

The Bailing Wire

Newsletter for Motorcyclists

Volume XXXI

ISSUE I&II

JAN-FEB 2012

A Union of Motorcyclists
Dedicated to Freedom of the Road

American Brotherhood Aimed Towards Education

Sacramento Protest Rally



“AB1047 Passed the Assembly Floor, now heads to the Senate.”

Lobbyist’s Legislative Report

By James Lombardo, Lobbyist

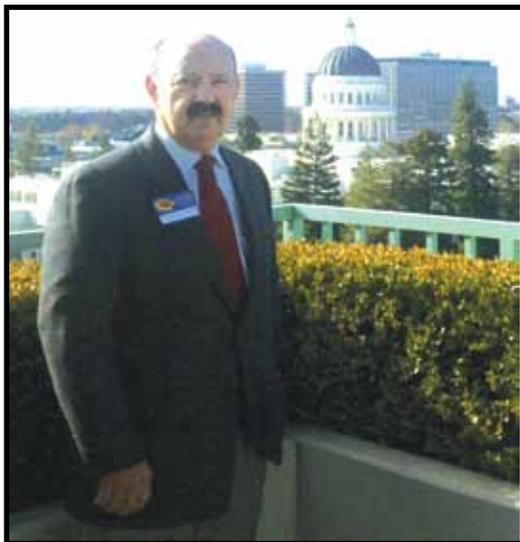
Our 2012 legislative year kicked off with 500 plus dedicated Motorcycle Riders attending OUR 20th FREEDOM RALLY at the Capitol on Monday, January 9! That was followed by an Assembly Transportation Committee hearing and the PASSAGE OF AB 1047, by Lake Elsinore Assemblyman and Transportation Committee Vice Chairman, Kevin Jefferies, that BANS ALL MOTORCYCLE ONLY CHECKPOINTS!

THANKS to all those who traveled all the way to Sacramento to attend the hearing and witness a big victory! The bill now goes to the Assembly Floor and if passed, will have Senate hearings in late February or early March. Stay tuned for my action alert requests for MORE letter writing, e-mails and telephone calls to ensure the passage of AB 1047 on its way to Governor Brown for his signature.

Assemblywoman Linda Halderman (R-Fresno), a fellow motorcycle rider, has agreed to carry a bill for us to have Caltrans reinstall the MOTORCYCLES OK IN HOV LANES signs! The same bill was vetoed by former Governor Schwarzenegger in 2008. Another big battle is looming, but we’re ready — right?

We had OUTSTANDING Speakers at the Rally — Assembly Members Linda Halderman,

Martin Garrick, Dan Logue (all motorcycle riders), Tim Donnelly (who represents Hesperia, location of the ABATE headquarters), Kevin Jeffries, Jim Nielsen (former state Senator who voted against ALL of Dick Floyd’s Helmet Law bills while serving in the Senate from 1978 to 1990).



We had over 200 riders fill the Assembly Transportation Committee hearing room to SUP-

Continued on next page

Table of Contents

Page 2	Executive Director
Page 3	Donations
Page 4&5	Sacramento Rally
Page 6,7 &8	Locals Reports
Page 9	PAC Lobby
Page 10,11	Regional Rally Flyer
Page 12&13	Coast
Page 14	Sporty’s Rides
Page 15	VIP’s
Page 16	Safety
Page 18	Membership
Page 20	DMV Article
Page 21	Tech Tips
Page 22	L#27 Pics
Page 24&25	Board Pics
Page 26&27	Transportation Committee Meeting Pics
Page 28&29	L#24 Toy Run
Page 30	Business Members
Page 31	Merchandise
Page 32	ABATE Meetings

What is ABATE?

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

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

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 Johnny O'Kane 760/956-1669

Jim from page 1

PORT our two bills up that day--- it made a big difference in the passage of the motorcycle checkpoint ban bill AB 1047 that passed 14 to 0. If signed into law, California will be only the third state to pass such a ban on these discriminatory motorcycle-only checkpoints, joining New Hampshire (state motto: "Live Free or Die") and South Carolina.

Many thanks, once again, to all those individuals and Locals who contribute to the Lobbyist account to keep me here in the Capitol fighting on your behalf!

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 through 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.

Executive Director's Report

by Greg Covell, Executive Director



Welcome back from the holidays. Hope all are well and ready to ROLL. With some trepidation and many questions I was nominated and elected to be ABATE's new Executive Director. My name is Greg Covell and I have been a member for 12 years now. As president of Local #27 in Riverside, I have led a very involved and committed group of people and brought our Local up to be one of the strongest Locals in California. Our efforts to gain members, create involvement, and get into the public eye have been very successful. It is my hope to bring some of that energy to the State Board and create a stronger and more active ABATE of California. Communication is the hub for our growth and I will be at the center to help coordinate it.

Our Board of Directors meeting and Rally on the steps of the Capitol in Sacramento was held on January 8th and 9th. The Board of Directors meeting was sparsely attended, but those that showed up were able to share ideas and problems enabling each of us to be aware of new ideas and the fact that we are not alone in our struggles to keep our Locals alive and active. Elections to the Board were completed and several new officers are now joining the "more experienced" (not older) members.

The Rally, to make our voices heard (primarily about AB 695 and AB 1047), was well attended with many independent riders, the MMA, and many clubs making a strong supportive showing. Visiting with the Legislators and their staffs was eye opening and provided many opportunities to re-iterate ABATE's views. It was somewhat disappointing that so many riders chose to leave before the Transportation committee met, but enough stayed to fill the room and AB1047 was passed by a huge majority and will go to the floor for a vote this month. However, once again, AB695 did not pass and helmets are still mandated for all who ride.

All in all, a great educational weekend. There were a few surprises, but, I'll save them for later.

It is now mid- January and as we prepare for another year of activities, remember that the issues of today's riders need to be considered and addressed – safety, training, education, and rights to ride. Many communities are making it difficult for motorcyclists to ride and this needs to be a focus for ABATE. While still backing the issue of helmet choice, like it or not, this is becoming a non issue for most riders under 40. They either have never ridden without a helmet and are not comfortable without one or they have bought into the insurance/media message of how they save lives - even if you are left a vegetable on life support for years after a head on crash.

Keep Your Eyes Wide Open.

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Carol Cromwell & Caroline Griffith

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Gill Mellen & all our Members

COLUMNISTS

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

DEADLINES

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

AD RATES

- Business Card \$15.00 /Mo. \$150.00 /Yr.
- Double Size Business Card W/Color \$250.00
- 1/4 Page (5"W x 5"H) \$150.00 /Mo. \$1500.00 /Yr.
- 1/2 Page (10"W x 5"H) \$175.00 /Mo. \$1750.00 /Yr.
- Full Page(10"W x 10"H) \$350.00 /Mo. \$3500.00 /Yr.

Full color ad is 25% extra.

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP SPECIAL -

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

CLASSIFIED

Members may advertise in the Classified Section at no charge.

PHOTOS

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

DONATIONS – General, Lobbyist, & PAC funds – THANK YOU

“Thank You” to everyone who has dug into their pockets and sent in donations, and to those of you that are adding some extra \$\$ to your renewal!! We are going to do our best to list all of our donors and if we leave you off of our list, please contact Carol at our State Office or Dave Hastings and we will get your name on next month’s list. You all deserve to be thanked!!

Donations to the General Fund:

- Robert Boys (L 1);
- Tony Tosta (L 00);
- Ron Grossman (L 3);
- Local 21’s Toy Run;
- Peggy Brisendine (L 24);
- ABATE Locals 2, 11, 19, 23, 24, 27, 28, 31, 38, 40, 47, 52, & 60.

Donations to the Lobbyist Fund:

- Rick Mullaly (L 60);
- ABATE Locals 1, 2, 5, 11, 17, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 27, 28, 31, 38, 52, 58, & 60.

Donations to the PAC Fund:

- Honda Ray, L 00;
- Reggie Mackay, L 11;
- ABATE Locals 8 & 20’s Halloween Run;
- ABATE Locals 21, 23, 24, 27, 28 & 60.

The words “thank you” just seems so trivial, but until some other words can convey our gratefulness for your donations, it will have to do.

So “Thank You” to one and all! And please, if you haven’t donated yet, you can mail your donation to: ABATE of CA; 10240 7th Ave; Hesperia, CA 92345-2631. Write in the memo which fund you would like to donate to.

We also received a donation from **GoodSearch/Goodshop** that goes to our General Fund. I saved this for the last because we earn this money by **OUR** supporters who use GoodSearch.com to search the web and GoodShop.com to shop online.

And it is so very simple to earn some money for ABATE that isn’t coming out of your pocket, or having you buy anything that you wouldn’t be purchasing anyhow. They also have coupons at a lot of different stores that you can use too. This is what you would need to put in when you do your search on GoodSearch.com – click on the underlined portion: “We give money to American Brotherhood Aimed Towards Education - ABATE - California (Hesperia, CA) every time you search the web and shop online.”

By the way, the total you see on the website that has been raised is a cumulative figure since we signed up over 2 years ago. I’m sure that with your help we could do a LOT BETTER. THANK YOU to those of you who have been using GoodSearch.com.



