

# The Bailing Wire

ABATE of CA. Newsletter for Motorcyclists

Volume XXIX

ISSUE VI

## June 2010

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



## Regional Rally Pictures on pages 14-15



## Lobbyist's Legislative Report

by James Lombardo, Sr.

There's a lot's happening this month - June Primary Elections, Pavley's motorcycle muffler inspection bill, Share the Road freeway signs appeared for May and because California's \$20 billion in the hole, Red Light Cameras are back.

Our list of Endorsed Candidates is out and posted on our website! Check for a Candidate in *YOUR* area to help. *THEN*, go and volunteer at least just *ONE DAY!* At the Capitol Rally in April, many people thanked me for all that I do to protect our freedom to ride! I asked them then, and you now, to volunteer for at least a one day shift to help an ABATE endorsed candidate in their election campaign.

If your Assembly Member or Senator is not endorsed, look for one nearby and work in *their* campaign. Many thanks also to those individuals and Locals, who have contributed to the PAC fund. The money is being strategically contributed to those races in which we think we can make a difference, and win! So give us a day of volunteering, *PLEASE*.

I have it on good authority that Senator Fran Pavley's bill, SB 435, will be amended shortly to emphasize the enforcement of modified motorcycle muffler systems by requiring law enforcement personnel to check if the required muffler identification stampings (since 1982) match the bike that the muffler is on, to meet legal noise (and by extension) emission requirements.



**GET READY FOR A BRAWL!** Sign up some new members and bring them to the Capitol to pack fourth floor Assembly Transportation Committee hearing room number 4202, where our helmet law repeal bill was heard last year. Whatever it will cost you to

take that day off from work will be cheaper than having to replace your exhaust system (if you can even find the original parts, any more).

This needs to be taken very seriously; its author Pavley, got AB 32, the greenhouse gas ban bill, through against the strong opposition of almost every business group and labor union in the state (and country). Keep writing your letters to the Transportation Committee - **OPPOSE SB 435!**

To help close the gaping \$20 billion budget deficit, Governor Schwarzenegger has, once again, included speed camera ticketing in his May Budget Revise. This will authorize cities, counties and the state to put speed enforcement cameras on any street, road or highway to be able to send violators a \$450 fine plus a point on their driving record. Our cash-starved cities and counties are looking to these "peeping toms" as a revenue generator, so to force this from the proposed budget will be another tough struggle!

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

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

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## Jim from page 1

We've all heard horror stories about Arizona's speed cameras which are about to be eliminated because of the driving public's opposition, there. On behalf of ABATE, I testified against this earlier this year, and joining me in the opposition were the Teamsters Union, Auto Clubs and the CHP Union. We were the only MRO or highway user group to oppose it.

Republican Assembly Minority Leader, Martin Garrick, ushered in "May 2010 Is Motorcycle Awareness Month" by authoring HR 29 for us. Due to the efforts of John Del Santo, and me in Sacramento, we were able to persuade the CHP to get Caltrans to run the "Share the Road With Motorcyclists" freeway signs during May to further promote motorcyclist awareness.

I have been working on using the freeway signs to promote motorcyclist awareness already for nine years, as I reported in last month's *Bailing Wire*, but we never stopped pushing for it. This shows that, although progress can be very slow in Sacramento, being persistent can pay off! I'm also continuing to pressure Caltrans to also post our message during the heavy summer riding season.

Finally, check the ABATE website and sign up for our Leg Alerts - you know that if you receive one, it isn't **SPAM**; it will be important for you to act on it **TO PROTECT OUR RIDING FREEDOMS!**

See you in Sacramento or at the next Board Meeting in Pomona on July 24.

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## Executive Director's Report

by Anthony Jaime, Executive Director

Greeting Brothers, Sisters, & Friends: The anti noise crowd is hard at work to mitigate what they perceive as excessively loud and harmful exposure to motorcycle exhaust. Now I'll be the first one to tell you that long prolonged exposure to sustained high levels of sound can be detrimental to one's hearing, and depending upon the type of noise, possibly even affect our mood. As example of how loud noise "can" be harmful, and certainly guaranteed to influence one's mood, just crank up some of that alleged "music" that is favored by kids today where the "vocalist" sounds as if he has just stepped upon his own "family jewels" and you will see not only my mood begin to swing from a happy carefree mood to one of increased irritability and anger in which no boom box or iPod or any other form of offending electronic media is safe from my wrath and/or hammer!

Realistically though, unless you work in a motorcycle environment where you are constantly exposed such as a race team or a shop, how often are you going to encounter a motorcycle in your everyday travels or on your job or in your home? Unless you live in close proximity to a biker bar, motorcycle shop, racetrack or some similar type of operation, chances are slim.

They are slim because motorcycles only comprise 3% of the total registered vehicles on the road. Sure there are concentrated areas such as large runs or bike nights but those are normally pre-planned events of short duration, scheduled well enough in advance that nearby residents should be prepared. Otherwise, you might go about your daily routine and travels without ever encountering a solitary motorcycle. And typically, motorcycle noise is transient in nature and of a passing nature. And some events even tout that noise is an integral part of the event through the names that are chosen such as Thunder on the Lot or Rolling Thunder. Just the word "thunder" evokes a mental image of immense sound but on the other hand, thunder is also a transient experience

and once in a while it is good to experience a little of Mother Nature's noise pollution to keep ourselves properly humble about our place in the grand scheme of things.

Regardless, I rarely hear or see another motorcycle within my neighborhood until I venture out onto a major thoroughfare. And my neighbors rarely hear mine either because as soon as I start the engine, I start idling towards the main drag and get the hell out of dodge where I won't bother them when I start to twist the throttle. I'm sure many of you are just as courteous towards your neighbors, so how is that we keep getting such a bad rap nationwide on issue of noise pollution?

First of all, we can thank the biker ste-



reotyping of Hollywood for fueling much of the anti-biker sentiment that we accrue today. But we can also thank many irresponsible members of our own motorcycling community for the increased problems of noise we are facing. There is a time and place for just about everything and my perspective is a little noise once in a while is a good thing. But as we, as motorcyclists, begin to face the issue of noise pollution, there are many issues the anti-noise crowd is not coming clean about. They attempt to maneuver people onboard their platform under the guise of motorcycle noise being physiological harm-

Continued on next page

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

## Executive Director's Report

### ABATE OF CALIFORNIA, INC.

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Mellen & all our Members

#### COLUMNISTS

Bill Bish, John Del Santo, Peter Daniels, Tony Jamie, & Craig Griswold

#### DEADLINES

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

#### AD RATES

Business Card \$15.00 /Mo.  
\$150.00 /Yr.  
Double Size Business Card W/Color \$250.00  
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Add \$75 per year for color business card.

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Members may advertise in the Classified Section at no charge.

#### PHOTOS

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

ful but there is another side of noise that I have just become aware of that involve studies in behavior modification or perhaps manipulation would be a better choice of words.

Noise researcher/writer George Prochnik tells us "For years social scientists and marketers have been scrutinizing the links between loud music, fast tempos, and drinking habits." What is even more frightening about these studies is that these folks have figured this science out in fine degree, such that they know how to use this information to manipulate people into chewing faster, drinker faster, and finish dining faster, all in an effort to boost corporate profits. According to Prochnik, one example of such behavioral modification studies came when "In the mid-1980s, researchers at Fairfield University demonstrated that people increased their rate of chewing by almost a third when listening to faster, louder music, accelerating from 3.83 bites a minute to 4.4 bites a minute. Stoked with data of this nature, chain

restaurants, such as Dick Clark's American Bandstand Grill, developed computerized sound systems that were preset to raise the tempo and volume of music at hours of the day when corporate wanted to turn tables."

Moreover, Prochnik informs us "a study completed in the summer of 2008 in France found that when music was played at 72 decibels, men consumed an average of 2.6 drinks at a rate of one drink per 14.51 minutes. When the sound level was cranked up to 88 decibels, the numbers spiked to an average of 3.4 drinks, with one consumed every 11.47 minutes. No wonder I'm thirsty after going for a ride?"

My point here is that there are a great many more people who are exposed to noise levels as high as motorcycle exhaust in such seemingly innocuous places as our favorite restaurant at happy hour, be it Chilis or Chuys, than those who are simply exposed to motorcycles. How many of you have ever walked out of one of these places with your head and ears ringing from the ambient noise level of the crowd. So, as we wander through the corporate cultural wasteland of America, one thing becomes

apparent - noise it's only bad if it caused by those nasty old tattooed up bikers but if you're a "corporate personhood" as recently established by the Supreme Court, it is okay to produce noise to modify your customer's behavior to increase your profit margin.

My advice is that we in ABATE begin to place a little emphasis on the issues surrounding noise pollution so that we can be prepared to tackle this problem before we are inundated with legislation and test parameters that we will find to be too restrictive and unworkable. Let's be pro-active and not let the powers that be, or those that would like to be, rule the day on the issue of motorcycle exhaust. Until next month, ride hard, ride safe, & ride free!

