

The Bailing Wire

ABATE of CA. Newsletter for Motorcyclists

Volume XXIX

ISSUE III

March 2010

A Union of Motorcyclists
Dedicated to Freedom of the Road

More info on page 14



Lobbyist's Legislative Report

by James Lombardo, Sr,
Legislative Director

Many kudos to ABATE's Safety Officer, John Del Santo, and his many years of efforts to make our motorists aware of motorcycles in messages on freeway changeable signs a reality. We have been pushing for this for the last nine years, at least! It started with support from our good friend, former Assemblyman Jay La Suer, in 2001. We thought with his law enforcement background, we could make it happen, but because of bureaucratic opposition and competing budgetary priorities, it took until this year, when there are more motorcyclist deaths than before the helmet law was passed, to get the messages up for all motorists to see. I hope they get the message to try and avoid hitting us. I am working on ways to get these signs up during May for Motorcycle Awareness Month! It just shows that ABATE members staying focused and persistent, things can **FINALLY HAPPEN!**

In my last *Bailing Wire* article, I wrote that the Legislature had just returned and faced a \$20 Billion deficit. Nothing has changed since then. They haven't passed any bills to cut the deficit or slash any expense money. State Controller John Chiang says that California will not be able to pay its bills after April 1 without any cuts or tax increases!



So the budget committees have been considering expanding ways to separate our money from us. Governor Schwarzenegger has proposed to allow cities and counties to use the current intersection red light cam-

eras to issue tickets for speeding up to get through a yellow light, so as not to be caught in the intersection. Municipalities would also be authorized to put speed cameras **ON ANY STREET** to also give us speeding tickets, **outside intersections!** Fines, by the way, would start at \$500. I testified in the full Senate Budget Committee hearing chaired by our old friend and supporter, Senator Denise Ducheny, opposing the provision, along with the Teamsters Union, the state auto clubs North and South, and the rep from the CHP officers' union.

This proposal was held in committee. The following week, the same version was before Assembly Budget Subcommittee 4 and the same groups opposed the proposal there, and it was once again held for a later vote. That simply means that this proposal can be brought up in the Big 5 discussions you read about. This is where the Governor, Assembly Speaker, President pro Tem of the Senate and Senate and Assembly

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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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David Morena 916/616-9605

Lee "Sporty" Milligan 818/361-8800

Dave Walsh 805/486-1093

Cynthia Witthans 760/946-0366

Jim from page 1

Leaders meet and make deals to finalize the budget. So stay prepared to do what we need to politically kill this awful proposal. We will post a *Call to Action* on our website, when needed, so check there often.

I have heard from several sources that we will be likely facing a bill to ban Lane Sharing (something I started calling it in 1988 when we killed Assemblywoman La Follette's lane splitting prohibition bill). I will not know what bills we will face until the bill introduction deadline late in February, so stay tuned to our website for updates - a great new tool to use in our struggles in Sacramento. Thanks to our Legislative Assistant Director, Dennis Stalter, for making this happen.

We are still anticipating that SB 435, Senator Fran Pavley's anti-tampering/smog/noise/catalytic converter bill, will contain enough anti-motorcyclist provisions, when it's amended, to continue opposing it. Thanks to your efforts, we now have over 17,000 signatures on petitions opposing SB 435 - please **don't stop** until the bill is heard and killed, in the Assembly Transportation Committee. Again, get updated info on our website.

Finally, thanks to all those folks who took the time to come to Camarillo to the very productive PAC/Legislative meeting in January. It was a packed house! Save your vacation days up to come to the **next** PAC, President's and ABATE Board meeting in Vacaville on April 11 and stay for the Freedom & Motorcycle Awareness Rally on Monday, April 12. You should be able to head home by **NOON!**

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.

Chairman's Report by Sarge Matthews

Well it's a new year and a new beginning, here's hoping we have a great year in 2010. I'd like to welcome to the ABATE Board of Directors for 2010 the following: Lori Adams, *Tom Lubbers, Sporty Milligan,*Dave Walsh, Lady Kay Deli, David Morena, Cynthia Witthans,*Tony Jaime, Gil Mellen and *Dave Hastings. (* These folks were elected or appointed this year.) Sandra Lubbers was reelected as Board secretary, and I was reelected as Chairman of the Board.



I would like to thank Tim Tennimon on behalf of the Board of Directors for his hard work as the Executive Director and a Board member. Tim resigned as he had a work conflict and he thought it was best for the organization. He will be missed and hard to replace. Tony Jaime was elected as this year's Executive Director for ABATE of California. Please see the remaining officer's positions in the Bailing Wire.

The Bailing Wire is now online and available 24/7. If anyone is unable to access it, please contact your Local's president and they will do what they can to insure you are able to read it. The Bailing Wire will be available at your Local meetings and at a motorcycle shops near you.

We are planning good things in Vacaville the weekend of April 10-12, 2010;

such as training for the presidents, a legislative seminar, a Board of Directors meeting (on the 11th) and on Monday the 12th, the Freedom & Motorcycle Awareness Rally in Sacramento. It ought to be a great weekend to get together and mingle with old friends and meet new ones and learn new things all at the same time.

To touch briefly on some other items: We are asking each Local to donate \$60 to the state office for the Director and Officer's insurance that covers the Board of Directors and all the officers in each Local. We have a new and improved website thanks to the work of a few folks, but spearhead by Dennis Stalter and our Discussion line moderator is none other than Johnny O'Kane - ought to be interesting.

This year, if we are to be successful, we will need to continue to work tirelessly. I know it gets old always asking more from our members without seeing results we want, but, if we quit, we will never win and remember to have fun along the way. To all those members who have worked for ABATE throughout the years a BIG "Thank you." OPPS! Almost forgot a GREAT BIG "THANK YOU" to John Del Santo for the Changeable Message signs that read "Share the Road, Look Twice, for Motorcyclists.

I tried to keep this short and sweet as other officers will be doing their reports and almost everything that happened at the last Board meeting will be covered. Any questions or concerns for ABATE, please contact your Regional rep or a Board member - they are listed in the front of the Bailing Wire.

In closing, please ride safe and defensively - remember not everyone in cars will see us! Let's all ride to have a great year in 2010. Respectfully, Sarge.

Mission Statement

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

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

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DEADLINES

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

AD RATES

Business Card \$15.00 /Mo.
\$150.00 /Yr.
Double Size Business Card W/Color \$250.00
1/4 Page (5"W x 5"H) \$150.00 /Mo.
\$1500.00 /Yr.
1/2 Page (10"W x 5"H) \$175.00 /Mo.
\$1750.00 /Yr.
Full Page(10"W x10"H) \$350.00 /Mo.
\$3500.00 /Yr.

Full color ad is 25% extra.

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP SPECIAL -
\$125 - One Year Business Member Listing,
Couple Membership and Display Plaque.

Add \$75 per year for color business card.

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

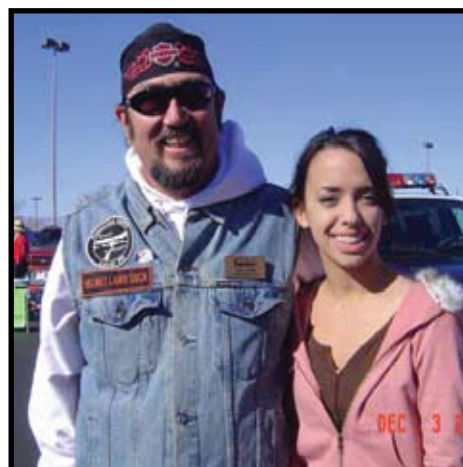
Executive Director's Report

by Tony Jaime, Executive Director

I would like to begin my first Bailing Wire article as Executive Director by saying thanks to all of the ABATE members who showed up in Camarillo for the first of this year's quarterly Board, President's, & PAC meetings. I was extremely impressed by the high turn out which provided a full house with an upbeat and energetic attitude that I believe set an optimistic tone for the upcoming year. It is extremely gratifying for your State Officers to see that kind of member turn out for these quarterly meetings, and it validates the practice of rotating these meetings around the state so that all members that have an interest in attending have an opportunity to be present. This was an outstanding show of support on behalf of the ABATE members who showed up. Good job ABATE! In addition, a round of thanks goes to Dave Walsh and his crew in Local 13 for setting this up and making sure our organizational needs were met.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say a few words of praise about my predecessor, Tim Tennimon, who did a great job both as a Board Member and Executive Director. Unfortunately, due to the overwhelming demands placed upon his time as a re-

sult of his job, Tim felt that it was in the best interests of ABATE to step down. I always feel energized after talking to Tim because he has so much enthusiasm for ABATE of California and the cause of motorcyclist's rights. I know what a hard choice this was for Tim because he really put a lot of his heart and soul into this organization. Tim & Yvonne, we thank both of you for the great work you performed on behalf of ABATE of California.



Next, let me say a few words about how I view my role as Executive Director of ABATE of California. First of all, as Executive Director, I serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors, and under their direction and control. What that means is that I can't just make wholesale changes

on my own without consulting/requesting Board approval. Many people are under the mistaken idea that the Executive Director has unlimited power to issue directives and commands which are then carried out, but that is not actually the case. My primary purpose and usefulness to the organization is as a facilitator, who makes sure that the day-to-day operations and objectives of ABATE are transacted in a prompt and efficient manner. My goal for 2010, with your help, is to transform ABATE into a strong, efficient, and smoothly functioning team that works in unison like a finely tuned machine.

A major component of achieving that goal begins with more effective communications, which should also increase the level of familiarization among State Officers, Local Presidents, Board Members, and the general membership. I strongly encourage you all to become better acquainted with one another and more familiar with what goes on in other Locals around the state. We are all involved in the struggle for our rights as motorcyclists and as free citizens of this state and nation. Therefore, we must stand together, shoulder to shoulder, united in a common cause. John Hancock and Benjamin Franklin both expressed similar thoughts with Hancock stating, "There must be no pulling different ways, we must all hang together." Franklin added, "We must indeed all hang together or most assuredly, we will all hang separately."

Continued on page 21

NEW ☐ RENEWAL ☐ ABATE # _____
LOCAL # _____ DATE _____

NAME _____

NAME#2 _____

(IF COUPLE OR BUSINESS APPLICATION)

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE () _____

Email address _____

For your convenience... use your favorite credit card

Charge my credit card: ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa

Credit Card # _____

Exp. Date _____ Signature _____

Membership Submitted By _____

I would like to donate \$ _____ to the

☐ General Fund ☐ PAC Fund ☐ Lobbyist Fund

Circle type of membership

1. Life Single \$450.00
2. Life Couple \$650.00
3. Gold Business \$125.00
4. Gold Business W/color \$200.00
5. Double Size Gold W/color \$250.00
6. Single (1 year) \$30.00
7. Couple (1 year) \$50.00

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

Mail to:

ABATE
10240 7th Ave
Hesperia, CA 92345-2631

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LOCAL NEWS

Local #01 Los Angeles



Hi all! Local 1's meeting will be after this column is due so this is the capsulated version of the meeting. Our president, Sporty, did a last minute ride over the Polar Bear run route. Peter did the political stuff, membership on Local level by Glen C and Jim Nickla did the publicity report.

Steve B told us the latest on his helmet case using our ABATE stuff. And finally we hope to have a rain free Polar Bear run with lots of prizes to give away. Regards, Sporty.

