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The Bailing Wire

ABATE of CA. Newsletter for Motorcyclists Volume XXVIII

ISSUE XII

December 2009

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



Lobbyist Report

by James Lombardo

I would like to thank Jean Hughes for all of the years she dedicated to directing me, ABATE's legislative agenda, and the activities of our PAC. Under her tenure, we were able to legalize high handlebars (aka: Ape Hangers) on motorcycles with legislation in 2004 by Assemblyman La Suer. In 2006, with Senator (now Secretary of State) Debra Bowen's SB 1021, we made penalties tougher for those who failed to yield the right away to motorcycles and with AB 1581 in 2007, carried by Assemblywoman Jean Fuller, we required cities, counties and CalTrans to fix and maintain turn signals to detect motorcycle and bicycles at intersections. In 2008 Assemblyman Duvall authored the bill, AB 2617, to put HOV (High Occupancy Vehicle) signs back up on the roadways where permitted. This bill made it all the way to the Governor's desk for his signature where he vetoed it, citing he "did not see widespread confusion over whether a motorcycle can or cannot use HOV lanes" and it would be "costly". We will continue

to press CalTrans to voluntarily put the signs back. Together, we took many runs at repealing California's mandatory motorcycle helmet law and got closest on the Assembly floor, losing by only 7 votes in 2002 with Assemblyman Mountjoy's AB 2700. Under Jean's leadership, we had many election



victories and we will continue that winning tradition in the future. She won't be very far away from us, as she is the Legislative Director/PAC Chair Emeritus and has agreed to help whenever needed. Thank you again, Jean. You know, it's only 30 miles from Vacaville to the Capitol!

As you are aware, the fight on SB 435 is **not** over. SB 435 supposedly will morph into a motorcycle exhaust system noise reduction bill, but the smog check provisions have still not been amended out as the author promised on the Senate Floor.

Please continue to gather signatures on petitions opposing SB 435 for whatever form it eventually takes. This bill will be heard sometime again in 2010.

However, congrats are in order to all in ABATE who wrote letters, made phone calls and gathered over 8,000 petition signatures to oppose Senator Fran Pavley's SB 435. This was a major victory for us in 2009! Every motorcyclist in this country should thank ABATE of California, because if SB 435 had passed, it would have triggered other states, or possibly all the other states, to introduce motorcycle smog check legislation.

Happy Holidays. See you at the January 30 ABATE Board Meeting in Southern California.

Table of Contents

Page 2	Donations & Article
Page 3	Run Flyer
Page 4	Run Flyers
Page 5,6,8,9,&10	Local Reports
Page 7	PAC Lobbyist Report
Page 11	Sporty's Rides
Page 12	Coast to Coast
Page 13	Helmet Article
Page 14	More State Run Pics
Page 15	Turkey Run Pics
Page 16	L# 47's Run Pics
Page 17	Tech Tips, Run Pics & Raffle
Page 18&19	Totally Kids Pics
Page 20	Membership Drive & Report
Page 21	SAE Test
Page 24	Events
Page 25	My Thoughts, Tony
Page 26	Del Santo, Safety
Page 28	Rocky's Article
Page 29	Business Members
Page 30	Merchandise
Page 32	ABATE Meetings

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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Cynthia Witthans 760/946-0366

Donations and the last Bailing Wire issue for 2009, WOW! What Year!

We are thankful to the following for their donations:

Bob Blatz L15, Marcello Crespi, Joel Franks L52, Linda Hoy & Bill Crull L14, Jonathon Jones L28, Carol Mayner L00, Randall Kendall L58, Jody Rinker L19, John Rees L25, Dwight Rehm L22, Derek Salamat L15, Elmer & Connie Simeon L27, Janelle Spencer L25, John Sutherland L16, Gary & Cynthia Witthans L44, and Dan L24.

ABATE State Run was able to show a profit – Thank you all that made that happen!!

Donations from ABATE Locals: 2, 6, 11, 14, 17, 19, 21, 23, 24, 27, 38, & 52.

Donations were made because of a dedicated fund raising event: food sale profits from a meeting, Bingo Run, and a Toy Run Raffle, and sometime just because you had the extra bucks to be able to donate – THANK YOU all for your donations!!!!

Hope you all are looking forward to a New Year in 2010 and BIG & Better things to come along!!! BE SAFE OUT there and take care of yourselves!

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.

A Day in the Life of ABATE by Norm e. New, Local #02

Saturday, October 24, Newhall, So Cal. This is the day for doing some riding, the best time of the year to ride, that is, in southern California! But then there is riding concerns not only for me but my fellow riders as well, our rights, safety, laws, the list could go on and on. There is so much change, and changing so constantly that it could make your head spin, I know mine does, sometimes. I found out that what ABATE does is a year long cycle of issues after issues, who does what we do? I know what I wouldn't have, if there was no ABATE, and I definitely know what I have, since I've been an ABATE member and then some.

A great thing happened today; Local 1 and Local 2 got together at Cycle Gear in Newhall and ran an ABATE booth together. Sacrificing a great day of riding, but we did it so we can ride with as much freedom as possible, for now anyway. A big thank you to Tom Whitten of Cycle Gear at 24508 Lyon's Ave for allowing us to have a booth at your store, right in front of the entrance during the store's wide mega sale, there were other vendors as well, but we got the golden spot. Thanks to Local 1 personnel, who were Linda and Steve Kerr, Steve B, Bob Warren, Sporty Milligan and Dale and Local 2 personnel, who were Pat-tibock, Bob Tanger, Ray Arsnow, Brian and Susan Wassel and me.

We had tables full of literature and clipboards for signatures for "No on SB 435", in all, we were ready to do what we had set out to do. Some of the peo-

ple I talked to were willing to sign and some didn't even know what ABATE did. That had me thinking possibly how many riders don't know we exist and or know ABATE, but not what they do, hmmm.... I thought then maybe ABATE needs to get out more other than their own runs, maybe hook up with another Local or two, who knows, the possibilities are endless. The economy is sure not helping us out, in fact it's making it more difficult for us and pretty much all non profit types as well. I talked to several MC type stores and business is down, as I witnessed today.

We at Local 2 had discussed getting involved in our local community and make a name for ABATE, whether we're in front of a store or at an event, it's more of a time thing rather than financial, which is a good thing because we don't need to spend money to promote ABATE, just time. We are looking for opportunities where we can get "free exposure" to inform the public about what we are about. Besides it was cool hanging out with other Locals, something that needs to happen as much as possible. Thanks, Norm e. New.

Classified

For Sale: 2008 Harley-Davidson Road glide. Dark Blue Metallic Pearl Pain. 103 cu kit with cams, installed by El Cajon Harley-Davidson before purchase. Tour Pak; Lowered air shocks, plus extra chrome. 2,500 miles on it. Asking \$18,000.00 or Best Offer. Ask for Eddie 760/337-8372 or edward_A12@yahoo.com

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.

American Brotherhood Aimed Towards Education
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COLUMNISTS
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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 x 10"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

ABATE Local #19 & Pomona Valley HOG are proud to Present:
The 21st Annual
TOY RUN
Toys To Benefit SANTA CLAUS, INC.




Trials Rider Show by Ryan Sandoval
Hourly Prize Drawings * 50/50
Bike Games * Vendors



Food and Beverages provided by Ontario Elks Lodge for an additional charge
Cash Prize for Largest Organized Group Participation Sign-In
Best Decorated Bike Award
Professionally Judged Ride In Bike Show
(\$5.00 per bike. Bikes must be registered before 11AM)



SUNDAY DECEMBER 6TH, 10AM TO 2PM
At the Ontario Elks Lodge: 1150 W. 4th St., Ontario, CA
Ride In, Drive In, Walk In * Everyone's Welcome!
Rain or Shine

1,000 Run Pins guaranteed! *Minors must be accompanied by legal guardian*

	10 Frwy San Bernardino	→		
57 Frwy	Central Ave	San Bernardino / 4th	Mountain Ave	15 Frwy
	60 Frwy San Bernardino	→		

The 21st Annual TOY RUN

- ★ **Entry Fee Donation: \$8.00. Plus One New Unwrapped Toy Per Person.**
- ★ **Run Info: Greg Hall**
(909) 915-5300 • Hall21@verizon.net
- ★ **Vendor Info: Leslie Anderberg**
(909) 239-1611 • leslie.anderberg@charter.net

All active Military receives free admission with I.D.

PRINTED BY: PR PRINTING (800) 956-4245

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

JOIN TODAY

EVERYONE WELCOME - ALL RIDERS • ALL MAKES • ALL MODELS

ABATE
of California, Inc.
"Dedicated to Freedom of the Road"
www.abate.org

16th Annual Rally
REGIONAL RALLY
A Family Oriented / Friendly Event

New! Bigger! Better!
LOCATION
Canyon RV Park Campground
24001 Santa Ana Canyon • Anaheim, CA 92808

www.socalregionalrally.com **May 7-8-9, 2010**

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

POSITIVELY NO EARLY ENTRIES

Pool (Free) • Kids Splash Pool (Free) • Mini Store on Site • Full Hook Ups (E/S/W)
Fire pit in all RV Sites • **Full Bathroom & Showers** • Laundry Room on Site • **Grass Camping**
Collector Run Pins (1st 500) • Morning Observation Run • Ride in Judged Bike Show
Bike & People Games Awards & Plaques • Children's Activities • Horse Shoe Tournament
Hourly Merchandise Drawings • 50/50 Drawing • Vendors • Food • Drinks

THE BEST BIKER RUN OF THE YEAR!

D.J. Live Band
National Dust

Win \$200\$ Cash
Sunday (May 9th) Pancake Breakfast Available

\$\$\$ Pre-Registration Cash Drawing \$\$\$
(DO NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT TO WIN)
INFO - STEVE (562) 299-2252

VENDOR INFO - RONDA (909) 770-2430 • E-mail: vendors@socalregionalrally.com

WWW.SOCALREGIONALRALLY.COM Now Accepting **PAYPAL**

Make Checks Payable To: Ida Snyder and Mail Attn: Rally Treasurer, P.O. 3443, Fontana, CA 92334-3443

Mail in Deadline Date: **April 29, 2010** • Pre Registration Guarantees Run Pin

Please Check Applicable Boxes: ☐ Couple ☐ Single / Number of: ☐ Teens: ☐ Kids: ☐ ☐ RV

Please Print Clearly

Name(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____ E-mail: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

PRE REG. ENTRY • Single - \$30.00 • Couple - \$40.00

DAY OF EVENT ENTRY • Single - \$35.00 • Couple - \$45.00

CHILDREN RATES ALL CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT OR ADULT. NATIONAL RESCRIPTIONS • 13-17: \$10.00 • 12 & Under - FREE

***RV RATES** FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED. RESERVATIONS WILL BE LIMITED TO THE FIRST 500 RV'S PER RV - \$60.00 DOES NOT INCLUDE CAMPING ADDITION

RAIN OR SHINE (No Refunds) All Profits Dedicated to Freedom of the Road See reverse side

PR Printing (800) 556-4245

www.abate.org

www.socalregionalrally.com

16th Annual Rally
REGIONAL RALLY
May 7-8-9, 2010

Canyon RV Park Campground Map
24001 Santa Ana Canyon • Anaheim, CA 92808

Anaheim, CA

ABATE RR

WILDERNESS AREA

ANNAHIM CANYON

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DRIVING DIRECTIONS

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.