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4. Gold Business	\$125
5. Gold Business w/Color Ad	\$200
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Add \$50 tl/Sustaining Membership	
7. Life Single	\$450
8. Life Couple	\$650

Life Members can Receive Sustaining Membership Status and Benefits for \$50/Year

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January 9th Freedom Rally Sacramento

THANK YOU very, very much to the following for Sponsoring the parking meters:

Nick's Computer Works/Charla's Tools;

Hank Hallmark/High Desert;

Ruby Weber;

Peggy Crawford & Doug Sarver;

American Metal Riding Group;

Larry Meyer;

Confederation of Clubs (So. Cal);

Capistrano Eagles MC;

American Cruisers MC;

Azraels MC;

Richard Lester;

Marine's MC;

Bikers For Christ MM;

Illusion Cycles;

Nuggets MC;

Quick Throttle Magazine;

Capitol Coffee Shop;

Iron Works MC #433;

Messenger's MC;

Mark Cobin;

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Riding Club;

Bill W's Sober Pack MC;

Humper's MC;

Boozefighters MC;

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Nikki's Flags;

Modified Motorcycles Association (CA);

David B Allen, M.D.;

Cycle Service;

Tumbleweed Inn;

Renegade Classics – Sacramento;

Rick Mullaly;

Philip Hohman

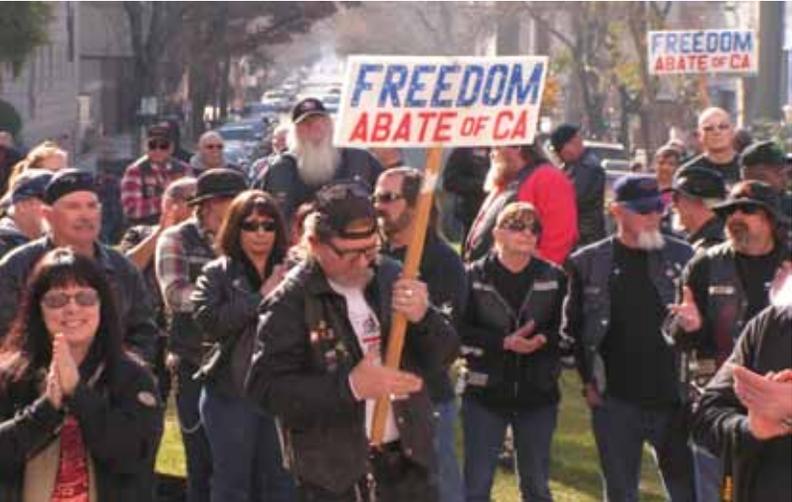
And ABATE Locals 1, 3, 5, 6, 20, 22, 27, 28, 33, & 52.

Thank you ALL – it is truly great to see that ABATE Of California had not only the monetary support from so many different groups and individuals for this event, but also the amount of people who attended this rally!! Thank you to Creative Sound for the music!

Pictures by Gill Mellen



Continued on next page



LOCAL NEWS

Local #01 Los Angeles



Welcome to 2012! Local 1 is alive. Our meetings are held at the Elks Lodge at 9 am Sunday morning. We started off meeting with Glen Cheslock leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Sporty, who is treasurer and president, told us we have money in the treasury. Hope to earn more to help out the mother ship after the Polar Bear run on February 26.

I, Sporty, gave a brief run down regarding the Board of Directors meeting in Sacramento and our Monday visit to the capital steps followed in the pm by the Assembly Transportation committee hearings for our bill AB695, the helmet modification bill, and AB1047, motorcycle only check points. For more on this, read our Lobbyist's report in this Bailing Wire.

Next we talked about getting raffle prizes for next month's Polar Bear ride. Gotta move on that issue pronto. We have some guests from the Glendale HOG chapter, that our member, Bob Warren, has been trying to get to join ABATE and also come to our Polar Bear run. We have submitted to them a copy of the route so we will see.

Pretty much the conversation ended on that note. I will still try to encourage more of my members to attend the meetings via e-mail and post cards. Those that showed enjoyed a nice breakfast served at a nominal charge by the Elks Lodge. Later, Sporty I am Bitchen Milligan.

Local #02 Simi Valley



Happy New Year ALL! In my last report I opened with, well the weather has changed somewhat (i.e. getting colder), and I re-iterate it again (getting warmer)! This has been some nice weather we've been having and for me to ride with a tee shirt is great. I almost miss the cold weather, but

I will not complain. We here at Local 2 have our meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at VFW Post 10049, 4242 East Los Angeles Ave in Simi Valley at 7:30 p.m. We serve a great meal for 5 bucks! Burgers and hotdogs right off the grill, plus major amounts of fixins, which could be anything that the servers decide, but always great stuff. Thanks to our volunteer cooks Guy and Steve! You guys rocked as usual. Our Pres, Ray, was sick and could not attend the meeting so our VP, Scott, took over and talked about stuff in general. Our secretary, Jane, read the minutes and gave a quick treasury report because Stephanie was sick as well.

Guy, our run coordinator, has planned another ride on the 22nd of this month and left it open for the destination to whoever recommends the best place. Andy, our merchandise person, will be bringing new ideas for our clothing line real soon. Norm, the Safety /PR Coordinator, talked about some new laws for this year \$\$\$.

Pat, our membership Hippiie, is busy with getting all the renewals and stuff going, it's a very big job and she can do it! Hey all, if everyone brought in a new member this year we will double our membership, hmmm. I say this because it felt thin tonight, I know it's the first meeting of the year and such, but the start of the New Year has to be spot on, we have a lot of great stuff on our agenda and we ALL need to be here so as we can ALL be working together, besides the camaraderie and fun at these meetings. Our meetings consist of news, general interest, laws etc. from our local scene to state and country, besides we really miss ALL who couldn't make it!

As our famous Father of the Country, General George Washington once said as he was crossing the Delaware River in the winter, "It sure is cold out here, heck, I'm moving to So Cal where I can ride year round!" On that note, I hope that we ALL have a safe 2012, this is the year to enjoy your freedoms, in a responsible way that is. PTL Norm e. New

Local #19 Pomona Valley

Hello! 2012! Ready or not, it is here. Our elections last month has a couple of folks taking on new challenges. Diane will be our new Vice President and Ed will be covering the Treasurer's responsibilities. Robert will be our President again and keeping us up to date on PAC.

Attendance was down a bit toward the end of last year but, hopefully, it will start to pick up again since the holidays are behind us.

The toy run close out meeting will be this month and we will see what was generated to put toward this year's event.

Start making plans to attend the Southern Regional Rally this year. I think it will be at the same location and last year it worked out pretty good. Also, you can bet that we will be involved in the Run For The Wall this year and any Casa Colina

event that may take place. Let's get started making plans early so we are better prepared.

Meetings are still being held on the fourth Wednesday of each month at the Round Table Pizzeria on 4th and Mountain with a 7:00 pm start time. Come out and join us!

I look forward to seeing you out there on the road. In the mean time, keep the shiny side UP! Ed.

Local #20 Orange County



ABATE started off with our first Board Meeting of the year (1/8) and the 2012 Freedom Rally at the State Capitol in Sacramento on January 9. We had great weather. We had the South steps completely filled. It was an awesome turnout. Moonie, Gin, Squirt, Spike and Gill attended from Local 20.

Bill AB 1047 was passed 14-0. Mr. Solorio gave a good speech.

Bill AB 695 failed to pass even though all the bikers came up to the podium and stated our names, our Local and we supported the bill. We had 1,400 letters.

We got back in time to go to our Local meeting that night. Spike spoke at the PAC meeting and briefed us what is going on. 38 people were in attendance. We had 4 guests: Natasha Fletcher, Bald Eagle Jack, Jerry Enright and Maggi Mahoney. This is an election year so we have to work hard.

Spike was the lucky winner of \$30 for the January drawing. He gave \$15 back to the treasure chest. Squirt.

Local #21 Antelope Valley



The toy run was the best we ever had at the Moose Lodge. We were able to raise bucks for the kids of Antelope Valley and even sent some to the state office. It was manned by Glen and Jack; then Sporty showed up. What a blessing! We only had

LOCAL NEWS

three to run the show, but it was great to see my old friend and he jumped right in. Talk about true bikers, Jack and Sporty rode a very long way. Both have three balls.

Jack was a Merchant Marine long ago and has been around the world. Very interesting stories. Jack is one true biker, rides everywhere and hates cars. Thanks for your help my friend.

Just got back from Local 21's December meeting. Glen got a hundred more to give the Moose from Palmdale Robertson Honda - thanks! And my wholesale house, Desert Industrial, pitched in another \$100 - thanks Desert! They sell plumbing stuff.

So I and Glen were the only ones at the meeting. No pitch, but Mark did drop \$15 for the lobby fund earlier and I'll cough up for the funds.

Next month is our dark month so send in some money anyway you dogs. If this slack attendance keeps up, we may shut it down for a while, we'll see.

Glen has a Palms to Pines run coming up. He is without a doubt Mr Run Organizer.

Well enough chatter. See you in February. Love from Local 21, Daryl.

Local #23 San Bernardino



New Year, New Board Members, New Resolutions, New Hope! As we enter 2012, I am sure we are all hoping it will be a better year for us all. Local 23 is making plans for the year and have high hopes that our fund raisers will be profitable and successful.

Membership has made a resolution to obtain at least one new business member, and to recruit or renew 5 members.

