

The Bailing Wire

ABATE of CA. Newsletter for Motorcyclists Volume XXXV ISSUE III

A Union of Motorcyclists
Dedicated to Freedom of the Road

March 2016

ABATE Board Meeting
more pictures on pages 8-9

American
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Executive Director's Report



by Dave Hastings, Executive Director

In last month's article I had stated that one of my goals was to encourage and guide our ABATE organization into a more pro-active stance and attitude in 2016. What does pro-active actually mean? Webster's Dictionary defines active as: (1) abounding in action, or busy (2) being in or capable of action, movement or performance, (3) causing or promoting action, change, or movement, (4) agile, lively, or quick, and (5) characterized by actual participation - an active member!

ABATE of California truly lives up to some of these definitions and unfortunately fails miserably in some of the others. Agile, lively and quick somehow doesn't seem to fit well into our organizational structure and is a constant issue with some of our members and our motorcycle friends. Our slow but calculated pace is often used negatively when we are brought into a conversation regarding our accomplishments, but no one can deny that ABATE is one of the most successful motorcycle rights organizations (MRO's) in California and also the United States.

ABATE of California is a member driven organization and that is what makes the wheels of progress turn so slowly. We are not run from the top down by a CEO like most corporations and our members really do have a strong voice in our day to day operation. Yes, our Officers can make routine, mundane, everyday decisions regarding our operation, but for important and critical decisions we must, as dictated by our Policy and Procedure Manual and our ABATE

By Laws, seek membership approval before we can act. Thus ABATE of California will never function as quickly as some would desire, but we do function and produce positive results for our members and the general motorcycling community.

We have a long and documented history in California and our success cannot be denied by anyone. Yes, we have failed on several high profile pieces of legislation, and we will undoubtedly have more failure in the future, but if we do not attempt to influence and protect our rights as motorcycle riders, we will probably all lose our right to ride. If you want to win big you must also be prepared to lose big. ABATE is taking those chances every day and we are playing the game that we're all in.

What are you doing to protect your right to ride? Are you willing to sacrifice your time and energy for something you love? Is your motorcycle just an expendable, throw-away hobby or a lifestyle? Yes, ABATE may move slowly, but we do get things done. Our job is to protect ourselves and you from becoming a lost dream in the harsh reality of corporate operation where cost and profit is more important than pleasure. Join ABATE before some pencil pusher simply redlines our motorcycles as obsolete, unsafe, and a drain on the profit margins their corporation requires to measure success. We need your help to succeed, it's that simple.

So how will ABATE become more pro-active? I feel we need to provide our members with current information, keep them apprised of current events in the legislative process, and be prepared to react quickly to a "call to action" concerning events that affect our motorcycle lifestyle. We need to examine and evaluate events in California in order to be on top of the curve so we can act and not simply react to an item.

Your 2016 Board of Directors has already set in place some new policies and appointments to implement and streamline the process we use to guide ABATE of California down the road. Changes will be coming and we will all do our best to improve your organization. Ultimately though, it's up to you. Are you going to stay in the fight or just walk away and give in? That's really what they are counting on, because they know they can't take our freedoms, we will have to give them away. Don't give in and don't give up. I'm in it to win it. Are you? Then join ABATE of California and me and let's all play this game to win!

Dave H.



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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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Region 3: Vacant

Region 6: Ed Rogers 559/264-2891

Region 7: Chuck Pedersen 805/496-0323

Region 8: Sporty Milligan 818/361-8800

Region 9: Mark Loudermilk 951/599-5234

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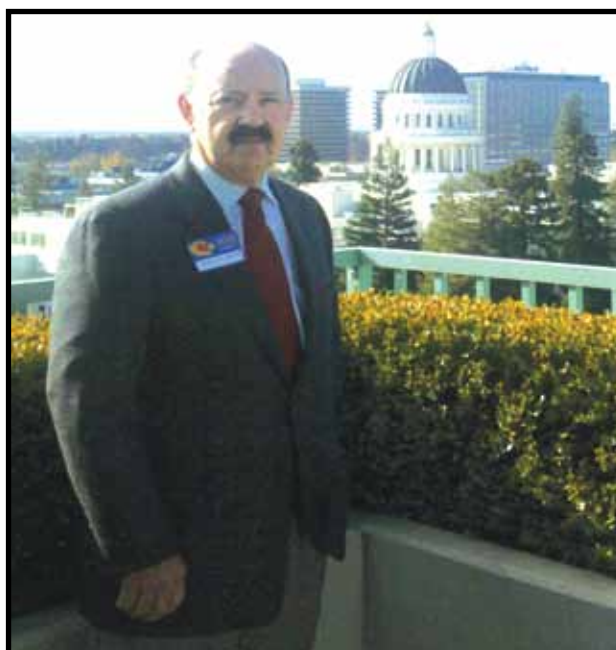
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by James Lombardo, Lobbyist

The Legislature finished off February with the introduction of **over 2,000 new bills**. Add that to the 2,300 bills they introduced last year, many of which already passed or are now still making their way through the system. I have read and reviewed all of them, and at the present time, I can't find any bills introduced that would call for mandatory smog checks for motorcycles or the banning of lane splitting.

However, many of the bills were just written as spot bills. Meaning that the bill opens up with a law code section that generally covers climate change or greenhouse gases, etc. Those bills could be amended to compel smog checks. So,

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Lobbyist's Report

I have marked many bills to alert me if they are later amended to include motorcycles.

Most of these bills will be heard in March, for sure before the April 22nd deadline to pass out of their policy committee. **So, stay tuned for our Legislative Alerts!**

Assemblyman Quirk's AB 51, the lane splitting bill, will probably be heard sometime in June if it is brought up at all. I have had discussions with Quirk's staff and they are fairly vague as to whether they will hear the bill this year. They told me that they will hold meetings with us, and other stakeholders, before they decide to present AB 51 in the Senate.

I have had many requests to meet with candidates who are looking for ABATE's endorsement for this year's Primary Election, and I am keeping Chuck Pedersen, our Legislative Director, updated.

Nick Benson and I are working on this election's *ABATE Voter Guide* so you will be the best informed as to motorcyclist-friendly candidates and the most realistic chance of winning their races.

Thanks to all the Locals and individuals who support the Lobbyist Fund!