Local #02 Simi Valley



It's great to start our meeting with the "Pledge of Allegiance", it reminds me of our commitment, our nation as a whole securing our "freedoms" and to be treated with dignity and fairness and an opportunity to change things, like laws... Anyway, thanks to our volunteer cooks, Jerry and Gary, great job! We serve the best \$5.00 meals at 6:45 PM till almost 7:30, and then our meeting starts. We meet on the second Tuesday of the month at VFW Post 10049; 4242 East Lost Angeles Ave., Simi Valley. Pres Ray talked about the Board meeting and about how good it was, thanks for the info! Jane our faithful secretary read the minutes and then some, thanks for the work you and Frank do for ABATE!

Linda, our Pac Person, talked about Bills and more Bills and future Bills, and then she passed out petition forms. Thanks Linda for all that you do not only for Local 2, but for ABATE as a whole! Stephanie, our treasure,

told us that our money is good, if you want to know the balance, etc. then come to our meetings. Norm the safety O talked about "knowing your limitations", Guy, our merchandise guy, showed us the clothing line that ABATE Local 2 sells, if you want to buy any of these great items, then please come to the meeting! Pat Burton, our membership person, told us we have 2 new members, they are, Andy Sica and Gary Annenberg, welcome and thank you very much! Here is another awesome stat: Renewals are Denny Mortenson, Gary Shanks, Debbie Karloff, Linda Wright, Tom and Monica Cass, Dennis Allman, Bob Tanger, Frank and Jane Warthen, Sandy Wilson, Norm e. Newiger, Stephanie and Ray Arsnaw, PHEW! How about them Saints! Thanks to all that have renewed, ABATE is as strong as our renewals, maybe even stronger.

We had a guest, Sporty from Local 1, he talked about Local 1's Polar Bear run on February 28th and ABATE's 16th Annual So Cal Regional Rally on May 7-8-9, 2010. Thanks to one of the hardest working ABATE persons, many thanks for your efforts! We have our raffles at the end of the meeting to help support ABATE and our biggest raffle, the membership drawing, was not won by Jim Kibble because he wasn't there, so now it turns over and it's pretty big, but if you don't come to the meetings then you can't win it! We here at Local 2 have gotten tighter about our meetings and the time allotted, we keep it down to approximately 1 hour and are pretty good about it, especially with the newly elected personnel! PTL Norm e. New

Local #06 San Diego



What a rewarding month it has been! The Board meeting in Camarillo was really well run, controlled, full of good info and productive. John Del Santo, the Local 6 Safety Officer, was re-elected to be the State Safety Officer, again. (I tried to get away

but somebody tripped me!) At one point the local police showed up to fight crime, and were taking pictures of all of the license plates on our motorcycles. Our Local 6 photographer, Fran, went out and took pictures of all of the police. How about those Motorcycle Awareness signs on the highways? Wow! Now we get ready for Motorcycle Awareness Month.

Our February membership meeting went well with plenty of good information. The number of people that were there was kind of low, but it being Super Bowl Sunday probably had something to do with that - the athletic supporters couldn't drag themselves away from the tube. We took nominations for Local Officers, and Michael Decker volunteered to run for Treasurer. We need someone to take on the job of Membership Coordinator. The final vote is March 7.

We discussed SB-435 and the fact that it is like a sleeping snake; we simply cannot ignore it or we may get bit in the ass. A letter from you to the Assembly Transportation Committee would not hurt. We talked about the new "Move Over Law" and AB-1664 which is the new bill that ABATE is co-sponsoring. If it passes, motorcycles pulling small trailers would not be restricted to 55 MPH on the freeway, which would then also allow them to move out of the right lanes or use the HOV lanes. Our PAC Committee, Chop, reminded the members that there will be 24 open Assembly seats without an incumbent, so we will be ready to beat the bushes.

The ABATE of California Bike Raffle is running a bit light; don't wait for September to buy your tickets - buy now and buy often! What a great birthday present to give to someone! John read a good safety article titled "Adventures in Space". Wanna be "green"? Show up at the St. Patrick's Day Parade and Festival on Saturday March 13. The Boozefighters MC will be tapping the kegs again.

Have you checked out our official Local 6 photograph gallery lately? Check Fran's photos at mcob.com. The ABATE State Website has been totally revamped and looks GOOD! Check it out at www.abate.org. We look forward to seeing all of you at the next meeting on March 7 at noon. John D.

Local #08 Orange County

We held our Local Officer elections at our February meeting, Ryan Vincent is now the President, and Jered Yates is our Vice President. For the complete list of our Officers, attend our next meeting 2nd Monday, 7:30 pm at the American Legion Post #354; 8071 Whitaker; Buena Park. Look forward to seeing you.

Local #11 San Diego County (North)

The February turnout was 30+ members and we welcomed our newest member, Tim Cleland. Our treasurer will be leaving the area in the near future and our "new guy" Tim volunteered to run for treasurer. Tim Clark covered phone tree ops and our treasury holds steady with donations to both the General Fund and Lobbyists Fund sent in last month.

The So Cal Regional Rally will be May 7-8-9 at the Canyon RV Park Campground in Anaheim. Also ABATE is selling \$10 raffle tickets for a new HD Super Glide to be given away at the State Rally in September. Would the gentleman who bought a raffle ticket this month and still holds the name/address stub please contact Tim Clark at 858-748-0524.

New bills of interest - SB385 removes the previous smog exemption for pre-1976 vehicles (bad news - but certainly should clean out all of the cars not previously handled by Cash for Clunkers!!!!). AB1664 will allow motorcycles pulling trailers to go 65 MPH instead of current 55 MPH (good). The nannycrats are introducing AB1652, a helmet bill for Skiers 18 and under (let's see how others like wearing helmets now). Also, look out for possible bill to outlaw lane sharing ("splitting").

Nominations for Local 11 officers were taken and additions will be taken again in March. Voting will be held at the March meeting - be there.

Tim reviewed John Del Santo's Safety article covering the dreaded high speed wobble - the "tank slapper". Also watch for the motorcycle awareness messages now being displayed on the various freeway electronic sign boards throughout the state.

Upcoming runs - San Diego St Paddy's Day on March 13, Violators M/C SD Spring

LOCAL NEWS

Run at Barrett Junction on March 20, Yuma Prison Run in mid April, So Cal Regional Run in May, and Boozefighters annual Father's Day weekend run.

In the 50/50 raffle, Mike won \$68.00. Ride Safe, Dave.

Local #14 Alameda County



First of all, I would like to apologize for not being able to attend the meeting in January. Between my work and personal disaster, it's been very difficult to even make it to the meetings on time. The only things I can recap on the last meeting are we have a new member Jeffery Hansen of Livermore, thanks Jeff, and we renewed our Local's membership to the COC.

Thank you everyone who attended the February meeting, especially Animal, Carl Smith and Randy Brunzlick for generous donations to our general account. Thank you to our President Joe Schwirian and Political Activities Director Dennis Stalter for informing us on what happened at the last Board of Directors, President's and PAC meeting.

There's lots of new information and events being addressed, so please attend the meetings so you can keep informed on the current events. We discussed and voted to send \$60.00 to the state to help off-set the cost for the Directors and Officers Insurance Coverage, which provides liability coverage for Board officers as well as all Local officers. Thanks to everyone who voted in favor to send the money.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for the next Board of Directors meeting set for April 11, 2010 being hosted by Local 17 in Vacaville. For members who never attended a Board meeting, I urge you to attend. Also the day after on April 12 there will be a Freedom Rally on the Capitol Steps in Sacramento.

Well that's it for now, until we meet again, RIDE SAFE, Franklin

Local #15 Contra Costa County



Hello from ABATE Local 15!! May is not only Motorcycle Awareness Month, but also the 6th Annual Motorcycle Awareness Run. The run will be on Sunday, May 9, 2010, "Rain or Shine". The sign-up begins at 9:00 am at Devil Mountain Harley-Davidson, 2240 Loveridge Road in Pittsburg - free coffee and donuts!! The last out will be at 11:00 am. The price is \$20.00 for the rider and \$15.00 for a passenger. For this you get not only the ride, but lunch at the Warehouse, music by a live band, a run pin (for the first 250), and YES!! raffle prizes. There will also be a cash prize of \$200.00 awarded at 2:00 pm. You can pre-register at an ABATE meeting - and if you do, you are guaranteed a run pin. ABATE meetings are held at 7:00 pm on the third Tuesday of each month at Fuddruckers in The Willows Shopping Center in Concord.

Awareness?? Have you noticed that bulletins on the freeway message signs are now including warnings to motorists to share the road and be on the lookout for motorcyclists?

On another positive note, did you know that the voices of motorcyclists in California have been heard - against the motorcycle smog/noise bill SB435 which was not heard in the Assembly Transportation in January. So, for the immediate future, there is a hiatus as to the worry regarding smoging motorcycles. On the other hand, it appears that there is a greater likelihood of the passage of a noise bill, which may include bikes as far back as the 2001 model year, and maybe older. Also, an anti-lane splitting/sharing bill might also be introduced.

Keep voicing your concerns to your representatives, and support ABATE which tirelessly works for your interests.

Did you know that the bridge tolls are increasing, and that the commute-hours free-pass over the bridges will now be tolled, although at a lesser amount than those in non-car pool lanes. This will reduce the economy of commuting on a bike. Also, we continue to be discriminated against as to the licensing and toll amounts as bikes do not wear roads nearly as much as other vehicles.

Supporting ABATE is not just about motorcycle rights, but about rights in general, and vigilance against those who would limit freedoms. Ride Safe. Hope to see you at the Run!! Longrider Mike.

Local #19 Pomona Valley

How can you not love winter in southern California? You may need a few layers of clothes on some days to stay warm; usually the layers start coming off by the afternoon though. There isn't that much rain and, if you want snow, you have to drive to the mountains to find it. The ride to Camarillo for the State Board meeting was one of those nice days and the ride was great.

The Board meeting in itself was an interesting experience. For those of you that have not gone to one of these meetings, I highly recommend it. See for yourself how operations are carried out and meet some people from many of the other Locals that are in attendance. It's a learning experience and you may find yourself wanting to volunteer for something. If you are lucky, you might get to meet some of the local law enforcement officers in the parking lot taking pictures of your bike. I know I did.

You can visit the new website for ABATE of California at abate.org. There is more information there regarding SB 435 and other fights we have in our future. Has anyone heard of SB 880 that will require kids under 18 to wear helmets on the ski slopes? I can only hope that the members of Local 19 are developing a better understanding as to why we send in money each month to the PAC, Lobbyist and General funds.

There is a lot coming up at a fast pace now. You need to start planning for upcoming activities like the Polar Bear Run (Local 1 - February 28), Board of Directors meeting in Vacaville (April 11) & the Freedom

Rally on the Capitol Steps the next day, Southern California Regional Rally (May 7, 8, 9), Nuggets Birthday Party (May 15).

Local 19 is working hard on the **Thunder In The House (June 19) event for Casa Colina Hospital**. Steve, our President, talked about the event at the ABATE State Board Meeting and the Pomona Valley HOG meeting. The local dealer, Pomona Valley Harley-Davidson, has offered to help in many ways. We want to make June 19 a very special day for the hospital.

It seems like the rainy weather has sprouted a whole new crop of potholes in the roads. I guess it could be that the roads were dirty and the rain washed all the debris out of the holes and cracks! Keep an eye on the condition of the roads where you ride. I am finding pieces of the pavement missing these days and some areas are worse than others. Don't get caught by surprise. Be safe, have fun and as always, keep the shiny side up! Ed.

