

ABATE of CA.  
Magazine for  
Motorcyclists  
Vol. 42 Issue 8  
September  
2023

# THE BAILING WIRE

SPONSORED BY RUSS BROWN MOTORCYCLE ATTORNEYS



A Union of Motorcyclists Dedicated to Freedom of the Road

# ABATE

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## Legislative Month

With Session Ending Sept.  
14th, the groundwork for next  
Year starts Now!

Have you ever wanted to make a difference?  
Have you ever thought...they just aren't listening?



**Here is your chance to meet with the Legislators in your District and let them know your position on important issues concerning motorcycle rights.**



For Tips and Suggestions, please read the Article Below.  
Zoom PAC Meeting September 25th see Page 11

## Chairmen's Message

by David "D-Man" Seiler

### Legislative Month - Empowering an Army of Freedom Fighters

ABATE of California is known as a grassroots organization. Our grassroots organization consists of an Army of Freedom Fighters, who actively participate



in the political process. One of the most effective ways to "lobby" legislators is a face-to-face visit. Our influence in the state capital and districts is reliant upon you, (our ABATE member) meeting, creating relationships and sharing our positions with your legislators and their staff members. This can be done in the legislator's Sacramento office or at the legislators' local offices near your home.

We are continuing to remind our state legislators about the revitalization of ABATE, our next Legislative event is now. If you

couldn't make the Legislative Day back in May, we are asking you to make an appointment and meet with the legislator or staff in their local office. We can help you with the agenda and talking points.

By each of us getting involved and doing just a little, we can accomplish great things.... Together.

Admittedly, to those that have not done this before, contacting and talking with your legislators can seem to be a daunting task.

**...continued on page 6**





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<b>Safety</b>	Norm Newiger 805-368-6693
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"Sporty" Milligan	818-361-8800
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Jane Warthen	805-341-3386
Rick Robison	714-315-1150
Jeff Sterling	714-422-8655
Tim "Kidd" Otis	760-297-8214

## 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 through political and legislative action. ABATE promotes motorcycle safety through education, training and public awareness.

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## Check Out Your Locals Facebook Page

**ABATE of California**

**ABATE Localone**

**ABATE SimiValley**

**ABATE Local 3 - T.O/Ventura**

**Abate of California, Local 6**

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**ABATE Local 24 Fresno, California**

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**Also find Us on Instagram**

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## ABATE OF CALIFORNIA

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**COLUMNISTS**

Bill Bish, Sporty Milligan, Chuck Pedersen, Dave "D-Man" Seiler, Bobby Tabaldo, Jeff Bassler, and The Lombardo Group-ABATE of CA lobbyist.

### DEADLINES

Submission deadline is the 15th of the month prior to publication for ALL materials. All run flyers, photos and ad copy must be camera ready.

### BUSINESS MEMBERSHIPS

- (1) \$125 Gold Business w/ Black & White Ad
- (2) \$200 Gold Business w/ Color Ad
- (3) \$250 Gold Business w/2X Color Ad

All Levels include (2) memberships with (1) address. Levels (1 & 2) ad size is (2 x 3.5) and Level (3's) ad size is (3.5 x 4) which is also published on our website [www.abate.org](http://www.abate.org) along with a link to your company's website. New Business Members receive a Display Plaque. Following years are supplied with a year plate. New Business Members or Business Members with new Business Cards can mail or email them to address above, or [bailing.wire@abate.org](mailto:bailing.wire@abate.org).

### AD RATES FOR NON-BUSINESS MEMBERS

- (2 x 3.5) size Black & White \$15.00 per month  
\$150.00 per year
- (2 x 3.5) size Color \$20.00 per month  
\$200.00 per year
- (3.5 x 4) size Color only \$25.00 per month  
\$250.00 per year

### NON-MEMBER ADS OR EVENT FLYERS

- (Ads & flyers subject to approval by Editor)
- 1/4 Page (5w x 7.8h) \$150.00 per month  
\$1500 per year
- 1/2 Page (10w x 7.8h) \$175.00 per month  
\$1750 per year
- Full Page (10w x 15.5h) \$350.00 per month  
\$3500 per year

All ads MUST be pre-paid for the entire duration of ad run. Prices do not include any changes that you may want to make to existing ads placed with us.

Ads should be submitted electronically in a (.jpg) or (.tiff) format and emailed to [bailing.wire@abate.org](mailto:bailing.wire@abate.org) with payment either mailed to the address above, or entered online on our website @ [www.abate.org](http://www.abate.org).

### CLASSIFIEDS

Members may advertise a small classified-type ad in the Bailing Wire, at no charge, and their ad will be run up to (3) issues.

### PHOTOS

Photos of ABATE events should be emailed to [bailing.wire@abate.org](mailto:bailing.wire@abate.org). Please include name of event, date, captions, etc. They must be received by the deadline to be published in the next issue.

**\*\*\*All content is subject to approval by the Editors.**

## Lobbyist Capitol Update

by The Lombardo Group, ABATE of California Lobbyist



The Legislature returned August 14th for this years final sprint, recessing September 14th at Midnight, while the Governor has until October 14th to decide upon the fates of thousands of Laws. The Legislature will return January 3rd to complete the Two Year Session followed by Elections November 2024!

Meanwhile of the 1770 Assembly bills introduced this session, 1055 have been sent to the Senate and nearly 90 have already gone to Governor Newsom's desk.

Of the 890 bills introduced in the Senate, 660 have been sent to the Assembly while 50 have been sent to the Governor's desk.

About 390 Assembly bills and 290 Senate bills are before the other chambers Appropriations Committees this week, as they move toward the dreaded Suspense file and deadline at the end of the month. Any Bill stopped this year, becomes a Two Year Bill and will automatically start process over again in January.

And while it's too late to introduce New Bills, there is a work around as Lawmakers can 'gut' and amend old Bills with a completely different proposal, that usually isn't even heard in a Policy Committee and just brought up on the floor for a vote.

We're watching and monitoring all of these bills as the Legislature rushes to their September recess. Stay tuned! We will be giving the update at the October 8th Board/PAC meeting. Please attend in Person or Zoom in!

Summer's ending- Safe Riding!

For more in depth Analysis of the latest proposed Laws in California, check out the next page! Thanks as always to those who send their contributions to ABATE's Dedicated Lobbyist Account.



## Politics: Legislature Proposed New Laws

Presented by The Lombardo Group

### **AB-251 Ward California Transportation Commission: vehicle weight safety study - Support, \*Amended**

This bill would require the CTC to convene a task force to study the relationship between vehicle weight and injuries to vulnerable road users, such as pedestrians and cyclists, and degradation to roads, and to study the costs and benefits of imposing a passenger vehicle weight fee, or restructuring an existing fee to include consideration of vehicle weight. The bill would require the CTC, by no later than January 1, 2026, to prepare and submit a report to the Legislature, as specified. \*Senate Appropriations Committee

### **AB-316 Aguiar-Curry Vehicles: autonomous vehicles - Support**

This bill would prohibit the operation of an autonomous vehicle with a gross vehicle weight of 10,000 pounds or more on public roads for testing purposes, transporting goods, or transporting passengers without a human safety operator physically present in the autonomous vehicle at the time of operation. \*Senate Appropriations Committee

### **AB-645 Friedman Speed Safety System Pilot Program - Oppose**

This bill would authorize, until January 1, 2032, the Cities of Los Angeles, San Jose, Oakland, Glendale, and Long Beach, and the City and County of San Francisco to establish a Speed Safety System Pilot Program if the system meets specified requirements, and would require the participating city or city and county to engage in a public information campaign at least 30 days before implementation of the program, including information relating to when the systems would begin detecting violations and where the systems would be utilized.

The bill would require a participating city or city and county to issue warning notices rather than notices of violations for violations detected within the first 60 calendar days of the program.

This bill would specify that any violation of a speed law recorded by a speed safety system authorized by these provisions would be subject only to the provided civil penalties. The bill would, among other things, provide for the issuance of a notice of violation, an initial review, an administrative hearing, and an appeals process, as specified, for a violation under this program.

This bill would require a \$25 filing fee for an appeal challenging a notice of violation issued as a result of a speed safety system until January 1, 2032.

\*Senate Appropriations Committee

### **SB-50 Bradford Vehicles: enforcement - Tracking/Monitoring**

This bill would prohibit a peace officer from stopping or detaining the operator of a motor vehicle or bicycle for a low-level infraction, as defined, unless a separate, independent basis for a stop exists. The bill would authorize a peace officer who does not have grounds to stop a vehicle or bicycle, but can determine the identity of the owner, to send a citation or warning letter to the owner.

The bill would authorize local authorities to enforce a violation of the Vehicle Code through government employees who are not peace officers. \*Assembly Appropriations

### **SB-708 Jones Vehicles: off-highway motor vehicles: off-highway motorcycles: sanctioned event permit - Support**

Existing law authorizes the Department of Parks and Recreation to issue to a nonresident of this state a special permit to operate an off-highway motor vehicle. Existing law requires the fee for this special permit to be not less than \$20, as established by the department.

