

The Bailing Wire

ABATE of CA. Newsletter for Motorcyclists Volume XXXV ISSUE X

A Union of Motorcyclists
Dedicated to Freedom of the Road

October 2016



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD *Presented To* **JIM BROWN**

To acknowledge your Lifetime Commitment to the motorcycle rights community with your many contributions of time, energy, experience and financial support. Your efforts have helped all motorcycle riders in ABATE of California and Local 6 San Diego for the past 25 years.

LIVE TO RIDE, RIDE TO LIVE
MAY 2016

American
Brotherhood
Aimed
Towards
Education



At our Local 6 (San Diego) ABATE meeting on August 7, we had the honor of presenting the ABATE Lifetime Achievement Award to Jim Brown. Jim has been a member of Local 6 since March of 1991. He's served as Treasurer, is our Liaison to San Diego Harley Davidson, and has for many years had the distinction of being Officer Emeritus. We can always count on Jim to handle our 50-50 and raffles. He has worked on most of our events, political efforts, donated financially to the Local and State, and always been there when needed.

Jim is in his 80s, and has more energy and enthusiasm than many half his age. He retired from the U.S. Navy in 1982 after proudly serving for 31 years of service. And before that he was in the U.S. Marine Corp Reserves for two years. He volunteers in his neighborhood and for many years helped cover graffiti and tagging... Keep America Beautiful!

Many of us have asked Jim to adopt us since he buys a new bike one or two times a year - mostly Harleys - but the latest being a new Spyder. Due to eyesight restrictions, he no longer rides at night, but you can bet you'll see him pull up to Kate Sessions Park on the first Sunday of the month.

Live to ride, ride to live for many more years, Jim. Thank you!

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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 Dave Hastings, Executive Director

I've just returned from our 3rd quarterly Board of Director's meeting in Fresno and wanted to give everyone a quick update on the items covered in the meeting so I will combine that information with my usual report.

All of our Board of Director members were in attendance except for Dan Buse and Adam Lutz who were both excused prior to the meeting date. We had representatives from 13 of our 21 Locals present and 6 of our 8 Regional Representatives were in attendance at the meeting.

After conducting routine opening business we held a "Moment of Silence" for recently departed members Alan Meigs, Local 31, and Richard Mobraaten, Local 3.

This was followed by the presentation of the State Treasurer's Report by Mark "Dogman" Castillero and a request for the Locals who have not already done so to include him on their Local bank accounts. This guarantees the Local members access to their funds if the need should ever arise. As stated before, this has happened in the past and unfortunately some of our Locals have lost monies that were rightfully theirs because they did not have an authorized signer available for their accounts. By placing our State Treasurer on your account, you will have that signer available if, and only if, the Local needs and specifically authorizes him to gain access to the account for them. Protect your Local funds by placing our State Treasurer on all of your Local accounts. If requested by your Local he could then verify deposits, withdrawals, checks written, and account balances and also set up new signers if there was ever a request and need by the Local members to make those inquiries/changes to their account.

Rusty Russell, our ABATE insurance advisor, presented a possible option on our State insurance policy that will be examined by the Board of Directors for next year. This may offer some savings on the policy that we currently have by offering a lower price on event and run insurance costs. We will report back to you on this item as soon as we can examine and compare the policy to what we currently have. We will then make a recommendation on costs and benefits between the two and make a decision.

Keith Johnston from Local 3/13 has volunteered to fill our vacant MRF Liaison position and assume the duties of that department. Thank you Keith, this position has been vacant for a while now and your acceptance will benefit every member in our organization.

The Board of Directors authorized a "Fire Sale" for our ABATE of California merchandise currently in stock. Everything we have listed in the Bailing Wire will be sold at actual cost so check the inventory list in the Bailing Wire and then contact Carol Cromwell at the state office for the

cost. We are hoping to reduce our current inventory and looking at updating what we stock for our members. Please check what's on sale now and make your purchases before the inventory items you need are depleted. Some of these items are not going to be replaced again so get them now while you still have a chance!

The Board of Directors is still evaluating our options for a Regional Rally and State Run in 2017. Every year the cost to conduct these two events has climbed and unfortunately the profit margin continues to drop. We will have a decision by the next Board of Directors meeting on where we are headed with these two events next year and let our members know. The Board of Directors strongly desires to continue these two events, but they must make a profit or we will be forced to abandon them. We simply do not have the funding to subsidize the events and are looking at any and all options to return them to a profitable event for our organization in 2017.

The 2016 Freedom Fighter of the Year nominations were announced and they are: Geno Hamrick of Local 17 and Nick Benson Sr of Local 47. Please vote for one of these deserving individuals who have done so much for ABATE and helped improve the lives of motorcycle riders throughout our state. The ballot will be in this issue of our Bailing Wire so send it in quickly. If you know either one personally please give them a call or text and congratulate them for both their nomination and their contributions to ABATE.

During my "State of the State" address I brought up State and Local officer training, retention, and replacement. I stressed that the future of ABATE is dependent on these three issues. It doesn't matter how many members you have, without leadership the organization will cease to exist.

At both the Local and State level we need members willing to set goals, plan a course of action to achieve those goals, and guide our members down the road to the successful completion of those goals. We proudly call those people "Officers".

Nothing is ever sure when looking into the future, but goals must be established, pursued with determination and perseverance, and sometimes even modified to deal with day to day reality. Without leadership any organization will be like a ship without a rudder, aimlessly drifting until everyone abandons it to sink.

Many of our present Officers are aging and looking at retirement in both their private lives and their volunteer life with ABATE. When that day arrives they will be leaving or at least stepping back from their day to day responsibilities in our organization.

Don't let our ABATE fall victim to fate and become a rudderless ship. All of us have worked too long and hard to watch this organization drift aimlessly away. If you currently hold a position, you should be looking for and training your successor. If you do not currently hold a position, you need to start thinking about what you could do to improve and benefit ABATE of California. Volunteer, become an Officer, help out in any way possible.

ABATE is the strongest and most effective grass roots motorcycle organization in California. We need to keep our dreams, ambitions, and lifestyle protected and on course long into the foreseeable future. You hold the key to that future. Your desire, guidance, and strength is what keeps our ABATE door open. Don't lose sight of the goals we have all fought for.

Isn't it about time you are directly involved in that process? The key to the lock on ABATE's door will be in your hand soon. Which way are you going to turn it? That choice is going to be left up to you sooner than you think. Start making your plans now.

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Mission Statement

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

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

Join on Page 16

ABATE OF CALIFORNIA, INC.

American Brotherhood Aimed Towards Education

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Bill Bish, Sporty Milligan, Jim Lombardo, Dave Hastings, Norm E. Newiger & 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.

Business Card size \$15.00/Mo \$150.00/YR
Business Card with color \$20.00/Mo \$200.00/YR
Super-Size Business Card with color \$250.00 Yearly only

A Super-Size Business Membership includes Business card on our website with a web link to your business.

ALL Yearly rates Includes a Business membership to ABATE of California.

Business Memberships include two persons at the same mailing address, and a display plaque for the first year.

Business cards need to be mailed to the ABATE State Office with membership application and appropriate fee.

Other Business Ads or NON-ABATE Event Flyers Rate:

¼ Page (5" w x 7.8" h) \$150.00/Mo \$1,500.00/Yr.

½ Page (10" w x 7.8" h) \$175.00/Mo \$1,750.00/Yr.

Full Page (10" w x 15.5" h) \$350.00/Mo \$3,500.00/Yr.

Color ads are 25% extra.

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP SPECIAL

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

Color for an ad or flyer is extra and (ad copy, print ready) must be submitted showing color. All ads MUST be pre-paid for whatever duration you will be running the ad. Prices do not include any changes that you may want to make to existing ads placed with us.

Ads should be submitted electronically – in a jpg or tiff file – email to bailing.wire@abate.org and either mail payment to the address below or call with credit card number and billing information.

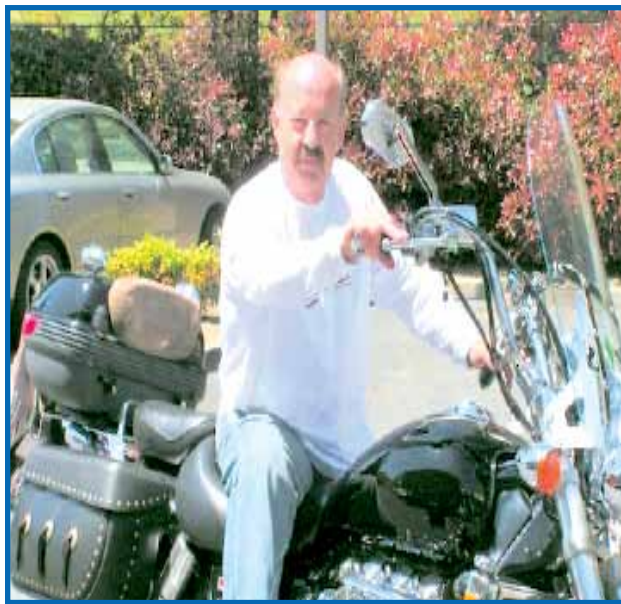
CLASSIFIED Members may advertise in the Classified Section at no charge.