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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 13

ABATE OF CALIFORNIA, INC.

American Brotherhood Aimed Towards Education

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The Bailing Wire newsletter is published monthly with printed issues bimonthly by ABATE of California, Inc., with corporate mailing address at 10240 7th Ave. Hesperia CA 92345. All issues are on our website www.abate.org. All editorials, membership and advertising is to be sent to the corporate mailing address. Circulation: 5,500 bimonthly.

Written articles are the opinions of the authors and not necessarily the opinion of ABATE of California. Editor reserves the right to edit any copy.

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

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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.

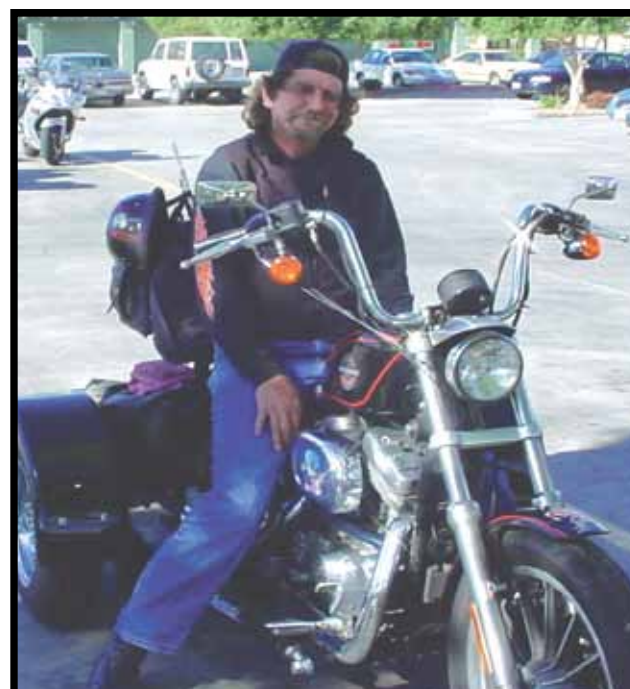
MEMBERSHIP REPORT

by Sporty Milligan,
Membership Chairman

I am always thinking about ways to help improve the way we do memberships. I have also asked for suggestions from our members on how they think we can improve memberships for their Locals.

So to give you an idea on how Local 1's membership renewal program works I will give you a thumb nail sketch on this process. My Local membership chairman, Glen Cheslock, sends out the renewals on a quarterly basis. So for this year he has sent out reminders for January through April. That way the renewing members can have time to do their renewals before they are due. Glen sends out a reminder in an envelope that contains a self-addressed stamped envelope addressed to me. The renewal is then processed by me. As the Local gets a percentage of the memberships that go through the Local, it pays for you to have your memberships done in your Local.

It's the little things that make your members feel important and a part of your Local. When you get the renewal, acknowledge to the person renewing that you got his or her renewal and that you are glad that they are sticking with ABATE of California and your Local. Remember the thank you trinkets.



It's up to you to keep your members energized and doing the work for ABATE, which is preventing tooth decay aka bad laws against motorcycle riders in California.

Look for the membership special raffle tickets coming soon.

Regards, your Membership chair, Sporty Milligan

Scott Loeffler
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LOCAL NEWS

Local #01 Los Angeles



As usual the meeting comes after the Bailing Wire submissions are due, so I will give you an idea of what will occur.

Local 1 is alive and well and preparing for the 29th annual Polar Bear run. The discussion of the run will take the majority of the meeting.

There has not been much to discuss politically, except to say ABATE Of California wants the Lane Sharing Bill, AB-51, authored by Assemblymen Quirk and Lackey to get passed in its present form.

Hopefully the meeting will be spirited and we will get our ducks in a row for the Polar Bear run preparations. And, as usual, the breakfast will be good.

Prez Sporty

Local #03/13 Thousand Oaks & Ventura County



Our participation and commitment are growing! This month we welcomed two more members to our Officer group. "Tiny" Tim Suffolk has agreed to handle Run Coordination, which includes Chairing our Motorcycle Awareness Run in late April and our Trivia Run in October. And John Wagner is heading up the Road Captain and Safety Officer roles. He has lots of good ideas about sharing safe riding habits with the group. We are thankful and happy to have the commitments of these two gentlemen, and are confident that those positions are now in good hands!

Big plans for this year include combining a "Leather Weather Run" with "Motorcycle Awareness" event in mid-April. Watch for more information and flyer in next month's Bailing Wire. We have fresh ideas and enthusiasm for making money and having fun in the process. Our members are already working on the details. Also, by the time this article is out, we will have supported Local 1 by participating in their annual Polar Bear Run on February 28th. We were pleased to send a healthy donation to our State organization at the end of last year, and are eager and motivated to support our State organization in an even bigger way this next year.

It's all about motorcyclists' rights across all Clubs, Groups and Organizations! Joining ABATE makes a statement and sends money to work towards fair and just treatment of motorcyclists. Participating in ABATE events contributes funds for these as well.

We're enjoying more participation and commitment from our members. Local 3/13 of Thousand Oaks and Ventura County continues to reach out to the motorcycle community and to other ABATE Locals to work together for an even bigger voice. Many of our events and rides enjoy the attendance of not only our members, but those of other nearby groups. It's been great to share our enthusiasm and to reach out, inviting all motorcyclists to join our mission! Local 3/13 is always welcoming new members.

Bike Nights are held the 1st Thursday of each month, 7 pm, at Azar's Sports Bar & Grill in Newbury Park; General Membership Meetings are on the 3rd Thursdays, 7 pm, at the Elks Lodge, 158 N. Conejo School Rd. 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. Feel free to call our Prez, Chuck Pedersen, at 805-496-0323 for more information. Come join us and bring your friends! Check us out on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/ABATE313 to follow our events and issues.

It's all about motorcyclists' rights across all clubs, groups and organizations! Kathleen B. Public Relations/ Membership

Local #08 Orange County



The year has started off with a bang. There are a lot of events planned for the year. The Board of Directors meeting was just held and, if you missed the last Local 8 meeting, Steve shared some great info.

On May 6-8 the 22nd Regional Rally will be held. If you haven't been to the event before, it is fun and you should check it out. A group of us from Local 8 will be attending.

