The Bailing Wire

ABATE of CA. Newsletter for Motorcyclists Volume XXXVII ISSUE III

A Union of Motorcyclists Dedicated to Freedom of the Road

Keith Johnston Local 3/13



ABATE of CA Bills at a Glance

The Lombardo Group info@lombardogroup.net

AB 2761, Obernolte. Yield: inoperative traffic signal.

This bill would authorize the driver of a vehicle facing a traffic-actuated signal that displays a steady circular red indication or steady red arrow indication, and that subsequently fails to display a green indication within a reasonable period of time because of a signal malfunction or because the signal has failed to detect the presence of the driver or vehicle, to proceed with caution when it is safe to do so, after having stopped at the intersection, as specified.

AB 2972, Caballero. Vehicles: enforcement: motorcycle profiling.

This bill would define the term "motorcycle profiling" as the illegal consideration of the fact that a person is riding a motorcycle or wearing motorcycle or motorcycle

club-related clothing as a factor in enforcement decisions and would prohibit peace officers from engaging in motorcycle profiling. This bill would also provide a private right of action for persons who are subjected to motorcycle profiling in violation of the provisions of this bill.

AB 3195, Acosta. Department of Motor Vehicles: licensing: motor-cycle endorsement.

This bill would, commencing July 1, 2019, require this certificate to be submitted electronically to the Department of Motor Vehicles by the operator of an approved motorcyclist training program and would require the department to accept those electronic submissions.

Want more details on a bill? http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/ Join or Donate TODAY www. abate.org

March 2018

American

B rotherhood

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E ducation

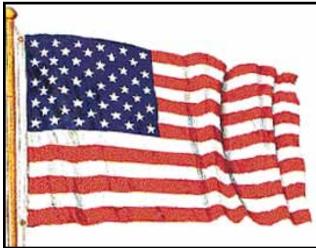


Table of Contents

Page 2 Lobbyist Report & Events

Page 3 Exec. Dir. Report & MC Profiling

Page 4-5 Call to Action

Page 6 Membership Report

Page 7-8 Locals & Flyer

Page 9 VIP's

Page 10 L#17's Bingo Flyer

Page 11 L#27 & L#11 Pics

Page 12 Polar Run Flyer

Page 13-14 Biker News

Page 15 L#17 Flyer

Page 16 L#3/13 Flyer

Page 17 Bike Raffle & Jr App

Page 18 Sporty's Rides & Bike Nite Flyer

Page 20 Safety Report

Page 22 Merchandise

Page 23 Poker Flyer Page 24 Off Road App

Page 25 Business Members

Page 26 ABATE Meetings

What is ABATE?

ABATE is a motorcyclists' rights organization dedicated to preserving freedom of choice and freedom of the road on or off with emphasis on education and safety. Although not a club, our members are active in programs for public awareness and motorcycle safety and in supporting many types of charity events. There are no special requirements for joining aside from an interest in promoting motorcyclist's rights and safety with payment of the appropriate fees.

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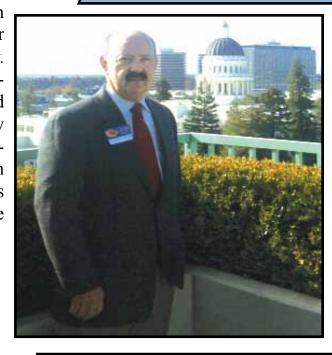
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Lobbyist's Legislative Report

ABATE OF CALIFORNIA NEWSLETTER



Page 2

Enormous Amount of "Spot Bills – technical, non-substantive change to Law" have been introduced that will be amended and as so will be reported on as they move along the process. Due to the lateness of the Legislature Feb 16th Bill Introduction full report upcoming in next edition of Bailing Wire.

March 2018

ABATE Events for 2018

You can also go to our website www.abate.org and Events Calendar to download available flyers.

February 25 – ABATE Local 1 – 31st Annual Polar Bear Run (see flyer this issue) March 3 – ABATE Local 17 – Freeze Your Ass Off Run (see flyer

this issue)
March 25 – ABATE Local 3/13 -

Leather Weather Run (see flyer this issue)

April 14 – ABATE Local 17 – Spring

Bingo Fun Run (see flyer this issue)

April 8 – ABATE Local 27 – BARE

April 8 – ABATE Local 27 – BARE Necessities Run (see flyer this issue)

May 5 – ABATE Local 17 – Texas
Hold 'Em (see flyer this issue)
May 5 – ABATE Local 38 – Cinco
de Mayo Fun Run with their annual
Ice Chest raffle being announced
May 10-13 - The 33rd annual
NCOM Convention, Renaissance/
Riverview Plaza Hotel, Mobile AL
May 19 – ABATE Board of Directors
meeting - Piccadilly Inn, Fresno
June 3 – ABATE Local 17 – Ride-In
Bike Show and Bike Raffle Drawing
(see flyer this issue)
July – ABATE Board of Directors

July – ABATE Board of Directors meeting - southern Ca - time and date to be announced July 21 - ABATE Local 17 -Summer Bingo Fun Run August 25 - ABATE Local 17 -Sarah's Scholarship Run October 7 or 13 – ABATE Local 17 - Memorial Run & Fall Bingo Fun Run October 20 - ABATE Board of Directors meeting - Piccadilly Inn, Fresno December 1 – ABATE Local 17 – **Holiday Party** December 2 – ABATE Local 19 – 30th Annual Toy Run December 2 – ABATE Local 17 – Toy Run

Bike Nites:

ABATE Local 3/13 – 1st Thursday of the month (See flyer in this issue for details.)

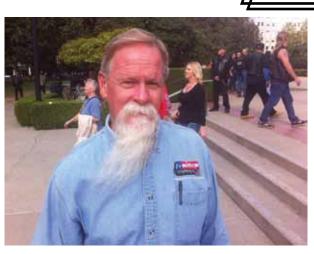
If you have a date for your event, and no details or flyer yet, you may still submit your dates so others can pencil it in on their social calendar. Then submit your flyer in time for the Bailing Wire and to be posted on ABATE's website.

ALL ABATE Events must have event insurance Contact the ABATE State office for information.

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.

Executive Director's Report



by Dave Hastings, Executive Director & PAC Treasurer

Traditionally March brings us the first subtle hint of spring and longer days ahead with the return of the Daylight Savings time change, which begins on March 11th. Along with longer days comes the opportunity to extend the time spent in the saddle of our motorcycle. Make some time now to give your bike a good once-over before your next journey, be it across town or cross country, especially if your motorcycle has seen a limited riding schedule during the winter months.

Bikes are like houses, they need periodic inspection and repair, and usually benefit from a good annual "spring cleaning" if we want them to give us years of trouble free enjoyment. Spend some time to ensure you will arrive safely at your destination, wherever it may be. The few hours and dollars spent doing so will pay huge dividends down the road. Any critical repair or safe-

ty issues that have been overlooked or neglected should be taken care of now. Performing these needed repairs will save you unnecessary aggravation and may even turn out to be a lifesaver when you're out on the highway. Sometimes an accident is directly related to a mechanical failure, so use that "ounce of prevention" everyone talks about and hopefully you'll never have to pay for the proverbial "pound of cure" because of negligence on your part.

By now you're probably asking yourself, "Why is Dave discussing safety in his column when Norm writes a much better article each month for our Bailing Wire?" Well, every member of ABATE wants you to enjoy riding as much as we do and arriving safely and "on-time" at your chosen destination always brings a smile to everyone's face. Most of us ride simply for pleasure and being broken down on the side of the road, being involved in an accident, or being profiled or dealing with some other form of discrimination simply because you ride is usually not something we look forward to.