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For your convenience... use your favorite credit card

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General Fund  PAC Fund  Lobbyist Fund

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#### Circle type of membership

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|-----------------------------|----------|
| 1. Life Single              | \$450.00 |
| 2. Life Couple              | \$650.00 |
| 3. Gold Business            | \$125.00 |
| 4. Gold Business W/color    | \$200.00 |
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| 6. Single (1 year)          | \$30.00  |
| 7. Couple (1 year)          | \$50.00  |

Patch for New or Year Pin for renewal received?  Yes  No

Mail to:

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# Northern California Regional A.B.A.T.E. Rally

## July 16 & 17, 2010

*Kelly's Kamp, 8220 Scotts Valley Rd, Upper Lake 95485*  
*off Hwy 20\**

*Hosted by A.B.A.T.E. Local 28, Lake County, Local 17 Solano/Napa, Local 31 Chico*

### Same Price as 2009

**Admission \$50 in advance\***

**\*Includes 2 nights tent camping  
& Saturday Night BBQ**

**RV's Welcome—Hookups Xtra**  
 Shaded sites for Tents & RV's

**Early Registration thru  
June 30th**

**\$60 after June 27th**

Registration opens at  
NOON Friday

**Saturday Day Pass \$20**

*(Includes BBQ)*

**Kids under 12 Free**

**Must be under Adult  
Supervision at all times!**

**Gas 5+ miles from Camp**  
**Beautiful Riding Everywhere**

For Tickets or Info:

Lori (707) 277-7171  
 lmadams55@hotmail.com

Melissa or John (707) 263-1845  
 melissaf@pacific.net

### Ye Old Swimmin' Hole

*No Soap Allowed*



\*From SF, SJ, Santa Rosa, take 101 north to Hwy 20 (just north of Ukiah), turn east. About 15-20 minutes, just east of Blue Lakes, right turn on Scotts Valley Rd. Kelly's Kamp less than 1 mile south on your left.

**From Hwy 5 at Williams**, turn west on Hwy 20, approximately 45 minutes to Scotts Valley Rd., turn left to Kelly's Kamp.

### Music on

**Friday & Saturday**

**6 to 10pm**

**RAFFLE + 50/50**

**BEER ON SITE**

**Sat ~ Explorer's Ride**

**Games ~ Horseshoes**

**Tattoos on Site**

**Vendors**

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# Tickets \_\_\_\_\_ X \$50 = \_\_\_\_\_  
 After June 25th #Tickets \_\_\_\_\_ X \$60 = \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Your A.B.A.T.E. Local # \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

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# **ABATE** *State Run*

*Golden State Rendezvous*

*Party On The Kern River*



*September 17, 18, & 19, 2010*

*Frandy Campground, Kernville, California*

*All bikes, all riders welcome.*

*Come join us for live shows, games, music  
a poker run and more in the  
scenic Kern River Valley*

*<http://www.myspace.com/abateofcastaterun>*



## Local #01 Los Angeles County

Hi all! Local 1 reporting in this month. Our May meeting was canceled due to the fact our meeting place hall was not available the third weekend of the month. Our Local members Steve and Linda Kerr, Steve B, Jim Nickla and Mr. Peter Daniels and myself, Sporty, were at the Southern Regional Rally and worked the raffle booth, which I am chairman of.

So we hope the rest of our members will return to our meeting spot the third Sunday of the month at the usual time and place listed on the back of the Bailing Wire. Thanks, regards, Sporty.

## Local #02 Simi Valley



First of all thanks to the Warthens, Frank and Jane, for letting us have our monthly meeting at their house due to a last minute change they were able to be wonderful hosts! We even had our famous BBQ with all the fixins and Oreos, yummy! Thanks to our volunteer cooks Steve and Frank! We still had a good showing of ABATERS; because of them we ruled the day! With an American flag in our presence we still did our Pledge of Allegiance.

Our hard working Prez Ray opened the meeting and talked about our plaque given to us by the city of Simi Valley recognizing May as Motorcycle Awareness month, I still see the signs on the freeways; all 2 wheelers are very thankful! Ray also talked about our Sweaty Buns Run and we got the official flyers out. It will be on July 25 and we have a new and exciting end of run location, it will be awesome! There is only one way to find out where the ending is and it's a happy ending!

# LOCAL NEWS

Linda, our PAC rep, talked to us about the bills still out there and that we need to continue to press on and get them signatures so we can continue our fight for all our freedoms! If you want your hog to sound like a Goldwing then do nothing!!! Our secretary, Jane, read the minutes and Stephanie, our treasurer, says we be rollin in the bucks. Guy, our merchandize expert, says we have the goods and two new items that will be in high demand, so get your buns to our next meeting to see these hot items for sale!

We still need more volunteers for our run in July, we have sign up sheets at our meetings, your help is appreciated and we still need raffle prizes. This will ensure ABATE a successful run! It's time for all Local 2 members to step up to the task at hand, we have been doing good because of all your efforts, we miss all the members that couldn't make it to the meetings, remember this is our "one" day of the year that keeps us going for the entire year!

Think about this, you are on your bike riding the coast, mountains, where ever, it doesn't matter, you're free from a nagging spouse, screaming kids, mean boss, grumpy fellow employees, negative dwelling idiots, what ever it is, you are on your bike free from all of this, just thank all the volunteers from ABATE because you can enjoy your ride! And let the non-members know this, because they enjoy the same freedoms you helped preserve! PTL Norm e. New

## Local #06 San Diego County



Our monthly meeting happened during another beautiful, sunny San Diego day. There were many riders attending the meeting, some new faces, some old and some real old!

We welcomed visitors, signed some new members, took decibel readings on some aftermarket mufflers, and as usual, discussed biker politics. SB 435 is still lurk-

ing in the bushes, ready to strike, so we advised members to send another letter to the NEW Chair of the Assembly Transportation Committee, Bonnie Lowenthal, (916 319-2054 – PO Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249-0054) telling her that you are opposing Pavley's SB 435.

Besides the money that Local 6 donated to the Southern California Regional Rally, Jim Brown threw in an extra hundred bucks. Thanks, Jim.

**Our July meeting falls on the Fourth of July, so we have decided to cancel that meeting.** Between visits to the beach, the helmet law protest ride, and the annual event in Hollister, there probably won't be many people left in town on the Fourth for the Local 6 meeting.

Motorcycle Awareness month kicked-off this past week, and the road-signs were lit. Due to this program which ABATE is involved in, the 2009 statistics should show that motorcyclist fatalities will be almost 30 percent lower than last year while motorcycle registrations are up about seven percent!

Our next meeting is on June 8, at Kate Sessions Park in Pacific Beach, San Diego, at noon. C'mon down! And remember – **no meeting in July.**

## Local #08 Orange County

Our May meeting was a good meeting. We had one visitor, Gil, a member of the Board of Directors and President of Local 20. We had a review of upcoming events: Northern Regional Rally in Lake County and RIPS Bad Ride. Local 8 and Local 20 will put on the bike games at RIP's BAD RIDE. Daniel will bring the equipment for the bike games. Volunteer/workers: Ryan, Daniel, Jared, Karyn, Brian Powel.

Our Local 8 President for 2008 and 2009, James 'Taco' Hurst, died last month. We all owe him a "thank you" for his support and hard work. We lost a friend and hard working ABATE member. We will miss him.

His death and long illness left our bank account without a signatory. Ryan and Jared and Little David went to the bank and straightened out the account. We would like to thank Little David for making the long trip down to help Local 8.

Ryan reported we have two new members. Nancy resigned as secretary and Karyn

was elected to replace her. Carol will help out. The PAC report was given by Jared: SB 1134, AB 751, AB 1664 are all dead, AB 1952 changes permit process for teens; PAC supports. SB 435 is unfortunately still alive and may be heard the 1st week in June. Caltrans will have the Amber Alert signs up for one week in May, which is Motorcycle Awareness Month.

We discussed ways to raise money for Local 8, sell raffle tickets or gather a large number of prizes for Local 8 and Local 20 to raffle off at a Bike Night at Local 20's new meeting place. We can use your ideas and help gathering raffle prizes.

The Southern Regional Rally was this past weekend. The location is very good and everyone that went had a good time.

Ryan is doing a great job as President. Come to a Local 8 meeting and check us out. Larry

## Local #09 South Orange County



Hope you all had the opportunity to experience this year's Southern Regional Rally. The new venue was great! It's a beautiful location. Mark your calendars for next year and make a commitment to increase participation!

At our last meeting the guest speaker was Motor Deputy Spratt. It turned out to be a most enlightening program. Motor Deputy Spratt responded to any question we asked, even questions we were afraid to ask before.

We are making special arrangements for a great guest speaker for our August meeting. Keep looking for more details to follow.

We want to thank John Del Santo ABATE of California Safety Officer for his efforts that contributed to the Amber Alert signs Motorcyclist Awareness for the month of May.

'Till next time, Run Safe, Be Safe, Bad Bones.

## Local #11 North San Diego County



All I can say is WOW! What a great time we had at the Southern Regional Rally. We want to thank the run committee for picking a great campground. Way to go people!

Our Local did it again! We had the most percentage of people from a Local. We also had a new member sign up with us and he won the longest distance rider all the way from Virginia! We also had Jim Bob and Chad win the horseshoe contest. Great job guys!

Our next meeting will be back at the Oakvale Store. Come by and see our trophy. 'Til next month, Jim

## Local #13 Ventura County



Our focus lately has been on our Callous Cheeks Poker Run, but I'll get to that. First I'd like to cover the Southern Regional Rally held over Mother's Day weekend. Here's the simple version, if you missed this rally for any reason, you missed the best run in a long time. We flat out had a blast. All you folks that say we never do anything fun blew it by not attending the SRR in Anaheim Hills. We partied our asses off. It was great seeing old friends, and making new ones. Local 13 took the trophy for Best Campsite, and if they had an award for the loudest Local, we'd have been in the running for that as well.