FROM THE WEST

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.

FROM THE EAST

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.

ABATE LOCAL #1

23rd ANNUAL

POLAR BEAR RUN

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2010

\$12 SINGLES

\$18 COUPLES



RUN PINS FOR
FIRST 100

SCENIC ROUTE
APPROXIMATELY 75 MILES

MERCHANDISE RAFFLE
50/50 RAFFLE

SIGN IN 8:00AM - 10:00AM

BIG JIM'S RESTAURANT

8950 LAUREL CANYON BLVD., SUN VALLEY, CA 91352

CORNER OF SHELTON ST & LAUREL CANYON BLVD

EXIT THE 5 FRWY NORTH OR SOUTH AT SHELTON

ALL MOTORCYCLES WELCOME!!!

JOIN ABATE - RIDE FOR FREE

QUESTIONS CALL: PETER AT (818) 244-9898

SATURDAY
JUNE 19, 2010

CHINO FAIRGROUNDS
5410 Edison Ave.
(at Central Ave.)
Chino, CA 91710



To Benefit Physical
Rehabilitation Services
for Our Nation's Heroes



CAMERON NELSON MEMORIAL RIDE

MOTORCYCLE RIDE & MUSIC FESTIVAL

9 am - POKER RUN 11 am to 5 pm - MUSIC FESTIVAL & BBQ

\$35 per Couple • \$20 per Individual • Ticket Includes Poker Run, Patch, BBQ Lunch and Entertainment

Vendors • Car Show • Bike Show • BBQ • Beer Garden • Bike Games
Poker Run • Raffles • Live Entertainment

MUSIC FESTIVAL



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12 year veterans of the L.A. music scene, Reno Jones brings fresh original R&B and blues music to life with a kickin' rhythm section, tight horns, and a killer female vocalist. www.renojones.com

Festival seating

POKER RUN

\$400 Best Hand & \$200 Low Hand

For general info contact:

Fred Berger 909/576-8294

For vendor info contact:

Mark Simone 909/948-8790

CHAPTER CHALLENGE

\$500

All Motorcycle Chapters Welcome

Rain or Shine

All proceeds benefit Casa Colina Foundation

Tax ID# 95-3655255

WIN! Harley Davidson Motorcycle!



Bike Raffle Tickets

\$10 donation per ticket

Maximum of 5,000 tickets will be sold - a minimum of 2,500 tickets must be sold or a 50/50 raffle will be held in lieu of the drawing. Winner need not be present to win.

Ticket Information

Visit www.casacolina.org or call

909/596-7733, Ext. 2223 or 2218

Visit www.thunderinthehouse.org or

www.casacolina.org for event updates!

*Make and model subject to change.



Casa Colina is the premier provider of physical rehabilitation services to our nation's heroes who reside in Southern California. It is proud to have provided medical care, physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy to many active duty military, veterans, police officers, firemen and first responders from our community.

255 East Bonita Avenue (at Garey), Pomona, CA 91767

Name of Participant(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____

Number of Tickets: _____ \$35 per Couple _____ \$20 per Individual Children ages 12 and under are free!

Total dollar amount for all tickets _____

Payment method: ☐ Check (# _____) made payable to Casa Colina Foundation

☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ AMX ☐ Discover

Name on Credit Card _____ Card # _____

Exp. Date _____ Signature _____

All tickets purchased in advance will be held at the event.

If mailing, send to: Casa Colina Foundation, Thunder in the House, P.O. Box 6001, Pomona, CA 91769-6001



LOCAL NEWS

Local #01 Los Angeles



Hi all! Sunday, November 15: Local 1 is doing their monthly meetings at the Elks Lodge once again (10137 E. Commerce in Tujunga). They serve a nice breakfast and it is reasonably priced.

Today we did the usual stuff – president's remarks, treasurer's report, PAC report, publicity report, run report and membership report. Plus our ever popular Sporty's \$20 give-away.

We also are planning to get members to help out with the Skid Row Toy Run on December 13 and get flyers out for the Polar Bear run that will be held on February 28. We're also going to plan rides to other folk's toy runs.

Have a fun time at ABATE events and get ABATE some new members. Regards, Sporty.

Local #02 Simi Valley



Our 11th meeting of the year, how time flies when you're having fun! We here at Local 2 have our meetings on the second Tuesday of the month at: VFW Post 10049, 4242 East Los Angeles Ave in Simi Valley. We start serving the best \$5 meal in town at 6:45 pm. and our meeting starts at 7:30 pm. Thanks to our volunteer cooks, Jim Kibbe and Denny Mortensen!

After the Pledge of Allegiance, VP Steve Blevens started our meeting (Prez Tom was absent). Our faithful secretary Jane read the minutes, and then we went down the line with all the coordinators reports.

We had three renewals: David Keith, Rick Flores and Mickey and Sheri Bochen-ski. Thanks to you all for keeping ABATE strong.

Our run coordinator, Rick Flores, talked about doing a cheap ride in December; one in which we all support, the 10th annual El Rio Toy Run to Oxnard. We start at our Business member and friend, Arman, County Line Cycles in Simi Valley.

We like to change up our meetings by doing raffle drawings from donated gifts from our brethren, to benefit the winner and especially ABATE. Our membership drawing will roll over because the winner was not present, sorry Kevin, no show, no dough!

We here at Local 2 voted to donate \$100 to the Live Ride Christian Church to bless some families that are in need this Thanksgiving! I find it very interesting that when it comes to charities and charity support, the biker community is always involved. It seems from October to the end of the year there are rides on every weekend, from Northern Cal to Southern Cal and all the in-betweens, there are rides! I think about all the people that count on us at this important time of the year, especially in these times that we bikers stand out, even though people have the wrong misconceptions about us. This goes on thru out the year and is highlighted during the Christmas season, all over America! I will not be dissuaded by the local government or people's opinions about why I love to ride and how I should ride. We, hopefully most of us, are responsible riders with good hearts and we all love our freedoms.

And speaking of freedoms, thanks to all the Veterans and all the soldiers all over the world, this is one Local that appreciates you! PTL norm e. new.

Local #06 San Diego County



What a great weekend we had! We did our Halloween Poker run! Event Coordinator Moe Giacalone busted her buns for two months setting this up, and her efforts really showed. We ended with a party at the American Legion, had good munchies, some really sexy costumes, and even made some bucks for our treasury. Thanks to the BoozeFighters MC who showed up in force, and to all the members who contributed neat stuff for

the Silent Auction, and thanks to everyone who showed up and rode and played. Any one who didn't make it missed a good one.

The next day was the Local 6 monthly meeting. That was another good event and the weather was great! The air was clear enough to see Table Top Mountain which is located at least 50 miles down into Mexico. We had visitors from Local 11 as usual, Sporty Milligan from Local 1 came down, and a large bunch of riders from Local 19 came for the meeting. The different people from our normal crowd had different opinions and different information, and really added to the meeting.

Fran and John preformed Motorcycle Decibel Tests for anyone who was interested in what the sound-reading on their bike was. John gave a report on collisions involving left-turning cars, and Tim Clark reported on a successful meeting that he had with Assemblyman Nathan Fletcher. Snowman gave a report about the annual visit to the Vets in the VA hospital, and Local 6 members contributed \$200 to that project. Snowman has been coordinating these visits for more than 30 years and the Vets are always happy to see us.

We spoke about the State Raffle for a new Harley, and announced that whoever signs up the most new members for Local 6 by our next meeting will win an 8 x 10 professional photograph of themselves and their bike. Our next meeting will be on Sunday, December 6, at noon at Kate Sessions Park in Pacific Beach (San Diego). C'mon down! John.

Local #10 Tuolumne County



Hello everyone from beautiful Sonora, the foothills of Yosemite! Light meeting attendance this month. Everyone is recouping from our Toy Run this past October. Although attendance was down (due to the economy), we were still able to raise enough money to make a donation to our local Interfaith Ministries. We usually donate money, but they are in need of gifts for teenagers so a bunch of us are going shopping and we will be donating the gifts!

We had our meeting at a new location, the Jamestown Hotel. Great meal, with all hamburgers being half-price. Wow, what a deal!

We will be having a Christmas party this year on December 19. Even though it's close to Christmas, this will be a time to relax with friends, have some great food, and socialize.

Fred Niebla won the 50/50, but had to hand almost all of it over because his wife borrowed money from someone for dinner! Sorry Fred. Carol.

Local #11 San Diego County (North)



The November turnout at Oakvale is holding with 30+ members present. The new location at the Oakvale Country Store (just up from the Lodge) worked out very well. Connie had biscuits & gravy, breakfast burritos and coffee ready for us. We held a moment of silence for the victims of the Fort Hood incident. Tim covered phone tree ops and we sold all but one of the remaining "POW/MIA" flags. In memory of Veteran's Day, our Prez Tim Clark bought drinks for all the veterans present. Thanks Tim. The ABATE General Fund and the Lobbyist Fund will again be sent donations.

Tim attended a fund raiser for freshman Assemblyman Nathan Fletcher, Republican San Diego, 75th District (generally I-15 corridor from SD to Escondido, La Jolla and Carmel Valley) and was greeted by Nathan, a biker friendly assemblyman.

Our friend, fellow supporter and rider, Bill Kennedy of Kennedy's Custom Cycles in Oceanside now has his own talk show. Be sure and listen on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:00 pm on KCEO radio 1000 AM.

In addition to hostile legislators, we can report that the cities of Oceanside, Long Beach, Huntington Beach, California and Kingman Arizona are not friendly to bikers.

John and Fran Del Santo of Local 6 kindly tested several bikes for sound levels

LOCAL NEWS

after the meeting. You can see John at the Local 6 meeting in Kate Sessions Park.

Run reminders: the Rez Riders IMC & Viet Nam Vets M/C Pala Toy Run will start at Kennedy's Cycle on December 6 at 11:30 am. Next spring look for the Valentine's Sweetheart Run on February 14. Also, we may hook up with the American Legion Riders in the spring for a Send-Off Party for a fellow rider, a Navy Seal heading for Afghanistan.

Last February, Local 6 member, Janet Hogan, was rear-ended by a drunk driver (and repeat offender Mark D. Clay) and she was seriously injured. Contact John Del Santo of Local 6 at 619-223-0421 for info on what we riders can do to get this flagrant lawbreaker, and potential killer, off the road and in jail. His case is coming up on December 6 in San Diego.

In the 50/50 raffle, Dave Connors won \$50 and donated all \$50 to John to help defray the cost of the US Constitution booklets, and John donated \$20 back to Local 11. Thanks Dave. I want to also thank Jim Fillo for taking these notes at the meeting, as I was with the PGR escorting the casket of SFC David Metzger, KIA in Afghanistan, from Lindberg Field that morning.

Don't forget to use the portal www.goodsearch.com when you run Internet searches. Ride Safe, Jim and Dave.

Local #13 Ventura



Just got back from the Kids-to-Kids Toy Run. While Local 13 doesn't put on its own toy run any longer, we have thrown our support behind this one. Mickey Jones and Nick St. Nicholas were the Grand Marshals, and kept the crowd entertained. These guys are down to earth and never hesitate to help out when they can. Props to Michelle Deinstadt, Vic Alvarez, Dave Blackburn, Richard Dinkins, Becky Walsh and yours truly for coming out and lending a hand. The turn

out wasn't quite what we've seen in the past, but those who didn't make it missed out on a good time and a great opportunity to help out kids in our community that need it.