ABATE of California members come from all walks of life, but we all share a common and passionate need for personal responsibility and the freedom to make our own choices. Our members live loud, are proud of their lifestyle and hold themselves fully accountable for acts of their own. We realize there should be some basic, common sense rules to live by, but we do not want our lives controlled and micro managed by others on a daily basis.

We care for and help those in need, but we also

expect them to reciprocate and participate by caring for themselves, their family and friends. By extending a helping hand we all benefit. That is the reason ABATE was established and still exists today. We represent riders of all makes and models throughout California and the rest of the country. We willingly extend our helping hand and hope for some sort of reciprocation. We realize not everyone will need or use our help, but we make the offer anyway, simply because it's the right thing to do.

So, when it's time to do that spring cleaning and safety check on your motorcycle think about what ABATE has done for you in the past and what we are trying to accomplish at the moment. Let us become a part of your motorcycle safety net by protecting your "Freedom of the Road". Join us in our quest to protect and preserve your motorcycle lifestyle. We are going to help you whether you reciprocate or not, because that's what we do. Your, and ultimately our own, motorcycle lifestyle is a safety issue ABATE and our ABATE PAC work very hard to protect and we sincerely hope you will do your best to help us help others. Motorcycle rights should be as high on your safety list as maintenance and repairs because without guaranteed "Freedom of the Road" none of us will have a reason or need to ride.

Help us protect you and your motorcycle. Join and/or support ABATE of California and our ABATE PAC.

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



2018 National Motorcycle Profiling Survey

Over the past two years (October 2015-September 2016 and October 2016 - Sept 2017) the Motorcycle Profiling Project, along with several cosponsors, completed the base research needed to prove irrefutably that motorcycle profiling is an issue nationwide and demands legislative relief.

With over 10,000 survey participants from all walks of life, the National Motorcycle Profiling Surveys, with 99% accuracy, has proven that many motorcyclists are being targeted by law enforcement based on appearance.

The 2018 National Motorcycle Profiling Survey has 11 questions that are designed to help define the profiling trends more accurately so we can focus our resources in the areas that need it the most. Your participation is critical because it will have a long lasting, positive impact on the community. Thank you.

Notes:

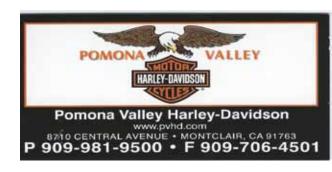
**NO PERSONAL DATA IS REQUIRED. YOUR PRIVACY AND ANONYMITY ARE IMPORTANT AND RESPECTED. By asking for no more than your zip code, which is also voluntary, there is no personal information to maintain or protect.

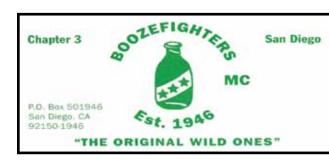
**If you or your organization are interested in cosponsoring this survey, or would like to get results of this survey or the NMPS 2015-2016 or 2016-2017 survey specific to your state, please contact David "Double D" Devereaux at:

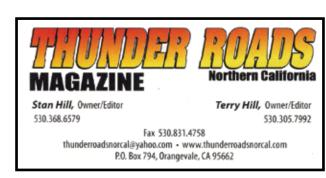
doubled@motorcycleprofilingproject.com

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NMPS2018











CALL TO ACTION – Support AB 2972

February 21, 2018
California Motorcycle Anti-Profiling Coalition
Legislative Committee
antiprofilingbill@abate.org



END MOTORCYCLE PROFILING

Motorcycle profiling is a pervasive problem in California. Motorcyclists are often targeted because of an overly-broad outlaw biker stereotype. The historical pattern of evidence is documented and irrefutable. Individuals and groups of motorcyclists are regularly the victims of selective enforcement from coast to coast, particularly California, even during political and charitable events, solely based on their appearance, not their conduct.



Motorcycle Profiling is Unconstitutional: Profiling relies on appearance to establish suspicion as opposed to the legal requirement of conduct. A motorcycle profiling stop amounts to the motorcyclist being detained, cited, motorcycle seized, or both because of constitutionally protected expression and / or association.

The Solution: Assembly Bill 2972, introduced by Assemblymember Anna Caballero on February 16, 2018 prohibits law enforcement from engaging in motorcycle profiling. This is a highly effective solution, with no required training or fiscal impact, and doesn't prevent law enforcement from doing their job.

Link to AB 2972 in the California Legislative Website: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB2972

The Time to Act is Now. Contact your local legislator and URGE him/her to SUPPORT AB 2972

- 1. Find your district legislators at the following link
 - http://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/
- 2. Click the link for your Assemblymember
- 3. On your Assemblymember's page, locate the "Contact Me" or "Email Us" button or pull-down link and click it
- 4. Fill out the required fields (note: your home address must be in the legislator's local district)
- 5. On the "Select an Issue:" pull-down field, select the option for commenting or sharing an opinion on a bill/legislation

- 6. Click the radio button "Support"
- Cut / Paste the below scripted message in the "Comments" box OR write a
 personal message in your own words asking for his/her support in a professional
 and respectful manner.

----- TO USE OUR SCRIPTED MESSAGE, CUT / PASTE THE MESSAGE BELOW -----

Motorcycle Profiling is a real and pervasive problem in California. The historical pattern of evidence is documented and irrefutable. Individuals and groups of motorcyclists are regularly the victims of selective enforcement solely based on their appearance, not their conduct even during funerals, political and charitable events. Motorcycle Profiling is Unconstitutional: Profiling relies on appearance to establish suspicion as opposed to the legal requirement of conduct. A motorcycle profiling stop amounts to the motorcyclist being detained, cited, motorcycle seized, or both because of constitutionally protected expression and / or association. The costs to the state and local municipalities, as well as to law-abiding citizens of not addressing the issue of motorcycle profiling continue to mount as the problem gets worse. AB 2972 was introduced by Assemblymember Anna Caballero, prohibiting law enforcement from engaging in this practice. This is a highly effective solution, with no required training or fiscal impact, and doesn't prevent law enforcement from doing their job. Similar bills have already been enacted in WA and MD with other states proposing their own this year. As a taxpayer, voter and concerned constituent of your district, I respectfully request and URGE you to support and vote AYE for AB 2972, both in your respective committee(s) and on the Assembly vote. Also, please consider becoming a Co-Author by contacting Anna Caballero's office. Thank you for your consideration and action on this important bill – AB 2972.

- 8. Click the "Submit" button to send your message.
- PLEASE FORWARD/SHARE THIS CALL TO ACTION WITH ALL YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY MEMBERS WHO ALSO LIVE HERE IN CALIFORNIA and ask them to send an email to antiprofilingbill@abate.org to be added to our Call-To-Action distribution list.
- 10. Contact us at antiprofilingbill@abate.org if you have problems or need assistance completing this process.

For activities and updates related to AB 2972, please follow us on...

Website: https://www.causes.com/campaigns/104351-end-motorcycle-profiling-in-california

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/MotorcycleRiderUnification/

Twitter: @CA_MCProfiling

Thank you in helping to END MOTORCYCLE PROFILING IN CALIFORNIA!

ABATE OF CALIFORNIA, INC.

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http://www.abate.org info@abate.org

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Bill Bish, Sporty Milligan, Jim Lombardo, Dave Hastings, Norm E. Newiger & Craig Griswold.

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.

\$15.00/Mo Business Card size \$150.00/YR Business Card with color \$20.00/Mo Super-Size Business Card with color \$250.00 Yearly only A Super-Size Business Membership includes Business

card on our website with a web link to your business. ALL Yearly rates Includes a Business membership to ABATE Of California.

Business Memberships include two persons at the same mailing address, and a display plaque for the first year. Business cards need to be mailed to the ABATE State Office with membership application and appropriate fee.