Save the Date: May 19, 2012, Biker Rights Poker Run, plan to attend. Flyers are printed and in circulation. Tammy Odell, Membership.

Local #24 Fresno

December's meeting was reflective as we met on December 7th. President Ed opened the meeting with the Pledge to the flag by the 32 members present.

The attendance at our Santa Cruz and Turkey Runs was down from past years, but we still

came out ahead. We thank all of our members that helped out in our efforts.

The Local 24 Christmas Toy Run will be this weekend. We will have gifts for about 110 kids and food boxes with turkeys for more than 40 families. Big thanks to all of you that donated over this past year. This enables us to continue the Toy Run without using any money from the Local 24 accounts.

Chuck passed out the Ride Planner for 2012. Of note is the AMMO Run on April 12 - 16th. Some motels are almost full even at this early date. Reservations should be made soon at the Cayucos Motel of your choice. Ed has reserved a block of rooms, so give him a call.

The new owners of the Stone House Tavern in Auberry joined ABATE and gave us a run down on their operation. Good place to ride too, in the foothills.

There will be a group going up to Sacramento for the January 2012 Board of Directors meeting and the Rally on the capitol steps. More about this at our January 4th meeting.

Treasury looking OK for this time of year, about the same as past years. Membership is 109 regular plus 15 Business.

Member's name drawn for the Membership drawing not there, so next month we draw for \$60.00. Bruce

Local #25 Sacramento



Happy New Year to All! Local 25 had a booth at the MMA toy run and received hundreds of signatures and got one parking meter sponsor. At the last MMA meeting in Rancho Cordova, MMA stated they are donating \$100 for 4 parking meters. While at the Tumbleweed Inn, the owner also donated money for one parking meter. Dr. David Allen is also one of our parking meter sponsors.

At our December 15, 2011, meeting we held our elections: President - "Rebel" Ruthi Wolfson; VP - Ruby Weber; Secretary - Teresa Haller; Treasurer - Joe Rendon; PAC - Lil' Dave Morena; Sgt at Arms - Lenny Phillips.

I'd like to thank the out going officers for their hard work and service to the organization. For without these people, the organization would not have survived.

In February we are planning on having our first yearly event in the form of a Chili-Cook-Off. Nothing set in stone yet.

I would like to thank all that showed up at the Capitol steps on January 9 for the state freedom rally. It was my first one here in CA. Also kudos to all that stepped up to the microphone outside and to those inside the Assembly Transportation committee to voice their support for the bills we have been fighting for.

I want to thank the founder of Army of Angels, Kathleen De Spain Moore, who helped us to get the media to the event. I also want to thank Sioux Colombe from P.E.A.C.E. and her boss, Mary, from Crime Scene Studios who supplied us with more media coverage. They were doing the videotaping themselves and the interviews as well.

This past weekend, January 14-15, ABATE Local 25 set up a booth at the Easy Rider Show in Sacramento. Unfortunately we were unable to get new memberships, but I collected 47 names with email addresses, so hopefully out of that number we might get a new member or more, after I send them an information email.

I want to thank all that volunteered to help this past weekend: Lenny Phillips, Gary Haller, Teresa Haller, Joe Rendon, Ron Delano, Dave "Topgun" Battles, Kathy Battles and, Lil' Dave Morena. You all did a great job of talking.

I have spoken with Steve from Local 33 and sent messages to CrayZ Alexander from Colfax about us joining efforts together to put on events as one whole group.

Rebel Ruthi Ranting and Raving.

Local #27 Riverside



Our Elections were held at our December meeting and new officers will take their positions for January. They are: President - Greg Covell; Vice-President - "Duck" Tom Russo; Secretary - Ken Nuttall; Treasurer - Faith Sherman; Membership Officer - Ida Snyder; Merchandise Officer - Jack Howell; Safety Officer - Bob Marshall; Advertising/ PR Officer - Jack Howell; Judicial Officer - Nicholas Schneider; Web Controller - Greg Covell; Face book Admin. - Faith Sherman; Riding Committee Chair - Kevin and A.J.; Run/Event Committee Chair - Lee & Lorraine Davidson.

By the time we read this, all of our Christmas Runs will be completed. I earnestly hope all were successful, and everyone finished the year with joy and happiness in their heart. Our Turkey Run this year, (done in conjunction with The Geezers M/C), on December 17 was very successful. We

LOCAL NEWS

had nearly 300 turkeys plus one ham and dinner fixings to donate to Riverside's Salvation Army. They distributed these meals to the same number of families.

In Sacramento, our Board of Directors meeting and Rally on the steps of the Capitol was January 8th and 9th. The Board of Directors meeting was sparsely attended, but those that showed up were able to share ideas and problems enabling each of us to be aware of new ideas and the fact that we are not alone in our struggles to keep our Locals alive.

The Rally to make our voices heard, primarily about AB 695 and AB 1047, was well attended with many independent riders, MMA, and many clubs making a strong supportive showing. Visiting with the Legislators and their staffs was eye opening and provided many opportunities to reiterate ABATE's views.

It was somewhat disappointing that so many riders chose to leave before the Transportation committee met, but enough stayed to fill the room and AB1047 was passed by a huge majority and will go directly to the floor for a vote this month. However, once again, AB695 did not pass and helmets are still **mandated** for all who ride.

All in all a great educational weekend. There were a few surprises, but, I'll save them for later.

Want to know what's happening here locally? Check our website www.abatelocal27.org. Keep your Eyes Wide Open, Greg Covell, President Local 27, gmcvl@yahoo.com.

Local #44 High Desert

Since I was out of town and missed the first Local 44 general meeting of the year, this report will be somewhat short. First things first, "Con-



gratulations" to our new 2012 officers and thanks for accepting the responsibility of the day to day operation of Local 44!

We are looking forward to a great year here in the high desert and many ideas to improve and grow Local 44 were tossed around and discussed at our first officer's meeting. We are fortunate to

have so many versatile and talented people with both strong work ethics and a singular desire to better our Local. This new group has already started to lay down plans to make 2012 one of our best years yet. After witnessing the enthusiasm and energy displayed at the officer's meeting, I feel 2012 will be a year to look forward to.

Come on out to a meeting or come on back, if you haven't attended in a while, and rejoin the fun. Local 44 is on the move again - don't miss out, and don't get left behind! Dave H.

Local #58 Ridgcrest

Local 58 held elections for officers at the December meeting. The officers for 2012 are: President - Dave "Corny" Cornelius; Vice President - Robin "Pops" Vanderpool; Secretary - Deborah Vanderpool; and Treasurer - Sherry Collins.

As many of you know, Corny had a solo motorcycle accident on December 22. He was airlifted to Bakersfield where he laid in a coma for 2 weeks. As of this writing, he is awake and communicating non-verbally. He is improving slowly, but has a long road ahead of him. His visitors are limited to family members at this time, but should change by the time of this publication. For well wishers, the address is Kern Medical Center, 1700 Mount Vernon Ave, Bakersfield, CA 93306. The phone number is (661) 326-2000. Please contact the hospital before visiting, and sending live plants or flowers. Ride safe, Pops

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Pac/Lobbyist Report

by Dave Hastings, Treasurer

Welcome to 2012 and a new election cycle. This will be a very busy and exciting year for our ABATE members as we get another shot at influencing, and hopefully determining, the outcome of some of our upcoming California elections. Please contact Carol at our state office if you think you may have any personal influence or access to either a candidate or a member of their staff that deserves and needs our help. Our job is always easier if we have an "open door" waiting for us when we arrive at a candidate's office. Carol will relay any information you provide to Jim Lombardo and our ABATE PAC members will do their best to ensure our friends are elected.

Every candidate we help eventually returns the favor and votes for our issues are priceless. Freedom cannot be bought, it must be earned, and helping your candidate earns all of us respect, admiration, and if they are on the losing end of the ballot count, fear from every elected official in the state. We have our work cut out and are already mobilizing our troops to offer help and assistance to every elected official who is willing to help us. Get involved, get motivated, and get busy. The June primaries will be here before we know it and we have a lot of ground to cover!

Our ABATE Board of Directors voted to change our April and October state Board of



Directors meetings to an on-line virtual format to save additional money during 2012. We will still have a face to face meeting every January to coincide with our Freedom Rally in Sacramento and one in July at a southern California location so all of our members, north and south, will continue to have the opportunity to observe and participate in the Board of Director meetings. This being an election year, the PAC may need to have either additional meetings or also use an on-line format (which has already been used in the past) to reach a consensus on any items that may arise. Johnny O'Kane, Jim Lombardo, and Carol Cromwell will keep us updated as the year

progresses. Please make sure your email address is correctly listed with the state office so you don't get left off the info/voting list this year.

Last item for this article is finances. ABATE of California made many changes during 2011 to help us weather the financial destruction every member has personally endured the last few years. We have survived two years of huge deficits in our ABATE organization and I want to be the first to say "Thank You" to our Board of Directors for having the courage to implement the necessary but probably unpopular changes made to our business format last year. More importantly, I want to say "Thank You" to our loyal ABATE members for having the faith to stand by and support those badly needed, and I'm sure for some of you, painful, questionable, changes. Bottom line, ABATE of California has streamlined our operations, consolidated our Locals, and now, even though we have fewer members and less annual income, we have again become profitable in 2011.

Please continue to support your Local, please don't forget your state office and your lobbyist, and we will have a profitable 2012 also!

