

# The Bailing Wire

ABATE of CA. Newsletter for Motorcyclists Volume XXXV ISSUE VI

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

**Jim Frazier, Chairman of the Assembly Transportation Committee; Glenn Phillips, ABATE of CA Board Chairman and Local 17 President; James Lombardo, ABATE of CA Lobbyist.**



### *Executive Director's Report*



#### by Dave Hastings, Executive Director

The Regional Rally is in the books for 2016 and I want to thank everyone who attended, volunteered, and worked to make it a success. Weather played a factor in our Rally for the second year in a row and even though we enjoyed sunshine at our event location, everyone who attended rode through rain, wind, and even snow to get there.

We plan and do our best to ensure everything is set up and functioning for these events but we still haven't figured out a way to predict or control what Mother Nature has in store for us on our event day.

If you made it there, I know you had a good time and if you decided to stay home and stay dry I can't blame you. Hopefully we will be finished with all of this El Nino weather soon and we can get back to some good old California sunshine on our ABATE events statewide. Bottom line, the Rally did make some money for our

organization and we had a lot of fun doing it!

While I'm talking about money, has your Local contributed to either our State General Fund or Lobbyist Fund in 2016? Locals are chartered through our ABATE State organization and exist solely to enhance our member's access to their elected and appointed State Officers through their Local Officer network.

Running an organization as large and diverse as ours requires a tremendous amount of volunteer time and expense. Every member of ABATE should do their best to ensure that we have a surplus of help and adequate funding to cover our dedicated duties and operational expenses.

So ask if your Local has contributed to our State Funds, and if not, what plans are being made to do so? Plan a Local event to benefit our dedicated funds or just make it a habit to "pass the hat" for a collection at every Local function and make sure it reaches the fund of choice decided upon by your Local members.

Also, step up and run for a Local or statewide position to help lighten the load for some of your fellow volunteers. Offer your help at a Local or State function and learn how that event is operated while you help it turn a profit. Volunteers are the backbone of our organization, but unfortunately many are overworked and sometimes "burned out" from years of performing duties because no one else ever will.

Be that person who makes a difference. Step forward and step up. Your ABATE organization will be better for it!

June 2016

## American Brotherhood Aimed Towards Education



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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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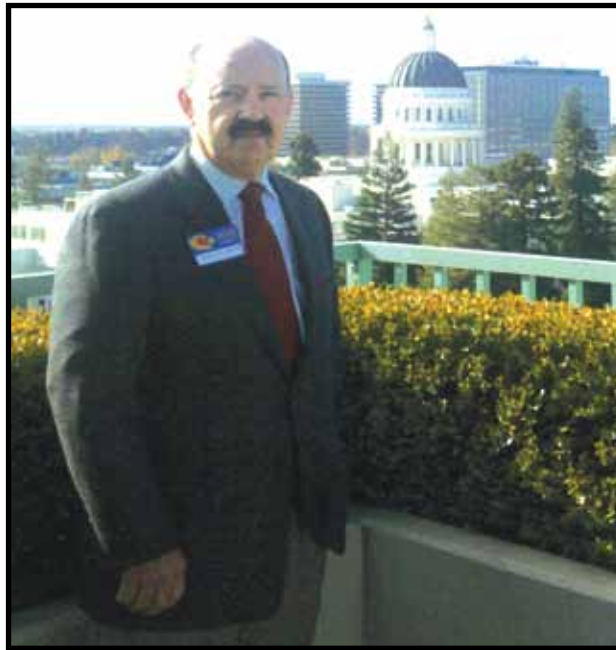
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## Lobbyist's Report



### by James Lombardo, Lobbyist

It's June, already, and the legislative session is almost half over! The reason — 2016 is an election year! The Legislature will adjourn August 31st so members can go back to their districts to run for re-election, or for the 6-year termed-out legislators — to stay at home for good!

The new group of candidates running in the June primary and the November general election, if elected and subsequently re-elected each voting cycle would not term out until 2024-26-28. Maybe some good public policy will come of this if we can elect a motorcycle friendly candidate, but an unfriendly incumbent would also

have the same odds of being re-elected, election cycle after election cycle.

Governor Brown has unveiled his May revised budget. There will be much wrangling among special interest groups, Assembly Members, Senators and the Governor until the June 15th deadline arrives to pass it.

So far no policy committees have been meeting to hear bills that have passed from one house to the other this session. AB 51, the lane splitting bill by Assemblyman Bill Quirk, may be heard in June. He told me he is considering amending AB 51, and his staff is supposed to let me know if they are dropping the bill, or will send the proposed amendments to me. When I receive them, I will forward them on to our Legislative Director, Chuck Pedersen, for our Legislative Committee to review and consider our position on the changes.

As we say at this time of the year in the Capital: stay tuned and on your toes — stuff happens fast from here on to August 31st.

AB 1932, our bill by Assemblyman Jay Obernolte, that will allow motorcycle riders the option of attending a CMSP/CHP approved traffic school class in lieu of having a moving violation point on their DMV record, has passed the Assembly and awaits assignment to a policy committee in the Senate for hearings that will start in June.

Thanks to all who support the dedicated Lobbyist fund to keep me fighting for your rights in Sacramento!

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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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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:

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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](mailto: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

Well it's that time again - the time when I give you my monthly request to get more members for ABATE and to keep your Local members. I don't know how much more I can say to encourage you all.

However, I will say this: We have the tools to work with that will help us in our quest to get new members. Our Board member Mark Loudermilk has worked diligently to make significant improvements on our ABATE website. This is an important step because it will help you seal the deal when you are trying to get new members.

I know that you will have turned in your special membership funding raffle tickets by this reading. This is going to, once again, help fund this year's membership drive entirely. The winner will be drawn at the Board of Directors meeting in July and I will call or notify the winner.

In a recent basketball game the crowd was wearing t-shirts that said "strength in numbers".



This is especially true for ABATE of California to keep our organization going. So, once again, please do your best to get ABATE new members and keep the renewals.

Till next time. There is unity and strength in numbers of members.

Regards, Sporty Milligan

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# Regional Rally Pics

By Nick Benson, Mark Loudermilk, Robin Buse & Tina Sanders





Regional Rally Pics

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# Regional Rally Pics

By Nick Benson, Mark Loudermilk, Robin Buse & Tina Sanders





# LOCAL NEWS

## Local #01 Los Angeles



Greetings from ABATE Local 1. This is an actual report from Sporty for today's meeting. Due to circumstances beyond my control the location of the meeting for May was at Big Jim's Family restaurant in Sun Valley.

We had a small meeting but those of my members that showed up found out about our money in the local bank. We also discussed AB-51 and the other bill we're following, AB 1932 - motorcycle safety training.

I also encouraged the members to consider doing a day pass at the Messengers of Recovery run on June 10th - 11th & 12th. The day pass for June 11th is \$15. I also encouraged the members attending to try and make the Booze Fighters annual run on June 17th - 18th & 19th. A day pass for the 18th is \$15.

My membership officer had nothing much to say except he moved into his new house in Encino. I adjourned the meeting and we ate breakfast. Regards, Sporty.