At our last meeting we talked about some runs people are going on like the Local 1 Polar Bear run. We also talked about the Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) issues and I recommend that all should join the OHV membership - **if you're a member of ABATE, just let the state Office know you off-road too. Whether you ride on dirt or the street we are all in this together.**

Local 8 has some new t-shirt designs that we will be ordering soon, so come to the meeting and check the designs out, they are cool.

We had our membership drawing and Richard Ambriz won, but he wasn't at the meeting, so it carries over to the next drawing.

Ride Safe, Daniel P.

Local #11 North San Diego County



Greetings from Local 11 North San Diego County! Our meeting this month fell on Valentine's Day. Hope you all had a great one with the people you love.

Prez Dan Buse led us in the Pledge of Allegiance before getting into the upcoming political party events. As a bipartisan political organization Dan covers all of the party events. It may come as a shock to some that we have diversity in this organization. We are all in this together for the same reasons. If not, then we are pissing against the wind.

We discussed issues from the Board of Directors meeting on how Locals monies should be spent - Lobbyist, General and PAC funds. We discussed the State run and where the next location should/might be. Discussion was held about our raffle fundraiser; should start selling tickets soon and announcing winner at our August meeting?? More info to come.

VP Dick Beckton gave us the rundown on the upcoming events. Per Dick the COC meeting will take place next month. Treasurer, Tim Clark, gave us the state of the finances as well as more information on how our money is being dispersed. Secretary/Scribe (me) had little to write about last month due to a very small turnout and a short meeting. Regional Rep Dave Connors talked about insurance policies and law as it affects businesses etc.

Eddy Aranda from Local 38 shared the results of their Turkey Run this past November. They have been doing this for several decades and for the first time in a while they hit their goal. He thanked those who stepped up and the many motorcycle groups involved. Walmart stepped up and donated 15 more turkeys. He also thanked Local 11 for our donation. NO charity was denied a turkey dinner last Thanksgiving. Eddy is to be congratulated. Local 38 worked their butts off.

Our opportunity drawing was won by Cheryl Clark who kicked 20 bucks back to the Local. Thanks Cheryl!

See ya next month. Gary.

Local #20 Orange County

Local 20 conducted their meeting on Tuesday, February 9th, at the American Legion in Cypress. 37 individuals were in attendance.

A demonstration of the Silent Pocket product was provided (Our new Business Member). Various topics were discussed such as the lane sharing bill (being revised), the anti-profiling bill (dead at this point), and update on



the National Council of Clubs activities including the formation of a motorcycle profiling "expert witness". Information was also shared about the recent incident at the Colorado Motorcycle Expo and an update on the WACO incident. Our hearts go out to all those affected by these incidents.

A dollar raffle took place at the meeting to win \$34.00. Jeff Shimkus was drawn. Jeff donated back \$24.00 to be used for the ABATE general or lobbyist fund. The next Local 20 meeting will be on Tuesday, March 8th. Jody.

Local #25 Sacramento



Lil' David called the meeting to order at 6:59. We had 7 members and one guest. The minutes were sent out by email prior to the meeting and hard copies were available on the table. Our treasurer, Joe, updated us on recent transactions and the balance in our account.

The anti-profiling and lane sharing bills are still pending. Lil' David will attend the PAC meeting this weekend in Orange County. The anti-profiling bill will be dead if no action is taken by the legislature tomorrow. The lane sharing bill will be dead if no action is taken by the legislature tomorrow.

The next Stockton COC meeting will be on February 13th. The Sons of California are having a run to support WEAVE on March 19th at the Valencia Club in Penryn.

Attendance appeared to be down at the Easyrider show and the Unification Rally. We had one renewal and one new couple join ABATE at our booth.

There is an article in this week's News and Review about BOLT. Mark Temple, who is fighting a helmet citation, has attended our meetings in the past. <https://www.newsreview.com/sacramento/local-bikers-sue-sacramento-cops/content?oid=19663567>

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45. David S.

Local #27 Riverside



Hello All! Thanks to the ABATE State Board of Directors, the Local presidents and PAC members for so openly welcoming me at the State Meetings last month in Cypress. I got to witness the selection of our 2016 officers and think that we will have a good, diverse group this year. Lots of good information was given and taken back to Local 27 members at our general membership meeting on February 2nd. I was also able to voice my opinion on a couple of issues, which seemed to be well received.

Thanks to the Local 27 members and guests that attended our meeting. Also special thanks to several members, J.R., Corporal, 1/2 Ass and Crash of the local motorcycle group The Ugly Brothers M/C, for attending and showing your support.

And sorry to Patty Cammack for missing out on the membership drawing by not being present! Guess you'll have to come to the next meeting to find out how much you lost.

I tried something different at this meeting. I tried to keep the "issues at hand" short and sweet while affording more time to membership input and B.S. session. I feel this went quite well as the meeting went into overtime.

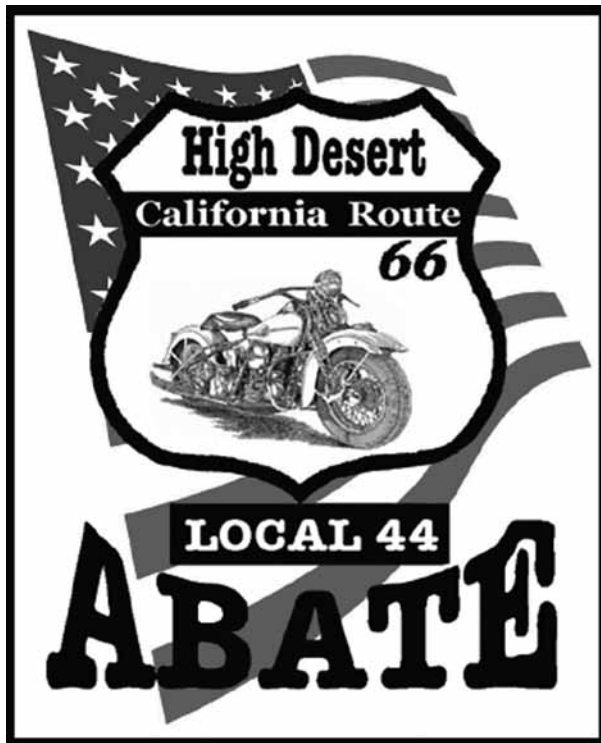
Our annual fund raiser is coming up April 17th and I hope you plan on attending. BARE Necessities XIV is an effort to gather undergarments for The Salvation Army to distribute to the less fortunate. Please see the flyer elsewhere in this paper for more info. Any Locals or individuals wishing to support/donate to this great cause, give me a call: Kenny, President of Local 27, at 951-377-5772. Or email me at kennuttall@aol.com.

