

# The Bailing Wire

ABATE of CA. Newsletter for Motorcyclists

Volume XXIX

ISSUE VIII

August 2010

A Union of Motorcyclists  
Dedicated to Freedom of the Road



## ABATE Board Meeting

Pictures on page 11



## Lobbyist's Legislative Report

by James Lombardo, Sr

**Special Elections:** We were active in yet another Special Election in June. This time for Senate District 15 that runs from Santa Cruz to Santa Barbara, with San Luis Obispo in the middle. Our endorsed candidate, Republican Assemblyman Sam Blakeslee, won the special primary, but now has a very fierce battle to take the seat as a motorcycle rider friendly candidate in the run-off on August 22. Few races can be more sharply defined for motorcyclists. Former Assemblyman John Laird (D-Aptos) is a super liberal who never supported our important causes and opposed repeal of the helmet law. I have been asked by the Blakeslee campaign for ABATE to get **MORE** motorcyclists and their friends involved. We will be posting campaign contact information on the ABATE website, and will send out e-mail Alerts for **WHEN** and **HOW TO HELP!** Stay tuned!

I have just learned of the untimely death of a long-time supporter of freedom of choice for motorcycle riders - Republican Dave Cox of Senate District 1 that stretches from the Oregon border to Sacramento and

then South to Mammoth Lakes. Senator Cox was always with us on motorcyclist issues, and will be missed. A special election will be called for the seat and after evaluating the candidates, we will make our recommendations for campaign work.



I want to set the record straight on Senator Fran Pavley's SB 435, the measure that started out as throwing California motorcycles into the smog check program. Thanks to my/our lobbying of members and staff of the Transportation Committee **and ABATE's 36,661 petition signatures** that I turned into the Committee (the first time the committee acknowledged petitions) we were able to

remove **ALL** motorcycle smog check provisions.

SB 435 was turned into a measure that would make citing loud motorcycles that had their stock exhausts systems replaced with non-certified (louder) mufflers easier. First, it was amended into requiring **ALL** California motorcycles built since 1983 to bear their original EPA muffler and matching frame labels or be subject to a \$300 **non-fix-it** ticket citation plus penalty assessments, with one point on a rider's license (including commercial drivers). It would have been a primary offense, meaning that a law enforcement officer would not need another reason to stop you. Additionally, any meter maid could leave you a ticket if you were just parked on a street or road.

I had this bill about completely killed, outright, until the committee staff informed me that some aftermarket muffler manufacturers, including BUB (to see a copy of their **SUPPORT SB435** letter, contact [carol@abate.org](mailto:carol@abate.org) for an email copy, or the Assembly Transportation Committee chair - ), said that their products could, and did, comply and they had enough inventory available. This

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## What is ABATE?

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

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

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## Executive Director's Report

by Anthony Jaime, Executive Director

Greeting Brothers, Sisters, & Friends: As I begin this month's installment, let me start by thanking everyone who worked so hard in opposition to SB-435. Few bills ever see such a long convoluted history as they travel through the legislative process, and the primary reason for that with SB-435 is the enormous groundswell and vocal outpouring of opposition that was generated against this particular piece of legislation. While much ado over nothing has been made of ABATE adopting a neutral stance conditional to the concessions made by the opposition, the fact of the matter is SB-435 has been "neutralized!" In fact given State Senator Pavley's statement that "ABATE of California's lobbyist killed my smog bill on the Senate floor", it might be more appropriate to say her bill has been "neutered!" Give yourselves a well-deserved pat on the back and a round of applause! YOUR EFFORTS MADE A DIFFERENCE!

Through your efforts, you folks made the difference by demonstrating to the Assembly Transportation Committee that we are indeed a force to be reckoned with when we join together in solidarity and stand up for our rights and what we believe in. I would also like to add that the sheer number folks who showed up for the bill hearing were impressive to say the least and it definitely made an impact. The only suggestion I can offer is that next time stick around when they put the bill on call. When the bill is put on call that means it lacks the necessary votes to pass out of committee, and these folks sometimes find it hard to vote against us when there are so many smiling constituent faces that will be affected by their decision staring at them. Jim Lombardo, John Paliwoda, Dennis Stalter, David Morena, and I were there when the final vote came in around 6:30 pm that evening. If we're going to apply in person pressure, next time let's finish the job. We will have another opportunity in the Appropriations Committee on August 4.

Regardless, as of June 28, 2010, let me list what we have accomplished here. 1) There will be no biennial smog checks for motorcycles since SB-435 as a "smog bill" was killed on the Senate floor with the proviso that smog check language

would be removed by the author, which it was. 2) In its amended form, it became an EPA "noise" label match-up bill that would have been retroactive to model year 2000. ABATE of California, through our lobbyist, Jim Lombardo, has been able to negotiate all motorcycles currently on the road to be grand-fathered in and it looks like the imposition of label match-up has been delayed until at least 2012. 3) SB-435 as amended also called for a moving violation with one point assessed against driving records which really would have been extremely detrimental for any riders with commercial licenses; it called for a \$300 fine, and it would have



allowed law enforcement to perform roadside checks while parked or during a stop. Thanks to ABATE's efforts, that language has all been removed from SB-435 and it is now a correctible violation with a \$25 fine, and there will be no roadside sound checks. There is a huge difference from where we began with the amended bill and what we wound up with, and that was primarily made possible by the incredible grassroots opposition and lobbying that came from all of you in the form of letters, petitions, phone calls, faxes, and emails. And lastly, I would remind everyone that if the bill is amended in any further manner, ABATE of California will revert to a strongly opposed position.

The hard part for many to understand is the terminology of "going neutral." Try to think of this as similar to a plea bargain where imposition of full sentence is suspended pending you holding up your end of the deal. On the other hand, if you violate your terms, you are sentenced to completion of full sentence. ABATE of California is in a similar situation here and while many hardliners keep insisting we revert to a position

of opposition, it would be foolish of us to go down that path at this moment, given the significant concessions we have achieved and risk having the bill revert to its original language. As I stated previously, there are still plenty of opportunities to oppose SB-435 and kill this bill in Appropriations or somewhere else in the legislative process, we just cannot officially oppose it unless the bill author attempts to amend the language again. Nevertheless, you all may continue to oppose SB-435 *as private citizens* and I would strongly urge any and all of you to continue to exercise your First Amendment rights with regard to SB-435 and the Appropriations Committee.

At this point, tactics and strategies need to be rethought. And let me remind everyone, ABATE of California has fought this fight for 2 years with little assistance except for the California Motorcycle Dealers Association. While the inability to gather the necessary votes to kill SB-435 in the Transportation Committee may be a bitter pill for some to swallow, think of this battle as a relay race where ABATE of California has carried the torch to a partial but substantial victory. For those individuals and other organizations that wish to pursue the fight, it is now time for them to pony up, grab the baton and continue to run the next leg of the relay. It was gratifying to see so many other interested parties who showed up in Sacramento for the bill hearing to oppose SB-435. The didactic lesson to be learned is that "united we bargain from a position of strength but divided we will wind up begging with our hat in hand!" We definitely proved "Dick" Floyd wrong on June 28, 2010. Let's continue to do so!

There has been considerable Monday morning armchair quarterbacking since the bill hearing. The Board of Directors has been made aware of oversights and errors that occurred during the final run up to the bill hearing on June 28, and we are taking steps to rectify those issues. Most of those issues are simply nuts and bolts issues that can be remedied fairly easily and we expect to implement those changes at the Board of Directors meeting on July 24, 2010. We ask for your patience and understanding as we set about the process of addressing those issues.

Until next month, keep the rubber down and the paint up! Fraternally yours, Anthony Jaime, Executive Director, ABATE of California.



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## 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

## Jim from page 1

completely took away my argument that we could not get enough replacement mufflers to return our bikes back to stock.

Faced with support from the very industry that produces non-EPA noise certified products, it was up to ABATE of California to try and minimize the damage to all California motorcycle riders. After intense discussions with the authors, and committee staff, the final version of SB 435 included: 1] **Excluding ALL** motorcycles built before January 1, 2011 (next year) from getting a ticket for not having the required muffler labels. 2] Even then, citations issued will be fix-it tickets for the first violation and no points on your driving record. 3] Stops will be secondary violations, not for loud pipes, alone. 4] Parked bikes will not be subject to violations.