PHOTOS

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

Donations to ABATE Of California are not deductible for Federal income tax purposes. However, dues and fees may qualify as business expenses and may be deductible in limited circumstances subject to various restrictions imposed by the Internal Revenue Code.

Lobbyist's Report



by James Lombardo, Lobbyist

As the California Legislator recessed on August 31st, the Governor has all Bills passed on his Desk. He signed the NEW Climate Change and Farm Workers Overtime Pay

Bills, while Vetoing Elimination Sales Tax for Tampons and Baby Diapers - these are just some of the Bills Governor Brown has acted on! Our bill, AB 1932 Obernolte, which gives Us/Riders a choice in Traffic Schools when removing a point on our DMV record, the Governor has until September 30th to Sign or Veto.

It's Election Season, it's important to go out and support District Senators & Assemblymembers that support our Cause. The TIME you spend volunteering to help candidates get Elected helps ABATE and us Lobbyists in the Capital! They will remember who was THERE when they had a tough election. They need volunteers to man phone banks, deliver signs to houses, etc. You just ask what they need help with and they really do remember those that showed up.

Thanks as always to those Individuals and Locals that contribute to the DEDICATED Lobbyist fund!

Scott Loeffler
Independent Agent / FAT Agency

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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, BOLT and any other motorcycle rights organization that strengthens our lobby on legislative issues and on motorcycle safety.

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LOCAL REPORTS

Local #01 Los Angeles



Local 1 is doing ok. Meetings are kinda small, but we get the information out. For those members that can't attend the meetings, I usually send a report of the important stuff out to those who have emails. This month at our meeting I am going to give a report on the Board of Directors meeting, which will happen the day before our September 18th meeting.

Hopefully we will have a toy run this year as it is getting close to the time when we have to start planning this event. Long range plans consist of the first talk about the 30th annual Polar Bear run. Plus we will discuss the two bills, AB-51 lane splitting and AB-1932 motorcycle safety training course in lieu of traffic school for a ticket.

As always I will encourage the members to attend ABATE functions. Also we will have Local 1 t-shirts for sale at \$10 each. This meeting will be missing Glen Cheslock and his best one, Jan, as they are off to Mammoth for their annual trek. Meeting will close with a delicious breakfast provided by the Elks.

Regards, Sporty, ABATE Local 1 president

Local #02 Simi Valley



It was really good to meet again with Local 2 tonight. After a month off, I couldn't wait to eat and drink with me good buds! This is about the atmosphere, the camaraderie, the BBQ, the fellowship and anything you bring to the table! We talked about a lot of stuff from Run Coordinator Bob's ride to Montana's Testicle Eating run then to Sturgis to PR Norm's history of corn gas by Henry Ford to Pat's new dog and health issues (diabetes) and Pattibock's Rips BAD Ride on October 12, 2016 at Red's BBQ in Simi Valley and Local 3/13's Zombie run and mostly what the fly on the wall heard.

We have this great meeting once a month on the second Tuesday of the month at VFW Post 10049 at 4242 East Los Angeles Ave. We start the night with a great BBQ of burgers/dogs and all the fixin's you need for only \$5.00! A great thanks to the volunteer cooks Ken, Scott and Frank. We start serving at 6:45 until 7:20 then our meeting starts promptly at 7:30.

VP Jim opened up our meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance - everyone was standing! Pres Guy talked about our Sweaty Buns run and current issues and introduced guests from Local 3/13 who were there for their upcoming rides.

VP Pattibock talked about her Rips Bad Ride, Secretary Jane read the minutes, Treasurer Pat gave us the report on our funds, PR Norm talked about the Bailing Wire, Membership Coordinator Frank gave us our monthly report and how we did on our last run, Run Coordinator Bob talked about his 4,000+ mile ride and our next upcoming group ride.

We also talked about our nominations for 2017 of-

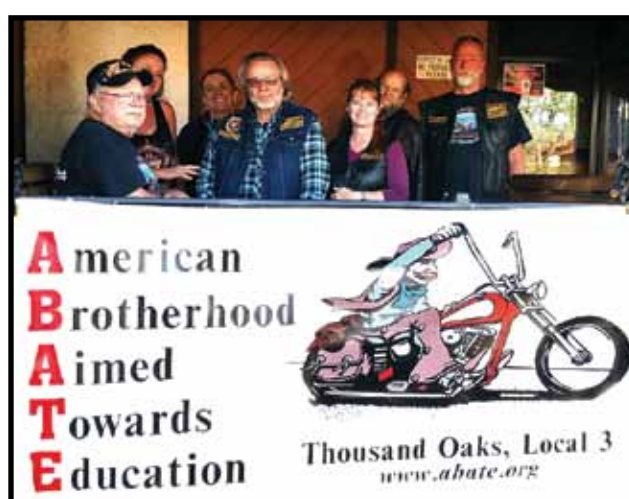
ficers, and if you want to be involved, and were not present at our last meeting, contact Jane and let her know. We had a good amount of raffle prizes and Pat won our membership drawing.

We missed all who could not attend tonight's meeting and hope to see you at the next meeting. Just remember, it's election time and even if you don't want to become an officer come and hear the prospective officers spill their guts on why they should be the next officer. It's so great to hear their pleas on why you should vote for them! We are all dedicated officers that don't slack off and we take great pride in what we do as volunteers and yes we have fun and learn something new all the time.

A great thanks to VFW Post 10049 for allowing us to have their home for our meetings and use of their facilities!

Ride safer! PTL norm e.

Local #03/13 thousand Oaks & Ventura County



Two more new members joined us this last month. Welcome Billy and Shaina! We're proud of and thankful for the energy and dedication of our members! The enthusiasm continues! Inactive members have been showing their faces again, renewing and joining rides and meetings. Our V.P. Keith Johnston has stepped up to help run meetings and keep things organized, as our Prez has been attending to family matters. We have a great group!

Come ride the "Zombie Hunter" Paintball Train on the famous Fillmore Western Railway, Sunday, October 16th! We still have a few tickets left. Bring your friends and shoot paintballs at Zombies from a moving train! See flyer in this issue for details, and to register. Don't miss this, it will be a blast!

On Sunday, October 23rd, is our 8th Annual Trivia Run! Always a huge success and this year will also pay special tribute to our late Treasurer and longtime Brother, Don Martin. Find the flyer in this issue for details! Trivia, prizes, food and live music! This will be a great event.

October is also the month we build our ballot for Local 3/13 officers for the coming year. Nominees will be presented at our October 20th membership meeting. Nominate someone or put your own name up to hold an office and contribute to the direction of our group!

We're riding and making new friends in other clubs and groups. Spreading the word that ABATE helps all riders. It's all about motorcyclists' rights across all Clubs, Groups and Organizations! Supporting ABATE makes a statement and sends money to work towards fair treatment of motorcyclists. Whether you ride with ABATE or ride with another group, participating in these events contributes to those funds. We're feeling the comradery and we're feeling the interest in our mission! It's contagious!

Our President, and ABATE's California State Legislative Director, Chuck Pedersen, along with some of our officers, continue to network with various other groups, building alliances to assemble a formidable voice in Sacramento. Issues we are working on include AB-334 the Anti-Profiling Measure.

Bike Nights are held 1st Thursday of each month, 7 pm at Azar's Sport's Bar & Grill in Newbury Park; general membership meetings are on the 3rd Thursdays, 7 pm at the Elks Lodge, 158 N. Conejo School Road in Thousand Oaks; and Sunday rides every Sunday, meeting at Azar's for breakfast around 9:00 am and kick-stands up by 10:15.

Come join us at any or all of these events and bring your friends. Check us out on Facebook @ www.facebook.com/ABATE313 to follow our events and issues!

Ride Free! Kathleen B. P.R., Membership & Treasurer Local 3/13

Local #08 Orange County



I hope everyone is having a good year. Can you believe Halloween is almost here? We all better get our costumes ready. This year a lot of events are going on.

We had a Local 8 fund raiser swap meet at the So-Cal Cycle Swap Meet in Long Beach on August, 28th. Big "Thank You" to our workers Steve, D-Man, Danny, John and Cheryl. A shout out to Mario and Jered for dropping by. We sold many items left from the years past. Hold your junk; others may want sooner or later. We had a very smooth day with lots of lookers. John set up a donation for donations to Our Lobbyist. Thanks John for the brain storm on that one! We got a generous donation from Indian Jack of the American Metal Motorcycle group. Way to go Jack! Your donation is greatly appreciated.

The annual Totally Kids Run set up by Honda Ray and others is coming up soon, so keep your eyes open for the fliers. If you haven't gone yet, you should. I went many times over the years and it's a great experience every time, being around the kids, nurses and staff. When you leave after the event you will have a smile on your face and in turn you will put one on their faces. Oh yah, there is a mystery ride at the end of the day.

This is for those motorcycle riders/sports lovers. I know baseball playoffs are almost here and football just kicked off. So I suggest everyone should get a group together for a ride to your favorite sporting events. And what a better way to share our love of riding than to ride up in a pack and they get some support too.