Special thanks to Frank, Kellie, and the Geezers M/C for their commitment to raise funds to purchase items.

Ride safe, Kenny Nuttall, President, Local 27

LOCAL NEWS

Local #44/47 High Desert



We had a great turnout for our February meeting and we also had 4 new guests in attendance! After our Officer roll call and the "Pledge of Allegiance" we rolled into our Local reports. Rebecca made a correction to last month's meeting minutes and Janet gave us an updated accounting report and info on our Blood Drive. Seana discussed our Local 44 merchandise and Nick brought us up to speed with legislative/PAC info and Carol furnished information on our Local membership numbers and introduced the guests. I then gave everyone a brief update on

the State meeting and discussed the upcoming May ABATE Southern Regional Rally and passed around a volunteer sign-in sheet for that event. Our Local 44 is "hosting" the Rally again this year and we will need your attendance and volunteer help to ensure the event has a successful outcome. Pick up a flyer at your next meeting and get it turned in ASAP to guarantee a good spot for your tent or R/V.

Also be advised that we have closed our **ABATE Local 44** post office box and our **NEW MAILING ADDRESS is: 16782 Danbury Ave. Hesperia, Ca. 92345**. So fill out your Regional Rally form mail it in and then you need to prepare for a fun weekend with your Local 44 members. We will do our best to get you up early enough to go home in time to visit "Mom" on Sunday (Mother's Day) afternoon!

The last item discussed was the upcoming "Chili Cook-Off" on March 5th at the Joshua Inn in Hesperia. I have paid the entry fee and several of our members make up your Local 44 cooking team so there is no cost or liability to our Local for the event but we would really appreciate you showing up and voting for your team's chili. We have participated in this event for the past two years and have placed as high as second but we really want that 1st place award. Obviously, part of the voting is done by the public attendee's, so we would like to have a great turnout and a lot of votes from our Local 44 members. Show up, bring your family and friends and vote us into 1st. place this year! The chili judging/sampling/voting begins at 2:30 PM and after the winners are announced there will be live music starting from about 4:30 to 8:30 PM. So plan on hanging out all day with us at "The Josh" on March 5th and help us, your Local 44 team, win big this year! I hope to see you at our next meeting, March 12th. Until then it's just "miles and smiles", ride safely! Dave H.

Pac/Treasurer's Report



by Dave Hastings, PAC Treasurer

Our ABATE PAC is on the move again with legislation and support and endorsement of motorcycle friendly candidates in the upcoming election cycle. We will be issuing a list of endorsed candidates to help you make an informed choice when you enter your polling booth. We will also be asking you to donate some time to a few candidates who need and deserve our help before the elections actually take place.

As I said in another article we are going to be very pro-active this year and we will need your help to accomplish our goals. ABATE PAC receives many requests for contributions and campaign help, especially in an election year, and we do our best to support those that support us. Our biggest asset is our campaign volunteers and, if you haven't helped a candidate before, this will be a great year to get involved in that process. It's not difficult, your time spent working a campaign goes by quickly, and you will get the opportunity to familiarize yourself with the process and meet the candidate and their staff personally. Like I said earlier, we have set goals for the year, redistributed some of our State PAC Officer's duties to become more responsive and we plan on being both active and highly effective with our legislative efforts in 2016.

We will also be setting up an on-line meeting format to keep our ABATE PAC members quickly informed and aware of our California political scene and we will give you more information on this process soon. Many of these items were discussed and voted on at our last PAC meeting, so plan on attending these meetings and becoming active in our efforts to elect and retain motorcycle - friendly candidates.

Now, get ready to help us make informed choices regarding our supported candidates, and then offer to help a candidate in your hometown area, and let's get moving on the upcoming elections. If ABATE PAC is to accomplish our goal of being pro-active instead of re-active, we need you to become an "active member"! Help us and you will ultimately help yourself. This isn't rocket science, but we can't do it all by ourselves.

Being informed allows you the opportunity to make educated decisions when you cast your vote. So, set your personal 2016 goal now to become "active" in our ABATE PAC, make sure you are a registered voter, and then be ready to affect the outcome of some important electoral races and legislation here in California. We will all ultimately benefit! Dave H.

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



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10:00am To 3:00pm

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ABATE Board Meeting



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ABATE Board Meeting



A Union of Motorcyclists



February 3, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

To Whom It May Concern,

The January 2016 ABATE of California's PAC Meeting discussed AB51; the Lane Sharing bill and voted on the 2016 position. That position is to endorse the bill as written, 50 MPH maximum, with a 15 MPH differential.

If the opportunity to codify lane sharing practices is missed this year, the risk of opposition is too great. The opportunities include public education, changes in insurance denials and the potential that other states follow.

ABATE looks forward to full endorsement of this bill.

For more information go to www.abate.org

Chuck Pedersen
State Legislative Director
ABATE of California, Inc.



2016 Spring Fun Run
Saturday April 23rd

ABATE
OF CALIFORNIA LOCAL #17

\$5 donation per card

9:00am
Miss Darla's
110 Peabody Rd

First Game at 10am

Payouts each stop

A	B	A	T	E
17	17	17	17	17
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5	25	45	55	75
6	16	36	46	66
2	22	42	52	62

Info:
Glenn Phillips
707-624-6310
glennphillips01@comcast.net

Join ABATE
the day of
the event and
ride FREE

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FOR SALE: 2002 VTX1800C Honda cruiser. Fully loaded, leather hard core side bags, windshield, triple lights, raised custom Flanders handle bars, custom pipes, purple with custom painted flame tank, loads of custom chrome, custom pegs, European low crash bar, air horn. 38,000 miles Mint condition. \$4,000.00. Mike – 818-489-8433

FOR SALE: I have an “almost” new aftermarket speedometer, 8-1/2” face, 306 miles. It fits an early model (84-93) Harley-Davidson XLHR Sportster or a FXR Low Rider model. Handlebar mount with rear reset knob and mechanical front wheel drive. Bought from JP Cycles in January 2014. Paid \$109.00. Want \$75.00 cash. Steve B 760/616-0402 and leave a message.