This bill would require the department to issue a special permit to California residents to operate certain off-road motorcycles at sanctioned events, as defined. The bill would require the department to establish a fee for this permit, as specified.

\*Assembly Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee

### **SB-847 Dahle Vehicles: motorcycle: safety helmet religious exception - Tracking/Monitoring**

This bill would authorize the department to adopt a regulation certifying a helmet offered for sale, or sold, that substantially complies with, but does not meet, the requirements imposed by the specified federal standards if the helmet is designed for the purposes of compliance with a driver's or passenger's religious beliefs or practices. \*Assembly Appropriations Committee



## Wanted

**People who are committed to  
Motorcyclists' rights  
... and passionate to protect them!**

**NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR  
2024 BOD POSITIONS**

If you have the passion and can give a little of your time, Please fill out the Candidacy Application located on the next Page. Send it in, along with a "selfie" BEFORE September 13th to [bailing.wire@abate.org](mailto:bailing.wire@abate.org) for inclusion on the upcoming ballot for 2024!

## Chairman's Message...continued

We are often asked, "What is the best way to contact and communicate our position with legislators?" So we thought we would put together a few tips:

### 1. Arrive on time

Legislators' time is very limited, especially at the state level.

### 2. Keep your group size small

It is a good idea to visit your legislator in small groups – no more than 3 or 4!

### 3. Do not be intimidating

Legislators are in the business of representing the public's interest. They need to learn more about your position on issues. They will not listen if you are intimidating.

### 4. Know your legislators

If you don't already know your representatives, make it your business to get acquainted. You should know about issues that are important to them. Do you live in their district? Do we have any specific issues within their district? What are their committee assignments? What position have they taken on our issues in the past?

### 5. Be a resource

Legislators are expected to be experts on every issue. However, they rely on you (and ABATE) to provide information on issues. Be prepared to answer questions regarding key matters. Your credibility will increase if you provide useful answers. It's ok to not know, just let them know that you will follow up and get the information they seek. And then, be sure to do that.

### 6. Show your expertise

Yes, the legislator will want to know all about an issue from you. That is because you are the expert on the issues important to ABATE of California and how they impact his or her district. Legislators want to do what's best for their constituents. We need to let them know our issues are important, too.

### 7. Listen and always say "Thank you"

Listen to what the legislator has to say. You can state facts to back up your stance, but don't argue. Thank the legislator for taking the time to talk to you.

### 8. Addressing a legislator

Always address the legislator formally as "Assembly Member \_\_\_\_\_" (Representative or Delegate in some states) or "Senator \_\_\_\_\_." If you know the legislator's leadership position, be more specific, as in "Majority Leader \_\_\_\_\_, what a pleasure to see you."

### 9. Keep it brief

The legislator and/or staff attending your meeting have limited time set aside to meet with you. Keep your conversation to 2 to 3 position points. Do not overwhelm them with unorganized or too many random subjects. Stay focused. Do not argue. Do not antagonize.

*If we are shopping a particular bill for support:*

- Determine the position held by the legislator on the bill or issue, if possible.
- If it is favorable, express appreciation.
- If the legislator is undecided: ask "What kind of information would assist in taking a position? How can we help?" ... or "Would a meeting with us to discuss the issue be of some help?"
- If opposed: "We hope they will take another look at this issue. Would they be willing to meet with us to discuss it?"
- Do not argue. Do not antagonize.

### 10. Be energetic.

A good attitude and enthusiasm about your business issues will reflect in the legislator's approach to you. Communication is predominately non-verbal, so a good smile and body language will leave a resounding impression on the legislator.

### 11. Follow-Up and Thank You.

Be sure and follow up with any information requested by your legislator. At a minimum, please send an Email follow-up thanking them for sharing the time with you to understand our issues.

### 12. Follow-Up with ABATE

Please let us know you met with a Legislator and supply a briefing about the conversation. This allows us to build on your efforts.

*Don't:*

- Be defensive about education issues
- Call your legislator only when you want something or have bad news.
- Concentrate on the content of the legislation to the exclusion of the political realities.
- Gang up on members or staff
- Overstay your welcome on legislative visits.
- Use inflated or untrue facts to back up your position.

Personal contact with our state legislators should be a fun opportunity for you to participate in the political process. We can help you with the agenda and talking points. If you don't stop and talk with them, they may never know or hear about your issues, positions or concerns.





## Chairman's Message...continued

We are grateful for your participation, dedication and hard work in 2023. With your continued involvement, we will continue to make an important impact this year.

If you are interested in learning more or becoming more involved, please plan to attend our "How to talk with your legislators" call next month. Or, feel free to call me, I'd be happy to help out.

David "D-Man" Seiler,

Chairman of the Board

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## Executive Director's Corner

by Chuck Pedersen



We are encroaching on September. For me this summer went by blazingly fast. Sturgis is behind us. Many of you went, and you experienced more weather than usual. Someone even won a motorcycle! I'm sure you'll read about it in this edition.

But for this Midwestern boy, this is a time of seasons. As we transition into the end of the year, I reflect. Many of us have goals to achieve. I wish you well. Let me or your Board know how we can help.

We are heading into the 2024 legislative season. Bobby T., our Legislative Director and P.A.C. representative, is wanting to get an early start. I agree with him and support him. Timing is everything. Coordination of opinion is essential to engage our representatives. Therefore, the time is now to contact your assembly and senate members and ask for their support of ABATE of California's political positions. As I have said, our voice is a numbers game. We all need to be sending the same message.



With that in mind, September is our Legislative Month. Many of us are making calls and appointments to visit our local legislators. I hope each of you will make the effort to do the same. Please contact your local ABATE Presidents for literature and talking points, and consider making those visits this Month.

This is what ABATE is about. This is what we do. I know that going to the Capitol or visiting local offices takes time. I hope you and your Local can figure out how to represent the issues and rights that are important to you. More information is contained in this issue of the Bailing Wire.

Elections for our ABATE Officers and Boards members will be coming up in a couple of months. Make sure you are involved! Nominate someone ... nominate yourself. The Candidacy Application is in this issue. Research the candidates, but more importantly run for a seat!

I hold a President's meeting every second Wednesday of the month. I would like to see more attendees. Even if you are not a President, this meeting is intended to hear and adapt to the needs of the Local. That includes everyone. If you would like to attend, reach out to me and you are cordially invited. Some of the things we discuss are how we can better market ourselves, increase memberships, and most recently whether we should take a hard look at inflation and how that affects us. I'd love to get your input.

As I have mentioned in the past, I get a lot of conversation about re-establishing the State Runs. In an effort to do something here, and in the effort to not bite off more than some of us may be able to chew, I have proposed starting with simple regional rallies. I have tasked my Local's Vice President, JP to lead an effort here in SoCal. I would like to hear that this is also being considered in NoCal



**Get involved today!**  
**Use your Smartphone**  
**to take the MPP**  
**survey. It only takes 4**  
**minutes to complete.**

and in the San Diego, and Imperial Valley areas. There is a lot of great enthusiasm in ABATE and we need to tap it. Contact me if you need further clarification or if you need a networked support team in your area. These are regional rallies, no one Local should have the ultimate responsibility. (Love you if you do, just saying.) I want opportunities such as this to create collaboration across other Locals. I believe it will make us stronger individually and has a whole.

One quick point: Toy Runs. These are a great opportunity to provide a wonderful charity service. Remember to market your runs within ABATE. Once there, take a bunch of pictures and send to the Bailing Wire at [bailing.wire@abate.org](mailto:bailing.wire@abate.org).

Finally, this last month has been full of heart-felt- loss. ABATE of California has lost two individuals both were supporters of extraordinary dedication. I take my cover off for Bill Bish and Diane Davis. I won't go into details here, as I know there will be memorials for both individuals in this edition. But if you didn't don't know them, or even if you did, I just want to say that these two were both larger than life in their dedication and hard work to promote our organization and the motorcycling community, as a whole. These will be losses widely felt and hard to fill. Who is next to step up and help carry these positions?

See you at the October Board meeting. Let's do this.

Chuck Pedersen,

Executive Director ABATE of California



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Join Today



# Join the Leadership Team



We are excited about the revitalization of ABATE in 2023.

Do you have an opinion on where ABATE of California should be focused or what we should accomplishing? Are you interested in having fun while making a difference?

## **Join the Leadership Team.**

Learn the in's and out of the organization by helping out and serving as a committee member.

- **Membership Committee** - Welcome all new members. Processes and encourages renewal. Helps locals recruit and retain members.
- **Bailing Wire Committee** - Gathers information, write and organizes news articles and advertisements to produce a high quality publication.
- **Legislative Committee**- Organizes the PAC membership. Reviews legislation and produces the Legislative agenda.
- **Administrative Committee** - keeps the organization running. This includes accounting, insurance and general business management.
- **Marketing and PR Committee** - outreach via all media the ABATE message, brand management and activities.