Other Business Ads or NON-ABATE Event Flyers

\$1,500.00/Yr. ¹/₄ Page (5"w x 7.8" h) \$150.00/Mo ½ Page (10"w x 7.8"h) \$1,750.00/ \$175.00/Mo

Full Page (10" w x 15.5"h) \$350.00/Mo \$3,500.00/

Color ads are 25% extra.

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP SPECIAL

Color for an ad or flyer is extra and (ad copy, print ready) must be submitted showing color. All ads MUST be pre-paid for whatever duration you will be running the ad. Prices do not include any changes that you may want to make to existing ads placed with us.

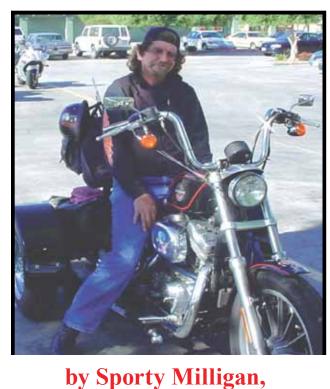
Ads should be submitted electronically - in a jpg or tiff file – email to **bailing.wire@abate.org** and either mail payment to the address below or call with credit card number and billing information.

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

If you have any photos of ABATE motorcycle events please send them to us. They will be returned if you ask. Please include name of event, date, sponsor, etc. Must be received by the 10th of the month. You can email pictures in .jpg file to: bailing.wire@abate.org

Donations to ABATE Of California are not deductible for Federal income tax purposes. However, dues and fees may qualify as business expenses and may be deductible in limited circumstances subject to various restrictions imposed by the Internal Revenue Code.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT



Membership Chairman

increase our membership rolls, and, just as important, to keep your Local's membership rolls at the same pace as you had at the end of 2017.

This means you should pay atten-

tion to the current members when they're due for their annual renewal. We have the special raffle membership tickets that all the presidents received - the chance to win \$250.00. These make great trinket "thank you" gifts. You might consider giving a single chance at the 2017 Road Glide bike raffle. So please, do your best to keep your Local going strong.

We are a mighty organization and we do good things for bikers in California, so keep on keeping on by signing-up new members and retain-Greetings! My desire this year is to ing your Local's renewals.

> Remember there is unity and strength in number of members.

Chairman, Membership Sporty Milligan





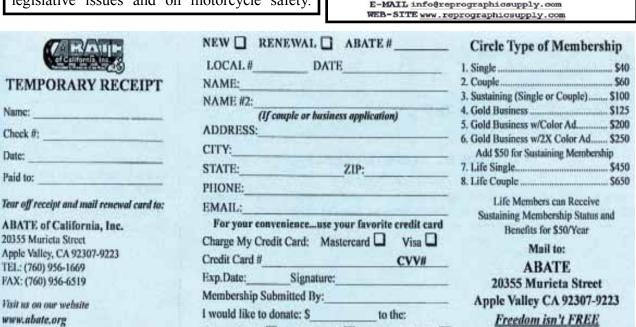
ABATE of California Inc. neither endorses nor promotes the services of any particular Law Firm. We are committed to working with all MROs including NCOM, MRF, AMA, MMA, BOLT and any other motorcycle rights organization that strengthens our lobby on legislative issues and on motorcycle safety.

(HEV 02/17)









Lobbyist Fund

(REV 02/17) + PR Privates (908) 387-0717

General Fund PAC Fund

LOCAL REPORTS

Local #01 Los Angeles



Greetings all! Our meeting is, as usual, after the Bailing Wire deadline. Here's a summary of what probably happened.

There will be a lot of talk about the Polar Bear run, final instructions etc., a brief summary of PAC issues, and discussion on how we can sell the raffle tickets for the 2017 Road Glide HD.

Local 1 is still kicking and our goal is to maintain our current membership. Thanks to the members that regularly show up at our meetings. You know who you are, so give yourselves a pat on the back! And those who don't make it to every meeting, we're sure glad to see you when you do – thanks!

The great cooks at the Elks Lodge will have a good breakfast, at a quite nominal cost, for us after the meeting!

Till next time, Sport Milligan, ABATE Local 1 President

Local #02 Simi Valley



What a great night for our meeting! From the parking lot I can smell my dinner being cooked! Now I just gotta pay and eat! Thanks to our volunteer cooks, Pres Guy and Scott! They did a wonderful job making sure we get our delicious food fast and hot! And a double thanks to Pres Guy for bringing in some really good homemade chili! It was great for this cool evening. And thanks to Pattibock for bringing us chocolate cookies! Happy Valentine's Day!

We still serve a great \$5 meal deal with all the fixin's you'll need. BBQ burgers and real fat footlongs to boot. We are blessed to have a full bar on the other side of the wall. We meet on the second Tuesday of the month and start serving our delicious meal deal at 6:45 until 7:20. Our meeting starts promptly at 7:30.

We meet at POST 10049 at 4242 East Los Angeles Street. We still, and will always, thank POST 10049 for being a gracious host!

VP Jim got our meeting going with our Pledge of Allegiance. Pres Guy opened up the meeting with some good information. He talked about the first quarterly ABATE Board of Directors meeting, about our membership and the legislative issues for this year. He also stated that he joined MRF and what they do for us.

Secretary Jane read the minutes from our last meeting, our treasurer, Pat, gave us our financial reportso far, so good! PR Norm talked about our health and body maintenance needed as we age, he even modeled what he wears while riding, and talked about the benefits of wearing compression clothing. Also said to read the Bailing Wire on line! Jane filled in for Frank with our membership report and run coordinator, Pigface, talked about our last ride and our next

ride, which will be Local 1's 31st annual Polar Bear run on February 25th.

We had a great meeting tonight and discussed various topics, it was very informative. We had a great number of prizes for our raffles and no one won our membership drawing this month so it rolls over to next month.

We missed all who couldn't make tonight's meeting and hope to see everyone at our next meeting. We are on the cusps of doing some good stuff for 2018!

Ride safer than the last time and be safe. PTL norm e.

Local #03/13 Thousand Oaks & Ventura County



Our Local is off to a spectacular start this New Year! Our members are feeling the enthusiasm for the upcoming year and working with everyone to further promote and sponsor motorcycle riding rights, while enjoying rides and events with our ABATE family and friends. We are a group that is making things happen, being involved in Lane Splitting last year, and now the Anti-Profiling Bill this year! Join us to be an effective voice in matters of motorcycling rights! We are excited about our upcoming annual Leather Weather Poker run on March 25th. Starting in Newbury Park and running through the local hills and valleys, drawing cards along the way. Ending with an after party lunch for all those who registered, music, raffles and prizes for best and worst hands. See flyer in this issue for all the details.

Our Local 3/13 continues to grow and evolve. We've been riding and making new friends in other clubs and groups. Spreading the word that ABATE's legislative activities help all riders. It's all about motorcyclists' rights across all clubs, groups and organizations!

Supporting ABATE makes a statement and 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 your motorcycle riding rights. The comradery and the interest in our mission is contagious!

Our President, and ABATE's Legislative Director, Chuck "Chief" Pedersen, and Vice President and MRF Rep, Keith "Solo" Johnston, along with some of our officers, continue to network with various other groups, building alliances to assemble a formidable voice in Sacramento. Issues we are working on include the current Anti-Profiling bill.

Our Local 3/13 is always welcoming new members. Bike Nights are held the 1st Thursday of each month, 7 pm at Azar's Sports Bar & Grill in Newbury Park; general Membership meetings are on the 3rd Thursdays, 7 pm at the Elks Lodge, 158 N. Conejo School Road in Thousand Oaks, and Sunday-Funday rides every 3rd Sunday.

Come join us for any or all of these events and bring your friends. Check us out on Facebook at www.Facebook/ABATE313 to follow our events and issues. It's all about motorcyclists' rights across all clubs, groups & organizations!