Daniel

Local #11 North San Diego County



Hi All! We had a great meeting and were blessed with a beautiful day in the park at the Moose Lodge. What a great turnout with about 18 people there.

Thank you to Terry Jacobs and her ladies from the Graveyard Gamblers for being at the meeting.

Special thank you to Nancy Nemecek for being our guest speaker and giving us an update on the recent NCOM meeting held in Durango, CO. What a great report she gave us with a lot of information.

Eddy from Local 38 gave us info on his upcoming

LOCAL REPORTS

Turkey run in November, which is a great event.
Cheers! Robin Buse

Local #17 Alameda, Contra Costa, Solano & Napa Counties



As another summer season comes to an end, we have a couple more events left before our Holiday Party on December 3rd and our Toy Run the following day on December 4th.

On October 4th at 10 am we will meet at Judy's Wild Wrangler and leave at 11 am for the Road Trip for our annual Memorial run to remember our fallen members.

The following weekend is our Fall Bingo Fun Run on October 8th. Sign-ins start at 9 am at STR8 Shooter in Vacaville with first game at 10 am sharp. We will have 4 more stops in the process and end at the Road Trip Bar & Grill in Capay. This has become a favorite ride in both the spring and the fall for many and sure to be a good time. Please see flyer in this issue.

I would like to thank all my Officers and members for making this another successful year! Without our membership, Local 17 would not be the success it is. Also let me thank the volunteers that help year after year. There are too many to mention! We truly need more members to start helping out and give some of us a break. Being the largest Local in California that should not be too hard. We have 3 months to go to complete the year so think about showing up and lending a hand.

I have decided to run again for your President after my pleas for a volunteer were not successful for 2017. Our nominations are coming up in October's monthly membership meeting so keep that in mind and give some serious thought to being a part of ABATE Local 17! We also will be selecting our Charity donors for the year at this meeting.

Our Voters' Guide is under way and will be available to the members before elections in November. I sure hope everyone votes, as you can't complain unless you do!

Our 3rd quarterly Board of Directors meeting will be complete by this printing and I will have an update at our October membership meeting.

Thank you all in Local 17 for letting me try to keep this the best Local in California and I will see you around the next corner. Ride safe and free!

Glenn, Local 17 President & ABATE State Board Chairman

Local #19 Pomona Valley

Local 19 had our meeting on the 24th the usual suspects were present. We discussed AB 51 being passed and the need to be part of the conversation to create the guidelines that are now required. Local 19 had voted twice unanimously (those present at the meeting) to not support the bill.

We are also working on our 28th Annual Toy run benefitting Santa Claus of Chaffey District, Inc. To all of you who have supported our event in the past, please come out to our NEW LOCATION, Pomona Valley Harley-Davidson.

Our meetings are the 4th Wednesday of the month, 7 pm at Round Table Pizza on the SE corner of Mountain and Fourth Streets in Ontario. Everyone is welcome!

Diane Davis, Secretary/Treasurer

Local #20 Orange County



We started with the Pledge of Allegiance followed with a prayer from Pastor Tom Longbrake. 23 members and 2 guests were present. Welcome to our newest member, Tom Leswell.

Rick and Gill spoke about plastic car bumpers left on the sides of the freeway. The people who should be held responsible are the car owner or the tow truck company that didn't pick it for damages done to other vehicles.

Spike spoke about AB-51. CHP will be working with ABATE and other MROs as part of the process of making guidelines for lane sharing.

ABATE is going to try to have 3 bills coming up for the 2017 session which are 1) Profiling, 2) Helmet and 3) spike Bill for tractor trailers for safety.

ABATE Local 20 will be presenting a check to the Lobbyist Fund at the September Board Meeting in Fresno. Spike, Gill, Boomer and Squirt will be attending.

Doreen spoke about the upcoming Bike Night. The money raised for the night will be split between ABATE and the Downed Biker Fund. Pastor Tom/Bikers for Christ go and help the downed rider with ANYTHING that needs to be done.

Monica Burn missed out on the cash prize on the drawing so it goes right back into the treasure chest for next month. My granddaughter, Sky Green, won the drawing last month, but she wasn't present so it rolled over for the next month.

Gill wants to remind all ABATE members they are welcome to attend any Board meeting and we would like to see more of you there.

Non Politically Correct Gill
Secretary Squirt

Local #25 Sacramento



Local 25 did not have a meeting in August since our leader was out of state. I will be missing the meeting tomorrow night due to a family birthday and then I will be traveling cross-country in October and will miss that meeting also.

Sorry, not much to report.
David Smart

Local #38 Imperial Valley

Hi All! We had our annual Labor Day breakfast run, this time to Janet's Mountain Cafe in Alpine. Good food, friends, and weather! What more could you ask for!

Barb and I went to ABATE Local 11's monthly meeting. Nancy and Sarge were there fresh from their meeting in Colorado. They told us about the different issues that were discussed, very informative.

Also at Local 11's meeting they raffled off their margarita basket, which was won by Sandy Redfern from the City of Imperials City hall. I am the one that sold her the ticket!

Pres Dan let me talk about our upcoming Turkey Run. I told them how the need was up and donations are down. There was a passing of the hat, which netted \$75 to buy turkeys.

We are in serious need of donations, t-shirt sponsors and raffle prizes, too.

I tell everyone that if you attend this run once, it will be one of your favorite runs.

Get involved, donate, volunteer and attend our meetings.

Thanks Eddie Aranda, President ABATE Local 38

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

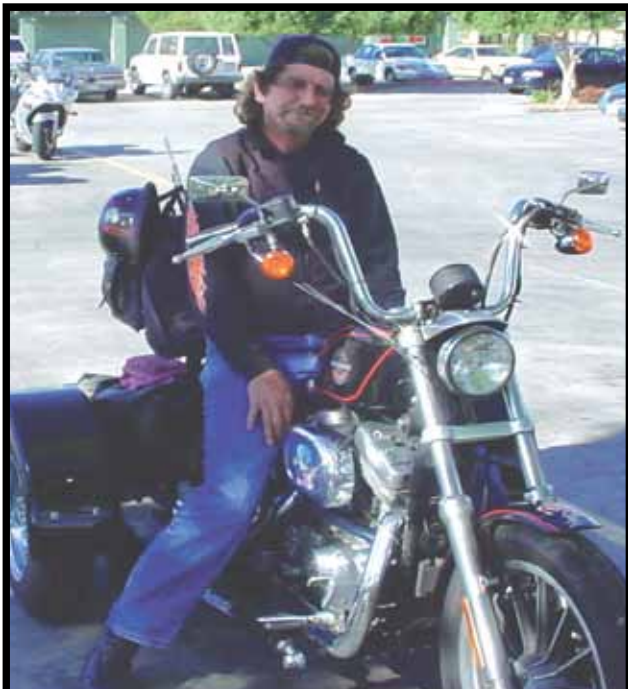
by Sporty Milligan,
Membership Chairman

Greetings All! The fall season is coming upon us and hopefully you are getting new members for ABATE and the Local presidents are encouraging their members who are due for renewal to renew their memberships. Plus you might like to win some money from our membership drive for getting the most new members. However some of you will get members because of your passion for helping ABATE succeed. Thank YOU!

We have a new bill, AB 51, that has been signed by the governor and chaptered. Lane Splitting will now be Legal in California effective January 1st, 2017!!! HOORAY!!! Thank you for all who helped by writing letters, and made phone calls, being active does work!

AB 1932, the traffic violator alternative DMV course, at this writing is sitting on the Governor's desk waiting for his signature.

These will work as recruitment tools to en-



courage new memberships. Use them in your spiel when you are recruiting a new member.

Good luck with the task of getting new members and keeping your renewals. I am confident we can do this, if we work at it.

Regards, Sporty, your Membership Chairman

FREEDOM FIGHTER NOMINATIONS FOR 2016

We have received the following nominations for the 2016 Freedom Fighter, and WE do Need our Members to VOTE. Please see the ballot in this issue and send it in to the State Office by November 15th, so the Winner can be announced in the December Bailing Wire.

Geno Hamrick, ABATE Local 17 Alameda, Contra Costa, Solano & Napa Counties

Nick Benson Sr., ABATE Local #44/47, High Desert, Barstow

With great pleasure I nominate Geno for Freedom Fighter of the Year. Geno has been in ABATE for 24 years. Geno originally joined to fight the helmet law that was



passed by Floyd. He became interested in being part of the group helping to work toward the rights and freedoms for Motorcyclists. Geno is always there for us when we need him.

Geno's first Officer position was as run coordinator. He found out, like so many others, that position is a lot of

hard work. Sometimes you had to just get the work done yourself. One of the difficulties is putting together a committee to help you organize a function. Everyone has different ideas and like work, it requires a lot of communication and listening. Geno didn't mind he would just keep pushing forward to get it done. He said that it felt good to start a project and see it through to the finish. Geno spent a few years being a run coordinator then he got a bug to try being Vice -President. He worked alongside Steve Fallon who was President. That was a fun year, a good time of growth.

Geno started working with putting out a printed Newsletter after the Vice President position. In the early stages of its existence we were trying to keep the Newsletter small but informative. There was always a crush to get it printed and sent out to the people in the Local. Often we would put it out at the regular Meeting for all. There was cost for mailing that seemed to get in the way.

