinance mandates that all on-highway motorcycles built after December 31, 1982 must have either OEM (original equipment manufacturer) or aftermarket exhaust systems that comply with the US EPA labeling provision in the Code of Federal Regulations. Violations will result in a \$300 fine.

Earlier this year in California a bill was held over that would have required periodic emissions testing for 2000 and newer on-road motorcycles in an effort to make aftermarket exhaust systems illegal if they do not comply with EPA labeling.

Meanwhile, the Motorcycle Industry Council has teamed with the Society of Automotive Engineers International (SAE) to produce a stationary roadside sound test standard that can be used to determine whether a street bike exhaust system emits excessive sound. "The new SAE standard provides a much-needed alternative to outright bans, restrictions and sound test standards that vary state to state and city to city, frustrating riders, exhaust system manufacturers, and municipal governments alike," said MIC President Tim Buche.



# Coast from page 13

**ANTI-BIKER LAWS UNITING MOTORCYCLE CLUBS:** Designed to dismantle "Bikie Gangs", South Australia's recently adopted anti-biker legislation appears to be having the reverse effect - serving to unite rival clubs.

Gypsy Jokers, Hells Angels, Rebels, Finks and Descendents motorcycle club members are coming together in protest against the Serious and Organized Crime Control Act, which came into effect in June last year. The Act is described by the Government as being the toughest law of its kind in the world, and is intended to disrupt biker "gangs" by declaring membership or association with outlawed clubs illegal.

The Act also includes new charges, which carry up to 10 years jail, for bikie club members and their associates who engage in group violence.

Hundreds of members of rival clubs participated in a Freedom of Association Protest Poker Run, and as if that wasn't a defiant enough show of unity, a group of motorcycling enthusiasts, including members of opposing clubs, are only a few application process steps away from forming a legitimate politi-

cal party.

The unlikely alliance, known as the FREE Australia Party, hopes to hit South Australia's premier where it hurts - in parliament.

The party's leader, Paul Kuhn - a committee member of the Motorcycle Riders Association of SA and a Justice of the Peace - said the group was formed because of deep concern anyone associated with a member of a club would be found guilty under the law.

"The Government is now controlling and dictating relationships," he said. Kuhn is not the only member of the public questioning the civil liberties said to be lost under the Act. The SA Law Society, the SA Council of Social Services, various Aboriginal groups, the Greens and the Australian Democrats have all voiced concern about the legislation.

A member of the Gypsy Jokers MC told the press services that the unified event proves that bikie clubs could get along, despite what the Government was trying to show. "These laws have brought the clubs together," he said.

**WEIRD NEWS: TURKEY GOES WILD OVER BIKERS:** Freddy the turkey, the famous and notorious foul who trotted around town much to the delight of Easton, Massachusetts residents, met his demise this

month after becoming a menace to motorcyclists.

The wild turkey wandered out of the woods and became a common sight and mascot in the Five Corners area, where he ruled the roost and was often seen gobbling up bargains at the local stores and strutting across busy streets like he was on parade.

But the gadabout gobbler went from docile dollar-store shopper to motorcycle menace over the past few months, prompting police to put him down. "Things had really gotten nasty," said Police Chief Allen R. Krajcik. "We were thankful there had been no accidents yet. It was only a matter of time before something happened."

Police began receiving calls and e-mails from motorcyclists asking whether police were waiting for an accident before taking action. "One motorcyclist told police that the bird flew at his face with his feet forward to attack him," the chief told the local newspaper. To escape, the driver drove through a red light, narrowly avoiding an accident. Similar attacks had been reported in increasing numbers, and like other repeat offenders Freddy was racking up a long record of dangerous activity,

victimizing mostly motorcyclists.

Meanwhile, police stood by their actions, saying they initially intended to capture the turkey and relocate it to a less populated environment. But the state Division of Fisheries and Wildlife advised against it, saying the turkey could introduce diseases to its new habitat, and advised euthanizing it, according to Chief Krajcik.

**QUOTABLE QUOTE:** "History does not entrust the care of freedom to the weak or timid." Dwight D. Eisenhower (1890-1969) 34th President of the United States

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From page 12

# Local News

the real Street Vibrations place to be! Melissa Fulton, President Local 28, Lake County

## Local #40 Bakersfield



Hello from Local 40. We had 18 people attend our August meeting. Roy led the Pledge of Allegiance and Whit said the prayer. Jim was the acting president for the night and will be until Omar returns in October. We miss you.

We had two new people, Mike and Michelle. We also had two guests, Tony Jaime and Sharon. They came to talk about the State Run and ask if we would do the games again. We said, "Yes." They showed us the quilt that will be auctioned off at the run. Hope to see everyone there.

We talked about the smog bill (SB 435) and about helmets and tickets. Then we had a raffle by drawing names. That was fun! And then the meeting was over. Bye for now, Debbie.

## Local #44 High Desert

Hey everyone, sorry I keep forgetting to get my info into the Bailing Wire. I have no excuse. Well, anyway by the time you read this the last Bike Night at Maverick Stadium will be over. It more than likely was a lot of fun.

Let's see, what else? Oh yeah, don't forget that the State Run is going to be in the middle



of September. There will be about 10 or more of us going, so come on up. It is only 2 1/2 hours away up in some beautiful area.

I wish I had more info; Gary and Bob have been sending a lot of emails about SB435. So if you haven't signed a petition, call someone and get with it.

Fall will be on us before we know it, so let's get out there and do some riding. Talk at you later. Jeff Oz.

## Local #47 Barstow



Howdy All! OK now that Sturgis is history, don't forget about ABATE runs. Local 47 is making plans to attend the State Run.

At our monthly meeting we had 3 guests attending. It's so nice to have other ABATE members come out to enjoy our meeting. That's a good idea, pick a Local and go visit on meeting day.

Local 47 is planning a Fall Ride, so read the Bailing Wire and ride to The Devils' Playground this fall with us. Time and date are still being planned.

See you at the State Run! Yermoeddy.



### San Diego ABATE LOCAL 6 Halloween Poker Run Saturday - Oct 31st

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**behind Weinerschnitzel**





**Costume Contest Judging at 7pm**  
**Fun & Games**  
**Munchies**  
**Music**  
**Silent Auction All Bids In at 8pm**

# ABATE L 29

## 18th ANNIVERSARY AND 12TH ANNUAL AQUARIUS LAUGHLIN RUN

### RAIN OR SHINE

**Drawing for \$500.00 Gift Certificate!**  
Yes choose whatever you want!  
Shop for the things you want most!  
\$2.00 per ticket  
Hurry! limited number of tickets available!

**"POT OF GOLD"**  
October 16 -18, 2009  
Sign in 9 am -1 pm  
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\*RAFFLE PRIZES  
\*RIDE IN BIKE SHOW  
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Make your reservations by June 30 and save 30% on the room tax!  
Room tax increases from 9% to 13% July 1st, 2009 and will be added to all reservations made after June 30, 2009

### ALL RIDERS WELCOME

Motorcycle lift raffle at event!  
along with many many other raffle prizes!  
these prizes only available at event

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO : ABATE L 29**  
For more information please contact Marty Rapp 760-367-1694 or MMHD2@msn.com  
Pre-registration form:

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ pre reg \_\_\_\_\_ day of event \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Single \$10 ( ) \$20 ( )  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ couple \$15 ( ) \$25 ( )

Mail to:  
ABATE 29  
PO Box 2334  
29 Palms CA 92277



Due to the great weather and location we might have to rename our run;" Kind of "Sweaty Buns Run". First of all, all the thanks to all Local 2 volunteers!!! We made it happen again, this time, much, much more positive! It's hard to anticipate good things to happen when an uncertainty looms in the air, with the economy, and whatever bulloney excuses that could be made up (you know who you are!). Last year we had high hopes and did good all the while with great anticipation for 09's run. Being at one of the sign up booths, it just got better and better by the flow of people that showed up, from the High Desert and Long Beach all the way to Ventura! What a great start and it got us going and we forgot about the uncertainty by the time we got to our destination, the Moose Lodge in Ventura. Now it was time to work the event and enjoy everyone's company, it was fantastic!