Ride Free! Here's to a fun and effective year!

Kathlean "MamaBear" Scribe & P.R., ABATE Local 3/13

Local #08 Orange County



Howdy all from Local 8! Local 8 finally held our 2018 elections this week with some new faces taking on Local 8 jobs. Thanks to Carol for stepping up to take the Secretary position, and thanks to Bill for taking over as Membership Captain. We also want to say thanks to D-Man who, after several years of service as our PAC rep, is leaving that position to become a member of the ABATE Board of Directors, and thanks to Linda as well who is stepping down from her Secretary position due to competing priorities.

We'll have more news about Local 8's plans for the year next month, but in the meantime we hope to see a bunch of you at the Polar Bear run.

All for now, Steve

Local #11 North San Diego County



Another beautiful day to have our January meeting at the Escondido Moose Lodge Park. They serve a great breakfast!

We discussed all the local runs and events, the Democratic Party meeting in San Diego, and voted in the same existing officers again.

Dogman went over the notes for the Presidents, PAC, and ABATE State Board of Directors meetings. Then a really nice local ride after the meeting.

February in San Diego North County and a very special Local 11 meeting. After several months of selling raffle tickets to friends and family and at events across the county, today was the long-awaited arrival of the Loaded Ice Chest give away! A dozen or so of the regulars were in attendance and a couple of past members we had not seen for a while, Reggie and Frank, were also on hand.

President Dan opened the meeting and without further ado, we pulled the winning ticket from the barrel. The winner of the ice chest, 13 bottles of premium hooch, beer, soda, cheese, snacks mixes etc. was (insert drum roll here) ABATE Local 38 from Imperial County! Local 38 Prez Eddie was on hand and accepted the prize on behalf of his Local. Congratulations Local 38!

Three additional entries were drawn and consolation prizes awarded. Joe Tatro from ABATE Local 6 won a bottle of Asom Broso Premium Tequila Silver. Dick Becton from our own Local 11 won a bottle of Spanish Wine and Joe Walker won a bottle of Champagne.

A great big thank you to all Local 11 members who helped in selling the tickets (250 all told) and a special thanks to President Dan for his donation of four of the bottles and the ice chest itself. Everyone agreed that the raffle was a success and we voted to hold a Holiday Loaded Ice Chest raffle in the near future.

Continued on next page

Continued from page 5

Stay tuned for "Son of Ice Chest" details in the coming months.

That's it for now. Remember Local 11 meets at 11 am on the second Sunday of the month at the Escondido Moose Lodge Park. Hope to see you all at our next meeting on March 11th.

Treasurer Tim.

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



Greetings! Our 2017 Road Glide raffle is moving right along with 1130 tickets sold as of February 18th. 4100 tickets are distributed out of 5000 so go get yours today! See flyer in this issue. Tickets are available through ABATE Locals 1, 8, 11, 3/13, 17, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 27, 31, 44/47, and 52. Please contact us for more details and we will gladly get tickets sent to you. Awards will be given to the top three individuals selling the most tickets. Every member should buy at least one ticket. Drawing will be held on June 3rd at Iron Steed Harley-Davidson in Vacaville. You need not be present to win. Call me (Glenn) at 707-624-6310 for your ticket.

Our 30th Freeze Your Ass Off Poker run is coming next corner.

up March 3rd and we are praying for continued great weather. This run kicks off our season of events here at Local 17, so dust off the bikes and come on out - "Rain or Shine". The sign-ins are at Miss Darla's, 110 Peabody Road in Vacaville. See flyer this issue. Stops at Mankas Steakhouse, The Preserve, Judy's Wild Wrangler and ending at the Moose Lodge in Vacaville for a great raffle, 50/50, BBQ, DJ and comradery. Sign-ins are 9 am to 11 am.

Next will be our Spring Bingo Fun Run on Saturday, April 14th. This event starts at the Road Trip Bar and Grill in Capay. Sign in at 9 am and first game is at 10 am. We will end at STR8 Shooter in Vacaville for Lunch and the final Bingo game. Don't miss this as it is a lot of fun.

May 5th will be our 7th Annual Texas Hold-Em. Tickets are only \$50 this year. Get your ticket in March and receive 2000 bonus chips, buy in April and receive 1000 bonus chips.

Please come to our meetings for important info and also to volunteer to help. It is the volunteers that keep us going. It is important to bring a worthy raffle prize to every meeting and that enters you in a drawing for free attendance to the event you donate to. For our members that cannot attend any of our events, please send a donation as we need them to continue to be successful.

We still desperately need a Raffle Coordinator and a Run/Event Coordinator, so please come to a meeting on the 3rd Sunday at Judy's Wild Wrangler Saloon at 10 am to volunteer.

Always check <u>ABATE17.org</u>, <u>ABATE.org</u> and now through Twitter <u>@ABATECalifornia</u>, Instagram <u>@abatecalifornia</u> and of course Facebook.

Ride Safe and Free and I will see you around the next corner.

16th Annual BARE NECESSITIES RIVERSIDE **APRIL 8th 2018** 10AM - 3PM American Legion Post #79 Fairmount Park 2979 Dexter Dr. Riverside, CA. 92501 COME OUT Support Riders Safety All Bikes, Riders and Kids Welcome \$10 Per Person + 1 Unopened Package Motorcycle of Socks or Underwear Deminstrations Babies to Adults, Male or Female Vendors Raffle/Prizes For the Salvation Army Food & Drinks Available For More Info: Call Kenny or Find us on (951) 377-5772 Facebook and Music kennuttall@aol.com Instagram! Law Offices of Richard M. Lester Aid to Injured Motorcyclists ACCIDENT? (800) ON A BIKE -(800) 531-2424 Toll Free- 24 Hours/ 7 Days- Nation wide

All Colors Welcome!

Local #20 Orange County



19 members and 4 guests were at the meeting. The guest speaker was Charles Robles of Vets Rock (2nd year organization). You can join for free. See Gill for information.

Spike covered various items on the local and national levels. The Motorcycle Profiling Bill (no # assigned yet) is promising, but we still need reps to carry it forward. Gill has sent out the Motorcycle Profiling Survey. Please have your family and friends fill them out - takes a few minutes and no personal information.

Doreen spoke of the various organizations that she works with and the new ones that are partnering with her. Doreen and the partnerships involved help out so many Veterans and people.

Bike nights are now the FIRST Wednesday (April 4th – October 3rd). Flyers coming shortly, but help spread the word. Pinch lost out on \$25.

Non Politically Correct Gill/Secretary Squirt

Local #27 Riverside



Racing season has begun! You can catch us under Flying Marshall Racing out on flat track circuits under the Southern California Flat Track Association, or Hell On Wheels M.C. and maybe even some SoCal Hooligan racing as well - find them all on social media.

This year we are adding our Crew Chief and youngest member to the team rooster, Robert Marshall, my son. At 11 years old on his 50cc classic Yami Chappy we are all looking forward to his debut. Also this month we will be watching our member, Jennifer Rios, as she competes in the Big 6 and other off-road and MX racing circuits.as well. Local 27's secretary, Kenny Nuttall, was kind enough to donate some good sponsorship money to Jennifer for her ventures. Find us all out racing with our ABATE Local 27 trailer in tow.

As a Local we also decided to put a little sponsorship behind a podcast called "Girl on a Moto". Find it on Instagram or Facebook. This show is dedicated specifically to getting women riding and interviewing them with great insight into the world of women on 2 wheels, check it out.

Keep up the good fight, my fellow ABATE members, and remember we are not part of the human ride, we are part of the human race.

Prez Local 27, Bob Marsh

Local #38 Imperial Valley

Hello ABATE Members! We had a planning meeting in Alpine at Fred's Burgers - great burgers! We discussed some of the upcoming events we will be having.