ABATE “Brothers & Sisters”
Lost in 2016
 Bill Campbell, Local 17.
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March 5, 2016
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28th Annual
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NCOM Biker Newsbytes

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NCOM BIKER NEWSBYTES

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

RIDING "OFF THE GRID" -- HOW TO ESCAPE GPS TRACKING ON YOUR MOTORCYCLE

Freedom of the Road isn't that free these days. "We often talk about what you can do to protect your privacy, but more often than not we accept the technology given to us by large corporations with government influence," writes Gil Mellen, ABATE of California's rep to the Southern California Confederation of Clubs (SCCOC), "And with that ease our phones store more than just our private information, they are a collection source for who we are, what we do and where we go 24/7."

Turning your phone off or on airplane mode doesn't cut it either, he explains. In order to truly be undetectable to ANYONE you must use a first line of defense on your phone, such as Silent Pocket. By employing a Silent Pocket "Faraday cage" (conductive material surrounding a piece of equipment to exclude electrostatic and electromagnetic influences) you can block all wireless signals to and from your mobile device.

Once placed inside the stylish leather case, your device is completely sealed -- No GPS tracking, NO cellular, NO wifi, NO Bluetooth, and NO RFID scanning or NFC in all frequencies. Additionally, Silent Pocket cases protect your financial information from credit card skimming and scanning.

So if you're heading to a large biker event and want no one to know your whereabouts, simply put your phone inside the case and wherever you go is OFF THE GRID. Once you remove your phone, any missed voicemails, data, or messages are downloaded. Your location is also known at that point.

"Silent Pocket is in the privacy accessory market for the long haul," stated Aaron Zar, Silent Pocket Co-Founder. "As the methods hackers use to compromise security continue to evolve, so will our products."

Silent Pocket is a proud supporter of SAVE THE PATCH and they offer an exclusive 15% off discount code for all BIKERS and ABATE MEMBERS at www.silent-pocket.com: patch16 or call 831-531-8199 or e-mail sales@silent-pocket.com for bulk order discounts.

BIKER ATTIRE ALLOWED IN NEW MEXICO COURTHOUSES

Declaring "A great victory for our community," Annette Torrez, chair of the New Mexico Motorcycle Rights Organization (NMMRO) and National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM) board of directors, announced that; We received the following message from Chief Justice Judge Nash concerning motorcycle vests in District Courthouse, "Please be informed that the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Department will NOT be requiring members of your organization to turn their vests inside out upon entry into the Second Judicial District Courthouse and its Courtrooms in the future."

The NMMRO and the NNMCO (Northern New Mexico Confederation of Clubs) sent Judge Nash a



letter regarding an issue in which Bernalillo Sheriff Officers were asking the Guardians of the Children to remove their vests and turn them inside out so none of the patches were visible. "These vests and patches are what identify them to the abused children who they are there to support in court under difficult circumstance as these children have to face their perpetrators or have to sometimes testify," explained Torrez. "While we can all benefit from this victory, it is the abused children from our community who will benefit most, as now members of motorcycle community can continue to support and accompany them in court. Your voices were heard as we united in support."

Nash's message specifically denotes "members of your organization" which is why "it is so important we as motorcyclists join and support the NMMRO, an organization that stands and fights for your rights, freedoms and liberties," said Torrez, adding; "Thank you to Judge Nash for doing the right thing as we believe our 1st Amendment was being violated. We must also remember that we must be respectful at all times in our courthouse, we must be on our best behavior so that we may continue to wear our patches and motorcycle related attire in the courthouse. I want to thank the Guardians of the Children for bringing this to our attention. Thank you to Double D from The Motorcycle Profiling Project and Attorney Dan Sorey for their support and advice in addressing this issue."

MANIFESTO ON THE MOTORCYCLE INDUSTRY AND FREEDOM OF THE ROAD

"I read your recent (NCOM Biker Newsbytes) report and the piece about the NCOM board requesting input on motorcycle issues to discuss at the upcoming NCOM Convention," writes Keith "Bandit" Ball of Bikernet.com and former editor of Easyriders magazine. "I have a major bitch and a project that could save the custom motorcycle aftermarket and place freedom at the forefront of our nation once more."

WHEN YOU CAN'T GIVE UP, WRITE -- A Brief Manifesto; "Sounds ominous but it's not, then again it is a tough alteration to current government thinking. And I believe our industry could be at the forefront.

Why can't we prove that Freedom always needs to be a consideration? Why can't we prove that all the custom motorcycles in the country will never have any significant impact on the environment and agencies need to leave us alone?

If we were successful, this could place Freedom at the forefront in many applications from hot rods, to

go carts, to speed boats."

As evidence of governmental regulation usurping personal rights, Ball (Bandit@Bikernet.com) submitted the following news release on behalf of SEMA (Specialty Equipment Market Association) entitled "EPA Seeks to Prohibit Conversion of Vehicles into Racecars":

"The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has proposed a regulation to prohibit conversion of vehicles originally designed for on-road use into racecars and make the sale of certain products for use on such vehicles illegal. The proposed regulation was contained within a non-related proposed regulation entitled 'Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Fuel Efficiency Standards for Medium- and Heavy-Duty Engines and Vehicles - Phase 2'.

The regulation would impact all vehicle types, including the sports cars, sedans and hatch-backs commonly converted strictly for use at the track. While the Clean Air Act prohibits certain modifications to motor vehicles, it is clear that vehicles built or modified for racing, and not used on the streets, are not the 'motor vehicles' that Congress intended to regulate.

"This proposed regulation represents overreaching by the agency, runs contrary to the law and defies decades of racing activity where EPA has acknowledged and allowed conversion of vehicles," said SEMA President and CEO Chris Kersting.

Working with other affected organizations, including those representing legions of professional and hobbyist racers and fans, SEMA will continue to oppose the regulation through the administrative process and will seek congressional support and judicial intervention as necessary. The EPA has indicated it expects to publish final regulations by July 2016."