**Why did ABATE of California go "Neutral" on the bill as amended above?** A] Other than the motorcycle dealers, ABATE was the only MRO listed in opposition to SB 435. Where were

all of the others who claimed opposition at the committee hearing? At that, only one ABATE Local and just 90 individuals were listed on the committee analysis as opposing SB 435. Quite frankly, we did not have anywhere near the same level of grassroots opposition to the new noise provisions as we had to the smog checks. B] The aftermarket manufacturers cut the heart out of our opposition because they told the Committee that they produced enough legal mufflers to replace the illegal ones that would need to be replaced when riders received citations. **Do you think they do?** C] I was told that the votes were there to pass SB 435 out of the Committee in some form. After explaining all of the alternatives available to us to ABATE PAC Members, and with two binding PAC votes, I was able to deliver the most watered-down version of SB 435 possible.

ABATE was **NOT** required to support SB 435; we simply removed our opposition to it **IF** it remains in its current form. If any amendments are introduced that we do not agree with, I will immediately go on record as opposing the bill, and we can work to defeat it. No more amendments without ABATE's approval! **Individual ABATE**

## 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.

members, however, as long as they don't represent that they speak for ABATE of California, are free to oppose SB 435 as much as they want to.

One word of caution, however, if SB 435 is defeated, the author, or any other anti-motorcyclist legislator, will be free to introduce another bill that will undoubtedly include any or all of the other above provisions that we effectively killed with the current version of SB 435, including motorcycle roadside noise testing legislation that, as worded, includes muffler label matching.

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|  |             |              |                                   |
|--|-------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|
| Entry Fees                                       | Pre-Reg     | Day of Event | RV's Must Pre-Register by 8/31/10 |
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|  | \$35 Couple | \$40         | 17 & Under \$10; 12 & Under \$5   |
| Children 17 & Under Must be Accompanied by Adult |             |              | No Run Pin                        |



# LOCAL NEWS

## Local #01 Los Angeles



Hi all! We had a meeting on July 18 and I was not there due to my being at the Northern Cal Regional Rally. I know that it was a good meeting because Mr. Nice Guy, Peter Daniels, subbed for me. Thanks Peter, you're OK in my book. Below is Peter's report to the meeting. Regards, Sporty.

Local 1's monthly meeting: Sporty was up at the Northern California Regional Rally and we missed him. The meeting was run by committee. Sarge, Jim, Glen, and I were prepared and the meeting went smoothly. We had an excellent crowd and we thank those that attended.

Among other things we discussed SB435 which took a while due to the many last minute amendments attached to the bill in the last couple of weeks.

We also had the pleasure of welcoming Dennis DeYoung who is running for the State Assembly in the 40th District. He's our man, he's our candidate, and he needs our help. Get a hold of him at [dennis@deyoung2010.com](mailto:dennis@deyoung2010.com). Peter

## Local #02 Simi Valley



The good news is that it's riding season, the bad news is, it's HOT! It will not stop me or all the others, though. We are very thankful for A/C where we meet, thanks once again to our gracious host VFW Post 10049 located at 4242 Los Angeles Ave, Simi Valley. We serve a killer \$5 dinner at

6:45 PM and our meeting starts a 7:30 on the second Tuesday of the month.

Our Pres Ray started the meeting and talked about our Sweaty Buns Run that will be on July 25. This is our once a year big run for ABATE! There is an excitement in the air and personally I can't wait, it's a challenge to make sure everything is going according to plans. Special thanks to all the Volunteers who will make this happen again! I know this will be a great run because we are all working hard to insure success. With our focus on the run, we were in for a short meeting, yeah! Our Secretary, Jane, read the minutes and our Treasurer, Stephanie, said we're still doing good. We have a new Safety Coordinator, J.P. Dumur; thanks for a great report! Our Merchandise Guy, Guy, showed us all the goods that we are selling. We have a lot of good stuff for sale; thanks Guy for the hard work that you do. And thanks to all the Officers/Coordinator's for all your efforts, too.

Our PAC person, Linda, gave us some good information about what's happening up there in Sacramento, not just talk, but handed out real paper loaded with information! Thanks for all you do. We are lucky to have a PAC person as a member!

We had one renewal this month, thanks to Kevin Panet for keeping us strong. We had our 50/50 raffle won by Dave, who donated it back, thanks, and our membership drawing was won by Bob Tanger who donated it back, thanks a bunch! That was some serious coin!

It's that time of the year where we need to stay hydrated while riding, not to sound like a broken record but, if you're feeling dizzy or sweating profusely get some liquids in you or else you could become a statistic, one that us ABATers don't like reading about! Enjoy your rights to ride, pass out ABATE cards, tell other bikers about ABATE and invite them to your Local's run or other Local's runs, let's not be an Army of one, but as many as we can get.

We hope to see all the members at this month's SBR; we'll miss all that couldn't make it. Ride safely, PTL Norm e. New

## Local #06 San Diego



July 4, 2010: Kate Sessions Park in San Diego, our normal meeting place, was unavailable because it is a prime area for watching fireworks on the 4th of July and gets packed early in the day. We cancelled the Local 6 meeting because there were plenty of other activities to take part in.

Many of our members showed up at the San Diego Annual Helmet-Law Protest Ride. We weren't necessarily protesting helmets, just the fact that we are forced to wear them. The riders were reminded that every day could be a helmet protest day. Just don't put it on!

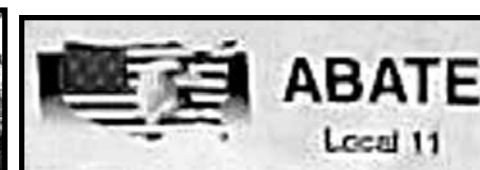
The Protest Ride was followed by good eats at San Diego Harley, and some good speakers. Our long-time friend Congressman "Bullet Bob" Filner was there. Just goes to show you that if you support a politician with time and help during their early years, they will be with you for years and years when you need them.

In the afternoon Sweetwater Harley had a poker run that ended back at the Sweetwater Dealership for a party on the patio on the roof for fireworks viewing. Kaboom!

Welcome to our new member George Geanoulis. Our meetings are held on the first Sunday of each month, at Kate Sessions Park in Pacific Beach in San Diego, at Noon. C'mon Down!

Would you like to spend a little time speaking to teenagers in a Driver's Ed class in your own area? We would be invited to give some tips to these new drivers about sharing the road with motorcycles. Interested? Have any questions? Contact John at (619) 223-0421 or [mcbwaycool@yahoo.com](mailto:mcbwaycool@yahoo.com). (MotorCycles Be Way Cool). We will see you next month!

## Local #11 North San Diego



Well folks we had another great turn out with about 25 members. We started out with a moment of silence for Sputnik who had passed away in Texas. Our treasury is doing great and we have an interim treasurer, as our regular treasurer has some family business to take care of. The main thrust of the meeting again is S.B.435 and Our Pres does a great job on explaining all the details.

On a higher note Connie's Lake Wolford Lodge will be open for our next meeting. Our 50/50 of \$35.00 was won by yours truly and I donated \$20 back.

The next run coming up is the Viet Nam Vets overnigher at Pala on August 20-21. Till next month. Jim

## Local #17 Solano & Napa Counties



We have a new webmaster, Gene Hamrick, who is doing an awesome job on our Local website. Check it out at [abate17.org](http://abate17.org). Thanks Gene! On it you will find pictures of our members at events, updated calendar of events, our Local newsletter, and also a list of all of our Business members - and we appreciate each and every one of them.

We have three events that we would like to update you all on. First being ABATE Local 17's Annual Memorial Run on Sunday, October 3. Join us in paying tribute to our ABATE brothers and sisters who have passed on. We will meet at Miss Darla's, 110 Peabody Rd., in Vacaville at 11 a.m. and ride to the Road Trip Bar & Grill in Capay where we will share our memories and celebrate the lives of our friends and loved ones.

# LOCAL NEWS

Second is our Biker Bingo Fun Run. Join us for Biker Bingo on Saturday, October 9. There will be 5 stops and 5 games. \$5 donation/card, no limits, pay-outs at each stop. Starts at 9:30 a.m. at Miss Darla's, 110 Peabody Rd., in Vacaville.

Third is on October 23, Straight Shooters is hosting a Poker Game (Texas Hold'em) with all proceeds going towards our Local. Save this date - more information will be coming.

This weekend we are co-hosting the Northern Calif Regional Rally at Kelly's Kamp in Upper Lake, I am sure there will be a story or two to tell next month.

