

The Bailing Wire

ABATE of CA. Newsletter for Motorcyclists Volume XXXIII ISSUE V

A Union of Motorcyclists
Dedicated to Freedom of the Road

May 2014

ABATE Member Dodie Dillon



American
Brotherhood
Aimed
Towards
Education



Lobbyist's Report

by James Lombardo, Lobbyist

On May 12th, Assembly Member Tony Atkins (D–San Diego) will become Speaker of the Assembly. She has been very motorcyclist-friendly, mainly because of the efforts of ABATE members in San Diego to elect her when she first ran for office. I look forward to working with her during the next two years before she is termed out in the 2016 election cycle.

Then, there's the worst side of the Legislature — three Senators have been suspended from their Senate duties due to alleged illegal activities unbecoming a state elected official. They however, are continuing to collect their \$95,000 annual salary.

Senator Ron Calderon (D–Montebello) has been indicted for accepting bribes; Senator Leyland Yee (D–San Francisco) accused of bribery and trying to arrange for illegal weapons sales and other charges, and Senator Rod Wright (D–Inglewood) was convicted, and is awaiting a jail sentence, for perjury and voter fraud.

The Chair of the Assembly Transportation Committee, Bonnie Lowenthal (D–Long Beach), just lost a recent primary election for Mayor of Long Beach and is termed out. It is unclear at this time, when Speaker Atkins assumes power in May, if she will replace the Transportation Committee Chair or any other Committee Chairs. We will have to wait and see what happens after May 12th.

Many **"SPOT"** bills are being amended daily, and I am reading them all. So far, a bill to require riders to wear **ORANGE VESTS** has not been amended into any spot bill. Nor has any new **MAKING LANE SHARING ILLEGAL** bill language emerged.

AB 1835, by Assembly Member Kristin Olsen (R–Modesto), to amend former Assemblyman Paul Cook's AB 1595 to **REMOVE THE REQUIREMENT THAT SIDE BY SIDE OFF ROADERS MUST WEAR HELMETS**, will be heard in the Assembly Transportation Committee in late April. Thanks to all those who have written letters of support of AB 1835 to the Assembly Transportation Committee. I will also be in Committee testifying in support that day.

Sandy Lubbers, our Legislative Director, and Carol Cromwell have been sending out our questionnaires to Primary Election candidates whose positions we do not know, and current Members who have not previously filled out our questionnaires. When completed, they are forwarded to me so we can have our recommendations ready for the

May 3rd Legislative PAC meeting to do our endorsements. Please attend the May 3rd PAC Meeting in Fresno to vote on these VERY important Legislative Races for the June 3rd Primary. We will have spent numerous hours going over these questionnaires; at the same time I am still watching bills for anti-motorcyclist amendments in Sacramento.

Thanks again for your contributions to the Lobbyist Fund to keep me doing all of this! **See you in Fresno on May 3rd!**



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Senator Morrell

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What is ABATE?

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

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

ABATE Info or Message Line

1-760/956-1669

Fax 760/956-6519

<http://www.abate.org>

E-mail: info@abate.org

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David Morena 916/616-9605

Editor

John (Milky) Loudermilk 602/421-7516

azmilky@q.com

Assistant Editor

Tina Sanders 760/956-1669

Legislative Director

Sandra Lubbers 626/622-7349

Assistant Legislative Director

Jim Lombardo 760/956-1669

Membership

Sporty Milligan 818/361-8800

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Executive Director's Report

by Dave Hastings, Executive Director

It seems like I have been burning the candle from both ends and in the middle too this year. An election year, along with everything else ABATE does, always adds extra items on our personal "To Do Lists". This year is no different and I'm doing my best to stay ahead of the curve and trying to keep everything in perspective and on schedule. We have been extremely busy taking care of the everyday routine tasks required of ABATE and we are also striving to reach goals that we have set for ABATE to attain in 2014. Still, I'm having a lot of fun, and I hope you are too.

A volunteer organization such as ours can easily overwhelm your personal and family life if you allow it to. ABATE, and everything that it represents and strives to accomplish, has always been very important to me, but I have always maintained a personal non-ABATE life too. That time is what helps keep me in balance, focused, and energized.

How about you? Do you set time aside for family and friends, hobbies that you enjoy, and time just to unwind? All of us hear about personal "burn-out" and see our friends leave ABATE and many other organizations after a few years and just go home. Could we have prevented that exodus? Do we demand too much from our volunteers? Did we personally step up to offer, and even more importantly give, some needed help to that person to lighten the load they were carrying?

"Burn-out" is preventable if everyone helps carry the load necessary to keep ABATE up and running. Even more importantly, you need to help yourself by asking for assistance when you need it. Don't wait until you are so overwhelmed you just want to throw in the towel. Any volunteer organization out there will work you till you drop if you allow it to. The secret to survival is knowing when to say I can't do it, nor do I need to do it, all by myself.

ABATE is a member-run organization and we have many people that are willing to lend a hand if you simply ask and then give them the training and opportunity they need to complete the task. Think about what you are presently doing for ABATE and then purposely pick and train your successor. All of us and ABATE will benefit from the time invested in this person. ABATE will now have a person ready to assume your position, if needed, and you will have the opportunity for the "personal down time" needed to recharge your battery and maintain your energy levels.

So, set a goal that is realistically obtainable and get to work. ABATE needs your time, your money and most importantly YOU! We depend on your help daily, but we also want to keep that fire burning in your soul that brought you to us in the first place. ABATE is a place for people with passion, people that demand success, and most im-



portantly people willing to sacrifice and give of themselves to achieve that success. The easiest way for ABATE to accomplish a goal is to distribute the workload evenly between our members. Don't try to do it all yourself - get more comfortable asking for help if you need it. Your job will instantly become easier, you will see your success rate improve, and at the end of the day both you and ABATE will be better off.

"Thank You" for being an ABATE volunteer. Our ABATE success can be attributed directly to the passion and hard work our organization receives from you. Honestly, we couldn't do it without you and I'm very proud of what you have helped us achieve. Take care of yourself and your family and also remember how important you are to your extended ABATE family members.

Ride safe and ride often, I hope to see you soon somewhere down the road.

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Mission Statement

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

ABATE of California now has their off road division up and running!

Join on Page 18.

ABATE OF CALIFORNIA, INC.
American Brotherhood Aimed Towards Education
10240 7th Ave
Hesperia, CA 92345-2631
1-760/956-1669 Fax 760/956-6519
<http://www.abate.org>
info@abate.org

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EDITOR
John (Milky) Loudermilk
Assistant Tina Sanders
PRODUCTION & PROOFREADERS
Carol Cromwell & Caroline Griffith
PHOTOGRAPHERS
Bruce Waldron & Gill Mellen
COLUMNISTS
Bill Bish, Sporty Milligan, Jim Lombardo, Dave Hastings, Norm E. Newiger & Craig Griswold.