## Local #02 Simi Valley



May is a great month, great weather and great food! We still serve a great \$5.00 BBQ dinner consisting of burgers, big hotdogs, hot links, and all the fixin's you could want and a great bar within talking distance makes for a great time before our meeting. We start serving at 6:45 until 7:20 then our meeting promptly starts at 7:30. Our volunteer cooks for this evening was Ken, the hotlink master, and Pres Guy.

We meet on the second Tuesday of the month at VFW POST 10049 at 4242 East Los Angeles Ave. Jim, our VP, started us with the Pledge of Alliance and Pres Guy got our meeting started. He talked about our upcoming Sweaty Buns Run, passed out our sign up sheet and talked about the type of run we will do and the necessary t-shirt ads as well as our end stop. Pres Guy also talked about Local 2 doing a winter run, maybe the Frozen Buns run? It was a good idea for us all and it's a good thing to consider. He also talked about our visit to Simi Valley's City Hall to receive a plaque for May Motorcycle Safety month.

We had quite a few officers on vacation this month, so here it goes, Norm filled in for our secretary Jane and read the minutes, Pattibock read the treasurer report for Pat, Pres Guy read the membership report and said that Norm, Andi and Mike renewed.

PR Norm talked about reading the Bailing Wire online and run coordinator Bob (Pigface) talked about Local 2 going on the Leather Weather ride and this month's ride. Ken, our merchandise man, talked about our shirts for our run.

We had a guest from Local 3/13, Keith, and he talked about their run on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Pattibock won our membership prize this month.

We had a good meeting this month and missed all who couldn't make it. It's vacation season and we hope everyone has a great time and returns safely!

Ride safe and smart and enjoy this great weather. PTL norm e.

## Local #03/13 Thousand Oaks/Ventura County

Last month, we were excited to welcome 6 new members: Jonathan Borquez, Steven James, Dan Pedersen,



Scotty Compton Lonis, KC Boston, and Craig Ford. Their enthusiasm is contagious!

We enjoyed a fun weekend at the Regional Rally in Victorville and look forward to more camping adventures, including the State Run later this fall.

Late in April we brought back our Leather Weather Run, celebrating May's Motorcycle Awareness Month and are pleased to announce a decent profit.

With all this said, we are very proud to have just sent to our ABATE of CA state organization a generous donation from our Local. That's what it's all about, right? We are proud and thankful for the energy and dedication exhibited by our members!

Upcoming plans include a Garage Sale, July 9<sup>th</sup>, with all proceeds going to our organization; and our big Annual Trivia Run on October 23! That run will also honor and pay tribute to our late Treasurer and longtime Brother, Don Martin.

We're feeling the comradery and we're feeling the interest in our mission! It's contagious! To that end, our 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. Our Local Bike Nights are held the first Thursday of each month at Azar's Sports Bar and 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!

Our Local President, Chuck Pedersen, continues 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; and AB-51, involving defining lane sharing parameters. Join us in support of these efforts! Get involved, write your legislators, everything we do does make a difference.

Our Local 3/13 is always welcoming new members. Bike Nights are held 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month, 7 pm, at Azar's Sport's Bar & Grill in Newbury Park; General Membership Meetings are on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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, to any or all of these events, and bring your friends. Check us out on Facebook at [www.Facebook.com/ABATE313](http://www.Facebook.com/ABATE313) to follow our events and issues.

It's all about motorcyclists' rights across all clubs, groups and organizations! Kathleen B

## Local #11 North San Diego County



No meeting in May since we were in Victorville for the Regional Rally. The weather ended up being great! Dan Buse, Tim and Cheryl Clark, Steve Schmitt, Mark "Dogman" Castillero and a few others were there to support ABATE Local 11! We all had a great time!

Thank you to Gary Elliott for being "the best scribe ever" for so long! I have mighty big shoes to fill and hope to make you proud!

Hope to see you at our next meeting on June 12th. We have a party basket raffle going on now - tickets are \$1. The raffle will be held at our August meeting. Cheers! Robin B.

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



A very busy month for us and all our Local 17 volunteers! Our 5th Annual Texas Hold-Em had a quiet turnout but was still fun for all and successful for us.

First place \$500 winner went to our own member Kay Cardwell, Congratulations! Second place was Rich for \$150 and third place was past winner Alaina for \$100.00.

A real thanks to our table sponsors Road Trip Bar and Grill, Iron Steed Harley-Davidson, Judy's Wild Wrangler, Sierra Steel Harley-Davidson and Taylor Chiropractic. A special thanks to Ron Vonsild who was in charge of pulling off this event and Sheri for running the raffle. Our Moose Lodge business member again provided our venue!

Our next event is June 5th at Iron-Steed Harley-Davidson. See flyer in this issue. Our 19th Annual Hot Rod and 22nd Annual Ride-In Bike Show is 11 am to 5 pm at 100 Auto Center Dr., Vacaville, CA. 95687.

Please bring the family out for a fun day and enjoy the live music of The Terry Sheets Band, good food and fun for all. The event will feature some of the best hot rods and coolest bikes in the region!

President Glenn Phillips had a meeting with Assemblyman Jim Frazier and is working on a meeting with Bill Quirk to discuss AB 51 Lane Splitting. Much more to come, stay tuned.

ABATE of California State Board Meeting is June 25th in Fresno. Please try to attend. See details in this issue.

Our hearts are heavy with the loss of our brother and friend, Vance Earl Hobart. Vance was on a ride with friends up to Lake Berryessa, when an oncoming truck crossed the double yellow lines. Vance swerved to avoid being hit, lost control of his bike, and crashed. A search is on for the truck which kept going. Vance was a great musician and singer, an Air Force veteran who had served in the Mideast, and a wonderful human being. He had been an original ABATE member over 20 years ago. Ride in heaven, brother!

Ride Safe, Ride FREE! Shauna.

## Local #20 Orange County



Spike researched the legalities of traffic stops for the Hessians MC in Chino because of how the cop was treating it. Spike spoke of Waco and Denver. The cases are still going on. He spoke of the road changes that the State of CA wants to implement for paying by mileage and it's a survey they are doing. Gill says we need some ABATE members involved

Gill will be attending the LA-HD of Anaheim Customer Appreciation Night on 13 May to try and sign them up as a business member. They want to help us out locally. Please email (NOT text) any information that you want sent out to Gill.

The next Quarterly Board Meeting is 25 June in Fresno. We would like to see attendance from Southern CA.

"Listen up!" We had 25 members and 3 guests (Steve and Rhonda Tolerico and Red Feather RR) at our May meeting.

Gill discussed AB 51 Lane Sharing. The author didn't have enough support to get it out of committee.

Lenny, our former secretary, is still in FL taking care of her father.

Robin O'Neal of the Devil's Disciples won \$13 at the meeting.

Secretary Squirt & Non Politically Correct Gill



# LOCAL NEWS

## Local #21 Antelope Valley



Hi Family! Hope I saw you at the Regional Rally in Victorville. It was good to see Carol and Tina and all my brothers.

Mark stopped by and paid the lobbyist money for Local 21. Thank you, Mark!  
Later, Daryl

## Local #23 San Bernardino



Our Chili Cook-Off Contest & Yard Sale takes place on Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup>. Check out our Facebook page for details at [ABATE of California Local 23](#).