**Also, the annual Board of Director elections will be held this quarter.**

Where do you want to serve?

Contact:

- Chuck Petersen - [chuck.pedersen@gmail.com](mailto:chuck.pedersen@gmail.com) 805-657-0795  
Or
- David "D-Man" Seiler - [DS-qrs@live.com](mailto:DS-qrs@live.com) 714-402-1866



## Member's Rides - Sturgis Report

By Jeff Bassler, President Local #19 and Board Member

So, ... I HAD To Go To Sturgis ...



Not "I wanted to go". Not "I get to go" ... But, "I HAD To Go" ... It was just terrible.

You see, "participating Harley dealers" had a contest going on. As you enter the dealership, you scan a QR code. That brings up an app, and you enter your contact info. Then, in each department you enter a key word displayed. Each was an entry eligible for an assortment of prizes, such as an autographed guitar, or the Grand Prize of a Harley Davidson Street Glide Special. In addition to the words at the local dealers I had been in, I entered a couple words associated with Smokey Mountain H-D, near the Tail of the Dragon in Tennessee... and one of them was my lucky word. I was a one-in-ten finalist to win that grand prize. All finalists would receive a \$900 Amex gift card to off-set travel expenses just for showing up. They wanted all ten finalists on the stage when the winner was identified.

The upshot is that "as a finalist" I HAD to go to Sturgis, because the drawing would be at Full Throttle Saloon during the Sturgis Rally. I had to fill out DocuSign paperwork within 48 hours, or another finalist would be selected. I actually verified through the dealer that I directly entered through that it was legit, then submitted my paperwork.

Now I had to figure out how to get to Sturgis. The first thought was a Fly & Ride, such as Eagle Rider offers. I didn't have THAT much time. Initially, rental seemed an option. But pairing flights in with bike availabilities during Sturgis seemed a tall order last minute... and the price adds up fast. Then a buddy decided to go with me. That just doubled the cost of everything, AND challenged availabilities further.

Trailering our own bikes made far more sense. We could get there and back quickly and have a few days there to actually enjoy the Sturgis experience. But I could not find a bike trailer to borrow or rent. I've got a cargo trailer that became a storage unit some 12 years ago. But you can't trust old trailer tires, among other issues. Ultimately, THAT became

the planned solution. I had to get a storage unit to put all the contents of the trailer into. Then new tires and a wash. But the lights didn't work. Come to find out, my truck was the problem there. Also, a code popped up something about a recall. So, into the dealer the truck went... then I didn't have something to move the trailer around, including to put bikes in it. We ultimately decided to use my buddy's truck for the trip, because it was available and running, and would cost less for fuel. So at least there was that.

Now I needed to convert a cargo trailer into a bike trailer. I had a ramp to get bikes into the trailer. I had a tie-down point at each corner of the trailer. I had one front tire chock and had to scramble to come up with a second. We got it set up so that they could be secure in a fixed position. Departure Day -3 we are to load the bikes in the trailer. While my friend was riding his bike over, a lady pulled out in front of him. She stops short, and he makes an evasive maneuver to miss her... and she gets back on the accelerator and hits him! FORTUNATELY, the bike damage was only cosmetic. He is sore, but operational. We get to load up the bikes into the trailer... and one of the tie-down points pulls out of the floor. Emergency unload and run to the closest dealership for the trailer. It needs better tie-down points... and NOW! By the way, it's a Friday, and I have to go with Friday traffic to get to the dealership. Fortunately, they also had some Saturday hours, and they got it done by the next day.

Saturday, I got the trailer and loaded the bikes. But it's past midnight into Monday before I have everything else that HAS TO BE DONE before I can go... done. Nothing like a tight deadline.

Everything was in the trailer, and we're off. It is HOT all day across the desert. We are grateful for the A/C... and we make it all the way to Glenwood Springs, CO before calling it bedtime. We did well the first day, while we were hearing about all kinds of "lovely" weather in the greater Sturgis area.

We wake Tuesday with the full expectation of making the Deadwood hotel early enough to get acclimated to the area for the following day. But James, the ABATE lobbyist, had mentioned something about the possibility of meeting up with South Dakota Governor Kristi Noem. Then I learn the window of

opportunity is at Black Hills H-D at 7:30 p.m. We had to take a short cut and aim directly for the dealership ... trailer in tow. We arrived there JUST IN TIME to meet Governor Noem and express our appreciation for her support of motorcycle rider's rights on behalf of the members of ABATE of California... and of course get a photo.



One of the delays just before the Wyoming border was a couple guys from Argentina on rental Triumphs. The bracket that holds the exhaust on one of the bikes broke, and the muffler fell off. With the tools in the trailer, I was able to modify a road gater into a temporarily serviceable bracket to get them the rest of the way to Sturgis.



Then, on the way back we found a guy stranded on a remote two-lane road, trying to get home from Sturgis. He had run out of gas because his pet cock was leaking. I siphoned enough gas from my bike to get him to the next gas station. Note to self, always have a full gas can. While sitting and waiting, he had been running his stereo.

Doing so, he had killed his battery so bad that our jumper packs would not work, and even the jumper cables in the truck wouldn't start it. We unloaded my friend's bike and loaded this guy's bike into the trailer... and my friend rode behind us to the next town where he could get service. So, you see ... having Trailer Queens out there on the road to Sturgis isn't all bad.

A friend who moved from California to Tennessee happens to be good friends with the promotional person at Smokey Mountain H-D. She had been given a couple dealer shirts and a swag bag, in part so I could wear a dealer shirt on stage when we find out who wins the bike. About that... Thursday night there was a Jackyl



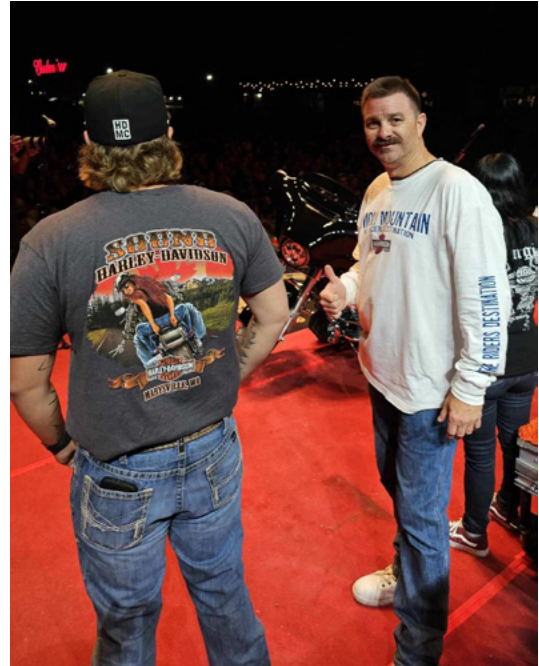
## Member's Rides - Sturgis Report...continued

concert at Full Throttle Saloon. During a break in the concert, the finalists would walk out onto the stage. Each would draw a key from a bucket. The one that gets the key that starts the bike wins it. One surprise during the concert was that Danny, from Counts Customs in Las Vegas, came out and sang with the band. But back to the trek. The next stop had to be Keystone to meet up with my friend and get that stuff. And FINALLY to Deadwood to check in after 11:00 p.m.



blowing through your hair, in that weather.... It is REALLY hard to be disappointed.

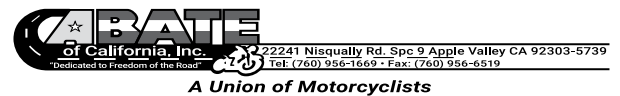
Oh, and did I mention, ... I am getting a new Harley!



The following day, I was able to ride to Devil's Tower, and the geographic CENTER of the 50 United States with the friend from Tennessee. We also met up with some other friends at a dealer. Beyond that, I got a few days to take in the Sturgis experience. Riding the Black Hills was some really great riding. I especially loved the 16A, south east of Mount Rushmore. We did the Custer Loop, and did not see one fuzzy cow. And, the "Baker's Bakery & Café" in Custer had sold out of "The

World's Best Cinnamon Rolls" just about a half hour before I got there.

So, despite having some of the best weather I have ever heard of for a Sturgis Rally from the time I arrived forward, there were some disappointments. But really,... riding those roads with the wind



### 2023 ABATE PAC Meeting September 25th

#### Legislative Month Update

MOTORCYCLISTS RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2937210547?pwd=Tm0xNXFaRitwbVR1OEEOONWdUaUtBdz09>

Meeting ID: 293 721 0547 Passcode: 550525

1-669-444-9171 84250337206# 550525#

## Freedom Fighters Obituaries - Bill Bish & Diane Davis

### Bill's last NCOM Column

#### OBITUARY

William H. Bish

September 29, 1957 –  
August 4, 2023

#### IN THE CARE OF...

Corrigan Craciun Funeral Home Family will receive friends to celebrate Bill's life Thursday, August 17, 2023, from 4 PM – 8 PM at Corrigan Craciun Funeral Home, 20820 Lorain Rd, Fairview Park, OH 44126. Funeral Services 10 AM on Friday, August 18, 2023 at the Funeral Home with a procession following to the Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery, 10175 Rawiga Rd, Seville, OH 44273 where he will be interred with full military honors.