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MEMBERSHIP REPORT

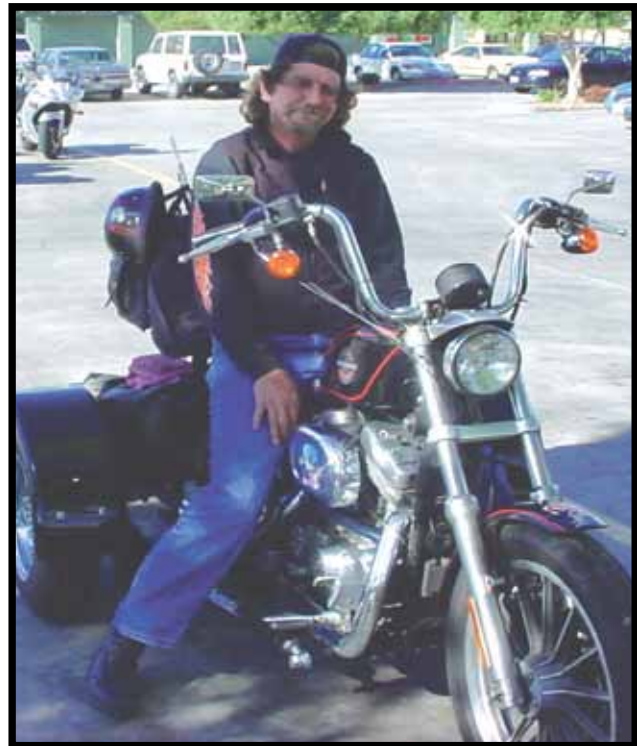
by Lee 'Sporty' Milligan,
Membership Chairman

Hi all! This is being written from my bed at the convalescent rehab located in North Hills, CA.

Just a reminder to continue to get your renewals to send in membership dues when they are due. Getting members is cool and vital to our existence. Now the concern for the Local membership chairs is to keep them coming back for another year's membership. To accomplish this task you have to offer the member some bang for their dues.

Over the past membership reports I have suggested ways to keep members. Make them feel wanted. Send out reminders to them for the meetings. Make all members feel welcome at the meetings. Members who do not always show up at meetings need to be shown that you, as a president or membership chair, care about them. So send email or post card reminders for events or your monthly meeting reminders. Remember: A happy member is a renewing member.

Folks! Buy tickets for the membership funding drive. Tickets for the special raffle membership drive are now available for a dollar each and you will have a chance to possibly win \$250 and also help support this year's membership drive.



Remember to support ABATE events, get new members and keep your renewals.

Regards, Sporty still on the mend.

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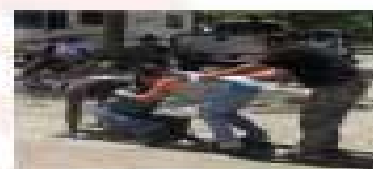
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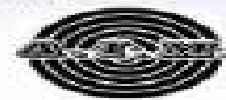
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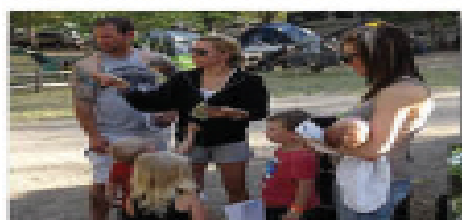
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LOCAL NEWS

Local #01 Los Angeles



Our monthly meeting was held at Big Jim's Restaurant in Sun Valley on April 13th (2nd Sunday) due to Easter falling on our regular meeting day (3rd Sunday).

Agenda items included a discussion of our successful Polar Bear Run this past February. Thanks to everyone who joined us for this event and supported Local 1.

Wildman gave his P.R. report and also signed up a new member. Steve Broughton, a 28 year member, reported on upcoming runs and renewed his membership in ABATE. Be sure to contact Steve with your run info!

Jim Nickla shared information about a Shell Gasoline Station at Sherman Way and White Oak Avenue in Van Nuys that has individual pumps for each grade of gasoline. Very important when filling up your tank!

The highlight of the meeting was a visit from Susan Shelly, candidate for California Assembly District #45. Susan did a Q & A session with those attending our meeting and she has responded well to the ABATE voter questionnaire. We look forward to supporting and working in her campaign for the June election. Remember to vote and support good candidates who promote freedom.

Due to a scheduling conflict at the Elk's Lodge, **May's meeting will also be held at Big Jim's Restaurant** in Sun Valley (8950 Laurel Canyon Boulevard) on May 18th (3rd Sunday) at 9:00 am sharp with breakfast available after the meeting. A big Thank You to Mercina for a warm welcome.

We return to the Elk's Lodge on June 15th (3rd Sunday). Be alert! Glen Cheslock

Local #02 Simi Valley



Another beautiful night at Local 2's meeting place started off with a great BBQ burger and hot dog dinner with all the fixins'! Thanks to our volunteer cooks Frank and Jim, nice job tonight! We here at Local 2 start our fabulous evening at 6:45 serving dinner until 7:30. We meet on the second Tuesday of the month and our meeting starts promptly at 7:30.

Our location is VFW Post 10049, 4242 East Los Angeles Street in Simi Valley. Great big thanks to Post 10049 for being our gracious host time and time again for many years! Other thanks to the volunteer personnel who run the bar for us as well. We have a great BBQ and a fantastic meeting place. This makes us grateful for having the perfect opportunity to talk ABATE!

Our VP Jim, kick started us with the Pledge of Allegiance. Our Pres. Guy talked about our Sweaty Buns Run and all that's needed to get this going. It's a big undertaking and we are ready for the challenge! But, we still need more volunteers to make this successful again. The good news is our flyers are out there and everything seems to be in order. So to all of you who couldn't make it to our last meeting, we do miss you all and would like to have you come to our next meeting to keep this going.

Pres. Guy talked about all the raffle tickets and fund raising raffles and encouraged all to participate - come on now it's for ABATE! Our secretary Jane read the minutes and our treasurer Pattibock gave us the report. PR man Norm talked about reading the Bailing Wire on line and membership pro Frank talked about our membership and renewals. Ride guy Guy talked about our Local ride and other rides as well.

The thought that come to me tonight is that we have two

"VolunteerAholics"! Frank and Jane Warthen! Quadruple thanks to you guys, you deserve a lot more thanks than I can say! All who know them know they are truly dedicated to serve ABATE and they are truly the backbone of Local 2. Then there's our President, Guy Corrigan, another energy filled volunteer. We've seen him grow from visitor to President and he has stepped up and does a wonderful job. These three members make all this happen meeting after meeting and let me tell you, it takes a lot of time and energy to do this. And thanks to all us other officers, together we all make a "Great Team" for all of ABATE!