The Holidays have made it necessary to change some of our meeting dates. November's meeting has been moved up to the 19th, so by the time you read this that'll be history. **December's meeting has been moved up to the 17th.** We're reviving our Xmas potluck event, which is not so much a meeting as a celebration of having made it though another year mostly intact. So, bring a main, side, or dessert dish and let's have a good time.

Chopper Fest is coming up on December 13 at the Ventura Fairgrounds. This is the only event we work security anymore. This adds a nice chunk of change to our treasury, so we need everybody who can lend a hand to come out and work a couple hours. The more that help out, the shorter the shifts anybody has to work. We'll have a booth there ourselves, to get out the word about SB 435 and get petitions signed against it, sell some ABATE motorcycle raffle tickets, and hopefully sign up a few new members.

It is with no little sadness that I tell you of Mike Wolfe's passing. Mike was President of the Los Borrachos MC, a longtime member of Local 13 and a HUGE Dodger fan. Our condolences to Jill and all of Mike's family, and his Brothers & Sisters in LBMC. You'll be missed, Mike.

I just want to close by thanking all of those that have helped keep Local 13 alive this year. We've gained some new members, gotten some old members back and had a fairly successful Callous Cheeks. I am hopeful and confident we can build upon that next year. Happy Holidays everybody. Dave.

Local #14 Alameda County



Thank you all who attended the November meeting. It was a great turn out and we had a decent raffle, thanks to David Grimes and all who donated prizes.

Thank you everyone, especially Animal and Carl Smith for donating to our account. Our account is hanging in there steady. The raffle seems to be our only savior to generate any money. So please, if you attend, bring a raffle prize.

We talked about our Local's elections, but we didn't nominate anyone. If anyone is interested in being a Local officer, especially Secretary, please let us know.

Jessie "Night Train" Lane, our Local membership coordinator, has been working on our Local's website and needs any ideas for a catchy name. So if anyone has any ideas, please let Jessie know.

I really apologize for the weak editorials, but for several months now I've been working ungodly hours and haven't been able to get to the meetings on time and I'm missing out on a lot of information. I honestly don't know when I'll see a break coming anytime soon. So please, if anyone is interested in taking over my position as Secretary/Treasurer, please let me know. Always being late, I just don't feel I can continue and fulfill the duties of my position.

But if no one has any problems with my newsletter, I will diligently continue! So that's it for now. Until we meet again. RIDE SAFE. Franklin

Local #15 Contra Costa County



Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from ABATE Local 15!! Well, Santa will arrive with a bang on December 12 at the Local 15 Christmas party and trap shoot. It is shaping up to be a really good time and is open to any and all Local 15 members, friends, and associates. The party will be

on Saturday, December 12 at the Martinez Gun Club, 900 Waterbird Way in Martinez (Marina Vista exit 680). Trap shooting will be from 5:00 - 6:30 pm. (bring your own shotgun, no guns inside club). Hors 'd oeuvres will be served during the social hour, 5:00 - 7:00 pm. Dinner will be from 7:00 - 8:00 pm. and will include BBQ ball tip and chicken with all the fixins catered by Kinder's. The live band will be there from 6:00 - 10:30 pm. and of course, we will be having a great raffle. And the best part? All of this for only \$25.00 per person, until all of the tickets are sold. If any are left you can buy them at the door. Any questions? Want to help out? Call Bob at (925)586-7376. Donate some raffle prizes. If yours is judged the best of the donated prizes, you will win a one year single membership to ABATE!!

Talk about more great times, Local 15 will again this year be singing Christmas Carols and delivering gifts to a selected nursing home in Antioch on December 19. We will be meeting at the Loveridge IHOP (International House of Pancakes) in Antioch at 9:00 am for breakfast, then next door to Devil Mountain Harley Davidson and at 10:00 am departing for the home. Come join us in delivering some Christmas Joy to some fine folks. It is encouraged, but not necessary to bring a wrapped gift for a resident of the home (blue for a male resident, pink for a female resident.).

On a less jolly note, active participation and contributions to ABATE is one of the very few things which defend against the elimination of motorcycle rights. Did you know that the California legislature seems to perennially consider banning lane splitting and the use of HOV lanes by motorcyclists, that they are still pushing smogging bikes, which would reduce your choices as to after market accessories, and requiring additional safety equipment? Some advocate banning motorcycles totally, or severely limiting engine displacement. ABATE defends motorcyclists against these encroachments through its lobbying efforts and communication with its members. Preserve your rights - support ABATE! Ride Safe, Longrider Mike.

Local #17 Solano & Napa Counties

Continued on page 8

Pac/Lobbyist Report

by Peter Daniels

Has anyone taken the time to actually read the text of SB 435? I hope you have! This proposed bill not only addresses motorcycles but other vehicles too! While it still exempts vehicles manufactured prior to the 1976 model year it does require new requirements to qualify for that exemption.

Currently, if your vehicle was made before 1976 you are not required to have it smog checked. Under the proposed new law all motor vehicles excepted shall be subject to testing and certification requirements as determined by the department. WHAT?

There will be a requirement of proof of insurance as a 'collector vehicle' and proof that the vehicle is 35 years old. The vehicle has to comply with the exhaust emission standards for that vehicle's class and model year as prescribed by the department, and the motor vehicle must pass a functional inspection of the fuel cap and a visual inspection for liquid fuel leaks.

Wow! Ever seen a 35 year old, or older, car without a little oil drip? This sure sounds to me like all these older vehicles are going to be inspected at least once. Do you really

think a large percentage of them are going to pass? Sure sounds like a great way to get a high percentage of older vehicles off the road.



How many of you own old vehicles? Do the thousands of 'old car' clubs know about this? How many of you know folks with old cars? Do they know about this? Hey, there are a lot more of them than us! Start informing these people. Get them involved! They can make a lot more noise than us!

Thanks to those that donated to the PAC fund last month. They are: Locals 10, 14, 17, 19, 21, 23, 24, 27, 28, John Sutherland (L16), Ken Jackson (L8), Michael Bretzing (L60), Ron Sundquist & Rosalinda Holmes (21), Daryl Adams (L21), Carol Mayner (L00) and Jeff Diamond (L6) who also signed up 7 new members recently.

Thanks to those that donated to the Lobbyist fund last month. They are: Locals 1, 5, 6, 10, 11, 14, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 24, 27, 28, 40, Michael Bretzing (L60), John Sutherland (L16), Elmer & Connie Simeon (L27), Rick Mullaly (L60), Ken Jackson (L8), Daryl Adams (L21) Rosalinda Holmes & Ron Sundquist (L21) and Carol Mayner (L00).

Thanks to all that do. To those that don't do, please do!

Rodney

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LOCAL NEWS



December is filled with holiday festivities starting off with the Festival of Trees at the Vacaville Skating Center, located at 551 Davis Street in Vacaville, where our Local has donated and decorated a tree for auction. You can go see all the trees decorated during the 2009 Festival on Tuesday, December 1 thru Thursday, December 3, 11:00 am to 9:00 pm and on closing day, December 4, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Then on Saturday, December 5, will be our Annual Christmas Party held at the Moose Lodge in Vacaville and the following morning, Sunday, December 6, we will meet back at the Moose Lodge for our Annual Toy Run that will be ending at the American Legion Hall in Dixon.

Next, on December 12, at 9:00 am, is the Wreaths Across America where wreaths will be adorned on the headstones of our nation's Veterans at the Sacramento Valley National Cemetery in Dixon. This event is to remind us of what a grateful nation we have and how much has been sacrificed to preserve our freedom.

Our final meeting of the year will be held on Sunday, December 20. We would like to give a special thanks to our board members this year; Elmer "Smitty" Smith president, Scott "Scooter" Leech vice president, Jim Schlachter treasurer, Alexis Blizard secretary, Ron Vonsild membership, Curtis "Weasel" Fusion and Roddy Blizzard run coordinators. Thank you for all the time you gave us this year and for volunteering. Happy Holidays! Michele

Local #19 Pomona Valley

I want to start by saying "Thank You" to John Del Santo and ABATE Local 6 for inviting us down to San Diego to join them at their meeting and get our bikes tested to the new noise level standard SAE J2825. It seems that we had only one motorcycle that actually passed this test that measures the sound level at twenty inches from the exhaust pipe. Of course, that set of pipes was stock without any modification. That was enough to convince us we have to continue to fight against this one.

Our member news wasn't very good. One of our Business Members, Eddie C., was rear-ended but is doing fairly well. He's recovering from bumps and bruises and the bike has some damage but he'll be alright. John B., our liaison with Pomona Valley Harley Davidson, caught some kind of bug but dropped by to leave gift certificates from the dealership for our raffle. One of our former members, Rory Duke, was in a much more serious accident and has been in a coma with head injuries. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Rory and his wife, Linda. On a positive note, Pete N. announced his son Daniel is getting married. Daniel is currently serving in the US Navy.

Robert talked about matching funds that the AMA received from the US Government for a Safety Study in Oklahoma. The study will cost much more than what has been received so it will be smaller than expected. He also spoke about a Distracted Drivers Summit that the State of California is looking into. Steve urged us to continue correspondence against SB 435 and noted that petitions are on the ABATE website. It was also noted that there are on-line Risk Management Courses for certification to keep up on our AMA insurance.

Our barbeque picnic turned out great. There were approximately 40 people that attended and resulted in one renewal and three new members! Diane and Joni thanked everyone for their help and Robert was thanked for acquiring the meat for the grill. We want to do this again soon.

There is a lot going on this time of year; toy runs, poker runs and even a Fire Fighters Run coming up for ABATE Local 8. Most of these events are for charities and it's great to be able to share with others. Attend the ones you can, be as safe as possible and as always, keep the shiny side up! Ed.

Local #21 Antelope Valley



Well, well, five people showed for our last meeting before the toy run. It was a good one, I hope, although it hasn't happened yet it's over now.

\$85 pitched and gone to the state office. Want to thank Richard for hauling Glen around (our run master coordinator). Yah! Without Glen there would be no runs. Looking back, I always thought that Kerry the roofer was the master mind. But I now see the light.

Thanks to Ron (president) and Roz for their normal generous pitch and for their help at the run. Thank you, Mark, for the nuts. Also was good to see Scott at the moose meeting.

Hope I saw all my good buddies at the toy run. Daryl.

Local #22 South Bay



At Walker's Cafe on a cool November evening we lost our corner of the cafe to an impromptu family reunion so we took our gathering to the sidewalk. (Not sure if the cook realized that was why no one ordered dinner; respect goes both ways).

We welcomed our newest member, Larry (IBEW) and spoke about spreading the word about the bike raffle. Signature sheets against SB 435 are still important and we stressed that the bigger the paper trail, the better, and whether people ride or not they are welcome to sign the signature pages.

Local 22 will have a booth at the Ironworker's runs and try and spread the word of ABATE and sign up new members.

A few local politicians have been given invites to our meetings and only time will tell if they care to hear voices from people who's lives are effected by the decisions they make as our elected officials.

There was talk about getting something together in time for Valentine's Day so stay tuned on that. Good luck to all the Board members who put their name on the line to

give freely of their time. Ride safe and enjoy your holidays. Later, JohnnyO.