Geno has always been willing to jump into projects and help others in office and at different functions. You get to see all the participating members and grow within the group. Actually we, Local 17, are a "Community".

Geno also got the bug to work on setting up a Website for Local 17. At first, we couldn't get anyone interested in having a Website. After some struggling with the site for a while, Geno offered to get involved and finished putting the site together and got people to pay attention to how it could be used.

The next point of interest for Geno was to pick up the Newsletter and is continuing to build on the format and sending the Newsletter out to all the members that have email.

Geno Likes to make projects come together and carry them through to a finish and know that he has made it work.

Submitted by Glenn Phillips, President Local 17 and ABATE Board Chairman



I would like to nominate Nick Benson for Freedom Fighter of the year. He has been instrumental in his ability to put out ABATE blasts in a timely manner. Plus he is going to be responsible for doing the final preparations for our Voters Guide. He was also able to be available to provide insight on legislative matters when Chuck was taking care of other life changing matters.

For the many things he has done for ABATE, I nominate Nick Benson Sr. for this year's Freedom Fighter.

Respectively submitted by Sporty Milligan, ABATE Board member

MAIL-IN BALLOT

Ballots must be postmarked NO later than November 15, 2016.

Freedom Fighter Award 2016

I Vote for

☐

Gene Hamrick

☐

Nick Benson

Name

Member Number

Couple

Mail Ballot to

ABATE-Ballot

10240 7th Ave.

Hesperia CA 92345-2631

ABATE Board Bios for the 2017-2018 term


The following ABATE Members Volunteered for the 5 seats for the Board of Directors term 2017-2018!

We needed 5, we received 5! They meet the criteria to be a candidate and therefore these Members have been elected and no ballot will be necessary.

Dave Hastings



ABATE has been a part of my daily life for over twenty years now and I'm seeking a balance of time. Yes, I'm going to run for re-election this year, but I hope someone out there will garner more votes, have more energy and enthusiasm, and ultimately allow me to hang up my ABATE jacket. I'm preparing for retirement from my "day job" and will be selling my business so I can move on into a slower lifestyle and do some traveling without caring when I have to be back home. When that time comes I will need to step back from my daily ABATE duties also. So, today I'm asking for your vote in our upcoming ABATE elections and I promise to perform my duties until the day I finally head out on the open road. I also hope someone will step forward and let me do my best to help them take my place when that time comes. If you are interested make sure your name is on the ballot and call me.



Paul Commins
Manager
(559) 412-2407
pcommins1@gmail.com
3045 N. Sunnyside Ave.
Unit 106
Fresno, CA 93727

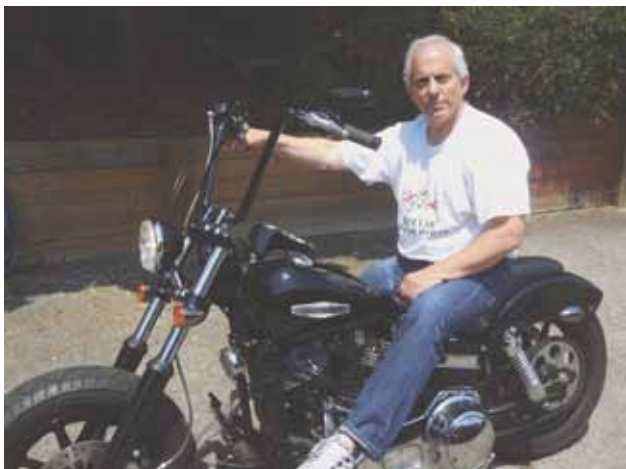
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Robert Nadler



Hello! My name is Robert Nadler and I am a proud member of Local 1. I would be honored to serve on the Board of Directors of this outstanding organization. I strongly believe that ABATE is the most important motorcycling organization in our State (and also a hell of a lot of fun). I have met truly wonderful people through ABATE and I learn something new about motorcycling and the legislative process every time I attend a meeting. I work as a writer and lawyer within the motorcycle community (I was lead counsel for a defendant in the federal prosecution of the Mongols in 2008) and I know many people involved with motorcycling throughout the state. Thank you for your consideration.



Mark Loudermilk

I am currently a member of the Board of Directors, Region 9 Representative, Vice President of Local 23, and Treasurer of Local 27. I attend both Local 23 and 27 meetings monthly and the Quarterly Board meetings.

I believe we have a good Board at this time. We work well together and have improved our communication and the direction of our efforts. We still need to improve more but we are moving in the right direction. We have good relationships with several legislators and are adding to that list.

Two things I think we need to especially improve is recruiting new members and motivating members to participate more. There are over 800,000 motorcyclists in California and we should have far more members than we do. When you go to your Local or the Board meeting there are an awful lot of gray headed folks at the helm. We need younger, which to me is under 50, to get involved in the management of this organization. At the Local level it is not that difficult to be involved.

So, if you will have me I would like to serve another 2 year term.

Gill Mellen

I have been a member of ABATE since 1998. In 2004, Dave Hastings asked me to do Public Relations for ABATE. From 2004 - 2008, I was the Public Relations Officer. In 2005, I took over as President of Local 20 so Basil could spend more time with his wife. I am still the President of Local 20 at this time. I speak at the COC in Orange County on bikers' rights and try to get new members. I've submitted bills to ABATE for toll road reduction in price for motorcycles and pushed for Basil's bill to increase the fines and penalties for killing a biker. The most recent bill is for motorcycle parking at state and all new construction and stripping, city and county buildings, etc.

I have been on the ABATE Board of Directors since 2004 and have missed a few Board meetings, PAC meeting or President's meeting due to medical reasons. As most of you know, I am always available to ABATE members whether it is phone calls or emails. I normally win the prize for signing up the most new members. Glen has given me a lot of good competition and has won the last few years and I came in second.

As most of you know, I am always 100% for ABATE and willing to serve another term. I will do my best for you if I am elected. Thank you.

Spike



Ello! For those who don't already know me, I'm 'SPIKE' with Local 20. A limey from across the pond, been riding consistently since 1972. I've been an ABATE member for the last 8 years and was also a member previously in the late 80s and 90s, As well as serving on ABATE's Board of Director's and as PAC rep, I have been active in the Confederation of Clubs for 18 years (presently Vice Chair on the Board) and on the National PR Committee for the Coalition of Clubs (for patch holders). I've been a proud member in a MC for over twenty years and have served in many capacities including President.

I have written many articles and press releases with regard to the Biker lifestyle, been interviewed and also documented in and by magazines, TV and documentaries. My love for Biker rights speaks for itself in the time I have committed to travelling around the country and attending meetings.

I am dedicated to preserving our lifestyle, freedom to ride without profiling or prejudice and doing so with equal rights and access. I have researched and lobbied for our community in legislative issues affecting our riding and lifestyle.

ABATE has proved to be a national strength in representing biker issues by itself, but along with other organizations collectively we can make an even bigger difference. Now is the time for our entire community to break down historic barriers and work together. I have the privilege of collecting, sharing and communicating in many areas, to our benefit and will continue to share at a 'Local' level and if voted back on the State Board, at the 'State' level. Thank you all for your consideration.

Pictures from the Board Meeting



NCOM Biker Newsbytes

THE AIM/NCOM MOTORCYCLE E-NEWS SERVICE is brought to you by Aid to Injured Motorcyclists (AIM) and the National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM), and is sponsored by the Law Offices of Richard M. Lester. If you've been involved in any kind of accident, call us at 1-(800) ON-A-BIKE or visit www.ON-A-BIKE.com.

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

PROSECUTOR DROPS EFFORT TO SEIZE DEVILS DICIPLES TRADEMARK 'COLORS': As Motorcycle Clubs continue to fight to save their patch, federal prosecutors have dropped a controversial bid to seize the trademark owned by the Devils Diciples MC, though the move does not end trademark challenges involving club colors.

In filings made on August 29, 2016 in federal court in Detroit, the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Michigan filed a notice dismissing the DDMC Trademark forfeiture, which states; "The government hereby provides notice that it is not seeking to forfeit the DDMC Trademark in this criminal proceeding and hereby dismisses it from the First Forfeiture Bill of Particulars."

Most law enforcement asset-forfeiture efforts target conventional property, but prosecutors began trying to seize the Devils Diciples' trademark as a byproduct of a criminal case in which prosecutors in October 2014 itemized property they wanted to seize, from guns to slot machines, and at the end of the 32-page property listing prosecutors included the club's trademark.

"These trademark cases are important to the clubs, whose free association has been threatened by the attempts by (prosecutors) to enjoin use of their membership (marks) by non-indicted persons," Devils Diciples attorney Fritz Clapp told the McClatchyDC news site, adding that such cases have established important precedents regarding forfeiture of collective membership marks and the implications of free speech and association.

The prosecutor's decision now to leave the Devils Diciples' trademark alone does not put the brakes on other attempts to seize clubs' colors as, most notably, the government is still taking aim at the Mongol Nation, whose intellectual property has been sought by federal prosecutors since 2008. A federal appellate court is now considering the Mongol Nation case.