Thanks to you, ABATE of California has again returned to a position of power and influence, and will continue to guide and shape motorcycle rights and legislation in California and the nation.

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

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COAST TO COAST BIKER NEWS

Compiled & Edited by Bill Bish

ILLINOIS MOTORCYCLISTS CAN NOW LEGALLY RUN RED LIGHTS: Motorcyclists in Illinois will no longer be stuck indefinitely at stoplights, as effective January 1 the Land of Lincoln joined eleven other states that allow riders to proceed through malfunctioning red lights.

Sensors that trigger light changes often aren't sensitive enough to detect motorcycles, which prompted the Illinois legislature to pass HB S860, supported by ABATE of Illinois, which allows motorcycles stopped at a red light to go through the light if it doesn't turn green after a "reasonable" amount of time.

Illinois Governor Pat Quinn vetoed the bill, claiming it "endangers our motorists" because it allows the motorcyclist to determine how long is "reasonable," but both the House and Senate voted to override the veto and the original bill became law.

The new law, as now on the books, states: "After stopping, the driver of a motorcycle or bicycle facing a steady red signal which fails to change to a green signal within a reasonable period of time because of a signal malfunction or because the signal has failed to detect the arrival of the motorcycle or bicycle due to the vehicle's size or weight, shall have the right to proceed subject to the rules applicable after making a stop at a stop sign as required by section 11-1204 of this code."

The law applies only to municipalities with a population of less than two million, so the city of Chicago is exempted.

Similar so-called "dead red" laws have been enacted in Minnesota (2002), Tennessee (2003), Arkansas (2005), Idaho (2006), Wisconsin (2006), North Carolina (2007), South Carolina (2008), Missouri (2008), Oklahoma (2010), Kansas (2011) and Virginia (2011). In Texas and California, state law requires stoplights to be fitted with sensors that detect motorcycles.

LAS VEGAS CLUBS SUE OVER POLICE HARASSMENT: A group of Nevada motorcycle clubs is suing Metro Police, accusing the Las Vegas police department of violating the constitutional rights of bikers. The Confederation of Clubs and Scoundrels Pub filed the lawsuit Wednesday, January 11, claiming that "The police are interfering with private business and telling private businesses that they cannot allow certain motorcycle clubs inside their private businesses."

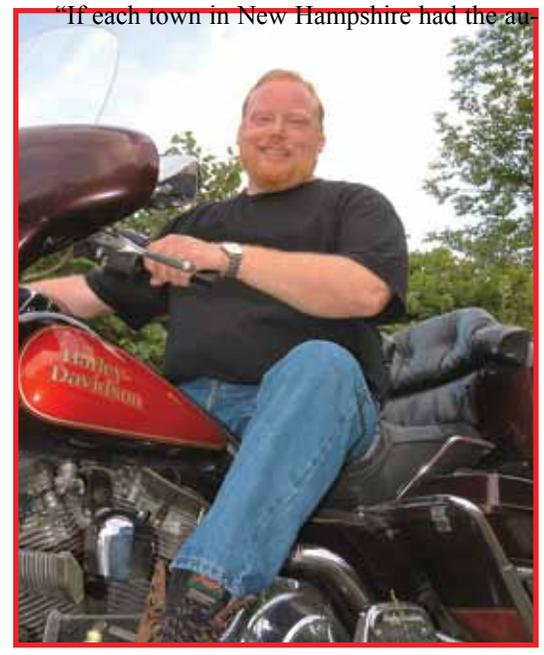
Their attorney says Metro Police officers harassed bikers and threatened to pull liquor licenses at local biker bars, like Scoundrels, based solely on the businesses' clientele.

The lawsuit includes a letter Metro PD sent to Scoundrels Pub last June that states an event involving the Vagos Motorcycle Club violated Clark

County code and could put the pub's liquor license at risk.

"We've not asked for a penny. We don't want money. We just want to get recognition of the situation and get the Metro Police Department to give us our constitutional rights. That's all we're asking for," said Bandido Motorcycle Club Las Vegas President Rich Novicelli in an interview with CBS-affiliate 8NewsNow. Metro declined to comment.

JUDGE BARS N.H. TOWNS FROM ENACTING STRICTER NOISE LAWS: New Hampshire cities and towns cannot impose limits on motorcycle noise that are stricter than what state law allows, a Rockingham County judge has ruled.



authority to enact different noise emission ordinances, the state would be subject to a checkerboard pattern of laws," ruled Superior Court Judge Kenneth McHugh on Dec. 9. "For example, a motorcyclist who complies with the state noise emission limit could be precluded from driving through a town because that town enacted a lower noise emission limit than the state."

The judge's decision comes in response to a lawsuit filed by the Seacoast Harley-Davidson dealership, which filed suit against the town of North Hampton, successfully arguing the town did not have legal authority to adopt its own motorcycle noise ordinance.

North Hampton adopted a noise ordinance at a May 2010 Town Meeting, requiring all motorcycles operated in the town to have exhaust noise limited to 80 decibels. State law permits motorcycles to reach 106 db.

After the ordinance passed, the local police chief refused to enforce the ordinance, describing it as unconstitutional and explaining that law enforcement and the town could face legal action if

they enforced a lower noise threshold than state law allows. Similarly, McHugh found the local ordinance to be "in direct conflict" with state law and ruled the town of North Hampton "is hereby prohibited from adopting or enforcing the ordinance."

In granting the permanent injunction, the judge noted in his decision that the N.H. House of Representatives' Transportation Committee rejected a bill to enact a law that was similar to the North Hampton ordinance.

McHugh also noted that the town administrator was notified by the federal Environmental Protection Agency that it does not grant cities and towns "any additional authority to control environmental noise beyond that available to them under state and local law."

House Bill 1442 has since been introduced in an attempt to lower the state's motorcycle noise limit to the federal standard of 80 dB and would require that any motorcycle brought in for servicing to have EPA-compliant mufflers installed at that time. Similar measures have failed to pass three times in the past four years due to what the bill's sponsor calls "fierce" opposition from the powerful motorcycle lobby.

LIVE FREE AND RIDE: A New Hampshire legislator wants his state's "Live Free or Die" slogan emblazoned across motorcycle license plates. While he hasn't straddled a bike in some years, State Rep. Tim Copeland (R-Stratham) said "it's a great saying" that shouldn't be limited to license plates on cars and trucks.

He said the idea was hatched at a convention for lawmakers where candy trays were sold that were made by inmates out of defective license plates. While looking at those candy dishes, Copeland wondered why the quote — from a toast made in 1809 by General John Stark — isn't celebrated on the backs of motorcycles.

Rep. Copeland said there would be no additional cost to the state and he's been told there's nothing logistical to prevent stamping the state slogan onto the smaller motorcycle plates.

Copeland's bill is with the House Transportation Committee and proposes replacing the word "motorcycle" at the top of all motorcycle plates with the state motto.

SOUTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR PROMISES TO VETO A HELMET LAW: Less than two years after a State Supreme Court ruling barred the city of Myrtle Beach, S.C. from enforcing a mandatory helmet law stricter than the state's requirement for riders under 21 to wear them, a helmet law for all motorcyclists statewide has been introduced in the South Carolina legislature.

Senate Bill 1046 was read in Senate for the first time Tuesday and has been referred to the transportation committee. South Carolina required

Continued from Page 12

all riders to wear helmets from 1967 until 1980 when the legal mandate was limited to young riders. The attempt to change back to a comprehensive helmet law is opposed by groups such as ABATE of South Carolina which is challenging the bill saying that they have no problem with helmets, but don't agree that it's the government's responsibility to police personal safety.

Governor Nikki Haley met with biker rights lobbyists recently on the steps of the State House, where she promised them she would veto the bill. Gov. Haley, a member of Lexington County's ABATE, told bikers at the capitol that the senate has more important matters to focus on. She told them to tell their legislators, "Don't waste your time," because even if it does pass, she'll veto it.

In 2007 the state formed a motorcycle safety task force to look at ways to lower fatalities. That group did not recommend a mandatory helmet law.

Currently, only 20 states require all motorcyclists to wear helmets, 27 only require them for younger or inexperienced riders, while three require no helmet use at all.

FRENCH TO REQUIRE REFLECTIVE RIDING APPAREL: "Ride to be seen, but ride like you're invisible" is sound advice for all motorcyclists, and wearing bright colored reflective riding gear is one way to be more conspicuous in traffic and avoid getting ran over by distracted and inattentive drivers, but France will soon be enforcing legal measures to ensure that motorcyclists are seen.

French officials apparently take motorcycle visibility so seriously, they're making it illegal not to be noticed. According to a new rule in their highway code that takes effect January 1, 2013, riders and passengers aboard any bike bigger than 125cc will each be required to wear at least 150 square centimeters of reflective fabric on their upper bodies -- and according to British motorcycle activists

Riders Are Voters, France already requires reflective stickers on helmets.

FIRST MOTORCYCLE-ONLY GAS STATION OPENS ABROAD: More motorcycles are sold in Indonesia in a year than exist in the entire United States of America! According to the Indonesian Motorcycle Industry Association (AISI), 7.4 million motorcycles were sold there in 2010, and by comparison there were 7.9 million motorcycles registered in the U.S.