William H. "Bill" Bish, age 65, of Westlake, Ohio passed away with his loving wife by his side on Friday, August 4, 2023 due to medical procedural complications. Bill was born in Des Moines, Iowa to Clarence "Rusty" Bish and Margaret "Mitzi" Bish (nee Sorter), both deceased.

Dearly beloved husband of 27 years to Darlene R. Bish (nee Griggs), loving father of Rachelle Bish (Joey Zika), dearest brother of Beverly (Dave) Booker, dearest brother-in-law of Mickey (Bill, deceased) Griggs, dearest nephew of Aunt Jo McGlynn and Aunt Norma Morgan (deceased), dear uncle, cousin and friend of so very many. Bill and Darlene were a team in everything they did together in life, truly adored one another, and had a deep, special love that comes only once in a lifetime. Within the family, the term 'Beep-Beep' became synonymous with the words 'I Love You'. Bill's family was his world.

Bill enhanced this world on September 29, 1957 at Still (Mercy) Hospital and was the charismatic, mischievous boy who could out-draw Marshall Dillon of Gunsmoke on TV with his BB gun, which was a sign of things to come. Living his entire youth on 2nd Ave in Des Moines, he graduated from North High School in 1975 and joined the Marine Corps thereafter. That took him to San Diego, CA, Memphis TN, Korea and Japan. Bill received many commendations, was a marksman on the shooting team, part of the Press Corps and reached the rank of E-5 Sargent during his tour. He was a proud Marine. He returned home in 1979 to go to Drake University, majoring in

Journalism and Public Relations, where he graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor's Degree in 3 years. He also bought a brand-new Harley-Davidson motorcycle.

Upon his college graduation, Bill was recruited to work for the National Rifle Association (NRA) in Washington DC where he ran celebrity shooting competitions and even wrote quotes for President Ronald Reagan, among other writing and promotional duties. He then

headed for the sunshine of Los Angeles, CA where he really got involved in the world of motorcycling. He worked for various motorcycle attorneys, including over two decades with the Law Offices of Richard Lester in California and the Law Offices of Ralph C. Buss in Ohio, and even multiple years with the infamous Easyriders Magazine, the superlative biker's lifestyle guide of the time.

Bill found his passion in legislation and politics affecting the industry, working to protect motorcycling and individual freedom through his paid positions and various volunteer organizations. Along with many others, his efforts helped grow a grassroots movement that changed a notorious federal law in four short years, which was unheard of. He helped make bikers a political force to be reckoned with.

Bill was a true biker, putting hundreds of thousands of miles riding around almost every state in this country; a nation he loved, that he would fight for, and that he thought had the most beautiful landscape to see, especially from the seat of a motorcycle. He traversed the country many times, usually with Darlene on her bike and Rachelle in the sidecar, speaking at various biker rallies and seminars. He was a very inspiring, captivating speaker, bigger than life. That's how he and Darlene met, at a Freedom Rally in Tennessee fighting for their rights. The two of them had an instant deep connection that was inexplicable, they were truly soulmates who found a love that was glorious. Their daughter Rachelle made his life complete and was the apple of his eye and he was so very proud of her.

Bill Bish was the former Executive Coordinator and current Public Relations Liaison of the National Coalition of Motorcyclists and Aid to Injured Motorcyclists (NCOM and AIM), former State Director of ABATE of California and Concerned Motorcycle Riders of Ohio (CMRO), member of ABATE

of Ohio, Kentucky Motorcycle Association (KMA/KBA) and the American Motorcyclists Association (AMA), was on the original Steering Committee for the formation of the Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) in the 80s, among other positions, and had been politically active for over 40 years in bikers' rights issues. He had four Silver Spoke Awards, including the Lifetime Achievement Award, and was inducted into the Sturgis Motorcycle Museum Hall of Fame in South Dakota, home of the Black Hills Motorcycle Rally.

After moving to Ohio in 2001 to be by Darlene's family, the two of them got into the magazine business and eventually became owners/publishers of Ridin' On Motorcycle Magazine in 2007. It quickly became the #1 regional publication of its type and they were very proud of it and a summer-long program Bill created in 2008 called the Ride 'N' Roll, both of which still continue today. He was such a prolific wordsmith and has had a news column that went out to a half a million people for over two decades. He wrote for various magazines, lawyers, doctors, politicians and even a President. But more so, Bill was a GOOD man, a great man. He touched so, so many people with his kindness, his motivating speeches, his resolute spirit and his amazing sense of humor. Bill was a man of the utmost integrity and a generous caring soul that thought of everyone else first before himself. He was larger than life and his presence will be felt forever. Please remember his big smile and zest for life to live each day to its fullest, as he did.

Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at [www.CorriganCraciun.com](http://www.CorriganCraciun.com) for the Bish family. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Bill Bish's name/honor to the National Coalition of Motorcyclists or any Motorcycle Rights Organization.





## Freedom Fighters Obituaries - Bill Bish & Diane Davis

### **BILL BISH NOW RIDING WITH OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS ON HIGH**

*submitted by Nancy Nemecek*

I received one of the most heartbreaking calls yesterday afternoon, August 4th. My friend, Darlene Bish let me know that Bill passed in the morning from health issues. The tears came, we talked, and I now mourn and celebrate my long-time friend, Bill Bish! Our thoughts and prayers go out to Darlene and daughter, Rachele, as well as their family and many friends.

I've known Bill since the early days of ABATE, back in the early 80's, and I met Darlene when she came to California from Tennessee. They met through the MC world, and it turned out to be a match made in heaven. They married, and later came Rachele, a beautiful baby girl. They moved back to Ohio several years ago to be with family. While there, they started publishing a magazine "Ridin' On Motorcycle Magazine" together. They worked and played together for many, many happy years.

For those who don't know Bill, here's an excerpt from "The History of ABATE":

"... While Deacon paved the way, other leaders came forward. Rider John in Kern County, another MMA division manager from Orange County named Harry Roach, Dan and Rebecca Boyd, "Wheelchair" Mike, "Dresser" Bill Drury, Billy Bob Bruce, Russ Brown, and later John "Milky" Loudermilk, James Gregory, Nancy Nemecek, Bob Mannah, Bill Bish and a host of others who helped the fledgling organization grow. With a few successes under our belt and spurred by successful political rallies, ABATE attracted others like John Paliwoda, Paul Lax and Mike Osborn who, along with many other activists, helped build and nurture ABATE into the political force it is today. And while it took many years to mend the problems between ABATE and MMA, we now enjoy a rich and very cooperative relationship.

So there you have it. The roots of ABATE run deep in the hearts of those who accepted, and in turn passed on, the torch called Freedom of the Road. To all those who came before, we salute you. To our current leaders wondering where the future will lead us, remember that it's totally up to you!..."

Courtesy of Bill Bish, ABATE Board Member 1989-1996, 1999 State Director, 1997-1998 President, ABATE Local 1, 1987-1999

Bill Bish, from the beginning, was continuously an integral part of ABATE of California. His spot in ABATE's history and legacy will forever be etched in stone. He was also a member of the NCOM Board of Directors. He wrote and published the NCOM Biker Newsbytes, as well as Bikernet Blog, and contributed to Bikernet.com. Bill continuously contributed to other publications, wrote articles, spoke at events, and never stopped. Keeping bikers informed was his mission!

Bill Bish is a very hard act to follow. You will forever be in our hearts, Bill ... ride free my friend until we meet again.

With much love and respect,

Nancy Nemecek

### **Diane Davis Will Be Sorely Missed**

*by Jeff Bassler, President Local #19 & State Board Member*

Diane joined ABATE, Local 19, in 2006. Though, I too, joined the same year, I was in Local 5. It was the marketing of my 4th of July

Parade that I first met Diane, and she volunteered to take over flag request coordination early on. After working with her for several years, Local 5 closed down and I joined her at Local 19. When trying to convince me to step up to the President position, she promised me that she would serve as Secretary/Treasurer as long as I was willing to be President. That has lasted at least seven years. We worked well together for so long, I can't really tell you how long it has been.



Despite VERY diametrically opposed partisan political points of view, we were pretty much in line with our rider rights issues. One of her motivating ideals was the promotion of female riding, not just 'back warming.' And she loved to support female riding events. In fact, when she passed, she was found next to her bike, as she was getting ready to join her sister for a ride. A comment from her sister, Terri (also an ABATE member) is that she died with her boots on, that is how she will be cremated.