Please come out to our next meeting and see us in action. Ride educated and all will know! PTL norm e.

Local #11 North San Diego County



Howdy all! I would like to start off by saying we had our first meeting - with 22 members/guests who signed in - at the Escondido Moose Lodge #1874. The members were super friendly and served a killer breakfast. The grounds are very nice and a great place to hold a meeting or an event. They got a few new members after the meeting - myself included.

I would also like to add a correction: In the March Local 11 report, I named the person who gave us the info on the Lodge as Gary. It was John Genaway. My apologies.

We started off with the Pledge of Allegiance and then an introduction of the officers for the new members. President Dan ran down a lot of local rides and events, it is that time of year. Importantly, the Barry and Carol Sandberg Memorial Ride on June 1st. No one has been apprehended for the murders of the Local 6 members 5 years ago. See flyer on the Local 11 Face Book page for more info.

Dan also touched on the respective political meetings coming up. In addition a reminder of the upcoming quarterly Board of Directors meeting in Fresno on May 3rd, membership raffle and ABATE of California raffle. Do not forget the Southern Regional Rally May 9-11.

Tim Clark gave us the treasurer's report and a reminder of our June can drive. 3 ways to participate: 1. Tim will come to you and pick up the cans. 2. You can take them to Tim. 3. Best option, recycle them and bring the cash to the meeting.

Dick gave us the COC report. Doc from the Final Option MC won the opportunity drawing.

Till next month, Gary

Local #20 Orange County



Local 20 conducted their meeting on Tuesday, April 8th, at the American Legion in Cypress. 48 individuals were in attendance.

Various topics were presented and discussed such as the May 3 Board of Directors, Presidents & PAC meetings in Fresno, the Southern Regional Rally in Victorville on May 9, 10 & 11, the May 31 rally at Original Mikes with former Assemblyman Jose Solorio in support of the bill for funding of Veteran housing, the June 1 ABATE raffle, the American Legion gun raffle, and Save the Patch event recap and continuing support. Joe Valona presented a \$250.00 donation in support of the Save the Patch effort.

The dollar membership drawing took place at the meeting with Michele Ferguson's name drawn. She wasn't pres-

ent and the \$37.00 will roll over to next month.

The next Local 20 meeting will be on Tuesday, May 13. The non-politically correct Gill

Local #24 Fresno

We had a large turnout at our April meeting with 59 or more members and guests attending. Doug opened the meeting with the Pledge to the Flag.

Most of the meeting was devoted to upcoming events. The AMMO Run is this weekend. Shirts were on sale and sold briskly. We anticipate a good turnout.

Upcoming events:

The ABATE State Board meeting is May 3 at the Piccadilly Airport.

The Highway 180 cleanup is scheduled for May 17.

The Cindy Stout Memorial Run is May 31.

The Mystery Run to support Terri's House is June 14.

The HORNI Run has been moved to June 21.

Our fireworks booth will run from July 1-4. We need all hands on deck to help out with this. Sign up now!

Looking way ahead the next Unification Run will be October 25.

More details about all the events are on the ABATE Local 24 web site. <http://www.abatelocal24.org/>

Our membership is holding at 105 members and 18 business members. We gained two new members tonight! Treasure is looking OK and we will present a support check at the May 3 Board Meeting.

Rick wasn't there for the membership prize. Next month it moves to \$100.00. The ABATE prize of \$161.00 was won by me, Bruce.

Local #25 Sacramento



Lil' David called the meeting to order at 7:00 followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. We had 12 members present but no guests.

Our treasurer, Joe, couldn't make it to the meeting, but called Lil' David and told him we're still in the black! Ron, merchandise, reported that there is a little bit left in merchandise. We passed the hat to collect a start-up fund for purchase of bandanas to sell.

Gary H gave the PAC report and said that not much is happening. The new speaker of the assembly does not appear to be as motorcycle friendly as was anticipated. ABATE is supporting the bill (AB1835 Kristen Olsen) that would repeal Cook's bill from 2012 that required helmets in side by side off road vehicles.

Local 17's March 1 Freeze Your Ass Off Run had drizzle but still a good time. The next Board of Directors, Presidents and PAC meetings are in Fresno on May 3. The Southern Regional Rally is on May 9-11 in Victorville. The Hot Rods & Harleys event is on June 1 at Iron Steed. The ABATE State Run is on September 12-14 in Kernville.

Ron made \$66 at the Stockton Swap Meet. Gary announced that Rick Dobbs received a resolution from the Legislature for his charity work and will be featured in Thunder Press. Meeting adjourned at 7:30. David



2014 ABATE Events

www.abate.org Events Calendar

May 3rd, Saturday – ABATE Quarterly Meetings – Fresno; Airport Piccadilly Inn; 5115 E. McKinley Ave; Fresno, CA 93727. For room Reservations call 559/375-7760 tell them you are with ABATE for the special room rate of \$89.00/night plus tax. Special room rate is valid until April 2nd.

Tentative meeting schedule for Saturday May 3rd is: 9:00a to 9:30a – Meet & Greet; 9:30a to 10:30a – Presidents Meeting; 10:45a to Noon – PAC Meeting; Lunch at noon; Board Meeting at 1:00pm

May 4th, Sunday – ABATE Local #27 – 12th Annual Bare Necessities – (See flyer this issue for details.)

May 9, 10 & 11 – Friday through Sunday – 20th Annual Southern Regional Rally – Shady Oasis Campground, Victorville. (See flyer in this issue for details). The Committee is looking for any pictures from the past 19 years of this event, and those who attended that we have lost touch with – please contact Run Chairman Paul Thomas prlitho@aol.com for details.

May 14 – 24, 2014 Annual Run For the Wall – All Routes leave from Rancho Cucamonga on May 14th. www.rftw.org for more information.

May 19 – LAST DAY to register to Vote in California elections. (if you have moved or changed your name – you will need to re-register).

May 31 – ABATE Local 24 – Annual Cindy Stout Memorial Run

June 1 – Hot Rods & Harleys – ABATE Local 17 & Iron Steed H-D (see flyer this issue). Buy tickets !!!

June 3 – California Primary Election Day.

June 14 – ABATE Local 24 – Annual Mystery Run to support Terri's House.

June 21 – ABATE Local 44 – Annual Route 66 event, details to be announced.

July 27 – ABATE Local 2 – 19th Annual Sweaty Buns Run (see flyer this issue).