Our monthly Dinner Ride did not take place due to the Regional Rally taking place.

Our bike night attendance was small as there were two other bike nights taking place on that same Friday. Our last two were cancelled due to weather.

At our last monthly meeting we discussed upcoming events. Bosco brought us up to date on the various bills and concerns. He also won a candy filled cup from the raffle.

Some of our members went to ABATE Local 27 Riverside's Bare Necessities Run and we won the plaque for the most members.

We also managed to get a tent set up at the Open House put on by Quaid Harley-Davidson Loma Linda. At least for a time as the Santa Ana winds picked up and tried to blow it away. We ended up with just tables. Some people did show interest in what ABATE is about.

Until next month. Donald Kline

## Local #27 Riverside



Rae Nuttall, shame on you. You were not at the June Local 27 membership meeting so you did not collect any money when your name was drawn for the membership drawing.

BARE Necessities was our annual fundraiser held on April 17, for **The Salvation Army** so they can provide under garments for the less fortunate. Major Keith Bottjen was present to receive the more than 18 plastic trash bags full of a wide variety of items.

I would like to thank those that have so generously contributed funds and or merchandise to make this event a success. Special thanks to The Geezers M/C for their fundraising efforts and to Bob Moungey/Youth Helpers for their donation (directed towards items to be purchased especially for the kids), The Chopper Place, ACL Construction Co. Ontario and Tammy O. L23, Resort Styles, Green Meadows Landscape, Todd Rubin/AMR recycling, H.R./Wolfe Precision Molds, Wright Bros. Customs, Cruz Cat Construction, GB Cruz Construction, Nuttall Landscape Services, FTW riding club, "TNT" Turkeys and Toys charity group, Tyler Market, Leon and Renae Dailey, and "Sporty" Milligan.

**AND of course**, it could not have been a success without the attendance and support of area motorcycle enthusiasts and the general public! We had close to **100** paid entrances and each one brought at least one unopened package of under wear. The Partners M.C. won the largest "club" award with 9 members participating (and they did this after riding through sand storms from THE YUMA PRISION RUN!!), The Geezers M.C. had a total of 19 signed in members, but removed themselves from the club participation because of their heavy involvement with the event. Way to go, guys! ABATE Local 23 won the largest ABATE group beating out Local 19 by 1 with a total of 9. Thanks to The Midnight Riders, Christian Crusaders, Ugly Brothers M.C., Smokeaters M.C., and BACA for coming to the event. Several other members of ABATE showed up as well including some all the way from Local 1. **10,000 THANKS TO YOU ALL!**

We had a great time at The Regional Rally last weekend. Good times, great friends and fun games. Congrats to my wife, Raeanne on winning the "women's pitcher hold" contest this year.

Just a little bummed out that the support wasn't better!  
Ride safe, Kenny Nuttall, President Local 27

## Local #38 Imperial Valley

Hello fellow ABATE members! First off I want to welcome our newest member, Tina Sanders who transferred from Local 00, after it closed down. Next Ken and I attended the 22nd Southern Regional Rally in Victorville. A lot of FUN, due to the weather, attendance was down.

Our Local bought \$100 worth of tickets for ABATE Local 6's truckload raffle and guess what we won? \$100!

In our annual Ice Chest Raffle, Pablo Manzano won! Thanks to all who sold tickets. We'll have a breakdown of how much was made at our next meeting.

May was Motorcycle Awareness month, and KXO Radio played a 30 second PSA on both their AM and FM stations. I hope you heard it in the Imperial Valley. I was able to see the message boards Cal -Trans had displayed.

Get involved come to our monthly meeting. Ed Aranda, Prez

Editors/SRR note – Local 38 (Ken & Ed cooked and fed the SRR volunteers a delicious Carne Asada lunch just for Volunteering – it is worth it!!) thanks Guys!!!

## Local #52 Grass Valley



Hi folks! By the time this goes to print 2016 will be half in the bag. Time flies etc! At our last meeting I informed the membership that the Dew Drop Inn would let us use their facility, at no charge, for an event. In past discussions the membership thought that though it may be difficult to pull off a poker run due to the larger numbers of volunteers needed, a

destination ride might be doable. After some further discussion we decided to have a cheeseburger BBQ fundraiser. So we have plenty of time to plan and prepare, the date will be early October. This will make event de-confliction a bit easier as the busy riding season will be tapering off, while still early enough in the fall that cold weather shouldn't be an issue. I will need some volunteers to run this. Additionally, please start collecting raffle prizes now! More details to follow.

I submitted May is Motorcycle Awareness Month proclamation drafts to the cities of Grass Valley, Nevada City, Colfax, and Auburn as well as the Board of Supervisors to the counties of Nevada and Placer. Grass Valley, as usual, called first and got us right on the schedule. Mayor Jason Fouyer presented the proclamation to us during the city council meeting and gave me the floor to expand on the program. Nevada County mailed their proclamation. I'll keep you posted on the rest.

I have spent the last few weeks on a business membership hunt and I will say it's been challenging. Chris, Donna, and I stopped in at the Willow Glen in Oregon House and left our info for the manager. I followed up with a visit the following week and am hoping we'll get a positive response. I have been stopping at businesses that cater to bikers, although we don't have to limit our search there. Please help me with this and hit up the folks you know that own businesses. This is an economic form of advertising, not to mention we'll be their biggest promoter!

Some local 52 members rode to the MMA/ABATE Local 33 Motorcycle Awareness Month event. We met at Two Gunners Custom Iron and rode as a group. Although attendance was down a bit, the set up was as good as always. Good food, good music, and camaraderie among brothers and sisters. Cheers! Craig, President.

## GRASS VALLEY CITY COUNCIL MEETING



**Mayor Jason Fouyer issued ABATE Local 52 the Proclamation for Motorcycle Awareness Month during the city council meeting on Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>. Many thanks to the Mayor and the Grass Valley city council members for this important event. Craig Griswold, President Local 52.**



BARE Necessities Run Pics, By Kenny Nuttall





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# Pac/Treasurer's Report

by Dave Hastings,  
PAC Treasurer

June 7th is primary election day in California. Are you ready? Have you already decided who you are supporting when you head down to the polling booth or are you still trying to make up your mind? You are registered and going to vote for your candidates of choice aren't you?

Simple questions with huge implications. First off, if you don't vote, you automatically forfeit your constitutional right of self-governance. Second, now you have let someone else decide who will control your life at least until the next election cycle. And third, you also lose the right to complain about what a "lousy job" candidate xyz is doing.

Elections are held so "we the people" have a voice in choosing our representatives and by that same voting process we can exert some control over the laws and regulations enacted or repealed by our elected officials. When you do not participate in a process you lose control of that process, three strikes and you're out, plain and simple.

Our ABATE PAC will make recommendations and candidate endorsements after the primary election cycle has run its course. We will then have a clear picture of the candidates that will be listed on the November ballot and we will also have time to evaluate their positions on important motorcycle issues that affect our lifestyle.