Anyone who knew Diane, knows how firm she was in her convictions. Once she had something in her head, you were not going to change her mind. That gave some people pause with her. But she was ALWAYS there on the important stuff. She ran the details of the Local like it was a paid position. She stepped up for any need to make the local successful, from going to events to promote ABATE, to spending out of pocket to be sure we had the raffle prizes we needed to make a good go of the Toy Run raffle. And she was always on top of making sure that we had what we needed to help out Santa Claus Inc. with bikes and donations, and simultaneously making sure that the Local had what it needed to make its obligations and continue.

Diane's absence leaves a great hole in the Local that cannot simply or easily be filled with people stepping up to fill her positions. She will definitely be missed.



## FINAL NCOM Biker Newsbyte by Bill Bish R.I.P.

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

**Compiled & Edited by Bill Bish**

### NCOM CONVENTION CELEBRATES SUCCESSES

Just days prior to the National Coalition of Motorcyclists' NCOM Convention, Nebraska repealed their mandatory helmet law to become the 33rd state allowing adult freedom of choice, and their hard-won success was a cause of celebration for the nationwide gathering of biker activists in Phoenix over Father's Day weekend. To mark the occasion, A.I.M. (Aid to Injured Motorcyclists; [ON-A-BIKE.com](http://ON-A-BIKE.com)) rush-ordered the new 2024 version of their wallet-sized Calendar card to hand out, now in its 30th year of printing, showing a "U.S. Helmet Laws" map on the reverse side now indicating Nebraska as Free for 21 and older (eff. 01-01-24, stipulations apply)!

Our hats (helmets) off to ABATE of Nebraska, which was among many victories across the country to be recognized and celebrated. Hurdles too, both legislative and legal, were also addressed during various meetings and seminars throughout the 38th annual NCOM Convention, with positive commitments to work together on methods and solutions to the benefit of the entire motorcycle rights community.

"Seeing all the motorcycle rights groups, clubs and individual bikers coming together to learn and fight for their lifestyles is inspirational. But the understanding and commitment by leaders of NCOM and MRF (Motorcycle Riders Foundation; [MRF.org](http://MRF.org)) and some members of the NCOC (National Council of Clubs; [councilofclubs.org](http://councilofclubs.org)) to communicate and work together is monumental," observed NCOM Executive Director Joseph "Joey" Lester, son of AIM/NCOM Founder attorney Richard M. Lester. Similar observations were echoed by other representatives of key organizations present.

"We want to make it perfectly clear that NCOM and MRF will be working hand in hand to show strength and unity in the ongoing fight for motorcyclists rights," pledged NCOM Chairman Charlie Boone (CBA/ABATE of North Carolina), adding that several NCOM board members will be attending the MRF's upcoming "Meeting of the Minds," September 20-24 in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania to further the alliance.

The 2024 NCOM Convention will return to Mother's Day Weekend, May 10-11, 2024 at a location TBD, so stay tuned to ON-A-BIKE.com.

### MIC WARNS OF BILLS THAT "WILL HINDER THE POWERSPORTS INDUSTRY"

The Motorcycle Industry Council (MIC; [MIC.org](http://MIC.org)) reports that two major bills have been passed in Minnesota and Maine that will create challenges for the powersports industry. One bill is set to ban products containing PFAS chemicals, and both of them specify strict reporting requirements.

In Minnesota, HF 2310 bans products for juveniles that contain PFAS beginning Jan. 1, 2025. It also specifies PFAS registration requirements beginning Jan. 1, 2026, and bans all products containing PFAS on New Year's Day in 2032.

The Maine legislation provides the industry with some relief, as H.P. 138 extends the PFAS reporting deadline to Jan. 1, 2025, and also exempts manufacturers that employ 25 or fewer people from reporting requirements.

However, Minnesota's new PFAS legislation will present significant challenges for powersports companies doing business in the state. "In powersports, PFAS chemicals can be found in or used to produce products such as riding gear, vehicle components resistant to heat, fuel, and chemicals, as well as semiconductors and chrome plating," explains the MIC report, also noting that Perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances are a class of synthetic chemicals used for decades in a wide range of consumer products.

"PFAS presents a major powersports industry challenge, and whether you're an OE, aftermarket, or riding gear manufacturer, you must learn about government PFAS proposals and look for ways to replace PFAS in products you sell," forewarns Eric Barnes, MIC technical programs vice president.



Both federal and state governments have examined the health impacts of PFAS in recent years and many bills have been introduced to ban its use. Some states are also setting up registries to list any vehicles, components, parts, and clothing that contain PFAS.

### FIGHT FOR YOUR "RIGHT TO REPAIR"

If you want to continue to be able to work on your own motorcycle, with guaranteed access to the parts, tools and service information needed to modify, service and maintain it yourself, then you need to contact your member of the House of Representatives and ask them to cosponsor H.R. 906; the "Right to Equitable and Professional Auto Industry Repair" Act, or better known in Congress as the "REPAIR Act".

"The REPAIR Act ensures that vehicle owners or repair shops are not denied access to the information, software or tools needed to work on vehicles," reports the Motorcycle Riders Foundation in an MRF alert. "The proposed law also establishes rules regarding vehicle data access. This commonsense law will help preserve consumer choice and a fair marketplace."

The MRF invites motorcycling constituents to communicate with your federal lawmakers via this link: <https://igniteadvocacy.com/go/you-gotta-fight-for-your-right-to-repair---support-h-r-906-/589>

### HELP TO PRESERVE VEHICLE CHOICE

"Congress must act now to pass the Preserving Choice in Vehicle Purchases Act and avoid forcing consumers to purchase



electric vehicles that fail to meet their needs,” claimed Congressman John Joyce, M.D. (R-PA), the lead sponsor of House bill H.R. 1435; “Preserving Choice in Vehicle Purchases Act” introduced in March.

Now, several Senators are taking up the cause of Vehicle Choice by introducing a companion bill in the United States Senate; the “Preserving Choice in Vehicle Purchases Act” (S. 2090).

NCOM Legislative Task Force chairman Ed Schetter (ABATE of Ohio) forwarded an alert from the Motorcycle Riders Foundation with the note: “I think we need to send this info out in the next NCOM Biker Newsbytes newsletter,” and we agree.

According to the MRF; “The bill would limit the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from issuing Clean Air Act waivers for state policies seeking to ban or otherwise limit the sale of internal combustion engines. This legislation would preserve consumer choice and maintain competition in the automotive markets by ensuring Americans have access to reliable and affordable vehicles.”

Senator Roger Marshall of Kansas, a co-sponsor of the bill, stated, “Our legislation is all about protecting consumer choice and, ultimately, free market competition that drives down costs.”

“The Motorcycle Riders Foundation is pleased to see lawmakers taking the threat to freedom of vehicle choice and the survival of the internal combustion engine seriously,” reported the MRF, adding that “Preservation of the internal combustion engine and ensuring availability of the fuel needed to run our bikes is a key part of the MRF’s legislative agenda.”

#### **U.S. HOUSE COMMITTEE PASSES BILL PROTECTING ‘MULTIPLE-USE’ LAND**

According to a report from SEMA (Specialty Equipment Market Association; SEMA.org), the House Natural Resources Committee has passed legislation that would direct the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to withdraw the agency’s proposed “Conservation and Landscape Health” rule (H.R. 3397).

The bill was introduced in response to the agency’s proposed rule that could potentially lock-up public lands and reduce

recreation. The bill also prevents the BLM from issuing a substantially similar rule in the future.

SEMA says it opposes BLM’s current proposed rule, which would allow the agency to lease lands under new and vaguely defined terms. “BLM’s proposed rule undermines the Federal Land Policy and Management Act’s multiple-use requirement for BLM lands as it would hinder access to public lands for recreation, forest management, energy and critical mineral development, and grazing.”

#### **NATIONAL FUNDING FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION**

The Motorcycle Industry Council has announced that the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior have proposed \$2.8 billion in funding for fiscal year 2024, authorized by the “Great American Outdoors Act,” to improve infrastructure, recreation facilities, federal lands access, and land and water conservation.

“For OHV enthusiasts, this would mean that we will see improvements to many of the trails and riding and driving areas we love to enjoy,” says Mario Mairena, of the MIC’s Government Relations Office. “There is a lot of overdue maintenance at numerous OHV sites, and with improvements we’d see better access to a lot of them. It would be good news for powersports people across the country.”

The budget allocates \$900 million for Land and Water Conservation Fund projects and programs managed by Interior and the Forest Service, as well as \$430 million for federal land acquisition, and \$470 million for state and local grants.

#### **VERMONT CLOSING “BASKET CASE” REGISTRATION LOOPHOLE**

Sorry Basket Case lovers, but Vermont has closed a registration loophole allowing vehicles with difficult titles to be legally registered in that state, marking the end of an era for home-build aficionados.