Okay, back to Callous Cheeks. Our Trail Boss, Vic Alvarez, and the rest of the Run Committee have been working hard to make this year's edition of the 13th Annual Callous Cheeks Poker Run and BBQ better than ever. From what I've seen, they're going to do just that. We've got a number of vendors lined up this year, the usual Tri-Tip dinner that we're known for and, of course, the cash awards for high and low poker hands. We still could use a couple of hands

# LOCAL NEWS

to man poker stops or help with serving the meal. The run is on Sunday, June 13, and we're going to have a pre-run for all Local 13 members on Saturday, June 5.

We're still on the hunt for a permanent meeting place. Hopefully by the time you read this, I'll have that taken care of.

Prime riding weather is here, but be careful out there. Relatively cheap gas has the roads as crowded as ever, and the roads are in the worst shape I have ever seen. There are some big holes out there, and don't count on them getting fixed any time soon. I don't want to be reading about any of you in the paper. 'Til next month, Dave

## Local #19 Pomona Valley

Canyon RV Park Campground was an excellent place to have the Southern Regional Rally this year. With everything from a pool, mini store and showers to full hook-ups, fire pits and a laundry, how could you go wrong? It was great seeing people from other Locals and spending time with Carol, Tim and Tina. If you haven't been to this event before, start making plans for next year. It really is a lot of fun. A few folks showed up from Local 19 and set up a nice camping area to relax in.

We are getting closer and closer to the Thunder In The House event for Casa Colina Hospital. June 19 is the big day for the event and we are working to have everything ready. There will be cold beverages, a car show, bike show, live music, tri-tip lunch, vendors, displays, raffles, and games. Come join us at the Chino Fairgrounds for a day of fun and fund raising for the hospital.

The nice weather is finally here and there are more days we can ride without the need for heavy jackets or rain gear. The days are longer and it's easy to ride into the late afternoon and early evening. Every weekend has events for you to choose from and, let's face it, all of them are fun. Before you get out on the road, be sure to check your bike and make sure everything is working properly. As you all know, bolts get loose, bulbs burn out and some things just need to be adjusted. Taking the time to do this before you leave will help to ensure your ride will be safe and fun. Make sure you are well rested before you hit the road.

I want to take a minute to apologize to all the members of Local 19 for not getting an article in for the Bailing Wire last month. There has been so much going on that it just got away from me before I knew. I will try to not let that happen again. I have always enjoyed putting something together and seeing

Local 19 represented in the paper. We can all thank Carol and the folks at ABATE for giving us the opportunity. They are a great group.

Don't forget our meeting at B's Sports Bar at the end of the month. I hope to see you all there. In the meantime, be safe, have fun and as always, keep the shiny side up! Ed.

## Local #20 Orange County



Local 20 conducted their meeting on Tuesday, May 11, at the Good Ol' Boys Saloon in Garden Grove. Angela, the owner of Good Ol' Boys, put out a good spread of food for the meeting participants. We thank her for her generosity and thoughtfulness.

Various topics were presented and discussed such as, SB435, reduced fines on the 91 toll road, a recap of the Southern Regional Rally, and various upcoming MC and charity events. Volunteers are needed to help with the games for the upcoming Rip's BAD (Bikers Against Diabetes) Ride on June 13. Entry fees will be waived for volunteers. Contact Gill Mellen for more information.

Additionally, a campaign representative for Lt. Bill Hunt, running for Orange County Sheriff, came in to do a presentation for him. Thank you for Assemblyman Jose Solorio for helping the Bike Night at Good Ol' Boys Saloon

The next Local 20 meeting will be on Tuesday, June 8.

## Local #22 South Bay



Our meeting kicked off for May at Walker's Café in San Pedro. We had a good

turnout and slowly but surely we seem to be gaining some attendance and new members as well.

We, of course, discussed many issues on our biker's rights plate right now. One being the new signatures we continue to obtain in opposition of SB 435. Of course we are still trying to rack up as many of these as possible.

We also discussed the selling of the raffle tickets for our bike raffle in September. We still have plenty of time until our September 18 raffle, but we stressed to get out and sell them NOW.

We did receive a couple of raffle prizes at the meeting for the Southern Regional Rally. Now that the rally has come and gone I hope a few additional prizes were able to make it out to the campground. Unfortunately I was unable to attend the event.

Our next line of discussion was concerning the Motorcycle Awareness Month campaign. We had a proclamation that a few members were able to show up and receive on Monday before the meeting for the City of Huntington Park. We could always use more volunteers to start getting City Proclamations to help bring this campaign into the spotlight. The bad news about this campaign is that many city police departments seem to be using this as an excuse to set up motorcycle only roadblocks to assure us motorcycle riders are "safe". Many are even calling their operations "Motorcycle Safety Enforcement". This is, in my opinion, a terrible misuse of the programs ideas and completely misses the real point of what it "should" be about.

That's all for this month. Zap.

## Local #23 San Bernardino



A warm Local 23 hello to all of our fellow ABATE members and others who have stumbled on to this month's Bailing Wire. WOW! Although I was a late arrival, at our

# LOCAL NEWS

May monthly meeting, it certainly was a pleasing sight to see so many new faces sitting around the breakfast table and joining us for our meeting. I understand we signed a few of them up and hope to get a couple more of them nailed down soon. Hopefully, we will see as many new faces at the next meeting and the meetings to follow. If you're in the San Bernardino area, come join us at our next meeting on June 6, held at Jenny's Family Restaurant, 7750 Palm Ave in Highland. The meeting starts at 9:00 am. If you miss this one, catch the next, ABATE Local 23 holds its meetings on the first Sunday of every month.

We had a great turnout for the post meeting ride as well, Ratchet Ron had 12 bikes in tow as he lead us from Redlands to Riverside "the back way". What a great morning ride it was and we all arrived safely to the Local 27 Bare Necessities Run. After hanging around for a bit, a few Local 23 folks saddled back up and headed down to Lake Elsinore to check out the Bike Swap Meet that was being held down that way.

The Southern Regional Rally is in the history book now. I was not able to make it out myself, but I hope all who did attend had a great time and I look forward to hearing how the new location was received.

Not much else to report really. We're growing in size, so hopefully that means we've got a few more members that will be active and take some of the burden off of the few that carry most of the load. It's our Local, folks, and it is what we make of it, so lets all step up to the plate and do our part to help protect our Freedoms of the Road. Russ.

## Local #24 Fresno

On May 5, 36 members of Local 24 gathered at Cedar Lanes for our May meeting. President Ed opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and then turned the meeting over to Linda Halderman, MD who is running for the State Assembly in our District. She is a strong supporter of Motorcyclist Rights and a rider herself. State ABATE and Local 24 will work hard to insure she is elected. Check her out at [www.LindaHalderman.com](http://www.LindaHalderman.com).

We had a quick update on SB 435 which has been completely changed in the last month. We all need to sign up for alerts

on this bill and stay active to defeat it when it comes to a vote.

There are several rides and other events happening in May that will be over by the time this is published. Look ahead to the Delta Run possibly being held in July and the Coast Run on October 2.

The AMMO Run last month was a great trip. Unfortunately the bad local economy cut the attendance down. We did more than break even, but not as well as past years. The Treasury is still OK and we voted to send our monthly check to state ABATE. We are setting aside 10% from the monthly 50-50 drawing for Kid's Christmas presents on our Santa Claus Run. Membership is good and we have 14 Business Members.

The 50-50 of \$90.00 went to Keith. Membership drawing of \$20.00 would have gone to Doug Pini had he been there.

## Local #27 Riverside



Greetings from the abundant I.E. I say abundant because Greg Covell, Kenny Nuttal, Jack Howell and Ms Ida Snyder put on one heck of an event that actually raised funds for our Freedom!!! Congratulations ABATE Local 27 Run committee!

Now as for the general membership for ABATE Local 27 where were YOU????? We had a good turn out, but of the 80 plus members of the Local, well suffice it to say many were sorely missed. We did, on the other hand, have good participation from many other good folks and clubs. I understand that one of the Nuggets went down on the way over, it is hoped nothing serious occurred. The Salvation Army walked off with a generous portion of "New" underwear and socks for their ward's needs.

Now here is an official announcement: September 12 is the scheduled date for our fall "Poker Run or Not" event. Mark your calendar NOW!!! I am told that KCAL will be involved again and much fun is planned, so let's get the word OUT!!!

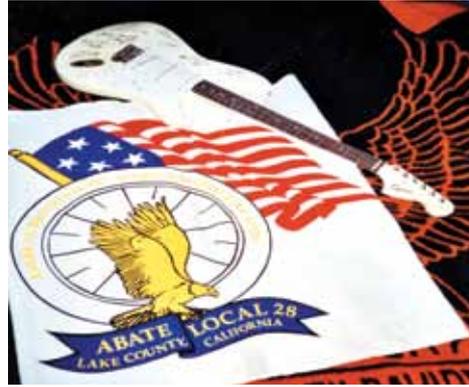
Jack Howell has gotten a space at the KCAL Beer Garden event where our information will be put forth for all and will put us out in new venues. As mentioned before we will be getting our MAM proclamation from the Riverside County Board of Supervisors at West Coast Thunder from Supervisor Jeff Stone, who has a lovely sister (drol).

We also are having a table on July 4 at the Red White and Cruise Event at the Fontana Raceway. Volunteers needed. We can do shifts, let me know. We are also maintaining a presence at the Bike Nights in our area, so we could use some help there too.

From my observation the "New" Southern Regional Rally seemed to be a BOOM! From what I was told the new location was great and from my limited outing I personally had a great time!

That's all for this month I am past deadline and have tried our editor's patience enough. Make it a point to step forward and help your Local grow. C'ya, HR.