First up is our annual Ice Chest raffle, which will be raffled off on May 5th at our Cinco de Mayo Fun run. It will start at Coyne Powersports once again. I can almost taste those breakfast burritos! We will be ending at a new location, the Pentagonal Brewing Company in Imperial. Their cold brews are excellent. We already have a step-up as our Local won Local 11's Loaded Ice chest. Talk about being lucky!

Talk about being lucky!

We will have a flyer for the run shortly. Time to sell

We sent in our portion of the officers insurance. Well that's all for now.

Sustaining ABATE Members aka V.I.P. THANK YOU!! For the Extra Support!!!

ABATE Local #01

Gordon Baldwin Mike Burton

Lisa Garber & Bruce Hersch

Sporty Milligan

Bob Warren

ABATE Local #02

Patti Bock

Scott & Pat Burton

ABATE Local 3/13

Chris Hodapp

Keith & Sharon Johnston

Mike & Mary Osborn

ABATE Local #06

Bart & Wendy Perry

ABATE Local #08

Steve Howe

Tim Sr. & Yvonne Tennimon

ABATE Local #11

Dick & Sherry Beckton

ABATE Local #17

Greg & Diane Howe Steve MacDonald

ABATE Local #19

Jesus Godinez

Robert & Brianna Cuthbertson

ABATE Local #20

Robert Martin

ABATE Local #24
Mike & Linda McIntyre

Doug Silveria

ABATE Local #25

Lady Kay Deli Lil' David Morena David & Becky Smart

James & Daisy Young

ABATE Local #27

Fred & Patty Cammack Kenny & Raeann Nuttall

ABATE Local #33

Sally Broce
Robert Duvall
Douglas McIntosh
Donald Noblin
Ron Tibbetts

ABATE Local #38

Bruce & Shelley McPhetridge

ABATE Local #44/47

Thomas Bruce & Louise Towers Hank & Kris Hallmark Dave & Carol Hastings Ken & Glenice Hatfield Jeff & Nina Ozanne

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.

ABATE "Brothers & Sisters" Lost in 2018

Phil Hohman, Local 33

Rest In Peace, May they ride Forever Free.

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CINCO DE MAYO

Annual Ice Chest Fun Run May 5th, 2018

Start location:

Coyne Powersports 2351 S 4th St

El Centro, Ca

Registrations: 8:30am to 10:00am

Donation \$10.00 per person

End Location: Pentagonal Brewing Co.

115 N Imperial Ave Suite A Imperial, Ca

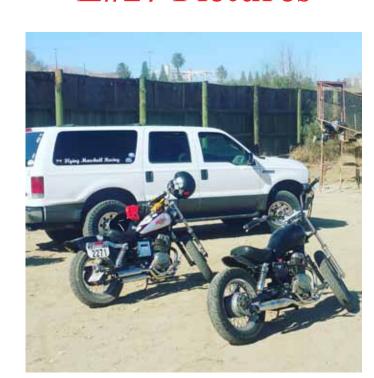


Contact: Ed 760-554-8843 or

Ken 760-352-2838



L#27 Pictures



Dan Buse L#11 President with Winner of the Ice Chest Raffle Ed Aranda L38



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

Thank you for your sacrifice, generosity, and above all, your faith in ABATE of California. We are proud of our long relationship with our California riders and we strive to serve your motorcycle needs to the best of our ability. Your donation will be used as you intended it to be, and we would like to say "Thank You" and wish you a safe ride on every road you travel.

Sincerely,

ABATE of California, Inc.

Thank you to the following:

Donations to the General Fund:

Carol Mayner, Local 1 W Scott Padgett, Local 1 Louie Karle, Local 17

From ABATE Locals: 8, 17, 19, 20, 24 & 44

Donations to the Lobbyist Fund:

Carol Mayner, Local 1 W Scott Padgett, Local 1 Randy Kilpatrick, Local 6 Rick Mullaly, Local 33

From the ABATE Locals: 1, 2, 8, 11, 17, 19, 20, 23, 24, 40 & 44



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Donations to the PAC Fund:

Paula Connor, Local 17 Adam Beck-Slaten, Local 27

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!

ABATE LOCAL #1

31st ANNUAL POLAR BEAR RUN

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 25, 2018

\$15 Singles

\$20 Couples



Run Pins FIRST 100

Raffles



Scenic Route

Approx. 75 miles

Sign-In 9:00 am to 11:00 am
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Exit the 5 Frwy North or South at Sheldon

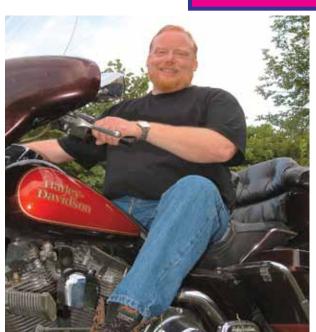
PLEASE SUPPORT BIG JIM'S BY HAVING BREAKFAST AND BE ENTERED FOR A SPECIAL PRIZE DONATED FOR THIS YEARS RUN.

ALL MOTORCYCLES WELCOME!!!!

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Questions Call – Sporty 818-361-8800 Rain date march 4th 2018 March 2018 ABATE OF CALIFORNIA NEWSLETTER Page 13

NCOM Biker Newsbytes



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

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

SAVE THE DATE: NCOM CONVENTION IN MOBILE: The 33rd annual NCOM Convention will be held Mother's Day weekend, May 10-13, 2018 at the Renaissance / Riverview Plaza Hotel, located at 64 S. Water St., in Mobile, Alabama, so reserve your room now for the special NCOM rate of \$114 by calling (251) 438-4000.

The largest gathering of motorcycle rights activists in the world, this year's NCOM Convention will draw hundreds of concerned motorcyclists from across America to "The Port City" to address topics of concern to all riders.

All motorcyclists are welcomed and encouraged to participate in the many meetings, seminars and group discussions that focus on legislative efforts and litigation techniques to protect our riders' rights and preserve Freedom of the Road.

Agenda items will cover legal and legislative issues, with Special Meetings for Veterans Affairs, Women in Motorcycling, Clean & Sober Roundtable and World of Sport Bikes, as well as the Christian Unity Conference and Confederation of Clubs Patch Holders Meeting.

NCOM has successfully outreached to numerous segments of the motorcycling community in an effort to unite for our rights, in both the courthouse and statehouse, and has become a unifying voice amongst North America's motorcycle rights organizations (MROs), motorcycle clubs, women riders, religious riding organizations, touring groups, trikers, sportbikers, and minority motorcyclists.

For more information, or to register for the 2018 NCOM Convention, contact the National Coalition of Motorcyclists at (800) ON-A-BIKE or visit www.ON-A-BIKE.com.

SECOND BIKER SET FOR TRIAL IN WACO REJECTS PLEA DEAL: Following a hung jury in the first of 171 Twin Peaks cases to go to court, resulting in a declared mistrial, the second defendant set for trial on charges stemming from the deadly May 17, 2015 shooting has rejected a plea deal.

Dallas trucker George "Scooter" Bergman declined a deal in court to plea to a misdemeanor with one year probation, and the District Attorney dropping murder charges, but he instead demanded his day in court by pleading not guilty to engaging in organized criminal activity resulting in deaths and injuries. Nine bikers were killed and 20 injured in the 2015 shootout involving police and bikers at the Twin Peaks restaurant in Waco, Texas.

Describing how he was on his way to the bathroom when the first shots rang out, and how he ducked for cover until the firing stopped, Bergman says "How can I say I am guilty for something when that is what I did?" Defense attorney Clint Broden says the state has no evidence against his client "other than he was present at Twin Peaks and was wearing a motorcycle jacket."