If you meet the above descriptor then you’re probably already acquainted with a thing that was previously and widely referred to as “the Vermont loophole,”

making it a popular state for folks with barn finds and/or other difficult vintage vehicle title situations, where they could legally register their new purchases, “until the past couple of weeks” according to RideApart.com.

For decades prior it was a tailor-made solution for project bike and car enthusiasts from much of the country -- exact rules vary by state -- but unfortunately the laxity of rules allowed thieves an equally easy route to obtain titles for stolen vehicles or fraudulent ownership documents “which was obviously and unsurprisingly a problem.”

Therefore, effective July 1, 2023, out-of-state residents will now have additional steps to go through to get a vehicle titled in Vermont, and now requires the DMV in your home state to verify that you’re not required to register the vehicle in question there.

“Will more old bikes end up scrapped because people who would previously have been interested in trying to save them decide that it’s not worth all the hoop-jumping?,” suggests RideApart, “It’s truly the end of an era for project bike fans.”

**\*QUOTABLE QUOTE: “Dissent is the highest form of patriotism.” ~ Howard Zinn (1922-2010) American historian & social activist**

\*Taken from Bill Bish’s 1st titled NCOM Bikers Newsbyte Jan-Feb 2014 Bailing Wire. Bill wrote prior titled COAST TO COAST BIKER NEWS from 2009-2013

ABOUT AIM / NCOM: The National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM) is a nationwide motorcyclists rights organization serving over 2,000 NCOM Member Groups throughout the United States, with all services fully-funded through Aid to Injured Motorcyclist (AIM) Attorneys available in each state who donate a portion of their legal fees from motorcycle accidents back into the NCOM Network of Biker Services ([www.ON-A-BIKE.com](http://www.ON-A-BIKE.com) / 800-ON-A-BIKE).



**ABATE of CA**  
**B.O.D. & Officer Candidacy Application**

Name (Including Road Name): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ CA Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone#: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

ABATE Local: \_\_\_\_\_ ABATE Membership #: \_\_\_\_\_

How Many Years an ABATE Member? \_\_\_\_\_

Along with the information above, please submit your answers to the following questions, in 450 words or less:

1. Past or current ABATE positions Held?
2. Other Qualifications?
3. What are your goals for ABATE of CA?
4. Do you attend your Local's meetings, if yes how often?
5. Have you attended an ABATE Quarterly Meeting in the past year?
6. Is there any additional information you would like our Members to know?

And submit a selfie.....

Scan and email to [bailing.wire@abate.org](mailto:bailing.wire@abate.org) by September 13th, 2023 for inclusion on upcoming 2024 Ballot



## Locals Reports

### Local #01 Los Angeles

At last night's meeting 8/15, I shared with the members some of the concerns that were raised in the meeting of the ABATE Presidents. Getting the word out about ABATE is one of the challenges and activities. Our Local has been attending local Bike Nights and spreading information about ABATE. We also hope to attract new members.

We are tentatively planning a Potluck and inviting groups to take part in the event, scheduled for November 11th. We took part in a fundraiser this past weekend for "Shawn" which was successful.

While discussing the legislative issues, we discussed the local program that is going on in the San Fernando Valley with cameras that will issue tickets at 11 mph over the posted speed limits. There is a new speed zone in Reseda on Victory Blvd., just east of Reseda Blvd., that seems to drop to 25 mph!

We MUST be aware of signage changes in the valley. This program is a civil fine. The concern is that it might be expanded and become an insurance issue or eventually a point to DMV.

For the remainder of our meeting, we focused mainly on the expansion of our local and the recent report that ABATE has been getting new members, according to membership chairs, Sporty and Bill.

Jim Nickla, President Local #01

### Local #02 Simi Valley

Hi Everyone,

I'm excited to let everyone know that ABATE Local #2's 2023 Sweaty Buns Poker Run was a success, thanks to those who worked the run! A big "thank you" also, to those who attended and rode the Run. Everyone said they had a nice ride.

The High Hand was won by Grant Hanlan (not sure of the spelling) The Low Hand was won by Mike Ferra. Congratulations to BOTH! And Congratulations also to Janet Russell, who won the 50/50 drawing!

We sold a lot of raffle tickets and the winners seemed happy with the items they won! We're also happy to report signing up THREE new Single Memberships and ONE new Couple Membership from the run. It was a very successful and fun event!



As most of you know we meet the 2nd Tuesday of the month at the Fast n Fresh Mexican Grill, 2480 Tapo Street, at 7:00 p.m., but come early to order food.

We hope to see you there ... and BRING FRIENDS.

Jane Warthen, President



### Local #3 Thousand Oaks/Ventura

Our monthly Bike Night in August was great fun!. Attendance at our monthly Bike Nights is increasing. It's great to just hang out for good food and beverages with our members and friends. And our newest member, Josh, showed up to hang out and get to know everyone. A Great Successful Evening!

At our recent membership meeting Chuck, our Prez. (and ABATE State Exec. Dir.) opened the discussion about organizing a Regional Rally. Lots of ideas were floated including where, when and what activities to plan. Chuck put out the word to other Local Presidents to organize a committee to begin planning. Our V.P. and State Asst. Exec. Dir., J.P. Martin, agreed to head up this Regional Rally Committee. The basic idea is to get some smaller 'regional' rallies going, with future plans to eventually resurrect the State Run Rallies. There's been a lot of interest in this type of activity, to have fun and build comradery amongst members ... Members can contact J.P. (his phone is in this issue on the Officer's List) to get involved.



We're also excited to announce our next UPCOMING Run ... FALL FREEDOM POKER Run ... Sunday, November 5th. Mark Your Calendars for this fabulous day of riding and poker and raffles ... and fun!

Our Local #3 is always eager to welcome NEW members. Bike Nights are held the 1st Thursday of each month, (weather permitting) starting @ 6:30 pm @ Azar's Sport's Bar & Grill in Newbury Park; our General Membership Meetings are on the 3rd Thursdays @ 7pm @ The Elks Lodge #2477, 158 N. Conejo School Rd. in Thousand Oaks; and periodic Sunday rides are planned by our members. Anyone ... and everyone is invited to all our events!

Supporting ABATE sends money to work towards fair treatment of motorcyclists. Whether you ride with ABATE or ride with another group, being a member of ABATE and/or just participating in these events, contributes to the work we do protecting our motorcycle riding rights.

Our Local #3 President, Chuck Pedersen, who is also Exec. Director of ABATE of CA, along with Bobby T., ABATE's California State Legislative Director, and other members & board members, continue to network with various other groups, building alliances to present a formidable voice in Sacramento. We are a group that is making things happen ... being instrumental in passing Lane Splitting legislation just a couple of years ago, and now working on Anti-Profiling and Noise bills this year! (see the flyer in this issue outlining ABATE accomplishments)

## Locals Reports



Members of our Local #3 will be participating in the upcoming "Legislative Month" in September ... where we will be going to the local district Offices and meeting with various legislators to share our position on various important issues related to motorcycle rights. Please try to join us ... (Information in this

issue of Bailing Wire)

COME JOIN US ... at any or all of our meetings and events ... and bring your friends. Join ABATE and be a part of our voice in matters of motorcycling rights!

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Kathlean "MamaBear" Pedersen

P.R. ABATE Local #3

### Local #19 Pomona & San Gabriel Valleys

I want to start off with a "brag."

Not only did we have a well-attended July meeting, but we had FIVE founding members of the Local, from back in the 1980s, present at the meeting: Sam and John Peterson, Sam Jones, Bill Baum and Jerry "Wooster" Shuster. We even had one member from the early 90s, as well. This was not planned as some 'special' meeting, but sure turned out that way, with a better-than-average attendance.

Four of these founders are no stranger in our meetings. Each of them attends, periodically, when they can. But Sam Jones, for one, has not been around for a while. Having them ALL there together at the same meeting was quite a pleasure. In conversation after the meeting, Sam was very complimentary about the meeting.

One of the ABATE State Board's commitments to the Locals is to have Board members occasionally attend the various Local's meetings, to see how things are going and offer their support. Even though Sporty, Membership Chair and Board member is a regular attendee as our Regional Rep., and I am on the Board, as well, Bill McClennen, Assistant Membership Chair has attended. On his visit, he offered similar feedback to that of Sam. So, I thought I might share some of how we usually run our meetings.

We start with being 'upbeat' and welcoming ... and of course with the flag salute. We move through some administrative requirements, then on to the meat of the meeting. We discuss issues and activities that are the attention of the ABATE lobbyists in Sacramento, and their status. There is usually an article regarding these issues in the Bailing Wire. And, of course, more details about the various issues aren't difficult to find if you want to do more research.

Additionally, we discuss what's happening at the ABATE State Board level and how these things are relevant to the Local's members. This even touches on progress with the United Motor Vehicle Coalition of

California, who organized the recent Unification Rally in Sacramento. The easiest way to stay current on these issues is to have a Local representative on the State Board.