There are significantly more motorcycles than cars operating in this densely-populated region, and of 70.71 million vehicles in Indonesia, 52.43 million are two-wheel machines, which has led to the opening of the world's first motorcycle-only gas stations.

These "Shell Motor Express" stations are designed exclusively for motorcycles and it was the Indonesian government's idea to provide "comfort, safety and time-efficiency" for the majority of the country's commuters.

Shell Indonesia says: "This motorcycle gas station is a pilot project developed in response to the Government's idea to provide a dedicated refueling service for motorcycles. Shell Motor Express is purposely built to serve motorcycles which are the largest and fastest growing segment in the domestic motor vehicle industry."

WEIRD NEWS: DIRTY SECRET ABOUT GAS PUMPS: Gas pump handles top a recent study of filthy surfaces, so just when you thought filling up couldn't hurt any more, medical researchers have announced another reason to avoid touching the gas pump: GERMS!

Gas pump handles turned out to be the filthiest surface that Americans encounter on the way to work, according to a study released on October 25, 2011 by Kimberly-Clark Professional, a unit of personal hygiene giant Kimberly-Clark Corp. A team of hygienists swabbed hundreds of surfaces

around six U.S. cities to see what everyday objects are breeding grounds for the worst bacteria and viruses.

The top offenders, following gas pumps, were handles on public mailboxes, escalator rails and ATM buttons. Closely following on the filthiest list were parking meters and kiosks, crosswalk buttons and buttons on vending machines in shopping malls.

"It comes down to the fact that nobody cleans the things that you're going to touch on a daily basis," said Dr. Kelly Arehart, program leader of Kimberly-Clark's Healthy Workplace Project.

MOTORCYCLISTS FINED FOR WEARING DOT-APPROVED HELMETS: In a strange twist, motorcycle riders in Mumbai, India are being hassled by law enforcement for wearing DOT-approved helmets because, in an effort to curb the use of cheap helmets, the police commissioner recently issued an order stating that all motorcyclists must wear helmets with an ISI marking to certify that they are approved by the Bureau of Indian Standards.

So, despite wearing some of the finest helmets in the world, with certifications from the U.S. Department of Transportation which subjects helmets to higher standards of testing, police are issuing tickets to safety-conscious riders for wearing "unapproved helmets".

In typical bureaucratic fashion, authorities have reportedly forwarded an application for recognizing DOT-certified helmets to the transport department "which is the competent authority to make an appropriate decision."

QUOTABLE QUOTE: "Politics is the art of looking for trouble, finding it, diagnosing it incorrectly and applying the wrong remedies." ~ Groucho Marx (1890-1977) American comedian and film star.

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Sporty's Rides

by Lee 'Sporty' Milligan

Hello all! Welcome to a new exciting chapter in Sporty's Rides. This is a New Year and hopefully it will be a prosperous one for you. May you all be healthy and happy though this year.

The Sunday after Thanksgiving I attended Local 21's run (something called the Happening run). Only a couple of the Local members were there to put this gig on; Daryl, who has been an ABATE member forever and three other members to be exact. The starting point was a Moose Lodge in Lancaster. Route was about 35 miles long. One of the stops was Lancaster HD. I ran into, Kat, the counter lady. She remembered me from when she worked at Van Nuys HD. about 6 years ago. Van Nuys HD is now Old Road HD in Santa Clarita. In case you ever get asked that trivial question. The complementary news was she said I still looked good. Wow! What an ego boost for the likes of me! Oh, before I forget, must tell you Kat solved my electric vest problem. She sold me a \$6 accessory cord and my co worker, Paul, that I work with in Malibu told me to go to a TV repair shop to get it spliced in and, bam, that's what happened and, boom, it is fixed. Sweet stuff.

So I did the route and my hand was crappy, so no prize money for the hand. I think I won a raffle prize (yea baby). Ran into Crash and Ice-man from the Shaggers MC and Crash bought me lunch. What a nice guy. Thank you ABATE Local 21, the little Local still hanging on after all these years. I had a good day.

December 4 was Local 19's toy run in Ontario at the same place it's been at for ever - the Elks Lodge. Usual stuff except it was just me solo this time. Waited at Peter Daniels' house for other members, but alas just me. Saw a lot of folks that I have not seen in months and had my usual fun time. Passed out flyers for our toy run etc. No raffle prizes won this year. Oh well. So once again fun was the order of the day being a slight smart ass as well was nice. Thanks Local 19 for the usual pleasant time.

December 11 was Local 1's Fred Jordan toy run. Starting at the famous Glendale HD. This run is our Local's toy run. Buffy and her sister and Gloria and Sharon Anderson help man the ABATE table while the rest of us, Glen C, myself, Steve B, and others were out to collect donation money and sign up folks for the run. Because Local 1 does the insurance it allows Oliver the owner of Glendale HD, the ability to use the shop grounds for the starting point for the toy run. The toys are given out at the Fred Jordan Mission on Towne at Fifth in downtown skid row LA. At the mission the MC, Sarge Matthews, does an excellent job of thanking the principles who make this run happen. He is a good speaker in that regard.

December 10, the night before the toy run,



was the Shagger Christmas party in Quartz Hill. Thank God I had my electric jacket liner fixed. It was essential because it was extremely cold on the ride home. They do a white elephant gift exchange. However my number was 105 so it was close to 9 pm when I got to select a prize and by then I selected the same stuff I brought. Food was good and folks were clean and sober. This chap-

ter of the Shaggers is a clean and sober club. Yea baby, Sporty is busy bike wise.

Local 1's meeting at the Elks Lodge had a small attendance on the 19th of December. We're making plans for the Polar Bear run February 26. Christmas was ok, but not like years passed. I miss my Mom and Dad, but that's life I guess. I must be losing that hard edge like my Mom said I should try to lose. Anyway life is still pretty good. I have a paid-off house that I live in with my wife and our three doggies. (Ok, Sporty just keep writing the column dude.)

The last week in December I was still working at the arboretum in Arcadia, that's where the trees fell over with broken branches etc. We're cleaning the place up. I was asked to do overtime on Friday, December 30. It was the day the street sweeper comes by, and yes, they will definitely ticket you. So I had to move my truck (the little truck that could aka my 89 2x4 Toyota pick up) because I ride my bike to work. I parked it on the other side of the street one house down from my house so it's at the house on the corner locked up with my trusty club lock. Anyway I got home from work and there were cars in front of my house so I left the truck there and went to the AA meetings like I do on Fridays. I got home at 10:30 pm and there was still no parking in front of my house. So I went to bed. Up at 6 am to do another meeting as a favor to my sponsor. Finally at 12:30 pm the street in front of my house was empty and I had an opportunity to move my truck. Yeaks! My passenger side window was broken out and my radio was stolen as well as three boxes of my CDs. MY TRUCK HAD BEEN VIOLATED. I called the cops and finally a San Fernando city officer came and took a report. He said that I was lucky that I did not live in Sylmar or Pacoima or it would have been VIOLATED more than once. It cost about \$330 because I was so dependant I took it to the dealer and said, "Fix it." Well you can imagine my mind set at this point. It has been hard, but like life it goes on.

The trip to Sacramento will have to wait for the next installment, as I need to stop and gather my thoughts. Sometimes life is two steps forward and six steps back. Anyway it's been a pleasure writing the column. It's whimsical at times, but well that's ok. Till next time be good to yourselves. Regards Sporty.

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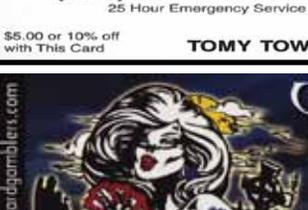
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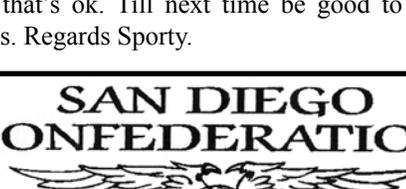
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 Sy Nazif (RiderZlaw, Business Member Local 20);
 Ken & Raeanne Nuttall (Local 27);
 Johnny O'Kane (Local 22);
 Bart & Wendy Perry, (Local

David "Deacon" Phillips, (Founder of ABATE of CA.)
 For their "Sustaining Membership" – and anyone else who signs up as a Sustaining VIP Member will receive an individual copy of the Bailing Wire snail mailed to them (the month it is physically printed); a Certificate of Appreciation (suitable for framing); their individual Membership card with their name and V.I.P. printed on it; And their names printed in the Bailing Wire under Sustaining ABATE Members.
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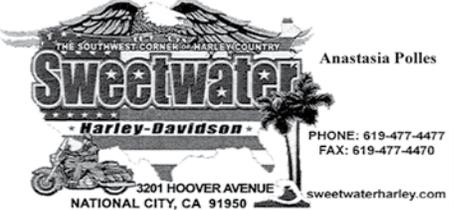


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The Next Step for Safety

By Steve Guderian,
Safety Officer

Before I can really start with any safety information there are a number of things that I must cover first. The most important thing that must be covered at the onset is respect for John Del Santo. There is no way that I can ever replace John, nor would I even try. John was a very dedicated long term ABATE of California member and Bailing Wire contributor. I have been reading John's pieces in the Bailing Wire since I joined ABATE. From what I've read, it was John's intention to make sure that only the best safety information was presented to the ABATE membership through the Bailing Wire. Since I cannot fill John's shoes, it is my responsibility to honor his memory. To that end, I will do my best to provide current and useful safety information for the ABATE members as well as all riders whom we may come in contact with.