OREGON BIKER SCORES A WIN IN DISCRIMINATION CASE: After 14 years of spotless service, Ron Godwin was fired from his job as an Oregon youth corrections officer because of his club patch. A Grants Pass, Oregon police officer saw Godwin on his bike, wearing his club patch, called his boss and said Godwin was a member of a "criminal gang." After a brief, so-called investigation, Godwin's boss fired him.

Oregon's AIM (Aid to Injured Motorcyclists) and COC (Confederation of Clubs) Attorney Sam Hochberg took up the case and filed suit in Federal Court in Medford, with assistance from lawyer Chris Botoms. Depositions were taken, and with the help of ACLU volunteer lawyer Sara K. Staggs, the case was thoroughly briefed. The trial court ruled that, based on statements in depositions, Godwin had no case under the law. The case never got to the jury, but the ruling was appealed to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and argued by ACLU volunteer lawyer Cody Hoesly.

On August 10, 2016, a three-judge panel from the Ninth Circuit issued a 17-page Memorandum opinion, including one dissent, and reversed that decision, sending it back to District Court for trial.

The panel analyzed cases about government employees' rights of free speech and association, and



found the State showed no legitimate interest that outweighed Ron Godwin's First Amendment rights.

As a Memorandum decision, the "unpublished" ruling can be cited in any Federal Court, so it's useful nationwide.

"This is an important decision for the free speech and free association rights of all bikers, and club members in particular," says Hochberg, now "Of Counsel" to Christopher Slater, the new Oregon and Washington AIM and Oregon COC Attorney.

The case of Ronald Godwin v. Rogue Valley Youth Correctional Facility, et al, now goes back to the trial court, absent further appeal or settlement.

TRAFFIC STATISTICS SHOW RISE IN FATALITIES, FEDS ISSUE CALL TO ACTION: Statistics compiled by the U. S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration show that 35,092 people died in traffic crashes in 2015, ending a five-decade trend of declining fatalities with a 7.2% increase in deaths, reflecting 2,348 more fatalities from motor vehicle crashes than in 2014.

Fatalities increased from 2014 to 2015 in almost all segments of the population—passenger vehicle occupants (+6.6%), passenger cars (+5.7%), large trucks (+11%), SUV occupants (+10.1%), van occupants (+9.3%), pickup truck occupants (+4.7%), pedestrians (+9.5%), bicyclists (+12.2%), motorcyclists (+8.3%), alcohol-impaired driving fatalities (+3.2%), male (+7.0%) / female (+7.4%), daytime (+7.2%) / nighttime (+7.1%).

The estimated number of police-reported crashes increased by 3.8%, from 6.0 to 6.3 million, and there were 105,000 more people injured in motor vehicle crashes.

According to NHTSA, job growth and low fuel prices were two factors that led to increased driving, including increased leisure driving and driving by young people. More driving can contribute to higher fatality rates.

In 2015, vehicle miles traveled (VMT) increased 3.5 percent over 2014, the largest increase since 1992, nearly 25 years ago, though the fatality rate per 100 million VMT increased to 1.12 from 1.08 in 2014 which was the lowest since NHTSA began collecting fatality data through the Fatality Analysis Reporting System in 1975.

Upon releasing this new data, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) issued a Call to Action: "We are calling on data scientists, public health experts, students and researchers -- even if you have never thought about road safety before -- to dive in to these data and help answer these important questions, especially on tough issues like pedestrian and bicyclist fatalities."

Interested organizations, companies and concerned citizens can download and analyze the data (<ftp://ftp.nhtsa.dot.gov/fars/2015/>) and share your insights at opendata@dot.gov.

CALIFORNIA ENACTS MOTORCYCLE TRAFFIC SCHOOL: A bill to give motorcyclists the option of attending a California Motorcyclist Safety Program (CMSP) course to satisfy the requirements of traffic school passed its final legislative hurdle on August 22, 2016 after passing unanimously through both houses of the state legislature with strong bipartisan support, and now awaits Governor Jerry Brown's signature.

Traffic schools are approved and licensed by the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and allow drivers who attend to avoid having points added to their record when they receive an eligible violation. While traffic school can be educational for car operators, the information presented is not always applicable to those who received a violation on a motorcycle. The CMSP offers safety courses for new and experienced riders that are more appropriate for motorcyclists, but until now, these courses have not been allowed to double as traffic schools.

Assembly Bill 1932 by Assemblyman Jay Obernolte (R-Hesperia) fixes this by updating California law to allow CMSP providers to become licensed traffic violator schools pursuant to DMV curriculum requirements.

These new courses would offer riding instruction in addition to education on the state's traffic laws, which would better equip motorcyclists to ride safely on California roads.

"AB 1932 makes our roads safer and provides motorcycle owners with an educational option for removing a point from their driving record in the event that they receive an eligible moving violation," Assemblyman Obernolte said. "The more training opportunities that we can provide for motorcyclists, the safer both riders and drivers in California will be."

GEORGIA EXTENDS HANDLEBAR HEIGHT: Affective July 1, 2016 legislation in Georgia has modified the state's handlebar height law to allow for taller bars. Signed into law by Governor Nathan Deal, House Bill 166, the "Motorcycle Mobility Safety Act" increased the maximum measured height of a motorcycle's handlebars from 15 inches above the seat to 25 inches.

Georgia is among 30 states that limit the height of handlebars. Without a federal standard, the regulation of handlebars on motorcycles rests with the states. Currently, 11 states limit the height of handlebars to 15 inches above the saddle. Five others require the handlebars to be below the height of the shoulder. Last summer, South Dakota, which hosts the annual Sturgis Rally became the most recent state to repeal its shoulder level statute, legalizing so-called "ape hangers" just in time for the 75th annual rally.

Discriminatory in nature, handlebar height laws have no impact on rider safety, and most were adopted by states decades ago to provide police with an excuse to pull over bikers on choppers.

VULNERABLE ROAD USERS COMPONENT ADDED TO ACT DRIVER'S LICENSE TESTS: Young drivers in the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) around Canberra, Australia's capital city, will have to be able to prove they can share the road safely with cyclists, motorcyclists and pedestrians before they'll be granted a license, the ACT government has announced.

People applying for learner permits or provisional licenses must demonstrate they can drive around vulnerable road users or risk failing their test, the ACT's Road safety Minister Shane Rattenbury told The Sydney Morning Herald.

"It's really exciting that more and more Canberrans are choosing to walk and cycle around Canberra," he said. "However, it's important that we ensure that our road rules can accommodate all road users safely, and

Continued on Next Page

Continued from page 9

that all road users are aware of these rules.”

Twenty extra questions will be added to the road rules knowledge test. Applicants must score 100% on this section to gain their learner’s license. During their practical driving test, learners going for their “Ps” (Provisional P1 license) must demonstrate they can navigate roads with bicycle lanes and move through areas of slow traffic where motorcyclists may be lane-filtering. Applicants will be tested in areas frequented by cyclists and pedestrians, including shared zones, town centers, group centers, aged-care facilities and school zones.

HANOI PLANS MOTORCYCLE BAN: The city of Hanoi, Vietnam, has announced a plan to completely ban motorcycles by 2025. The plan is based on an effort to reduce traffic congestion by promoting public transportation.

The proposal may have been prompted by a recent decision in Paris, France to ban motorcycles made before 1999.

Hanoi now has an estimated 4.9 million motorcycles and scooters on the roads, so a total ban seems extreme and may prove a difficult matter to successfully employ. Last year, the monthly motorcycle registration figures ranged from 8,000 to 20,000. Of-

ficials estimated that within the next four years the city would have nearly 7 million two wheelers on Hanoi streets.

Hanoi’s air quality has been regularly listed as Unhealthy by the Real Time Air Quality Index, and officials say the plan is to encourage bikers to use public transportation instead.

Currently Hanoi has a fleet of some 1,000 buses, accounting for 27 million passenger rides each month. The new plan would create six more metro lines, three Bus Rapid Transit Lines and 18 new bridges within the next 14 years.

DO YOU TRUST YOUR NEWS SOURCE?: When Gallup pollsters recently asked the question: “How much trust and confidence do you have in the media?” respondents cited “Great Deal / Fair Amount” by only 32%, the lowest number on the subject in Gallup’s 34 year history.

In contrast, the National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM) has been disseminating timely and accurate motorcycle news and information for over three decades, and the AIM/NCOM Motorcycle E-News Service now reaches over a million motorcyclists across the country and around the globe with each monthly edition of NCOM Biker Newsbytes, Calls-To-Action, and important news releases of interest to ALL motorcyclists in the riding community.

Concerned clubs, organizations and riders’ rights activists are encouraged to subscribe to this free biker news service at www.ON-A-BIKE.com or by calling AIM/NCOM at 1-(800) ON-A-BIKE.