And we would like to give a special "Thank you" to Jim Lombardo for taking the time to attend our last meeting and update everyone on the SB435 issue and how the system at the capital works. It is my opinion that everyone walked away with a better understanding of what goes on there. They might not agree, but they understand better. Ride Safe, Michele Stuart-McInnis

## Local #19 Pomona Valley

I am doing something a little different this month. I want to talk about a dealership in Montclair called Pomona Valley Harley Davidson. I've been doing business with these folks for over three years now and find them to be the best dealership I have encountered. There are great people working there who go out of their way to take care of their customers. The parts, service, motor clothes and sales people treat people like gold. I have been to a dealership or two where I felt like I was imposing on someone when I needed to buy something. In the service department, I have found that with respect and consideration the manager and the mechanics treat you fantastic. I realize that no one is perfect and things can go wrong, but talk to them and they find ways to make things right. More than once I have seen someone talking to the GM on the shop floor. He'll finish a conversation and walk away and the person he was talking to had no idea he was the General Manager of the dealership. These are down to earth people that take care of their customers. You might buy a bike a little cheaper at a different dealership but, you won't find anyone that will treat you better. Stop in sometime and say

hello to Brian, Rusty, Chris, Corina, Dana or Britney.

Word is out now on SB435. You will need that EPA stamp on your pipes if your bike was made after January first of 2011. It looks like for now it's the best we can do. Fear not for we have other battles to fight on our horizons.

I hope some of you made it to the Board meeting at B's Sports Bar here at Local 19. We enjoyed being the hosts again. It's always great to see everyone. If you haven't been to one of these quarterly meetings, pick one out and go sometime. It's an education.

It's summer and it is getting HOT out there. Please take care of yourself and your equipment. Pay attention to what your body and your bike are telling you. Keep an eye on your riding buddies and speak up if they look like they need a break. They probably do and a short rest stop won't hurt you either. The whole idea is to get out there and have some fun. You can always ride earlier in the morning or later in the afternoon to offset some of the heat.

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



We had a good July meeting with 22 people in attendance and 3 guests, Jered from Local 8, Dirty and our number 1 guest was Linda Kelly's Mom, Nancy, out from the Garden State of New Jersey. Welcome Nancy and enjoy your stay in sunny California.

SB 435 the Smog Bill was gutted by 90%. Assemblyman Jose Solorio was considered a no vote (by not voting). ABATE is staying neutral on this. SB 435 is not a smog bill now but a noise bill. We are also pushing for designated bike parking at local, state and capitol levels just like the cars have. The DMV testing for bikes needs to change be-

cause motorcycles are built longer than back in 1969.

Jered is the VP for Local 8 and was present at our meeting. Local 8 and 20 have been doing the Halloween run for the last 4-5 years. It is a big fundraiser for both Locals. Karyn (Love Bug) is head of the Halloween committee and is checking on what date we will have the run in October. We need many raffle prizes for this event. Any prizes will be appreciated.

Spike brought up the Capistrano Eagles food drive which benefits Father Serra's Pantry. It is taking place this Saturday, July 17.

Enjoy the beautiful summer weather. Ride Safe, Ride Free. Squirt

## Local #21 Antelope Valley



Ya, ya I'm blowing it! Hope the meeting was good. I'll see you next month. My apology to Glen for missing the run - I had to install a 328 gallon tank at Holiday Inn. I did send in some money. Love, Daryl

## Local #22 South Bay



Local 22 started our July meeting with a Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and all those who have done their part over the years to defend it. A very long moment was given for a man named Sputnik.

Pumped the sale of bike raffle tickets and spoke of 435 and the word "neutral".

Our ABATE members will continue to oppose 435 as "California voters who ride". As a realist I know we live on the left coast and it is easy to say vote em out, but reality is many of the people who vote against us as motorcyclists will be holding the office they now have and have plans to move through the system and will probably be sitting in committees we will come up against now and in the future.

Whether you're red, blue or any color under the rainbow, whether you drink coffee or tea we as a Local are going to go out of our way to stop in the offices of all elected officials and let them know that we ride and we vote and there are far greater issues to be taken care of in the great state of California than to just think of us as a minority that can be overlooked and dismissed.

The members who sit on the next group we come up against will be in their home districts so there should be no shortage of bikes parked outside their offices and California voters who ride letting the suits/skirts inside hear their views on motorcycle issues.

August comes before November so we will be keeping our eyes on the long term while keeping our hands on the short term. The rides and events to be supported are spread throughout the Bailing Wire, so with that I hope all get out enjoy the weather on two wheels. JohnnyO

## Local #23 San Bernardino



We had a lower than normal turnout for the July meeting possibly due to folks on summer vacations, maybe headed out for an early ride or quite possibly some of our Local 23 members did not get the word on the meeting date change because they are not on the email list. If you're not on the email list, please let me know so that I can be sure to get you on it.



# LOCAL NEWS

Not much happening, in the way of planned activities with Local 23 at the moment, but rest assured, there are things in the works. After our July meeting, a small group of us saddled up and followed our fearless leader up into the high desert for a really nice ride out to Slash X for burgers and cold drinks. Which reminds me, it's starting to warm up here folks so don't forget to throw that extra bottle of water on the bike the next time you head out in the heat, you never know when it will be your turn to get stranded on the side of the road.

This coming meeting is an important one that you do not want to miss, so make plans now to attend. Local 23 leadership elections are coming quick and nominations will be taken during the August 1 meeting.

The ABATE State Run is also fast approaching. Several Local 23 members plan to attend this year and Kevin has already promised to lead us through the back roads to Kernville again this year. Come on out and join us for a great time. I'm sure more discussion and information will be put out at the next meeting.

And I think that about wraps things up for Local 23 so until next month Ride Safe and keep working to protect our Freedoms of the Road! Russ

## Local #33 Yuba City

It has been a very tough month for our ABATE Local 33 family and friends. TAMC Chapter of the Eagle lost long time patch holder One Eye to a fatal motorcycle accident involving a deer. Over 100 bikers and 11 different M/Cs attended his memorial Monday, June 28. He will be sorely missed in our small, tight knit community

SOSWMC nearly lost Spiritrider June 25th when she had a devastating accident. Many of you know her as the bag piping Sister who has played the pipes for several memorials. She is recovering from several broken bones and we hope to have her back in the saddle in 9 months.

Please remember to hug your Brothers and Sisters, be grateful for each day we are able to ride and always fight the good fight against the tyranny of government intrusion on our rights to ride free.

I would like to thank Jim Lombardo, Anthony Jaime, and Sarge Matthews along with all the ABATE members who worked so diligently to rip the guts from SB435. It was a coalition of several MROs, M/Cs and Independents who stood together to voice our opposition at the State Capitol to the bill in whatever form Senator Pavley morphs it to!

We will be changing our meeting to the third Thursday of the month at the same place, American Legion Post #807 at 5477 Feather River Blvd in Linda. Dinner at 6 pm with the meeting to follow at 7 pm.

Don't forget the ABATE/Clampers/MMA Poker Run August 7! Contact Steve at [530] 749-1003, Gary 742-5992, or Strolin [530] 682-0330 for more information. Grumbles

## Local #38 Imperial Valley

Hope you all had a great 234th 4th of July celebration. I still feel, and always will, that this is the greatest country in the world. We have our problems, but at least we can try to fix them through our political process, even if we think it is slow.

It's full bore summer now, so be careful when you are riding, especially when it's hot. Local 38 is in the Imperial Valley where daytime temperatures can reach over 110 degrees. It doesn't take long riding in that heat to become dehydrated. You also have to watch out for bees. I was riding the other day in the morning heading up to the Laguna Mountains when low and behold I got zapped on the forehead by one of those critters. Well I pulled over when I could and got the stinger out with a credit card. I'm not really allergic to bee stings. No problem. So I continued. By the time I reached boulevard, my eyes were swelling. I told myself, I better get back home which was about 55 miles. I headed back and by the time I got home my eyes were half swollen shut. So as I said, be careful.

Mark your calendars and stay posted for our upcoming events: October will be our anniversary party ride; November 20, 2010 will be our Turkey Run and December will

be our Christmas Toy Run. Take care, safe riding and God Bless. Your president, Steve Mitosinka

## Local #40 Bakersfield



Hello again everyone! One more victory for American Freedoms thanks to ABATE. We are still here, your Local 40. The members showing up for our meetings are down, however we are still holding our meetings on the 1st Monday of the month at Magoo's on the corner of Stine and Harris.