## Local #28 Lake Country



We at Local 28 have a lot on our agenda this month with lots of new changes. We are going to change our meeting place to my house. I have moved and have lots of room for everyone plus plenty of parking and I will be BBQ'n for the meeting. Check the Bailing Wire for new address and time. Also Lake County has teamed up with Chico and Vacaville to help put on the Northern California Regional Rally this year. Look for the flyer in this month's Bailing Wire. Same place as the last 2 years but going to be a lot more fun filled events to keep everyone happy. So mark your calendar and plan on coming up north. It's a beautiful ride no matter where you are coming from. Until

next month, be safe out there and enjoy the weather. Lori Adams

## Local #33 Yuba City

In the twin river towns of Marysville and Yuba City we had picture perfect weather for our yard sale and Motorcycle Awareness Day!

Saturday, April 16, Local 33 President, Steve Katen, offered up his store front to sell items donated to ABATE for our upcoming Motorcycle Awareness Day. Several ABATE members staffed the tables overflowing with donated goods. By noontime Sunday nearly \$800 had been collected! Way to go!

Our April 16 meeting was short so we could get back to the yard sale. We voted to donate the yard sale money to Motorcycle Awareness Day. Pres Steve reminded everyone to log onto the ABATE website to get updated information on SB 435 and any other motorcycle related items. He also told us he received a "May is Motorcycle Awareness Month" proclamation from the Yuba County Board of Supervisors. They have supported ABATE for several years. He also got a proclamation from the Sutter County Board of Supervisors. This was a FIRST folks, so be sure to give him a pat on the back for his efforts!

We welcome our newest member, Ray Tanner. It is great to see the meeting growing each month. The success of ABATE relies on membership growth, so lets keep that new blood flowing in!

Sunday, May 2, was the ABATE/MMA Motorcycle Awareness Annual Rendezvous. The park was festive with booths and signs proclaiming "May is Motorcycle Awareness Month". There was even an electric road sign that flashed, "May is Motorcycle Safety Month. Be aware, lets all share."

Our free poker run was well attended with stops at Big Dawg Repair Shop, Stay Tuned Performance, Rohm Performance Machine, Guidera's H-D, finishing at Washington Square Park for the rally. The \$75 high hand was won by Teresa Haller of Outriders M/C. Independent rider John Allen won the \$75 low hand prize. Tuco of Marines M/C won \$100 on the 50/50 and Jackie from Browns Valley Bar won a beautiful leather vest donated by Brenda's Leather. The Gary Toledo Band played for hours.

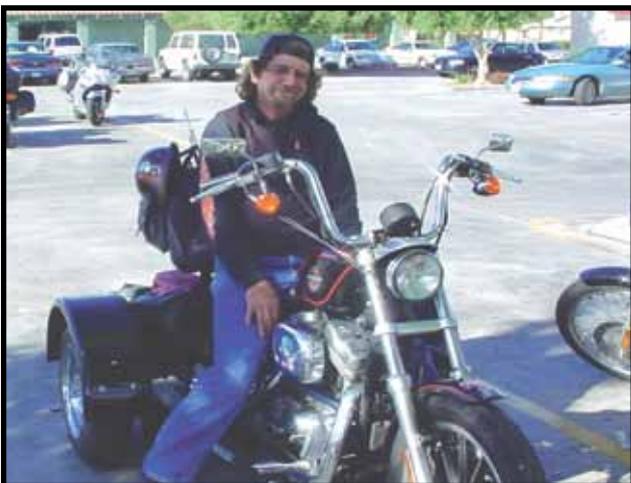
**Continued on page 11**

## Sporty's Rides

By Lee 'Sporty' Milligan

Hello all! Greetings from the world of me, Sporty Milligan, your faithful servant. Over the last year my columns have mostly been about the monthly happenings of my adventures. OK so this is what we are expecting from you this time, too, Dude. Well this month's column is going to take you on a different kinda trip.

But first I'll just say the Southern Regional Rally was great. Every one of the committee members did their part to make this year's Rally one hell of an event. I am extremely proud of the group.



You know folks I have been at this for a very long time. And, yes, I am still energized to do my part to try and make motorcycling better in the great state of California. Yes, there are things wrong with this state and the politicians are sometimes misguided, but we have a cause to do our part with pride as ABATE members and inform our fellow riders about what we, as ABATE members, stand for. Truth, justice and the reason we ride in this great state. We're not getting any younger, but with your help we perhaps can encourage the younger riders to get involved in our group. You know we ride because of the freedom of the road, the adventure that lurks in each and every core of our riding soul. Those who don't ride look at us with envy. The road calls us, whether it's the ride to work or the weekend trip, the road calls us to go. Yes, folks two wheels are my passion and reason for existence. So I will continue to strive to do my part to make motorcycling better in my ABATE world, which is the state of California.

Thanks for listening. We will resume our regularly scheduled format of Sporty's Rides next month. So be prepared to rock with the sport man, me, Mr. Sporty, your faithful columnist extraordinaire.

## 2010 ABATE Events

**June 6** – ABATE Local 17 in conjunction with Iron Steed Harley-Davidson will be holding their 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Ride-In Motorcycle Show and 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Car, Hot-rod & Truck Show. 100 Auto Center Drive; Vacaville. More info? Contacts are: Scooter 707/688-8874; Mike 707/688-4550; or Bill 707/452-0850.

**June 13** – ABATE Local 13 – Annual Callous Cheeks Poker Run BBQ. Flyer this issue.

**June 19** - ABATE Local 19 & Casa Colina – Thunder In the House – Flyer this issue.

**June 19** – ABATE Local 21, Palms to Pines Poker Run - 10am till 3pm, Saturday, Grub 'n' Grog, BBQ, Live Music, 50/50 Raffle Prizes \$15 Signup 10am at High Desert Cycle 661/272-5998; 190 Sierra Court, Palmdale, CA 93550

Check-In by 2pm at Crossroads Tavern 661/724-0911; 43840 Lake Hughes Rd, Lake Hughes, CA 93532; RSVP: Glenn: 661/947-3734 or Daryl: 661/948-1170.

Online: [WWW.ALLEYGL.ORG](http://WWW.ALLEYGL.ORG) / <mailto:ABTRN@ALLEYGL.ORG>

Sponsored by Daryl's Plumbing and ALLEYGL.ORG.

**June 26** – ABATE Local 44 – Annual Poker Run. Flyer this issue.

**June 27** - ABATE Local 5 - 6th Annual Joy Ride. Circle the date and plan to join us for a fantastic poker run and party. Starts with breakfast at the West Covina Elks Lodge. Sign-in will be from 8-10am; run will be approximately 75 miles long and will conclude at the

Eagles Lodge, Azusa. Price for run is \$25 per person or \$40 per couple (riding 2-up). Entry fee includes breakfast, lunch, poker run w/cash prizes and run pin (for the first 300) and a wet t-shirt contest. The Stan West Band will be the featured entertainment -- this alone is worth the cost of the entry fee! To register online: <http://thejoyride.org/> or contact Glen at: 626/914-6717.

**July 16 – 18** - Northern California Regional Rally – Kelly's Campground, Lake County 95485. Flyer this issue.

**July 24** – ABATE Of California, Inc., Quarterly Meetings – Hosted by ABATE Local 19, Ontario.

**July 25** – ABATE Local 2 – Annual Sweaty Buns Poker Run – Simi Valley, CA. Flyer this issue.

**August 28** – ABATE Local 52 – Annual Mystery Run – Starts at Renegade Classics; 744 Maltman Dr; Grass Valley. Registration from 9 to 11 am. Call Steve for more info 530/798-0001.

**September 17, 18 & 19 ABATE State Run – Kernville.**

**September 18** – ABATE Bike Raffle Drawing - Frandy Campground, Kernville.

**October 9** - ABATE Of California, Inc. Quarterly Meetings – Hosted by ABATE Local 28, Lake County.

**October 16** – ABATE Local 29 – Annual Laughlin Run.

**Please email your ABATE Event information (in Microsoft word document) and Flyers (in a JPG file) to [bailing.wire@abate.org](mailto:bailing.wire@abate.org) by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month to be listed in the next issue. Your flyers MUST be in a jpg file to be used in the Bailing Wire.**

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by Dave Hastings, Treasurer

We just returned from the 16<sup>th</sup>. ABATE Southern California Regional Rally and I have to tell you what a great time we had! The new campground was beautiful and the staff of worker bees did a fabulous job of keeping the weekend event schedule both entertaining and on-time. I hope we return to the same location next year and would really encourage everyone to try and attend this event, especially if you haven't been to it lately. This event has been a major contributor to our PAC fund over the last 16 years, so go have fun and know that "all of the profits" from this particular event benefit you and your "Right to Ride" in California. The Southern Regional Rally is one of the crown jewels of ABATE events and we all need to help restore the beauty and brilliance to this premier event.

The California Primary Elections are on June 8, 2010 and you may be receiving

## Pac/Lobbyist Report



this after the fact. Hopefully you helped the candidate of your choice win his/her primary election. Because of statewide electoral district "gerrymandering" most of the November election results are decided in the primaries because usually one of the political parties holds an overwhelming advantage in their district. Thus whoever wins the dominant party primary is almost a sure win in the November general election simply because of the red/blue political vote breakdown we heard so much about in the last few Presidential Elections. Unless there is a very small voter turnout or something extenuating comes to light between now and November the dominant party will usually control the general election results in their district from the primaries on. Some say this will be a "throw all the bums out" year so we will have to see what the political atmosphere

is come November and do as much as we possibly can to help support our friends and kick the "rest of the bums" to the curb. Stay tuned in, don't give up hope, and prepare for battle, because ABATE PAC can and will make a difference this year!