September 12, 13 & 14 – Friday through Sunday – Annual Golden State Rendezvous aka ABATE State Run – Frandy Campground in Kernville;

November 4 – State Election Day

November 9th – Annual Totally Kids fund raiser – (a.k.a. One more from the Heart).

November 11 – Veterans Day

December 7 – ABATE Local #19 & Pomona Valley H.O.G. Annual Toy Run

Even if you are not an ABATE Member, YOU are WELCOME to attend ABATE Events - Your attendance and support of these events helps ABATE to continue to represent YOU in our ongoing preservation of "Freedom of the Road".

All event flyers that have been received are also on ABATE's website Event Calendar – can be downloaded and printed in a PDF format –

ABATE LOCALS – Don't Forget To Get Your Event Insurance, contact the ABATE State Office.

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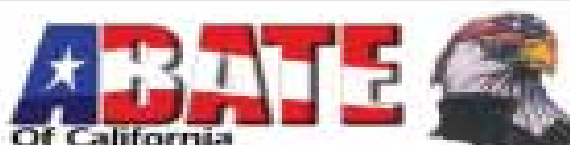
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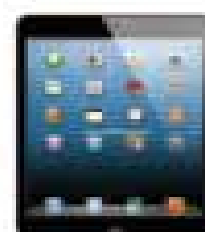
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Motorcycle Safety Report

by Norm e. Newiger, State Safety Officer

Who's the Real Enemy?

As I ride on this 4 lane highway I was thinking, "Who's my real enemy? Who brings me the most danger? Or am I just looking for someone to blame?"

This highway I'm riding on is packed with traffic, it's pretty smooth and fast paced with an occasional slow down here and there. I see 18 wheelers in the slow lane and mostly single persons driving in every kind of vehicle manufactured in the fast lane. It seems like at every off ramp the traffic slows somewhat, as well as at the on ramps, then it smoothes itself out and the pace picks up again.

I'm thinking who's out there that can change my life within a heartbeat? As I ride in this predictable scene time after time I take notice on how open my eyes are, my brain kicks in automatically producing scenarios of situations even though they don't happen 99.9 percent of the time. I just think it's my brain in some kind of defensive mode in which I continually comply. I am thinking that due to the fact that I don't have a stereo blasting or a passenger to be talking to or even a cell phone to be talking at that I've become preoccupied with the dangers of riding. "What a concept!" is what I say to myself. I'm actually paying attention to the roadway of life. Now let's see who's doing it as well; I look around as I'm riding and say, "Forget about it!" It seems to me everyone has their own agenda while getting to their next location.

As I weave in and out of traffic while I try to achieve the speed limit as though the other types of vehicles can't, I am ever so watchful a full 360 degrees as I seek my speed limit, which doesn't mean the posted speed limit. On my six I see a single headlight weaving faster than rest of the traffic, as I slide to my right to give him passage it's a rice rocket rider, triple R's as I call them. As he slowly disappears in front of me I'm thinking why can't I do that? He made it seem so effortless and was already out of my vision, but my brain flashes the warning signal that stops me from being stoopid!!! I'm telling myself, "Hey Norm, you can't ride like that person. He has a better riding skill level than you, and if you try, you will become your worst enemy, not them others that you always blame." DOINK! I am not mortified; I cannot argue with myself, I've lost all momentum to proclaim my skill set. I have realized that I'm who I've thought I am. Does that make sense? I have to be content with my skill level and therefore I shouldn't try to ride out of my skill level, not at this time of course!

As I write this report, I've seen a lot of people and their misfortune of their riding life. And yes I ride with people that are way better than me and I've seen just the opposite. How do they do it? What was their cost to get to their level? Was it accidents, was it trial by error or education? For me it's all of the above, but it was a process that I took very seriously and was very patient about my growth. After all you can't learn it all in one day let alone a year. And I believe you can learn from other people at their expense.

So who is my enemy? Is it that teenager driving and rocking out? Is it the mom in her mini van with 8 kids hurrying to the soccer game while the kids are, well, acting like kids? Is the trucker saying breaker, breaker on his CB



the one? I'm looking for an enemy that I can't see, hear or smell, then I look into my mirror and laugh at myself for the longest of time, it's ME!

It's not that I'm absolutely guilty, but I have to give this one to me, because I don't want to look for excuses. I know that I have to be the most educated, the most safety conscious, the most defensive/offensive and knowledgeable rider out there to insure that I can only blame myself for anything that happens to me or anything that I could cause to happen to myself or others. Period!

Please don't think that I look for someone to blame or try to find an excuse just because I'm the educated one. No, I do take full responsibility for my actions. Things do happen and sometimes with a very high price, albeit death or becoming disabled physically and or mentally. It is a very high price to pay even if you only break a bone and or donate skin to the asphalt. I know that things happen and we react in two different ways, it could be anger or compassion, either one could also get the adrenaline flowing. There could be others just fill in the blanks.

I have been around bikes all my life and it never ceases to amaze me what I hear and or experience. A good friend of mine that is a lifer biker was riding on the 23 fwy in Thousand Oaks, just cruising and was passed by a lady on a rice rocket. They engaged in speed exchanges; it was Harley versus something from Japan, with pride on the line. She backed off a little bit, then she passes him doing a wheelie and he gave up. He knew he was bested and never would think in his wildest dreams he could do that. Good for him! He knew his limits and made a very good and very important decision.

This had happened to me as well. I was in a gaming mindset, just goofin a little with me bro, then he passes me doing a wheelie and flips me off and does a yawning imitation. Right there I backed down. I knew he was a pro rider and I could never be like him. It was a good decision. Did it save my life? Most likely, but I don't want to know. I wanna live another day to tell people of my adventures and

not my mistakes.

I've had to clarify to myself many times who's the enemy versus accidents even if the statistics say it is one genre or another. Sometimes statistics are misleading and one sided but for me it's just a one sided issue. For instance, I lost a good friend who was a very careful rider with many, many miles on the road. He was in the mountains on a cruise with his bros and got into a head on collision with another biker. Even though these are very rare types of deadly accidents it happens. From what I know the other biker was on a rice rocket and was speeding and crossed into my friend's lane of travel. It happens that quick. It could have been a car, truck or something incidental. Does this make the person the enemy? Or because he was on a bike he's the enemy? Is he to blame and therefore says it was him, can we say due to the stupidity of said such rider he's to blame and therefore you're exonerated. Because in my mindset I think that there is such a thing as unfortunate and inexcusable situations but that does not say who's the enemy.

I want to keep it simple and list myself as the one, but in my defense I want to reduce and or eliminate errors and accidents as much as possible. I think how to do this but realize I've been doing it for years, just hanging out with me bros reading and researching and practicing what I preach teach.