BILL IN WASHINGTON WOULD ALLOW MOTORCYCLES ON SHOULDERS IN TRAFFIC

Washington State might give motorcyclists preferential treatment on some highways during traffic jams under a bill that has the support of the state Senate. The measure would give motorcyclists permission to drive on the far left shoulders of divided highways when traffic is moving under 25 miles an hour.

"It really is about relieving congestion," said State Senator Tim Sheldon (D-Mason County), the bill's sponsor. He tried passing a bill last year that would have allowed what's known as "lane splitting," allowing bikers to ride between cars stopped in traffic, but that bill failed.

Sen. Sheldon told CBS King5 News in Olympia that his proposal would alleviate traffic and make highways safer for motorcycle riders in heavy traffic. "When congestion basically stops traffic, a motorcyclist... they're vulnerable to over-heating as well as being rear-ended."

KANSAS HOUSE SPEAKER GIVES HORSE-POWER TO 3-WHEELER REFORM BILL

A House committee in Kansas kicked the tires of a bill creating a special driving examination and license for people who ride increasingly popular three-wheeled motorcycles. Under current Kansas law, individuals are required to take a test on a two-wheeled motorcycle even if they own and plan to ride a machine with three wheels. House Bill 2436 would establish a special class of motorcycle licensing that aligns the examination with the type of vehicle to be driven.

Continued on next page

Newsbytes from page 11

Three-wheel licenses issued under the proposed law would forbid the person from legally riding a two-wheeled motorcycle, but anyone passing the two-wheel test could ride both motorcycle variations.

House Speaker Ray Merrick (R-Stilwell) urged the House's Vision 2020 Committee to endorse the "friendly, common-sense update to Kansas statutes."

"Considering the vast differences in the physical requirements between two- and three-wheeled motorcycles," Merrick said, "it is reasonable that a person who can only ride a three-wheeled motorcycle should be allowed to take their license training and test on the type of motorcycle they will be using."

Brian Thompson, a lobbyist with ABATE of Kansas, said the reform proposed by the House bill would benefit young and old riders alike. "Those with less skills would be able to feel the independence and freedom of the road if they desire," Thompson told the Topeka Capital-Journal newspaper.

NEW MOTORCYCLE HAZARD - TEENS WALKING WHILE DISTRACTED Motorcycle riders have a lot to watch for when cruising through an urban environment such as a city or town. While the first focus may be other vehicles, a new study shows bikers should watch for teens crossing the road while distracted by their smartphone.

According to research released by Safe Kids Worldwide, with support from FedEx, distraction plays a role as 50% of teens admit they cross streets while using a mobile device, and an alarming 40% admit to actually being hit or nearly hit by a car, bike or motorcycle while walking.

Of the teens who have been hit or nearly hit report crossing the street while: 47% listening to music, 20% talking on the phone, and 18% were texting.

"Every hour of every day, a teen is hit or killed while walking," said Kate Carr, President and CEO of Safe Kids Worldwide. "Texting and walking or driving can be fatal. That's why we're asking everyone to put phones down when crossing the street."

TEENAGER CAUTIONED AFTER SERIOUSLY INJURING MOTORCYCLIST

A 14-year-old boy was recently "cautioned" by police after causing "life-changing injuries" to a motorcyclist by tying a rope between two trees on a woodland path. The 17-year-old rider was rushed to the hospital with serious neck and wind-pipe injuries after hitting the rope while riding in woods near St Neots, Cambridgeshire, UK, and he spent seven weeks in the hospital including two-and-a-half in an induced coma.

The boy, who admitted responsibility under questioning by police, was issued a youth caution for causing grievous bodily harm without intent. He must also attend sessions with the Youth Offending Service.

MOTORCYCLE SPEEDER WINS \$180,000 IN CASE AGAINST COP WHO BEAT HIM UP On Aug. 3, 2012, Justin Wilkens was speeding on his Aprilia motorcycle and unwittingly passed Oregon State Police Officer Rob Edwards in an unmarked cop Camaro. After a few min-

utes of chase, Edwards rammed Wilkens off the bike, pulled a gun on him and kicked him in the chest.

If you think that sounds egregious, a jury agrees with you.

Dash cam footage shows Wilkens' motorcycle speeding past cars and crossing double-yellow (no passing zones) lines near Veneta, OR when the officer pulls up behind him at an intersection, hits the bike and knocks the biker to the ground. Edwards maintained this was unintentional; a result of "brake fade" from the Camaro's discs being overworked. At this point in the footage, Edwards enters the frame and lands a kick to Wilkens' chest while drawing down on him with his pistol before cuffing him.

In an interesting plot twist, Edwards stated he did not know the police car's dashcam was running. Wilkens suffered a broken left clavicle, a fractured rib and other injuries in the incident.

After being apprehended, Wilkens brought an excessive-force claim against Edwards. As explained by local news, a jury of eight people "awarded Wilkens more than \$31,000 in economic damages to reimburse his medical expenses and motorcycle repair bills; \$100,000 in noneconomic damages for his injuries, pain and suffering; and \$50,000 in punitive damages," which Officer Edwards will be forced to pay.

QUOTABLE QUOTE: "History does not entrust the care of freedom to the weak or timid." Dwight D. Eisenhower (1890-1969) WWII Military Commander & 34th President of the U.S.

Sporty's Rides



by Sporty Milligan

Well there is joy in Sporty land. After a one year hiatus, the 2002 Sportster is back from its way too long visit at Casey's MC shop. I am going to wait until after the Polar Bear run to get the needed parts for the voyager rig, which allows this bike to star in a duel role - trike or solo bike. Film at eleven on that in the upcoming weeks.

As you know, this time of year ABATE Local 1 puts on the Polar Bear run at the end of February. This year is no exception. This year's run will be the 29th annual Polar Bear run. It will be over by the time you read this column.

In order to prepare for a run, there are several things you have to do to make the run

successful. One is making a route. I have done what I considered to be a nice simple not too complex route that will be safe for first time riders and challenging for the more experienced riders. I am confident that this should be good for those who attend the run. I will have to do the route one more time to make sure it's ok.