One last thing in closing for this month - please don't forget to sell/buy our 2010 bike raffle tickets. The profit from this raffle will directly benefit your right to ride. Remember ABATE PAC and our Lobbyist exist because of your affiliation and political activity needs with ABATE of California! Local 44 is spearheading this raffle with the help of Victorville Harley Davidson and the drawing date in September will be upon us before we realize it. Invest in ABATE's future financial success and who knows - you may be the lucky winner and help end the aptly termed "Great Recession" in your home too!

So till next month - THANKS TO ALL THAT DO, AND TO THOSE THAT DON'T, PLEASE TRY TO!

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# LOCAL NEWS

Flyers were handed out to passing motorists that explained what ABATE and MMA is on one side and the Biker's Poem on the other.

There were booths staffed by ABATE, MMA, UBNC, Guidera's H-D, Yuba/Sutter HOG, Pink October Ride, Original Y/S Toy Run, Outlaw Graphics, Brenda's Leathers, Bill Edick Insurance, and Y/S Stand Down and many of the local M/Cs had booths.

We have a very unique community in Yuba/Sutter County where all the M/Cs, MROs, and organizations work together in the spirit of unity and friendship. Many thanks to the Y/S motorcycle community who donated their time, money, and resources to make this Motorcycle Awareness Rendezvous successful! Grumbles

## Local #40 Bakersfield



Thank you all who continue to support our Freedom to Ride. Thank you all who attended our Annual Picnic ride to the Tumbleweed Cafe. We had a good showing and lots of door prizes for everyone who participated.

I want to send out a very special thank you to Renegade Classics, Bikersfield, Bakersfield Harley Davidson and The Tumbleweed Cafe for their support and contributions to ABATE Local 40. Our Freedom to Ride is not Free to keep. We have a continuous fight, and all our members and supporters make it happen.

We have a new member and possibly a new business member to come as soon as we can get our schedules to match.

May is once again Motorcycle Awareness Month in the City of Bakersfield and in the County of Kern. Thank you Mayor Harvey L. Hall for Proclaiming May Motorcycle Awareness Month. Thank you Chairman of the Board Ray Watson for Proclaiming May

Motorcycle Awareness Month. And thank you Don Maben for presenting to ABATE Local 40 the Proclamation Proclaiming May Motorcycle Awareness Month. A lot of well deserved "Thank You".

Motorcycle Awareness Month is meant for all to be aware that Motorcyclists are everywhere. We are Americans who love to Ride Free. Unfortunately not all who ride make it home. As Americans we can all do more so that all who share the road can make it home alive and well. Omar

## Local #44 High Desert



We just returned from the 16th ABATE Southern Regional Rally and I have to tell you what a great time we had! The new campground was beautiful and the staff of worker bees did a fabulous job of keeping the weekend event schedule both entertaining and on-time. I hope we return to the same location next year and would really encourage everyone to try and attend this event, especially if you haven't been to it lately. The SRR is one of the crown jewels of ABATE events and we all need to help restore the beauty and brilliance to this premier event.

While I'm on SRR coverage I must inform you with heavy heart that Local 44 was unable to bring home the gold in the horse-shoe tournament and had to settle for second place. Last year Local 44's Bill Tolen and Larry Roberts went through the loser's bracket to defeat Chad and Jim Bob from Local 11 for the 2009 championship. Well this year Chad and Jim Bob from Local 11 showed up with a smile on their face and revenge in their hearts and did exactly the same thing! They lost early, but dominated

the loser's bracket and returned to face our guys in the championship game and took home the prize money and bragging rights for 2010.

Our Local 44 Summer Run is coming up on June 26 and we are hard at work to ensure a fun and financially successful event. As you may have already heard we have lost our major sponsor for this year and the committee is scrambling to lock in other sponsors for this event. Please, even if you can't work our event day, try and help Local 44 secure monetary contributions and raffle prizes for our event. Any amount, large or small, is needed and will be sincerely appreciated for our run. Time is of the essence so please contact everyone you can think of who may be willing to donate and remember if you don't ask, Local 44 may lose a potential opportunity for a raffle/cash donation for our run. Please help make your event a successful one!

One last thing in closing for this month – please don't forget to sell/buy our 2010 bike raffle tickets. The profit from this raffle will directly benefit your right to ride. Local 44 is spearheading this raffle with the help of Victorville Harley Davidson and the drawing date in September will be upon us

before we realize it. Invest in ABATE's future financial success and who knows - you may be the lucky winner and help end the aptly termed "Great Recession" in your home too! Dave H.

## Local #47 Barstow



Howdy all! Just returned from the Southern Regional Rally - what a great spot, good time, good friends, good for ABATE!

Summer time with lots of runs, it's a good time to make plans. Local 21 and Local 44 have runs in June. Now get those bike raffle tickets sold. September is not that far away. Sell, sell, sell.

Ok. I'm going on vacation see you on the road. Yermoeddy.

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

by Lee 'Sporty' Milligan,  
Membership Chairman

This is Sporty again. I want to remind you to please sell your special raffle membership funding tickets. As you know these tickets help fund the membership drive completely. So please do your part and sell those tickets.

I also want to remind you to keep your renewals. These are the unsung heroes of ABATE, these members who year in and year out send us their annual membership dues. You need to reward them with a thank you trinket.

Please let Sporty know how your Local is doing and how I can

better serve you as your Membership Chairman.

OK! THE MEMBERSHIP DRIVE IS ON AND ROLLING. THE BIKE RAFFLE IS ALSO ON AND HOPEFULLY YOU'RE ROLLING TO SELL THOSE TICKETS.

Final thought for this month's column: There is strength and unity in number of members.

Regards, Sporty.



# COAST TO COAST BIKER NEWS

## Compiled & Edited by Bill Bish

**MOTORCYCLIST FATALITIES INEXPLICABLY PLUMMET** Following more than a decade of steady increases, motorcycle rider fatalities unaccountably dipped by double-digit proportions last year. Motorcyclist deaths dropped by 16% nationwide through the first three quarters of 2009, compared to the same period in 2008 when fatalities reached their highest level of 5,290.

The study -- sponsored by the Governors Highway Safety Association, which represents state traffic safety agencies -- is drawn from preliminary fatality data from all 50 states and the District of Columbia. While there is nothing in the data to indicate the cause of the sudden decline, the GHSA asked state safety agencies to speculate on reasons for the decline, and several respondents pointed to the economy and underscored that a significant portion of motorcycling is for recreation rather than transportation.

Other reasons cited in the study for the decline: Fewer beginning motorcyclists; an increase in priority given to state motorcycle safety programs; an increased awareness of motorcycles by other drivers; and colder, wetter weather in some states during the riding season. It doesn't appear helmet laws played a significant role in the decline.

The popularity of motorcycles has surged in the past decade, particularly among aging baby boomers and women, nearly doubling to more than 10 million.

During the nine-month period of the comparison, the District and 38 states reported a drop in motorcycle deaths, and 12 states recorded an increase. California had 133 fewer deaths, Florida had 111 fewer and Ohio had 48 fewer. Only two states -- Hawaii and Rhode Island -- had double-digit increases. Once numbers for the final three months of 2009 are factored in, the report projects, the annual fatality decline will be at least 10%.

## AGING RIDERS AT HIGHER RISK

Motorcycle riders across the country are growing older, and the impact of this trend is evident in emergency rooms nationwide as doctors are finding that senior citizens who ride motorcycles are more likely to be

involved in accidents and also more likely to be injured or die than their younger counterparts.

Researchers at the University of Rochester Medical Center found that half of all motorcyclists needing emergency treatment in 2005 were over 40, nearly double the number in 1996, which is consistent with demographic data indicating that the average age of motorcycle ownership has rose from 33 years in 1998 to 40 years in 2003. Injury severity, length of stay in the hospital or intensive care unit, and mortality were higher for riders over the age of 40.



In the study, which was published in the March issue of the American Surgeon, researchers using the National Trauma Databank reviewed the records of 61,689 motorcyclists aged 17 to 89 years involved in a motorcycle crash between 1996 and 2005.

Those ages 50-59 were the fastest growing group involved with crashes, and accidents involving riders in that age group were almost twice as likely to be fatal as those involving younger bikers.

"Treating a 60-year-old who has been in a motorcycle accident is very different from treating a 21-year-old who has been in a similar accident -- 60-year-olds bring a lot more medical baggage with them and impact outcomes," Dr. Mark Gestring, director of the trauma program at the Medical Center.

Age-related factors associated with aging, such as impaired vision, delayed reaction time, and altered balance contribute to motorcycle crashes in this population.

The increase in injury severity for older riders may be related to the reduced capacity to withstand injury as the body ages, including decreases in bone strength and brain size, as well as pre-existing medical conditions.

**NATURALISTIC MOTORCYCLE SAFETY STUDY** The Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) has announced that it will partner with the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (VTTI) on the world's first motorcycle safety study that will use small video recorders and instrumentation mounted on numerous bikes for 6-18 months to gather data about the riders and events that occur.

Termed a "naturalistic" study, VTTI has developed this technology and used it successfully to conduct a 100-car study in 2005 that included 69 crashes and more than 750 near-crashes. According to the MSF, "The method is presently in use by researchers across the globe to target nearly every type of roadway user, with the exception of two-wheeled vehicles. This study, expected to be on the road by early 2011, will greatly advance the understanding of interactions among rider, motorcycle, roadway, other roadway users and the environment."