The prosecutor's office has since sought a continuance of the case until July, after the upcoming March 6th election primary, in a move many believe is so the D.A. doesn't suffer a loss or another mistrial before facing local voters.

Last November, Bandidos MC leader Christopher "Jake" Carrizal was the first biker to face trial. The jury in that case told the judge that even after several hours of deliberation they could not reach a unanimous verdict, which forced the judge to declare a mistrial.

STUDY URGES MOTORCYCLE AWARE-NESS TRAINING IN DRIVER'S ED: Motorcycle awareness should be included in all driver training and increased in safety campaigns, according to the authors of an Australian National University study which found that drivers are twice as likely to miss seeing a motorcycle compared with a taxi and admit they do not expect to see motorcyclists.

Referred to it as "inattentional blindness" resulting in "looked-but-failed-to-see" (LBFTS) crashes, these are the most common type of collision involving motorcycles, according to the 2017 US Motorcycle Crash Causation Study.

Now, a new Australian National University study, "Allocating Attention to Detect Motorcycles: The Role of Inattentional Blindness", has found that drivers are overloaded with more sensory information than the brain can handle. "So our brain has to decide what information is most important," the study reports.

Researchers showed photographs of "safe" or "unsafe" situations involving a motorcycle and a taxi, and 65% did not detect the motorcycle while only 31% did not notice the taxi. In other experiments, drivers modulated their attention to accommodate motorcycles when necessary, suggesting that motorcycles are given the least amount of attention.

Participants said they believed a motorcycle was just as likely to be on the road as a taxi, but admitted they would be far less likely to notice the motorcycle. However, participants who have a motorcycle license were more likely to notice the motorcycles.

"Motorcycles appear to be very low on the priority list for the brain when it is filtering information," University researcher Kristen Pammer says. Co-authors say their study highlights the need to encourage drivers to be more motorcycle-aware with special training for novice drivers to "put motorcyclists higher on the brain 'radar' of the driver."

Pammer notes many ways drivers can be made rider-aware, including advertising campaigns. "I would put it into driver training programs where everyone who drives must also experience what it is like to ride a motorbike," she says, adding that "If we could have everyone pass a simulator motorbike riding test -- I bet it would make a big difference."

TRAFFIC STOP 101 REQUIRED LEARNING:

A legislative trend has started amongst states pass-

ing laws requiring licensees be taught the basics of being pulled over, and by knowing what to do drivers can avoid negative interactions with law enforcement during traffic stops.

As of the New Year, three more states have introduced such legislation.

In Kentucky, HB104 would require that a driver's education program includes "instruction regarding a driver's conduct during interactions with law enforcement officers" and amend the state's Driver Manual to contain the information needed for an operator's license examination; and require driver training schools to include it in the course of instruction for new drivers. House Bill 104 was introduced January 2nd and referred to the House Judiciary Committee.

House Bill 1244 in Missouri "Requires driver's license examiners to demonstrate to applicants what he or she is likely to experience during a traffic stop and requires driver's education providers to include curriculum on traffic stops."

Likewise, S7239 in New York would mandate "driver education courses to include a description of law enforcement procedures during traffic stops and the actions a motorist shall take during such stop including appropriate interactions with such officers." It was introduced January 5th in the Senate and referred to the Transportation Committee.

CLUMBING DIVE CALLED DI AMED ON ID

SLUMPING BIKE SALES BLAMED ON UNCLE SAM: "To say sales of new motorcycles have been slow is an understatement right up there with advising the captain of the Titanic that there's a 'little leak' down in the hold," observes the National Motorists Association (www.motorists.org), then rhetorically asking 'Why?" in a recent blog..."Could it be ... Uncle?"

"It is because of Uncle that motorcycling isn't what it was once -- freeing, in particular," claims NMA columnist Eric Peters, adding that it has also become too expensive for Millennials -- the next-up generation that ought to be swelling the new rider ranks, but aren't, because they're already saddled with plenty of debt.

Some telling statistics indicate the median age of a rider today is 47 -- up from 32 in 1990 -- and even more alarming is that the number of first-time/new riders in the 18-24 cohort of people who will form the backbone of the buyer base for the next 20-30 years is down from 16% of the total pool back in 1990 to a depressing 6% today. Probably because they can't afford it, says NMA.

"Motorcycling has become not-cheap for several reasons -- all traceable to Uncle."

Bikes are now mandated to have the same expense-padding equipment -- especially anti-pollution equipment like cars have had for decades, even though motorcycles overall have a negligible impact on the environment because of small engines in small numbers.

"New bikes must now be very much like new cars
-- computer-controlled EFI, catalytic converters...

They are not only expensive as a result -- especially to service, which most people can no longer do themselves."

So instead of being an inexpensive hands-on experience, motorcycling is becoming the pastime of the old -- and affluent.

The median household income of a motorcycle owner is now \$62,200 according to stats compiled by the Motley Fool and 65% bring in more than \$50,000. That largely rules out the 18-24 crowd (Millennials) as a class. It's not that they "don't like motorcycles," as asserted by some analysts... "It's

Continued on Next Page

Continued from page 11

simply that they can't afford them anymore."

GM TO LAUNCH SELF-DRIVING CARS BY 2019:

General Motors has filed a petition asking the federal government permission to deploy self-driving cars on U.S. roadways without backup drivers or any manual controls.

The U.S. auto manufacturer announced it will mass produce vehicles without steering wheels or pedals, and that it plans on rolling them out in 2019. Some other autonomous cars allow human drivers to take control if something goes wrong.

All vehicles that are allowed to operate on public roads must meet the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards -- 16 of which include human-driver-based requirements. GM is asking NHTSA to allow the company to meet those safety standards through alternate means -- a process that the U.S. House of Representatives intends to include in a self-driving bill that was recently passed.

GM is facing competition from Google, which started testing driverless cars on public roads late last year.

The petition is the latest step toward the company's goal of deploying a commercial robo-taxi service. GM wants permission from federal regulators to begin testing driverless robo-cabs on public roads, starting in 2019; a move that could position the Detroit automaker as one of the leaders in the development of autonomous vehicle technology.

"We believe this is a pretty notable milestone on the journey to AV deployment where we're talking about a real production car with no manual controls," said GM President Dan Ammann, adding that, "this technology will have a huge impact on the world."

GM's announcement came on the same day the Boston

Consulting Group issued a new report looking at the impact technologies like autonomous driving and electrified vehicles will have on the auto industry over the next two decades. Among other things, the study forecast that about 20% of the miles Americans travel by automobile in 2035 will be in robo-cabs operated by ride-sharing services.

AIRBAG SUITS NOW MANDATORY IN MOTORCYCLE RACING: Motorcycle suits with airbag technology have been used voluntarily by most of the world's fastest riders for nearly a decade, though never mandatory, but that has now changed for all classes across the 2018 MotoGP World Championship races.

Thanks to a new official ruling by governing body Fédération Internationale de Motocyclisme (FIM), the high-tech devices are becoming mandatory across the board in MotoGP, Moto2, and Moto3 for the 2018 season. The FIM's new mandate states that all full-time riders must wear leathers fitted with an airbag system at all times during every session.

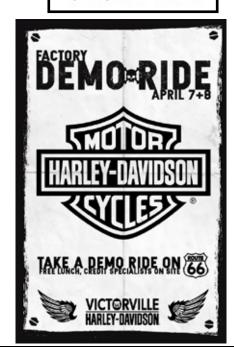
The new regulations also require that every airbag system pass a series of rigorous tests which each manufacturer is responsible for self-certifying that its respective suit passes all regulations and standards.

"These regulations mark yet another step towards increased rider safety, with the FIM, IRTA and Dorna all committed to making sure MotoGP is as safe as possible -- and always evolving," according to MotoGP.