Local #23 San Bernardino



First and foremost, I want to welcome our illustrious leader Kevin. Kevin was a little under the weather for about a week, but rumor has it that he's back to his same old ornery self again. Also, I want to wish Snaky, and his wounded wing, a speedy recovery. With that out of the way, on behalf of Local 23, I wish to extend a warm welcome to our fellow ABATE members and readers of the Bailing Wire.

Elections were held during the November meeting and here's how it all played out: Pres - Kevin; VP - Ron; PAC - Bella; and Sec/Tres - Liz. Congratulations to each of you. And people, please don't get confused, these four individuals are NOT the work force of Local 23, they are our leadership. Without the support of ALL members, we as a Local will not be successful with the task at hand. So let's make 2010 a banner year for Local 23. Let's all get involved, help increase membership, bring new ideas to the table and support our leadership and the Mission of ABATE.

A group of us rode over to the Mt. View Totally Kids Center where we helped to ensure that all the arriving motorcycles made it safely into the parking area. The One More From the Heart Run had a fantastic turn out this year, as once again the motorcycle community showed its generosity and compassion for the less fortunate children that call the Mt. View Center their home. Great job HR! And all others that helped make this run happen. And to each and every one of you who, through your support and donations, helped to improve the quality of life for these kids, please give yourselves a well deserved pat on the back.

Local 23 also led the post event Mystery Ride. With 31 bikes in tow, Kevin led us to a pub and grub up in Lytle Creek. I guess the

folks at Animal Crackers didn't take Kevin serious when he set this stop up, plus verified not once, but twice, that we were coming as they had not so much as a hamburger patty in the kitchen when we all arrived. Needless to say, we've all got a few horror stories to tell and won't likely be stopping by Animal Crackers any time soon.

Following our December 6 meeting, we are planning on riding to Local 19's annual toy run, so be prepared and let's have a good turn out.

That's all the news that is news from the land of Local 23. We wish you all a safe and happy Holiday Season and much prosperity in the New Year! Russ.

Local #24 Fresno

32 members gathered at Cedar Lanes for our November meeting. After the Pledge, President Ed asked for a minute of silence to honor Mike Lemon who died. Mike was a long time biker and had owned Mike's in Friant. There is a group ride planned to attend the Celebration of Life for him this Saturday.

We had a quick discussion of the various bills in the legislature that may impact the motorcycle community. SB-435 will be held over and we need to keep an ear to the ground for local political activity for this bill.

Our Highway 180 cleanup day is November 14. Meet at 0900, in Centerville at the Roach Coach. Should only take about two hours at most.

Looking ahead, our Christmas toy run will be December 12. Same format as last year, so start getting toys and canned goods. The Local will buy the turkeys, but donations of \$\$\$ would be greatly appreciated.

Phil reported we have 142 members and 14 business members. Treasury still in fair shape and we will continue our \$300.00 monthly to state ABATE.

Membership drawing of \$40.00 went to Ed Higuera and the 50-50 of \$76.00 was won by Ron. Bruce.

Local #27 Riverside



LOCAL NEWS

Greetings from the Pearl of the Oyster that is the Inland Empire. Well this will be short and sweet, well at least short. As I said last month the Local 27 Poker Run or Not was a very big step towards profitable. We made dough for ABATE of California! If you want the total you have to come to our meeting, I do not want to brag in the BW, but we could make our shares for the year if we let it lay there. But we want to effect change so we'll need more dough.

I might add that of the very few gripes about the Poker Run, there was a serious lack of VOLUNTEER WORKERS from the Local 27 roster to run the event. This is unacceptable folks; you cannot regain or remain FREE without toil. Just throwing some \$\$ at it don't make it happen. When you work for it, you also appreciate it more. I mean it folks, we are down to 61 members, I think, and we had about 15 workers. Most were stuck at their station all day with no relief. A great debt is owed for those who did work and carried the water for the Local. In truth those were the only gripes about the event I know of. So turn to folks, help the Local support the State Organization. That's why we're here, I think?

At the November meeting it was decided to continue with our spring extravaganza the Bare Necessities Run. Practically leaping out of their seats with enthusiasm were Kenny, Jack, and Greg begging to be the committee again. Well we decided to let 'em do it again. Watch for the date and location next month.

Membership gal Ida Snyder made me a nice list of those whose membership is lapsed or lapsing and of course I lost it so I cannot name names, but check your membership card and PLEASE RENEW!!!

Our forefathers made great sacrifices and harsh conditions were endured by so many in forming this Great Nation and bringing the United States of America into being. I wonder, with this heritage, why does ABATE so want for membership and support? Think on this and maybe get a copy of *The Crisis* by Thomas Paine (1737-1809). Let's get energized. We have work to do, as these are "the times that try men's souls" (and girls, too). God Bless, C'ya, HR

Local #28 Lake County

Meeting Place changed to: TJ's Downtown; 370 South Main St.; Lakeport. First Thursday's of the month at 7 pm.

Local #29 Morongo Basin



Hi All! We at ABATE Local 29 want to give a great big THANK YOU to all those people who worked so hard to make this Laughlin run happen. To our trophy sponsors, the Aquarius in Laughlin and to you the people who attended the run THANK YOU. Without the joint efforts of all of you and the hard workers at Local 29 this run would not have been as successful as it was!

All attendees at the Local 29 Laughlin run in October had a great time! It sure was nice to see old faces mixed with the new and everyone enjoying themselves! We had the games for the cards and winners were the high hand and the low hand. Instead of leathers, like we had in prior years, we had a drawing for a spectacular \$500.00 gift certificate! It was won by a rider that came all the way from Yucaipa, CA! There was a 50/50 drawing, won by our own Thomas Bruce of the Local 29 who graciously donated his share of the 50/50 back to the club! Thank You Thomas! Then there was a raffle of a motorcycle lift which was won by Raul G. of the Central Coast, who also won the trophy for the person who traveled the farthest to the event. There was the other raffles for odds and ends of donated gifts - gift certificates for oil changes, Harley t-shirts, gloves, socks, ladies jewelry and etc. all won by various attendees.

The run to Oatman at 11:00 am was terrific! Our ride captain Marty Rapp (and our president) took us round and round the curves down route 66 and into Oatman, where we shopped and refreshed ourselves and had a great time! Then it was back to Laughlin for the bike show. Local 29 gave out several trophies.

A great time was had by all and we can hardly wait til next year for it all to happen again! Remember if you missed it this year, make sure you mark your calendars for the third weekend in October 2010, or drop us a line and we will send you a reminder next year in plenty of time. Thanks again to all!

Please remember this is the Holiday Season! As always please watch out for children and those people who may have celebrated a bit more than they can handle!

The life you save may be your own! Happy Holidays! Miss Lou.

Local #31 North Valley



Hi all from Chico in northern California! We had our monthly meeting last night, November 10. There were 19 members attending plus Lil' Dave from Sacramento. We talked about the up coming fight over smog bill SB 435 and got more names to send in opposition. Also we voted to send state ABATE \$100 for the general fund.

Going to hold next month's meeting at Logan's at Chico Mall, a Christmas meeting and party, starting at 6:30 pm on December 8.

The year has gone so fast, I am looking forward to next year for more success for ABATE. Fight on. Larry James, Local 31 President.

Local #38 Imperial Valley

Greetings and Happy Holidays! Since the Turkey Run took place after the deadline for monthly reports, I would like to take this time to thank all of our sponsors for their donations up to this point.

First our Local would like to thank our host, Lucky Food Market and their staff. Next all the Local 38 members and their families who helped make this possible.

THANK YOU goes out to the following: Region 12 Locals 6, 11 & 38, Advanced Eyecare, Alford's Distributing Company, Autotone, Blue Knights X, Bob Baker Chevrolet, Bobby's Territorial Harley Davidson, Brunswick Zones, Burgers & Beers, California Correctional Peace Officers Association, City of El Centro, City of Imperial, Connie's Oakvale Lodge, El Cajon Harley-Davidson, El Centro Motors, Escobedo's Body Shop, First Imperial Credit Union, Frank's Graffiti, Golden Acorn Casino, Hacienda Snack Bar, Hawg Wild Motorcycles, Hot Rods & Beers, Imperial Valley Cycle Cen-

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Take care and have a safe and happy holiday season. Eddie Aranda, President ABATE Local 38

Local #44 High Desert



Well, it's December and another year has gone by the way side. Let's see what has happened in Local 44 this past year. We have had a couple of Baseball nights at Maverick Stadium, a couple of petition signing nights and days throughout the local bike scenes in the High Desert. Local 44 has seen a number of new and renewing members sign up. A great Local 44 Poker Run, and also a fantastic State Run up in Kernville. The Regional Rally was a lot of fun even though it didn't make any money. A lot of info has been sent out by our Pres. (Gary, thanks). Had a lot of fun at the Halloween campout at Mojave Narrows. Bob, had a bunch of rides after the meetings through the year and Jerry did a wonderful blood sucking job (a little pun there Jerry), way to go Jerry. We had our normal hecklers at our meeting complaining and not helping (but at least they show up and show some support). I was late or forgot to get the information out to the Bail-Wiring Wire (Oh well!) a couple of times. BUT MOST OF ALL, Local 44 is still a strong, friendly, active, and informative motorcycle rights group. It has always been a pleasure being a member of this Local and I hope that more new members such as George, Chris-

tina, Herman, Irene, Brad to name a few, find that being an officer of this Local is very rewarding and fulfilling at times. I am also happy to see old friends coming back to the round table of officers (i.e.: Dave, Cindy, Don, both Bob's and Cynthia). With their knowledge and love for our continuing fight for our rights I know that Local 44 will keep moving upward and forward. See you all at the next meeting.

Jeff Ozanne

Local #47 Barstow



Howdy All! Local 47 is happy to say our Devil's Playground ride went well, thanks to our friends and supporters. Special thanks goes to Henry James, good job Bro!

OK, so it's been another year of ABATE runs and rides, hope you all had FUN. Local 47 is already making plans for another fun filled year in 2010.

See you at the Board meeting in January. Now get out there and support ABATE! HAPPY NEW YEAR! Yermoeddy.

Local #52 Grass Valley



SB 435 is still a threat. If you haven't signed the petition, please do so we can get them sent off to Carol Cromwell at the state office. A downloadable copy is on the ABATE of CA website. Print it off and get it signed. Our lobbyist, Jim Lombardo, said to keep sending them in until he says stop.

Upcoming events include the Nevada County Food and Toy Run on December 12

LOCAL NEWS

and our Local 52 Christmas Party on December 16. Ride safe, Gunner.

Local #58 Ridgecrest

Seasons Greetings from Local 58! This will be a short report. It's that time of year and Local 58 is getting ready for its annual food basket deliveries to benefit the less fortunate among us. Every year Local 58 adopts four families from the surrounding communities of Trona, Red Mountain, Inyokern, as well as Ridgecrest and we deliver food baskets for Thanksgiving and Christmas, as well as providing presents for the children. This is always a heartwarming event for Local 58 members, and the families always enjoy the motorcycles when we show up. It also makes for a nice ride as the entire delivery encompasses about an 80 mile ride, which will finish in Inyokern.

Additionally, we are getting ready for our annual Christmas party at Mickey's Pub and we will be extending invitations to many folks from

surrounding Locals and other motorcycling organizations. For those of you who have never attended one of Local 58's Christmas parties, it is always a great time with lots of good food, great music, and it is a time to come together as a family of friends joined together in a common cause. Hope we see some of you there!