I have been out and about in my travels putting flyers at the shops. When you get run flyers sometimes on the bottom of the flyers is the biker law firm's logos. That can be a problem when you have members who work for the various law firms we're accustomed to dealing with. So I did something entirely different. I used printing firms where I got the flyers printed with the printer's logos on the bottom of the flyers. I just did not want to ruffle any feathers.

Raffle prizes play an important part of the run's success. Our new business member, Bartels, gave us some nifty raffle prizes. In my Local 1 area I have four Harley dealerships that I work with. Old Road HD, Barger HD, Glendale HD and Bartels' HD. All fine Harley dealers. They all have contributed raffle prizes.

Since Bartels' has been a new experience, it has led me to rediscover some new routes to get to their shop in Marina Del Ray. What a trip it is to again drive routes that I have not been on in many moons.

Also, being the President of a Local you have the job of going to other Locals to get them to attend your run. So on Tuesday, February 9th, I went to Local 2's meeting in Simi Valley to do a plug for our Polar Bear run. Their meeting was kind of like my meetings, small, and they gave me a change to plug my Polar Bear run. Plus they gave me a free burger and a hot dog because my ATM card did not give me money. Something happened with my pin number and, when I got home, it had to be reset.

By the way, the weather has been quite nice and I am hopeful we don't have to use the rain date for the Polar Bear run.

So there you have it in a nutshell. I have been riding and writing the experiences of my life for several years now. It's been a pleasure to keep you informed about my trials and tribulations. I never know what will happen in my life so I keep plugging along trying to help prevent tooth decay, which is preventing bad laws from happening to motorcycle riders in California.

In closing this month's Sporty's Rides column I want you to be aware that we need to Pass AB-51, the lane sharing bill, written by Assemblymen Quirk and Lackey.

That's it, done! Regards, SCRIBE Sporty aka STP.



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Russ Brown
Chuck Koro Jim Long

WE CARE

Russ was inducted into the Sturgis Motorcycle Hall of Fame, the only attorney ever to receive this honor. His commitment to the motorcycle community resulted in "BAM" (Breakdown Assistance for Motorcyclists), a FREE nationwide volunteer program of over 2,000,000 riders helping riders everywhere in the U.S. We go the extra mile for our clients and our friends. Our business model is built on relationships and trust.

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Motorcycle Safety Report

by **Norm e. Newiger,**
Safety Officer

These Old Bones

Well the month of February has been challenging, almost no rain and days like summer down here in the southland. Anyway, we get an extra day this month and that's about it! That storm system of the year is way out there, it's late, but still on the way. At least that's what they keep saying. So I'm shelving this rain savior of California's drought hype until it happens.

The good news is that we can ride without the nuances of bugs because it still gets fairly cold at night, whoopee! It may be different up in the Northern part of California but my residence is down here and I'm reporting from my zone for now. What I'm hearing is that we would like some more of the winter season but not too extreme, at least no rain on the weekends!

I have been preparing my bike for the riding season early this year. I keep a good eye on my bike year round, but because of the down time during the winter season, I really get into the extra things. I usually do the major service and install new parts or have work done around January through March in preparation for the prime riding season so I won't have any major issues during the summer. It also makes sure my bike is safe and trustworthy.

At my age the first thing I think about is my mind and body - getting old kinda sucks, but it's worth it! For some of us our body has changed and it has altered our riding time and distance that we travel. Don't get me wrong, there are many of us that are like that battery, just goes and goes, but for me, and some I know, one of our topics is about what medications we take! We talk about our aches and pains and missing interior parts due to parts being worn out or we face the serious situations of disease - you all know what I'm talking about, the list for us older generation riders is long and has no prejudice what so ever.

For me, and many others, riding is therapeutic. It helps repel stress better than a martini! I do live to ride but I've had my serious medical situations that have limited me, but through all that I've been through I still ride. My doctor recommends me not to, but he didn't say I can't ride anymore. It's a battle that many of us come to realize and that's when we have to say, "I really do like to ride", or "I really love to ride" and "Ride I will until I can't ride anymore!"



This is the mental part, the love of riding. It does require responsibilities as much as keeping your bike ready. The physical aspects are more evident because we have medications or therapy of some sort and sometimes riding makes me feel good until I'm done at the end of the day, then my body lets me know. But I say to myself, give me a couple of days to recoup and I'll be back! That's what I call, ride to live and live to ride, the love of riding!

These old bones do dictate to me! The type of bike I ride is the biggest concern. I'll still ride my Heritage Softail, but I'm leaning towards the grandpa bike, a full dresser of some sorts. I'm not saying this is the choice of older people, but for me I'm in need of comfort as I ride and a trike is not the answer. I'm also thinking about a custom seat with a back rest. But I wonder if I could bring my leg over it as I mount my bike or worse yet, dismounting. It could get real ugly if I fall off my bike because my back said no half way off my bike. Some of you really know this!

This is where the kickstand is your best friend, this phenomenon only happens when other riders are present and you can feel their eyes on you. You double check your kickstand and take your sweet time to get off and you know you can't bring your leg over the backrest so you take a wide step off and drag your right leg over your seat hoping it goes smooth. There are a few things that really test our memory like forgetting to put your kickstand down as you dismount and you remember it as gravity lets your bike down sideways. Your footing also becomes important (this can test our reaction time and strength) because of the loose gravel under your boots that you didn't remember to look for before dismounting. Have you ever had your boot slide as your bike lays down? These things are

common for all riders, but we oldies call it an age thing. One of my favorite styles of bikes are hard tails, to me, it's a younger generation bike or your simple bar hopper, my back will not let me enjoy the coolness of riding these bikes and that sucks.

I have come upon something weird but true. My back and neck is like a radar system, it alerts my eyes and then they tell my brain there's a bump or slight change of elevation ahead of some sort, not your speed bumps in a neighborhood or parking lot but on the freeway/highway. These construction gaps happen wherever there's an overpass two times per overpass. If in fact I hit one it will let my back know, and let me tell you, some of them are downright nasty, I guess this problem was due to the fact that they had the lowest bidder build them, close but no cigar theory! All it takes is missing a few of them and my back is done for the day, unless I'm somewhat medicated or will be soon! My radar system goes on red alert and when I see the next one I do the "harrumph rise" as I cross these joints twice, the harrumph rise is lifting your butt up as you hit these two joints on the freeway and you don't really lift your butt off the seat but you go with the upward motion while hitting them, it takes practice but you'll perfect it very quickly because of the pain it can cause. I love floor boards! I've been riding nearly 40 years using pegs, then when I got my Heritage and it came with floorboards and I love it. I do have pegs on my freeway bars though, they really do help me feel more comfortable while riding long distances and I can put my feet at many different positions while riding, and if I get antsy I can do the heel to toe dance and stretch out somewhat, it also helps doing the harrumph rise as well!