As a side note, we are currently accepting nominations for the upcoming election of our Board of Directors. For anyone interested, there is a Candidacy Application in this issue.

Then we usually discuss additional news relevant to riders, largely coming from the NCOM Newsbytes Article, which is online and also published in our Bailing Wire. This often gives us forewarning as to what may come to California because it is happening somewhere else. Then we move to some event recaps and discussions of upcoming events.

Above all, our meetings are a social meet-and-greet atmosphere, to encourage and enable members to build relationships. With strong relationships, anything can be accomplished.

It does not need to take lots of work to pull a nice meeting together. And as with other things, many hands make light work. If you have different people that can each prepare for one element of the above, it takes almost nothing for each person to prepare. I hope this can help other locals having attendance challenges and help encourage other members that stepping up to Local leadership does not have to be a burden.

Not to claim to be any great guru, but I am open to coaching any member that would like to step up to a leadership role.

Until then, get out and ride.

Jeff Bassler, President Local #19

### Local #23 San Bernardino

A big "Thank you" goes out to Bill McClennen for joining Local 23 at PepperSteak Restaurant, for our breakfast meeting on the 6th. We enjoyed lots of good food and conversation. It was great to have one of the ABATE of CA Officers join us!

As a local, we are working on gearing up for our next fundraiser. It's been way too long since we've had a "Bare Necessities Run" to benefit The Salvation Army. More news to come on that.

This month, we were able to gather enough of our members to have a group ride after our meeting. A group of us headed up the mountain into the quaint community of Idyllwild. The temperatures were cooler, and we found a nice Mexican restaurant to top off our breakfast. Some

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## Locals Reports

even had room for ice cream! I know no one is surprised to hear there was food and ice cream involved.

September is still going to be hot, so we are looking to again head up into the

Mountains for our September 3rd group ride, after our meeting. This time we'll be going to Seven Oaks, a hidden gem off Highway 38. Come on out and join us for some fresh mountain air and delicious burgers! Everyone is welcome!

See you down the road,

Lizz Morris



Local 23 Monthly Meeting & Group Ride :  
Reanna, Greg, Arnold, Bill, Richard, Big Art,  
Irwin, Mike, Lizz, Ratchet Ron

### Local #25 Sacramento

Minutes of the ABATE Local 25 meeting,  
Thursday, July 20, 2023.

Lil' David called the meeting to order at  
7:00. There were six members attending.

Secretary Report: We hadn't had a meeting  
since April so no minutes for May or June.

Treasurer Report: David Smart presented  
a hard copy trial balance report for the month  
of June; even though we didn't have a quorum,  
and we did collect some donations from the  
few members present.

Membership Report: Membership reports  
from the state are now sent in Excel format to  
both the President and Secretary and members  
who have not renewed in some time have been  
purged.

PAC Report: David Battles updated us on  
legislation status at both the federal and state  
levels. At the federal level this included HR

1435 Preserving Choice, HR 906 Right to Repair  
and House Resolution 366 Anti-Profiling. At  
the state level, we discussed AB 645 Speed  
Cameras, along with 2 bills that have already  
passed and are in the implementation stage  
concerning sound tickets. SB 50, which was  
formerly an anti-profiling bill has been gutted  
and amended to allow minor tickets to be  
mailed to you. Also, Chappie from MMA has  
been asked to be the Regional Director for  
NCOM.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30

### Local #38 Imperial Valley

"Hell o" from the desert, ABATE members  
and friends. I hope you are staying cool.

We are in the early stages of planning our  
upcoming events. being the 33rd Annual  
Los Ninos Toy Run and the 26th Annual  
ABATE Local 38 Turkey Run. Save the dates  
December 16, 2023 and November 18th, 2023,  
respectfully. We already have the flyer out  
for the Turkey Run, which turned out nicely,  
thanks to The Law Tigers. And we will have a  
flyer ready shortly for the Toy Run.

We will be needing toy donations, as  
well as t-shirt sponsors for the Turkey Run.  
We welcome all donations large or small ...  
every little bit helps. T-shirt sponsorship is a  
minimum of \$100, to have your business logo,

car or bike club logo, etc. printed on the shirt.  
We have sponsors that just want their name  
on the back of our run shirt. We have limited  
space, so reserve your spot today. Our t-shirt  
sponsorship is what funds the major part of  
the Turkey Run.

We are happy to announce that Peggy  
Price is stepping in to chair the Toy Run  
this year! She will need and appreciate  
everyone's help and support. Also, the  
participation of lots of attendees will be key  
to having a successful run.

On Labor Day, we will be having a 'no-  
host' Breakfast Run to the Descanso Junction  
restaurant. They're Biker friendly, have good  
food, with large portions. Fred just loves  
their biscuits and gravy! We'll meet at the  
Chevron station on Imperial Ave. in El Centro  
at 7:00am, KSU at 7 15 am.

As always, check out "Ivmoto" on  
Facebook to see what's going on locally.  
Rocio has interesting stories and events they  
attend.

See you down the road. Ride Safe!

Eddie Aranda

President, Local #38

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## Sporty's Rides

By Lee "Sporty" Milligan

This edition of Sporty's Rides ranks as one of the hardest I have ever had to write. It seems like the older you get, the more people are passing away. Such is the case with Shaggers MC member, David Meyers, aka "Lineman" and ABATE Local #19 member, Diane Davis. I'm going to touch on my relationship with both, because they were near and dear to my heart.

I will start with David "Lineman" Meyers from the Shaggers MC. As you may know, the Shaggers are Clean and Sober. We do rides, events, and meetings. David was an inspiration to all who knew him. When he decided to get clean and sober, he was better for it. He had a humbleness about him that spread throughout the rest of his life. At the service on August 12, many of the tributes spoke of his kindness and his ability to help those who suffered with their addictions. I admired him as a club brother and will miss his kindness to me, regardless of the situation. As the Shaggers saying goes, "See you down the road."

My second tribute is to Diane Davis. I had known Diane for many years in ABATE. She was someone you could call a friend. She believed in and worked hard for motorcycle rights as a long-time member of ABATE of California and Local #19. A memorial service for her is still pending. I am still sad with grief and will need a service to calm my nerves and celebrate her life. I believe Diane, like Lineman, are both in the clouds of heaven, doing their special work.

OK, so on with my Rides ... I will start with my ride to the ABATE state office in La Verne to pick up Bailing Wires. I was on my 2007 1200L Sporty. It has over 144,000 miles on the speedo. Traffic was crowded that morning, so it took a little over an hour to get there. Got the Bailing Wires and was going to go to Jim Nickla's house to give him his share. However, I had a problem again with the battery arcing against the frame, making the bike not start. After trying several no-tool methods to get the bike started without the battery arcing, it finally did, and I rode it straight home, and parked it. I took my other bike to Jim Nickla's house to give him his share of Bailing Wires.

My final ride for this month was to David Meyers's memorial service in Lancaster. Since I had not fixed my 2007 1200L from the arcing problem, I had to take my 2002 883. I had to be at David's son Zack's house who lives in Lancaster. The bike was running ok for a bike with a lot of miles. Up on Hwy 14 it ran, when suddenly I had to slow down because a big rig crashed on its side blocking two lanes! Yikes, Yikes & more Yikes! Now I am splitting lanes. Finally got a clear spot and grabbed the throttle. Got off the freeway like the directions said, but the bike coughed and sputtered, and I pulled over. Five minutes later it ran again, and I found Zack's house. We rode to the church in a group ride. The bike was hot, but ok for now.

After the ceremony we rode to a location off Lake Hughes Road, where the celebration of life was to happen. The group went at breakneck speed, so I drifted to the back of the pack. A new guy made



sure I would get there safely, and I thanked him for that. I stayed for a couple of hours. Then I decided I better head for the barn. I said my farewells and left. I took Lake Hughes Road back until I ran across a Road Closed sign. Again, Yikes! I turned around and at the gas station store I asked the attendant if I would be able to make it through Lake Hughes Road. He said yes, and yes it was drivable. So, after another hour and a half I was home safely.

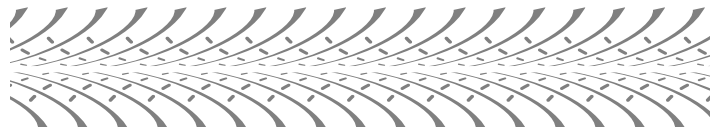
Epilogue: Yesterday morning I was able to fix the arcing problem on my 2007 1200L. Hopefully, it will stay fixed. I tested it out by riding the bike to my Intergroup meeting and then back home, a total of 22 miles, with no problems.

This concludes this chapter in Sporty's Rides. Till next month ... be good.

Scribe Sporty ... out



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## Membership Report

By Lee "Sporty" Milligan, Membership Chairman & Board Member

Hi all,

We have been doing very well with signing up new members!