Local #20 Orange County



The meeting came to order with 20 members in attendance to include 3 guests from Local 8: Ryan the P, Jered and Bryan. JR from Humpers MC is a new business member & Robert M a new member.

The topics discussed at our meeting were the new section of the CA move over law that was added to section 21706.5-new terms/meanings and section 21809. May is Motorcycle Awareness Month, dedicated motorcycle parking, freedom of choice, smog checks for bikes, bike only "safety checkpoints" using federal grant money earmarked for bike safety programs, lane sharing, bikes treated equally among all sources of noise and discrimination against bikers.

We are raising the money for HR's "Totally Kids" so that new flooring can go into a new playroom and another area of the building. A big THANK YOU to the OC Vagos

Continued on page 7

Pac/Lobbyist Report

by Peter Daniels, Treasurer

15 or 16 years ago Mike Osborn asked me to become ABATE's PAC committee treasurer. At the January Board of Directors I submitted my retirement papers. I want to thank each and every one of you for your support. Without your support we would not have a lobbyist in Sacramento, not have the ability to make campaign donations, not print a Voters Guide each election year, and so much more. So please keep up the good work! It is as important as anything we do. Support all the ABATE functions and host a function that will generate dough for the ABATE state coffers.

I could not have done any of this without Mike Osborn. He has been there for us all these years and has always done the Fair Political Practices Commission reports that are required by the State of California.

Thanks to Dave Hasting who is taking the job on an interim basis. We are still looking for a permanent replacement. So if you can balance a check book you are qualified. Again, thanks for your support.

What Money Can't Buy: Jim Lombardo, ABATE of California's Lobbyist and new Legislative Director, delivered a very important message at the January Board of Directors meeting, **"The most important thing we can do in 2010 is to volunteer to work campaigns."** According to Jim, when a politician has a choice between a campaign donation and campaign workers, they will take campaign volunteers every time.

California is ripe for change. People are sick of the status quo and incumbents that just don't get it. We have a real opportunity to shake Sacramento up. Take the time to find out who supports us in your district and then volunteer to work that campaign!

Folks and Locals that have donated to the Lobbyist Fund since the last issue of the Bailing Wire are: Locals 1, 5, 6, 11, 14, 15, 19, 21, 23, 24, 27, 28, 35, 47, Gilbert Ramos (L19), Rick Mullaly (L60), Todd Haeckel (L27) & Robert Duvall (L33).

Those that donated to the PAC Fund were: Locals 14, 19, 23, 24, 21, 27, 28, 35, Dawn LaBar & Steve Case (L17), Jack Goode (L6) and Todd Haeckel (L27).

Special mention goes to Local 5 for their monthly donations and their extraordinary yearly donations to both the lobbyist fund and the general fund. Outstanding, Local 5!

**THANKS TO ALL THAT DO.
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Continued from page 5

LOCAL NEWS

MC, Hessians MC, Aztecs MC, Humpers MC and all the other MCs and people who have donated to this fundraiser.

Spike gave his PAC meeting report which the discussion included SB435 (smog bill/Pavley) - strategy on opposing and talking points on smog-John Paliwoda, AB1664-Vehicles: Motorcycle trailers-request by Assembly member Swanson for ABATE to sponsor, AB1652-Assembly members Jones-Safety in employment: ski resorts and patrons age 18 and under - ABATES PAC position (?) and updates on lobbying package for the Helmet Modification Bill.

There are the upcoming elections for March and June 2010. There's enough money left over to pay for the Voter's Guide. John Del Santo did a great job in getting the freeway changeable message signs to start a campaign for "sharing the road with motorcyclists". San Diego, OC, LA and San Bernardino counties will be the first 4 counties to run this. Spike's been speaking with a new person to hold a bike night; the city and PD are the next step.

Gill has been speaking with Mike (owner of the Gas Lamp) in Long Beach. Mike wants to start having "bike day" starting the first Sunday on March 7 from 11 am - 4 pm. It is family oriented with a BBQ, 50/50, etc just like at the Starting Gate. It's off PCH and around Second Avenue.

No one won the \$20 so it goes into the treasure chest until March. Ride Free, Ride Safe. Squirt.

Local #21 Antelope Valley



Was first to the meeting, ya!! Then came Glen, Shawn and Greg. We found out that Shawn has an exceptional memory! Very proud to know you Shawn. Then Ron and Roz, so there we sat waiting for fast Eddy who was not too fast because he never showed up. But he did show up last month when we always go dark!

So we had six people and a \$74 pitch, including Mark's, sent to all funds. Mark stopped by my shop and handed me the solo pitch that handles our lobby obligation. Thank you, Mark. Also Mark typed up the last month's report and it never got published. That's somebody's fault - couldn't be mine? Mark will send in the report now and then.

Glen handed out the new and improved flyers for our Toy run in November. So for now, later from Local 21 Antelope Valley

Local #22 South Bay



We at Local 22 had an honored guest this month, Mr. Sporty Milligan. He came to promote Local 1's Polar Bear run and just to see how we are doing. We had a small turnout, but a lot of conversation and activity.

We got a rundown of the Board of Directors meeting, what with both Johnny and Sporty in attendance at the meeting, we got a first hand report on what was going on with the petitions and SB 435.

Fred went ahead and printed up some more of our t-shirts - "Educate, don't Legislate- helmet laws suck!" 20 bucks apiece, folks and they look pretty darn good! We even have women's shirts, so give us a shout out for one or two.

We all agree that the improvements on the ABATE website are wonderful. Also passed out bike raffle tickets to sell, and we will. Not much more to report, so we will see you next month! Suz

Local #27 Riverside



Effusive greetings to one and all from the effete I.E.! Well first off I just, and I do mean JUST, got word that our Bare Necessities Run is back on for May 2. More to come later. Hopefully we will have a flier in THIS Bailing Wire. PLEASE, PLEASE show up to volunteer, last event we were very short handed.

Well also if you haven't heard we have a nice new home/meeting place at Flo's Farmhouse Café, 5620 Van Buren (in the back room - where else ya gonna put bikers!) Meetings are on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm. LOCAL 27 MEMBERSHIP, come check out the new digs. Those of you with e-mail will be getting a reminder via the net on the Thursday before the meeting, it may show up as SPAM so look for it and do not delete it. The folks at Flo's are friendly and the chow is trustworthy and all they ask for this new big room is for most of us get something to eat, if not, they will have to charge us \$50.00 for the use of the room. Granted we've never had this over our heads before so if anyone of you have something better, PLEASE set it up. Most have always taken a meal at the meetings so I think we will be OK.

I just ran through my notes from the Board of Directors/PAC/President's meetings as well as the minutes that the Lovely Sandra Lubbers put out for us. Thanks Sandra! Local 27 voted to contribute the requested \$60.00 for officers' liability insurance. The State also recommended that each Local add the State Treasurer to the folks in the Local who can get at the Local treasury just in case we have a tragedy like Local 40. Local 27 felt that three officers were adequate for this so we will be adding the President and Vice President along with the treasurer. We need the Local to get out there and SELL BIKE RAFFLE TICKETS, so come to the meetings, sign some out and SELL'em

Attention Todd Haeckel, Frank Beatty and Gary Oly your memberships are up by the end of March so please renew.

The Membership Drawing of \$5,800.00 would have gone to former President and virtual founder of Local 27, Ray Thomas, but he seems to have lost his zeal for the Local he helped found - living in Kansas is NO excuse!

We're lacking dedication here folks! Until next month, C'ya, HR

Local #40 Bakersfield



Hello everyone! Monday's meeting was short and sweet! Still fighting SB 435, several members volunteered to get more signatures opposing it. We also signed one new member! It's a new year and we are still fighting to keep our freedoms! I want to thank Godfather for setting up our meeting area and my wife for covering for me until I arrived! No elections for new Local 40 officers at our February meeting, however, I am hopeful that we will have enough candidates available in our March 1 meeting!

Our Bakersfield National Cemetery is now allowing the display of American Flags on the graves of our Veterans. Larry, Tracy and I, Omar, say thank you all for your support in honoring all men and women who served and serve our Country!

I emailed the Mayor of Honolulu, (mayor@honolulu.gov), in support of a plan to restore and maintain the "Waikiki War Memorial Natatorium" honoring WWI Veterans and received this response:

"Thank you very much for your e-mail to Mayor Mufi Hannemann. Your thoughts and concerns are very important to us. However, we hope you understand that the many letters, e-mails, and phone calls we receive each day preclude us from responding to as many, and as promptly, as we would like. Please know that your message will be shared with the mayor and your views given every consideration. If your message was regarding a problem or concern with City services, we will direct it to the appropriate agency for action and direct reply. Mahalo for your understanding. Aloha, Office of the Mayor, Honolulu Hale"

Freedom is not Free! Many of the men and women remembered on this memorial gave all! Omar

LOCAL NEWS

Local #44 High Desert



February is for Valentine's and Local 44 held our annual "Adult's Only" Valentine Party after our meeting on February 13. We have a long standing tradition of "modeling" the items that are won during the party and many of us silently hope our number is not the "lucky one" drawn for the next prize. Prizes range from "G" to "XXX" and you're always hesitant to open your gift - especially when the couple two seats back start laughing and the camera's come out as soon as they see the wrapped gift you've just won! Anyway, it's all in good fun and a delightful, if sometimes slightly embarrassing, way to close out the day and still raise some additional funding for our treasury.

Local 44 has already started planning our "Summer Run" and we will announce the details as quickly as possible. Please offer to help out and ensure the success of our event.

We really need our members and all of ABATE's members statewide to help with the 2010 Harley Davidson Super Glide Custom motorcycle raffle ticket sales. We are a long way from selling the 5000 tickets, but the winner has the opportunity to pick up a brand new bike for a \$10.00 donation. Let's all work for this event - pick up some tickets and sell, sell, sell. Don't forget to buy some for yourself too - you may be the one to ride it home from our State Run this year!

Next month (March 13) is our annual Saint Patrick's Day party after our meeting, so get in touch if you've been absent for a while and let's have a fun, productive, and financially successful 2010 for Local 44! Dave H.

Local #47 Barstow



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Free Estimates

Howdy all! Well, Local 47 has voted to join Local 44 at their general monthly meetings on the second Saturday of each month. We are looking forward to a fun ride after the meeting and bringing support for ABATE. I hope everyone is selling raffle tickets to support ABATE.

Ok, let's start making plans for the Freedom Rally in Sacramento on April 12. We need YOU there! The Board of Directors meeting is the day before (April 11) in Vacaville.

Local 47 is already making plans to bring attention to Motorcycle Awareness in the month of May. We will be visiting City Hall to have the Proclamation signed by the Mayor and City Council.

Other up-coming events: March 6 - Membership table at Newberry Springs Flea Market at the Barn, March 20 - Membership table at Newberry Springs Bike and Car Show at the Barn and March 26 - 28 - Spring Campout at the Twin Lakes RV Park at Newberry Springs. \$20 per site for RVs. For more info call Yermoeddy at [760] 254-3833.

"Share the Road", Yermoeddy

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Presented by ABATE Local 15 - Contra Costa County
Celebrating May as
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WHEN: Sunday, MAY 9th 2010 "Rain or Shine"
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County Admin Bldg, 651 Pine St., Room 107, Martinez 9:00 a.m.



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by Lee 'Sporty' Milligan



Hi all! I am still trying to get my humility back from receiving the Freedom Fighter of the year award for 2009 at the recent Board meeting on January 30 in Camarillo, home area of ABATE Local 13. However, we're not going to start there for this month's installment of Sporty's Rides.