Throughout our riding lives we are constantly making split second decisions and they can be fortunate or unfortunate. With experience they become more fortunate and less unfortunate. All I know is that while riding you have to pay attention to all your surroundings because you never know when you'll have to make a split second decision that could cost you something valuable i.e. crashing thy bike. My factual proof of this is one incident I had while riding in the Santa Susanna pass. My bro and I were riding through the hills and I was carving the road doing only 35 miles per hour, but as I was leaning, when I hit a sandy washout. My rear tire slipped out almost to the 3 o'clock position and in an instant my brain went viral and I gassed it, righting my bike back up to where it should be. And yes, it happens that fast! I had learned this defensive maneuver a thousand times while dirt bike riding so it became almost second nature for me. Earlier in the day I would have never thought about that scenario or, for that matter, any other type of scenario that could have happened to me.

I believe there is a fine line of having to pay attention to your surroundings as you ride. It's awesome to see and feel the freedom of the road and be defensive at the same time. When you see a simple caution sign such as falling rocks or deer crossing etc. it's a good indication that you can possibly experience that certain situation and it could be deadly.

Here's the meat and potatoes of this report: Keep real time education in your mind and constantly have the desire to always learn whether from your experience or others and always keep an open mind and share your experiences, for we don't know who the real enemy is. ABATE is an on ramp for education. Please read up on all articles and go to any ride that you can. I know there are many, many riders out there that would love to share information with anyone - and you are one of them! Ride as a teacher and you will learn as well. Norm e.

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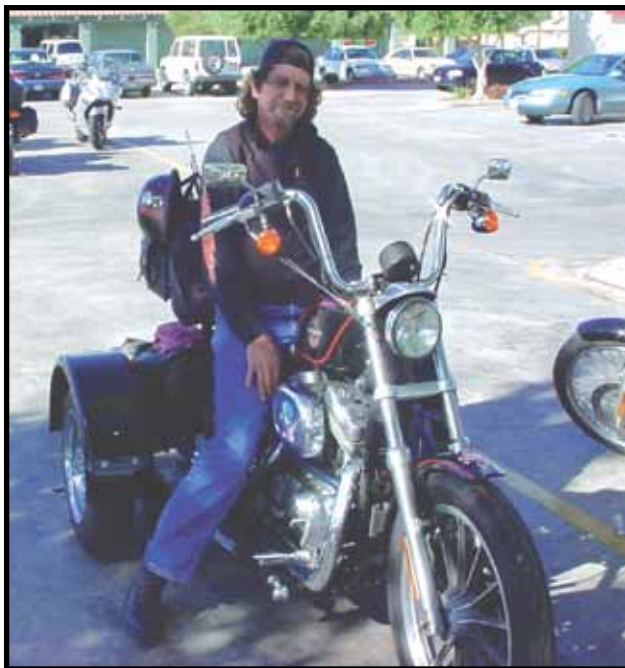
by Lee 'Sporty' Milligan

Greetings to all ABATE members who are reading this scribe and to those peeps who are checking in!

If you ride a motorcycle you need to be a member of ABATE of California. We, as an organization, protect your right to ride.

This whimsical writing is being done at the Country Villa Sheraton house in North Hills, California. It's about five miles from my home in San Fernando. I am here because there are special issues with my leg that the facility can do better than being at my house. For example, my leg gets wrapped twice a day. I also have a pick line on my right upper arm which feeds antibiotics to help me get over any infection in the bone in my right leg.

As I write my column I am watching the Kings vs. Ducks hockey game and it is tied 2 to 2. The set up here is like prison - 3 hots and a cot. I never know what I am getting to eat. I eat the food so I don't starve. When I got here I was given physical therapy and occupational therapy. However, I have graduated to special therapy. I am more physically fit than most of the folks here. I mean I am 59 and the guys



in my room are at least 20 years older than me. So they have me use a walker and I do a hop along to the physical therapy room where I work my legs and arms. Then I hop with the walker back to my room. So life is pretty boring right now. However, I have to do boring if I want to recover from my leg injury and additional heart problems.

Regarding my two Sportys; I have a friend, Rob, go over to my house and start them. So I am not too worried about that.

I will say thanks to all of the ABATE folks who are leading the charge in my absence. Glen Cheslock has been leading my Local 1 meetings in my absence, and thanks also to Ed Mathis, aka Iceman, for also doing the Regional Rally raffle booth chair. Also, thanks goes to all ABATE members who have bought ABATE raffle tickets and thanks to those members who have bought the membership special raffle funding tickets.

OK, so it's a slow healing process that I must endure. I hope to be home writing my next Sporty's Ride column next month. So until the next time, support ABATE functions.

Regards, Sporty

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Pac/Lobbyist Report

by Dave Hastings, Treasurer

We are currently working on our ABATE PAC endorsements and should have them ready for the Fresno PAC meeting on May 3rd. Please try your best to either be in Fresno for this meeting or have someone representing your Local in attendance at the meeting. Remember, some of the items we discuss are not put into print so show up to get the latest information to take back to your next Local meeting. I'm assuming after we make our recommended endorsements we will also distribute some funding to some of the candidates that we endorse. Again, these contributions are voted on by the PAC members present, so show up and cast your vote for who will receive funding from ABATE PAC at this time.

Nick Benson has put a lot of his personal time into Kristin Olsen's Assembly Bill AB1835 (the side-by-side helmet modification bill) and hopefully we will receive an up-date on that bill at our PAC meeting. This particular issue is important to me personally because I ride both on and off-road so I'm hoping for a successful outcome for this bill.



If you can attend the ABATE of California Southern Regional Rally over Mothers' Day weekend in Victorville, please do so. Remember, all of the proceeds from this event are turned over to the State Office and it has consistently helped support our organization for 20 years now.

Also ABATE has quite a few other events and our State Raffle are on our upcoming calendar; so check your Bailing Wire for events and help support your organization.

We are planning an ABATE "Local paperwork training program" for the May 3rd meeting. So, again, another reason to be in Fresno on May 3rd. We will provide samples of properly filled out forms that need to be sent in to the State Office and when you leave Fresno you will be prepared to offer assistance, if needed, to your Local officers who are tasked with completing these forms.

As you can see, we will have a very busy schedule for our Fresno meeting. Please plan on being in attendance and ride safely to and from Fresno.

The June primary election is just around the corner and the top two vote getters from each race, regardless of political party, will advance to the November election. It's going to be a very interesting and busy year for ABATE and your PAC. Stay tuned and stay informed. The fun and work is just getting started for ABATE PAC!