We will distribute those recommendations and endorsements as quickly as possible so you will have a clear path to follow when you enter the polling booth next November. Use your "biker common sense" to eval-



uate the primary candidates and narrow the field for the November election.

As usual, we will endorse a candidate by their past voting record on our issues and their current answers on our ABATE PAC questionnaire, not their political party affiliation. Sometimes we are lucky enough to have both candidates running for an office be "motorcycle friendly" and in that particular race we will endorse both and let you decide which one represents ABATE in that office.

Most of the time though, we will have only one person to support in a race and we will need to help, in every

way possible, that particular candidate win their office. That is why the primary election is so important. If we can get someone who understands and is sympathetic to our issues on the November ballot, we have a much better chance of protecting our motorcycle freedoms. Check your primary candidate list closely and make sure you help elect supportive candidates so our ABATE PAC job in November will be easier. If we can do a good job on June 7th, November will open the door to a new era of motorcycle rights and freedoms in California.

You can support our ABATE PAC Lobbyist by sending in your donations to our Lobbyist Fund. This will ensure we continue to have the inside knowledge and expert guidance of Jim Lombardo to help us monitor and chart a course for our upcoming November elections, the candidates we will endorse, and legislative issues that need to be addressed in the coming months.

2016 is going to be a busy year, so let's get educated and motivated. Only then can we take total control of our lives at the ballot box. Now let's all get going because we have some important work to do!

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

Dave H.





**Stephen S. Adams, III**  
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## Donations!! – General, Lobbyist & PAC Funds – THANK YOU!!!!

In reply to our requests for Donations and the more recent request for ABATE's Lobbyist fund – we have had a very positive response! THANK YOU MEMBERS and ABATE Locals!!!! Your monetary answers help immensely!

Donations have been received from the following (received between April 16th & May 15th): WE owe each and Every one of YOU a BIG thank you!!! So - THANK YOU!!

Donations received from Individuals to the General Fund:  
Bob Warren, Local #1;  
John Marquez, Local #52;  
Donations from ABATE Locals to the General Fund:  
3/13;19, 21, 23, & 31.

Donations to the Lobbyist fund:  
Bob Warren, Local #1;  
Rick Mullaly, Local #52;  
Donations received from ABATE Locals to the Lobbyist:  
1, 2, 3/13, 6, 19, 21, 23, 27, 31 & 40.

Donations to the PAC Fund from: Bob Warren, Local #1;  
& Local 21.

Thank YOU for your contributions in helping to preserve "Freedom of the Road" by supporting ABATE's paid Lobbyist and the General Fund!!! Thank you to our Members that renew their Memberships and those that join us – that too helps in preserving and fighting for Motorcyclist's Rights!! And Of Course the Locals that contribute to the funds regularly and when they do events. THANK YOU!! It's a team effort, so thank you for being a part of the Team!

## 2016 ABATE Events

You can also go to our website [www.abate.org](http://www.abate.org) and Events Calendar to download available flyers.

**June 4** – ABATE Local 23 – Annual Chili Cook-off & Yard sale (contact 626/513-6314 for details).

**June 5** – ABATE LOCAL 17 – Annual Hot Rods & Harleys Ride In Bike and Car Show at Iron Steed H-D (SEE flyer page 11 for details).

**June 25** – ABATE QUARTERLY MEETINGS **FRESNO – Piccadilly Inn Airport** – 5115 E. McKinley; Fresno, 92737; Room Reservations Call 559-375-7760. \$84.00 + tax/night. Includes Breakfast.

Meeting Schedule:

Presidents & State Officers Meeting – 9:00am – 10:00am

PAC Meeting – 10:15am to 11:45 am

Lunch – noon

ABATE Board Meeting – 1:00 p m to conclusion of business

**July 9** – ABATE Local 3/13 – Garage Sale (Contact 805/496-0323 for details.)

**July 24** – ABATE Local 2 – Annual Sweaty Buns – Simi Valley (SEE flyer page 19 for details).

**October 23** – ABATE Local 3/13 – Trivia Run & Tribute to Don Martin (Details TBA).

### BIKE NITES:

**ABATE LOCAL 3/13** – 1<sup>ST</sup> THURSDAY OF THE MONTH (SEE flyer in this issue for details)

**ABATE LOCAL 23** – 2<sup>ND</sup> FRIDAY OF THE MONTH (SEE flyer in this issue for details)

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.

# BIKE NITE

### For more info

Bosco:  
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## TAM'S BURGERS

**2nd Friday of the Month  
7:00 pm to 9:00 pm**

**Bike Games - Raffles - Music**

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ABATE is a not for profit Organization that monitors what Laws are currently being discussed at the State level, either for or against motorcyclist or their bikes. We fight for your rights to ride your motorcycle.







## Tech Tips

by Craig Griswold

### Carburetors (Part III)

In Part II we discussed the S&S Super E/G carburetors. This month, we'll cover the Mikuni HSR series carburetors.



With brevity in mind, we'll hit all the points germane to this very popular carburetor. A complete copy of the tuning manual, including illustrations and parts listing can be downloaded from the Mikuni website, or shoot me a note and I'll attach a copy via e-mail.

Unlike the butterfly style carbs, the Mikuni is a flat slide design. The performance benefit of a flat slide carburetor is that air flow through the venturi is very smooth and relatively unobstructed. While the butterfly carb uses a throttle plate to regulate airflow, and this plate remains in the path of airflow, the flat slide opens by lifting upwards into the upper body of the carb allowing a straight shot into the intake. The Mik also has more tunable circuits than many of the other fuel mixers. All of this results in superior performance with a remarkable throttle response.

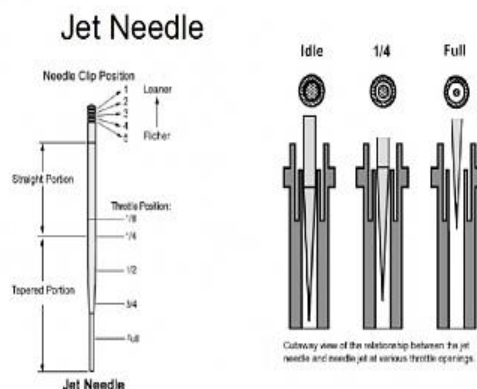
In the tuning department, different manufacturers use different terminology and procedures. While S&S uses engine RPM for reference, Mikuni uses throttle position. To start, stick masking tape to the throttle grip and housing for "witness marks". Mark positions on the tape in 1/4 throttle increments from idle to full open.

The Mikuni has four interdependent circuits: Choke, idle, main, and accelerator pump. Unlike the stock CV carburetor, the choke is a tunable circuit, and its name is somewhat of a misnomer. A choke, found on older carbs, actually restricts air flow and as a result, increases fuel delivery (rich air/fuel ratio). The choke on the Mikuni and other modern carburetors is actually an enriching device. It has its own circuit and delivers a metered flow of air/fuel mixture without restricting air flow. It probably goes without explanation that this device is used for cold starts. To what extent can vary depending on how the carb is tuned and other variables.