QUOTABLE QUOTE: “The law will never make men free, it is men that have to make the law free.” ~ Henry David Thoreau (1817-1862) American naturalist, poet and philosopher



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ABATE Local 3/13



ELK'S LODGE #2477



ABATE NO. 38



Saturday, November 19 2016 at Wal-Mart's Parking Lot

2150 North Waterman Avenue El Centro, CA 92243

Registrations are from 8:30 AM-10:00 AM

Donation:
\$10:00 & a Frozen Turkey per Person, includes a Dinner Ticket

TURKEYS WILL BE DONATED TO LOCAL CHARITIES SO ALL CAN ENJOY THANKSGIVING DINNER

(For more information you may contact: Ed/ 760-337-8372)

Pac/Treasurer's Report

by **Dave Hastings,**
PAC Treasurer

Two items discussed that took up most of the allotted time at our recent PAC meeting were our ABATE Voters Guide that will be available soon and of course AB 51, our lane splitting bill, recently signed into law by Governor Brown.

Nick Benson Sr., Mark Loudermilk, Sporty Milligan, and numerous others that I'm not aware of have spent a lot of hours getting our Voter Guide ready. They have done their research, sent out ABATE questionnaires, and contacted every candidate in California that they could get in touch with to make sure our Guide is accurate, reliable, and in your hands before Election Day.

Please take advantage of their hard work and use this guide to help you choose motorcycle friendly candidates when you enter the polling booth on Election Day. If we desire to be successful in Sacramento we must elect candidates that will listen to and understand our needs.

We truly are a unique group of people and we have a totally different outlook on life than most. Where most of the voters are constantly asking for more, we demand less. Less government, less laws, less interference in our private



lives, less encroachment on our freedom, and less from the "everything for free" mentality that seems to pervade our society today. We know it's not free, and many of us have fought, sacrificed, and had friends that died to protect the freedoms all of us enjoy and cherish so deeply. Vote for a candidate that shares our beliefs. Your vote will also help us maintain and expand the freedoms we have and hopefully protect the rest of the citizens of this state from themselves and their "entitled" attitudes.

AB 51 is going to be a landmark law in the motorcycle community here in California and eventually nationwide as other states follow in our footsteps and pass similar legislation. This bill was all but given up for dead until ABATE resurrected it and single handedly carried it to victory here in California. Others may try to claim AB 51's success, but we, ABATE and our Lobbyist Jim Lombardo, were the ones

who fought daily in the trenches of the legislature and finally placed it on the Governor's desk for his signature.

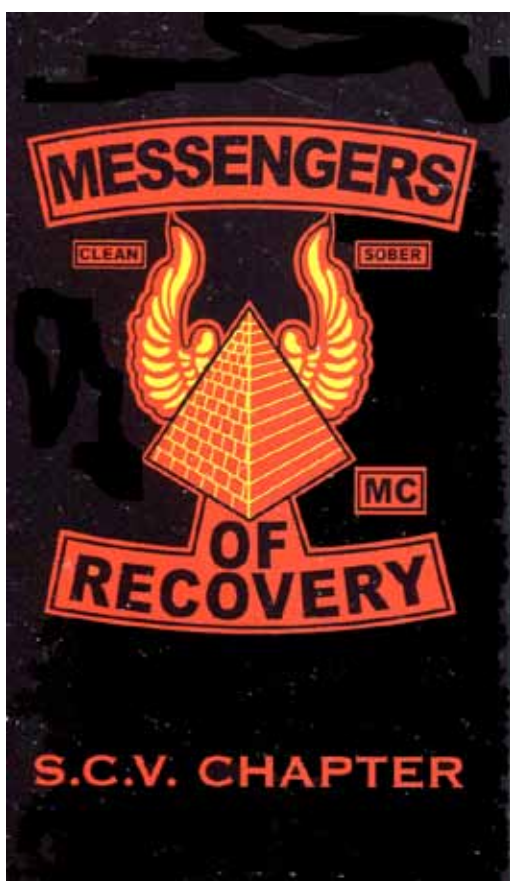
AB 51 simply and finally legalizes what we have been "allowed" to do for years; safely split lanes of slower moving traffic. Everyone will now reap the benefits of less highway congestion, a safer riding environment in traffic, lower emissions from motorcycles not idling for long periods of time, and mechanical problems associated with air cooled engines overheating from lack of air flow during that prolonged idle in heavy traffic.

AB 51 will also allow the CHP and DMV to educate vehicle drivers of the legality and benefits of lane spitting by motorcycle riders and should benefit every vehicle operator that "shares the road" in California.

I encourage you to politely inform other riders and vehicle drivers of this new law and stress its benefits to everyone you speak to. ABATE is proud to be the primary sponsor of this important motorcycle and vehicle friendly legislation.

So, grab a copy of the Voters Guide as soon as it is available, look up the motorcycle friendly candidates in your district, and make sure you cast your vote on Election Day! We will need your help to elect sympathetic and caring candidates to every office statewide this November. 2017 will be here soon and we already have legislation waiting to introduce. Help us and you help yourself. Make your vote count on November 8th!

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



1st Annual ABATE Local 52 *Ride In for Cheeseburgers*

Sat Oct 15th, 2016
serving at noon



Dew Drop Inn, 19729 Cerrito Rd,
off HWY 49, Grass Valley

Join us for a cheeseburger!

\$5.00 for burger, beans and chips

Music by Porkchops 12:00 – 4:00

Your favorite beverage available at the bar

Prize Drawings

Join ABATE and chow is on us!



American Brotherhood Aimed Towards Education

Info: Craig Griswold, President Local 52 (530) 263-8071

2016 ABATE Events

ABATE Events for 2016

You can also go to our website www.abate.org and Events Calendar to download available flyers.

October 8TH – ABATE Local 17 - Fall Bingo Fun Run (See flyer this issue page 19).

October 15th – ABATE LOCAL 52 – 1ST Annual “Ride In for Cheeseburgers” (See flyer this issue page 11).

October 16th – ABATE Local 3/13 – Zombie Hunter Paintball Train (See flyer this issue page 14).

October 23 – ABATE Local 3/13 –Trivia Run & Tribute to Don Martin (See flyer this issue page 10).

November 19 – ABATE Local 38 – 19th Annual Turkey Run (Page 10).

December 4th – ABATE Local 19 – 28th Annual Toy Run – New Location (See flyer this issue 13).

December 17 – ABATE Local 38 – 25th Annual Los Niño’s Toy Run (Details TBA).

BIKE NITES:

ABATE LOCAL 3/13 – 1ST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH (SEE flyer in this issue page 13)

If you have a date for your event, and no details you may still submit your dates so others can pencil it in on their social calendar. Then submit your flyer in time for the Bailing Wire and to be posted on ABATE’s website.

ALL ABATE Events must have event insurance – contact the ABATE State Office for information.



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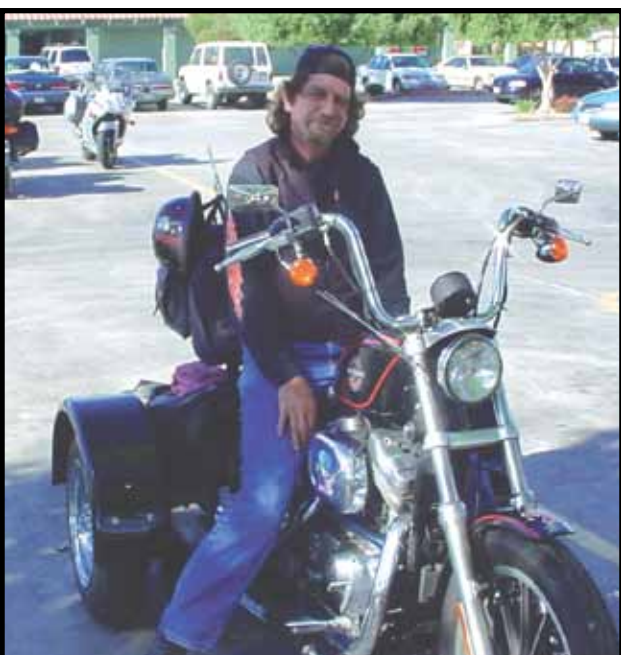
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by Sporty Milligan

Hi all! In this month's column I will begin with the Top Rocker HOG Chapter meeting that was conducted on the 27th of August. I have been attending their meetings that are conducted at the Elks Lodge in Canoga Park off DeSoto Avenue and Osborne Street. They usually have over 20 folks show up.

The reason I have been attending these meetings is because there are a couple of their members that belong to my Local. Their president, Richard Magdeleno, also an ABATE Local 1 member, allows my Local 1 vice president, Jim Nickla, and me to give updates on ABATE issues. This is good stuff. They have also allowed me to post ABATE motorcycle related issues on their private Facebook page.

So at this particular meeting, which was taking place after Governor Brown had signed AB-51 into law, they had arranged for a CHP officer to attend the meeting and give a talk and an outside classroom demonstration. So I thought, "Wow!" I was going to ask him about how the CHP was going to deal with the new law, but he beat me to the punch. He stated he would address the issue of lane splitting with action only if you looked like you were doing it in a reckless manner. I asked what he would do if you were in the carpool lane and you straddled the yellow white lines. He said he would cite you only if you were again doing it in an unsafe manner.

Well the rest of the meeting went rather quickly so that we could get an outside demonstration. The CHP officer was riding his Police HD motorcycle. He had set up some cones so he could show us how they go through the cones without using brakes and how to use their arms for steering the handle bar. He also mentioned some safety tips. Only two of the folks there were brave enough to tackle the course. I learned something today and had a good time.

