

# The Bailing Wire

ABATE of CA. Newsletter for Motorcyclists Volume XXXVI ISSUE VII

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

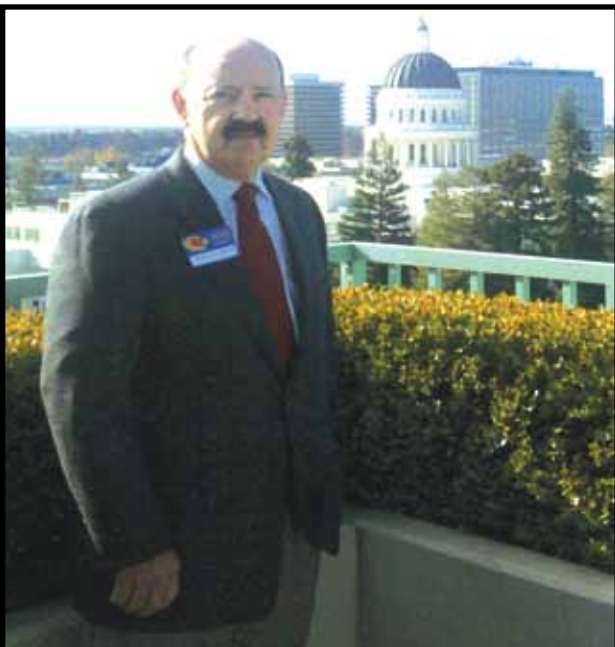
**July 2017**

**Janet Wilhelm at Pueblo CO at the 2017  
Thunder in the Arkansas**

**American  
Brotherhood  
Aimed  
Towards  
Education**



## *Lobbyist's Legislative Report*



**by James Lombardo,  
Lobbyist**

The Legislature passed the State Budget on time! According to the Sacramento Bee "Members would have lost their \$471.00 tax free per diem for the week had the Budget not passed by the June 15<sup>th</sup> Deadline" - an extra incentive to pass the Budget on time!

Now, they are back to working on the remaining bills before the July 15<sup>th</sup> recess. Our bills are proceeding through the process. SB 672 by Senator Jean Fuller removes its sunset thereby mak-

ing permanent our successful effort to get Caltrans, cities and counties to alter the detection loops of traffic lights to detect motorcycles and bicycles when stopped at a light. If our bill is not signed by Governor Brown, detectors will not be replaced or correctly calibrated and we'll be back to sitting at traffic signals until a car comes along to trigger the green light change. SB 672 is awaiting a hearing in the Assembly Transportation Committee, having passed out of the Senate unopposed.

Our other bill, AB 1027 by Assemblyman Dante Acosta, allows experienced motorcycle riders to be able to take the Intermediate Course and pass a One Day Class in order to get their DL 389 waiver and not have to take the DMV lollipop test, only the written test. AB 1027 Acosta has passed the Senate Transportation and Housing Committee and is in Senate Appropriations.

See you at the Board and Legislative/PAC meetings July 29<sup>th</sup> in Buena Park!

Thanks to all for your Contributions to the Dedicated Lobbyist Fund!

## **Table of Contents**

Page 1	Lobbyist Report
Page 2	Ex Report
Page 3	Membership Report
Page 5-6	Local Reports
Page 7	Beltway Article
Page 8	Donations, RIP & Flyer
Page 9	Flyer
Page 10	Events & Jr. Training
Page 11	V.I.P.
Page 12	Sportys Rides
Page 14	Safety Report
Page 15	Thanks to our Business Members
Page 16	Merchandise
Page 18	Off Road App
Page 19	Business Members
Page 20	ABATE Meetings



# What is ABATE?

ABATE is a motorcyclists' rights organization (not a club) dedicated to preserving freedom of choice and freedom of the road, with emphasis on education and safety. Our members are active in programs for public awareness and motorcycle safety, and in supporting many types of charity events.