Additionally, it is also time for our Local's elections. Local 58 has had some new people step up to run for office and it looks like it will prove to be a good year in 2010. Tom Lara and Lora Lee Connally are two of the new folks who have volunteered to run for officer positions in Local 58 and I would like to thank them for their dedication and commitment to ABATE. I would also like to thank outgoing President Darryl McGee for his years of dedication, commitment, and service to Local 58.

As we head into the festive Holiday season and New Year celebrations, I would like to remind everyone to ride safe and sane. Keep the rubber on the road and the shiny side up and we'll see you again in the first 2010 issue with updates from the Mojave Desert and ABATE Local 58. Ride safe and ride free, ~tony~

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Sporty's Rides

by Lee 'Sporty' Milligan

Greetings all! I will begin to summarize the adventures of me, Mr. Sporty. I shall begin with my adventure to Local 20 and 8's Halloween ride. Of course it is a journey just to get to the Starting Gate where the run begins. It is a poker run so we have various stops along the way. The first couple of stops were pretty easy to find, but check point three I kept getting mixed up. The directions were to get to the Harley Davidson dealer in Westminster, but I kept going the wrong way. So I might have needed map quest, but alas I kinda just stumbled into it. Once again we were at Cook's Corner to end the ride. It was packed as usual. There was Gill Mellen manning the ABATE booth and as usual doing a yeoman's job at it. ABATE needs about a dozen more like him to scour for members. Good job, Gill, as always. Local 8's crew was manning the ABATE raffle booth. Good stuff to win as usual.

The crowd there still had folks that don't know about the smog bill, SB 435. So I got them to sign the "No on SB 435" petition sheets I had with me. Oh, there were some tasty ladies dressed in costumes that were very nice. Yeaks! So I had an enjoyable time. Congrats to the crews at Local 8 and 20. Fun, fun, fun! The ride home wasn't too bad either.

During this time of the year I go to Fontana to help prepare for the Southern Regional Rally (another one of my many ABATE hats that I wear is Regional Rally Raffle Booth Chairman). So be prepared to be asked to help out on this run in the coming months. We have a new location and it is much better



then last year's location. But that will be for another time and column. Back to the point now: When we go to these meetings at Ida Snyder's house, she makes lunch and it is something that even I can eat. Yea baby! So we conducted business and it's all good. On the way home I usually stop in Pasadena at the Mobil station at Lake off the 210 fwy. Coffee break is usually the order so that is what I take. I choose decaf as my coffee

choice. Yea sometimes the diet I have to be on since my heart attack sucks, but never the less it is something I have to stick to or else.

The next day, November 8, I finally went to Honda Ray's run, One More From the Heart. It was at the Totally Kids hospital in Loma Linda. Long ride, but worth the trip. It is good that I can help out these kids with a money donation. Honda Ray talking on the mike when he spotted me and shamelessly embarrassed the hell out of me by elevating my status in ABATE to "celebrity". Gosh! Now I have more to live up to. After the event at Totally Kids, we went up the 215 to the 15 fwy and then some windy roads to a sports bar. I am on the rig so the windy roads were a work out big time. Yeaks! Stayed there about an hour and then headed for home. You know the drill: Ride so far, stop for coffee etc.

Final note of this month's column: I have been taking the rig out on weekends and driving the 1200 low to work and starting my truck occasionally to keep the battery charged. Look for me to show up at your meetings to rant about the Polar Bear run coming February 28, 2010. More film on that in future columns.

We (Local 1) had our monthly meeting November 15 to plan stuff, to talk turkey and plan the toy runs we're going to attend. With that said, put a fork in me, I am done. Regards, Sporty.

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Compiled & Edited by Bill Bish
BAD DRIVING IS IN THE GENES: Medical researchers say they've unraveled the mystery to bad drivers, and their genetic makeup may be to blame. A study recently published in the journal of Cerebral Cortex led by University of California Irvine, neuroscientists found that people with a certain gene variation performed more than 20% worse on a driving test than those without the gene and they also retained less of what they had learned.

About 30% of Americans have the particular gene variant, though a test to determine whether someone has the gene variant is not commercially available.

"This gene variant limits the availability of a protein called brain-derived neurotrophic factor during activity," according to the senior author, Dr. Steven Cramer, neurology associate professor at UCI. "BDNF keeps memory strong by supporting communication among brain cells and keeping them functioning optimally. When a person is engaged in a particular task, BDNF is secreted in the brain area connected with that activity to help the body respond."

Earlier research had found that in those individuals with the gene variant "a smaller portion of the brain is stimulated when doing a task than in those with a normal BDNF gene."

The driving test was taken by 29 people - 22 without the gene variant and seven with it. They were asked to drive 15 laps on a simulator that required them to learn the nuances of a track programmed to have difficult curves and turns. Researchers recorded how well they stayed on the course over time. Four days later, the test was repeated.

Results showed that people with the variant did worse on both tests than the other participants, and they remembered less the second time.

"I'd be curious to know the genetics of people who get into car crashes," Cramer said. "I wonder if the accident rate is higher for drivers with the variant."

INCREASED MOTORCYCLIST DEATHS
BLAMED ON BAD ECONOMY: Since gas prices increased, experts say more inexperienced riders have hit the road -- literally.

Because of the fuel efficiency of motorcycles, more drivers are switching from four wheels to two, and what used to be a symbol of freedom and adventure is now also a symbol of thriftiness. "Last year, our sales were the best we ever had for 33 years," said Al Lamb, owner of Dallas Honda, pointing out that bike sales peaked last year before dipping and rising again this year.

But Dr. Fernando Wilson, a professor at the University of North Texas Health Science Center, said for every dollar increase in gas prices, 1,500 more motorcycle riders die each year nationwide.

Some say car drivers need to hang up their cell phones and pay more attention, but many bikers attribute higher crash rates to the influx of new, inexperienced riders on the road.

COAST TO COAST BIKER NEWS

"If you mess up on a motorcycle, it's probably a lot more tragic than in a vehicle," motorcyclist Stephen Dutcher told TV-33 News, recommending that new riders should get trained beyond state testing requirements. "I would recommend everyone to take the Motorcycle Safety Foundation course."



MOTORCYCLE SALES ARE RUNNING OUT OF GAS: Last year, fuel-efficient motorcycles proved to be a viable option for motorists facing higher and higher gas prices, but following more than a decade of steadily increasing sales figures, the economic downturn has caught up to bike makers.

For 14 years, through 2006, U.S. motorcycle sales had increased every year. Sales started to drop in 2007 but still topped the 1 million mark.

A year ago, as gas prices pushed toward \$5 a gallon, fuel-sipping two-wheelers got a boost. Despite the worsening economy, street bike sales were down only 3.3% in 2008 and smaller scooters enjoyed their best year ever, posting a 41.5% gain, according to the Motorcycle Industry Council.

Now, little seems to be working for motorcycle manufacturers as sales have plunged 38% in the third quarter from the same period a year ago (falling from 218,242 last year to 136,876), with the biggest drops coming in two of the industry's biggest product lines: cruisers and sport bikes. Scooter sales are also down 62% through the first three quarters of 2009.

The only bright spot was that sales are dropping at a slower pace: The number of bikes sold in the second quarter fell 53.5% from the same period a year earlier. Historically, the second and third quarters are strong for the industry because the weather generally is warm and buyers are gearing up to ride, according to an article appearing in the Chicago Tribune.

Despite a federal stimulus that allows bike buyers to write off the sales tax, sagging sales

have prompted bike builders to begin cutting staff and other expenses.

Last week, publicly held Harley-Davidson Inc. reported an 84% drop in quarterly earnings to \$26.5 million. The company said it was getting out of the sport-bike business, shutting down the longtime Buell line and selling its MV Agusta operation, a high-end Italian brand it bought last year.

Already this year, the Milwaukee manufacturer joined the likes of Honda, Kawasaki, Yamaha, Suzuki and Victory in laying off employees, reducing production and dropping prices to help dealers shrink swollen inventories.

Mark Blackwell, vice president of Victory Motorcycles, which suffered a 56% decline in the July-September period, told the Los Angeles Times "We haven't laid everybody off. We haven't totally stopped advertising. We've kept up the product development because we're positioning this business for when the market stabilizes and grows."

Harley-Davidson and Victory, a division of Polaris in Minnesota, hope to stem U.S. losses, in part, by growing overseas sales. Harley is pursuing emerging markets such as India and China; Victory is going after Europe.

But with the riding season over for much of the country, summer 2010 can't come fast enough for the industry.

NEW MOTORCYCLE EMISSIONS STANDARDS TAKING EFFECT: As 2010 motorcycles hit dealer showrooms, new EPA emissions standards will be making them greener... both environmentally and economically.

Starting next year when stricter Environmental Protection Agency guidelines on motorcycle emissions come into effect for all new two and three-wheelers built or sold in the U.S., the EPA projects a 50% reduction in pollutants emitted at their tailpipes -- but such drastic reductions come with a bigger price tag: According to a 2003 EPA report, the average estimated cost per highway motorcycle to meet the 2010 standards is \$45, which is likely passed along to consumers. At the same time, motorcyclists are likely to save money at the pump as the new technology brings with it better fuel efficiency.

Increased use of technologies demonstrated as effective in 4-stroke motorcycle engines, such as the catalytic converters, secondary air injection and electronic fuel inject systems, are expected to decrease harmful emissions, according to a 2003 EPA report. The report also reads, however, that the standards will not result in universal use of catalytic converters.

Catalytic converters are pollution control devices that reduce nitrogen oxides, hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide, and while not specifically required by the EPA rules, catalytic converters will have a hand in reducing emissions in the new standards.

"We already have the 2010 models coming in, and they all have the catalytic converters on them," Steve Tuchschildt Sr., owner of Mid-America Harley Davidson, told the Columbia Missourian newspaper. "That's new."

The more stringent EPA standards won't affect existing motorcycles. The emissions limits will only apply to motorcycles and scooters manufactured after the effective date.

PHOENIX SEEKS EXEMPTION FROM MOTORCYCLE EMISSIONS TESTING:

The state of Arizona is asking the federal government to lift emissions testing requirements for motorcycles in the Phoenix metro area.

Following prolonged and extensive lobbying by statewide motorcycle rights organizations, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality has petitioned the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to exempt motorcycles from such testing.

According to lobbyists for ABATE of Arizona, the Modified Motorcycle Association (MMA) of Arizona and the Arizona Confederation of Motorcycle Clubs (ACMC), Phoenix is the only major metro area in the U.S. where motorcycles are required to be tested for emissions. The biker advocacy groups have already fought successfully to exempt motorcycles from emissions testing in the Flagstaff area, and several years ago the Kentucky Motorcycle Association succeeded in exempting motorcycles from such testing.

According to the Phoenix Business Journal, the ADEQ said motorcycles make up only 3.5 percent of vehicles tested in the Valley and not only are emissions failure rates among motorcycles down; repairs to put them in compliance do not substantially help air quality.

The EPA requires metro areas and regions of the U.S. with air pollution and air quality problems to test cars, trucks and other vehicles for emissions. EPA would need to approve an exemption before next July for it to take effect.

NYC MAYOR CONTRIBUTES TO GLOBAL ROAD SAFETY: New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg is donating \$125 million to road safety programs in middle and low income countries.

Bloomberg gave \$9 million in 2007 to a pilot program on road safety in Vietnam and Mexico, and his latest gift expands the effort to a 5-year program in eight other countries that have high numbers of traffic injuries and fatalities.