Again thanks to the Westside HOG Chapter, now the Top Rocker HOG Chapter, for allowing Jim and me the chance to keep their members informed on the issues motorcycle wise.

Prior to this HOG meeting, on August 27th, I attended Local 19's meeting at the pizza joint in Ontario. Usual small group of spirited attendees. We discussed the political issues and I have stuff

that I can ask at the September 17th Board meeting on their behalf. I had a surprise as Sharon Anderson was at the meeting. I had not seen her in a while so that was a nice surprise. This group is doing their best to stay alive and support the mother ship in Hesperia. Again thank you for treating me kindly when I show up at your meetings.

Labor Day weekend was not much for a ride. At another group I belong to we had a bingo September 3rd. This event was also a dinner event with lasagna, salad and water. I was in charge of selling the bingo cards. That portion of the event - the selling of the cards - made almost \$400. We had a 50/50 raffle and merchandise prize raffle as well. All and all we made over \$1,000. Good stuff.

For the final trek of this month's Sporty's Ride I will take you to the Kernville event that took place September 9th, 10th, and 11th. I had been playing phone text tag with Steve Broughton as he is convalescing at a rehab convalescent home in Bakersfield a couple of miles off of the 58 Hwy north. He had an abscess on his leg and had to go to the hospital for it and needed a place to recover. This is the place where his insurance allowed him to be for a couple of weeks. It reminds me of the place I stayed at for a couple of weeks when I had to have IV's when I was dealing with possible infection with my leg issue. You know the peg leg syndrome.

Loaded for bear I took off for Kernville. Ride was fairly nice, a little warm, but nevertheless a comfortable ride. In Bakersfield, off of Hwy 58, I futz around and finally found the place where Steve was staying. Grannyville! He was one of the younger folks there, so you know what I mean. We chatted for an hour then I was off to Kernville.

Rest of the ride was pleasant and nice except for the slight construction work. I finally arrived at the Frandy Campground, it's in downtown Kernville. I paid the second day's fee for the dry camping, no electricity. Cost was \$42 per night during the summer season. So I found my campsite because it had a reserved for William Milligan on a paper attached at the site. Pretty cool. The campsite is a good one as it has an oak tree which provided partial shade. Because I have a peg leg it takes a little longer to set up my campsite - tent, air mattress etc.

My best one, Renee, again packed me a food kit in my lunch bucket. This contains stuff that I can eat that is not salty. No salt turkey, generic Ensure from Costco's, corn tortillas, fruit rolls and a nectarine. It is kept cool by using frozen water bottles. So the stuff does not taste bland Mrs. Dash seasoning is added to the mix. So this is a good deal.

So I am set up. I ate some of my turkey and tortillas with Mrs. Dash sprinkled on. Rest of Friday was spent relaxing. I visited with Dave Hastings and his wife where they parked their motorhome. Yea motorhome. I also ran into Steve Miller, the AIM guy who works for Richard Lester. He used

this event as a way to do his AIM booth. He has to get so many sign-ups for the firm and at this run he needed about 20 or so.

For some reason I went to bed by 8.30 pm, maybe I'm getting older! I had a slight problem with my flashlight - the bulb burned out. So since I was in my tent without a rain fly, I found my way with around using the stars for a light inside my tent.

The next morning I had my generic Ensure then went to get a shower. What a nice surprise to find that they have a handicap shower. I was able to take a relaxing shower - bitchen. Desperate for java I decided to go down town and get some, but first a ride. Took a mountain road that went into Tulare County, then I turned backed to town.

Got java at a place called Primo's Liquor and Deli. It is owned by Dewayne and Susan Holland. I got a nice flashlight and a small cup of coffee. The second cup was on the house. It was very nice of them to do that. So I rode from there back to my campsite and spent part of the day chatting with Steve Miller and Yermo Eddie at the AIM booth.

Trying to get phone service, I rode back to Lake Isabella to see if I could get phone service there - no dice. So I ended up using a pay phone to call collect. My service provider is Virgin Mobile and they suck in the Kernville/Lake Isabella area. Then took a ride around the lake for about an hour or so.

About 3 pm they started to play bike games in front of the AIM booth. They had a tire toss, which I entered. Did not do that well, but I did not figure I would. It was a ploy to get Steve to hand out his AIM card sign-ups. It worked. He got at least 10 sign-ups and eventually wound up with 20.

About an hour later I went to get dinner at Cheryl's Dinner. I sat down and ordered a light dinner, baked chicken, plain potato and a salad. I was approached by some friends from ABATE Local 17 that I had not seen in quite some time. They were staying in a motel. We chatted while I had my dinner, sweet. After dinner I chatted with the Hastings and the Local 44 members until I said good night about 9.

Next morning after another bitchen handicap shower I packed up. Got a cup of coffee at the Primo's Liquor and Deli. I was going home, but decided to stop and have a small breakfast at Cheryl's Dinner. The guys were there from San Gabriel Valley and invited me to sit with them while I had my breakfast. Little did I know, but when it was time to pay for my breakfast I was told the bill was taken care of. Thanks guys.

The trip home was pretty nice. I stopped in to see Steve B. He was going to have his lunch. We chatted until his lunch was delivered. The rest of the trip home was uneventful and I arrived safely and in good spirits. Was greeted by my dogs Lacy, Harley and Chanel.

This concludes this month's Sporty's Rides. When you're out on the trail, be safe, be good to yourselves and attend ABATE events.

Regards, your fun loving scribe, Sporty

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A Union of Motorcyclists

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

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

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

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

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

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

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-Thank you,
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Motorcycle Safety Report

by Norman e. Newiger

The New Technology is Here

I'm scared of new technology! I've been reading about the good and bad things of new technology and I, for one, cannot understand it - well at least most of it. I have to trust in this new technology because others understand it more than I do. I'm not that old, but I'm definitely the older generation. I remember when the new technology was when the manual was replaced by automatic. That was the big new technology! Ok I'm not that old, but I do remember when 8 tracks were available in the new cars!

This is about the future of all vehicles on all roads on this rock. As a motorcycle rider I feel threatened somewhat because I will soon be in a situation where it's me versus computerized machine with a human being as the co-pilot. I have been reading articles about self-driving vehicles and it's a hard pill to swallow. It's going to happen in the very soon future, and the ultimate goal is to have no steering wheel or pedals on all of the vehicles. I'm glad that it's not in the future for motorcycles! I think the auto industry just figured out how to let the alleged drivers of their vehicles use their cell phones lawfully. It also sounds to me like the cell phone is really important and driving to your destination is secondary because we all are addicted to the cell phone. You just can't play one game and quit!

There are driverless test cars on the roads nowadays. Approximately 50 of them in California. Even though they are only in certain areas for testing, they are progressing to expanded areas and soon enough you'll see one or up to fifty! The human element is going to be tossed out because they say the computer systems in these cars react faster than humans and they stay focused a hundred percent of the time. Autonomous auto's name will replace the car in name only. You will be saying this someday, "Hey bud, lets go cruise in your dad's autonomous auto and pick up some chicks!"

The state of California wants to see this in the near future and wants to be the leading state in the country for this type of technology. This driverless testing has been happening since 2010. They think that before 2030 we will see many manufactures making these vehicles. These vehicles will be driving on the roads and we won't think nothing of it. I guess I can say welcome to our grandchildren's generation of these autos. Just think, they won't even know what a steering wheel is! Oh the stories we will tell them that we had to use our hands and feet just to drive back in the old days!

Is this new technology good for us? I remember hearing the stories about the power assisted brake systems (power brakes) when they started putting them in all the cars (this was a technological leap for safer driving) and how it freaked out the old timers. It took time before it became accepted by the general public, true story.

You say, "Norm why are you befuddling us with this great info on the future of our car industries?" And here is why I'm demystifying, discombobulating you, and I'm not bamboozling you either! This is about my thoughts and interpretations on what I have researched and yes, it's about me being a biased rider with concerns. Crashes of all types of vehicles happen all day 24/7 everywhere from the remotest deserted roads to the stopped jam packed freeways of life. Lives are gone in seconds and lives are destroyed forever. You hear about it all the time and it



will not stop for anybody.

The government wants to step in and save everyone from this. They say, and will continue to say, that these new vehicles will save lives and prevent accidents in the future, to include motorcyclists, pedestrians etc. With lasers, radar imaging, computers and other scientific stuff that I can't remember, they say will be the standard of new vehicles of our future. They say these new vehicles will be able to interpret danger and accident avoidance, to include what to do (escape routes, and reaction) in a split second. BUT they still need many years of successful research, test evaluations and real time testing.

So I'm thinking to myself about the accident; crash, boom, bang, you're killed or maimed or injured and your property destroyed in a split second. Who's at fault? Who is the responsible party? We are still reeling about the cell phone issues and the accident rate as well as the devastation it causes. If you read my last article, you know how most people don't seem to care because you see them being used by drivers everyday still! My biggest issue is fault. Whose fault is it? Are we to blame the car or the driver? What about Bob on his scooter enjoying the freedom of riding and the autonomous auto over reacts and causes an accident while avoiding one, who's to blame?