I will begin with what has transpired between January 15 and 30th, which is not going to be that much to write about because it is winter time and it's cold out there. But I still probably ride more than most folks in our organization. Gotta get around to see how the troops are doing plus you gotta plug your rides if you want folks to show up at them.

Sporty does not do rides without being comfortable. Well that means I had to break-down and buy a new electric vest. Cycle Gear was the store I got it at so after spending ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY ONE DOLLARS (OUCH!) I was again set up to rock and roll in colder weather spots. Yea baby. Only exception was they did not have the extra plug in cord for the 2002 Sporty 883 rig or sticker bobber when it does not have the voyager kit on it - training wheels for you folks in Rio Linda. (PS gotta listen to Rush Limbaugh to know what that means.)

Anyway to continue. Back and forth to work then made plans for the Board meeting in Camarillo January 29 and 30th. I don't live far from the meeting place in Camarillo

- 50 miles or so. That meant I didn't have to leave for the pre Board meeting till 1 pm and I could get my stuff done in the morning. Well now it was kinda brisk outside so my electric vest would be welcomed. Must be a thing with me, but I have a really hard time keeping care of gloves and goggles and also not loosing them. Old guy syndrome I guess. I am looking forward to another good year with my ABATE Freedom Fighters - Yes!

The meeting went well; awards were presented to the group for service last year. My good friend, Peter Daniels, was given an award for doing over 20 years of service as being the Lobbyists and PAC treasurer. Good to see folks clap big time for Peter - Yea baby! If everything works out as planned we should have a good year.

The ride home was uneventful and I got home safe and sound. Saw a bunch of folks at the meeting I had not seen in a while. However we're going to work on even better communications within the troop ranks. Anyway the ride home nothing special. However I caught a cold and missed Monday at work. A reminder to keep yourselves bundled up and watch for temperature changes if you're planning to ride to your job or out and about.

At the Board meeting I saw Johnny O'Kane and was to be seeing him again on Tuesday night at their Local 22 meeting in San Pedro. Their meeting place is at a small cafe called Walker's Cafe. Since I was getting over a cold I took the 'little truck that could'. I map quested the directions to San Pedro from my office in Malibu and off I went. I bet you're thinking, "Sporty, did you find the place or get lost? Fess up, Sporty, you got lost, right?" OK you guessed it! I got misdirected and wound up having to stop several times and ask for better directions. As luck would have it I finally arrived at the destination early! What a relief that was.

Sporty's Rides

Their meetings are small but informative so the trip there was not in vain. Only problem is Walker's Cafe is a biker hang out so they don't serve healthy foods. I opted for the tuna fish sandwich - yummy - and water. Thanks for the hospitality from Pres Suzie P and the Local 22 members that showed up.

February 8 was Local 2's meeting. Another 'Little truck that could' run. Left for their meeting after work in Malibu and ate dinner at Denny's restaurant in Canoga Park off Topanga Canyon Blvd. As usual Local 2 was pleased to see me. I spoke about Local 1's Polar Bear run and the Southern California Regional Rally, pushing both of these award winning events. I also got Local 2 member, and good friend, Pattibock, to take 10 bike raffle tickets that she can sell at her work. (Like they did in WWII maybe we can do the same with the raffle tickets. Remember the slogan 'Buy War Bonds'? There might be an advertisement slogan for ABATE to use for our bike raffle - 'Buy Raffle Tickets for the ABATE Bike' or something along those lines.)

But I am digressing from the original point, so back to the Local 2 meeting saga. Their meetings are good and informative. To the folks at Local 2, again, the visit is always a good visit. Thanks.

Wednesday went to the doctor as my cough came back and the wife was worried about it. So Kaiser in Panorama City was the deal for the day. Doc stated I just needed some rest. So Wednesday and Thursday I stayed home from work - winter time and not much going on so I would not be missed.

By the way, my computer took a dump. The card inside that lets you connect to the Internet messed up. So Mrs Sporty, aka Renee, took the computer to the Geek Squad at Best Buy in Porter Ranch and after 2 hours it was determined chino for repairs. YAKS! My good friend, Peter Daniels, let me use his lap top computer, but his wife, Sandy,

suggested we use her desk top computer until ours was ready from the Geek Squad 2 to 3 weeks later. So I lugged the TV set desk top computer - an about 5 year old Mac - to my house and, damn, it didn't work with my modem stuff. So Peter came the next day and finally we got his lap top to work with our modem system. YAKS! 200 e-mails! I did my columns for the news letter.

Sunday, February 7, returned his computer to him. Peter needed it for his work. Mrs Sporty's girlfriend, Debbie, let us borrow her lap top and even is willing to sell it to us for a Bob Barker aka Drew Carey price (that's the right price) as she has 2 more computers. We get the computer set up when the Geek Squad sends Mrs Sporty an e-mail that all is well with our computer and to come pick it up at the Best Buy store. Talk about the twilight zone chain of events.

Friday, February 12, was to be a good day outside so I had my ABATE member Bob Warren who lives in North Hollywood meet me at Big Jim's Family restaurant and we did the Polar Bear route. This is a good experience because I made some changes on the route. With the heavy rains that have hit southern California lately our route has not experienced that much road damage. I am just praying to my Higher power for decent weather. Thanks to Steve B, as always, he is visiting areas and getting raffle prizes for the run - good job!

My front brake on the 2007 1200 Sporty had been sounding like a jet engine so after leaving Bob I went to Old Road HD in Santa Clarita and tried to get an appointment for that afternoon or first thing the next day, Saturday. Saturday, February 13, the day went like this: Dealer for front break and rotor, Glendale to a restaurant called Damon's for a gift certificate for my friend Peter and his wife, Sandy, for being so nice letting us use his computer for the day (mentioned earlier) and finally to Glendale HD where I scored a raffle prize for the Polar Bear run.

Well that's all for now until our next visit. Support ABATE events like the Polar Bear run, get new members and sell the raffle tickets for the 2010 FXDC Dyna Super Glide Custom H-D. Later, Sporty.

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COAST TO COAST BIKER NEWS

Compiled & Edited by Bill Bish

BIKERS SUPPORT BROWN IN HISTORIC SENATE VICTORY:

Scott Brown captured the national spotlight in his bid to replace the late Senator Ted Kennedy of Massachusetts, and he is a modern American success story, rising from relative obscurity to be the first Republican in decades elected to the U.S. Senate in the most liberal Democratic state in the country.

Paul Cote of the Massachusetts Motorcycle Association joined newly-elected Senator Scott Brown at his victory celebration at the Park Plaza Hotel in Boston following his shocking election upset. The MMA worked with Sen. Brown's campaign in gratitude for his support of motorcyclists' legislation over the many years he has served in the state legislature.

"Since last September, when the Massachusetts Motorcycle Political Action Committee (MMPAC) supporters started gathering signatures to get Scott Brown on the ticket for the US Senate Special Election, we have knocked on doors, stood outside grocery stores and even 'hung out at the landfills' to get Scott elected," said Rick Gleason of MMPAC.

Not only is Brown a biker-friendly politician, but he rides a Victory motorcycle!

S.C. SUPREME COURT HEARS MYRTLE BEACH HELMET LAWSUITS:

South Carolina's highest court heard oral arguments Wednesday, February 3 over whether a city can require motorcycle riders to wear helmets, despite the lack of a state law requiring the practice. State law doesn't require riders 21 and older to wear helmets, but in an effort to get rid of two bike rallies held there each year, the Myrtle Beach city council voted unanimously in 2008 to pass 15 ordinances intended to dissuade bikers from coming to town, including the controversial mandatory helmet law for motorcycle riders and passengers of all ages.

Justices peppered an attorney for the city with questions over what they seemed to view as the intent of the ordinance -- not to make Myrtle Beach's roads safer for bikers, as had been argued, but to drive the bike rallies away from the Grand Strand.

Representing his brother Bart, who leads a pro-bike rally group of business-owners and is challenging a ticket he received for not wearing a helmet, State Representative Thad Viers argued to the five justices that a state law governing traffic ordinances spells out what local governments are allowed to do regarding traffic laws. Viers filed more than 30 pages of briefs containing multiple sections supporting his various legal arguments against the city helmet ordinance.



But Virginia-based A.I.M. Attorney (Aid to Injured Motorcyclists) Tom McGrath, who argued before the court representing 49 helmet law protesters who were ticketed, filed a much shorter brief, saying, among other things, that most of the arguments don't matter because the city's ordinance is at odds with state law, and for that reason alone it should be tossed out.

"The gist of the city's arguments is that it has the right to do whatever it wants to do as long as it declares something to be a public nuisance and decides to abate it," McGrath's brief begins. "...If the ordinances conflict with state law, the ordinances are void. If the ordinances are void, their underlying merits are irrelevant."

Now it remains up to the State Supreme Court to decide the issues, and it may take months to render a ruling. McGrath has his hopes up; "Based on the questions the Justices asked the attorney for the City it seems the Court likely will render a favorable opinion for freedom. Hopefully, we won't be disappointed."

MOTORCYCLE CLUB WILL SEND PATCH INTO SPACE:

The South Houston chapter of the Los Carnales / La Familia law enforcement motorcycle organization has been given the opportunity to send items into space on the Space Shuttle Mission STS-134 on July 29th this year.

It will be the first motorcycle club represented in space. The club has developed a special patch for the occasion. It has Los Carnales / La Familia Nation with both the state of Texas and California on it.

INDUSTRY REPORTS BAD YEAR FOR CYCLE SALES: 2009

was a bad year for bikes, with the Motorcycle Industry Council reporting the lowest sales in a decade. The MIC noted a 40.8% drop in sales from the 2008 season, with roughly 520,502 bikes sold in 2009 compared to 880,000 that were sold in 2008.

The MIC reports monthly sales of most major motorcycle manufacturers, including: BMW, Harley-Davidson, Buell, Honda, Kawasaki, KTM, Triumph, Yamaha, Suzuki, Victory, and the Piaggio Group. The MIC also creates estimates on all non-reporting manufacturers.

With non-reporting sales included, the total sales for 2008 was 1.1 million according to the MIC, and though last year's total hasn't been tabulated yet, it is expected that 2009 will break a six-year streak of sales above the 1 million mark.

The biggest drop in sales occurred in the scooter category. Scooters boomed in 2008 as gas prices reached record highs.

As the economy begins to stabilize again, the MIC predicts that motorcycle sales will begin to increase.

TENNESSEE "LEMON LAW" MAY SOON INCLUDE MOTORCYCLES:

Tennessee's "Lemon Law" may soon be extended to include motorcycles, if the legislature takes action on a measure sponsored by Representative Vince Dean, of East Ridge.

Dean says motorcycle buyers should have the same rights as people buying cars and trucks that don't perform properly. He says any mechanical and structural problems can be more dangerous for motorcycle riders.

The measure moved forward in a House Committee in early February, and a companion bill is awaiting consideration in the Senate Transportation Committee.

WASHINGTON BILL ADDRESSES BIKER PROFILING:

In a monumental and historical vote, the Washington State House of Representatives passed HB2511 - a bill addressing "Motorcycle Profiling" - by a margin of 96 to 2. This landslide vote provides an indication that legislators are actually getting the idea that profiling is real and needs legislative relief, while the lack of opposition was seen as a silent show of support from Law Enforcement.

During the legislative process, "It was remarkable to hear the legislators mention the organized and well presented information from the motorcycle community," reports Donnie "Mr. Breeze" Landsman, Legislative Affairs Officer for ABATE of Washington.