My younger riding buds always bag me on my age (joking of course), calling me old man, grandpa etc. I come back and tell them, hey, if you're privileged enough to get to my age you'll respect me after the fact. I tell them that I've survived this long because of my lack of stupidity and I understand the life of riding and its responsibilities.

We've seen or heard of a lot of people go down for the count at a young age and never got to our zone in life and it's truly a great honor to be riding in our senior years as they call it. We just have to deal with our old bones and a cold one! I truly hope we can all get to the point in life where we can hang up our boots and use them little electric carts maxing out at 5 MPH!

Ride safe and continually check your tire pressure - that's some really good information that you can pass along to them young ones while they have them good bones!

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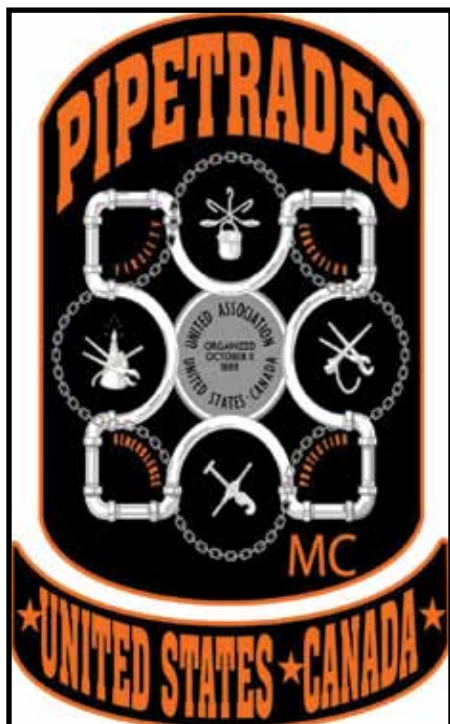
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805/496-0323 158 N Conejo School
Thousand Oaks
91362

San Diego County - Local #06-Reg#12
Snowman 1st Sun - 12 Noon
C/O Boozefighters M/C Kate Sessions Park
P O Box 501946 Pacific Beach
San Diego CA 92150 92109
619/855-9981

Orange County - Local #08-Reg#11
Steve Howe 2nd Mon.7:30PM
562/298-6236 American Legion #354
8071 Whitaker
santabeard@yahoo.com Buena Park
90621

San Diego County (North) - Local #11-Reg#12
Dan Buse 2nd Sun - 11 AM
busel13@att.net Escondido Moose Lodge
760/807-7294 25721 Jesmond Dene Rd
Escondido 92026

Alameda, Contra Costa, Solano & Napa Counties L#17 Region #3
Glenn Phillips 3rd Sun.- 10:00 AM
P O Box 148 Judy's Wild
Vacaville 95696 Wrangler Saloon
707/624-6310 4826 Midway Rd.
Vacaville CA 95688

Pomona Valley - Local #19-Reg#9
Jeff Bassler 4th Wed - 7:00 PM
C/O 9648 Calle Vejar Round Table Pizza
Rancho Cucamonga 1020 N Mountain
91730 Ontario, CA 91729
909/596-9685

Orange County - Local #20-Reg#11
Gill Mellen 2nd Tues - 7:00 PM
2104 Continental Ave. American Legion
Costa Mesa 92627 5646 Corporate Ave.
949/632-9787 Cypress CA 90630



ABATE MEETINGS

Antelope Valley - Local #21-Reg#13
Ron Sundquist 2nd Thurs - 7:00 PM
37230 52nd St. East Text 661/789-7502 for
Palmdale 93552 meeting place.
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
San Bernardino CA 92408

Fresno - Local#24-Reg#6
Ed Rodgers 2nd Tues. 7:00 PM
559/264-2891 Yosemite Falls Cafe'
www.abatelocal24.org Shaw & Blackstone
Fresno 93701

Sacramento - Local#25-Reg#2
Lil' David Morena 3rd Thurs - 7:00 PM
916/616-9605 Denny's
3520 Auburn Blvd.
Sacramento 95821

Riverside - Local#27-Reg#9
Kenny Nuttall 1st Tues - 7:00 PM
P.O. Box 7070 American Legion
Riverside CA 92513 2979 Dexter Dr.
951/377-5772 (in Fairmont Park)
Riverside, CA 92501

Morongo Basin - Local#29-Reg#13
Marty Rapp 2nd - Thurs - 6:30 PM
P.O. Box 2334 Odd # Months
29 Palms CA 92277 Call Marty for Location
760/367-1694

North Valley - Local #31-Reg#2
Larry James 2nd Tues - 7:00 PM
Panighetti's
530/893-4827 2760 Esplanade
Chico 95973

Yuba City - Local #33-Reg#2
Steve Katen 2nd Tues. - 7:PM
530/749-1003 American Legion
5477 Feather River Blvd.
Olivehurst 95961

Imperial Valley - Local#38-Reg#12
Ed Aranda Last Thurs - 6:30 PM
Edward_A12@yahoo.com
La Fonda Bar & Grill
1950 South 4th St.
El Centro, CA 92243

Bakersfield - Local#40-Reg#6
Steve Broughton 3rd Tues. 7:00 PM
760/616-0402 Rusty's Pizza
5430 Olive Dr
Bakersfield 93308

High Desert Local 44/47-Reg #13

Dave Hastings 2nd Sat. 9:30 am
16782 Danbury Ave. Eagles Order #4181
Hesperia, CA 92345 16195 Main St
760/947-4700 Hesperia 92345

Grass Valley - Local#52-Reg#2
Craig Griswold 3rd Wed - 6:30 PM
21183 State Hwy 20 Alta Sierra
Penn Valley Pizza & Grill'
530/263-8071 15690 Johnson Place
Grass Valley 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.