VTTI Director Tom Dingus added that "We expect the study to be very valuable to the Motorcycle Safety Foundation's work, since we also will examine where and how crash avoidance is successful. With so much information bandwidth coming from the cameras and instrumentation on each bike, we'll be able to examine details for years, and the findings will be relevant for decades."

Naturalistic Method identifies crashes using time-series video and numeric data, reveals factors not detectable through crash investigation, creates its own controls by comparing the crash-involved rider to himself/herself at all other times, and permits quantification of rider performance and behavior in non-critical and critical riding situations.

**GLOBAL MARKETS BOOST MOTORCYCLE SALES** While U.S. motorcycle sales continue to drift downward, globally Honda bucked the trend by posting a 30% sales gain for first quarter of 2010, reflecting 2.54 million motorcycles sold outside of Japan.

Sales in the American market dropped 21% during the first quarter of 2010, a less

precipitous slip than the previous year's 37% slide, but the rising demand for small displacement bikes in Asian markets helped the juggernaut manufacturer post a \$2.68 billion profit for the last fiscal year, a staggering 95.9% increase over the prior year.

We may find consolation in the U.S. market since our sales are sliding less steeply than before, but the evolving global marketplace is not only motivating companies like Volkswagen to purchase one fifth of Suzuki, such international sales figures are also prompting manufacturers like U.S. stalwart Harley-Davidson to divert their efforts into regions like India.

**PATRIOT GUARD RIDERS BARRED FROM MINERS MEMORIAL** Many of the 29 West Virginia coal miners who died at the Upper Big Branch mining explosion on April 5th were veterans and some rode motorcycles, so bereaved families had requested the Patriot Guard Riders to attend the memorial service. PGR is an informal group of motorcyclists which exists to make sure that all veterans are given respectful funerals. But they were barred from attending this service by federal officials who labeled them a security threat.

The appearance of the Patriot Guard Riders at the service, at the request of several families, had been cleared in advance by West Virginia Governor Joe Manchin, who is also a motorcycle rider. But the day before the service, Joe Cumblidge, the West Virginia State Captain of the Patriot Guard Riders e-mailed the men who were scheduled to participate: "Due to circumstances totally and completely beyond the control of the Patriot Guard Riders and Governor Joe Manchin of West Virginia, we are regrettably ordering a STAND DOWN for this mission. Specific details will not be posted here but, we've been told we are not welcome to participate because of certain high-level dignitaries that are scheduled to be in attendance."

The "high-level dignitaries" were President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden. A Patriot Guard Rider told WSAZ in Charleston that Manchin had been forbidden to allow them to participate "because of overwhelming security concerns with high-ranking federal officials -- it was just not logistically possible for them to be a part of the event."

Both Obama and Biden managed to escape West Virginia unharmed.

# COAST TO COAST BIKER NEWS

**LEGAL CHALLENGES TO MICHIGAN HELMET LAW** Several members of ABATE of Michigan rode to the Lenawee County judicial building on Tuesday, April 20th to show support for a fellow motorcyclist who is challenging a non-compliant helmet ticket. Ryan Hildebrand, 26, is one of nearly a dozen riders ticketed this spring by Adrian police Sgt. Lynn Courington for wearing helmets that the state claims do not meet federal Department of Transportation standards.

Representing the group of ticketed riders is Aid to Injured Motorcyclists (A.I.M.) attorney Lawrence "Katman" Katkowsky, who filed an appearance for the helmet defendant. A formal hearing was set for June 29 in district court, and Katkowsky said he will try to consolidate all the helmet infraction cases that are being challenged for the June 29 hearing. "The issues are all the same," he said.

He is taking on the helmet enforcement issue in Lenawee County on behalf of ABATE of Michigan, which also has a lawsuit pending in United State District Court in Grand Rapids, challenging the state's DOT helmet rule.

One of the enforcement issues Katkowsky will raise is regarding probable cause to justify a traffic stop on a civil infraction. ABATE claims in the lawsuit that

police have to look inside a helmet to determine if it meets DOT standards, and therefore cannot claim plain sight evidence to justify a traffic stop and request to inspect a helmet. No trial date is scheduled.

**ANGRY FRENCH MOTORCYCLISTS SNARL TRAFFIC IN PROTEST** Forty thousand motorcyclists demonstrated all over France in protest of a recent Government announcement to fine any bikers caught filtering through traffic ("lane splitting"), and more than 60 cities saw their roads blocked by hordes of angry riders who said NON to French authorities who propose to treat motorbikes, scooters and mopeds like cars and require them to stay in their lane one behind another.

So, they behaved like cars! On March 13th the La Fédération Française Des Motards en Colère (FFMC - the French Federation of Angry Bikers) urged all motorcyclists to occupy the space of one car in each lane, and within minutes an enormous traffic jam was created that gridlocked the whole of Paris on a busy Saturday afternoon as car drivers were stuck in traffic until late in the evening.

While bikers blocked the roadways above ground, other protestors went underground bringing the subway system to a grinding halt in response to a statement made by French Transport Secretary Jean-

Marc Belotti, who said "If they (bikers) are not happy, they can take the metro like everyone else."

They inconvenience us, we will inconvenience them, responded the FFMC, which set a fine example of civil obedience to demonstrate the impact of motorcycles on traffic flow, good or bad.

**WEIRD NEWS: EASY WRITERS TEXT WHILE RIDING** Everyone knows that texting while driving can be dangerous. Now consider this: texting while riding a motorcycle, in heavy traffic! It's not uncommon in Vietnam, where 29 million motorcycles are the primary source of transportation.

Pham Thi Thuy Linh is 21, a college student and -- according to a recent contest sponsored by a mobile phone company -- has the fastest fingers in Vietnam. She can text 160 characters in 25 seconds, though she admits she is "about 20 or 30 percent slower texting on my bike." She doesn't much care that texting while driving is both illegal and not too smart.

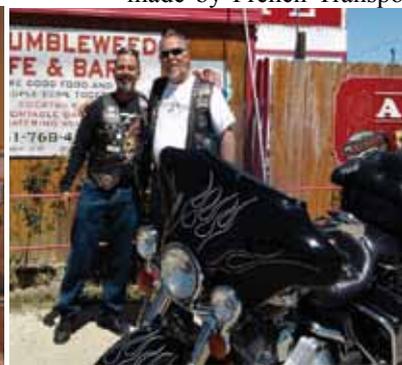
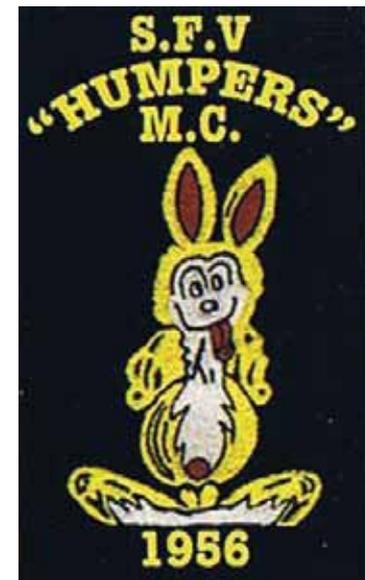
Tran Van Thanh is a senior official in the government's office of traffic safety. He told National Public Radio that understands the concerns about texting while driving, but says peoples' bad habits will take time to change, and with limited resources it's

impossible to crack down on everyone for everything.

Meanwhile, contest-winner Pham says she can't wait to get one of the new iPhone packages. She says it will enable her to text even faster than she does now, from everywhere -- including her bike.

**QUOTABLE QUOTE:** "Extremism in the defense of liberty is no vice. Moderation in the pursuit of justice is no virtue."

Senator Barry Goldwater (1909-1998)  
U.S. Senator from Arizona



## Local #40 Picnic Pics Pics by Omar Macias



# Reg Rally Run Pics

Pics by Gill Mellen & Larry Roberts





## Reg Rally Run Pics

Pics by Gill Mellen & Larry Roberts



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## Tech Tips

by Craig Griswold

### Carburetors - Part IV

In the last few articles of this series we talked about tuning procedures for a few different carburetors. During the tuning process, the tuner must ascertain whether the air fuel mixture is appropriate for a given circuit, or overly rich/lean. There are several ways to determine this. Be advised that a lean condition can be caused by vacuum leaks, so you'll want to diagnose that symptom before proceeding.

In any given circuit (idle, intermediate, or main), a lean condition will usually result in popping or coughing through the carb. The ideal jetting will be just rich enough to eliminate this symptom. On the other hand, an overly rich tune will result in sluggish performance and in most cases, black smoke from the exhaust. Most carburetor manufacturers provide guidelines for jetting. You can use this as a baseline. Remember that when changing jetting, go two sizes at a time. This will usually produce enough of a change that will be noticeable and will make tuning easier.

Using the above acceleration characteristics is probably the most common procedure. This can be combined with spark plug readings which will provide even more accuracy. Spark plug readings, also known as "plug chop" readings can be difficult and even dangerous depending on road conditions and traffic density. If possible, use a closed course.

The procedure is fairly simple. Warm the bike to full operating temperature. Run it in the RPM band that you are tuning. For the intermediate circuit, cruising between

2000 and 3500 RPM with less than 50% throttle will be about right. After several minutes, and when it's safe to do so, pull in the clutch, chop the throttle, and kill the motor. Coast to a safe location and pull the plugs. The condition will illustrate the state of tune for that circuit. Black sooty plugs indicate a rich condition, white and/or blistering appearances indicate too lean. A tan to rusty brown powdery deposit is indicative to ideal combustion. The same procedure can be used for the main. RPM should be above 3500 with greater than 50% throttle.