The DMV doesn't, at the present time, know who to register these vehicles to. They say they should have this figured out in a couple of years. So this will be another court nightmare in the future as well. I see lawsuit after lawsuit to figure out the guilty party, maybe on both parts and going after the manufactures. The one thing I read was that there were 4 minor accidents in the test trials at low speeds and it was because of human error and not the vehicle itself. Help!

The one good thing I see is hopefully the DUI issues will be greatly reduced. Whether you're drunk or high on whatever you'll have your own personal robotic driver to take you wherever you want. The only problem will be them darn drunken bikers. Ha!!! My real concerns as a biker is how many situations can this car handle like in a row? That fast reaction in real time such as chain reaction of a multiple car accident all around the vehicle; what does it do? Does it save the driver first or does it shut down as fast as possible and take whatever brunt of the accident that happens? I don't want to be a bug in one lane while this car overcompensates itself into my lane to avoid an accident from another lane. I'm just saying I don't want to be swatted like a fly by a Prius!

In their report about the left turn issues (they are making sure this won't be an issue because they say it's the most reported type of accident) they said that

it will be the motorcyclist fault because the autonomous autos are better drivers and their judgement is always correct unless you come in contact with them old timer drivers that uses a steering wheel to drive a real car. I hope that all these manufactures of these types of vehicles push the education levels up because of the potential dangers these vehicles pose because of their newness to everyone who drives one.

I think that we as motorcyclists have to push for new education because of the new driving systems that will be standard equipment someday. For me it's like avoiding a moving target that doesn't give or have eye contact with you, just invisible electronic beams! Eye contact is important to me because it lets me know that they know where I'm at and or going to. I don't want some person too busy playing video games on their cell phone while their vehicle drives them.

Another thing I read about is that they say these autonomous autos are going to share information with other cars in critical situations to prevent any other vehicles getting in the accident area and so that other vehicles can maneuver out of harm's way (accident avoidance system).

I know that I'll be more focused and alert when around these vehicles. I'll either get way in front of them or way behind them, for now anyway. I will accept these vehicles when it happens no matter how old I am because I'll be a non-driver of these vehicles and age won't matter anymore!

We have the time to make sure that we cannot be left out of any advancement of these new driving systems. I've always said we are the minorities on the road. I know there will not be motorcycles without handlebars in the future. So I guess education has to be pushed even more. Just another issue for ABATE in the future.

Speaking of the future, how's your tire pressure? Don't know? How about inventing a full time pressure gage on your dashboard that tells you the pressure in both tires even while you're riding. Now that's new technology!

Ride safe and be happy, summer is almost over so enjoy the roads while you can.

Chris Telford

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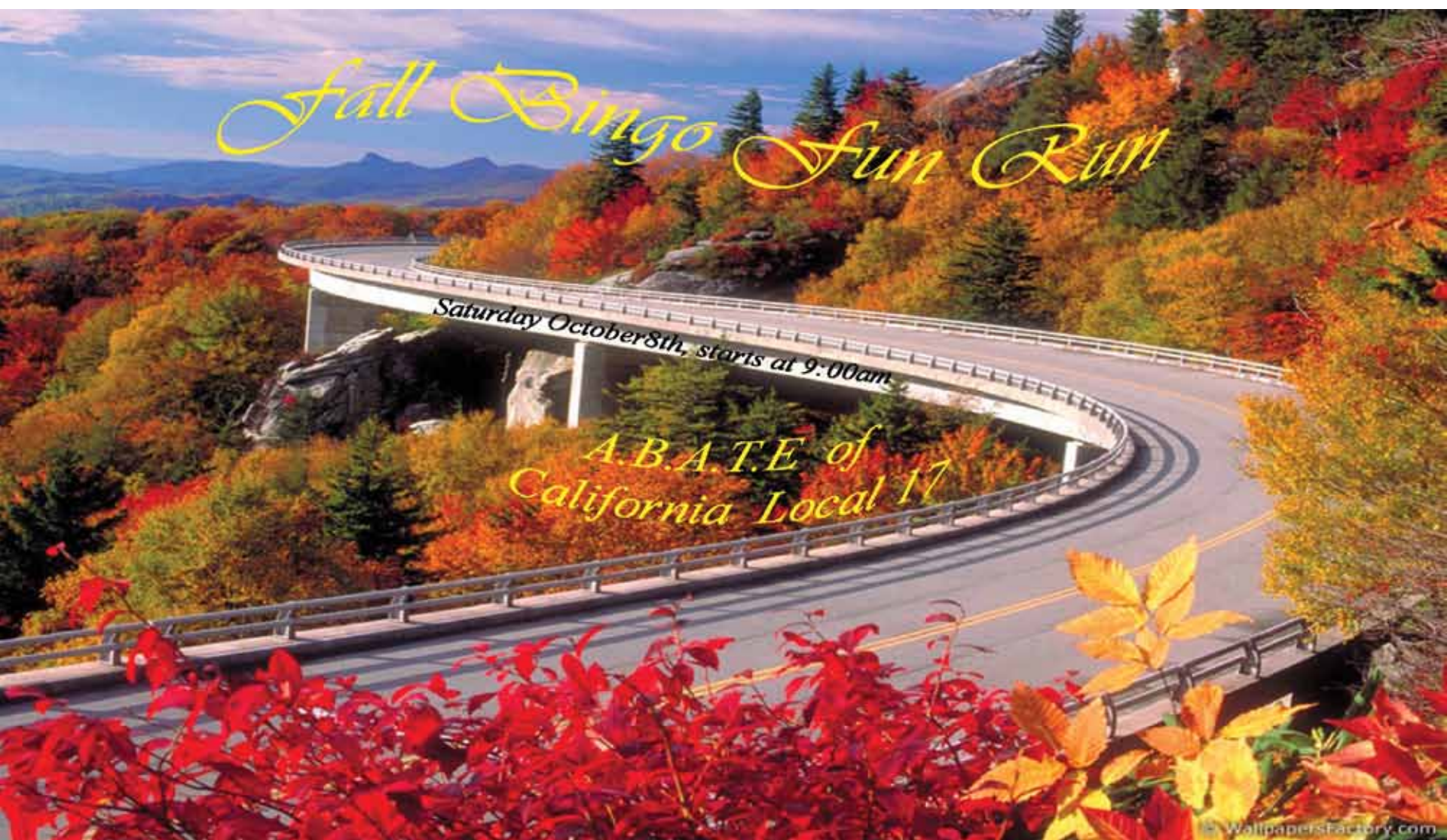
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Guy Corrigan 2nd Tues 7:30 PM
805/796-6328 VFW Post#10049
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Thousand Oaks/Ventura Local#03/13-Reg#7

Chuck Pedersen 3rd Thurs - 7:00 PM
Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge
805/496-0323 158 N Conejo School
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Orange County - Local #08-Reg#11
No meeting in May & Sept.

Steve Howe 2nd Mon.7:30PM
562/298-6236 American Legion #354
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San Diego County (North) - Local #11-Reg#12

Dan Buse 2nd Sun - 11 AM
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Costa Mesa 92627 5646 Corporate Ave.
949/632-9787 Cypress CA 90630



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Antelope Valley - Local #21-Reg#13

Ron Sundquist 2nd Thurs - 7:00 PM
37230 52nd St. East Text 661/789-7502 for
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661/586-5555
ron.sundquist@sbcglobal.net

San Bernardino - Local#23-Reg#9

Ed Pelton 1st Sun 9:00 AM
626/513-6314 Vicky's Restaurant
502 S Waterman Ave
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Riverside CA 92513 2979 Dexter Dr.
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Riverside, CA 92501

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Yuba City - Local #33-Reg#2

Steve Katen 2nd Tues. - 7:PM
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Olivehurst 95961

Imperial Valley - Local#38-Reg#12

Ed Aranda Last Thurs - 6:30 PM
Edward_A12@yahoo.com
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Bakersfield - Local#40-Reg#6

Robert Zamora 3rd Tues. 7:00 PM
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High Desert Local 44/47-Reg #13

Dave Hastings 2nd Sat. 9:30 am
16782 Danbury Ave. Eagles Order #4181
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Grass Valley - Local#52-Reg#2

Craig Griswold 3rd Wed - 6:30 PM
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Penn Valley Pizza & Grill'
530/263-8071 15690 Johnson Place
Grass Valley 95949

Ridgecrest - Local #58-Reg#13

Meet with Local#44

Regions With Local info:

Region 2: Regional Representative
Craig Griswold 25, 31, 33 & 52.

Region 3: Vacant

Region 6: Regional Representative Ed
Rogers
24 & 40.

Region 7: Regional Representative -
Chuck Pedersen 2 & 3/13.

Region 8: Regional Representative
Sporty Milligan
1 & 19.

Region 9: Regional Representative
Mark Loudermilk 23, & 27

Region 11: Regional Representative
Gill Mellen
8, & 20.

Region 12 Regional Representative
Dave Connors, Locals 6, 11 & 38

Region 13: Regional Representative
Yermo Eddy
21, 29, 44/47.