The second circuit is idle and covers the throttle position from idle to 1/8. There are two tunable components; the pilot air screw and the pilot jet. Back when we discussed tuning the S&S carb I mentioned that some carbs use an *air screw* rather than a fuel screw for adjusting the idle mixture. The Mikuni is one of them. The default setting for the air screw is two turns out. If best idle is achieved with less than one turn out, the pilot jet is too small (lean).

If more than two and a half turns out, the jet is too large (rich). As a side note, if you are turning the mixture screw in to fully closed on any carburetor (to check position or baseline the setting before tuning), most product literature will state somewhere in bold letters "*GENTLY SEATED*." They're not kidding. Over-tightening will ruin the seat which is integral to the carb body. There's no repair or fix, it's junk.

Next is the main circuit. Hang in there, this one's a doozy. The first component is the jet needle. This alone affects two different throttle positions. The straight portion of the needle controls just off idle to 1/4 throttle, the tapered portion 1/4 - 3/4.



If adjustment is required in the former, the needle must be changed. Mikuni jet kits contain different size needles to accommodate these changes. They can also be purchased from your local shop and other parts sources. If adjustment is needed from 1/4 - 3/4 throttle, the needle can be raised and lowered accordingly. To lean the mixture, lower the needle, to go richer, raise the needle. A clip holds the needle in position.

The last component of the main circuit is the main jet. It affects throttle from 3/4 to WFO. This is relatively cut and dried. A simple jet change up or down handles this area. I do like to make changes no less than two sizes. One size at a time sometimes makes the performance change less remarkable and harder to detect.

The final circuit of the Mik is the accelerator pump. Unlike most carbs that use one screw, the Mikuni uses two. One screw determines when the pump activates while the other controls deactivation. In other words, between the two screws, timing and duration are set for the pump.



The horizontal screw (#1) determines activation. To bring it in sooner, turn the screw out. Later, turn it in. The vertical screw (#2) controls when the pump stops. Adjust this so pump duration ends somewhere between 2/3 and 3/4 throttle. In the end, you want the least amount of accelerator pump that will allow a quick snap of the throttle without the engine cutting out or coughing. Any more than that and you're wasting fuel (indicative of a puff of black smoke when you whack the throttle).

Lastly, there's a feature on this carb that few others have. The idle speed adjuster is an easy access thumb screw. This enables the idle adjustment during warm-up without using the choke (enricher) the entire time.



That's the basics for the Mikuni carburetor. No pretense of objectivity whatsoever, I love this carburetor! Japanese engineering outdid themselves on this one. Although tuning is a bit more complex, the fuel delivery has unsurpassed precision. Would I chuck my stock CV carb and replace it with this one? Not necessarily. Many years ago I walked into a shop because I was having some trouble with my stock Keihin CV. Before I could finish explaining the symptoms, the "mechanic" said throw that thing in the garbage and get yourself one of these – pointing to an aftermarket product on the shelf. Further inspection revealed a small pin hole in the diaphragm. A cheap fix compared to a new carburetor. There are numerous reasons to go with an aftermarket mixer: Performance upgrades that exceed the stocker's ability to feed the new appetite, replacing a damaged carburetor, building a power train from scratch, etc. Placing a bandage on an otherwise cheap fix is poor advice.

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

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## NCOM Biker Newsbytes

THE AIM/NCOM MOTORCYCLE E-NEWS SERVICE is brought to you by Aid to Injured Motorcyclists (A.I.M.) 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](http://www.ON-A-BIKE.com).

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

**NCOM CONVENTION ROLLS INTO ATLANTIC CITY** Odds are, it may not have been the largest Convention ever, but you can bet it was the largest venue, as nearly a thousand biker rights activists from across the U.S. converged at the sprawling Harrah's Resort in Atlantic City, New Jersey for the 31st Annual NCOM Convention, May 5-8, 2016.

For more than three decades over Mother's Day weekend, the National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM) has provided a platform for diverse factions of the motorcycle community to come together in the spirit of unity and teamwork to address issues of mutual concern, such as pursuing Biker Anti-Profiles legislation; supporting Save the Patch litigation; and reviewing Freedom of the Road victories & defeats; as well as attending seminars on Holding Effective Fund Raisers, Organizational Effectiveness, and Law Enforcement Interaction.

A Safety & First Aid seminar was hosted by Master Motorcycle Trainer Christine Firehock of the Kickstart Motorcycle Training Series, followed by Sr. EMT Instructor Dick "Slider" Gilmore's popular life-saving presentation "The Golden Hour – How to Save a Biker's Life".

Special Meetings were on the weekend's agenda in support of NCOM's many outreach programs for Women In Motorcycling; Clean and Sober Roundtable; National Sport Bike Association (NSBA); and Christian Unity Conference, in addition to the Confederation of Clubs General Patch Holders Meeting, U.S. Defenders Program, NCOM-Legislative Task Force Meeting, and A.I.M. Attorneys Conference.

During the Silver Spoke Awards Banquet on Saturday evening, several honorees were recognized for their contributions to "Improving The Image of Motorcycling", including; MEDIA: Jimmy & Pat Kay of Two Wheel Thunder TV; LEGAL: William Swatek, AIM Attorney for Alabama; ENTERTAINMENT: Singer/Songwriter Arlo Guthrie; SPECIAL RECOGNITION: NCOM Christian Unity, and Bill Foley, former NCOM Board Member from ABATE of Pennsylvania. NCOM's highest honor, the Ron Roloff Lifetime Achievement Award, was presented to Louie Nobs, Liaison for NCOM Christian Unity.

Next year's 32nd Annual NCOM Convention will be held May 11-14, 2017 at the Silver Legacy Resort & Casino, 407 N. Virginia St., in Reno, Nevada. For further information, contact NCOM at (800) ON-A-BIKE or visit [www.ON-A-BIKE.com](http://www.ON-A-BIKE.com).

**MARYLAND GOVERNOR SIGNING ANTI-PROFILING BILL INTO LAW** Hundreds of bikers descended on the State House in Annapolis on Thursday, May 19, for a historic bill signing ceremony with Governor Larry Hogan signing only the second Motorcycle Profiling measure in the country into law in Maryland.

The motorcycle anti-profiling legislation passed unanimously through both chambers of the legislature, and without opposition from law enforcement, and emulates anti-profiling legislation passed in the state of Washington in 2011.

HB785/SB233, passed 47-0 in the Senate on 4/4 and 137-0 in the House on 4/7, requires a specified statement condemning motorcycle profiling to be included in police policies and require training of officers on "motorcycle profiling," defined in the legislation as "The arbitrary use of the fact that an individual rides a motorcycle or wears motorcycle-related clothing or paraphernalia as a factor in deciding to stop, question, take enforcement action, arrest, or search the individual."

**HIGH PERFORMANCE RACING MODIFICATIONS NEED PROTECTED** Bowing to political pressures and public outcry, the federal EPA announced on April 15, 2016 that it would remove provisions from proposed regulations that would have prohibited street-legal vehicles, including motorcycles, from being modified for racing.

But regardless of the Environmental Protection Agency backing off this issue at this time, Congress is considering bi-partisan legislation in both the



House and Senate to guarantee that vehicles can continue to be modified for competition on the track.