Included with an ABATE membership are a sew-on patch, membership card, and our monthly newsletter in the months that it is printed THE BAILING WIRE. There are no special requirements for joining aside from an interest in promoting motorcyclists' rights and safety with payment of the appropriate fees.

## ABATE Info or Message Line

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<http://www.abate.org>

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Assistant Executive Director

Ed Rogers 559/264-2891

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Region 3: Open

Region 6: Ed Rogers 559/264-2891

Region 7: Chuck Pedersen 805/496-0323

Region 8: Sporty Milligan 818/361-8800

Region 9: Mark Loudermilk 951/599-5234

Region 11: D-Man 714/833-9508

Region 12: Dave Connors 760/208-7232

Region 13: Yermo Ed 760/953-7353

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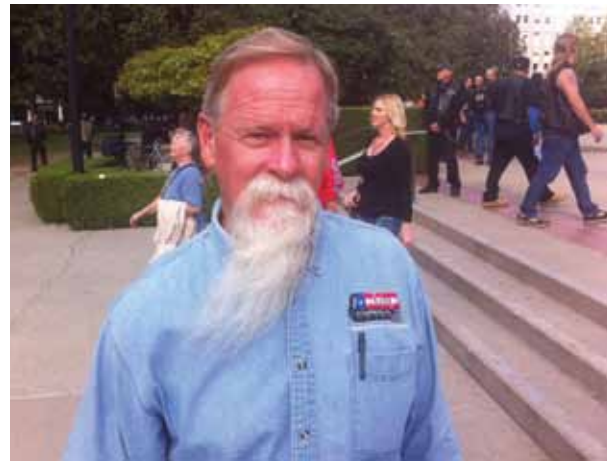
**Glenn Phillips 707.624.6310**

**Ed Rogers 559.264.2891**

**Adam Sheldon 858.254.2164**

**"Spike" 714.234.0730**

# Executive Director's Report



## by Dave Hastings, Executive Director

July signals we have passed the half way point of the year and it's now time to examine our wins, losses, and draws, and revisit and evaluate the goals we currently have in place.

**Wins:** We were successful in our ABATE led quest to "legalize" lane splitting in California and we are working closely with the CHP and other MROs in California to get the "official" guidelines published. Once this is accomplished, the CHP and other Law Enforcement agencies will have a standard to abide by statewide and they will also be able to implement an educational program for ALL motor vehicles in California.

I think the word is already getting out to the vehicle owners of our state because I have noticed an increased awareness and a subtle, but more gracious, attitude by drivers when I split lanes in my area.

Hopefully this is occurring statewide and benefiting every California rider. Do your part and be a good example of a "lane splitter" and this can be a win/win for everyone who travels our highways. Acknowledge those drivers who give you some extra "lane room" out on the road and be as patient as possible with those who are not yet aware of the new rules. These things take time and this is still a work in progress

We have several other pieces of legislation we are supporting and monitoring as they move through the legislative process and you can stay informed by checking our Bailing Wire and ABATE web page for updates.

**Draws:** We were able to successfully stop several negative pieces of legislation that were introduced on both street and off-road issues

and we are again monitoring and working diligently to ensure these bills are not resurrected. Chuck Pedersen, our Legislative Director, and Jim Lombardo, our Lobbyist in Sacramento, are the men to contact for legislative issues and updates.

**Losses:** Funding for our organization! We did not hold our annual Regional Rally here in southern California this year and we are still evaluating the feasibility of holding the State Run. In the past, both of these events were large contributors to our General, PAC, and Lobbyist Fund accounts, but the operational cost increases and declining attendance numbers have resulted in less and less profit every year.

The Board of Directors decided to place both events on temporary hold in 2017 and we are still examining ways to either make these events more profitable or substitute some other function in their place to raise money for our organization. If you have any ideas for a fundraiser and would be willing to help us implement those ideas, please contact me or any other ABATE Officer statewide.

Even though we are a "not for profit" organization, it still costs money to keep our office doors open and accomplish our goals. Help us raise the necessary funds to keep ABATE the premier, all volunteer, motorcycle organization in California.