Our next meeting will have one of our members educate us on helmet tickets. I know it is short notice, if you miss that meeting we will have another helmet ticket education meeting in October. Thanks again to all who continue to support ABATE and our Freedom to Ride.

## Donations...Another WOW

**Thank you Very Much to the following:**

**Bartels Harley-Davidson L22;  
Tom Baum L24;  
Ted Conklin L17;  
Robert Duvall L33;  
Ed Folts L29;  
Craig Gray L8;  
Ron Grossman L3;  
Harry's Sportsmans Lounge L17;  
Henry James L47;  
Tom Kirchner L20;  
Marshall Nash L6;  
Don Older L1;**

**Willie Patterson L13;  
Bart & Wendy Perry L6;  
Skip Fordyce Harley-Davidson (Riverside) L27;  
Skip Fordyce Harley-Davidson (Corona) L27;  
Art Subia L19;  
ABATE Locals: 2, 5, 11, 14, 21, 23, 24, and 27.**

And a big THANK YOU to Local 27 for your extra donation and a really big THANK YOU to Robert Duvall (Local 33) for the wood hand-carved sign

you sent to the State Office!!! deductible for Federal income "IF YOU'RE NOT A MEMBER OF tax purposes. However, dues ABATE YOU'RE HELPING THE and fees may qualify as business ENEMY, WHICH MAKES YOU THE expenses and may be deductible ENEMY" in limited circumstances subject

It was on display at the to various restrictions imposed by July Board Meeting – hope that the Internal Revenue code. everyone who attended saw it!!!

If you would like to send a Thank you all for your donation for the General, Lobbyist donations, they are very much or PAC fund, please write your appreciated!!! Please don't check payable & Mail to: ABATE forget to renew your ABATE of CA; 10240 7th Ave; Hesperia, Membership!! CA. 92345-2631. And write in the

Donations to ABATE Of memo the designated fund. California, Inc. are not tax **Thank you very much!**

# THE VIEW FROM THE OTHER SIDE

by Galileo

## I Have Seen the Enemy

I have seen the enemy, and he is *US* - among others. Now when I say "us" I don't mean ABATE in general, I mean motorcyclists in general. However, ABATE of CA is not exactly off the hook as being a part of "us." But before I go there, there is something else I must cover first.

The *View from the Other Side* no longer exists. I am no longer on the "other side." Back in November after over 8 years with the government, I quit my job with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, NHTSA. This change came about for many reasons. It was difficult for me to go to work every day for an agency that tells the people of the United States about how dedicated it is to saving the lives of people on the roadway of this nation, when what I really saw was people more concerned with politics and how important they can make themselves look than actually doing something to save lives.

Let's be clear here, I am not saying everybody at NHTSA is this way. To the contrary there are a lot of very hard working people who really do want to save lives. However, if the federal government really wanted to see traffic safety move forward, it would make NHTSA like the NTSB - free from government oversight. And like NTSB, it would hire experts in different fields to make decisions rather than long term government employees who really don't have a background in areas they are making decisions in. Two examples before I move on, car phones and graduated driver's license. Car phones: There are no studies that I am aware of that say using a car phone while driving is not a distraction, hands free or not. But what does the government decide to address? Texting! Only the worst part of a bad thing, giving the impression that they really care while it doesn't make large money contributors to politicians mad.

Graduated driver's license for motorcycles: NHTSA has \$2,000,000.00 to spend on implementing a graduated driver's license program for motorcycles in a state. The graduated driver's license program is in place in Europe and all indications are it can be very effective for keeping rider crashes down. I agree with this. However, Europe has the rider training program for graduated licensing in place. Here in the US we don't have any training program even close to what is used in Europe, let alone capable of handling a graduated licensing system. And, the motorcycle safety experts I have talked to say this type of program will not work here in the US. Oh, and if you look at the latest NHTSA Motorcycle Safety Fact Sheet, it talks about how unlicensed riders

are a large problem with respect to crashes and fatalities. I have a simple question; if I am already having a problem with unlicensed riders how is making it harder to get the proper license going to help?

Just one more question, wouldn't this \$2,000,000.00 have done wonders for the now completely off the track rider study that was suppose to update the Hurt study? This study would do far more toward addressing and understanding rider crashes than trying to implement a graduated driver's licensing program that we have no training for.



Just because I am no longer on the other side doesn't mean I will let up on ABATE. California has one of the largest riding populations, if not the largest in this country. This means ABATE of CA has to be one of the best, no... the best.... MRO in this nation in order represent all of these riders.

I would bet that most of you reading this would agree with me that most of the problems come from within, riders that simply don't know what they are doing, or think that they completely own the road they are on. We have all seen the sports bike riding hard and fast and sometimes dressed in shorts and tennis shoes. We see these guys and shake our heads because they are making us all look bad. To us these riders are really visible. But I have to tell you, the most visible riders out there that are dragging us down are the posers.

No, not the yuppie 50-somethings with the disposable incomes buying new bikes and riding. No, these people are not a problem; they at least get training and try to ride respectable. I am talking about the 1%er posers... the Sons of Anarchy wantabes. These riders are drawing attention to themselves because they want to show everybody on the road how bad they think they are. Out there riding the new Harleys with the loud pipes, tall handle bars, brand new beanie style helmets, tennis shoes, feet all splayed out and riding like crap in traffic because they think they know what they are doing. I commute 110 miles a day to work and back home now on my bike and I see 2 or 3 of these kinds of posers every week. I like to follow them and just watch them - I don't have time to tell you all the stories of what I have seen.

I have seen the enemy; he is a rider who thinks he is really bad, when a bad rider is all he really is. The problem for ABATE is how do you reach this rider? How do you bring this rider into the fold? Can you bring this rider into the fold? In his own mind he may be too bad to worry about our riding rights. There is one good thing about all of this, in a few years after this type of rider has helped destroy riding for a lot of people he will give up riding. This means there will be a lot of low mileage motorcycles for sale for those of us who are still around.

So, how do you reach the different riders out there, the yuppies, the sports bike riders and all of the other types of riders out there? I don't have any answer to this question, I wish I did. But, what I do know, is that trying to reach out to this rider comes under the education "E" in ABATE.

American Brotherhood Aimed Towards Education. Educate don't legislate. You know, the only real "action" word here is educate and/or education. Yet I really don't see or read a lot about what has been done to educate anybody. Let's start with a simple one - the cops. In reading *"The Bailing Wire"* twice in the last few months I have read about how bad the cops were at a meeting, writing down license numbers and taking photographs. I kind of chuckled at one point because all cops kind of got bunched into one bad group, the very actions that were being stressed as bad. I am not here to say if the cops were right or wrong. I am here to point out the fact that ABATE is suppose to "educate". Did anybody ever think to take the time to stop in to the local police department before hand and educate the cops as to who ABATE is, what the meeting was about and who would be attending?

I know, I know, we are citizens and we have rights. The cops should not be doing this stuff to us without cause. Fair words. But, ABATE is about education, it is about trying to protect the riding rights of all riders. This means that ABATE has the responsibility to take that extra step to follow through on what the name says, *EDUCATE*.

I know a lot of cops out there that ride motorcycles and that are very concerned about our rights to ride. These people can be valuable members in the long run. But, I can tell you right now, they are not going to become involved with any group that is just going to sit around and focus on a few favorite legal issues and talk about how bad the cops and the government are. They will however get involved in a group that has a focus and a distinct purpose toward making a better riding community for all riders. They will get involved with a group that follows the law they don't like while they try to change it. They will get involved with a group that tries to educate everybody, not fight the system under the guise of educa-

tion. People in general can respect a person, or a group, who sticks up for their rights, while at the same time respecting the rights of others. And, who fights a good fight with in the rules of society.

Let me say this another way, got to give a little respect to get a little respect. Cops and yuppies can go a long way in the fight for riding rights.

Now, this is where I step up to the plate. I am a retired cop, actually I am a retired motorcycle cop. For any future major gatherings I will volunteer to go with anybody on the Board of Directors to the law enforcement agency responsible for the location where the gathering is going to be held to introduce ourselves and explain our purpose. I will only do this with a Board member because one of the things the cops respect the most is a group that tries to police themselves. A Board member can give this assurance, and can be a contact for law enforcement. There are only two things that I need in order to do this, advance notice so that I can get it worked into my schedule, and somebody to contact me.