"Motorcyclists aren't looking for special rights," Landsman said. "We want the same rights that are afforded to every other section of the population as American citizens and as citizens of Washington State. We aren't being given that."

The group found a champion in Rep. Steve Kirby (D-Tacoma) who introduced a bill that would force local law enforcement agencies to adopt a written policy designed to condemn and prevent the profiling of motorcyclists and to institute training to address the issue.

Continued on Next Page

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From page 10

COAST TO COAST BIKER NEWS

It's illegal to profile minorities, it should be illegal to profile motorcycle riders, the bikers said. The Washington State Patrol uses a training brochure called "Basic Biker 101" that starts with the statement "Bikers are dangerous" and gives instructions on how to gather information about them during traffic stops, according to David Devereaux of the Outsiders Motorcycle Club. To further substantiate their claims of harassment, Devereaux said that when bikers showed up en masse last year their annual "Black Thursday" lobbying day to find sponsors for the anti-profiling bill, state troopers surreptitiously took down all their license plate numbers.

Next, the bill goes over to the Senate for consideration and will be assigned to a hearing committee, most likely Judiciary.

"This has been a very good year for ABATE of Washington and the US Defenders of Washington," said Landsman. "We have worked together to make this happen, and are truly on the same page."

OREGON RIDERS CONVERGE ON CAPITOL: Motorcycle club members, independent riders and even non-riders alike came together in solidarity in Portland to protect rights specific to bik-

ers. The first "call to action" by the US Defenders motorcycle group brought out over 70 bikes to the Oregon State Capitol recently, making a positive statement of unity between clubs and independent riders. Quiet Mike, the Information Officer for US Defenders said he was pleased with the show of bikes, "It was an excellent turnout, the most motorcyclists we've had here for a long time."

US Defenders is a movement formed from within motorcycle clubs from individual states to implement and support motorcycle rights. The grass roots organization is supported through the Confederations of Clubs across the country, and is composed of state "citizen biker manpower" from Motorcycle Clubs and Coalitions of Independent Riders (C.O.I.R) representatives.

Quiet Mike, who also serves as Vice-Chairman for the Oregon Confederation of Clubs said this was a well-planned event. "We set up in the capitol so people could come and meet with their state representative or state senator. Several people set up appointments in advance, and they were able to express their concerns about how bikers' rights are being affected."

Many people were there to discuss helmet laws, others for civil rights where

profiling motorcycle club members is concerned, and some brought up that motorcyclist fatalities caused by car drivers should carry more serious charges than just a traffic fine.

ADULTS IN KANSAS COULD BE FINED FOR KIDS RIDING WITHOUT HELMETS: Adults could soon be fined in Kansas for allowing minors to go without wearing helmets while driving or riding a motorcycle.

It is already illegal in Kansas for anyone under 18 to operate a motorcycle without wearing a helmet, but currently it is the youngster who gets a ticket. Under provisions of the new Senate bill, it would become illegal for owners of a motorcycle or motorized bicycle to permit a person under 18 to drive or ride on their vehicle without wearing a helmet, so the adult would receive a citation too.

Use of motorcycle helmets has been on the rise nationally, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), which reported that 67% of motorcyclists wore a helmet in 2009, compared to just 48% in 2005.

SAVE THE DATE - MAY 6-9, NCOM CONVENTION: The 25th an-

nual NCOM Convention will be held Mother's Day weekend, May 6-9, 2010 at the Orlando Airport Marriott, 7499 Augusta National Dr., Orlando, Florida. This annual gathering will draw bikers' rights activists from across the country to discuss topics of concern to all motorcyclists, so reserve your room now for the special NCOM rate of \$89.00 by calling (800) 380-6751.

Meetings, seminars and group discussions will focus on safety issues, legal rights, legislative efforts and litigation techniques to benefit our right to ride and Freedom of the Road.

Registration fees for the NCOM Convention are \$75 including the Silver Spoke Awards Banquet on Saturday night, or \$40 for the Convention only. To pre-register, call the National Coalition of Motorcyclists at (800) 525-5355 or visit www.ON-A-BIKE.com.

QUOTABLE QUOTE: "For the saddest epitaph which can be carved in memory of a vanished liberty is that it was lost because its possessors failed to stretch forth a saving hand while yet there was time." U.S. Supreme Court Justice George Sutherland (1862- 1942)

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www.socalregionalrally.com

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Sign-In } PRE - Registered Entries 10:00am Friday
Opens } NON - Pre-Reg. Entries 12:00 NOON Friday

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Fire pit in all RV Sites • **Full Bathroom & Showers** • Laundry Room on Site • **Grass Camping**
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- Couple - \$40.00

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- Single - \$35.00
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We are conveniently situated on the Northwest corner of the 91 Freeway and Gypsum Canyon Road in Anaheim, CA. Although our mailing address is on Santa Ana Canyon Road, you will find us physically located on Gypsum Canyon Road. So because some of the Internet map programs are sometimes not quite accurate, we've added the following directions to help you reach us without confusion.

Traveling eastbound on the CA-91 Freeway, pass Weir Canyon Road. Take Exit 41 for Gypsum Canyon Road. Turn left at the bottom of the off-ramp. Pass under freeway and turn left at the signal. This will lead you right into our entrance.

Traveling westbound on the CA-91 Freeway toward Beach Cities, pass Green River Road. Take Exit 41A for Gypsum Canyon Road. At the bottom of the off-ramp continue straight through the signal into our entrance.

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california
FREEDOM
& motorcycle awareness month
rally



april 12, 2010 • 11 am
sacramento

capitol south steps
n street between 10th & 14th



rain or shine
all are welcome

Lil' David:
(916) 616-9605

Ron:
(707) 761-4058

ABATE of CA

invites ALL motorcyclists interested in preserving
YOUR RIGHT TO RIDE to join us.

Meet and hear motorcycle-friendly legislators and
invited speakers.

State Capitol, south steps

Monday, April 12, 2010 @ 11:00 a.m.

Free motorcycle parking on the north side of N St.
between 10th & 14th. *Please do not rap your pipes
when arriving or leaving the Capitol!*

Make an appointment to visit your
State Assembly Member and Senator.

Go to www.ABATE.org and click the
Allies & Info link to find your legislators.

Spend the night and ride as a group to the Capitol.

Fairfield Inn: 370 Orange Dr., Vacaville, CA 95687

Call (707) 469-0800 and mention **ABATE**
to get the special \$65 (+tax) rate.

Group ride leaves at 10:00 a.m. SHARP from The
Hide-A-Way, 1080 Orange Dr., Vacaville, CA 95687

For more information call:

Lil' David (916) 616-9605 or Ron (707) 761-4058

2010 ABATE Of California EVENTS and then some

February 28 – ABATE Local 1 – 23rd Annual Polar Bear Run - \$12/Singles \$18/Couples – JOIN ABATE and Ride for Free. Run pins for first 100. Sign-in Big Jim's Restaurant 8 to 10am – 8650 Laurel Canyon Rd; Sun Valley 91352. More info – Peter 818/244-9898 (Flyer this issue.)

March 6 – ABATE Local 17 Annual – Freeze Your Ass Off Poker Run – Rain or Shine! Sign-in 9a – 11a at Miss Darla's; 110 Peabody Rd; Vacaville; \$20.00 donation. Final stop: Winters Community Center; 201 Railroad Ave; Winters 95694. Smitty 707/448-6614 (Flyer this issue)

March 6 – ABATE Local 47 – Membership table at Newberry Springs, CA Flea Market at the Barn (760/254-3833- Yermo Ed).

March 20 – ABATE Local 47 – Membership table at Newberry Springs, CA Flea Market at the Barn (760/254-3833- Yermo Ed).

March 26 – 28 – ABATE Local 47 – Spring Campout at the Twin Lakes RV Park in Newberry Springs, CA. \$20.00 per site for RV's. More info? Call Yermo Eddy at 760/254-3833

March 30 – Welcome Home Viet Nam Veterans Day AB 717 authored by Assembly members Cook & Lieu plus a list of co-sponsors - was signed by the Governor and Chaptered 158, September 25, 2009; and adds a section to the Education & Government Codes. Go to the Legislative web site for more information on AB717.

April 10 – ABATE Leaders & Officers Seminar – Noon – 3 PM

Fairfield Inn (see address on April 11's information)

April 11 – ABATE Of California, Inc., Quarterly Meetings – Hosted by ABATE Local 17 – Vacaville, CA.

Motel Info: Fairfield Inn; 370 Orange Dr; Vacaville 95687. For Reservations - 707/469-0800 ask for the ABATE Block - \$65.00/night plus tax.

ABATE Quarterly Meetings will be held at Iron Steed Harley-Davidson; 100 Auto Center Drive; Vacaville, CA. 95687. Win! Meet & Greet at 9:30 am; Presidents Meeting 10 am; PAC Meeting 11am; Lunch at Noon catered by Str8 Shooters (\$9.50/person). Board Meeting at 1:00pm.

April 12 – Sacramento – Freedom & Motorcycle Awareness Rally – State Capitol, South Steps 11 am (RAIN or SHINE). FREE motorcycle parking on the North Side of N street between 10th & 14th Streets – DO NOT RAP your Pipes arriving or Leaving the Capitol!

Want to Ride to the Capitol with a group? The Staging Area is the:

Hide-A-Way Lounge & Grill; 1080 Orange Drive; Vacaville 95687.

open for Breakfast at 8 am – 10% Discount to ABATE Members on food & Non-Alcohol beverages

Kick stands up at 10:am.

May 2 – ABATE Local 27 – 8th Annual Bare Necessities Run at the American Legion Post #79 Fairmont Park in Riverside, CA. (see flyer this issue for details).

May 7, 8 & 9 - Southern Regional Rally – Flyer this issue – Pre-Reg and be in the drawing for \$200.00 Need not be present to

May 9 – ABATE Local 15 – 6th Annual Motorcycle Awareness Run (see flyer this issue for details).

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

July 16 – 18 - Northern Regional Rally – Kelly's Campground, Lake County

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

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

September 17, 18 & 19 ABATE State Run - Kernville

September 18 – ABATE Bike Raffle Drawing - Frandy Campground

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

October 16 – ABATE Local 29 – Annual Laughlin Run

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

Room to Breathe!

by John Del Santo, Safety Officer

Do you know what they call a biker who tailgates cars? A Trunk Ornament! Following distance is like money, you can never have too much, but if you have a little less than you need, you can be in trouble! A good two to three second cushion in front of you can keep you out of other people's mistakes.

Keep an eye on the traffic flow well up the road to anticipate traffic stopping. Are you following a tall vehicle that blocks forward view? Change lanes or drop back a bit to build a little more visibility and a smooth stopping distance. Are you following a vehicle that's towing a utility trailer? They're notorious for poor brake lights or no brake lights at all, - compensate. Are you on a group ride? Keep a good two-second following distance. You are legally, and in-fact, ten separate vehicles, NOT part of a group that has to stick together. You really don't want to make that 'group ride' to the emergency room.

Are you coming into a curve that you can't see around? Build a little more space so you don't get any

surprises. A hard brake on a curve, may be combined with some sand on the road can be deadly. Got a tailgater on your back? You know that dope is a poor driver and he can put you in the hospital if you need to stop quickly. Build some more space in front of you to make your stop smoother, or just come off the throttle for a couple of seconds and the tailgater will move to another lane.

That's the same theory if someone 'drops-in' in front of you, a couple of seconds off the throttle will regain your safe following distance. According to the National Safety Council, that move will only cost you one-second of traveling time - a small price to pay for keeping a comfortable space cushion.