HR 4715 & S 2659, the RPM Act (Recognizing the Protection of Motorsports Act of 2016), would ensure that the American tradition of modifying vehicles into dedicated race-track competitors is not only continued for today, but will be protected for future generations of race fans as well.

**CONGRESS ACTS TO CURB HIGHER ETHANOL BLENDED FUEL** In response to recent Congressional legislation promoting the use of E15 gasoline (HR 4673 REFUEL Act), members of the U.S. House of Representatives have co-sponsored a measure to prevent the EPA from further forcing the controversial fuel onto the U.S. marketplace. E15 contains 50% more ethanol than previously-approved E10 gas, and has not been approved for use in motorcycles, ATVs and other small engine applications. In fact, even its inadvertent use can invalidate manufacturer warranties and cause damage.

HR 5108 (the "Food and Fuel Consumer Protection Act of 2016) was introduced May 10, 2016 by U.S. Rep. Bill Flores (R-TX) "to alleviate the ethanol blend wall under the renewable fuel program." Specifically, the bipartisan bill would cap the ethanol content of fuel at 9.7%, and would also effect the EPA's Renewable Volume Obligations under the Renewable Fuel Standard.

Under proposed RFS volume requirements for 2017, the EPA calls for 18.8 billion gallons of biofuel next year, representing a nearly 4% increase despite lower demand for higher ethanol blends. HR 5108 would also ensure continued availability of ethanol-free gasoline for older motorcycles.

**EUROPE'S CHANGING EMISSIONS LAWS WILL CHANGE MOTORCYCLES** Your favorite bike may be influenced from afar. "This year promises to bring a record crop of new and updated models from virtually every manufacturer thanks to wide-ranging law changes coming into force thousands of miles away in Europe," according to Motorcyclist Magazine. "Those changes might not directly affect us, but given the way bikes are developed with global sales in mind many of the new models being developed to meet the latest European regulations are sure to be coming here too."

On January 1, 2016, a whole new set of rules was adopted across Europe. "Regulation (EU) No 168/2013" makes significant changes -- in particular to exhaust emissions limits but also to things like braking systems and electronics. Tests for noise levels have also been changed.

The emissions limits are of course much tighter; called "Euro 4," the new limits reduce the permissible levels of carbon monoxide, unburned hydrocarbons, and oxides of nitrogen in exhausts. Previously America's rules on emissions were tougher than Europe's, but now in order to pass the Euro 4 tests new bikes are being fitted with much larger exhausts and kits that include charcoal canisters to reduce evaporative emissions.

"Next year we'll be seeing a lot more things like that," predicts Motorcyclist author Ben Purvis, explaining that "While the rules were passed into law back in 2013 and came into force at the start of 2016, their implementation is staggered to give manufacturers a chance to adapt."

Since January 1st, all newly launched models have needed to comply to be legally sold in the EU. But the more important date is January 1, 2017, because that's the deadline when existing models must also come into line, though manufacturers can apply for a two-year extension.

What else is changing? Emissions aside, the big change is that in Europe all bikes over 125cc will have to be fitted with ABS while smaller bikes will need to have either ABS or a combined braking system. There are also changes to the lighting rules, with daytime running lights becoming mandatory as well as US-style side reflectors.

Europe is the closest to America in terms of the types of bike that are popular, but while Americans consume less than a half million motorcycles a year, riders in the EU pur-

chase well over a million.

Like lower emissions exhaust systems, economies of scale will likely dictate that even what's not legally required in the states -- like ABS -- will become standard equipment on increasing numbers of our U.S.-imported bikes, as it won't make sense for manufacturers to build different versions just to suit a relatively small number of American customers.

Unfortunately, Regulation (EU) No. 168/2013 also provides for the next-generation "Euro 5" emissions tests, tougher still, and the deadline for their implementation is less than five years away, beginning with 2020 new models.

**BMW TO INSTALL "SOS" BUTTON FOR EMERGENCIES** BMW Motorrad has announced plans to offer a safety option on its bikes that would automatically contact emergency services in the case of an accident or emergency situation.

The "Intelligent Emergency Call" system features a vehicle-integrated eCall system that's been available in BMW's cars in Europe since 1999. The system will be extended to BMW motorcycles starting next year.

According to BMW, in the case of an emergency or an accident, the bike's emergency system sends out the position data to a BMW Call Center to initiate the rescue chain. The system can either be triggered automatically by the bike, or manually by the rider.

**NO HELMET = NO GAS** Due to a rise in motorcycle crashes attributed to "non-use of helmets," under a new penalty instituted in Bhagalpur, India, motorcyclists caught riding without a helmet will not be allowed to buy fuel, in addition to other fines and penalties.

**PARIS OFF-LIMITS TO OLDER MOTORCYCLES** Bikers with pre-2000 motorcycles will be banned from Paris, France. From July 1 all private cars registered before January 1, 1997 (for gas) and 2001 (for diesel) and all two-wheelers before June 1, 2000, will be banned from Parisian streets on weekdays as part of the city's efforts to cut pollution that has at times seen the air in the capital more polluted than Beijing.

The anti-pollution measures will be progressively extended so that by 2020 Paris will ban all cars registered before 2011 and all motorcycles before July, 2004.

**VESPA SCOOTERS BANNED IN GENOA** The mayor of Genoa, Italy, birthplace of Vespa inventor Enrico Piaggio, has decreed that Vespa motor scooters built before 1999 will be banned from the city's streets for 12 hours each weekday to reduce air pollution.

**DELAWARE INCLUDES MOTORCYCLES IN LEMON LAW** Although Delaware's "Lemon Law" previously excluded motorcycles and motor homes, SB 173 by Sen. Gary Simpson (R-Dover) now brings new motorcycles within the scope of the automobile Lemon Law.

So-called "Lemon Laws" are consumer protections that provide a remedy for purchasers of new (and sometimes used) motor vehicles in order to compensate for products that repeatedly fail to meet codified standards of quality and performance. Every state has lemon laws on the books, but some specifically exclude motorcycles, though federal lemon law protections also apply.

With bi-partisan support, Senate Bill 173 passed both chambers unanimously, 21-0 in the Senate on January 26, and 38-0 in the House on April 12, 2016, and was signed into law by Governor Jack Markell (D) on April 20th.