I have seen the enemy, he comes in many forms and he really is very strong. We as riders, we need ABATE to help defeat this enemy and mark my words, ABATE will only win the war if it is strong. So how does ABATE become strong? It really is all about education - the "E" in ABATE.

Galileo-g@sbcbglobal.net

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# Sporty's Rides

## by Lee 'Sporty' Milligan

Greetings All! Sporty here with the informative happenings about me. We start this month's review of the adventures with Local 19's Casa Colina run at the Chino Fair grounds. For this run you had the option of hanging out all day at the fair grounds or doing a poker run. I chose to do the poker run and off I went. It was a pretty simple run with stops at the Pomona HD and a couple of other places. It was an OK poker run and I enjoyed the route.

Now when I returned to the fair grounds I was captured by some pretty girls selling raffle tickets, yea girls, where in my haste I probably dropped my bike keys and promptly did the panic until I had the key back in my procession. Yaks! It is crummy being old with CFS, CRS and AFS. Some of you folks will know these symbols.

Well now it's time to check the raffle board and, darn, I won something but it's stuff that I can't eat. I have been pretty good on keeping to my diet of no, or only when it's the only thing, meat. So I ended up giving away my raffle prizes.

I also brought information to get folks to write to the Assembly Transportation committee on SB435. At that time folks didn't have a clue which way the bill would go, too bad for that. I must have handed out at least a hundred flyers with the information on who to write to committee wise. So all and all I saw friends I knew and enjoyed a fun day at Local 19's expense. Thanks folks.

June 20 was our meeting for Local one. I had the folks at the meeting sign a group letter asking Assembly Chair Bonnie Lowenthal to say no to the bill, which after the meeting I promptly faxed to Sacramento. Carol Cromwell had given me flyers against SB435 and who to write to. So I went to the world famous Rock Store in Cornell, California. Again it did not surprise me that folks still did not have much of a clue about this bill. Here I must have unloaded about 50 more flyers. Sweet job, Sporty!

June 25 was the annual Local 44 Summer Fun run, which I attended. Starting location was at Victorville HD. While I was talking up conservation with Dave Hastings at sign-in, I ran into Local 19 hero, Robert Cuthbertson, and we promptly decided to ride the route together. He has a new 800 cc BMW sport trail bike and he has a GPS system on it so directions were a breeze. For this trip I am on the 1200 Sporty low model.

So off we went and did the route and it was fun being with Robert. He is a good dude and cares about the future of motorcycling, so I am always glad when we can have fun together. At the end of the route they had stuff to do and vendors where I bought a bitchen pinkie finger ring and bought my best one a run tee shirt so she likes it as well. I had a swell day with the folks at Local 44 and I am always glad I can make their runs. They seem to have their stuff together.



The very next day I attended Local 5's Joy Ride. We, at least I thought there would be more folks from Local 1 attend, were meeting at Peter Daniel's house. Today I am riding my old one, the 2002 883 Sporty. So when I got to Peter's house so far so good. After waiting around for a courtesy period Peter and I were off to Joy world. We arrived at the starting point in West Covina and had the breakfast pancakes and pork sausage - biker events don't cater to the heart healthy conscious life style! At this point Peter went straight to the end point because his poor knees can't take the getting on and off of a poker run. I said my departing good byes and - Bam! - I was off to do the poker run solo.

My bike is still doing ok. Then the bike started acting up. How so, sporty? Well it was arcing off the frame, the battery anyway, and when it did that it made the speedo go from speed to zero. And when I pushed the battery unit down it would return to normal. So from that point on it was a pain in the ass because it would cause problems. I

sort of got it fixed at the check point, which was a HD repair shop called TNT. The owner gave me a wrench that fit the battery tie down strap and I tightened it down - good deal. It was fixed the rest of the day. Ok.

My poker hand sucked. The event was ok; the usual stuff for the Joy Ride. I got my picture taken with the pretty girl. She's hot and the picture is an ego boost. Thanks for an interesting, eventful day Local 5.

Ok I have been working in zone 3, which is located in Glendora, and have been riding my bike as the traffic is sometimes a bear going home, but not too bad in the morning. I have also been alternating my bikes, but mostly my newer bike the 1200 I Sporty. However since I was going to take a couple of road trips I decided to take the old bike to work. Around Sunland on the 210 fwy it started acting up again - arcing off the frame. By holding down the battery I was able to make it work sort of OK.

Now after work the ride home was an adventure. Folks, picture this: Riding on the 210 west towards home with one hand pressed on the battery to keep it from arcing off the frame and causing the bike to stop and start intermittently and one hand on the handle bars. I was a sight to behold. It was sort of ok until I got off the freeway by my house, then the fun began. I had to run the bike in a lower gear because you need two hands to gas and shift so I ended up putting my left foot on the battery to press the battery down so it would not arc off the frame and made it home. I think I have fixed the problem by insulating the battery area so hopefully it will not arc off the frame any more. Now I just gotta replace my head light.

OK folks, I am done with this month's installment of *Sporty's Rides*. Going to the Northern Regional Rally this weekend. Be good boys and girls. Regards, Sporty.



## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

by Lee 'Sporty' Milligan, Membership Chairman

OK all, Hi from Sporty. By the time you read this we will have announced the winner of the special raffle membership funding drive. This raffle helps fund the membership drive completely, so thanks for again supporting the drive and the membership chair, sporty.

Since the drive has started in January, we have gotten 101 new members and the Local with the most new members, at this stage of the drive, is Local 17 with 12 new members, followed by Local 20 with 10 new members and in third place at this point is Local 24 with 6 members.

While these are nice numbers, we can do a hell of a lot better. So do your best to get new members and just as equally important retain your renewals. They are the backbone of this organization.

If you need information on membership related items you can contact me at [mrsportyiii@yahoo.com](mailto:mrsportyiii@yahoo.com) or Carol at the state office. Finally THERE IS UNITY AND STRENGTH IN NUMBERS OF MEMBERS. Regards, Sporty.



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## You Can't Break These Laws!

by John Del Santo

There are a bunch of laws written in a lot of books, but there are certain laws the good rider knows cannot be violated. These laws are: Friction, Momentum, Centrifugal Force, and Gravity. A rider won't get a ticket for breaking these laws, but will end up in a ditch or hard up against a big tree.

Friction, or traction, is the one that keeps you stuck to the road. The first step in insuring traction is a good set of tires with good tread and proper inflation. If the air pressure is too high or low, the tire tread will cup or bow, and will start to lose traction.

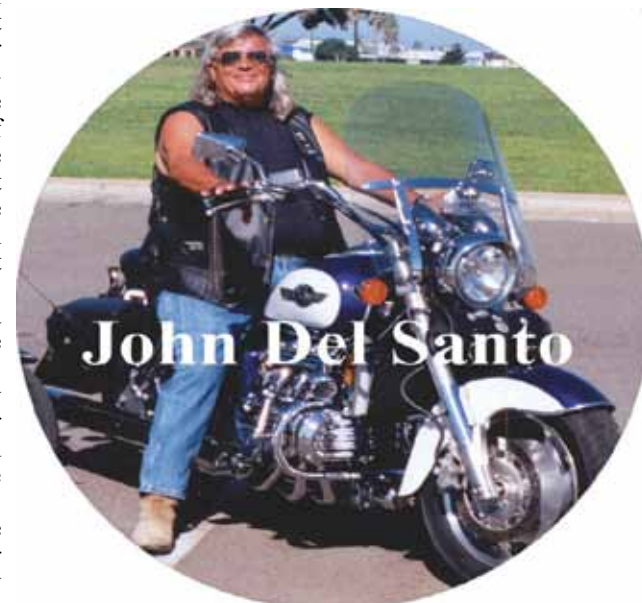
Read the road; what looks like wet road can be black ice. You'll often find this first on the shady side of the hill or on or under overpasses. Is it an older road that is not banked? Or worse yet, banked the wrong way? Hit your brakes hard in there and it's adios traction and hello centrifugal force. What's around that curve? Does the curve get tighter halfway through? Is there a cow or a line of stopped traffic just around the bend? If you need to brake hard in a curve, you need to brake through it in a straight line; straighten up so that you are not tipped, and hit the brakes as hard as you can. If you are running out of room and heading toward the apex of the curve, point your front end more into the curve and brake again in a straight line. If your back brake locks, leave it locked! If you unlock a skidding rear wheel, you are looking at a severe change of balance, a terrible loss of control, and a highside crash. Depending on who you talk to and what kind of riding they do, there are different braking techniques. You can never get enough practice braking. Even taking an Experienced Rider Course again would certainly be a plus before the day that you really need to stop!