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2014 LOCAL 24 AMMO RUN

by Bruce

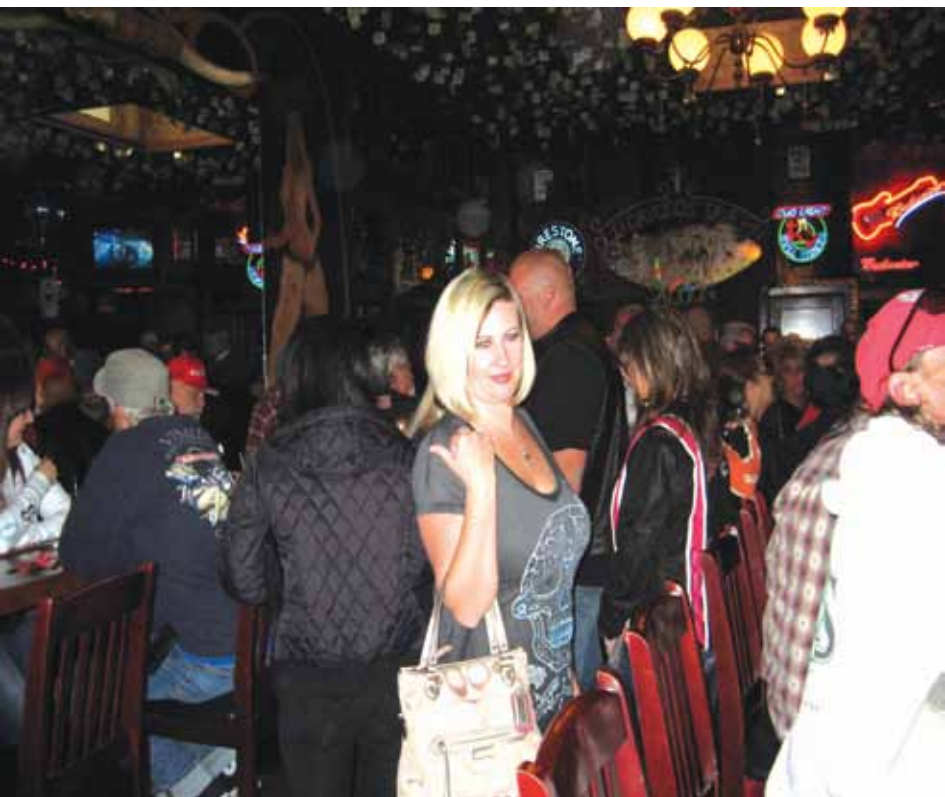
On April 12, a very clear and crispy day, more than 60 members gathered at Brooks Ranch for the 15th annual AMMO Run. Four new members signed up and joined us on the run.

This year we used several different routes to get to the final destination in Cayucos. It was go your own way or follow others, your choice. Designated stops were The Mountain Oyster in Coalinga, The Pine Street Tavern in Paso Robles, and the Old Cayucos saloon in Cayucos. Surprise stops were Firestone Brewery and tour and Harris Ranch.

Everyone made it to Cayucos and by 6:30 the Old Cayucos Saloon was packed with riders waiting for the prize drawings. Our Local 24 business members donated over \$1100.00 in gift certificates for the drawing. The final drawing was for the ABATE prize of \$595.00.

The weather was great, the new routes very interesting, and everyone had a great time. Join us next year for the 16th AMMO Run.





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We will do our best to recognize your generosity by listing and thanking you here; IF we leave your name off, please contact Carol@abate.org or Dave Hastings 760/947-4700 and we'll list you next month. (Most times it's just a matter of when the mail arrives and the Bailing

Wire deadline.) But it never hurts to follow-up.

Thank you to the following for Donations designated to the **General Fund**:

Rick Mullaly, L#52;

Robert & Amy Greger, L#17;

Mike Lum, L#2;

Jeff & Nina Ozanne, L#44;

ABATE Locals: 1, 8, 14, 19, 21, & 25.

Thank you to the following for Donations designated to the **Lobbyist Fund**:

Bob Warren, L#1

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Thank you to the following for Donations designated to the **PAC Fund**:

Robert Duvall, L#33;

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ABATE Locals: 1, 17 & 21.

Thanks Local 1 for holding the Polar Bear Run and donating the extra \$\$ to the funds and to the folks who participated to help it happen!

Donations are welcomed at any time... you can snail mail checks payable to ABATE of CA; 10240 7th Ave; Hesperia, CA 92345-2631. In the memo please indicate which fund(s) you want it applied to. Since 2014 is the State Elections – contributions are needed for the PAC fund and Volunteers for campaign workers too – Contact our Legislative Director, Sandra Lubbers, to let her know you can work a campaign and what district you are in tlubes@dslexreme.com.



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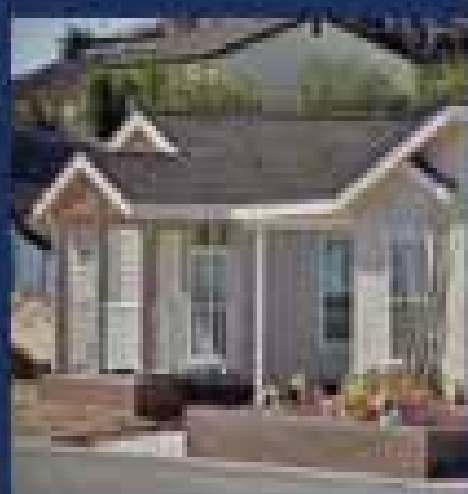
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**Compiled & Edited by Bill Bish,
National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM)**

U.N. CALLS FOR UNIVERSAL HELMET LAWS WORLDWIDE: The United Nations has approved a resolution on road safety that, in part, calls for member nations to enact mandatory helmet laws. Cosponsored by United States' Ambassador Suzanne Powers, the non-binding resolution also calls for laws against distracted driving (such as banning inappropriate cell phone use and texting while driving) and supporting global harmonization of vehicle regulations (which could include anti-tampering measures to prevent customizing and equipment modifications).

The U.N. General Assembly voted to approve the "Improving Global Road Safety" resolution on April 10, 2014 to encourage Member States "that have not yet done so to consider enacting comprehensive legislation on key risk factors for road traffic injuries, including...the non-use of helmets..."

While countries that belong to the United Nations are not required to comply with such a "non-binding resolution," many "member states" heed UN recommendations and can set the stage for further restrictions on motorcycles and motorcycling around the world.

FTC SEEKING COMMENT ON ETHANOL LABELING: The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) is soliciting comments on a proposed rule to require additional labeling at the gas pump for blends of gasoline containing more than 10% ethanol, despite the knowledge that such higher levels of ethanol-laden fuel cause engine and fuel system damage in motorcycles and ATVs and can void manufacturer warranties that extend only to the use of E-10.