His philanthropic foundation announced that the donation will help efforts to reduce speeding and drunken driving, and increase the use of motorcycle helmets, child seats and seatbelts.

QUOTABLE QUOTE: "For years governments have been promising more than they can deliver, and delivering more than they can afford." Paul Martin (1938 - ?), 21st Prime Minister of Canada.

Concerned Citizen -- Don't Touch that Helmet!

by Lee Anne Hensley

(Hilltop Times staff)

November 5, 2009

True or false: When a motorcycle rider is lying injured on the ground after being involved in an accident, concerned bystanders should remove his or her helmet to increase the injured rider's comfort level. If you answered "true," you may be responsible for that rider's untimely death.

The Hill Air Force Base Motorcycle Safety Program is actively spreading the message to all motorists that, although it may seem as if removing a rider's tight-fitting helmet would reduce medical complications to the head and increase the injured rider's psychological and physical comfort levels, the opposite is actually true.

To illustrate this point, two employees of the 523rd Electronic maintenance Squadron shared personal accounts that happened within the past two months that had two different outcomes.

Avionics worker, Bobbi Bare, disclosed her nephew's accident which happened last month on a highway in San Diego, Calif. Witnesses of the Late-night accident sought to help the injured 19-year-old by removing his helmet before emergency crews arrived.

"They thought they were doing the right thing but probably separated his spinal cord while pulling (the helmet) off," Bare recalled. "I was told that, because he was alive and semi-alert on scene until the helmet was removed, doctors determined that removing the helmet was most likely the cause of

death. He may have survived if they had immobilized his head instead of pulling off the helmet."

Then there is the incident that Aircraft Electrical Actuator Planner Stan Carl experienced while riding his motorcycle home from work. A collision with a merging car separated Carl from his motorcycle. He attempted to stand up after hitting the ground, but was prevented from moving by two female bystanders. While one woman immobilized Carl's helmeted head on the ground, the other lifted his visor, removed his sunglasses and checked his eyes for signs of shock.

"That is when I realized they must have had some medical experience," Carl said. "The women released my helmet when the medical personnel arrived and placed a collar on my neck. The helmet was only removed at the hospital and the collar was removed a short time later, after the doctor was sure there was no life-threatening injuries to my neck or back."

Carl said the accident provided him a better understanding of what a bystander should and should not do for a motorcyclist in an accident. "I know most people want to make a fallen rider more comfortable, but removing the helmet, any safety equipment or clothing could be very dangerous. Also, the helmet is a lot more comfortable than having my head lying on the pavement."

Jack Deschner, a Unit Motorcycle Safety coordinator for the 309th Maintenance Wing, provides additional tips for witnesses at an accident site. "Remain calm and keep

your head straight, someone needs to be in charge until emergency help arrives," he advised.

Additionally, Deschner says to make a thorough scene assessment to see what details were involved and to ensure that no one is in a potentially unsafe position. Then, he warns never to move an accident victim, unless it is absolutely required to keep the victim alive, and never remove the victim's personal protective clothing, including the riders' helmet. "There are no perfect accidents," he said. "Do what you can, the best that you can, with an intelligent approach."

The Motorcycle Safety Foundation has its own outline of key messages for drivers, with an eye toward protecting one particular vulnerable party -- motorcyclists: 1] Look for motorcyclists -- use your eyes and mirrors to see what's around, and check the blind spots when you're changing lanes or turning at intersections. Look, and look again. 2] Focus on driving -- hang up the phone, put down the MP3 player, settle the passengers, and drive. 3] Use your turn signals -- signal your intentions for everyone's safety. 4] Give two-wheelers some room -- Don't tailgate or pass too closely. 5] Take your time -- nothing is as important as the safety of your loved ones, yourself, and the others with whom you share the road.

All these principles can be boiled down to this paraphrase of the Golden Rule -- drive near others as you would have others drive near you.

The 75th Air Base Wing Motorcycle Safety Program Manager, Allan Woods, re-

ports that, despite the two incidents previously recalled, Hill AFB consistently has a low motorcycle accident rate with its riders. Woods attributes this low record to four important factors. "The 75th Air Base Wing Safety Office offers quality Motorcycle Safety Foundation Training to our base riders, which is provided by our staff of well-trained volunteer RiderCoaches, free of charge throughout the riding season each year.

"Secondly, we are fortunate to have the Hill Riders Association which serves as our mentorship program and offers an every-Saturday ride to help our riders continue polishing their safe riding skills. The Hill Riders have successfully completed 310,000 accident-free miles as a group, which is extremely impressive for group riding statistics.

"Thirdly, majorities of our riders have a lot of experience and appreciate riding as a way of life and have a high level of respect for the dangers and hazards of the road. Staying in tune with the dangers and hazards of the road and paying full attention while riding will help us to grow to be very old riders, which is one of my personal goals.

"Lastly, we have more than 40 Unit Motorcycle Safety Coordinators on base. This is similar to the Voluntary Protection Program for the base motorcycle community. All motorcycle safety information is sent to our UMSCs, who ensure all riders in their organizations have the opportunity to receive all of the information that I send out regularly throughout the riding season."

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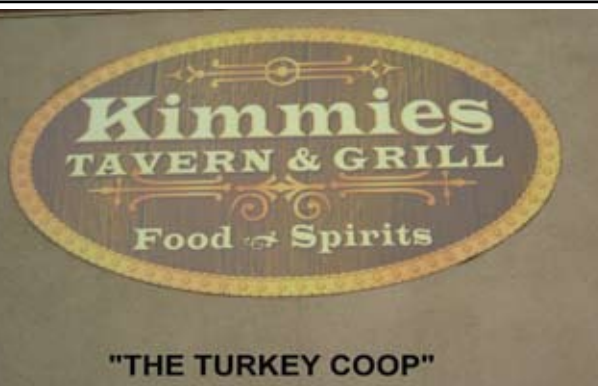
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ABATE STATE Run Pics

Pics by Gill Mellen, Hank Hallmark, & Tony Jaime





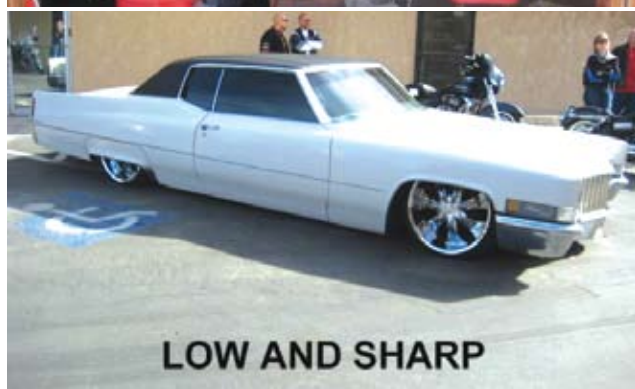
Local 24's Turkey Run by Bruce

Clovis, CA, Saturday, November 7, 2009: Local 24 reports a large flock of "turkeys" was sighted on Main Street this morning. The flock of more than seventy was gathered at Kimmie's, a local food and drink spot. Some wondered why they gathered there as the weather was perfect for "flying" being cool with only a slight breeze.

Soon the flock flew the coop and headed to the Madera countryside looking for another spot. Sighting the Smoking Coal they landed and settled for a while. Too soon it seemed the leader shouted "Two Minutes" and the flock took flight again. Circling towards the West the Tackle Box Too came into view and they came to another stop.

As the sun dropped in the West, the flock took flight once more heading towards the mountains. As the sun dropped lower the La Cantina beckoned and they came to rest. Just before dark a fine catered Mexican dinner from El Pueblito arrived and all were content. After dinner many fine prizes were raffled off and a 50/50 of \$126.00 went to a lucky turkey.

A special thanks to our new business members who provided hospitality at the run stops and all the donated raffle items. A really big thanks to Chuck Kallas for sharing La Cantina with us again. Hey Chuck, the new tables, booths and lounge seating were great. (But is this still a biker hang-out with soft seats?)





Local 47's Devil's Playground Run





Local #21's Toy Run



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



Tech Tips By Craig Griswold

Carburetors

A few months back, I wrote a series on EFI performance. While fuel injection is now the rule, there are still plenty of carburetors out there. This next series will cover some carb basics as well as specific tuning procedures for a few of the most common (and maybe a few uncommon) carburetors.

There are three basic circuits in most carburetors. They are defined in function

by their effect on the RPM range. Different manufacturers will use different terminology to identify these circuits. The first is the idle or pilot circuit. This controls fuel delivery at idle and just off idle. The primary adjustment for tuning the idle circuit is the air/fuel mixture screw. Depending on design, opening the mixture screw will either add fuel or air during adjustment. We'll clear this up when we discuss tuning procedures. In most cases, at least one jet is used in conjunction with the a/f screw to regulate the idle circuit.

Next is the intermediate or mid-range circuit. This circuit runs the show just off idle to approximately 3000 RPM. As before, this range can vary depending on the carb. Just to make it clear as mud, some manufacturers use throttle position for tuning reference, some use RPM and occasionally actual speed over ground is thrown in there. The intermediate circuit can utilize jets and or needles for fuel metering.

The third circuit is the main circuit. This controls delivery where the intermediate leaves off all the way to WFO. In most cases, the main is controlled by a jet.

Most modern carburetors also utilize an accelerator pump. This device provides a shot of fuel when the throttle is opened. The initial demand for fuel is usually greater when the throttle is opened fast. The idle circuit alone cannot provide enough fuel under this condition, and the engine will stumble and cough through the intake due to a lean condition.

In our next column, we'll explain the tuning procedure for the S&S Super E/G carburetors.

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

One More From the Heart

by Honda Ray

Well once more the "Dregs of Society" have proven themselves not quite so dreggy. Those who mustered in at the Chopper Place were a might fewer this year. We had a dozen and a half donuts left over; we have not had leftovers since '96. I'm not convinced that we've lost our taste for the little fat pills and turned health conscious, we were fewer. Once the organized chaos motored out from the Chopper Place, competently led by the POBOB MC with, whom other than, Pastor Jose of the Paid In Full MM, providing escort and road guard duties to the 91 to the 215 to the 10 and off at Mt. View we found we were not so few after all. Some good friends who I've incessantly nagged for years to come out finally did, and they now understand. Even Sporty made it this year! I'll look for his review. Bet we see 'em next year. Even with their new parking lot, we were still rather squished in.

Doreen, Gill and the Starting Gate crew get there ahead of us to unload their booty unhindered by a crowd. That Doreen is one heck of a gal. She has put on a bike night every week of the year for years now and is successful with it and raises a small amount for various charities. We are grateful she has embraced our little Run.

As we walked toward the "Kids Garden" area we were met with "Tunes" put out there by none other than Paul & Jan Thomas of ABATE Local 23/PR Printing and "Just Party Time" mobile DJ service. How the hell did they get time to have and raise 3 daughters too? Paul and Jan have graciously printed close to a bazillion fliers for this Run over the years and now they're going to DJ it forever, right Jan? Wow what givers!

There is no way I could even attempt to name and thank all of you TRULY GREAT AND KIND folks that come out year after year to help support this facility, it does tend to get into yer skin. You folks are truly the STARZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZ!