We had the Live Riders MM from the Live Ride Church in Simi Valley handle the parking, for the amount of bikes that needed parking and with limited space (we had Bike Games this year!) they did an excellent job. Thanks for your volunteering efforts, it was well appreciated!

## L#2's 2009 Sweaty Buns Run

Special thanks goes out to Frank Warthen for cooking up a boat load of cow, it was the good stuff, nothing but the best for our guests!! We had vendors this year, too bad I can't remember who they were, but if you know who you are, all I can say is ABATE Local 2 thanks you very much!!!

Sitting in the shade and eating a BBQ beef sandwich I listened to "National Dust." Thank you all for some good and I do mean good music, you guys rock!

Once again thank you Moose Lodge persons for allowing us to have our event there again (two times in a row). Thanks to Design Tech (our VP's company and ABATE business Member) for Awesome Trophies, these are the good stuff, not cheap plastic waste of money junk, if you won one of these, they go in the front row, wow! Thanks again!

We also thank Micah McCloskey's and Ventura Harley Davidson for the starting locations. We thank our friend and business member Arman Gevorkian, for the use of his shop and store "County Line Cycles" in Simi

Valley, it was one of our stops, the free coffee and doughnuts were the best, it's great that a local business supports ABATE and offers to help us out!!!

Here's another list, Rudder Room, Bom Bay Bar and Grill, raffle donations to include Simi Valley Harley Davidson, County Line Cycles, Lancaster Harley Davidson, Sergio's, Easyriders Magazine, Ironhorse Leathers, Mickey Bochenski, Simi Valley Tattoo, I hope I got all of you. Thanks for your generosity; you are a part of the ingredients that made this successful. We thank our brethren; Local 13 and other ABATE members for supporting our run that is, by the way, for ABATE, hmmm...

With all said and done, the atmosphere, the people, the camaraderie, the weather, the food, the music, the raffle prizes, the bike games, and the seagulls all made for an excellent day, oh by the way, our Run Coordinator Rick Flores, thank you very much for organizing a great ride, I heard many people say this was a great ride.

Local 2 grew up today, what I mean by this is that we were "Well" organized! This was a very positive and profitable Poker Run (we can't wait for next years!). We did this because this is who we are, "Volunteers for ABATE". The dedication from our President Tom, and Vice President Steve and others made this happen, this took months of preparations and with good organizational skills and a desire to succeed, we are able to bless ABATE, you have to read our Local 2 monthly news column for more info, we wanted to spark other Locals and hope that ALL Locals do well.

One really important fact of this event was that we got 5 new members from this run, to me that's pretty frikken amazing!!! Double WOW! We know that this is a group effort and if we all can be successful then ABATE will be successful!

This is what volunteer means to me: Offer free help, to do charitable or helpful work without receiving pay for, to do something by choice, to perform, to give, and if I can do this on my Harley and hang out with good people then I'm an ABATE Volunteer!!! Thanks again, Norm e. New









# "THIS BABY CAN STOP ON A DIME!" AND OTHER URBAN MYTHS

Information compiled by  
**John Del Santo**

**BRAKING DISTANCE** (Total feet traveled from the time the Drivers Foot touches the Brake Pedal until the vehicle is at a full stop.)

**BETTER BRAKES, OPERATED BY EXPERIENCED DRIVER,**  
60 MPH – 0

**TRUCKS:**

3-AXLE SEMI 210 – 249 FEET  
3 AXLE SINGLE-UNIT TRUCK 184 – 252 FEET

2- AXLE SINGLE-UNIT TRUCK  
WEIGHING LESS THAN 10,000

LBS

155 – 170 FEET

**STANDARD SIZE PASSENGER CAR:**

159 – 165 FEET

Information from Lawyers and Judges publishing com "vehicle speed and stopping distance computer."

Large SUVs' & light trucks: (weighing 8,000 – 10,000lbs) must be able to stop within 280 feet of braking distance.

Large SUVs' and light trucks weighing at least 7700 lbs must be able to stop within 204 – 218 feet.

ALL NEW vehicles weighing less

than 7700 lbs, (cold brakes, dry road, new blacktop) requires a minimum braking distance of 230 feet.

Info from Sam Daniel, New Vehicle Effectiveness Dept, US Dept of Transportation NHTSA 6/1/05

**MOTORCYCLES:**

BMW R1200GS 125.2 FEET

Harley Davidson Sportster 114.1 feet

Honda Valkyrie 114.8 feet

Info from motorcycle consumer news winter 04/05 performance index

**MOTORCYCLE-TYPE TRIKES:** Ray, who owns a Trike dealership in

Washington state, and who worked with the Evergreen Safety Council preparing their Trike & sidecar course, said that a motorcycle-type trike (not a car-engine made into a trike) should stop in a slightly shorter distance than a 2-wheeled motorcycle of the same brand and model. This is probably because when a motorcycle is braked hard, it noses toward the front, and the front wheel has to do most of the braking, and they found during their testing that when a motorcycle-trike was braked hard the back-end seemed to settle in so that all three tires were braking, with the back wheels doing more of the work. (Ray 3/05)

## Do Ya' Feel Like You Have a Bull's-eye Painted on Your Back???

by John Del Santo

We must be three times as good, three times as watchful, and three times as sharp as the auto-drivers around us, just to keep from being run over. Fortunately, being three times as good as them is not that hard to do. The folks we share the road with seem like they are driving with their heads in a paper bag, and have no concept of how to drive properly.

First, do you think that the car in the next lane knows that your bike is there next to him? Is the one coming in on your back end aware of you? And is the one up there at the next intersection judging your speed correctly?? Or is he ready to pull out in front of you? Can you feel the trap closing? You are ready with your gas, brakes and horn; you are expecting the worst and will be pleasantly surprised when it doesn't happen.

When we consider that those folks that we are sharing the road with have built up the following statistics: At any time of day, one out of 50 drivers around you is drunk. On Friday and Saturday evenings, that number changes to one out of ten (National Safety Council "Accident Facts").

Even if the pedestrian down the block looks directly at you, don't trust them to make the correct decision. Of all the adult pedestrians killed by cars every year in this country, forty percent of the pedestrians were drunk

at the time they were killed! And twenty five percent of the adult bicyclists were drunk when they were hit by other vehicles and killed. In California last year there were more than 206,000 DWI arrests. And those are just the ones that were caught. So we shouldn't assume that any of the drivers, bicyclists or pedestrians around us will make a sober decision!