"In response to the emergence of ethanol blends as a retail fuel and the likely increased availability of such blend," the FTC proposes an additional label to avoid inadvertent misfueling, but under the rule the label would be rounded to the nearest factor of 10; so fuel containing up to 14% ethanol would be inaccurately labeled "E-10".

Acknowledging that, "In motorcycles and nonroad products, EPA raised engine-failure concerns from overheating," the FTC solution is another label on the pump, and is seeking public comments now on their rule proposal. Deadline to submit comments is June 2, 2014.

WASHINGTON STATE RIDERS ALLOWED TO RUN RED LIGHTS: Washington motorcyclists will soon be allowed to run red lights under certain conditions, under Senate Bill 5141 recently signed by Governor Jay Inslee, which will allow riders to proceed through traffic stops controlled by ineffective detection devices.

View/Post Comments Traffic vehicle detection devices are scattered throughout the state in both rural and urban areas, giving streets green lights when they need them and reds when they do not. The devices, which come in the form of cameras or underground sensors, register vehicles stopped at intersections and cue traffic lights accordingly. But to motorcyclists, the technology represents the opposite of traffic efficiency, as the devices often fail to register their bikes, creating inconvenient and sometimes dangerous moments at busy intersections.

The motorcycle community's longstanding wish for a solution was granted on March 31 when Gov. Inslee signed Senate Bill 5141, giving motorcyclists the option of running red lights that rely on ineffective vehicle detection devices. When motorcyclists encounter devices that fail to notice their presence, they will be allowed to proceed through the light with "due caution" after one complete cycle.

Weight-bearing traffic signal mechanisms were developed in the 1920s, but have mostly been phased out over the years in favor of induction loop signals which are buried in the road and triggered by ferrous metal. Many of the newer detection devices are cameras that control traffic lights based on sight or timing.

"There was no safe and legal way to get through until this legislation passed," Larry Walker, Government Relations Specialist for the Washington Road Riders Association, told the Oregonian newspaper.

Fourteen other states have passed similar legislation. Senate Bill 5141 takes effect June 12.

MOTORCYCLE CLUBS RALLY IN SUPPORT OF MONGOLS IN PATCH SEIZURE: Thousands of bikers from throughout southern California recently rallied in a "show of support" to combat a lawsuit brought by federal authorities seeking to take control of the Mongols M/C patch logo. The U.S. Department of Justice last year filed a lawsuit seeking to seize control of the trademarked logo of the Mongol Nation Motorcycle Club LLC, arguing that the Mongols are a criminal organization and that the mark is



used for intimidation.

But the Mongols and their attorneys argue that the government is overstepping its bounds with the lawsuit, which they said would infringe on the rights of club members. "They're trying to destroy the right of men to associate and indicate their association," said an attorney representing the club.

The trial, previously scheduled to begin last month, has been postponed to late September.

Federal prosecutors, following an October 2008 operation dubbed "Black Rain" in which dozens of Mongol members ultimately agreed to plead guilty to a host of charges, have labeled the Mongols an "outlaw motorcycle club" and argue that the government therefore has the authority to take control of the Mongols' logo to prevent violence.

The lawsuit breaks new ground in terms of trademark law, and may end up at the Supreme Court. Unlike a business trademark controlled by a single entity, the Mongols' logo is a "collective membership mark" that is legally owned by one entity, but held in trust for the members; "It's the votes of club members that ultimately determined who is allowed to wear the club's patch."

The Mongols have also filed a motion to have federal Judge Otis Wright II removed from the case, alleging bias. Wright, who ruled in favor of the Mongols in a 2008 lawsuit brought by a member whose patch was taken by law enforcement, has made statements indicating he is prejudiced against the motorcycle club, and it was Wright who first suggested to prosecutors back in 2008 that they could go after the Mongols' trademark.

If the Justice Department's lawsuit should succeed, it would eventually affect more than just the Mongols, the club's attorney told the Daily News; "They'll go after all of the motorcycle clubs."

YEMEN BANS MOTORCYCLES TO PREVENT ASSASSINATION ATTEMPTS: The Yemeni Interior Ministry imposed a temporary ban on motorcycles in Sana'a as consecutive drive-by shootings underscored the capital's worsening security situation, Xinhua news agency reported.

Hit-and-run attacks have become common in Yemen where a popular uprising in 2011 weakened government control, so the supreme security committee ordered the ban to prevent assassination attempts.

Within a matter of days, two people were shot down outside their hotel by gunmen on a motorcycle, the director of training at a police college was shot by motorcycle gunmen, and a member of parliament was killed by motorcycle-riding assassins near the Ministry of Defense.

SRI LANKA MAY REQUIRE LIGHTS-ON FOR MOTORCYCLES: In Sri Lanka, an island country off the coast of India where motorcycles are a prominent form of transportation, Police Headquarters is evaluating the use of headlights by motorcyclists during daytime to prevent accidents, and may consider its legalization under the Motor Traffic Act, sources said.

A lights-on program was initiated during the last week of January but police said it was still too early to assess its success. A senior police officer of the city traffic division said if it was found to be successful it would be legalized and introduced countrywide, adding that it was found that motorcycle accidents had reduced in many African countries on the implementation of similar laws.

WEIRD NEWS: MOTORCYCLIST'S ERECTION LAWSUIT PETERS OUT IN COURT: A California court has dismissed a motorcyclist's erection lawsuit, in which the rider alleged that a four-hour ride on his 1993 BMW K1100RS motorcycle led to a prolonged and painful erection that lasted 20 months, because the evidence didn't stand up in court.

The motorcyclist filed a product liability lawsuit against BMW and the seat maker, claiming a motorcycle design defect in the motorcycle's "ridge-like" saddle design gave rise to his nearly two-year long bout of priapism. He claimed the painful condition left him "unable to engage in sexual activity, which is causing him substantial emotional and mental anguish," and he sought damages for lost wages, medical expenses, emotional distress, and general damages, motorcycle blog Visor Down reports.

A urologist testified that the plaintiff indeed suffered from priapism, but the court rejected the testimony of a neurologist who claimed the motorcycle's vibration caused the disorder. That rejection of testimony led to the case's dismissal for lack of hard evidence.

Strangely enough, one man who filed a medical malpractice suit for a faulty penis implant complained that his eight-month erection prevented him from doing one of his normal activities - riding his motorcycle.