The next most important thing for me to do is to thank the California ABATE Board members and members at the general meeting for the confirmation as the ABATE of CA Safety Officer. It is an honor for me to have the position, and to have the opportunity to follow the lead, and the example, set by John Del Santo. It is my goal to be able to always provide the ABATE membership with the most current rider safety information that I am aware of, and to be able to answer any questions posed by any member at any time.

So, who am I? My name is Steve Guderian and I have been involved specifically with the topic of motorcycle safety for a few years now. It was through my work in this area that I was able to meet, and work with John Del Santo and a few other ABATE members. I actually do have a resume' specifically related to motorcycle and/or motorcycle rider safety, (I think this is something that maybe we should work on changing, motorcycle rider or motorcyclist safety is really what we are concerned with, a motorcycle is an object). I provided the Board members with a copy of my resume' to review in considering me for this position. And of course, anybody who requests a copy I will be more than happy to provide them one, and I will also talk with the ABATE office about keeping a current copy on file for anybody to review. "Current" being the key word here, because it is currently not up to date, I have more things to add.

Rather than listing all of my qualifications, I will simply tell you about one of them, because it in essence encompasses all of them; I am a court recognized "Motorcycle Rider Safety" expert. That is, I have actually testified in court as an expert regarding the safety actions and riding of a motorcyclist. What this all means is that I have a broad background and experience in all aspects of motorcycle rider safety.

As for rider safety, I would like to say a few things about my position; I believe that motorcyclist safety is everybody's business and responsibility. To this end the ABATE membership has the ability and necessity to question me on anything that I say regarding rider safety they may not agree with. The only way everybody learns and moves forward is through open discussion. I honestly and truly believe this and I am always open for discussion on anything that I say. It is my intention to only write about and discuss information that is based on the most recent studies, data or observations. The observation portion of this will always be open for discussion. However, I am going to be right up front right now, the odds are very high that if you start a discussion with "my uncle's best friend's second cousin talked to a guy who says he saw....." chances are I am not going to put a lot of credibility in your position/argument. Now, if you bring verifiable facts and data to me that supports your position I will not only admit my error, I will give you credit for the info and try and do further research/investigation on the topic. To me, this is what rider safety is all about.

I am also very interested to know what people want to hear about or find out more about. Let's talk! Send me any questions or info, any topic, anything that you all think is important, needs to be discussed, or you think others might like to learn/know more about.

As for my general vision it is Education, Education and Education. This is what the 'E' in ABATE does stand for, so it seems like a good idea to go in this direction. It is my hope to be able to provide current information associated with rider safety for all. That is, I and we not only need to be able to "educate" ourselves, but we also have to be prepared to educate anybody else who can affect our safety. Furthermore, I think that if we provide accurate and well presented information to everybody else that can affect us, we can ultimately be a little more successful in fighting for our own rights. At least this is what I like to think. If I am wrong anywhere with this, please let me know.

As my first point of safety and education, I would like to make sure that the following is understood, so I am putting it in my first piece as Safety Officer, ABATE of CA *is* *not* the "anti-helmet group." As a little side note, it might be very beneficial to all CA motorcycle riders in the long run if all ABATE members work on making sure the right information and image gets communicated to everybody. ABATE is a rights organization and is interested in making sure that all CA motorcycle riders have freedom of choice. This is my position also. In fact, one of my motorcyclist safe-

ty professional positions is this; "In order to make the right decisions motorcycle riders need the right information." Furthermore, in the interest of freedom of choice I can tell you that my background and experience dictates to me that I will always choose to wear a helmet. It is my responsibility to communicate all of the information I know of to all, so that they can be educated and make their own decisions on this subject.

And, here is some information for consideration. In 2004 the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) released a report that in essence says helmets are 37% effective at reducing fatal injuries in motorcycle crashes. In a 2007 draft report on the analysis of hospitalized motorcyclists in the State of Maryland regarding rider helmet use and non-use from the University of Maryland, the study suggests that the likelihood of sustaining a brain injury increases with the use of non-compliant helmets versus compliant helmets. My words, now not wearing a helmet could be considered the same as a non-compliant helmet, but it was not looked at in this study. This study also found that the injury distribution for all of the riders were 27% to the face and head and 28% to the thorax.

This Maryland study did not list an effective percentage for the helmet. But, it is interesting to notice that there were more injuries to the chest area than to the head, and not all of the head injuries resulted in death. So, if we compare this information with the NHTSA information then it would seem that maybe there is some conflict. Additionally, other medical studies and the first NHTSA helmet study put the effectiveness at 20 to 29%. This begs the question as to why the 2004 NHTSA study all of a sudden shows an 8% increase in effectiveness.

I can say that I have looked at the NHTSA study and I am in the process of writing a paper that provides some discussion on the study and its weak points. When I finish the paper ABATE will be one of the first to see it.

In the meantime, keep this little bit of info in the back of your mind; if we look at the CA crash data since 2000, we can see that about 70% of the fatal motorcycle crashes were the fault of the rider. Let's say this another way, if we were to randomly pull 10 fatal motorcycle crashes here in the state, then 7 of those 10 crashes were caused by the rider. This is a far cry from the Hurt Study. So it really looks like things are changing and we need to change too, which means we need to make sure we ride safe out there all of the time!

Email me at Galileo-g@sbcglobal.net anytime!

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2012 ABATE Events

ABATE 2012 Events
ABATE Of California, Inc
 web site www.abate.org/Events

February 26 – ABATE Local 1, Los Angeles – 25th Annual Polar Bear Run (see flyer this issue for details.)

March 4 - ABATE Local 17, Vacaville - 24th FYAO Poker Run.

April 12 – 16 – ABATE Local 24, Fresno – AMMO Run

May 11, 12, & 13 18th Annual Southern Regional Rally (see flyer this issue for details)

May 19 – ABATE Local 23, San Bernardino – Biker Rights Poker Run

July – ABATE Quarterly meeting – Date & Place

TBA, (will be in Southern CA.)

September 14, 15 & 16 – Annual Golden State Rendezvous (aka ABATE State Run)

October 13 – ABATE Local 17, Solano & Napa Counties – Fall Bingo Run

Please email your ABATE Event information (in Microsoft word document) and Flyers (in a JPG file) to bailing.wire@abate.org by the 15th of the month to be listed in the next issue. Your flyers MUST be in a jpg file to be used in the Bailing Wire. Your event flyer will also be on the ABATE web site on the Events Calendar. Don't forget to get your Run insurance – contact the ABATE State office for the information.

Membership Report

by Lee 'Sporty' Milligan, Membership Chairman

Greetings and welcome to the first membership column for the New Year, 2012. First I would like to thank all the membership who got new members and those of you who got business members as well. There are a couple of members who need to be singled out as going above and beyond the call of duty to get members. The special mention for the members for last years drive are Gil Mellen Local 20, Jack Howell Local 27, and Dave Cornelius Local 58. Again, a debt of thanks to those that signed up new members.

The 2012 membership drive will start January 1 and will go to December 31. So start collecting those new members!

Look for the sale of the special membership funding raffle tickets in the upcoming months. The gig on this is that they help fund the membership drive in its entirety. Use the tickets as a membership renewal trinket. Example: A member renews so send him or her a short note thanking them for renewing, include in the letter a couple of membership funding tickets. This

gives them a couple of shots to win the \$250 money portion of the membership drive. They will appreciate that you cared enough to do this gesture.

Trinkets to reward members who renewed in your Local are easy to do. The Locals can come up with ideas for trinkets to give their members who renew.

You have your new membership roster for 2012 and with your old list you can see who did not renew. Make an effort to contact them to see why they dropped out. This information will give us an idea behind what's keeping some members from staying on board with their renewal. Ok this year try to maintain your membership numbers.

If you have any concerns about membership, I am at your service via email at sportymilligan@yahoo.com or my home phone 1-818-361-8800.