Golly! It sounds like a script for a really gory horror movie! Half of all motor vehicle fatalities involve alcohol! A test done involving volunteer truckers, showed that just a couple of drinks brought the testers blood alcohol count up to .04, and caused their reaction/perception time to slow by about 35%. The worst damage done by having a slight "buzz" on is that it will very often cause the driver or rider to make the wrong decision to avoid a collision, and the delay increases the stopping distance.

And just so it doesn't sound like all of the injuries and deaths are just caused by those nasty four-wheelers, in half of all single-vehicle motorcycle fatalities, the rider had been drinking.

So, to use a phrase from that old TV show, "Let's be careful out there." Hey, we're adults, drink what you want, but ride sober, and think defensively so that you're not trusting anyone around you to make good moves. Ride Straight, and Ride Smart.

## In the Heat of the Summer

by John Del Santo

When we ride in the heat, stripping down to a t-shirt will allow our body moisture to just fly away. In the movies you don't see those Bedouin Tribesman in the desert wearing shorts and a tank-top. Gotta be a reason there. Drink a LOT more than you think you need, and if you get to a stop and don't need to use the rest room, then you're not drinking enough. Hydrate!!! Wet your clothes down! Pour water on your head! Some bike shops have shirts made of foam that you soak with water and wear under a jacket like a Swamp cooler. They work! Feeling very tired while riding in very hot weather is a BAD sign of things to come.

**DEHYDRATION:** Is one that can sneak up on you. Lower or higher elevation, hot or cold temperature - Drink! Drink! Drink! Gallons each day! And not diuretics like coffee or alcohol drinks, they just make it worse. Our body needs the liquid, and if we don't get enough our body will let us KNOW about it, sometimes with...

**HEAT EXHAUSTION:** That can make us feel like just stopping and lying down next to the road in the shade and going to sleep - maybe forever. We can fall asleep as easy on a bike as we can driving a car. And "fall-

ing" asleep has a whole other meaning when it happens on a bike. Drink! Drink! Water and sports drink, get in someplace cool, dump water on your head and down your shirt. Half of the world takes a two-hour lunch break in the middle of the day. Not a bad idea! And you won't be out there sharing the road with drivers who are dazed from the heat! Rest, because next in line comes the killer...

**HEAT STROKE:** Which can worsen from heat exhaustion with little warning. Our body's temperature control stops working! Hot dry skin, severe headache, exhaustion, hallucination, and THERE IS AN IMMEDIATE POSSIBILITY OF DEATH! FIRST CALL 911!!! Move the victim to a cool place, douse with water, fan breeze onto the victim. If we act quickly and correctly, maybe we can prevent permanent brain damage or death. Once someone has suffered a heat-related illness, the chances of it happening again in the future are higher.

Do you feel like the road is beating you up? Take a day off!! Sleep late. Sit by a brook with water running over your feet. Look at some scenery. Take a nap. Sack in early and start the next day as a whole new person. We may get there a day later, but so what! The journey IS the goal.



# Movin' On

by John Del Santo

Here it comes! The season when the birds are chirping and the schools are out for the summer and a large part of the population is taken with "The Great American Urge to be Somewhere Else" It's Moving Day!

Homes and apartments are moved at the end of every month, but the two biggest times of the year for "Moving Day" are when schools close for the spring, and just before they reopen in the fall. These are times that motorcycle riders must be way more alert for junk on the road.

A lot of the moving is done by people in pickup trucks - two of the most common exercises done by the Yuppie crowd are jogging and helping divorced friends move. You can tell by how people pack things in a



pickup if they have any idea of what they are doing. People watch the TV NEWS and see a hurricane in Florida that has a 65 MPH wind ripping the shutters off of houses, and then they'll load a whole bunch of furniture in

their pick-up without any type of tie-downs. They drive down the Freeway at 65 MPH and expect that stuff to actually stay in the back of the truck. "WHOA" here it comes! Mattresses and chairs, ladders and garbage cans flying out of the truck as we brake and weave on our motorcycles like targets in a video game, trying not to be killed. In Louisiana recently a bathtub fell out of the back of a pick-up and slid into the path of a motorcyclist!

We know there's potential trouble when you spot someone with stuff on the roof of their vehicle held on with about six long pieces of string, or they have their arm stretched out the window trying to hold something on the roof. The most common thing to find on the roadway are Bungee Cords, the second most common thing

to find on the roadway is the stuff that the Bungee Cords used to be holding. Ya' can't trust them!

Now here comes the big Conga-Line of "U-Rent-um" trucks. Eight feet wide and twenty-five feet long being driven by someone who has never driven anything bigger than a Hyundai before. They have no idea how to use the mirrors, no idea how many blind spots are around them or where they are, and no idea that with that extra weight it will take a lot longer to stop the vehicle. Don't stay anywhere near them!

As motorcycle riders, to protect ourselves we need to keep an eye as far up the road as possible, to watch for other vehicles swerving around things already lying in the road, and when we spot the rental-trucks and loaded pick-ups BEWARE!

## ABATE Local 35

Monterey, California

# 2009 TEDDY BEAR RUN

**Sunday October 18th, 2009**  
**Sign In: 9:00am - 11:00am**  
**Run Starts at 11:00 am**  
**Start at Bill's Monterey Custom Motorcycles**  
**1993 Del Monte Blvd., Seaside**  
**Stops at:**  
**VNA Monterey Office (5 Lower Ragsdale, Mtry.)**  
**VNA Salinas Adult Day Center (45 Plaza Circle, Salinas)**  
**Mid Valley Shopping Center (104 Carmel Valley Rd., Carmel Valley)**  
**Ends at Monterey Elks Lodge**  
**150 Mar Vista Drive, Monterey**  
**Lunch Starts at 1:00 pm Raffle Starts at 2:00 pm**

**Entry Fee: \$20 plus stuffed toy donation for a single rider**  
**\$35 plus stuffed toy donation for rider and passenger**

- **World Famous VNA Buffet Lunch**
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- **Scenic Poker Run with tours of the two VNA facilities**
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    - Longest Distance Traveled
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    - Oldest Rider

All Proceeds to benefit the  
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For More Information  
**Contact Dominic and Jackie Favalora**  
**831-659-9313**

**Motorcyclists Are NOT A Public Burden All Motorcyclists Welcome**

**A.B.A.T.E. OF ORANGE COUNTY**  
 (L #8 & #20)  
**Sunday October 25th**

## 4th Annual Trick or Treat Run

**Trick or Treat POKER RUN**  
**\$15 single/\$25 couple**  
**Includes Run pin(s) and poker hand(s)**  
**Additional hands \$10 each**  
**Cash Prizes for High and Low hands!**  
**Costume Contest~Chapter Challenge~Bike Show~Apple Bob~Boot Race**  
**Run pins to the 1st 100 participants. All profits going to ABATE.**  
**ALL bikes and clubs welcome! Raffle, 50/50, LIVE music by Dr Slam & the Traveling Garage Band, vendors, food, beverages, trophies, fun and more!**

**Sign in: 8-10am @ The Starting Gate**  
**5052 Katella Ave Los Alamitos, CA 90720**  
**End point: Cook's Corners**  
**19152 Santiago Canyon Road**  
**Trabuco Canyon, CA 92679**

~ Raffles/band start at noon & trophies/games 2:00 pm ~  
**For more info or vendor info contact:**  
**Karyn (714) 624-0746 [love\\_bug3663@yahoo.com](mailto:love_bug3663@yahoo.com)**  
**or Tim (714) 761-9502**

**Pre registration: Received by:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Pre registration: Send to: ABATE (check or money order to ABATE)/c/o Karyn McGan**  
**2771 Ridgeline Dr # 102 Corona CA 92882**  
 Pre registered participants will receive a FREE Poker Hand per Couple  
 Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ **single** \_\_\_\_\_ **couple** \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_



# The Membership Committee Announces It's 11 th ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

## HERE's HOW YOU CAN WIN ...

The Individual who signs up the most members will win ...