Bill McClellenn, our Assistant Membership Chairman says we have made significant strides in Membership. I would be remiss in my duties if I did not publicly welcome you new members to the organization!




Now, it's up to the Presidents and members of the Locals to help those new members feel a part of the ABATE family within their locals. When the locals work together, we can develop a team and gain confidence, which will help in achieving our goals. And, with that said, the retention of our current members is also VERY important. Be sure to make the effort to help members ... old and new ... feel like they have accomplished good things by being in your Local and a part of ABATE.

Also, a quick reminder: There are still a couple of months left in the membership drive. Bike nights, dealership gatherings, poker runs, and other events are a great way to share our ABATE motorcyclists' rights message and agenda. When you go to these events, be loaded up with membership cards and Bailing Wires.

Final thoughts about the monthly meetings: You might develop a local membership script to help make it easier for you to approach potential members. Talk about it with your members and share between you, what are some of the best things to say to have those membership conversations with potential members.

"Good Hunting" on the membership front.

Membership Chairman, Sporty Milligan




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## ABATE Events for 2023

### Events -

**Fall Bingo & Memorial Run Local 17: October 1st**

**Downed Biker Rally October 14th**

**One More From The Heart November 12th (Loma Linda, CA)**

**The Toy Run Local 19: December 3rd (Page 8)**

### Bike Nights:

**ABATE Local 03 - 1st Thursday of the month @ 6:30PM @Azar's Sports Bar, 2215 Michael Dr., Newbury Park, CA.**

**No Name MC every 3rd Tuesday 6PM-9PM @ The 555 - 14582 Beach Blvd. Midway City, CA. Call 714-651-1526**

If you have a date for your event, and no details or flyer yet, you may still submit your dates, then submit your flyer in time for the Bailing Wire. ALL ABATE Events must have event insurance. Contact the ABATE State office for information.



## Sustaining (VIP) ABATE Members

### THANK YOU For the Extra Support!

#### ABATE Local #01

Vince Alvarez  
Mike Burton  
Fred & Patty Cammack  
Lisa Garber  
Micah Horton  
Lee Sporty Milligan  
Nicholas Novosel III  
Bob Warren

#### ABATE Local #02

Patti Bock  
Scott & Pat Burton

#### ABATE Local #03

Mike & Mary Osborn  
Mike & Michelle Vivenzio

#### ABATE Local #06

Bart & Wendy Perry

#### ABATE Local #08

Gonzo Gonzalez

Steve Howe  
Jessika Johnson  
Tim & Yvonne Tennimon

#### ABATE Local #17

Greg & Diane Howe

#### ABATE Local #19

Robert & Brianna Cuthbertson IV  
Jesus & Mona Lisa Godinez

#### ABATE Local #20

Paulette Korte  
Thomas Martin

#### ABATE Local #23

Todd Haeckel  
Kenny & Raeann Nuttall  
Richard Leach

#### ABATE Local #24

Reggie & Avril MacKay  
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#### ABATE Local #25

Lady Kay Deli  
Lil' David Morena

Joseph Rendon  
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Sally Broce  
Robert Duvall  
Kirk & Parva Loeblein  
Donald & Susan Noblin  
Ronald Tibbetts

#### ABATE Local #44

Mark Cobin  
Dave Cornelius  
Hank & Kris Hallmark  
Dave & Carol Hastings  
Ken & Glenice Hatfield  
Bill Tolen & Paula Penn

Sustaining Members (VIP's) receive a mailed copy of the Bailing Wire, the months it is printed, a yearly certificate of Appreciation, suitable for framing, their membership card with VIP printed on it, and their names printed on this list. ABATE of California appreciates their extra support.

## Donations: PAC, Lobbyist & General Fund

### Donations!! – General, Lobbyist & PAC Funds – THANK YOU!

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ABATE of California, Inc.

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#### DONATIONS TO THE LOBBYIST FUND:

**Bob Warren**

**From ABATE Locals: Local 19, 24**

#### DONATIONS TO THE PAC FUND:

**Bob Warren, Todd Haeckel**

**From ABATE Locals: Local 1**

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



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### Region #11 (Local 8 & Local 20)

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## ABATE Meetings

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Jim Nickla 818-469-9711  
**3rd Tuesday** — 5:30 PM Open, 6 PM Dinner  
14518 Arminta St. Panorama City, CA

### Simi Valley

Jane Warthen 805-341-3386  
**2nd Tuesday** — 7:00 PM  
**Fast N Fresh Mexico Grill**  
2480 Tapo St. Simi Valley, CA 93063

### Thousand Oaks/Ventura

Chuck Pedersen kath55344@gmail.com  
805-479-2706

**3rd Thursday** — 7:00 PM  
**Elks Lodge**  
158 N Conejo School  
Thousand Oaks, CA 91362

### San Diego County

Snowman  
**1st Sunday** — 12 Noon  
**Kate Sessions Park**  
Pacific Beach, CA 92109

### Orange County

Daniel Pfaffly  
**3rd Thursday** — 7:30 PM

Jan., April, July, Oct., Dec.,  
**American Legion #354**  
8071 Whitaker St.  
Buena Park, CA 90622

OTHER MONTHS - ONLINE

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

Glenn Phillips  
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**Judy's Wild Wrangler Saloon**  
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### Local #01

### Local #02

### Local #03

### Local #06

### Local #08

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### Pomona Valley

Jeff Bassler 909-919-0783 jeff@bassler.com  
**4th Wednesday** — 7:00 PM  
**Round Table Pizza**  
1020 N. Mountain Ave.  
Ontario, CA 91672

### Orange County

Rick Robison 714-315-1150  
local20abate@gmail.com  
**2nd Tuesday** — 6:30PM Dinner, 7PM Meeting  
**American Legion Post 295**  
5646 Coporate Ave. Cypress, CA 90630

### San Bernardino

Ron Morris 909-768-0355  
**1st Sunday - 8am Breakfast/9am Meeting**  
**Pepper Steak Restaurant**  
26589 Highland Ave.  
Highland, CA 92346

### Fresno

Joel Ross 559-288-8597 jross1@myedgemail.com  
Scott Loeffler 559-288-8597

**1st Wednesday** — 7:00 PM  
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### Sacramento

Lil' David Morena  
**3rd Thursday** — 7:00 PM  
**Denny's**  
3520 Auburn Blvd  
Sacramento, CA 95821

### Yuba City

Steve Katen  
**1st Tuesday** — 7:00 PM  
**American Legion Post #807**  
5477 Feather River Blvd.  
Olivehurst, CA 95961

### Imperial Valley

Ed Aranda 760-554-8843  
Edward\_A12@yahoo.com  
**Last Thursday** — 6:30 PM  
**Denny's**, 1445 Ocotillo Drive El Centro,  
California 92243

### Bakersfield

Darren Billesbach Jr. 360-296-9335  
darrenzemail17@gmail.com  
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**Rusty's Pizza**  
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Bakersfield, CA 93309

### High Desert

Dave Hastings 760-947-4700  
davesautoRpair@aol.com  
**2nd Saturday** — 9:30 AM  
**Moose Lodge #1808**  
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Hesperia, CA 92345

### Local #19

### Local #20

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**Please Use  
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Times & Locations**





## **Dedicated to Freedom of the Road**

### **ABATE - Lobbyist Accomplishment Highlights**

- **Steered CHP committee providing safety guidelines and legalizing Lane Splitting**
- **Passed yearly "May is Motorcycle Awareness Month" Resolution in the CA State Assembly & Senate**
- **Passed Senate Resolution 41 by Senator Caballero (D – Salinas) Anti-profiling Resolution**
- **Lobbied Caltrans to post "Look Twice for Motorcycles" and "Share the Road with Motorcycles" on their Freeway Message signs**
- **Stopped Transponders on Motorcycles for Autonomous Vehicle Recognition from advancing thru Strategic Highway Safety Plan Advisory Committee**
- **Passed Bill legalizing Motorcycles use of HOV lanes in California**
- **Defeated a bill by Assemblywoman LaFollette outlawing Lane Splitting by Motorcyclists in California**
- **Passed a bill requiring riders under 21 taking the Motorcycle Safety Program Training Classes**
- **Passed bill diverting Court fees on Helmet Violations to Support Motorcycle Safety Program**
- **Protect Yearly the Motorcycle Safety Trust Fund, where Motorcycle registration Fees are deposited**
- **Blocked a bill allowing Cameras to issue Motorcycle Noise tickets**
- **Defeated a bill allowing Cameras to issue Speeding Tickets**
- **Defeated bill requiring all Motorcycles pass an annual Smog test**
- **Passed bill grandfathering in pre 2016 motorcycle pipes for noise levels**
- **Defeated bill requiring Motorcyclists to wear Hi Vis Reflective Vests**
- **Passed bill legalizing Ape-hanger Handlebars above your shoulders**
- **Monitored over 2500 bills introduced and amendment by the California Legislature to see impact on Motorcyclists and their bikes every Year**

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