Those of us who are 'long in the tooth' may have gained skill, experience, and wisdom, but we all lose a little bit of our reaction time each year. You can't fool Mother Nature. Compensate by keeping a bit more following distance. That's the 'Wisdom' part.

SPACE! In front of you, behind you and to the sides. It's the best and cheapest health insurance you can have. and it's yours for the taking!



"Hey! Don't eat that! That food is mine. It's a TV dinner."

Freeway Changeable Message/ Amber Alert Signs

by John Del Santo, Safety Officer

The 'E' in ABATE stands for "Education." One of the goals we reach for is Motorcycle Awareness education for the driving public so that they are more aware of the motorcycles sharing the road with them, and less likely to run us over.

A few years back some of our ABATE members on a cross-country run, saw the electronic highway signs in several states being used for motorcycle awareness messages when they were not being used for Amber Alert and Buckle-up messages. Upon returning to California we started a project to convince the DOT here that this would certainly save some lives. Imaging the millions of people every week that would be seeing motorcycle awareness messages!

Years went by, sending constant letters and making hundreds of phone calls, and recruiting other people into the action. The word "NO" got to be a mantra with the folks we were dealing with; they made us feel we were banging our heads against the wall.

But TODAY, February 11, 2010, there they were! Big grins on our faces. Big electric signs up and down the freeways and highways of the state! Different messages, most of which were penned and sent in by ABATE members. Send your THANKS to the people that were involved. Shamiel Coleman with the CHP Office of Special Projects, and the California Motorcycle Safety Program, ABATE's Mike Osborn and Jim Lombardo, CHP Commissioner Farrow, Sgt Mike Thomason, and Ron Miller of the Office of Traffic Safety. Big kudos to the ABATE members who sent their e-mails, phone calls and words of encouragement. Perseverance! Any motorcyclist whose life is lengthened by the Motorcycle Awareness message on these signs adds to the Karma of this assembled crew. Let them know that we appreciate the time and effort invested, and pitch in on the next project during May, which is Motorcycle Awareness & Safety month.

LOOK TWICE, MOTORCYCLISTS ARE EVERYWHERE!



Whose Road is it, Anyway?

by John Del Santo, safety Officer



Whose road is it, anyway? What will you find in the road right around the next curve? It would be nice if we could depend on a clear road, but a good rider knows there

are more possible hazards along the highway than Space Invaders in a video game!

Deer are the most common animal hazard and the most unpredictable. They'll stare at you as you approach and then leap into the road as you reach them. Every year there are well over a hundred thousand reported collisions with deer, resulting in the loss of more than a hundred human lives. Be extra alert when visibility is low, in areas where the trees come up close to the road and where there are posted warning signs. There is some controversy regarding whether the deer can hear those little plastic deer whistles. If you see two deer cross the road, expect a third.

Animals don't wear reflectors at night and can be closer than a hundred feet when your headlights pick them up. Even at 40 MPH you will need more than a hundred

feet to come to a stop - reaction time and braking distance - so swerve around them if you can, but not at the risk of driving into a big Oak tree or oncoming traffic.

Secondary State highways often resemble petting zoos for all the animals we find there. Larger animals may not be as common as deer, but can be a lot more deadly. Moose and horses can weigh up to a thousand pounds, and are taller than you and your bike. A cow on the road can make a massive blockade if you are overdriving your visibility. A cow warning or steel pipes built into the road (or paint stripes) indicate an Open Range Area where the cows are not fenced in. If some small and fast animal shoots across the road in front of you, expect some larger and faster predator animal to be close behind it.

Our fellow two-legged critters should know better, but often require as much care and caution as four-legged road hazards.

You can expect almost anything including a stopped car with the driver taking a picture of the buffalo that just crossed the road, a flock of joggers, or a herd of bicyclists. It's best that they be made aware of the fact you are approaching so they don't swerve out to avoid a pothole or puddle. Many states require this warning by law, but prohibit using a horn when approaching a horseback rider.

Whose road is it, anyway? No matter how many wheels or feet the other road users have, and no matter where they pop up from, the good rider will expect the worst and do the best at avoiding hazards. Defensive riding will take you a long way toward seeing the end of a trip with nothing bigger than bugs stuck to the front of your bike.



Board Meeting, Ventura Jan. 2010
 Photos by Fran Del Santo



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FXDC Dyna Super Glide Harley-Davidson!!
ALL PROCEEDS from this raffle will benefit
ABATE of CA.

Tickets are \$10.00 each.

The Drawing will be held at the 2010 State Run September 18! Winner need not be present to win!

For Tickets – Contact YOUR Local ABATE President (their information is on the back page of the Bailing Wire) or Cynthia Witthans at 760/946-0366.

A Special Thank YOU to Victorville Harley-Davidson for providing the Motorcycle!

Membership Report

by Lee 'Sporty' Milligan, Membership Chairman

Hi all! Sporty here with the monthly installment of the membership report for the New Year. We did fairly well as far as getting new members. I would like to remind the Local membership chairman to really make an extra effort to retain your renewals. You might ask, "Sporty, how can we accomplish this lofty task?" Membership chairman to do this you might start by getting to know your members. If you have a computer, you can begin the task by doing a simple get acquainted e-mail. In this e-mail you might ask the members if they are comfortable with the meeting time. That way you can find out if the majority are able to come to your monthly meetings. Also you all should have received a Local roster. This will allow you to send the renewal notice out to your members a month before their membership expires - plenty of time to avoid membership lapses. Questions on this and any more membership related questions should be directed to me sporty at mrsportyiii@yahoo.com.

While the renewing members are waiting to get their new renewal packets, the Local should send them a trinket to thank them for sticking with the Local and, in particular, ABATE of CA. "Ok, Sporty, what do we use for trinkets for the renewing members?". The following items can be used as a thank you trinket: A chance

ticket for this year's motorcycle raffle, a token gift from the state merchandise (such as the ABATE flag sticker, ABATE key chain, etc), gift certificate to a local eatery, discount off services for their bike or car, etc.

What I have tried to accomplish here is to let the membership of your Local know that you care about them. This lets the member of your Local that does not always come to your meetings know that you're thinking about them. They are a big part of the group. So do your best this year to keep and retain your renewals.

If you're looking to get back former members of your Local, use my "Hello Former ABATE Member" letter, which you can obtain from the state office.

OK, so there you have it for this month's membership report. Be sure to ask questions if you're not sure about getting your renewals back. Also try to sign up some business members for the Local and the Bailing Wire. And lastly, remember there is unity and strength in numbers of members.

In the coming months, look for the ever popular membership special funding raffle tickets that fund this ABATE membership project. Thanks, regards, Sporty.



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Help ABATE by Doing What You Love
Search the Net with www.Goodsearch.com/?charityid=900395

by Tim Tennimon,

Yea that's right, surfing the net. ABATE of CA has been okayed to be listed on Goodsearch and provided with a web-link designed for our specific purpose. All you have to do is visit www.goodsearch.com/?charityid=900395 and use it as you would any other search engine.

That's it, think about it! You can support ABATE with the click of a mouse. This easy to use search engine, Goodsearch.com, which is powered by Yahoo, donates 50 percent of its revenue to the designated organization, that'd be ABATE of CA. It works out to be about a penny per search.

Because it's powered by Yahoo, you can be assured of a safe web browsing experience with quality search results. A number of other organizations are already using this tool with great results. Think about it; if 500 of our supporters performed just two searches each day, we would generate \$3,650 a year for ABATE of CA. If we get even more of our supporters, their friends and family to use this search engine, that amount could increase considerably.

In addition to what ABATE can earn by using this search engine, if you purchase something using the "Goodshop" link we can increase our revenue even more. By making a purchase at any of the "Goodshop" partner retailers, a small percentage of the sale goes to ABATE.

There are a number of retailers that allow you to purchase products on line then pick them up at the store location nearest you. Let's say you need copy paper, you could visit "Goodshop" via our web link make the purchase through Staples with the In-store Pickup option and bam; there it is, what an easy fund raising tool.

Remember, visit www.goodsearch.com/?charityid=900395 save the link to your favorites then open it up and give it a try.

ABATE thanks you for your support.

ABATE Of California, Inc. April 10-12, 2010

Plan to attend all 3 days festivities.

Motel Info:

Fairfield Inn; 370 Orange Dr; Vacaville 95687.

For Reservations - **707/469-0800** ask for the ABATE Block - \$65.00/night plus tax. Rooms have 2 queen beds. NON-smoking Hotel.

- ❖ Free wifi and TV; heated indoor pool & Jacuzzi;
- ❖ Free expanded Continental Breakfast.
- ❖ Lots of Bike Parking.

For those arriving on the 10th of April and staying at the Fairfield Inn – Str8 Shooters Sports Bar & Deli is hosting a party – Shuttle Service will be provided from Fairfield Inn to their bar and back. Take advantage and use a Designated Driver (the shuttle).

Dinner Available, music, Karaoke and they have a smoking room.

April 10 – ABATE Leaders & Officer Seminar – Noon to 3pm

Meeting will be at the Fairfield Inn; 370 N Orange Dr; Vacaville 95687

April 11 – ABATE Of California, Inc., Quarterly Meetings – Hosted by ABATE Local 17 – Vacaville, CA. Meetings will be held at:

Iron Steed Harley-Davidson; 100 Auto Center Drive;

Vacaville, CA. 95687.

Meeting Schedule is:

- ❖ Meet & Greet at 9:30 am;
- ❖ Presidents Meeting 10 am;
- ❖ PAC Meeting 11am;
- ❖ Lunch at Noon catered by Str8 Shooters

Menu: ½ pound Cheeseburgers **OR** Veggie Burgers; includes: macaroni salad, beans, dessert, water or soda. \$9.50/person.

- ❖ Board Meeting at 1:00pm.

April 12 – Sacramento – Freedom & Motorcycle Awareness Rally –

- ❖ State Capitol, South Steps 11 am (RAIN or SHINE).
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YOU could also make an appointment to see your Legislator either before or after the rally. According to Jim, Legislators like to see their constituents in Sacramento too.

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Tank Slapper!

by John Del Santo, Safety Officer

What a day! In the wind! The sun is shining and you're rolling down the highway without a care in the world. And then an evil force grabs hold of your front wheel and starts shaking it like a dog with a bone!! You're in a treacherous 'High Speed Wobble'!

There are a number of things that can contribute to the creation of this attack, including an uneven lane drop, worn steering head bearings, worn front wheel bearings, or worn swing arm bearings or bushings, front or rear shocks that are uneven, under-inflated or that have leaked; narrow front tires on ruts in the road or on freeway rain grooves; improperly balanced tires, riding a tire that has been under-inflated and that has caused the tire to 'cup', handlebars which are not balanced because of a previous fall, or a sudden loss of air in the tire. Rear wheel wobbles can happen, too, when a tire goes flat, but they're usually easier to handle, as long as we don't hit the rear brake.