**First Place - \$300.00**

**Second Place - \$200.00**

**Third Place - \$100.00**

## The Rules:

- 1.No Minimum number of memberships required to qualify.
- 2.The campaign begins January 1, 2009 and ends December 31st 2009. Only NEW Memberships received by the State Office on or between these dates will qualify for campaign-credit. Memberships submitted or POSTMARKED before January 1<sup>st</sup> or after December 31st will not be included.
- 3.You must be a current member of ABATE of California to participate.
- 4.Your name must be included as the source on each application you submit, and it is YOUR responsibility to promptly confirm that your name is included on applications phone/fax/mailed by you.
- 5.The person credited with the highest number of NEW memberships will be awarded the top prize. In the event of a tie, the winner shall be selected by a random drawing to be conducted by the Membership Committee.
- 6.WINNERS of the Membership drive will be announced and receive their Prizes at the ABATE State Board Meeting in January 2010.
- 7.All Membership types are considered equal for the purposes of credit. No extra credit will be given for Couple, Gold Business or Life Memberships.
- 8.Membership Committee Members and their family members are not eligible to win.
9. Renewals do not count as new membership for the campaign.
10. The Local that retains their current members as of January 1<sup>st</sup> to the end of the campaign and gains 50 new members by December 31st will win a personal bonus of \$75.00 from the Membership Chairman – Sporty!
- 11.All decisions of the Membership Committee are final.

**GOOD LUCK AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

**Membership Committee Chairman –Sporty 818/361-8800**

[mrsportyiii@yahoo.com](mailto:mrsportyiii@yahoo.com)

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# 2009 ABATE Events

**September 18 – 20 – ABATE State Run; Frandy Camp-ground, Kernville CA. Pre-Reg prices \$25/Single; \$35/Couple; Rv's \$10/Additional; 13-17 \$10.00; 12 & Under \$5. More Info – Tony 760/371-5136; Vendors – Sharon 760/495-2195.**

**October 3** – ABATE Local 3 – Learn n' Run Historic Trivia Tour – Sign-in Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge; 158 N Conejo School Rd.; Thousand Oaks.  
Read Local 3's report & call Chuck 805/493-0323 for more info.

**October 10** – ABATE Of California – Quarterly Meetings - Presidents/PAC & Board of Director's – San Jose, hosted by ABATE Local 32. Tentative Meeting schedule is:  
10 am with either the PAC or Presidents Meeting, followed by the other at 11 am. Lunch at Noon – Board Meeting at 1 pm.

The Conference room for the meeting will be FREE IF we book enough rooms at the Holiday Inn and a special price for US has been negotiated -\$70.00 + tax per night. Room rate applies for October 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>, and includes breakfast. MUST Mention ABATE when booking your room.


**Meeting Location:** Holiday Inn Express; 1350 N. Fourth Street; San Jose, CA. 95112; Phone: 408-4671789 for reservations.

**October 11** – ABATE Local 27 – Poker Run or Not– Riverside Elks Lodge; 6166 Brockton Ave; Riverside 9am – 10:30am \$15.00/person includes lunch and party. Kenny [kennuttall@aol.com](mailto:kennuttall@aol.com) or call 951/377-5772 or Greg at [gmcvl@yahoo.com](mailto:gmcvl@yahoo.com)

**October 16 – 18** – ABATE Local 29 – Laughlin River Trip - Aquarius Laughlin  
Special room rate – see Flyer for more Info or contact Marty 760/367-1694 or email [MMHD2@msn.com](mailto:MMHD2@msn.com)

**October 18** – ABATE Local 35 – Monterey CA – Teddy Bear Run; Sign-in 9 – 11 am at Bill's Monterey Custom Motorcycles; 1993 Del Monte Blvd; Seaside. Entry fee: \$20.00 plus stuffed toy/Single; \$35.00 plus stuffed toy/Rider & Passenger. See Flyer for more info.

**October 23 -25** – California Bike Week – aka – Love Ride on the 25th



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**October 25** – ABATE's of Orange County (8 & 20) 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Trick or Treat Run - \$15/Single; \$25/Couple. Includes run pin & poker hand. Run pins to 1<sup>st</sup> 100 participants. Prizes/games & live music. Sign-in 8 – 10 am The Starting Gate: 5052 Katella Ave; Los Alamitos, CA. 90720; End Point – Cook's Corner 19152 Santiago Canyon Rd; Trabuco Canyon, CA. 92679. More info Karyn 714/624-0746 or Tim 714/761-9502.

**October 31** – ABATE Local 6 – Halloween Poker Run; sign in 4-5pm at San Diego Harley-Davidson; 5600 Kearny Mesa Rd; San Diego. \$15/person. Costume contest – see Flyer for more info.

**November 8** – ABATE Local 21 – Poker Run for Happen' Headquarters 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Toy Run. 11am Moose Lodge in Lancaster.

**November 8** – Totally Kids aka One More From the Heart - Loma Linda –  
Specific donations - contact Honda Ray 951/279-4370 for the list.

**November 8** – ABATE Local 21 – Happenin' Headquarters 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Toy Run - from 11 am to 5 pm at The Moose Lodge, 44545 Division Street in Lancaster. With a \$10 new toy donation for Moose Charities you'll enjoy music from Black Daniels Band, autos, cycles, vendors, ABATE Local 21 Poker run, food, 50/50 raffles, prizes, games and Santa. More info @ [www.alleygl.org](http://www.alleygl.org) or call Santa at 661/947-3734.

**December 13** – 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual "Skid Row" L.A. Toy Ride – ABATE Local 1 and Glendale Harley-Davidson.

Pancake breakfast 9 to 10:30am. Departure time 11am. All participants please bring at least one NEW unwrapped toy for a homeless child. More info – Peter Daniels 800/866-6601 or Richard at 818/246-5618 ext 108.

Please send your ABATE Event information to [bailing.wire@abate.org](mailto:bailing.wire@abate.org) by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month to be listed in the next issue.



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# Membership Report

By Lee 'Sporty' Milligan,

**Membership Chairman**

Greetings fellow ABATE Freedom Fighters!

Membership Raffle – Thank you to those who sold and bought the Raffle tickets to help fund the Membership Drive!!! The drawing was held at the July 25 Board Meeting – the Lucky Winner was from ABATE Local 38. Keep recruiting Members, the Drive continues to the end of December and those winners will be announced at the January 2010 meeting.

It's leading towards the end of summer and we're getting ready for the end of summer bike events. This presents an excellent time to set up membership booths at these events. The booth can contain the following items; applications for membership, ABATE accomplishments list, the membership packet (motorcycle saddlebag kit), Bailing Wires etc. Your booth might even include information on motorcycle safety and the latest political issues such as the petitions against SB435 the motorcycle smog checks bill. Also if your Local does something extraordinary, be sure to emphasize that.

The point I am trying to make is that there is no time like the present to go after new members. This will help the organization grow. Remember you are representing ABATE so those

people who are working the booth need to know to not get too frustrated when your spiel isn't going any where with a potential new member. Just pass out your stuff for their consideration at a later date.