By maintaining our independent funding status we are not beholden to anybody but our members and we can pursue any course of action, legislation, or flight of fancy our members desire. This is what makes ABATE such a powerful grass roots organization. Our members suggest, they vote, and run our organization - not some suit in an office that only cares about company profit and personal financial gain.

Help us turn our loss into a gain by suggesting and implementing a new item or event to raise funds and maintain our ABATE independence and integrity. Every rider in California will benefit from your suggestion.

I've laid our progress for the first six months out on the line for your evaluation and now I'm asking for your help. We still have six months left in 2017. Working together we still have time to evaluate, revise our plans and goals, and seek a better economic and legislative outcome for the last six months of this year.

Let's get started soon - I'm waiting for your call! Dave Hastings (760) 947-4700

## Subscribe to the ABATE discussion group

Go to [www.abate.org](http://www.abate.org) Drop down "About ABATE" and click on "ABATE Discussion Group"

After reading the rules enter your email and click "subscribe"



After verification of your membership you will be able to join the Discussion

## Mission Statement

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



# ABATE OF CALIFORNIA, INC.

**American Brotherhood Aimed Towards Education**  
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Written articles are the opinions of the authors and not necessarily the opinion of ABATE of California. Editor reserves the right to edit any copy.

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Janet Wilhelm & Caroline Griffith

### PHOTOGRAPHERS

Nick Benson Sr and Gill Mellen

### COLUMNISTS

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.

Business Card size \$15.00/Mo \$150.00/YR  
Business Card with color \$20.00/Mo \$200.00/YR  
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

Rate:  
¼ Page (5" w x 7.8" h) \$150.00/Mo \$1,500.00/Yr.  
½ Page (10" w x 7.8" h) \$175.00/Mo \$1,750.00/Yr.

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

Color ads are 25% extra.

## BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP SPECIAL

**\$125 - One Year Business Member Listing, Couple Membership and Display Plaque. Add \$75 per year**

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](mailto:bailing.wire@abate.org) and either mail payment to the address below or call with credit card number and billing information.

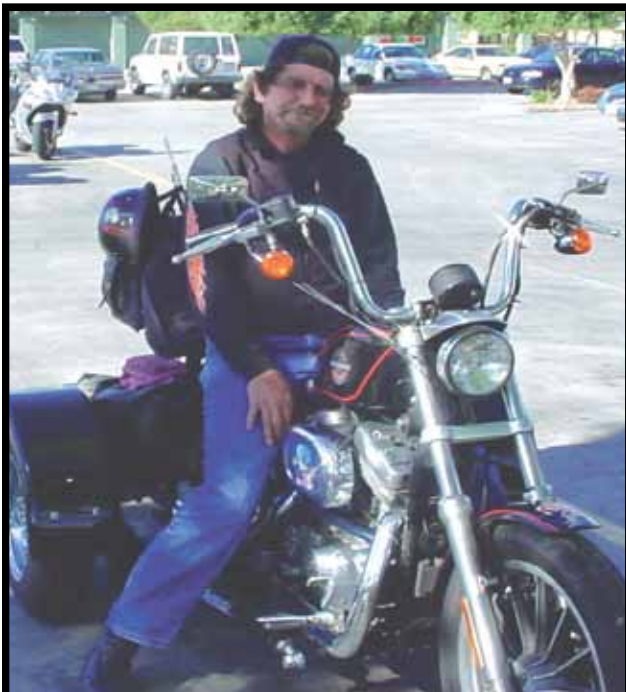
**CLASSIFIED** Members may advertise in the Classified Section at no charge.

### PHOTOS

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

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

# MEMBERSHIP REPORT



by Sporty Milligan,  
Membership Chairman

The month of June is here and we're going to pick a winner for the Membership Drive raffle, to be announced at the July 29<sup>th</sup> Board of Director's meeting. Thanks again to all who sold tickets to help fund this drive. Your support in this helps us once again put on a Membership Drive that will cost ABATE no money and might even make a small trinket profit.