**SETTLEMENTS & VERDICTS:** Oregon Biker Settles for \$1.125 Million In an ongoing effort to keep motorcyclists informed as to the results of the continuing battle for their legal rights, Aid to Injured Motorcyclists (A.I.M.) submits the following case study:

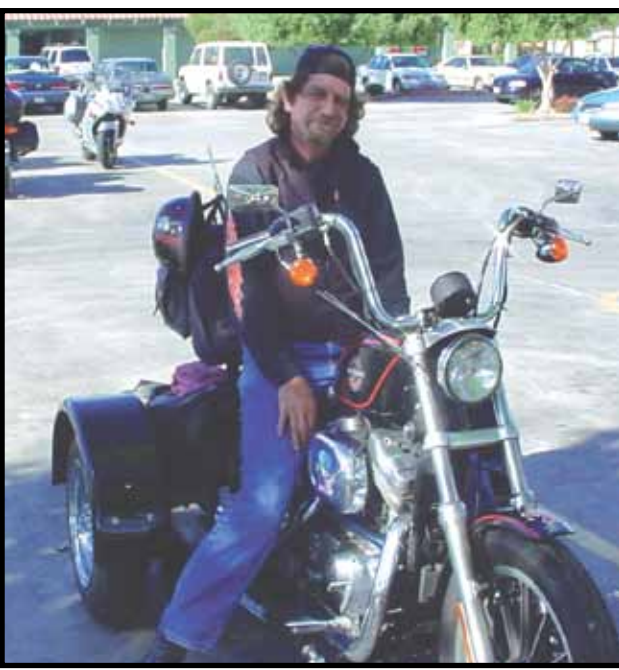
About two years ago, an Oregon biker was hit by a delivery vehicle making a left turn across the biker's path. The biker suffered permanent damage to his leg and foot. Oregon A.I.M. Attorney Sam Hochberg had the case worked up right away by a private investigator. The corporate defendant approached Hochberg's law office, asking to settle. The case resolved in a mediation session for \$1,125,000.00.

Sam Hochberg, incidentally, after 29 years with A.I.M. and NCOM, is now associated as "Of Counsel" with the new Aid to Injured Motorcyclists lawyer for both Oregon and Washington, Christopher Slater.

**QUOTABLE QUOTE:** "Those who torment us for our own good will torment us without end."

~ C.S.Lewis (1898-1963) Irish author and scholar





## by Sporty Milligan

Hello All ABATE Members! And to those who are viewing this column for the first time, Welcome! If you ride motorcycles and want to be associated with an organization that works to protect your rights to ride, then go to our web page [www.abate.org](http://www.abate.org), click under memberships and you will find out how to sign up for ABATE.

Now to the usual stuff. In my previous installment I disclosed that I had another mishap on my bike. There was damage to my left leg and left foot. After the Southern Regional Rally I had an appointment with the bone specialists and, after my x-ray, it was determined that my leg and foot had healed up. I also asked the doctor if I could drive again. Yes. Since I can now drive again I drove myself to our monthly

meeting in Sun Valley at Big Jims Family restaurant.

Mother's Day weekend was the weekend of our annual Southern Regional Rally. This is a fund raiser for ABATE that makes money to support the lobbyists fund and the general fund. In order for me to attend the run I had asked my Local 1 members and ABATE members if there was someone who could take me and all the stuff for the raffle booth to run at the Shady Oasis Kampground. I was getting desperate because no one had responded to my plea. Then at our April meeting I again asked the members there if someone was able to take me to the Regional Rally. Low and behold Iceman aka Ed Mathis volunteered to come get me and cart all the stuff in his Ford van.

In order to make the pick-up of my stuff easy, I got it all out of my small cellar and lined it up behind the gate of my back yard. Pleasant drive up to the Shady Oasis Kampground. Ed took the north route which took us by Littlerock. We then took some back routes which eventually took us to the 15 fwy and about a mile and a half of fwy driving and we were at our destination, The Shady Oasis Kampground.

To make things easy I had purchased a new tent, a new air mattress and a small battery air pump. These were bought from the Coleman camping company. I had first bought the mattress at Target, but realized I had no air pump. Went online to find a Target store that had an air pump for sale. When we got there, no pump. This was a problem because Renee was driving me around. I asked her if we could go to Big Five Sporting Goods. She said yes, but no other place if this was a bust. Wow! I should have gone there first because they had tents, air pumps and mattresses. So this trip is going to cost me plenty. Plus I had earlier in the week done my raffle prize shopping at Target.

Bought some really nice stuff to give away as raffle prizes.

We got the booth set up and had to use the State Office ABATE banner. All good. Beforehand I had prepared the tickets for both the prize raffle and 50/50 money draw. That in itself takes some time. When you are making a pre-affle ticket booth you need to have patience and a cup of coffee, especially when you are breaking up the ticket rolls into 3-for a \$1 or 21-for \$5. So I had accomplished that task.

Now Ed is an old hand at the raffle booth game so I let him do his thing –just got out of his way! My job as booth Chairman is to see that we get raffle prizes and bring the right booth stuff to the event. During the run when the booth is in operation I oversee operations and I let Ed do his thing. That works out pretty well. When the raffle drawings were done and the left over prizes were being called out at the awards area I started to clean up and pack up the raffle booth stuff. I figured this would help matters greatly in loading the stuff the next day.

Thanks again to Ed and Little David and Tina for doing the tickets and prize handouts. That's a big job in itself. You made my job easier.

The DJ did requests and I had him do some David Bowie tunes. Sweet. There were folks that showed up that I had not seen in a long time. Pattibock, a good friend from ABATE Local 2. We chatted briefly, which was nice. When you're my age you start to get reminiscing about stuff. Maybe that is where the phrase "sentimental old fool" came from.

The Regional Rally did ok and I had a good time. Next day Sunday I packed up the stuff and bid farewells to all and went home. Thanks to Yermo Eddie and all for keeping me laughing throughout the weekend. It was especially nice to see my friend, Steve B, and know he is doing better in his life.

Since I am able to drive again, it will not be too long before I will be able to ride. But I need to get some ducks in order to accomplish that feat. I will keep you all posted on that issue. So with that I will close for this month's installment of Sporty's Rides.

Attend ABATE functions and search for new members for ABATE.

Regards, your ABATE scribe, Sporty Milligan

## ABATE Local 6 Annual Motorcycle Awareness Event – May 14, 2016 – Flinn Springs Inn

It was a great event with good attendance. We had an excellent band, good food and drink available, and Adam spoke about motorcycle rights and what was happening in California. Then it was time to do the drawings for our 50-50 and the winners of the Truckload of Party Goods. And the big winner was ... drumroll ... DOC AND BETH HOLIDAY. We had a contingency plan in case going shopping for all the goodies was a bit too much! Everyone loves cash so we presented them with \$700. Here are a couple of pictures:

**Nancy and Joe presenting Beth and Doc their winnings.**



Doc and Beth ... who really gets the \$\$\$!

They also won fifth prize of \$25 and donated it back to the Local. Nancy Nemecek won third prize of \$75.00, and Joe Tatro won the 50-50. Great day for all.

Local 6 would like to thank everyone who attended to support motorcycle rights. And a special thanks goes to Joe Tatro, Moe Giacalone, Patty Wilber and others for making this such a success.



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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 **Norm e. Newiger, Safety Officer**

## Wheels of Life

May is one of my favorite months. The weather out here in So Cal is outstanding. The days are longer and the heat is very tolerable, cool mornings to mild hot days and cool evenings make for a great day! More and more riders are blooming daily and this is just the start of the masses that ride during the summer months.

I'm still a fanatic nut about tire pressure so check your tires. Serious long rides and great scenery await us all because spring has sprung and the vacation season starts for many of us and as the temperature fluctuates daily so does your tire pressure - get it!

What is the simplest thing you can do to ensure your safety and carefree riding for not only you, but your motorcycle? I start with my tires: Are they good enough for 5 months of riding? Are they 50% or a 100% as far as treads go? How old are your tires? Are they soft or hard? Do they have uneven tread wear or cracking on the sidewalls?