So good luck in your quest in getting new members, you will be helping to keep the membership drive going strong. Remember you can get supplies from the state office by asking Carol real nice. Her email is [carol@abate.org](mailto:carol@abate.org). Or give me an email holler at [mrsportyiii@yahoo.com](mailto:mrsportyiii@yahoo.com).

Ok the final note: You need to get your Local built up again. You can contact old members with my famous "Hello Former ABATE member" letter. When you get a renewal from members you haven't seen at meetings, but who are still there in spirit by their renewal, send them a thank you trinket. These don't have to be wild expensive stuff, just something to let them know they are valued members of your Local. This can be a subject for discussion at your Local's meeting – "Membership trinkets on the Local level. What do you do as a Local to keep your members happy ABATE Freedom Fighters."

That's it for now. ABATE Members, make the organization strong. It is our duty as ABATE members to keep our organization going. Thanks.

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## ABATE of California Board of Directors Elections "High Jacked from" the Policy & Procedures Manual

**MEMBERSHIP RIGHTS** - The membership is the highest authority of ABATE and shall be empowered to take or direct any action consistent with the bylaws of the organization. The specific rights of a member in good standing (membership dues are current) are:

- To nominate and vote on ABATE Local representatives.
- To nominate and vote for the State Board of Directors of ABATE of California.

ABATE membership information shall only be used for authorized ABATE business, and shall not be used for any personal purpose. No member shall be personally liable for debts or obligations of the organization.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS** - The overall management of the organization will be the responsibility of the Board of Directors:

- The authorized number of directors shall be eleven (11).
- Directors will be elected by the general membership each December for a term of two years to commence at the first Board of Directors Meeting of the year following the elections. Six Board members shall be elected for a two-year term on even election years, and five Board members shall be elected for a two-year term on odd election years.

So with the above in mind ... it's an Even Year coming up for Electing 6 Board Members ... and Nominations are now open. Your nominee must be a current Member of ABATE of California and should be a Member for at least one year. The nominee's names and their bio's will be printed in the October Bailing Wire; the Ballot will be in the November Bailing Wire. Email your nominations and bios in a word document to: [bailing.wire@abate.org](mailto:bailing.wire@abate.org) by the 15<sup>th</sup> of September. Pictures are helpful too for recognition - email those in a jpg file.

## Good News! & A Big Thank You! from Philip Reynolds, Jr.

Hello all! I just wanted to send everyone the good news. On Tuesday, I received an appointment by the City Council for the City of Campbell, California, by a unanimous vote, to hold the title of "Planning Commissioner". I will be sworn in next week and the term of 4 years will officially start on September 1, 2009.

I want to thank all the members of ABATE of California for all their support and the legions of close friends and family that made donations, walked precincts, made phone calls, did web page work, gave endorsements, or sent kind words of encouragement. Last year ABATE PAC and many great individuals, all made very generous contributions to my campaign for School Board. Although I did not win that election, I did not give up.

I have tried for 11 years and made six attempts, to get into office in some capacity so that I could contribute to serving the community, protect the rights of citizens and defend our constitution. Every attempt made was not only a lesson learned, but an opportunity for my support base to grow.

I did not want to let myself down by giving in to defeat, but most importantly, I did not want to let down the very people that believed in me and supported me.

I will begin my political career on September 1, 2009 and I will work to make my friends and family, ABATE, and my community proud and work hard to protect not only motorcyclists rights, but the rights of all citizens.

In closing I will say, never give up on your dreams, and thank you all again, so much.

Best Regards, Philip Reynolds Jr.



## Donations, Donations

Donations received for the General Fund since the August Bailing Wire have been received from the following: James Hopp L48, Brad Schuback L18, Honda Ray L27, Steve Barnes L38, Wade Linch L1, Roy Blanscet L52, Jersey Pericola L15, Darrel Azarcon L60, Richard & Cori Cox L11,

Michael Parker L20, Tom Kirchner L20, Clayton LaBaw L1, Terry & Laurie Porter L27, Robert Rickerson L17, Chris Petrakis L22, John Barnes L6, David & Pamela Ricci L6, Marvin Slaughter L28, Bennie Kirtman L18, Linda Hoy & Bill Crull L32, and Louie Hernandez L9,

Thank you ABATE Locals for your monthly contributions: 2, 13, 14, 17, 19, 21, 24, 25, 27, and 44.

Special mention re: Locals 17, 25 & 44.

Thank you to You Members who attend your Local meetings and events to help yourselves to raise the money to meet the Local's monthly contributions and for raising the extra money for the Special contributions too. Thank you all very much for your donations and continued Membership in ABATE!!!

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# Northern California Rally at Kelly's Kamp

Thanks to all the Locals who supported the rally! Thanks to the State ABATE Officers who came: Sarge, Sporty, Cynthia Witthans, Tim Tennimon, Lori Adams (our Local 28 Lori) and David Walsh, who donated \$100 of his 50/50 win to the PAC Fund! We missed Jean Hughes who registered but wasn't able to make the run. Thanks to Peter Daniels, who sent registration money to support us, but knew he couldn't attend. We had members of Locals 13, 15, 17, 25, 44, 52 that we know of as some did not put down their Local numbers on the registration.

It was a hot weekend with temps in the low 100's, but the swimming pond at Kelly's kept most folks on the refreshed side; the beer truck and Jeanie & Jim our bartenders did a great job on cooling down our insides!

Wink Winckler (Local 28) put on some great games, several were new to a lot of riders and he handed out plaques to all the winners.

Local 28 members who worked very hard to make this a fun weekend are: Steve & Pat Sayers worked registration all day Saturday, Ron & Sharon Chips cooked a Terrific BBQ; Lori Adams who signed up Johnnie the Tattoo Artist and a very talented DJ for Friday night music. Lori (with Sarge's help) also took care of getting all our meal and bar supplies to the

site, returning what was left over. John Fulton, Steve Bellah and girlfriend Lorie Bachi handled the beer truck pouring. John also schlepped the four canopies, spider boxes for the electric hookups and a full pickup of who knows what to make the weekend happen. Lee & Pam Paulson brought a portable bar, did the set up and handled all the raffle/bar ticket sales for the weekend. Thanks to all who donated prizes, many from the visiting Locals!

Saturday night, the LC Diamonds started playing around 7, as the sun dipped behind the hills, bringing some cooler temperatures just in time for the dancing on the grass. Thanks to Sarge, they were encouraged to play a half hour longer than the original 4 we planned, as he bribed them with good old green stuff. Kentucky Red (at Lori's invitation), of RIDE Rag, was with us for the weekend, taking photos everywhere including some group shots in front of the band. Hopefully we'll get a spread in the Bailing Wire as many of us were also taking photos, just have to get them sent in!

Thanks again everyone! I'm sure I forgot somebody, it just seems to happen, but it's not on purpose! Lori tells me she has promises from 4 Locals to help us next year, which should make it bigger and better for all.

Melissa Fulton, President ABATE Local 28

# 1995 – 2008 Freedom Fighter's Awards

Posting this in no way says a person cannot be nominated again, but occasionally I do get asked "Has so and so ever been nominated or won?" So here's your answer to those inquiring minds, and a refresher to those of us who might have forgotten a name or two of our Freedom Fighters!