Finally remember there is strength and unity in number of members. Regards, Sporty Milligan

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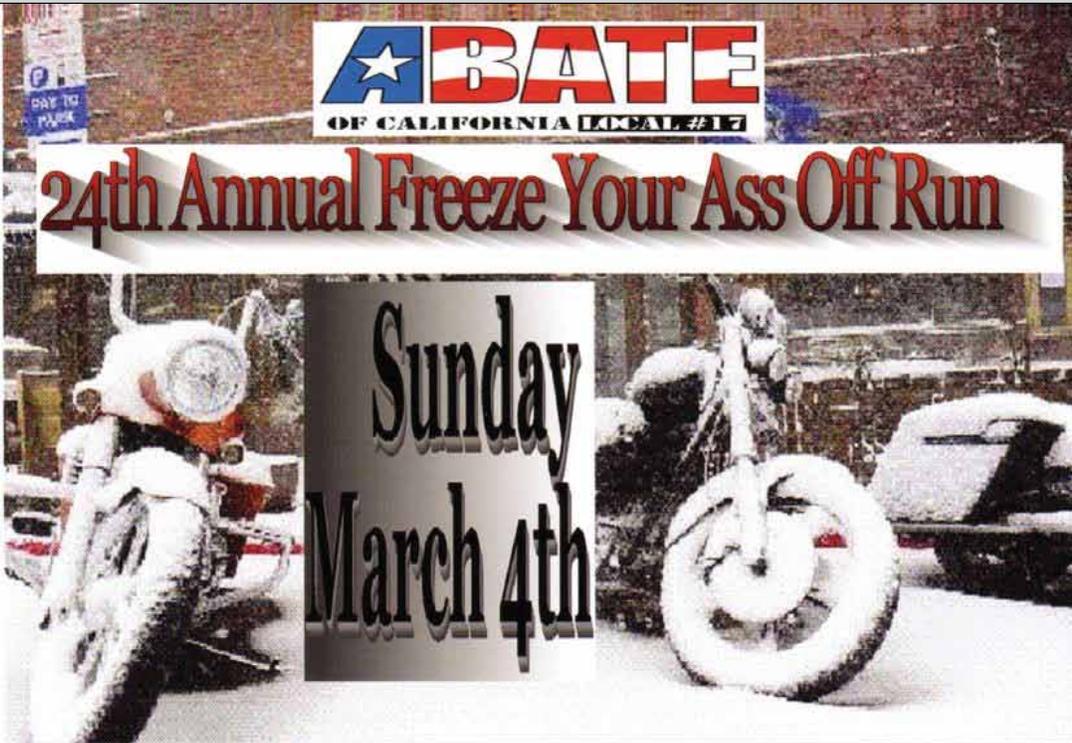
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According to the Donate Life California Organ & Tissue Donor Registry approximately 20 percent of those waiting for an organ transplant nationwide live in California. One out of three patients waiting for a transplant will die due to a lack of life-saving donors.

More than 8.6 million Californians have already checked "Yes!" to register as a tissue and organ donor. With every donor, up to eight lives can be saved through organ donation and another 50 people can be helped through a tissue donation. The DMV has made it easier to become a donor by including the option on the new driver license and ID applications and it has been a success. In fact, 94 percent of all California donor registrants have made this generous choice thanks to the partnership between the DMV and the Donate Life California Organ & Tissue Donor Registry.

For additional information regarding Donate Life California, please visit www.donateLIFEcalifornia.org. For more information about signing up to be an organ and tissue donor through the DMV and the other online services the DMV provides, please visit www.DMV.ca.gov.



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Tech Tips

By Craig Griswold

Carburetors

Starting with the 2007 model year, all Harley-Davidson motorcycles have been equipped with Electronic Fuel Injection. While fuel injection is now the rule, there are still plenty of carburetors out there. This next series will cover some carb basics as well as specific tuning procedures for a few of the most common (and maybe a few uncommon) carburetors.

There are three basic circuits in most carburetors. They are defined in function by their effect on the RPM range. Different manufacturers will use different terminology to identify these circuits. The first is the idle or pilot circuit. This controls fuel delivery at idle and just off idle. The primary adjustment for tuning the idle circuit is the air/fuel mixture screw. Depending on design, opening the mixture screw will either add fuel or air during adjustment. We'll clear this

up when we discuss tuning procedures. In most cases, at least one jet is used in conjunction with the a/f screw to regulate the idle circuit.

Next is the intermediate or mid-range circuit. This circuit runs the show just off idle to approximately 3000 RPM. As before, this range can vary depending on the carb. Just to make it clear as mud, some manufacturers use throttle position for tuning reference, some use RPM, and occasionally actual speed over ground is thrown in there. The intermediate circuit can utilize jets and or needles for fuel metering.

The third circuit is the main circuit. This controls delivery where the intermediate leaves off all the way to WFO. In most cases, the main is controlled by a jet.

Most modern carburetors also utilize an accelerator pump. This device provides a shot of fuel when the throttle is opened. The initial demand for fuel is usually greater when the throttle is opened fast. The idle circuit alone cannot provide enough fuel under this condition, and the engine will stumble and cough through the intake due to a lean condition.

In our next column, we'll explain the tuning procedure for the S&S Super E/G carburetors.

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



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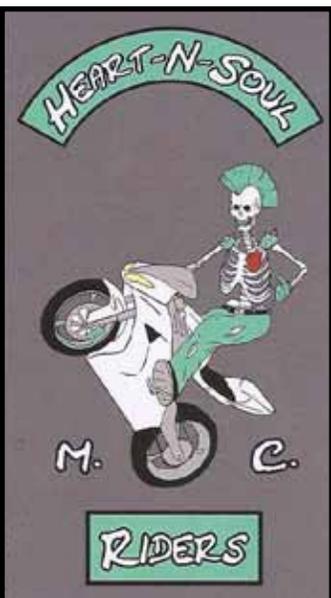


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The first photo is Jack Howell Santa (aka Duck aka Thom Russo Abate 27 VP) and Greg Covel second santa again third Members of the Geezers MC loading the Salvation Army Truck Members of the Geezers, Salvation Army and Local 27 pose for a group shot.
Donald Kline




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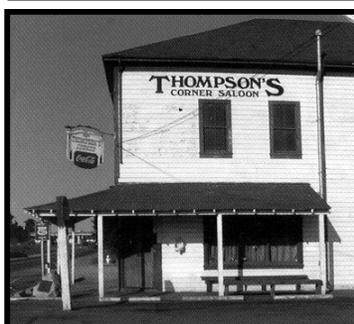
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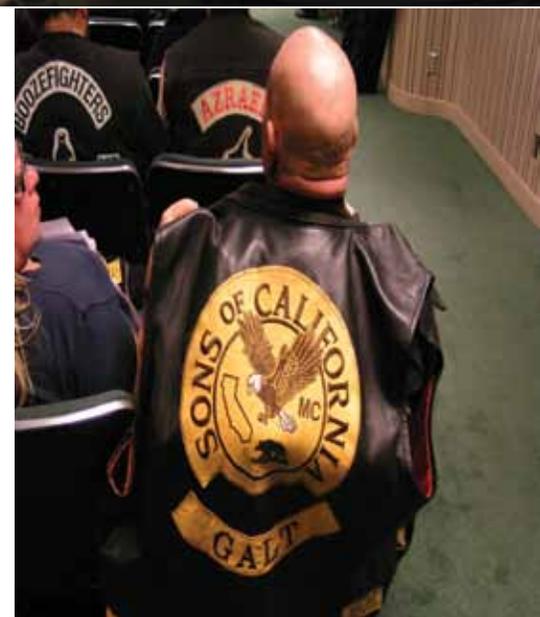


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Local 24 2011 Toy Run

It was a cold, somewhat overcast day on December 10, 2011. More than 30 riders and bikes gathered at Cedar Lanes for the yearly Local 24 Toy Run. Donations from our members, both business and individual had filled a pickup truck with 56 frozen turkeys. In partnership with Sunnyside Community Church many cases of canned foods were purchased. Of course, to keep with the namesake of this run, there were many, many Christmas presents for the kids.

Leaving the bowling alley the group rode downtown to go by Mathews Harley Davidson, the oldest business member of our Local. Working through traffic we rode out of town to Sunnyside Community Church. We were welcomed with coffee, hot chocolate, and cookies.

After a blessing prayer from the pastor, each family selected gifts and was given a turkey and boxes of food. Some families were unable to come to the Church, so boxes were delivered to them. Santa Claus, played by Dallas arrived in time to help out with the gifts.

It was another great way for us to end the year. The presents and food boxes are a necessity for some of the families at this time of year. In addition the kids sure like motorcycles.

Local 24 also donated many boxes of Christmas and note cards to the Veterans Hospital with \$118.00 worth of postage stamps.

Remembering and helping others is a very important part of what we do each year.

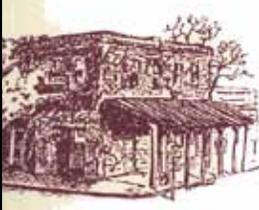
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- 27 Southern California Motorcycles
Brea 714/256-6700
- 27 Tactically Armed Citizen
LaVerne 928/380-8481
- 27 The Chopper Gallery
Temecula 951/699-9090
- 27 The Chopper Place
Riverside 951/687-6655
- 27 The Lucky Greek
Riverside 951/737-3162
- 27 Timeless Classics
Barstow 760/662-9247
- 27 Union Air Conditioning
Costa Mesa 866/352-1987
- 27 Wright Bros Customs
Redlands 909/794-1593
- 27 Zorba's Restaurant
Riverside 951/662-9189
- 28 Brick Tavern
Kelseyville 707/279-4964
- 28 Lori Adams Massage Therapist
Lakeport 707/262-1899
- 31 Dave's Boots Sales & Repairs
Red Bluff 530/529-5466
- 31 Halls Harley-Davidson
Chico 530/893-1918
- 32 Kaplan Chiropractic Offices
Campbell 408/374-4220
- 36 Biker Supply House
San Bernardino 909/327-2828
- 44 Desperados Leather Apparel
Hesperia 760/947-2000
- 52 49er Auto & Bike Repair
Grass Valley 530/272-3242
- 52 Renegade Rider
Grass Valley 530/273-4644
- 52 The Willo
Nevada City 530/265-9902
- 52 Thunder Roads Magazine
NorCal Orangevale
www.thunderroadsnorcal.com
- 52 Two Gunners Custom Iron
Penn Valley 530/263-8071
- 52 Wild Fire Construction
Nevada City 530/265-5493
- 58 IWV Insurance Agency
Ridgecrest 760/446-3544
- 58 Mickey's Pub & Grille
Ridgecrest 760/446-0805
- 58 Outrage'n T-Shirt Co
Ridgecrest 760/499-1985
- 58 Ridgecrest Pizza Factory
Ridgecrest 760/446-PIZA
- 58 Sierra Cocktails & Supper Club
Inyokern 760/377-4814
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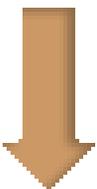
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H.R.'S BEAR PATCH
3 X 3 1/2 PATCH
You probably recognize this patch from way back, originating from Local 27 Honda Ray