If you're in doubt, a dyno tune is definitely the most accurate procedure of all. It's also pretty expensive, so it pays to shop around. Although labor rates may be comparable, how the hours are charged can vary greatly.

(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: [twogunners@gmail.com](mailto:twogunners@gmail.com), or call 530-263-8071. Additional information can be found on the web at: [twogunnerscustomiron.com](http://twogunnerscustomiron.com)).

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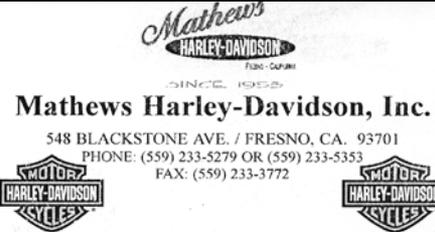


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# A Near Miss or A Near Hit?

by John Del Santo

"That guy ran the red light and almost killed me! My light was green; I had the Right of Way!!" I didn't??? That driver was supposed to yield the Right of Way to me, but if he doesn't, then I don't HAVE the Right of Way! The National Safety Council describes 'Defensive Driving' as "driving to save lives, time and money despite the conditions around you, and the actions of others." Another favorite of the National Safety Council describes an 'accident' as when a tornado hits town and carries off your garage. Whereas a 'collision' is what happens when a motor vehicle hits something.

Whose fault is the collision? Fault or blame are words used by lawyers, not by safety professionals. That's because investigation reports show that most traffic crashes have driver error as their number one cause.

## Spring Has Sprung!

by John Del Santo

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

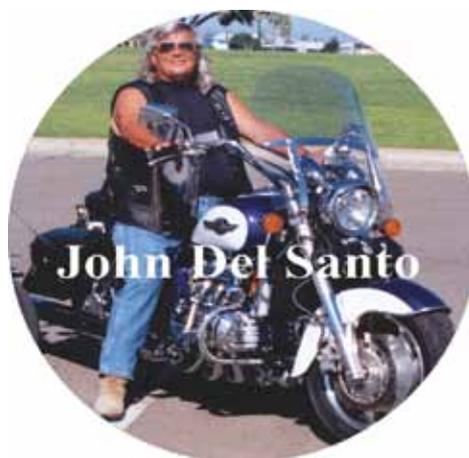
How has your bike weathered the winter? Are there any cracks in the rubber? And do the tire stems look sound? How about those rubber hoses and electric wires? Check 'em out. Is there anything on the bike moving that shouldn't? And does everything move that should? Tighten it, lube it, and kick it a couple of times.

There are some bike owners who sat out the cold months in front of the TV and who will go out there on the first warm day and 'Hot Dog' it and end up in a ditch or shoving the rider next to him into oncoming traffic.

Be it riding, skiing, or playing the fiddle, if we haven't done much of it for three months, when we're not going to do it well. If you haven't been riding very much, be aware of your limitations and work into it gradually.

You might even want to pop down to the local training area and spend a day on the Experienced Rider Course. It's good for tuning up your skills and costs less than most pieces of chrome you could buy for your bike. Besides, a good rider never stops learning.

Instead, we will become better riders if we think about preventability. The National Safety Council describes a Preventable Collision as one in which the driver(s) failed to do everything reasonable to prevent it. If I am involved in a collision and if there was ANYTHING I might have done differently to change the outcome of the collision: Was I checking left-right-left as I approached each side-street? Was I maintaining a full following distance? Was I expecting the worst from the drivers around me and maintaining my escape routes? If there was ANYTHING I could have done differently and did not, then I am partially responsible for that collision. The insurance companies call that "contributory negligence". In other words, if the other guy came through a Stop sign and hit me, BUT there was plenty of visibility, why didn't I notice that this car was not slowing down as he approached the Stop sign???



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

There will be potholes in the road that weren't there last week and the spring runoff will wash sand and gravel out on the road right around that next bend, be ready for it. Spring has sprung! Let's get in the wind and enjoy it! Ride Smart! Ride Straight! And Ride Safe!

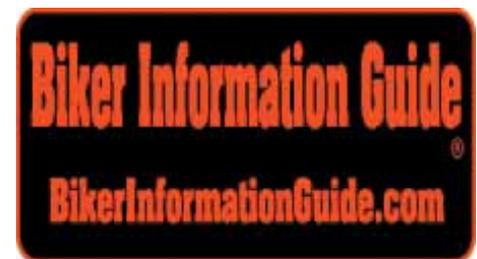
And the insurance company might charge the other car with 90% of the collision, and me with 10%. Or at an uncontrolled intersection, the chargeability might depend on which vehicle hit which vehicle, and where did they hit them, front, middle or rear.

The reason insurance companies use this gobbledygook terminology, is so they can try to find a way to bail out and avoid responsibility for their client's actions, so they can avoid paying for the collision. By the same token, if we go around trying to duck any responsibility after we are involved in a collision or close call, i.e. "That idiot pulled right out without looking" - "It's that dummy's fault, he looked right AT me and didn't SEE me", then we are trying to lay the blame totally on someone else, and we are doomed to repeat our involvement in the next collision. You have heard that type of person talking, "Yes, I've had 13 accidents, but only one of them was my fault." Whereas someone who rides defensively would consider, "Was I being observant enough?"

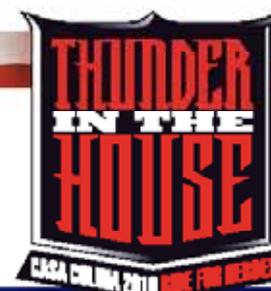
Should I have expected that driver to make that move? Traffic was getting a bit heavy, could I have used a bit more following distance? I have a cold; will I need more reaction time than usual? Was I in that guy's blind spot?"

"Even though that driver messed up BIG TIME, was there anything reasonable that I could have done to prevent the collision?" Then we are using the situation as a learning experience! "What doesn't kill me should make me a smarter rider."

Thanks to the National Safety Council for the use of their terminology in this non-profit article.



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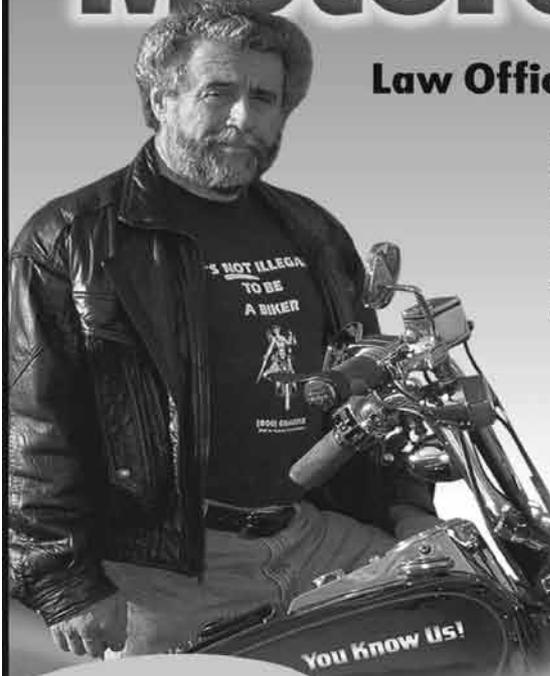
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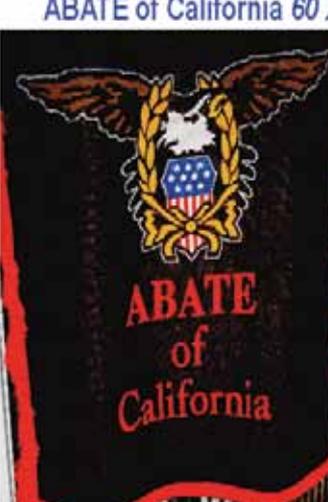


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	X-Large 07-305	XX-Large 07-306			
				<b>TOTAL Sweatshirts</b>	<b>X \$35.00 =</b>
Promotional Items	Key Tags pkg of 20	07-163		\$ 9.00	
	Reflective Flag pkg of 25	07-164		\$ 12.00	
				<b>Subtotal</b>	
<b>Make Checks Payable To:</b>					
ABATE OF CALIFORNIA INC.					
MAIL ORDER FORM TO:					
<b>760-946-0366</b>					
C/O Cynthia Withans					
19622 Shoshonee Rd.					
Apple Valley, CA 92307					
				<b>Add 20% to Total for Shipping &amp; Handling</b>	
				<b>Total</b>	