When on slippery roads, anything that changes the smooth flow of your forward momentum can cause your bike to head off in a direction you had not intended. Easy

acceleration, light braking, and smooth steering are necessary. If you double your speed, you will need almost four times the distance to stop because of the increased velocity (Inverse Square Law). Triple your speed and you will need nine times the stopping distance! Following distance is like money, you can never have too much, but if you have a little less than you need, you're in trouble.

Keep yourself in shape. The good rider will know when to call for a break; while your reflexes and reactions are still sharp. Kenny Rogers said it best in a song; "know when to hold 'em and know when to fold 'em". Follow that advice and you won't end up like Paul Simons' song; "Slip Slidin' Away".

Respect the laws of physics and Ride Safe!



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# [ABATE Board Meeting]



## Aim High in Steering by John Del Santo

Aim WAY up the road watching for tall trucks and vans swerving in their lane to avoid things in the road. Last month Caltrans picked up tons and tons of small items off the freeways and about 50 mattresses, 20 ladders and a dozen stoves and refrigerators. Last MONTH!

Keep a good following distance. Keeping a good two or three second following distance will give you the time and space to avoid things in the road.

Constant surface appraisal can help you keep the shiny side UP!

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## COAST TO COAST BIKER NEWS

### Compiled & Edited by Bill Bish

#### RALLY RESCINDS DISCRIMINATORY NO-COLORS POLICY:

Following a "Call to Action" issued by the U.S. Defenders, a politically active arm of the Confederation of Clubs, a major motorcycle rally in the red hills of Oklahoma has rescinded a "No Colors" policy that would have prohibited entry to anyone wearing a patch, including HOG, ABATE and any club.

The Hawg Lakes Motorcycle Rally published a no colors policy on their fliers, ads and website that quickly stirred an uproar across the country, due largely to an e-mail "Call to Action" conducted by the U.S. Defenders and the Oklahoma Confederation of Clubs.

Brook "Xman" Bullock, State Secretary of ABATE of Oklahoma and Oklahoma Defender Rep, sent out a nationwide call to action to "Please take your money and support to BIKER FRIENDLY rallies and events, not 2010 Hawg Lakes. Pass the Word." According to the e-mail; "2R" (ABATE of Oklahoma State Coordinator) personally talked on the phone with Hawg Lakes and "the guy in charge said he was absolutely unwilling to change his policy. ABATE, HOG, BACA, and not any Club, no colors of any kind will be allowed."

Mark "Bus" Buskirk, Oklahoma Commander, U.S. Defenders wrote "Hawg Lakes Rally on July 29 will not allow you to wear your club colors on their property. So we the motorcycling community need to not go. They are stomping on our rights of freedom of speech."

Within days, the "Call to Action" was called off when Tiger Mike Revere, ABATE of Oklahoma Liaison to the OK Confederation of Clubs and member of the National Coalition of Motorcyclists Board of Directors, reported that; "The Hawg Lakes event has RESCINDED its No-Colors Ban -- Score one for our side!!"

#### MYRTLE BEACH SUED AGAIN OVER NOISE LAW:

As Myrtle Beach prepares to adjust some of the 14 ordinances passed in 2008 to quell the May motorcycle rallies, including their city-wide helmet law and four other ordinances being invalidated by the state's high court, it faces yet another legal challenge that could require even more changes.

Some residents and other motorcycle enthusiasts are suing the city again, this time hoping the Horry County Circuit Court will overturn the city's noise ordinance.

Under the final version of the noise ordinance amendment, which gained final approval in March 2009, no vehicles except emergency vehicles can be louder than 89 decibels when measured from 20 inches away from the exhaust pipe, at a 45-degree angle, while the vehicle is idling. Bikers also must have an EPA issued sticker that state their bike meets federal noise reduction laws according to the municipal ordinance, but not South Carolina state law.

On June 15 Virginia-based Aid to Injured Motorcyclists (AIM) attorney Tom McGrath filed suit in Horry County Circuit Court on behalf of local motel owner William O'Day, Horry County ABATE, and others who feel the city overstepped their authority in enacting muffler regulations that conflict with existing state law.



McGrath's challenge to the city's helmet ordinance prevailed in the S.C. Supreme Court, with all five justices unanimously agreeing that the state has already covered the issue of who has to wear motorcycle helmets and that the city could not make its own rules because there must be a uniform traffic code.

The noise ordinance wasn't included in the case the high court recently ruled on, he said, because the focus was on the helmet law. "They were issuing tickets left and right [under the helmet law]," he said. "No one we know had gotten a ticket under the noise ordinance. It's still sitting there, and the city has bought decibel meters, so we assume they are planning to use them. We felt we shouldn't let the ordinance stay on the books."

McGrath said he felt it best to give the Circuit Court the first chance to make the decision in this case. "Let's see if the judge will follow the Supreme Court's opinion," he told the Sun News.

Meanwhile, the city of Myrtle Beach has mailed out refunds to those who paid fines when they received tickets for not wearing motorcycle helmets. The city repaid nearly \$14,000 in fines for 141 tickets it issued when the improper helmet law was in effect.

#### MICHIGAN'S REJUVENATED HELMET LAW REPEAL EFFORTS: HB 4747

to repeal the helmet law was passed by the Michigan House of Representatives in March, and now awaits action in the Senate. Even though similar legislation has been approved by the state legislature the past two sessions, only to be vetoed by outgoing Governor Jennifer Granholm (D) both times, two out of the three gubernatorial contenders to replace her support giving adult motorcyclists freedom of choice.

Herb Rials who lobbies for ABATE of Michigan claims to have the support of every candidate for governor minus one, he told FOX News in Detroit.

According to the legislative analysis of HB 4747, proponents of voiding the 40-year old helmet law argue it is a civil rights issue. "Wearing a helmet, or not wearing one, they say, should be a matter of personal choice and not a legal mandate." Supporters of repeal legislation, which includes ABATE, the Michigan Confederation of Clubs and both Democratic gubernatorial hopefuls, also argue that removing the helmet requirement would increase motorcycle traffic in Michigan and thereby stimulate the state's sagging economy.

"Our outdated helmet law is a barrier to motorcycle tourism," argues ABATE's Jim Rhoades. "Michigan is the only Great Lakes state with a mandatory helmet law. Surveys repeatedly show that an overwhelming majority of motorcyclists in neighboring states refuse to visit Michigan because of this law." According to a study done by Michigan Consultants in Lansing, Michigan is losing millions of tourism dollars and approximately \$1.2 billion in overall economic benefit because of this law.

So if the House and Senate vote next year to kill the helmet law as they have in years past, there's a good chance that a governor's signature, not a veto, will be attached to the measure.

#### CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION REINFORCES NHTSA LOBBYING BAN:

In response to statements made by NHTSA Administrator David Strickland that the core component of the federal agency's motorcycle safety plan is to increase helmet use, five members of Congress have introduced a resolution urging the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to concentrate on motorcycle crash prevention and rider education instead of lobbying state legislators to enact mandatory helmet laws. Introduced on July 1 by U.S. Rep. Jim Sensenbrenner (R-WI), H. Res 1498 "supports efforts to retain the ban on the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's ability to lobby state legislatures using federal tax dollars and urging NHTSA to focus on crash prevention and rider education". Since 1996, NHTSA has been prohibited by federal law from testifying before state legislatures in support of helmet laws unless specifically invited to do so, and H. Res 1498 reinforces Congressional intent.

#### COULD A HELMET BE BAD FOR A BIKER'S HEALTH?:

Most countries around the world require motorcyclists to wear a crash helmet for their own safety, but could it actually be harming their health and affecting their riding? That is what academics are investigating in a new research project.

A team of Bath University researchers will take on-road measurements to find how noise is transmitted from a helmet and how it affects the riders hearing and ability to concentrate.

Dr. Michael Carley of the university's Department of Mechanical Engineering said: "The noise inside the helmet at the legal speed of 70 mph is higher than the legal limit for noise at work - more than enough to cause serious hearing damage. The issue isn't noisy engines or loud exhausts as you may think. The noise is simply from the air-flow over the helmet.