When the front wheel is affected, it can at first feel like the wind is starting to push you around, and then it becomes apparent that something bad is happening and

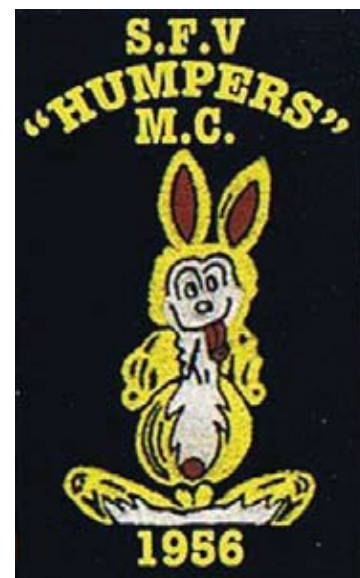


the front wheel starts to be yanked hard right and left and right, trying to rip the grips out of your hands. At this point there is still a chance that you might salvage the day. Get a good hold, and roll off the throttle gently

- don't 'chop' it off suddenly or weight will transfer to the front wheel where you'd rather not have it. Lean back, don't touch the front brakes! Start applying the rear brakes gently, but firmly, but don't lock them. This can be a real touchy situation if your bike has an integrated or linked brake system. If so, you may need to decelerate and let your engine slow you down. If you downshift, you'll need to let the clutch out smoothly, which is easier to say than do with the handlebars whacking back and forth. That's an awful lot of decisions to make in a very short period of time, and the evil spirits may decide now to push you through the final gate.

If the front end starts slamming back and forth all the way to the stops, you are in the dread 'Tank slapper'. At this point it would be a good thing if you are wearing clothing that allows you to slide on the roadway rather than clothing which will cause you to tumble, because there is an excellent chance that you and your bike will now part company. Being relaxed and ready to slide instead of tensing up will allegedly lessen your injuries when you land; that sounds good in print, but I don't think most riders remember that last couple of seconds anyway. I guess we could lessen the chances of being hurt if we stayed home on the couch,

but most riders feel that it's better to wear out than it is to rust. So be prepared, and do your best to handle whatever comes along. Enjoy yourself, Ride Sober, and Ride Safe!





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Executive Director's Report From page 3

In the political and economic climate of today's world, those words are just as true today in 2010 as they were in 1776. Maybe more so than at any time since, as a quote that came across my desk today portrays the views of those who would make the Bill of Rights and Declaration of Independence outdated and worthless documents, echoed in the following statement, "You need only reflect that one of the best ways to get yourself a reputation as a dangerous citizen these days is to go about repeating the very phrases which our founding fathers used in the struggle for independence." -- Charles Austin Beard.

ABATE members should stand proud and take pride in our accomplishments. We must always maintain a watchful eye on those in government who would seek to curtail our freedom. History is filled with many examples of people who allowed themselves to become slaves to those who seek to exhibit such control over their lives. There is no doubt that there are plenty out there seeking to control our lives in the interest of safety or some other bureaucratic design. Given the current grassroots climate throughout America, it is obvious that the seeds of discontent with government at all levels are beginning to spring up. I remember sitting in State Senator

Roy Ashburn's office when in reference to the increased governmental intrusion into our lives, he remarked, "It has to end somewhere, it can't continue like this!" Amen to that! Unfortunately, Roy will not be returning to office, and he will be missed as he was a good friend to ABATE.

As I bring this month's article to a close, I would like to mention a few recent developments that have occurred as result of the efforts of ABATE members. First and foremost ABATE Safety Officer John Del Santo. As the Safety Officer, John is the ABATE representative to the California Motorcycle Safety Program (CMSP). Within this program, ABATE and the CHP have been working together with many avenues of alerting the driving public to Motorcycle Awareness and highway safety, including the highway signs. Great job John and please accept the heartfelt thanks of ABATE members statewide for a job well done.

Dennis Stalter, our Assistant Legislative Director and our new webmaster is deserving of your thanks for all of the hard work he has put into developing the new and improved ABATE website, which will allow for easier and faster updates. That is also part and parcel of that improved communications I referenced earlier. Good job Dennis!

SB-435 is still out there and we need to stay focused there. Hopefully, by the time we hit publication, the media contact information we have been seeking will have been submitted.

Another item of housekeeping I want to mention are the quarterly reports from each Local that need to be submitted to Carol at the State Office. I can't stress enough how crucial it is for all Locals to stay current with this paperwork, since it affects our insurability and coverage of Directors and Officers.

Lastly, I want to mention two major ABATE events for you to place on your calendar: On Sunday, April 11, 2010, we will have the quarterly Board of Directors, PAC, & President's meetings hosted in Vacaville by Local 17 at Iron Steed H-D dealership. On Monday, April 12, 2010, there is a ride scheduled to leave from the Hide-A-Way in Vacaville at 10 am to go to the Freedom & Motorcycle Awareness Rally on the Capitol steps in Sacramento. On Mother's Day weekend, May 7 thru 9, the ABATE Southern Regional Rally occurs in Anaheim at the new location. I urge you all to show your support by making plans to attend these special ABATE events.

On that note, I will wrap this up and see you here again next month. Ride hard, ride safe and ride free!

THANK YOU!!!

Donations to the General Fund have been received from:

Martin Forsyth, L19; Johnny O'Kane, L22; Dennis Stalter, L14; & Buz Yochelson, L1.

ABATE Locals: 2, 5, 14, 19, 23, 27, & 47.


Thank you folks for your generous donations, it is very much appreciated!!!! Thank you!

Please Attend the FREEDOM & MOTORCYCLE AWARENESS RALLY

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We are also looking for Parking Meter Sponsors for the upcoming April 12 in Sacramento. \$15.00 per meter for the day from 8 am to 6 pm. Individual signs will be made and posted with the Sponsors name. Make your checks payable and mail to: ABATE of CA; 10240 7th Ave; Hesperia, CA. 92345-2631 OR you could even go on line and click on Join ABATE and scroll down to "donate" and complete that and mark it for Parking Meter. We need this no later than **April 7th** to have time to make the sponsored by signs. A BIG Thank you if you can help!



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Hang Loose

by John Del Santo, Safety Officer

Hanging out on a Saturday night can be fun, but there are some pretty spooky stories around about parts of people's bikes that come loose and wander around into someplace they don't belong. Here are a few: A friend had a leather lace on his right handgrip with a couple of beads on it. When the wind blew it up and tangled into his handbrake mechanism, he didn't notice it, but when he tried to stop he could not apply his front brakes. Surprise! Having a passenger who is wearing a long scarf could make the Daily News "Biker Strangles Girlfriend"! There is a story around about a guy who had one of those leather handlebar whips attached to his handlebars; worked ok until the wind blew the end of the whip into his front brake caliper. And a friend of mine got warm and tied her leather jacket to the back of the bike with one bungee cord. When the bungee cord broke and the jacket slid down into her rear spokes, well, talk about a sudden stop!

First, Bungee Cords - don't trust them. If you don't use them at all, they won't hurt you. Some government agencies forbid their drivers from using them on official vehicles for any reason. Some people use them on their bikes, but will use four of them across

something on their bike instead of one or two, just as insurance, or in addition to nylon straps. We can strap something down snugly on our bike, but should stop an hour down the road to check if



the weight has shifted or the tie-down has loosened. Things shift around and change shape from the vibrations of a bike, and can change shape and loosen the tie-downs. A parachute cord only takes up a little carrying space, but in an emergency can make a pretty good one-time tie-down strap.

My wife made her own tie-down straps, strong nylon straps, with substantial adjustable buckles,

used for securing her tent, sleeping bag and rain gear. She makes the straps from multi-colored nylon, so she can tell which strap is going where when unloading in the dark.

We need to keep our center of gravity low and centered so the bike handles properly. The luggage rack on the back of a bike was not designed for heavy stuff, and things tied to the front forks do nothing good for the forks or the steering. And last, but certainly not least, once we have unloaded stuff from a bike, a priority is to find all of the straps and cords to make sure none are hiding around waiting to get caught in a wheel tomorrow morning.

If you want to 'Hang Out' or 'Hang Loose', you can do it in a club tonight if you wish, but when you get on the road, being 'Tight' is the way to go.

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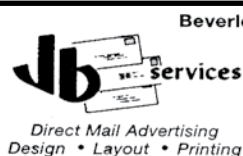


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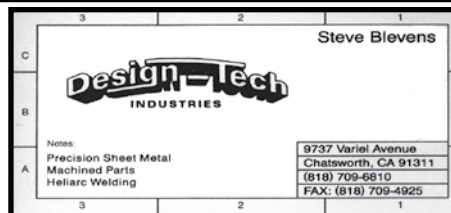
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06 BOOZEFIGHTERS MC #3 San Diego 619/807-5574	15 Roundup Saloon LaFayette 925/284-4817	17 Road Trip Bar & Grill Capay 530/796-3777	20 MotoZania.com Newport Beach 949/645-5444	24 Tamarack Machine Works Sanger 559/876-1703	40 Bakersfield Electric Co Bakersfield 661/325-1864	58 Veterans of Vietnam MC Trona 760/372-4728
06 Edie + Jim San Diego 858/566-4858	15 Sons of Thunder Concord 925/812-0436	17 Rocky's Harley Service Vacaville 707/301-0799	20 Nikki's Flags Newport Beach 949/646-5166	24 TEK-CRETE Hanford 559/582-6397	44 Desperados Leather Apparel Hesperia 760/947-2000	60 Grand Fathers M/C No. Cal Grass Valley 530/613-0587
06 Law Offices of Richard M Lester Canoga Park 800/531-2424	17 Affordable Hauling Vacaville 707/450-8432	17 Str 8 Shooters Sports Bar & Deli Vacaville 707/453-7878	20 South Bay Biker Productions Compton 877/688-4229	25 Renegade Classics Outlet Sacramento 916/454-3773	51 The Gas Station Mountain Ranch 209/754- 0835	62 Bump Beverage Co Castro Valley 510/581-4533
06 San Diego Confederation of Clubs San Diego 858/272-7875	17 Buckhorn Bar & Grill Dixon 707/678-5687	17 Thompson's Corner Saloon Fairfield 707/864-9720	20 SS Metal Fabricators Costa Mesa 949/631-4272	52 49er Auto & Bike Repair Grass Valley 530/272-3242		
06 Silver Eagles M/C El Cajon 619/447-0101	17 Bud's Pub & Grill Dixon 707/678-4745	17 Tom's Cycle Works Vacaville 707/449-8364	20 We Rent Motorcycles Newport Beach 949/350-6952			
06 Sweetwater Chapter H.O.G. San Diego 858/566-4858	17 Capay Junction Saloon Capay 530/796-2440					

ABATE OF CALIFORNIA PIN

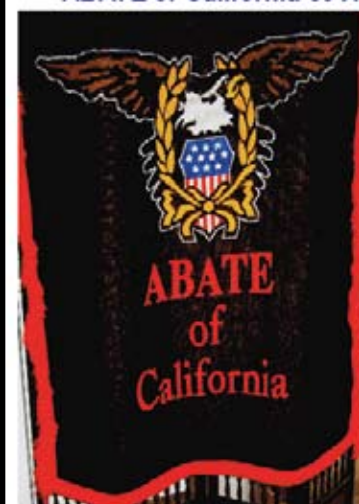


MEASURES 1" NICELY DETAILED SCREW BACK

Item # 07-172 **\$5.00**



ABATE of California 60 X 60 Knit Blanket



\$ 55.00

Item # 07-137

100 % virgin acrylic
Machine washable
and dryable.

Beautifully Done
a picture cannot
do this Blanket
justice.