You say to yourself, "Should I buy new tires or wear these out like a pair of 10 year old sneakers?" At what point do you buy new tires? Is it a financial thing or do you require new tires all the time because of the way you ride and having really good tread ware is important to you. I know both types of these riders and sometimes you have to use tires that can scare some people, because they have the luxury of buying tires anytime they want.

Do you know what Tire Wear Bars are? It's not the name of a popular drinking establishment or hang out; it's about the tire wear on your tires, cars or motorcycles. How important are they? If you are into motorcycle safety as far as your tires go, then I'll be very happy to tell you! Tire wear bars were designed to let you know how much tread life is left on your tire as far as safety goes. In other words, when your tire tread is even/flush with the wear bar you should consider having the tire replaced. The many types of tires you can get for your bike, or the type of bike you have, and the main reason, how you ride your bike will determine the life span of your tires.

There are many factors involved when buying a tire because they make cruising tires to sport tires with many different types of tread design and other characteristics that could enhance the way you ride. You don't buy sports tires for a bagger or a bagger tire for a sports bike

The tire wear bars are located on your tire. For example, while inspecting your tires look on the sidewall where the sidewall meets the treads. On most tires they will have a bead or flared out tread, depending on manufacture/design of the tire. You will see a triangle or some kind of arrow which will point you to the wear bar in your treads. They are small but you will find them. It's good to use a flashlight if direct sunlight isn't available. If you cannot find them ask a friend or tire person to show you. You can also use the internet as a reference. Once you find them it will be easier the next time. On new tires you won't see them unless you magnify your tire (or use grandpa's glasses), look for the arrow on the sidewall as a guide. As you ride, they will become more obvious. Make sure you know your mileage when changing a tire or tires, this is important as it helps you out by not guessing.

I remember using a coin to determine tread life (old school stuff) on your tire, but times have changed. I can't determine the depth of safe tread left can you? Some manufactures recommend you replace your tires when there's 2/32 or 3/32 inches of tread remaining (go figure? how small is that!) and



they also say that when your treads are flush with the wear bars then it's 1/32 of an inch and you need to replace your tire. As far as the other size, 2/32 - 3/32, it's because they say you can still have traction in inclement weather or wet roads.

This is what I know: My good riding bud is a pro rider, he could outride any sport bike on his softail and I've been a witness to his high skill level many times. His biggest complaint was buying tires every six thousand miles. But he wanted the soft super grabbing type of tire that had a short life span. He was a very aggressive rider and burnouts were normal, but the most important thing was "he knew when he needed new tires"!

When checking your tire wear by checking your tire wear bars, roll your bike to make sure all the bars have the same/even wear, because you could have uneven wear, cuts, or foreign objects in your tire as well as cracks on your sidewall. It's good to do this after long rides or when you have doubts. It is called preventative maintenance that's easy and it could save you from accidents to death or you can get a flat tire out in the middle of nowhere or on a jam packed freeway at 5:15 m while everyone is giving you the evil eye. This flat tire thing also kills a group ride and wastes pretty much a whole day.

While having a new tire put on, have your spokes checked out. It's easy when the rim is bare and, although it's rare, you could have a few loose spokes.

How often do you check your braking system? Not just the pads or rotors by glancing at them. Brakes are not a complex part of your motorcycle and it makes stopping a lot easier than the Fred Flintstone days, a few of you might remember those! Disc brakes are a blessing and dual front disc brakes are the best, period. My rule of thumb from what I was taught is that, for either front or rear brakes, while the brake is fully engaged if you can't stop then you need to inspect your brakes, when you do stop. I was taught that you lock your front brake and gas it to see if it keeps your bike from going forward and the same with the rear brake. If you do go, then you got to check out your whole system or have a friend or mechanic check it out. Believe me, stopping is a requirement!

Like tires, there are many after market brake systems you can buy. They are costly, but you can get what you need for your riding style. The disc brake pads are your choice. Some like a certain manufacture, or really know what they think are the best. The many choices are for example, Sintered HH, Kevlar, Kevlar Carbon, Organic, CarbonX, Ceramic and Plastic compounds. There are just too many to list. You should always inspect your system regularly and when in doubt, always have them checked out!

While we are talking about brakes, have you tested your brakes? In one of my previous articles I wrote

about braking safety. It is important to practice braking, especially for novice riders or when you use or buy a different motorcycle - going from a regular bike to a full dresser or vice versa, it's different. Don't take it for granted that all's well. Like I said earlier, there are too many different types of braking systems and coupled with new tires or balding tires the bike that you are riding could and will act differently.

I talked about hard braking at different speeds. From low speeds working your way up to the highest speed you can attain without freaking out. I also talked about locking your brakes. You should do the same thing and lock your brakes from lower speeds and graduate to higher speeds until you are comfortable. You need to feel how your bike re-acts to these situations and know what your bike does while under your control. This is not a one time crash burn thing, you should always know how your bike feels and practicing is a good thing.

One of the things that is never on the plate is alignment, not the individual tire, but both tires on your bike. Are they aligned, straight with one another? Have you ever been behind someone whose bike is a little crooked while riding? Maybe the rear tire is a little to the left or right. It's kind of like the bent frame syndrome that you see on cars or trucks. It's kind of funny but it's not.

This causes uneven tire wear and can make your bike respond differently while turning or during a high speed banking turn it can make your bike hop or vibrate and thus you can lose control of the bike. It's an easy fix, unless something is bent, and well worth it.

Outside of loose nuts and bolts, your tires and braking system need constant inspection because of the situation it could put you into. This is our season and the small amount of time it takes to do these simple inspections could prolong your riding season with joy and freedom like no other!

Just remember you could be the safest or luckiest rider out there, but if your bike is unsafe, then you are unsafe! Ride with responsibility!

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ABATE Emblem –Medium 6" x 4"	07-175	\$25.00		
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Small – (color- white)	11-321	\$20.00		
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Women's Educate Not Legislate (short sleeve)				
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XX-Large (color-white)	11-336	\$20.00		
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Sporty Milligan 3rd Sun - 9 AM  
1616 4th St Elks Lodge  
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818/ 361-8800 Tujunga, CA 91242

**Simi Valley - Local #02-Reg#7**  
Guy Corrigan 2nd Tues 7:30 PM  
805/796-6328 VFW Post#10049  
4242 E Los Angeles Ave.  
Simi Valley 93063

Crashman1@sbcglobal.net

**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  
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**  
**No meeting in May & Sept.**

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  
busel3@att.net Escondido Moose Lodge  
760/807-7294 25721 Jesmond Dene Rd  
Escondido 92026

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Glenn Phillips 3rd Sun.- 10:00 AM  
P O Box 148 Judy's Wild  
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707/624-6310 4826 Midway Rd.  
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**Pomona Valley - Local #19-Reg#9**

Jeff Bassler 4th Wed - 7:00 PM  
C/O 9648 Calle Vejar Round Table Pizza  
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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**

Robert Zamora 3rd Tues. 7:00 PM  
661/330-9366 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:**

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Craig Griswold 25, 31, 33 & 52.

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Rogers  
24 & 40.

Region 7: Regional Representative -  
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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.