"Ear plugs won't help much either as the noise is transferred into the inner ear from the rider's bones. This has been known for 20 years yet little research has been done on the noise and its effects."

The laboratory study will be split into two parts; the first will examine how noise is transmitted through the whole system of the helmet including the head. The second part will determine if noise reduces performance. Dr. Nigel Holt from the Department of Psychology at Bath Spa University said: "It is

Continued on Page 15



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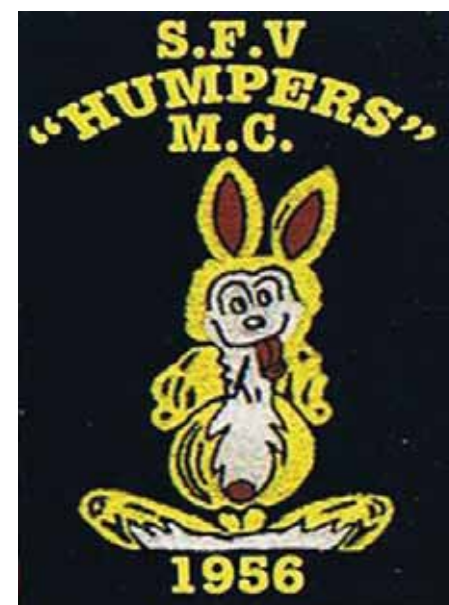
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From page 12

# COAST TO COAST BIKER NEWS

known that noise can affect perception and cognition but, so far, nobody has tried to examine how noise in motorcycling affects the performance of riders."

Riding a motorcycle requires great attention and concentration; anything that reduces performance may lead to more accidents. Dr. Holt added: "This isn't about putting people off riding or wearing helmets; it's about finding ways to reduce this damage so that riders can have a better riding experience. We hope the research will provide information which can be used in setting standards for helmets and to help improve helmet and motorcycle design."

**DEBT CRISIS IMPACTS GLOBAL MOTORCYCLE SALES:** Yamaha Motor Co., the world's second-largest motorcycle maker, said sales in North America and Europe may fall twice as much as forecast, as a spreading debt crisis dampens demand.

"From May, there has been a sudden impact from the Greek crisis," Chief Executive Officer Hiroyuki Yanagi told the Washington Post. Combined sales in North America and Europe may decline as much as 20% this year, compared with an earlier estimate for a drop of about 10%, he said in an interview from Tokyo.

The company last year posted its first loss since the year ended April 1984 as sales tumbled 45% in North America and 25% in Europe, though sales in Asia excluding Japan may exceed a 14% growth forecast, so

Yamaha expects to break even this year says Yanagi.

Honda Motor Co., the world's largest motorcycle maker, said in an April presentation it expects its two-wheeler sales in North America and Europe to drop less than 1% to 385,000 units in the fiscal year ending March 31.

**AUSTRALIAN POLICE SEEK TO DISMANTLE OUTLAW CLUBS:** As police in New South Wales move to have the Supreme Court declare the Hells Angels MC a "criminal organization" and subject to new laws that would dismantle the club and disallow members from ever associating with one another, representatives of the United Motorcycle Council met in Sydney recently to discuss their response and warn others that the same state law could be used against other clubs and groups in society.

Authorities announced in early July that the "Hells Angels MC in NSW" would be the first target of the Crimes (Criminal Organizations Control) Act 2009, passed by State Parliament in April last year, which allows the court to declare criminal organizations and control members under orders determined by the court.

The UMC, comprised of 17 motorcycle clubs -- from rival "bikie gangs" to religious and family clubs -- is raising funds in anticipation of a legal challenge to the ban. Mark "Ferret" Maroney, UMC chairman and

member of the Vietnam Veterans MC, said: "These laws are unjust, they're unnecessary and they go against the rule of law, where people are being discriminated against by the clothes they wear and their lifestyle." Similar legislation in South Australia has been ruled illegal, but is subject to a High Court appeal.

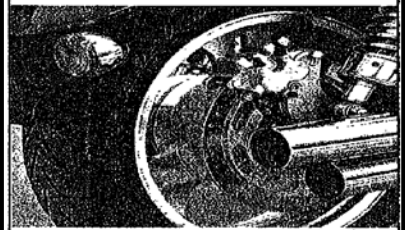
**MACHO MUNICIPALITIES:** Think you're a manly man? Maybe, but do you live in the manliest city? From the research experts behind the popular "Best Places to Live" studies, the Combos "America's Manliest Cities" study ranks 50 major metropolitan areas, using manly criteria like the number of home improvement stores, steak houses, pickup trucks and motorcycles per capita.

Charlotte took the top spot this year, beating out Nashville as last year's winner. Portland, Oregon ranked last in this year's study.

**AMERICA'S MANLIEST CITIES:** 1] Charlotte, NC; 2] Columbus, OH; 3] Kansas City, MO; 4] Nashville, TN; 5] Baltimore, MD; 6] Milwaukee, WI; 7] Chicago, IL; 8] Indianapolis, IN; 9] Washington, D.C.; 10] Philadelphia, PA.

**QUOTABLE QUOTE:** "The world is a dangerous place, not because of those who do evil, but because of those who look on and do nothing." ~ Albert Einstein (1879-1955) Scientist, humanist.

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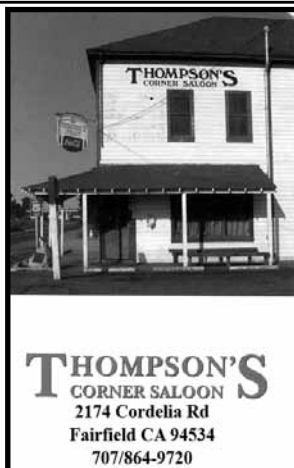
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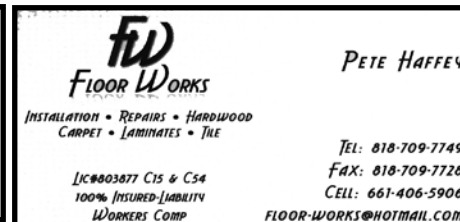
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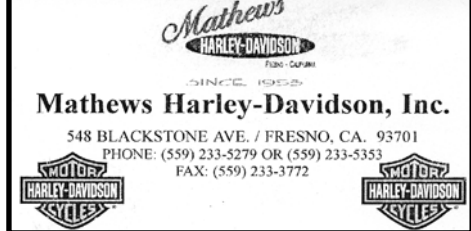


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## From E-CYCLE News

### THE PASSING OF SPUTNIK, "LEGISLATIVE WARRIOR"

8/12/1939 – 6/24/2010

It is with heavy heart that the National Coalition Of Motorcyclists announces the passing of William "Sputnik" Strain, legendary bikers rights activist from the Lone Star State. According to the Texas Motorcycle Rights Association; "Our great Leader, Sputnik, passed away suddenly at approximately 5:00 AM June 24, 2010 from a massive heart attack."

Sputnik, inspired in the early nineties after attending the NCOM Convention in Atlantic City, was instrumental in organizing the grass roots effort to repeal the mandatory helmet law in Texas. Not stopping there, the "Legislative Warrior" spread the word throughout the motorcycling community with his "Five Steps to Freedom" to "Take back our country" and, in turn, inspired countless motorcyclists across the country to become politically active.

In Texas, he went on to spearhead election campaigns to get bikers elected to

public office and formed the most effective caucus in the state, eventually enacting numerous biker-friendly laws and killing not only every anti-biker bill proposed but the political careers of those who dared to introduce them. Sputnik wrote the book on Texas politics, literally, as school textbooks have chronicled his achievements.



In addition to founding the TMRA2, Sputnik was a longtime member of the NCOM Legislative Task Force, and served as NCOM-LTF Chairman the past three years despite his failing health.

"Sputnik believed in everything he said and losing that determination will be a great loss to the motorcycling community. The greatest tribute to him is to push forth with our fight for freedom and not let his death be in vain," said James "Doc" Reichenbach III, Chairman of the NCOM Board of Directors and State President of ABATE of Florida, Inc.

Echoing the sentiments expressed by the entire motorcycle community, NCOM Founder Richard M. Lester said; "Sputnik is so universally loved and respected, from MRO leadership to COC patch holders and from bikers on the street to state and federal lawmakers, that his passing leaves a void which can only be filled by all of us moving forward together with his spirit and resolve."