Order form October 2009

	Item #	Qty	Price	Total
Do Rag Black w/ Red Lettering	06-121		\$ 11.00	
Professional Tote Light Blue	06-135		\$ 15.00	
Hat White/Black net	06-140		\$ 9.00	
Hat Red/Gold	06-141		\$ 15.00	
Hat White Silver	06-142		\$ 15.00	
9 X 6 Oval Sticker	06-160		\$ 5.00	
Bear Patch	07-177		\$ 8.00	
ABATE EMBLEM Large 12 X 9	07-174		\$ 40.00	
Medium 6 X 4	07-175		\$ 25.00	
Small 4 X 2	07-176		\$ 15.00	
Motorcycle License Plate Frame Top	06-180		\$ 12.00	
Bottom	06-181		\$ 12.00	
Car License Frame	09-182		\$ 15.00	
ABATE of CA 5 color design Pin	07-171		\$ 5.00	
ABATE of CA 2 color design Pin	07-172		\$ 5.00	
ABATE of California Knit Blanket 60 X 60	07-137		\$ 55.00	
Can Cooler	07-165		\$ 2.00	
ABATE T-Shirts Mens	Qty	Qty	New Sponsor T's	Qty
Navy Pocket Medium 07-191		Ice Gray Medium 07-194		Medium 09-218
Large 07-192		No Pocket Large 07-195		Large 09-219
X-Large 07-193		X-Large 07-196		X-Large 09-220
XX-Large 07-205		XX-Large 07-206		XX-Large 09-221
		TOTAL T'S	X \$20.00 =	
ABATE Tank Shirts	Qty	Qty		
Medium 08-213		Large 08-214		
X-Large 08-215		XX-Large 08-216		
		TOTAL Tank Shirt	X \$15.00 =	
ABATE T-Shirts Womens	Qty	Qty		
Pink S/Sleeve Large 07-198		X-Large 07-211		
Powder Blue S/Sleeve Large 07-200		X-Large 07-210		
Heather L/Sleeve Medium 07-201		Large 07-202		
X-Large 07-208				
Powder Blue L/Sleeve Medium 07-203		Large 07-204		
X-Large 07-209				
		TOTAL Womens T's	X \$20.00 =	
ABATE Pull Over No Hood Sweatshirt	Qty	Qty		
Large 07-301		X-Large 07-302		
XX-Large 07-303				
ABATE Zip Up Hooded Sweatshirt	Qty	Qty		
Small 07-307		Medium 07-308		Large 07-304
X-Large 07-305		XX-Large 07-306		
		TOTAL Sweatshirts	X \$35.00 =	
Promotional Items Key Tags pkg of 20		07-163	\$ 9.00	
Reflective Flag pkg of 25		07-164	\$ 12.00	
			Subtotal	
Make Checks Payable To:			Add 20% to Total for Shipping & Handling	
ABATE OF CALIFORNIA INC.				
MAIL ORDER FORM TO:				
760-946-0366			Total	
C/O Cynthia Withans				
19622 Shoshonee Rd.				
Apple Valley, CA 92307				

Name: _____

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

Credit Card Users _____ Visa _____ Master Card

Local# _____

Credit Card # _____ Exp. _____

Address: _____ Name on Card _____

Phone # _____ Signature _____



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Alone.



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accidents happen
each year...

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can count on America's
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our website www.LawTigers.com
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Geoffrey M. Trachtenberg
Attorney At Law

Los Angeles County - Local #01-Reg#8

Sporty Milligan
1616 4th St
San Fernando 91340
818/ 361-8800

3rd Sun-9 AM
Elk's Lodge
10137 E. Commerce
Tujunga, CA

Simi Valley - Local #02-Reg#8

Steamer Arsnow
661/251-8360

2nd Tues 7:30 PM
VFW Post#10049
4242 E. Los Angeles Ave. Simi Valley

Thousand Oaks-Local#03-Reg#7

Chuck Pedersen
842 E Avenida De Las Flores
Thousand Oaks 91360
805/496-0323

3rd Thurs - 7:00 PM
Elks Lodge
158 N. Conejo School Rd.
Thousand Oaks

San Gabriel Valley - Local#05-Reg#8

Tom Lubbers
626/335-6508

3rd Mon - 7:00 PM
Peppertree Restaurant
1020 E Route 66, Glendora

San Diego County - Local #06-Reg#12

John Del Santo
P.O. Box 178013
San Diego CA 92177
619/223-0421

1st Sunday - 12 Noon
Kate Sessions Park
Pacific Beach

Orange County - Local #08-Reg#11

Ryan Vincent
714/744-4838

2nd Mon. 7:30PM
American Legion #354
8071 Whitaker, Buena Park

South Orange County - Local #09-Reg#11

Cory Toroian
949/496-2936

1st Tues. 7:00 PM
Denny's
27142 Ortega Hwy. San Juan Capistrano

Tuolumne County-Local#10-Reg#5

Carlen Wilcox
209/532-0535

2nd Wed. 7:00 PM
Jamestown Hotel
18153 Main St., Jamestown

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

Tim Clark
13641 Silver Lake Dr.
Poway 92064
858/748-0524

2nd Sun - 11 AM
Oakvale Country Store
14900 Oakvale
Escondido

Sonoma County- Local #12-Reg#1

Meets with Local#17

Ventura County - Local #13-Reg#7

Dave Walsh
1354 W. Olive St
Oxnard 805/486-1093
or 469-6522

Last Thurs - 7:30 PM
American Legion Post 741
7 Veterans Way
Camarillo

Alameda County Local#14-Reg#3

Joe Schwirian
510/683-9304

1st Wed 7:30 PM
The Florence
37349 Niles Blvd., Fremont

Contra Costa County - Local #15-Reg#3

Bob Blatz
P.O. Box 269
Concord CA 94522
925/427-5135

3rd Tues - 7:00 PM
Fuddrucker's
1975 Diamond Bl. #E260
Concord

Santa Barbara County - Local #16-Reg#7

Meet with Local#13

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

Smitty Smith
P O Box 148
Vacaville 95696
707/448-6614

3 rd Sun.- 10:00 AM
Judy's Wild Wrangler Saloon
4826 Midway Rd.
Vacaville CA

San Francisco - Local #18-Reg#3

Meet with L#14 or 15

Pomona Valley - Local #19-Reg#9

Steve Kaweck
P O Box 4664
San Dimas 91773
909/910-1369

4th Wed - 7:00 PM
B's Sports Bar & Grill
1452 W. Holt Blvd.
Ontario, CA 91762

Orange County - Local #20-Reg#11

Gill Mellen
2052 Newport Blvd #6
Costa Mesa, CA 92627-7140
949/632-9787

2nd Tues - 7:00 PM
Good Ol' Boys Saloon
10624 Katella Ave.
Garden Grove 92840

Antelope Valley - Local #21-Reg#13

Ron Sundquist
37230 52nd St. East
Palmdale 93552
661/586-5555
ron.sundquist@sbeglobal.net

1st Thurs - 7:00 PM
Primos
Valley Central near Walmart
Lancaster



ABATE MEETINGS

South Bay - Local #22-Reg#11

Suzanne Palmiere
310/326-3667
suzpalmiere@aol.com

1st Tues - 7:30 PM
Walker's Cafe
700 W. Paseo Del Mar
San Pedro

San Bernardino - Local#23-Reg#9

Kevin Sorrell
909/793-1112

1st Sun 9:00 AM
Jenny's Family Restaurant
7750 Palm Ave, Highland

Fresno - Local#24-Reg#6

Ed Rogers
559/264-2891

1st Wed. 7:00 PM
Cedar Lanes
3131 N. Cedar, Fresno

Sacramento - Local#25-Reg#2

Gary Haller
916/726-6703

3rd Thurs - 7:00 PM
Denny's
3520 Auburn Blvd.
Sacramento 95821

Riverside - Local#27-Reg#9

Honda Ray
P.O. Box 7070
Riverside CA 92313
951/279-4370
www.abatelocal27.org

1st Tues - 7:30 PM
Flo's Farmhouse Cafe
5620 Van Buren Blvd.
Riverside

Lake County - Local#28-Reg#1

Melissa Fulton
707/263-1845

1st Thurs - 7:00 PM
TJ's
370 S. Main St.
Lakeport

Morongo Basin - Local#29-Reg#10

Marty Rapp
P.O. Box 2334
29 Palms CA 92277
760/367-1694

2nd - Thurs - 6:30 PM
La Casita Restaurant
57154 29 Palms Hwy
Yucca Valley

North Valley - Local #31-Reg#2

Larry James
530/893-4827

2nd Tues - 7:00 PM
Last Call Lounge
876 East Ave. Chico

Santa Clara Valley - Local #32-Reg#4

Dan Scott
950 Meridan Ave#19
San Jose 95126
408/603-8968

Last Sun. 9:30 AM
Sherwood Inn
2988 Almaden Expy
San Jose

Yuba City - Local #33-Reg#2

1st Tues - 7:30 PM
American Legion
5477 Feather River Blvd. Marysville

Hanford - Local #34-Reg#6

Meets with Local#24

1st Wed - 7:00 PM
Cedar Lanes
3131 N. Cedar, Fresno

Monterey Bay - Local #35-Reg#4

Call for info 760/956-1669

Palm Springs - Local #36-Reg#10

John "Grumpy" Grubb
P.O. Box 460
Rancho Mirage 92270
760/564-4336
jgrubb123@aol.com

4th Sunday - 8:30 AM
American Legion
400 N Belardo Rd.
Palm Springs

Imperial Valley - Local#38-Reg#12

Steve Mitosinka
660 W State St
El Centro CA
760/996-2093

Last Thurs - 7:00 PM
La Fonda Restaurant
548 Broadway
El Centro

Bakersfield - Local#40-Reg#6

Omar Macias
661/832-5240
661/900-8690

1st Monday 7:00PM
Rusty's Pizza 1751 White Lane
Bakersfield

High Desert - Local#44-Reg#13

Cindy Demel
P.O. Box 3094
Victorville CA 92392
760/868-5042

2nd Sat - 9:00 AM
Eagles Fraternal Order
16195 Main St.
Hesperia

Banning - Local #45-Reg#10

Trine Howell
760/323-9860

Call for Meeting Info
67387 Mission Dr.
Cathedral City 92234

Modesto - Local #46-Reg#5

Call for info 760/956-1669

Barstow - Local #47-Reg#13

Yermo Eddy
PO Box 521
Yermo CA 92398
760/254-3833 or 760/953-7353

2nd Sat-9:00 AM Meet with L#44
Eagles Fraternal Order
16195 Main St.
Hesperia

Hemet - Local #48-Reg#9

Meet with Local#27

Humboldt County - Local #50-Reg#1

Barbara Kennedy
707/946-2248

4th Wed
Call for meeting place & time

Calaveras County - Local #51-Reg#5

Jerry Yates
Box 549
Mountain Ranch, 209/754-5778

2nd Wed 6:30 PM
Call for meeting place

Grass Valley - Local#52-Reg#2

Steve Shoemaker
P.O. Box 356
Chicago Park 95712
530/798-0001

3rd Wed - 6:30 PM
Larry & Lena's Pizza & Grill
15690 Johnson Place
Hwy#49 Grass Valley

Owens Valley - Local#53-Reg#13

Meet with Local#58

West San Fernando - Local#54-Reg#8

Meet with Local #1

Visalia - Local #57 - Reg#6

Dave Olsen
559/936-5909

1st Wed 7:00PM
Meet with L#24

Ridgecrest - Local #58-Reg#13

Tony Jaime
760/371-5136

3rd Sat 10:00 AM
Mickey's Pub
1661 W. Triangle Dr.
Ridgecrest

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

Meet with Local 40 or Local 58

Colfax - Local #60-Reg#2

Chuck James
707/972-8180

2nd Thurs 7:00 PM
Grand Father Station
247 Railroad St., Colfax

Local #61 Shasta County-Redding

Call for info 760-9561669