Oh, of course, some were missing and I'm sure they have viable excuses and once checked out they will be allowed to return. I must admit to a bit of reflecting this year. I've been meeting Joseph Valona at the El Torrito at Weir Canyon & the 91 for 9 years and we always have the same bartender, until this year. It was 10 years ago that John McDonald, myself and Nick Young stood outside after Local 20's meeting talking about how much Sara Romspert would be missed at that year's TK Run, then Nick "went over" on his way home from the Run. Then Basil joined them as well as Beverly and let's not forget Donny Wayne and Andy Black. Many have moved away too. But "we" keep rollin along! It was great to see Splatt and Wild Child with their daughter, we should call Child as she is under 18. Lovely Robin Graff from Local 5 gave me some IMO Patches for Beverly Lieswald so if anyone out there is in need; I'm easy to find'n I got 3. I suppose if something happened to me, I would hope the next TK could be my memorial. That would be nice. Wow, how gloomy.

It was really nice to leave behind us \$7,700.00 in cash and checks and as usual a "Whole gyrooskus pile of stuff from the wish list". And I think good will was felt by all. God Bless us every one!

Kevin & Bea Sorrell of Local 23 put together the Mystery Ride this year which went to a real nice location up Lytle Creek Canyon just to the side of Devore. Too bad the folks who own Animal Crackers seemed to not take Kevin too seriously as they were completely overwhelmed by the 40-60 bikes that showed up. Food was very slow in coming, but we all managed to still have a good time - at least I did! Kevin felt soooooo bad but it's not his fault. Thanks Kevin & Bea for the effort!

Well in closing, I gotta say, I just got a call from someone from Orange County about next year! So I guess it's on! Thank you all soooooo much and the second Sunday of November 2010 we'll be at it again. C'ya, HR



HR's "One More From The Heart" Run

by Spike, Local #20

Once again local bikers showed how much they care and just how big their hearts are by sharing their time, money and much needed contributions with the needy children at the Mt. View Child Care Center. Now called Totally Kids Specialty Health Care, this is a facility with great staff that cares for fragile infants, children and young adults up to 21 years old, that are disabled or technology dependent.

The annual gathering of bikers is a welcome visit to the center, as little public funding leaves much room for improvement in the support of this wonderful facility. As well as the separate TV/DVD fund raiser, the bikers contributed to the much desired "wish list", including educational supplies and toys, technology support such as batteries, CD's, radios with headphones, bedding items, furniture and clothing. The individual cash donations help with specialty needs.

A complete cross-section of the biker community was represented. MC patch holders from local clubs, Motorcycle Ministries, ABATE Locals and lots of supporting independents arrived at the facility and were welcomed by friendly staff to a much appreciated reception of coffee, juice, doughnuts and muffins.

Two large organized groups rode in from the 'Chopper Place' in Riverside and the 'Starting Gate' in Los Alamitos. This year as a medical precaution the children were brought out to meet the bikers rather than all the bikers touring the corridors and individual rooms. After meeting with staff and children and listening to the music of Mobile DJ, dominated by JPT, the microphone was passed to staff and key figures.

The run is a no frills event, no pins, no tee shirts, no celebrities or sign-in fees, "Just a nice thing to do". 100% of all donations go to the center. The staff graciously thanked the bikers and informed us how our donations helped and gave us an update on some of the facility improvements and goals. We also got an update on some of our children from previous visits. Sadly, there were some losses of these brave little characters, due to their tragic medical conditions, but there were also some joyous victories of children battling their disabilities and even being adopted into caring, supporting homes.

Any further contributions to help the special needs of these very dependent children are welcomed and can be made directly to the center - checks payable to "Kids 4 Ever", their nonprofit entity.

Many, many thanks to HR who has been putting on this run forever and all the helpers, too. And "Thank you" to the facility and very special staff of Totally Kids for their hospitality. I'll be there next year for this very worth cause. Ride safe. Cheers, Spike.



The Membership Committee Announces It's 11 th ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

HERE's HOW YOU CAN WIN ...

The Individual who signs up the most members will win ...

First Place - \$300.00

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The Rules:

- 1.No Minimum number of memberships required to qualify.
- 2.The campaign begins January 1, 2009 and ends December 31st 2009. Only NEW Memberships received by the State Office on or between these dates will qualify for campaign-credit. Memberships submitted or POSTMARKED before January 1st or after December 31st will not be included.
- 3.You must be a current member of ABATE of California to participate.
- 4.Your name must be included as the source on each application you submit, and it is YOUR responsibility to promptly confirm that your name is included on applications phone/fax/mailed by you.
- 5.The person credited with the highest number of NEW memberships will be awarded the top prize. In the event of a tie, the winner shall be selected by a random drawing to be conducted by the Membership Committee.
- 6.WINNERS of the Membership drive will be announced and receive their Prizes at the ABATE State Board Meeting in January 2010.
- 7.All Membership types are considered equal for the purposes of credit. No extra credit will be given for Couple, Gold Business or Life Memberships.
- 8.Membership Committee Members and their family members are not eligible to win.
9. Renewals do not count as new membership for the campaign.
10. The Local that retains their current members as of January 1st to the end of the campaign and gains 50 new members by December 31st will win a personal bonus of \$75.00 from the Membership Chairman – Sporty!
- 11.All decisions of the Membership Committee are final.

GOOD LUCK AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Membership Committee Chairman –Sporty 818/361-8800

Membership Report

by Lee 'Sporty' Milligan,
Membership Chairman

Hi all! This is the last report before the 2009 Membership drive is over. If you have been participating in the drive great, an influx of new members goes a long way to help the general fund and make this fine organization grow. We're not getting any younger, so it is important to begin to get a youth movement going.

Final reminder for this year on the trinkets; please reward your renewing members with a small token of your appreciation with the renewal trinket. As you have heard me chime on and on

about, this is simple and shows the renewing member that you care.

I would like to hear your membership success stories. We, as a group, can benefit when we share ideas that you have been doing to increase or at least sustain your membership numbers. The state office has the necessary items to help in your quest to make your Locals run better and please don't hesitate to email me at mrsportyiii@yahoo.com for all your membership needs or questions.

Remember there is unity and strength in numbers of members. Regards, Sporty.

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by Tim Tennimon, Executive Director

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ABATE thanks you for your support.



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by Steve Kaweck, President, Local 19

On November 1, 2009, several of us from Local 19 rode to San Diego to join John Del Santo and Local 6 for their monthly meeting. It is always good to see how someone else does it, but we had an ulterior motive in mind as well. John was talking and giving a demonstration on the newly proposed SAE motorcycle sound test and we wanted to see first hand how our exhausts would measure up to the new standards. Thank you, John, and all the members of Local 6 for your hospitality.

According to what we have read and heard, the new standard was an improvement as it gave an objective standard to measuring sound. According to the AMA, this is a good thing. This standard also increased the allowable sound from 85db to 92 db for a V-Twin at idle. The second part of the test is done at 2000 RPM and the decibel level allowed is increased to 96 db. On the surface, this looks very good for all of us Harley riders. The caveat to this sound test however is that the tests are performed 20 inches from the exhaust at a 45° angle.

There were about 15 bikes tested that fine Sunday afternoon and to all of our surprise only one motorcycle passed the tests,

SAE Testing

and that was a Harley with stock exhaust. Wide varieties of motorcycle exhausts were tested: Vance and Hines, Rinehart, Python, Screaming Eagle, and Supertrapp 2 into 1. The closest exhausts to passing the test were Rinehart slip-ons over stock header pipes and the Supertrapp. They both hovered around 93 db at idle. The Rinehart slip-ons came in at 97 db at 2000 RPM while the Supertrapp came in at 103 db.

The moral of this story is, even with the new standard, any aftermarket exhaust will fail this new test.

The question that must be asked is why are motorcycles being tested at 20 inches, while all other vehicles and power equipment are tested at 35 to 50 feet. As an example, a leaf blower, when tested at ear level, while the leaf blower is being held at arms length tests at 90 db, while tested at 50 feet (the standard method of testing leaf blowers) it tests at 60 db, well within municipal ordinance limits.

This proposed Standard, if adopted, will once again place the motorcycle community at a much harsher standard than the rest of the motor vehicle and power equipment world. We must raise our voices once again before this Standard gains momentum and is implemented to our disadvantage.

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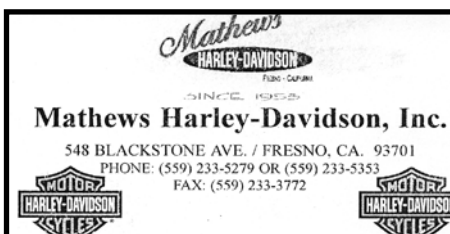
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ABATE 2010 Events

January 30 – ABATE Presidents/
PAC/Board Meeting – Hosted by
Local 13 at the American Legion
Post #741; 7 Veterans Way (off
of Ventura RD); Camarillo, CA
93010
2009 Membership Drive Winners
to be announced; Award
Presentations.

Meet YOUR Board Members
for 2010, 2010 State Officers &
Regional Director Elections –
Have YOU VOLUNTEERED to
HELP??? if not – Call 760/956-

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

**May 7, 8 & 9 - Southern
Regional Rally**

Northern Regional Rally
(date not set yet)

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

**September 17, 18 & 19 ABATE
State Run - Kernville**

September 18 – ABATE Bike
Raffle Drawing - Frandy
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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.




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My Thoughts

by Tony Jaime

Greeting brothers, sisters, & friends! I would like to start off wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! And I hope everyone enjoyed a great Thanksgiving Day feast with their families and friends, with lots of turkey, ham, mashed potatoes, gravy, dressing, pumpkin pie, and all the other trimmings that make this one special day such a wonderful event for Americans every year.

November is not only the month we give thanks for all of our blessings but it is also a month in which we pay tribute to all those who have served this country. So, let's say a prayer for all of the troops serving our nation all over the world, especially those who are in harm's way. We need to remember that our freedoms have been bought and paid for with the blood, sweat, and tears of American men and women serving this nation since 1776.

But it also bears remembering that many Americans not in uniform have also borne those costs, and some of the diverse people who have lost their lives and paid the ultimate price in the fight for freedom have come from many walks of life including civil rights workers, union members, and student demonstrators. All of these people have stood against the forces of oppression of tyranny and injustice at some time throughout our nation's history.

That is because, unfortunately, the fight for those freedoms doesn't just take place on the world's battlefields. It is also a never-ending battle in our federal and state legislatures, as well as county and city governments. Not only do most of these governmental bodies keep passing laws like a non-stop hailstorm of legislation, most of these laws are designed with two singular but often connected purposes. The first is to reallocate hard-earned capital from our pockets into somebody else's pockets and the second is to diminish or strip us of our personal rights and freedoms. Both of these legislative objectives are often obscured by a lot of rhetoric, but the end result is usually the same, either a mugging of our wallets or a mugging of our constitutionally guaranteed rights. Additionally, both of these objectives work in tandem, as a loss of personal wealth contributes to a loss of our rights and freedom, and a loss of either rights or freedoms generally results in the loss of wealth through taxation, regulatory charges, fines and levies, vehicle registration, and the list of abuses and affronts continues to build thereby crippling the American people.

Like many of you, I joined ABATE because this is an organization where I felt I could become part of the process and hopefully become part of the solution. As an organization where I can have input into the process, participate in the process, and help shape the process, ABATE has proved to be a place where I can proudly hang my hat and

feel at home amongst friends and freedom loving people. I don't always agree with every decision but the important thing is that I make my views known and do my best to see that decisions are implemented that have been made with all due deliberation and consideration of the facts.