QUOTABLE QUOTE: "We may have all come on different ships, but we're in the same boat now." ~ Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929-68) Civil Rights Leader



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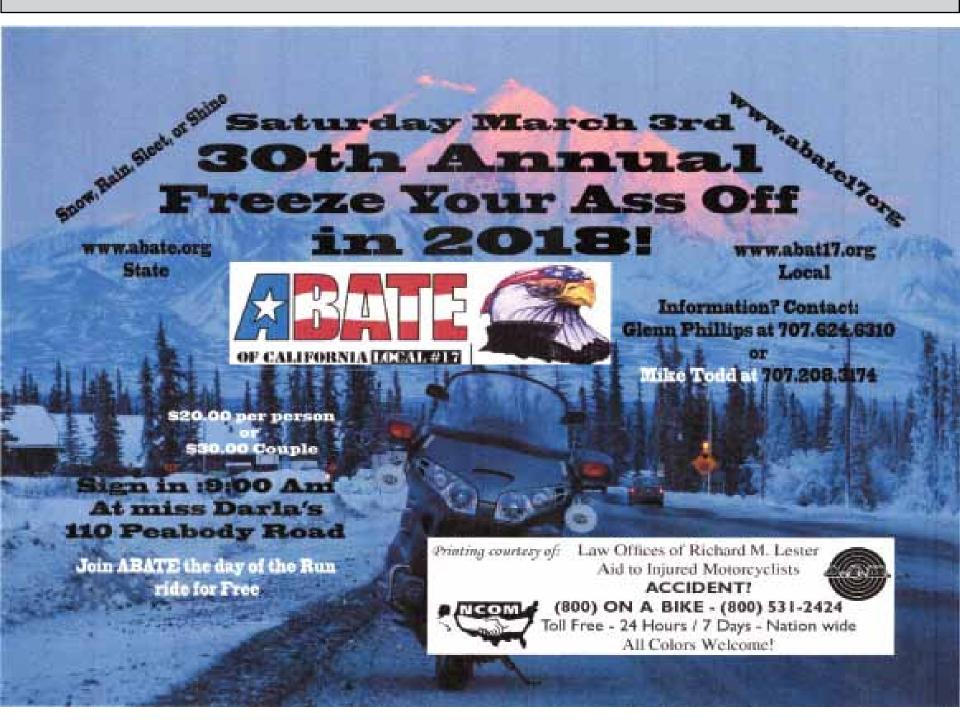




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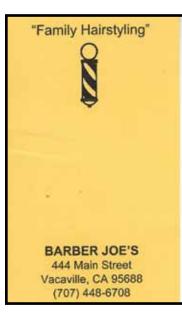


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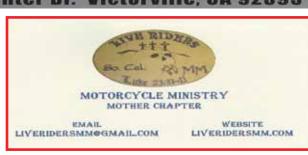
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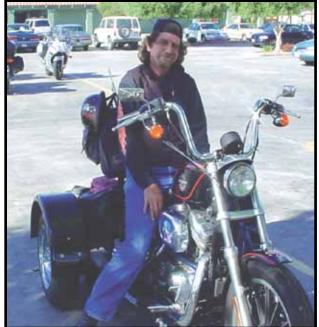
New ____ Renew Date: LOCAL# Name: Birth Date: Address: ___ City: Zip Code: ___ State: Telephone #: (with area code) (Parent/guardian/grandparent) Sponsored by: Their Membership #: (Sponsor) Junior Membership receives patch when new \$5.00 Renewing Junior membership – renewal pin \$5.00 Junior ABATE Membership #

(Usually the same as sponsor and expires when sponsor's membership expire)



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by Sporty Milligan

Hi all! Since I last wrote you, Local 1 has been busy with preparations for the 31st annual Polar Bear run on February 25th. This means I have been going to the various shops to seek donations of raffle prizes.

Saturday, February 3rd, I rode over to the Top Rocker HOG Chapter meeting at the Elks Lodge in Canoga Park. Jim Nickla and Glen Cheslock were in attendance. I had Jim do the pitch to attend the Polar Bear run. Good breakfast as usual. When the meeting was over we shifted gears and headed over to the dealership. I received the raffle prizes from the ladies who do that sort of thing – thank you! I stayed a little longer, then departed to Cycle Gear to find out if they would donate some raffle prizes. Yes! The manager was able to donate three nice raffle prizes. Thanks!

From Cycle Gear I headed down to Bartels HD to ask for more raffle prizes. I spent an hour or so at the shop, but the lady who gives out raffle prizes was out for the afternoon. Was told to come back Tuesday for the donation. Handed out flyers to our run, so it was not a total loss. Ride home was enjoyable.

Sunday after our 11 am speaker meeting, I rode up to Old Road HD where I got a really nice t-shirt from the dealership. Thank you! Shift to Tuesday, February 6th, and a morning ride back to Bartels HD. WOW! Was I glad I came back! They set me up with some nifty raffle prizes. Thanks!

To thank all the sponsors who helped make this event a success, I created "Thank you" plaques. I think they turned out rather well. (Tooting your horn again, Sporty?)

Saturday and Sunday were demo days at Glendale HD. I went Saturday in the hopes that my quest for raffle prizes would be handled. However that was not to be as they were pretty busy with riders wanting to test ride the 2018 models. Jessie, the man in charge of stuff like raffle prizes, said to come back to-

Sporty's Rides

morrow and he would hook me up with some Bliss, at Big Jim's Family restaurant to neat stuff. The next day I returned and, yes run the complete route. Jim had to work Virginia, I got raffle prizes. Thank you!

Ok so we're progressing along with the preparations for the Polar Bear run. I had asked Debra Dunn, one of Local 1's business members, RETRO-GRAPHICS in Sun Valley, to make the Polar Bear run sheets and poker run sheets. She said they would be ready Tuesday the 13th. They were ready that day and I picked them up. Thank you Debra! It's one less thing I have to worry about the week before the run.

Valentine's Day Renee and I went to see a dear friend of ours. She's an elderly lady who lives in an assisted living complex in Burbank. I brought her a 16 ounce diet coke. We chatted for a while and since it was Valentine's Day I used the YouTube on my phone to play her a song by Frank Sinatra - My Funny Valentine. If you're into Blue Valentines, check out the song done by one of my favorite singers, Tom Waits.

Ok so February 15th, the day this column is due, I had arranged to meet Local 1's members, Jim Nickla and Lonnie

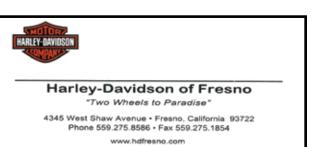
Bliss, at Big Jim's Family restaurant to run the complete route. Jim had to work his 8 hour shift plus do a work shop for his job. So after I got more run flyers and gassed my bike, I met Lonnie at Big Jim's. We ran the route and – yikes! - it was really windy even at the end, the Big Oaks Lodge, in Bouquet Canyon. The Oaks has a new owner who is of Danish descent. He is going to cook chicken quesadillas. We talked about the set up. Lonnie has his number and will check with him on Thursday. I just hope that before the Polar Bear run the wind dies down a bit. It was pretty windy in Acton and through the canyons.

February 16th I am doing a Patriot Guard ride for a 27 year old Marine Sergeant who was killed outside the Camp Pendleton base. More details on that sad event in the next month's column.

That's it for this month's installment. Be good, do ABATE functions and keep the rubber side down.

Scribe Sporty











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Motorcycle Safety Report

by Norm e. Newiger

Changing With Age

Has anyone fulfilled any of their commitments to start off 2018? Or should I say started their list of things not to do! To start the New Year we put the pressure on ourselves thinking it's easy as eating apple pie. Then the truth sets in and we say things like, "What was I thinking?" "I was drunk and it was the first day of 2018! Who believes a drunk?" It's true that we can make as many excuses as we need. After all, we are just disappointing ourselves.