Funeral/Memorial Services were on July 10th. The upcoming 26th Annual NCOM Convention in Albuquerque, N.M. next May 5-8, 2011, will be dedicated to his memory.



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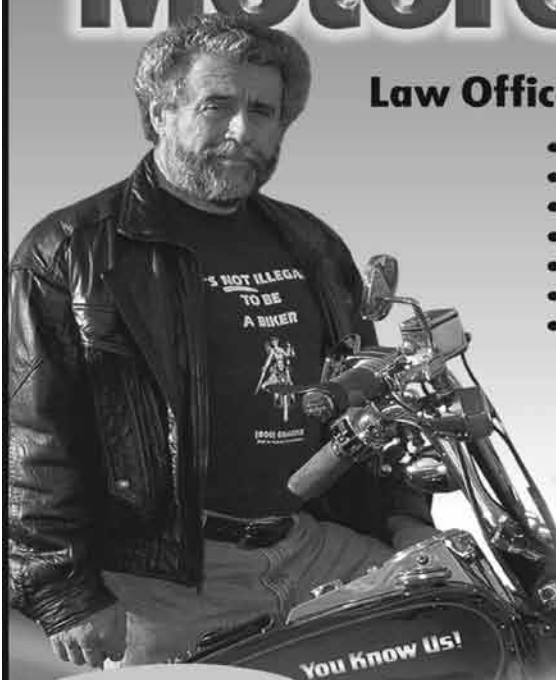
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# ABATE Of California EVENTS

**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 12** – ABATE Local #27 – 2nd Annual Poker Run - Sign-in 9am – 10:30 am \$15/person (includes Lg or XLG Tee-shirt to first 100 at sign-in) American Legion Post #79; 2979 Dexter Dr.; Riverside. More Info: Ken at [Kennuttall@aol.com](mailto:Kennuttall@aol.com) or 951/377-5772 OR Greg at [gmcvl@yahoo.com](mailto:gmcvl@yahoo.com)

**September 16** - ABATE Local 27 & Jay Gordon and the Penetrators – Party in the Park – American Legion Post #79 at 2979 Dexter Dr; Fairmont Park; Riverside 6pm – 11pm \$10.00 Cover charge/person

**September 17, 18 & 19 ABATE State Run – Kernville. (Flyer this issue)**

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

**October 3** - ABATE Local 17's Annual Memorial Run join us in paying tribute to our ABATE brothers and sisters who have passed on. We will meet at Miss Darla's, 110 Peabody Rd., Vacaville, at 11 am and ride to the Road Trip Bar & Grill in Capay where we will share our memories and celebrate the lives of our friends and loved ones. Contact Frank Guzzo at [707] 449-0652 or Mike at [707] 688-4550. [www.abate17.org](http://www.abate17.org)

**TBA** - ABATE Of California, Inc. Quarterly Meetings.

**October 9** - ABATE Local 17's Biker Bingo Fun Run join us for Biker Bingo. 5 stops, 5 games, \$5 donation/card, no limits, pay-outs at each stop. Starts at 9:30 am at Miss Darla's, 110 Peabody Rd., Vacaville. Contact: Mike [707] 688-4550, [mfsouthward@comcast.net](mailto:mfsouthward@comcast.net); or Scooter [707] 688-8874. Web: [www.abate17.org](http://www.abate17.org)

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

**November 20** – ABATE Local 38 – Turkey 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 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.



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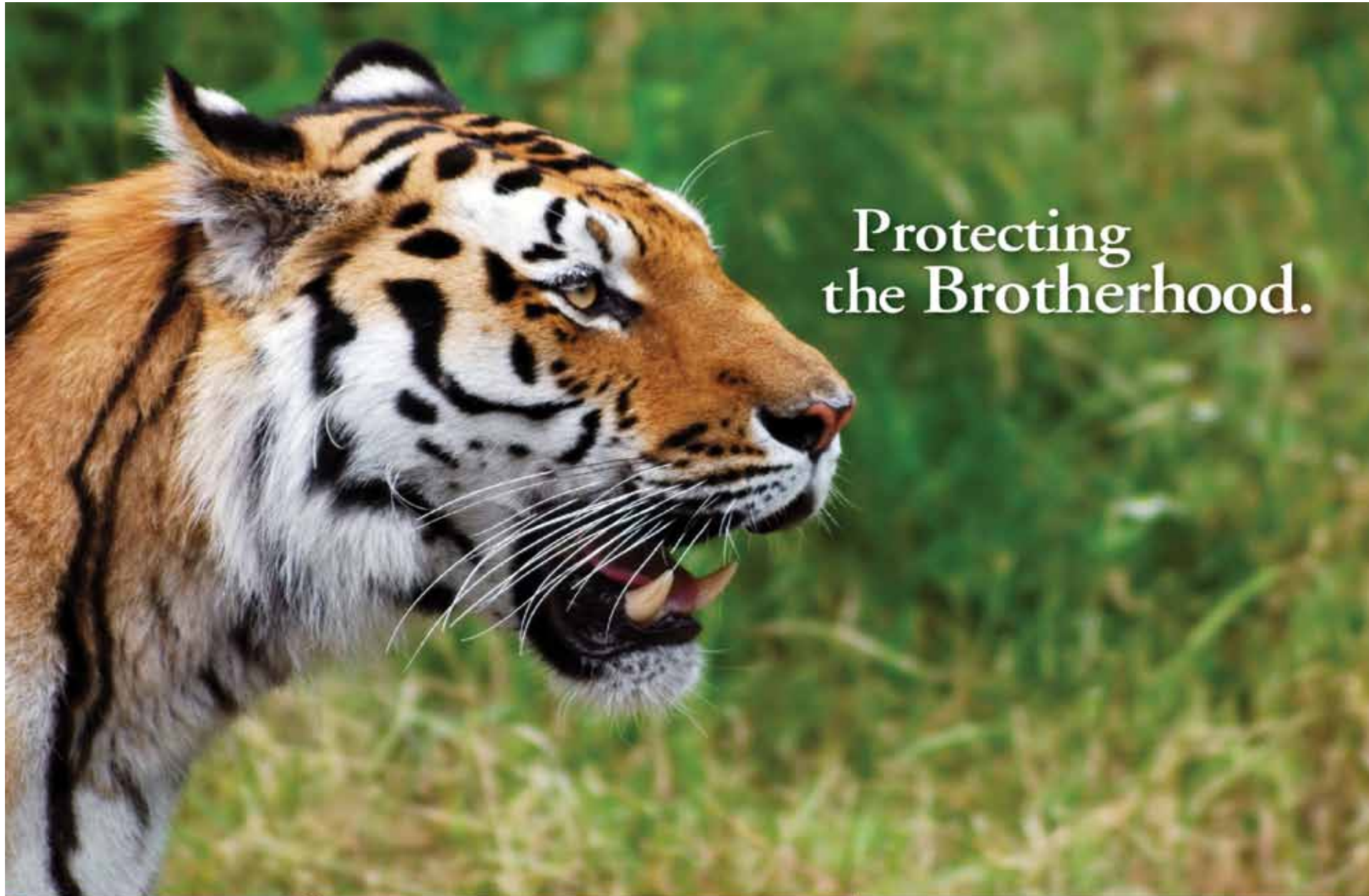
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**Thousand Oaks-Local#03-Reg#7**

Chuck Pedersen 3rd Thurs - 7:00 PM  
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 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  
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 619/223-0421

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

Ryan Vincent 2nd Mon. 7:30PM  
 American Legion #354  
 714/785-8384 8071 Whitaker, Buena Park

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

Cory Torioan 1st Tues. 7:00 PM  
 949/496-2936 Denny's  
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**Tuolumne County-Local#10-Reg#5**

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

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

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 Oxnard 805/486-1093 300 Surfside Dr.  
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 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

**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 1542 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  
 Jenny's Family Restaurant  
 909/793-1112 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**

Greg Covell 1st Tues - 7:30 PM  
 P.O. Box 7070 Flo's Farmhouse Cafe  
 Riverside CA 92313 5620 Van Buren Blvd.  
 951/522-3434 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 Rattlesnake Jakes  
 29 Palms CA 92277 51572 29 Palms Hwy  
 760/367-1694 Morongo Valley 92256

**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 Thurs. - 7:PM  
 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