FUNERAL PROTEST LAW UPHELD: Fred Phelps, the infamous founder of the Westboro Baptist Church -- the Kansas congregation known for picketing funerals with anti-gay signs -- died of natural causes on March 19 at the age of 84, and his death and reported excommunication from the church dovetails with a recent decision by U.S. District Judge Fernando Gaitan, Jr., bringing closure to a nearly eight-year long legal fight over the group's funeral protests.

The Westboro church gained notoriety for protesting funerals -- especially for troops killed in combat -- to express their belief that God is punishing the U.S. for homosexuality, but Missouri lawmakers responded to a 2005 Westboro protest of a soldier's funeral by passing a general prohibition against protests and pickets near funerals from one hour before they start until an hour after they end, later adding a specific 300-foot buffer zone.

Following a protracted 8-year legal battle involving the Eighth Circuit striking down the general prohibition as an unconstitutional infringement on free speech, which was later reversed and sent back to Gaitan for further proceedings, whereupon Judge Gaitan subsequently upheld the Missouri law.

In Phelps' later years, the protests themselves were largely ignored or led to counter-demonstrations that easily shouted down Westboro's incendiary message. A motorcycle group known as the Patriot Guard Riders arose to shield bereaved mourners at military funerals from Westboro's notorious signs.

In an ironic twist, the debate soon shifted to whether people should protest Phelps' funeral, but according to Phelps' daughter, Margie Phelps, -- an attorney who argued the church's case before the U.S. Supreme Court -- "There will be no funeral."

NCOM CONVENTION TEACHES RIGHTS, PREACHES UNITY: The largest gathering of motorcycle rights activists in the world will take place in Dallas for this year's annual NCOM Convention, which will draw thousands of concerned bikers from across the country to discuss legal and legislative topics of concern to all riders.

The 29th annual NCOM Convention will be held Mother's Day weekend, May 8-11, 2014 at the Intercontinental Hotel - Dallas in Addison, Texas. Hosted by the Texas Confederations of Clubs, all motorcyclists are welcome and are encouraged to participate in the many meetings, seminars and group discussions that will focus on legislative efforts and litigation techniques to protect riders' rights and preserve Freedom of the Road.


Nearly three decades ago, on January 27, 1986, leaders of various motorcycle groups from across America met in Las Vegas to discuss a "coming together" and the need for a national united front to protect the biker life-style and riders' rights, and the National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM) was born from that gathering.

Founded by personal injury attorney Richard M. Lester and wholly supported by the Aid to Injured Motorcyclists (AIM) nationwide network of motorcycle-riding lawyers, NCOM has grown to over 2,000 member organizations representing hundreds of thousands of concerned motorcycle riders nationwide. The goal and purpose of NCOM is to assist all motorcycle organizations and individual riders with legal, legislative and other motorcycling issues.

For more information, or to pre-register for the 2014 NCOM Convention, contact the National Coalition of Motorcyclists at (800) 525-5355 or visit www.ON-A-BIKE.com.

QUOTABLE QUOTE: "As I would not be a slave, so I would not be a master. This expresses my idea of democracy." ~ Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865) 16th U.S. President

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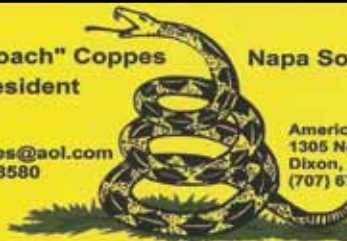
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ABATE of California, a leading organization in protecting motorcycle rights in California, is excited to announce the opening of our "Off-Road" Division to fulfill our desire to protect the riding rights of ALL riders in California, both on and off-road.

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

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

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

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

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

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Los Angeles County - Local #01-Reg#8

Sporty Milligan 3rd Sun - 9 AM
1616 4th St Big Jim’s Restaurant
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818/ 361-8800 Sun Valley 91352

Simi Valley - Local #02-Reg#8

Guy Corrigan 2nd Tues 7:30 PM
805/796-6328 VFW Post#10049
4242 E Los Angeles Ave.
Simi Valley
Crashman1@sbcglobal.net

**Thousand Oaks/Ventura
Local#03/13-Reg#7**

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

San Diego County - Local #06-Reg#12

Snowman 1st Sun - 12 Noon
C/O Boozefighters M/C Kate Sessions Park
P O Box 501946 Pacific Beach
San Diego CA 92150
619/855-9981

Orange County - Local #08-Reg#11

Daniel Pfaffly 2nd Mon.7:30PM
American Legion #354
8071 Whitaker
714/649-2516 Buena Park

South Orange County - Local #09-Reg#11

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San Diego County (North) - Local #11-Reg#12

Dan Buse 2nd Sun - 11 AM
buse13@att.net Escondido Moose Lodge
760/807-7294 25721 Jesmond Dene Rd
Escondido 92026

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Glenn Phillips 3rd Sun.- 10:00 AM
P O Box 148 Judy’s Wild
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707/624-6310 4826 Midway Rd.
Vacaville CA

Pomona Valley - Local #19-Reg#9

Jeff Bassler 3rd Wed - 7:00 PM
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Rancho Cucamonga 1020 N Mountain
91730 Ontario, CA 91729
909/596-9685

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



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Antelope Valley - Local #21-Reg#13

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

South Bay - Local #22-Reg#11

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

San Bernardino - Local#23-Reg#9

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

Fresno - Local#24-Reg#6

Doug Biggerstaff 2nd Tues. 7:00 PM
559/222-5306 Yosemite Falls Cafe’
www.abate.local24.org Shaw & Blackstone, Fresno

Sacramento - Local#25-Reg#2

Lil’ David Morena 3rd Thurs - 7:00 PM
916/616-9605 Denny’s
3520 Auburn Blvd.
Sacramento 95821

Riverside - Local#27-Reg#9

Kenny Nuttall 1st Tues - 7:00 PM
P.O. Box 7070 American Legion
Riverside CA 92513 2979 Dexter Dr
951/377-5772 (in Fairmont Park)
www.abatelocal27.org Riverside, CA 92513

Morongo Basin - Local#29-Reg#13

Marty Rapp 2nd - Thurs - 6:30 PM
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29 Palms CA 92277 Call Marty for Location
760/367-1694

North Valley - Local #31-Reg#2

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

Yuba City - Local #33-Reg#2

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

Imperial Valley - Local#38-Reg#12

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

Bakersfield - Local#40-Reg#6

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

Dave Hastings 2nd Sat. 9:30 am
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Victorville, CA 92392 Hesperia 92345

Barstow - Local #47-Reg#13

Yermo Eddy Meet with L#44
PO Box 521
Yermo CA 92398
760/953-7353

Grass Valley - Local#52-Reg#2

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

Ridgecrest - Local #58-Reg#13

Dave Cornelius Meet with Local#44
760/447-4342

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Local # 63-Reg#7**

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