Credit Card Users Mail or Fax To: 760-680-2258

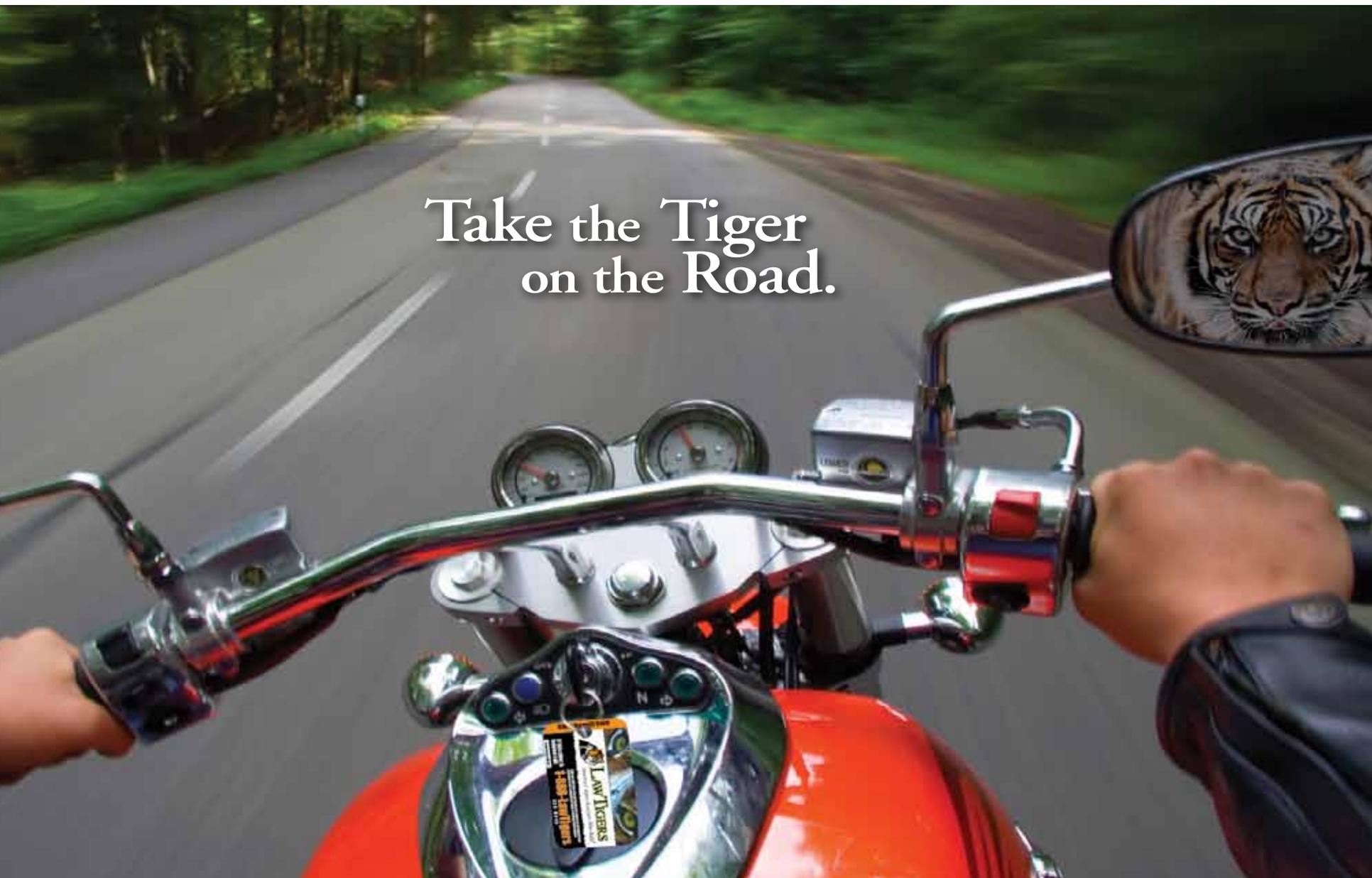
Credit Card Users  Visa  Master Card

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Local # \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_



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Geoffrey M. Trachtenberg, Attorney At Law

**Los Angeles County - Local #1-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 Arsnow 2nd Tues 7:30 PM  
661/251-8360 VFW Post#10049  
4242 E. Los Angeles Ave. Simi Valley

**Thousand Oaks-Local#03-Reg#7**

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

**San Gabriel Valley - Local#05-Reg#8**

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

**San Diego County - Local #06-Reg#12**

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

**Orange County - Local #08-Reg#11**

Ryan Vincent 2nd Mon. 7:30PM  
714/744-4838 American Legion #354  
8071 Whitaker, Buena Park

**South Orange County - Local #09-Reg#11**

Cory Tororian 1st Tues. 7:00 PM  
949/496-2936 Denny's  
27142 Ortega Hwy. San Juan Capistrano

**Tuolumne County-Local#10-Reg#5**

Call the State Office 760/956-1669

**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

**Sonoma County-Local #12-Reg#1**

Meets with Local#17

**Ventura County - Local #13-Reg#7**

Dave Walsh Last Thurs. - 7:30 PM  
1354 W. Olive St Call for meeting location  
Oxnard 805/486-1093  
or 469-6522

**Alameda County Local#14-Reg#3**

Joe Schwirian 1st Wed 7:30 PM  
510/683-9304 The Florence  
37349 Niles Blvd., Fremont

**Contra Costa County - Local #15-Reg#3**

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

**Santa Barbara County - Local #16-Reg#7**

Meet with Local#13

**Solano & Napa Counties - Local #17-Reg#3**

Scotter Leech 3rd Sun. - 10:00 AM  
P O Box 148 Judy's Wild Wrangler Saloon  
Vacaville 95696 4826 Midway Rd.  
707/688-8874 Vacaville CA

**San Francisco - Local #18-Reg#3**

Meet with L#14 or 15

**Pomona Valley - Local #19-Reg#9**

Steve Kawecki 4th Wed - 7:00 PM  
P O Box 4664 B's Sports Bar & Grill  
San Dimas 91773 1452 W. Holt Blvd.  
909/910-1369 Ontario, CA 91762

**Orange County - Local #20-Reg#11**

Gill Mellen 2nd Tues - 7:00 PM  
2104 Continental Ave. Good Ol' Boys Saloon  
Costa Mesa, CA 92627 10624 Katella Ave.  
949/632-9787 Garden Grove 92840

**Antelope Valley - Local #21-Reg#13**

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



# ABATE MEETINGS

**South Bay - Local #22-Reg#11**

Suzanne Palmiere 1st Tues - 7:30 PM  
310/326-3667 Walker's Cafe  
suzpalmiere@aol.com 700 W. Paseo Del Mar  
San Pedro

**San Bernardino - Local#23-Reg#9**

Kevin Sorrell 1st Sun 9:00 AM  
909/793-1112 Jenny's Family Restaurant  
7750 Palm Ave, Highland

**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**

Gary Haller 3rd Thurs - 7:00 PM  
916/726-6703 Denny's  
3520 Auburn Blvd.  
Sacramento 95821

**Riverside - Local#27-Reg#9**

Honda Ray 1st Tues - 7:30 PM  
P.O. Box 7070 Flo's Farmhouse Cafe  
Riverside CA 92313 5620 Van Buren Blvd.  
951/279-4370 Riverside  
www.abatelocal27.org

**Lake County - Local#28-Reg#1**

Lori Adams 2nd Thurs - 7:00 PM  
707/245-8036 105 S. Star  
Lakeport 95453

**Morongo Basin - Local#29-Reg#10**

Marty Rapp 2nd - Thurs - 6:30 PM  
P.O. Box 2334 La Casita Restaurant  
29 Palms CA 92277 57154 29 Palms Hwy  
760/367-1694 Yucca Valley

**North Valley - Local #31-Reg#2**

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

**Santa Clara Valley - Local #32-Reg#4**

Dan Scott Last Sun. 9:30 AM  
950 Meridan Ave#19 Sherwood Inn  
San Jose 95126 2988 Almaden Expy  
408/603-8968 San Jose

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

Steve Katen 3rd Sun. - Noon  
530/749-1003 American Legion  
5477 Feather River Blvd. Olivehurst

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

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

**Monterey Bay - Local #35-Reg#4**

Call for info 760/956-1669

**Palm Springs - Local #36-Reg#10**

John "Grumpy" Grubb 4th Sunday - 8:30 AM  
P.O. Box 460 American Legion  
Rancho Mirage 92270 400 N Belardo Rd.  
760/564-4336 Palm Springs  
jgrubb123@aol.com

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

Steve Mitosinka Last Thurs - 7:00 PM  
660 W State St SOBE's  
El Centro CA 1151 S 4th St.  
760/996-2093 El Centro

**Bakersfield - Local#40-Reg#6**

Omar Macias 1st Monday 7:00PM  
661/832-5240 Magoo's Pizza  
661/900-8690 5700 Stine Rd  
Bakersfield

**High Desert - Local#44-Reg#13**

Cindy Demel 2nd Sat - 9:00 AM  
P.O. Box 3094 Eagles Fraternal Order  
Victorville CA 92392 16195 Main St.  
760/868-5042 Hesperia

**Banning - Local #45-Reg#10**

Trine Howell Call for Meeting Info  
760/323-9860 67387 Mission Dr.  
Cathedral City 92234

**Modesto - Local #46-Reg#5**

Call for info 760/956-1669

**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.  
760/254-3833 or 760/953-7353 Hesperia

**Hemet - Local #48-Reg#9**

Meet with Local#27

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

Barbara Kennedy 4th Wed  
707/946-2248 Call for meeting place & time

**Calaveras County - Local #51-Reg#5**

Jerry Yates 2nd Wed 6:30 PM  
Box 549 Call for meeting place  
Mountain Ranch, 209/754-5778

**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

**Owens Valley - Local#53-Reg#13**

Meet with Local#58

**West San Fernando - Local#54-Reg#8**

Meet with Local #1

**Visalia - Local #57 - Reg#6**

Dave Olsen 1st Wed 7:00PM  
559/936-5909 Meet with L#24

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

Tony Jaime 3rd Sat 10:00 AM  
760/371-5136 Mickey's Pub  
1661 W. Triangle Dr.  
Ridgecrest

**Kern River Valley Lake (KRV Lake) Local#59-Reg#13**

Meet with Local 40 or Local 58

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

Chuck James 2nd Thurs 7:00 PM  
707/972-8180 Grand Father Station  
247 Railroad St., Colfax

**Local #61 Shasta County-Redding**

Call for info 760-9561669