Past Years ABATE Of California, Inc. Winners for Freedom Fighters Were:

- |      |                                   |
|------|-----------------------------------|
| 1995 | John Loudermilk                   |
| 1996 | Mike Osborn                       |
| 1997 | ?? Would the winner please reveal |
| 1998 | John Paliwoda                     |
| 1999 | Dave Hastings                     |
| 2000 | Bill Bish                         |
| 2001 | ?? Would the winner please reveal |
| 2002 | Jean Hughes                       |
| 2003 | Leon Dailey                       |

- |      |                     |
|------|---------------------|
| 2004 | Nancy Nemecek       |
| 2005 | Rex Foreman         |
| 2006 | Sporty Milligan III |
| 2007 | Beverly Lieswald    |
| 2008 | Lil' David Morena   |
| 2009 | Who will it be???   |

For the years 1997 and 2001 – it might have been an oversight that there were no requests made for nominees and therefore none recorded. BUT if you were a recipient for that year, please contact the State Office, so I can fill in the gaps!!

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# A Brief History of Bikers' Rights in America

*As Seen By Bill Bish, National Coalition of Motorcyclists*

About 30 years ago, bikers got tired of being told by a bunch of bureaucrats and politicians who'd never thrown a leg over a motorcycle what they *HAD TO WEAR*, how they *HAD TO RIDE*, and what our *BIKES HAD TO BE BUILT LIKE!!*

Over the years, motorcyclists organized themselves into a viable political force and evolved into one of the few TRUE grass roots movements in the country. Others may share an avocation, profession or recreation, *but they don't share the passion*. They don't have the kind of *passion* it takes to *support organizations that can protect their rights*. They don't have the kind of *passion* it takes *to volunteer time and money to protect their own rights*. And they don't have the kind of *passion* it takes to confront a legislative body and say, "*LEAVE US ALONE!!*"

And that's largely what the bikers rights movement is all about ... *just leave us alone*. Whether it's helmets, leg protectors, safety equipment, let US make the choices regarding our own personal safety and protection. LET THOSE WHO RIDE *DECIDE!*

Our organizational leaders and political activists don't have a financial stake in motorcycle legislation. We're not asking for any special privileges or exemptions, tax relief or bailouts. The only thing at stake is our passion for riding. When our grass roots, VOLUNTEER lobbyists speak to legislators about our issues, they're talking from the heart, not from the wallet.

Our movement consists of a diverse bunch of people, most of us staunch individualists, but with one common denominator and a common goal *Freedom of the Road*.

As influential as our lobby has become, our nationwide biker rights movement didn't come easy and it didn't happen overnight. The kind of camaraderie that brought the first two motorcycle riders together to share a ride down a country lane is the same kind of camaraderie that formed our early motorcycle clubs and associations and, eventually, our motorcycle rights organizations.

While our Motorcycle Rights Organizations (MRO) as we now know them started developing in the early 70's after the first national helmet law when almost every state passed mandatory lid laws, motorcyclists have never been a stranger to political activism. In fact, early motorcycle riders were among the first special interest groups to lobby for better roads. At the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century as Indian foot-

paths and trails became rough and rutted dirt roads, motorcycles served as a primary form of transportation, and motorcyclists became vocal about improving the road conditions. Later, riders were among the first groups to push for an interstate highway system.

*YOU HAVE TO KNOW WHERE YOU'VE BEEN TO KNOW WHERE YOU'RE GOING!* My name is Bill Bish and I'm the former Executive Coordinator of the National Coalition of Motorcyclists and Aid to Injured Motorcyclists (AIM/NCOM, 1996-2001), and have been active in bikers' rights for over twenty years, having served in various state level positions with ABATE of California, including two terms as Chairman of the Board and two terms as Executive Director. After relocating to Ohio in 2001, I served three terms as State Director of ABATE/Concerned Motorcycle Riders of Ohio (CMRO).

Several years ago I compiled a "History of ABATE" article for ABATE of California's newsletter, the "*Bailing Wire*", which people must've enjoyed reading because it has since been reprinted in several other newsletters and magazines. Sooo, for you history buffs, I'll try to piece together some of our early beginnings, with apologies to those who were there from the start. I wasn't, so this is only from my early conversations with people like Deacon Dave Phillips, Ron Roloff, Keith Ball, Sherm Packard and others who WERE there, as well as my own research and admittedly spotty memory. But, to help validate this version of Biker History, I ran the article by many of the people mentioned herein.

Through NCOM, I have traveled across the United States to preach unity and spread information, and I will always treasure my memories of the places that bikers' rights has taken me and the friendly faces that have greeted me. Because our issue is so emotional and deeply personal, I have developed close relationships with many Freedom Fighters throughout the country who I am proud to call Brothers and Sisters. It was this deep sense of "family" within the motorcycle rights community that inspired me to trace our Family Tree. With that thought in mind, let's take a brief trip down memory lane and open up our Family Album to retrace our History as a bikers' rights movement here in the United States.

*Easyriders* magazine editor Lou Kimzey issued a plea in issue #3, October 1971, for bikers to come together to fight impending restrictions from the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA) by joining a new national bikers' rights or-

ganization called the National Custom Cycle Association, but because of a conflict with the acronym the name was changed in February 1972 to A Brotherhood Against Totalitarian Enactments (ABATE). Joe Teresi, publisher of *Easyriders* told me that they had a contest around the office to come up with a new name, and one of the secretaries came up with "ABATE", and Lou found the eagle logo in an old Civil War publication.

*Easyriders* began granting state charters around 1974, and Keith Ball was the original national coordinator (Keith later became editor of *Easyriders* until his recent retirement, and he now runs an internet site called *Bikernet.com* which still focuses on bikers' rights). ABATE organizations which came into existence around this same time were chartered in Kansas, Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, South Carolina and New York; and also MMA of California, MMA of Massachusetts, New Hampshire Motorcycle Rights Organization, Rhode Island Motorcycle Association, Connecticut Motorcycle Rights Association, and the Wisconsin Better Bikers Association. *Easyriders* published some phone numbers and the bikers' rights network began to grow.

The Modified Motorcycle Association of California had already been founded, and it's interesting to note that *Easyriders* original name for their rights group was similar to the MMA's because the biggest threat, aside from the original federal helmet mandates, which were instituted in 1966 by Congress and later repealed in 1976, was that the U.S. DOT (Department of Transportation) was investigating ways to restrict modified or customized "choppers" which they deemed unsafe, especially extended forks, modified frames and apehanger handlebars. Deacon, founder of ABATE of California, once related to me that the 60's fad of ridiculously highissy bars came about because the government started requiring "grab bars" for passenger safety, so the riders of the day flaunted the law by building them as long and garish as they could get by with.

Almost every state during this time began passing handlebar height restrictions, eyewear requirements, motorcycle licensing requirements, lights-on laws and other equipment regulations, and many other restrictions on our "Freedom Machines" were coming down the pike to make motorcycle riding "safer".