Order Form 01/2012	Item #	Qty.	Price	Total
ABATE Hat Red/Gold	06-141		\$ 15.00	
NEW ABATE of California Hat Red/Gold	11-311		\$ 15.00	
ABATE Hat White/Silver	06-142		\$ 15.00	
9 X 6 Oval Sticker	06-160		\$ 5.00	
Bear Patch	07-177		\$ 8.00	
ABATE EMBLEM Large 12 X 9	07-174		\$ 40.00	
Medium 6 X 4	07-175		\$ 25.00	
Small 4 X 2	07-176		\$ 15.00	
Motorcycle License Plate Frame	Top 06-180		\$ 12.00	
Bottom 06-181			\$ 12.00	
Car License Frame	09-182		\$ 15.00	
ABATE of CA 2 color design Pin	07-172		\$ 5.00	
ABATE of California Knit Blanket 60 X60	07-137		\$ 55.00	
Can Cooler	07-165		\$ 2.00	
ABATE T-Shirts Mens	Qty.	Qty.	Qty.	
Navy Pocket Medium 07-191		Ice Gray Medium 07-194		Sponsor T's
Large 07-192		No/Pocket Large 07-195		Medium 09-218
X-Large 07-193		X-Large 07-196		Large 09-219
		XX-Large 07-206		
NEW Educate Not Legislate White T-Shirts				
Pocket Small 11-321		No/Pocket Small 11-315		Longsleeve Small 11-326
Medium 11-322		Medium 11-316		Medium 11-327
Large 11-323		Large 11-317		Large 11-328
X-Large 11-324		X-Large 11-318		X-Large 11-329
XX-Large 11-325		XX-Large 11-319		XX-Large 11-330
		XXX-Large 11-320		XXX-Large 11-331
			Total T's	X \$ 20.00 =
ABATE Tank Shirts	Qty.		Qty.	
Medium 08-213			Large 08-214	
			Total Tank Shirts	X \$15.00 =
ABATE T-shirts Womens	Qty.		Qty.	
Powder Blue S/Sleeve Large 07-200			X-Large 07-210	
Heather L/Sleeve Large 07-202				
NEW EDUCATE NOT LEGISLATE WHITE T-Shirts				
Short-sleeve Small 11-322		Long-sleeve Small 11-337		
Medium 11-333		Medium 11-338		
Large 11-334		Large 11-339		
X-Large 11-335		X-Large 11-340		
XX-Large 11-336		XX-Large 11-341		
			Total Women's T's	X \$20.00 =
ABATE Pull Over No Hood Sweatshirt	Qty.		Qty.	
Large 07-301			X-Large 07-302	
XX-Large 07-303				
			Total Sweatshirts	X \$ 35.00 =
Promotional Items	Key Tags pkg. of 20	07-163	\$ 9.00	
	Reflective Flag pkg. of 25	07-164	\$ 12.00	
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760-956-1669				
				Sub-Total
				Add 20% to Total for Shipping & Handling
				TOTAL

Los Angeles - Local #01-Reg#8
 Sporty Milligan 3rd Sun-9 AM
 1616 4th St Elk's Lodge
 San Fernando 91340 10137 E. Commerce
 818/361-8800 Tujunga, CA

Simi Valley - Local #02-Reg#8

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

Thousand Oaks-Local#03-Reg#7

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

San Gabriel Valley - Local#05-Reg#8

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

San Diego County - Local #06-Reg#12

Steve Martin 1st Sunday - 12 Noon
 C/O P.O. Box 7998 Kate Sessions Park
 San Diego CA 92167 Pacific Beach
 619/223-0421

Orange County - Local #08-Reg#11

Jered Yates 2nd Mon. 7:30PM
 5031 Tripoli Ave American Legion #354
 Los Alamitos CA 8071 Whitaker, Buena Park
 714/393-7174

South Orange County - Local #09-

Reg#11

Cory Toroian 2nd Tues. 7:00 PM
 949/496-2936 Call for Meeting Place

San Diego County (North) - Local #11-

Reg#12

Tim Clark 2nd Sun - 11 AM
 13641 Silver Lake Dr. Oakvale Country Store
 Poway 92064 14900 Oakvale
 858/748-0524 Escondido

Ventura County - Local #13-Reg#7

Scott McCool Last Thurs. - 7:30 PM
 VFW Post #3935
 300 Surfside Dr.
 805/657-2454 Pt. Hueneme CA 93041

Alameda County Local#14-Reg#3

Houdini 1st Wed 7:30 PM
 510/575-1500 The Florence
 37349 Niles Blvd., Fremont

Contra Costa County - Local #15-

Reg#3

Bob Blatz 3rd Tues - 7:00 PM
 P.O. Box 269 Fuddruckers
 Concord CA 94522 1975 Diamond Bl. #E260
 925/427-5135 Concord

Solano & Napa Counties - Local #17-

Reg#3

Glenn Phillips 3rd Sun. - 10:00 AM
 P O Box 148 Judy's Wild Wrangler Saloon
 Vacaville 95696 4826 Midway Rd.
 707/624-6310 Vacaville CA

Pomona Valley - Local #19-Reg#9

Robert Cuthbertson 4th Wed - 7:00 PM
 P O Box 4664 Round Table Pizza
 San Dimas 91773 1020 N Mountain
 909/921-2159 Ontario CA



ABATE MEETINGS

Orange County - Local #20-Reg#11

Gill Mellen 2nd Tues - 7:00 PM
 2104 Continental Ave. Franciscan's Best Western Inn
 Costa Mesa, CA 92627 2642 Newport Blvd.
 949/632-9787 Costa Mesa CA 92627

Antelope Valley - Local #21-Reg#13

Ron Sundquist 1st Thurs - 7:00 PM
 37230 52nd St. East Moose Lodge
 Palmdale 93552 44545 Dvision St
 661/586-5555 Lancaster 93535
 ron.sundquist@sbcglobal.net

South Bay - Local #22-Reg#11

Suzanne Palmiere 1st Thurs - 7:30 PM
 310/245-0543 Chowder Barge
 suzpalmiere@aol.com 611 N. Henry Ford
 Wilmington 90744

San Bernardino - Local#23-Reg#9

Kevin Sorrell 1st Sun 9:00 AM
 Vickie's Restaurant
 909/793-1112 502 S. Waterman Ave.
 San Bernardino

Fresno - Local#24-Reg#6

Ed Rogers 1st Wed. 7:00 PM
 559/264-2891 Cedar Lanes
 3131 N. Cedar, Fresno

Sacramento - Local#25-Reg#2

Rebel Ruthi Wolfson 3rd Thurs:7:00 PM
 916/320-6439 Denny's
 Abate.ca.local25@gmail.com 3520 Auburn Blvd.
 Sacramento 95821

Riverside - Local#27-Reg#9

Greg Covell 1st Tues - 7:00 PM
 P.O. Box 7070 American Legion
 Riverside CA 92513 2979 Dexter Dr,
 951/522-3434 Riverside, CA 92513
 www.abatelocal27.org

Morongo Basin - Local#29-Reg#10

Marty Rapp 2nd - Thurs - 6:30 PM
 P.O. Box 2334 Odd # Months
 29 Palms CA 92277 Call for meeting 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

Santa Clara Valley - Local #32-Reg#4

Last Sun. 9:30 AM
 Sherwood Inn
 2988 Almaden Expy
 San Jose

Yuba City - Local #33-Reg#2

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

Palm Springs - Local #36-Reg#10

Closed

Imperial Valley - Local#38-Reg#12

Bob Brown Last Thurs - 7:00 PM
 606 Tangerine Dr SOBE's
 El Centro CA 1151 S 4th St.
 760/352-7995 El Centro

Bakersfield - Local#40-Reg#6

Omar Macias 3rd Tues. 7:00 PM
 661/832-5240 Rusty's Pizza
 661/900-8690 5430 Olive Dr
 Bakersfield 93308

High Desert - Local#44-Reg#13

George Butterfield 2nd Sat - 9:00 AM
 P.O. Box 3094 Eagles Fraternal Order
 Victorville CA 92392 16195 Main St.
 760/954-1227 Hesperia

Barstow - Local #47-Reg#13

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

Grass Valley - Local#52-Reg#2

Steve Shoemaker 3rd Wed - 6:30 PM
 P.O. Box 356 Larry & Lena's Pizza & Grill
 Chicago Park 95712 15690 Johnson Place
 530/798-0001 Hwy#49 Grass Valley

Ridgecrest - Local #58-Reg#13

Rob Vanderpool 3rd Sat 10:00 AM
 P.O. Box 853 Mickey's Pub
 Red Mountain CA 1661 W. Triangle Dr.
 760/382-4713 Ridgecrest

Colfax - Local #60-Reg#2

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

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