Maybe we need tough love to fulfill our personal pledge(s), or just a positive attitude all the time. I know it's very hard to think that way and being positive is a challenge itself. If you are reading this, then you know you've gotten days into this year, but it's never too late to change your life or the way you live.

I wonder how many riders of the roads of life have said this, "I'm gonna ride more this year and surpass the mileage from last year with new adventures to anywhere!"

I have taken an approach to motorcycle safety because it's not just about riding alone, it's about ourselves in general and when we become seasoned riders we know a thing or two about life on 2 wheels. We also need to focus on our health and other things that happen to us as we age, i.e. injuries, surgeries and whatever happens to us.

Our health becomes an issue that is very safety related. I know this as well as you all! I have been writing about our health and riding here and there for months (visit the Bailing Wire online) because it's necessary and a requirement if you want to make it to 2019 - nothing is guaranteed that I know of.

As I write this article I am confined to doing nothing, because I overexerted myself, wrenched my back and got my third hernia. My doctor says to rest and heal for a month and when your hernia has healed start physical therapy for another month and a half. So Bam! Surprise! It hits you that fast! You're down for two plus months unexpectedly! I'm delicate! So, deal with it. That's my mantra for 2018...

I started riding in January thinking this is great, the weather is perfect and February will be the same - awesome! But no, life got in the way and tripped me up for a couple of months so I will miss awesome until – hopefully - sometime

It really does happen that fast, and the older you get the faster it happens. I hate the term "senior rider"! Don't ever say that - period! I like to be called an "aged rider" with scars for proof of riding experience. What are the odds of life if you've ridden unscathed since the mid-sixties? That's me and many more, I hope. It's hard to reflect on how you managed to escape the dangers into an accident with or a one vehicle crash because of many different reasons.

I have endured many near misses of all types over the years and, thanks to many years on the road, I have learned how to survive and ride again. Experience is the best teacher, with that comes wisdom and with wisdom comes knowledge and with knowledge comes survival. In our daily putt or weekend jaunt, we are learning constantly about motorcycle survival on the roads of life. In all this we get educated and the responsibilities are ours, but, we need to bring forth our information to all that will listen, especially that new rider, or the former rider that hasn't ridden

a bike until all their children left the house and



sells their minivan for a 2-wheel life - you know

To all who have crashed and gone back to riding, God bless you! I know a lot of riders who crashed and cashed out. I don't blame them, although I would encourage them to take some time off, then hit the re-set button when they feel the urge to ride. I know it's easier said than done. If you know anybody that is in this type of situation, please be a friend and help them by encouraging them to see the true freedom of riding and what it's worth to you.

We live in an awesome time of riding and it seems that the major roads and freeway systems have gotten better with repairs and new construction. These are great days for great rides, highway repairs are at an all-time high, from the lowest elevations of flat roads to the highest mountain roads of limitless adventures. I had the privilege of riding in the '70s. It was one of the greatest decades to ride in (for me, my opinion). There were the crappiest roads everywhere. It was a challenge and kept you focused while you rode. In California you'd ride out to nowhere and at any given point there was the dirt road, then asphalt miles away, why? In Arizona the highways were like riding a bucking bronco when you got out of the city areas. New Mexico was a little worse than Arizona. Texas had sand, a lot of sand, more sand than most beaches and slow road clean up service. It was slippery when dry, especially in the sand dunes areas. In certain areas you could ride 100 miles through sand dunes on a two-lane highway out in the middle of nowhere!

Nowadays highway safety is at a premium, I know it's tax related and it sucks, but it doesn't. We are all funding this new safety and it's worth it. If you have ridden the roads of the '50s - '60s - '70s and maybe a little into the '80s, you know there are major improvements everywhere. The riders of today are enjoying this pioneering effort us aged riders went through. Most of us were of the road, whether a driver of a vehicle you get care free, (a '70s term) and we were oblivious to what was slowly happening around us everywhere. Back in the day when you broke down, you were broke down, sometimes it was hours into the day before you could get assistance, true stories! Then one day, there were phones on the highways and freeways. That was high technology at the time and it was actually great. You didn't have to walk 5 miles to an exit to find a phone, and, yes, it was a safety issue with positive results. As we progressed, car phones were the new high-tech thing to have, another positive direction of good progress and death to the frik-

ken pager! We all know what happened next - the evolution of the cell phone! And now we have created

a monster that kills, maims and creates hate of all sorts. Is the cell phone the enemy of us riders? The statistics prove it is. We are reeling backwards because people just won't stop using their cell phones while driving. I'm not talking about just kids or young adults, I see older people still talking on their cell phones while driving, even if they have a hands-free system built into their vehicles.

We need to be more diligent in pursuing safety for not just the riders of the roads but to all who use our roads. I've seen so many truck drivers using cell phones while driving - it's crazy out there! That is why motorcycle safety has to be taken to the next level because of one thing, distraction! The accidental killing machine for all that do not adhere to the new laws regarding cell phone usage.

I think we've all seen or heard, ironically on our cell phones (go figure), about the really bad accidents that involved cell phones while driving all across America. This new statistic we created only adds to our plate of riding responsibly, and I know they have hands free for motorcycles - another ironic situation we put ourselves into. This is another scenario you could be in, riding while using your hands-free device crashing into a person driving while they are on their cell phone. I would bet your barn this has happened more than

When you think about progress of all sorts, we truly have to adapt, very quickly. This world is not for old timers anymore, it's about speed, speed, speed! And youth! I'm a slow learner because I'm not worried about time. At my age I still comprehend everything new, but with less zest than a person 45 years younger than me. And what I want to talk to them about is safety on the road, respecting riders and the drivers of all vehicles. We need to emphasize safety first and how to avoid the dangers of the road.

Like I said earlier, our road systems have improved dramatically and we need to enjoy them, after all we all paid for them! Motorcycle safety is our responsibility even when we talk to nonriders, we need to pass this important information to everyone, even us! It's really an honor to groom our future riders with respect and have a safety minded attitude. Remember my last article about being an impact to future riders? Are you?

I hope for the best for ALL riders. It's about us and what we do. Understand safety and share your information. After all, just your words of wisdom can save a life!

Embrace change and you will change. That's how I have been rolling since the '60s, I've been sharing, caring and daring! Ride safe and remember to be extra alert, even on a new highway paved with black asphalt.





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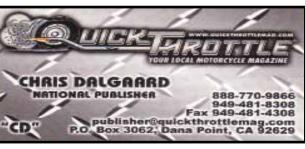
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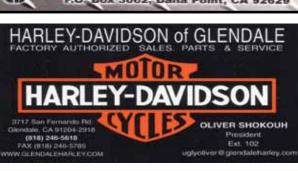
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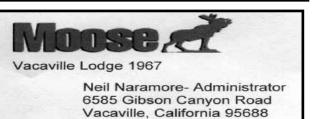
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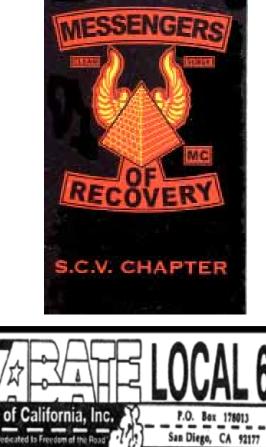
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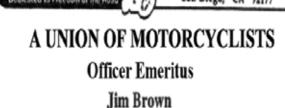


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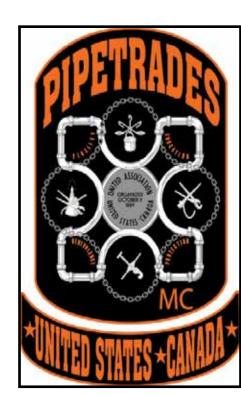
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