In most states, before motorcyclists became politically organized, the clubs were the first to fight helmet laws and other restrictions, and in many instances founded

the states' motorcycle rights organizations. For the previous decade before MMA or ABATE of California came into existence, the Hells Angels M/C and Ralph "Sonny" Barger in particular had succeeded in keeping the state of California helmet-free even though Congress had passed legislation in 1966 requiring every state to pass a helmet law or lose 10% of their federal highway funds (this should sound familiar, since we faced the same type of national helmet law in the nineties). Rumors still circulate around Sacramento about 1,000 Hells Angels on the Capitol lawn (well, it must've seemed like a thousand), and HA's camped out on the doorstep of legislative opponents. But the old intimidation tactics were beginning to wear thin and club leaders realized that they needed to legitimize their efforts by creating a more sophisticated political lobbying arm; in this case they founded the MMA of California. Similar situations formed the early roots of MROs in other states

About this same time, the American Motorcyclist Association began to recognize the motorcyclists' rights movement and they established the AMA Government Relations Department.

As the rights movement grew, Don Pittsley, a member of the Huns M/C in Connecticut convinced his congressman, Rep Stewart McKinney, to introduce H.R.3869 to end the Federal authority to withhold highway funds from states without helmet laws. In July of 1975, Rob Rasor of the AMA, Ron Roloff of MMA and Ed Armstrong of ABATE of Chicago presented the House Sub-Committee on Surface Transportation with convincing testimony to repeal the mandates. Later that year, with California being sued by the DOT because Governor Ronald Reagan refused to comply with the federal mandate, Roloff helped convince California Senator Alan Cranston to offer the language of the bill as an amendment to the 1975 Federal Highway Act, which passed with overwhelming support from the California delegation because of the impending lawsuit, and was signed by President Gerald Ford on May 5, 1976. *Not bad for a rag tag bunch of bikers with little or no previous political ambitions.*

Spurred on by many successful protest rallies around the country following the national helmet law repeal, and the eventual repeal of more than 30 state helmet laws, ABATE, MMA and other motorcycle rights organizations sprang up in every state across the country and are now a fixture in state houses across America.



## From page 27

Following several failed attempts to start a national motorcycle rights organization, including *Easyriders* giving up the reigns of National ABATE, in 1985 the Motorcycle Rights Fund (MRF – later changing their name to Motorcycle Riders Foundation) hosted their first *Meeting of the Minds* conference, and a few months later, in 1986, the National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM) held their first *National Convention*. Motorcycling leaders realized the need for a united voice and the necessity of networking and communications, and both the MRF and NCOM grew and have become effective partners with state MROs in protecting riders' rights on the federal, state and local fronts.

The concept of unity was put to the test in the early 1990's, when Congress again attempted to force states into passing helmet laws, and American motorcyclists came together en masse, and in a coordinated effort between the MRF and NCOM virtually every state sent representatives from their State MRO to walk the hallowed halls of Washington, D.C., in search of their U.S. Senators and Representatives. The grand lobbying experiment WORKED, and in just *FOUR YEARS* bikers were able to convince Congress to once again repeal their mis-

directed and misguided "nanny" law and return the decision to the individual states. *That same legislation also repealed the 55 mph minimum speed limit!* Soon afterwards, Arkansas modified their mandatory helmet law to allow Freedom of Choice for adult riders 21 and older. Texas soon followed, as well as Kentucky, Louisiana, Florida and, most recently Pennsylvania. Unfortunately, the Louisiana legislature reinstated their mandatory helmet law on August 15, 2004, so today the scoreboard reads 20 Helmet Law States vs. 30 Free Choice States!

As a result of our newfound political clout, motorcyclists successfully approached Congress twice in the nineties; first in 1996 to grant federal protections against insurance discrimination based on mode of transportation because many companies (most notably Ruger Firearms and the Teamsters Union) were denying medical benefits to employees injured in motorcycle accidents). Although this legislation was ultimately nullified by new federal regulations written in the waning days of the Clinton Administration, this nationwide effort was textbook politics at its best and I'm confident that we WILL succeed in reinstating the intent of Congress to protect us against insurance discrimination.

Then, in 1998, motorcyclists united once again to put together a pro-active agenda for bikers, and succeeded in lobbying it through Congress; included in this "wish list" for bikers was a guarantee that motorcyclists would be included during the development of the Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) technology, ensures that motorcycles are guaranteed access to any and all roads built with the use of federal highway funds (no road bans), restricts anti-motorcycle lobbying efforts by NHTSA and provides \$131 million for recreational trails development and maintenance!


During this same time, many state rights groups have become *proactive* within their states instead of *RE-acting* to legislative threats. Minnesota passed our nation's first law to make it illegal to discriminate against someone because they ride a motorcycle; Arizona, Iowa, Oregon and Washington have successfully repealed or modified their state's handlebar height laws; Virginia and Illinois have lobbied their states to reinforce the federally guaranteed access to roads by passing laws to protect our rights to ride on any roads within their state boundaries; Virginia and Maryland amended their state's parking laws to allow more than one bike per metered space; and several states have fought and defeated "No Fault" insurance proposals

that are unfair to motorcyclists.

Also, now, through the work of the National Coalition of Motorcyclists, patch holder clubs in nearly 40 states and two Canadian Provinces have come together to form Confederations of Clubs to fight discrimination and police harassment through the courts, bringing the motorcycle rights network full circle with the rejuvenated interest of the motorcycle club community.

While our early bikers' rights leaders paved our way, other dynamic and concerned riders have come forward to take the reigns and lead us into the new millennium. But we should *never forget* the efforts and sacrifices of our predecessors who faced intimidation from law enforcement, indifference from legislators and animosity from a public that saw "*The Wild One*" one too many times. Yet they got the job done, and were it not for their perseverance and dedication, we would not have become the respected and effective grass roots lobbying group that we are today.

So, there you have it. The roots of ABATE and the American motorcyclists' rights movement run deep in the hearts of those of us who have accepted and, in turn, passed on the torch of Freedom of the Road. To all those who came before, *we salute you*. Where will the future take us? *That's entirely up to you*.



*Richard M. Lester*

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**Los Angeles County - Local #01-Reg#8**  
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San Fernando 91340  
818/361-8800  
3rd Sun-9 AM  
Elk's Lodge  
10137 E. Commerce  
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**Simi Valley - Local #02-Reg#8**  
Tom Cass  
661/943-1354  
2nd Tues 7:30 PM  
VFW Post#10049  
4242 E. Los Angeles Ave. Simi Valley

**Thousand Oaks-Local#03-Reg#7**  
Chuck Pedersen  
842 E Avenida De Las Flores  
Thousand Oaks 91360  
805/496-0323  
3rd Thurs - 7:00 PM  
Elks Lodge  
158 N. Conejo School Rd.  
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**  
John Del Santo  
P.O. Box 178013  
San Diego CA 92177  
619/223-0421  
1st Sunday - 12 Noon  
Kate Sessions Park  
Pacific Beach

**Orange County - Local #08-Reg#11**  
James Hurst  
2nd Mon. 7:30PM  
American Legion #354  
8071 Whitaker  
Buena Park

**South Orange County - Local #09-Reg#11**  
Randy Fiandach  
949/472-3620  
1st Tues. 7:00 PM  
Denny's  
27142 Ortega Hwy.  
San Juan Capistrano

**Tuolumne County-Local#10-Reg#5**  
Carlen Wilcox  
209/532-0535  
2nd Wed. 7:00 PM  
Shaws Flat Road, Sonora  
membership@abatelocal10.com for directions

**San Diego County (North) - Local #11-Reg#12**  
Tim Clark  
13641 Silver Lake Dr.  
Poway 92064  
858/748-0524  
2nd Sun - 11 AM  
Oakvale Bar & Grill  
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**Sonoma County- Local #12-Reg#1**  
Meets with Local#17