Since this is the last issue of the Bailing Wire before the New Year, I feel it is vital to mention upcoming issues facing us that are of utmost importance in 2010. At the top of the list is SB-435, the Pavley bill, and hand in hand with that issue are attempts by the "greens" to mitigate noise pollution, with motorcycles being a leading target. Never forget for one second that we are a major target of discriminatory regulatory practices as well as unfavorable and costly legislation, and the efforts to marginalize and oppress us are ongoing!

Additionally, there are other infrastructure and personnel issues that need to be dealt with. Many of our ABATE officers have been serving in their capacities for years without relief and now they are having to step aside in favor of putting their personal health and family interests first, and rightfully so. Two of the most selfless individuals I know in ABATE, who have contributed countless hours of their time on behalf of all of us are Jean Hughes as Legislative Director and Peter Daniels as PAC/Lobbyist Treasurer. Jean is retiring from her position at the end of this term, and Peter had planned to do so also. Both are positions critical to the success of

our goals and objectives. Jim Lombardo will be filling Jean's position and Peter has volunteered to do one more year as the PAC/Lobbyist Treasurer. And these aren't the only folks we are going to be losing to the forces of attrition. ABATE needs people to stand up and step into the shoes of those who have been carrying the torch of freedom for us all of these years. There are many ABATE members out there who are more than qualified to fill these positions and we need you to step up to the plate and swing the bat for the home team.

As the 2009 State Run Chairman, I issued a challenge to the Local Presidents to generate participation and interest in the State Run and it worked exceedingly well. However, as the 2010 State Run Chairman, I want to issue a new challenge. This is a challenge that goes out to all Locals, officers, and members throughout the organization. As we get ready to enter the new year of 2010, I challenge all of you to take inventory of your Locals in terms of members and assets. It is my firm belief that we have a great many people and other assets that simply are not identified and utilized to their best ability. In order to form this organization into a more cohesive and operational unit that functions like a well-oiled machine, we simply need to know what we have to work with. I am challenging you all to step up, take inventory, and then show up in Camarillo on January 30, 2010 ready to go to work. See you there!

Regards, Tony Jaime.



Officer Emeritus
Jim Brown

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Chill Out

by John Del Santo, Safety Officer

Well, the winter season is upon us, so I guess we should roll our bike into the garage and put a cover over it until the flow-ers bloom again. NNAAHH! Just ride!!

As we enter the winter riding season, here are some tips to keep us more comfortable and operational. Layer your clothing so you can remove some as the

day warms up, and put it back on as the day cools off. During fall weather it can be quite warm at sea level and near freezing a couple of hours ride away at eight thousand feet altitude. Your extremities get colder sooner; carry extra gloves of different weights and wear thermal or thick socks. A lightweight wind-breaker can be rolled up pretty small and tucked into a sandwich baggie to keep it dry and carried in

your saddlebag, and can make a difference worn under your coat on a day when the temperature drops suddenly. Wear a turtleneck or carry a scarf or balaclava, there's lots of heat loss through our neck and head.

Hey! Santa only rides once a year and look how warmly HE dresses! We should stop more often for a warm drink and a quick walk around to get the blood circulating to all parts of our body. Our system needs as much liquid intake during the cold weather as it does during the hot weather.

We are trying to avoid hypothermia, which is described as "low body temperature as that due to exposure in cold weather." Warning signs are feeling cold, getting the chills, shallow breathing, and a feeling of sleepiness. The result is becoming disoriented or even falling asleep. (And falling asleep has a whole other meaning when we're on a bike!) If you or your riding partners start to feel or exhibit any of the warning signs, call for a break! High protein snacks keep the body furnace fueled. Alcohol slows the circulation and

creates more of a cold weather hazard, and some over-the-counter cold medicines are as dangerous as alcohol to our perception and reaction time. Read the label!

We need to extend our following distance in bad weather because wet road surfaces require a LOT more stopping distance, and hard braking on a wet surface can easily result in an unexpected improper



er dismount. When there is melting snow or yesterdays rainwater draining across the road, and the temperature is anywhere near the thirties, you can find water on the sunny side of the roadway and black ice, which looks just like water, on the shady side of the road. Painted arrows and lines on the road are slippery when wet, and bridges and overpasses freeze before the roadway does. Goodbye traction! Hello ditch!

Highways that were slippery yesterday may have been sanded, and the sand collects on corners and in the low parts of the curves. How good is the tread on our tires? The tires are really important; they are the part that keeps us stuck to the road! Check 'em out.

Many drivers around you don't have a clue how to drive in wet weather, so expect the worst from the car in the next lane or the one coming up behind you. The National Safety Council describes Defensive Driving as "Driving to save lives, time, and money despite the conditions around you and the actions of others."

So, get out there and ride! Be Cool, Chill Out, Think Defensively and Ride Safe!

Slippery Slope!

by John Del Santo, Safety Officer


Here comes the rain! Because of the runoff from rain, expect a spread of water or some washed out sand right around the next bend in the road. In areas that burned during the year, rain can bring a lot of mud down onto the road right around that curve! On some canyon roads where there is a constant

trickle of water running across the road, there may be moss growing under the water, which is about a hundred times more slippery than sand. If you spot that mossy water, it is best to treat it just like you do construction

trench-plates, pull your clutch in before you reach it, no gas, no brake, stop breathing, and don't even blink! Whew! If you are lucky enough to end up upright on the other side, just say "Lucky"! Or send a few words of thanks to whoever manages your motorcycle Karma.

We need to extend our following distance in bad weather because wet road surfaces require a LOT more stopping distance, and hard braking on a wet surface can easily result in an unexpected improper dismount. You know not to trust anything painted on the roadway. When there is melting snow or yesterdays rainwater draining across the road, and the temperature is anywhere near the thirties, you can find water on the sunny side of the roadway and black ice, which looks just like water, on the shady side of the road. Goodbye traction, hello ditch!

It is much more difficult to keep the shiny side up if you are on two wheels instead of four, but we have a lot more fun doing it!



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Rocky's Harley Service

by Cheryl Maclachlan

There is a new Harley repair shop in Vacaville - new shop but familiar faces and lots of experience and expertise. Many of you may already know Rocky Maclachlan and Rocky Maclachlan Sr. Names that have been synonymous with reliability and knowledge when it comes to the subject of motorcycle repair.

Rocky Sr., who is H-D factory certified, has 40 years of experience working on Harleys. His H-D technician career started in 1968. He had an H-D repair shop in Vacaville for numerous years until he moved his expertise to Fairfield Cycle Center in 1999 where he served as shop foreman for two years before the shop moved to Vacaville in 2003 and became Vacaville Harley-Davidson where he continued as shop foreman until one month ago.

Now, Rocky Sr. has come full circle back to his small shop start where he is more able to enjoy the company of his customers and their bikes. His fondness of the people and his love of the Harleys fit perfectly into this more personal atmosphere at the new

shop. He says this is a welcome change from working for "investors" who are only interested in the bottom line, uninterested in the business people who thought it was a good idea and money venture to capitalize on Harley-Davidson and their beloved customers.

Rocky Jr., as you would expect, got his start at his dad's shop as a general helper, learning everything he had a chance to learn, and like his dad, he had Harley-Davidson in his blood early on. He began working at Fairfield Cycle Center in the parts department in 1991. He quickly moved up the ladder to service writer then on to service manager. With the move of the shop to Vacaville in 2003 he continued his Harley-Davidson factory certification requirements and held both positions of service and sales manager for a while until he eventually received the position of General Manager at the dealership. Rocky has an unwavering commitment to the customers of Vacaville Harley-Davidson. He has commented that "these are more than customers, they become more than that, especially when you see them on a daily basis, it becomes more personal." In 2007 Vacaville Harley-Davidson was sold to out of town

business men who changed the name of the business to Iron Steed HD. Rocky stayed on as service manager doing what he does best putting his customers first and ensuring they get the service they deserve

Now, with their own shop, Rocky's Harley Service at 1318 Callen St. in Vacaville (707 301-0799) WWW.ROCKYSH-DSEER-VICE.COM, Rocky Jr. and Rocky Sr. can do what they do best, offer reliable work, based on their knowledge and understanding of the Harleys they love and the owners that love them too. These two eat, sleep and breathe the Harley life. With Harley-Davidson factory certification in the technician, parts, managerial, motor clothes and customer service fields you can rest assured that you and your bike will get the best service your money can buy. They do all services and repairs, including tires and parts orders. They can even take care of your extended warranty claims.

Stop by for coffee, a soda or just to say hello. Even if you aren't in need of a service, they want to keep in touch with you and make sure you and your bikes are well taken care of!!

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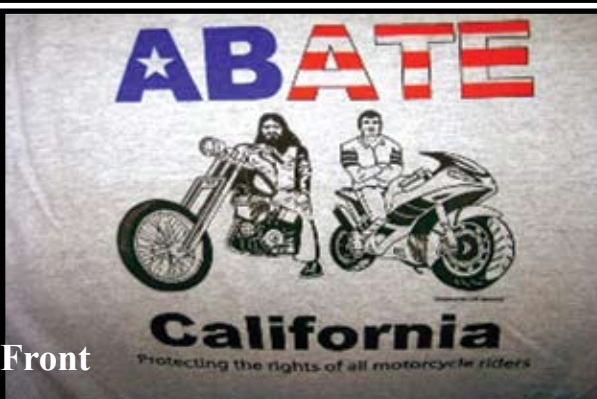
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Tom Cass
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2nd Tues 7:30 PM
VFW Post#10049
4242 E. Los Angeles Ave. Simi Valley

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

James Hurst
714/583-8419

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

South Orange County - Local #09-Reg#11

V.P. Cory Torioian
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
Starting Gate
5052 Katella Ave.
Los Alamitos, CA 90720

Antelope Valley - Local #21-Reg#13

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

Dave Battles
916/773-6348

3rd Thurs - 7:00 PM
Mountain Mike's Pizza
8112 Madison Ave. Fair Oaks

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
Denny's Restaurant
2925 Van Buren
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

Jackie Favalora
831/659-9313

1st Wed - 7:00 PM
Caruso's Corner
2101 N. Fremont St. Monterey

Palm Springs - Local #36-Reg#10

Ray Lopez
P.O. Box 460
Rancho Mirage 92270
760/206-9696
rlascape@aol.com

2nd Thurs - 6:30 PM
The Fireside Lounge
696 Oleander Rd.
Palm Springs
760/327-1700

Imperial Valley - Local#38-Reg#12

Ed Aranda
P.O.Box 2362
El Centro CA 92244
760/337-8372
edward_al2@yahoo.com

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

2nd Tues - 7:00 PM
Rusty's Pizza 1751 White Lane
Bakersfield

High Desert - Local#44-Reg#13

Gary Witthans
P.O. Box 3094
Victorville CA 92392
760/946-0366

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

Meet With Local#10

Barstow - Local #47-Reg#13

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

1st Thurs - 7:00PM
V.F.W. #2143
25190 Main St.
Barstow/Lenwood

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

Don Dickerman
P.O. Box 472
Grass Valley 95945
530/273-2086

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

Darryl McGee
P.O. Box 539
Ridgecrest 93556
760-793-0302

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

2nd Tues 6:30 PM
The Palo Cedro Inn
9191 Deschutes Rd, Palo Cedro