**Ventura County - Local #13-Reg#7**  
Dave Walsh  
1354 W. Olive St  
Oxnard 805/486-1093  
or 469-6522  
Last Thurs. - 7:30 PM  
American Legion Post 741  
7 Veterans Way  
Camarillo

**Alameda County Local#14-Reg#3**  
Joe Schwirian  
510/683-9304  
1st Wed 7:30 PM  
The Florence  
37349 Niles Blvd., Fremont

**Contra Costa County - Local #15-Reg#3**  
Bob Blatz  
P.O. Box 269  
Concord CA 94522  
925/427-5135  
3rd Tues - 7:00 PM  
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**Santa Barbara County - Local #16-Reg#7**  
Meet with Local#13

**Solano & Napa Counties - Local #17-Reg#3**  
Smitty Smith  
P O Box 148  
Vacaville 95696  
707/448-6614  
3 rd Sun. - 10:00 AM  
Judy's Wild Wrangler Saloon  
4826 Midway Rd.  
Vacaville CA

**San Francisco - Local #18-Reg#3**  
Meet with L#14 or 15

**Pomona Valley - Local #19-Reg#9**  
Steve Kaweck  
P O Box 4664  
San Dimas 91773  
909/910-1369  
4th Wed - 7:00 PM  
B's Sports Bar & Grill  
1452 W. Holt Blvd.  
Ontario, CA 91762

**Orange County - Local #20-Reg#11**  
Gill Mellen  
2052 Newport Blvd #6  
Costa Mesa, CA 92627-7140  
949/632-9787  
2nd Tues - 7:00 PM  
Starting Gate  
5052 Katella Ave.  
Los Alamitos, CA 90720

**Antelope Valley - Local #21-Reg#13**  
Ron Sundquist  
37230 52nd St. East  
Palmdale 93552  
661/586-5555  
ron.sundquist@sbcglobal.net  
1st Thurs - 7:00 PM  
Primos  
Valley Central near Walmart  
Lancaster



## ABATE MEETINGS

**South Bay - Local #22-Reg#11**  
Suzanne Palmiere  
310/326-3667  
suzpalmiere@aol.com  
1st Tues - 7:30 PM  
Walker's Cafe  
700 W. Paseo Del Mar  
San Pedro

**San Bernardino - Local#23-Reg#9**  
Kevin Sorrell  
909/793-1112  
1st Sun 9:00 AM  
Jenny's Family Restaurant  
7750 Palm Ave, Highland

**Fresno - Local#24-Reg#6**  
Ed Rogers  
559/264-2891  
1st Wed. 7:00 PM  
Cedar Lanes  
3131 N. Cedar, Fresno

**Sacramento - Local#25-Reg#2**  
Diane Wheeler  
916/351-5623  
3rd Thurs - 7:00 PM  
Mountain Mike's Pizza  
8112 Madison Ave. Fair Oaks

**Riverside - Local#27-Reg#9**  
Honda Ray  
P.O. Box 7070  
Riverside CA 92313  
951/279-4370  
1st Tues - 7:30 PM  
Denny's Restaurant  
2925 Van Buren  
Riverside

**Lake County - Local#28-Reg#1**  
Melissa Fulton  
707/263-1845  
1st Thurs - 7:00 PM  
Call for meeting place

**Morongo Basin - Local#29-Reg#10**  
Marty Rapp  
P.O. Box 2334  
29 Palms CA 92277  
760/367-1694  
2nd - Thurs - 7:00 PM  
Wine & Roses Cocktail Lounge  
57360 Aviation Way  
Yucca Valley

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

**Santa Clara Valley - Local #32-Reg#4**  
Dan Scott  
950 Meridan Ave#19  
San Jose 95126  
408/603-8968  
Last Sun. 9:30 AM  
Sherwood Inn  
2988 Almaden Expy  
San Jose

**Yuba City - Local #33-Reg#2**  
1st Tues - 7:30 PM  
American Legion  
5477 Feather River Blvd. Marysville

**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**  
Jackie Favalora  
831/659-9313  
1st Wed - 7:00 PM  
Caruso's Corner  
2101 N. Fremont St. Monterey

**Palm Springs - Local #36-Reg#10**  
Ray Lopez  
P.O. Box 460  
Rancho Mirage 92270  
760/206-9696  
rlascape@aol.com  
2nd Thurs - 6:30 PM  
The Fireside Lounge  
696 Oleander Rd.  
Palm Springs  
760/327-1700

**Imperial Valley - Local#38-Reg#12**  
Ed Aranda  
P.O.Box 2362  
El Centro CA 92244  
760/337-8372  
edward\_al2@yahoo.com  
Last Thurs - 7:00 PM  
La Fonda Restaurant  
548 Broadway  
El Centro

**Bakersfield - Local#40-Reg#6**  
Omar Macias  
661/832-5240  
661/900-8690  
2nd Tues - 7:00 PM  
Rusty's Pizza 1751 White Lane  
Bakersfield

**High Desert - Local#44-Reg#13**  
Gary Witthans  
P.O. Box 3094  
Victorville CA 92392  
760/946-0366  
2nd Sat - 9:00 AM  
Eagles Fraternal Order  
16195 Main St.  
Hesperia

**Banning - Local #45-Reg#10**  
Trine Howell  
760/323-9860  
Call for Meeting Info  
67387 Mission Dr.  
Cathedral City 92234

**Modesto - Local #46-Reg#5**  
2nd Fri - 7:30PM  
Call for Meeting Info  
209/571-3137

**Barstow - Local #47-Reg#13**  
Yermo Eddy  
PO Box 521  
Yermo CA 92398  
760/254-3833 or 760/953-7353  
1st Thurs - 7:00PM  
V.F.W. #2143  
25190 Main St.  
Barstow/Lenwood

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

**Humboldt County - Local #50-Reg#1**  
Barbara Kennedy  
707/946-2248  
4th Wed  
Call for meeting place & time

**Calaveras County - Local #51-Reg#5**  
Jerry Yates  
Box 549  
Mountain Ranch, 209/754-5778  
2nd Wed 6:30 PM  
Call for meeting place

**Grass Valley - Local#52-Reg#2**  
Don Dickerman  
P.O. Box 472  
Grass Valley 95945  
530/273-2086  
3rd Wed - 6:30 PM  
Larry & Lena's Pizza & Grill  
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**  
Dave Olsen  
559/936-5909  
1st Wed 7:00PM  
Meet with L#24

**Ridgecrest - Local #58-Reg#13**  
Darryl McGee  
P.O. Box 539  
Ridgecrest 93556  
760-793-0302  
3rd Sat 10:00 AM  
Mickey's Pub  
1661 W. Triangle Dr.  
Ridgecrest

**Kern River Valley Lake (KRV Lake) Local#59-Reg#13**  
No information at this time

**Colfax - Local #60-Reg#2**  
Dee Dee Krake  
530/263-5522  
2nd Thurs 7:00 PM  
Grand Father Station  
247 Railroad St  
Colfax

**Local #61 Shasta County-Redding**  
2nd Tues 6:30 PM  
The Palo Cedro Inn  
9191 Deschutes Rd, Palo Cedro

**Local #62 - Reg#3 Livermore Valley**  
Joe "Bear" Dwonch  
510/384-5412  
local62events@yahoo.com  
3rd Tues - 7:00 PM  
Hooters  
7944 Dublin Rd., Dublin