I know that some of the Locals are putting on events to raise money for the various funds – General, Lobbyists and PAC. Hope some of the Locals will have a "Join ABATE, Ride for Free" included in their events.

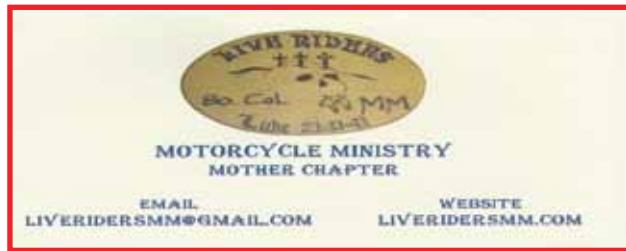
The dealerships are doing their bike nights, so attend them as this a great way to recruit new members and business members. Local 1's business members, Top Rocker HD and Bartels HD, did bike nights in June, which I went to. I have a detailed description of what transpired at these events in my Sporty's Ride column.

Well the Membership Drive is about half over for the year! Get off your duffs and recruit more members for our organization, ABATE of California!

Again, a reminder to keep your renewals and to support your business members.

Until next time, remember there is unity and strength in numbers of members.

Sporty

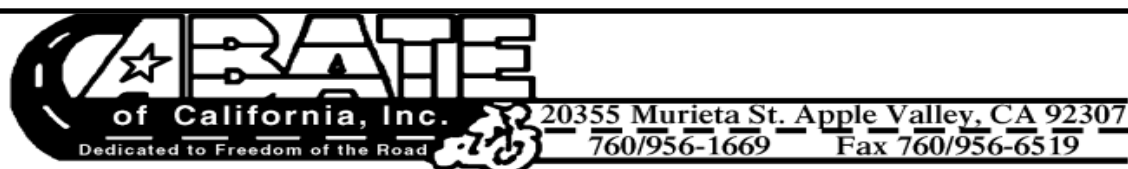


ABATE of California Inc. neither endorses nor promotes the services of any particular Law Firm. We are committed to working with all MROs including NCOM, MRF, AMA, MMA, BOLT and any other motorcycle rights organization that strengthens our lobby on legislative issues and on motorcycle safety.



ABATE of California Inc. logo and membership renewal form with fields for Name, Address, City, State, ZIP, Phone, Email, and membership type selection.





A Union of Motorcyclists

[www.abate.org](http://www.abate.org)

Third Quarterly ABATE of California Meeting for 2017

**New Time and Place**

July 29 2017

Hosted by ABATE Local 20

American Legion 8071 Whitaker St Buena Park, CA 90621

ABATE Meeting Schedule

Presidents/Officers/ABATE Members 9:00 am – 10:00 am

ABATE PAC Meeting: 10:15 am – 11:45 am  
(for PAC Members and those wishing to join ABATE PAC)

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Lunch

ABATE Board Meeting: 1:00 pm – conclusion of business

\*\*\*\*\*  
For overnight accommodations:

Extended Stay America Orange County – Cypress  
5990 Corporate Ave Cypress CA 90630  
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**\*\*Join ABATE and RIDE for FREE\*\***

**22<sup>ND</sup> SWEATY BUNS RUN**

**July 23<sup>rd</sup> 2017**



Free

Run Shirts  
at sign-up  
while they last

(Men's & Women's  
Sm - XXL)

Prize  
Drawing



Lunch  
Included

Refreshments  
Available

Sign-in  
9:00am  
to  
10:30am

Old Susana Cafe  
1555 Kuehner Drive  
Simi Valley, CA 93063

MUSIC BY  
The Original Gumball Factory  
Classic Rock & Rockin' Country Band



\$20 per sign-up  
**ALL BIKES WELCOME**





## LOCAL REPORTS

### Local #01 Los Angeles



Greetings All! The Local 1 meeting comes after the deadline for submission to the Bailing Wire. So here is a sneak preview of what will happen on the actual meeting day.

Our meeting will be on Father's Day. So we will salute the fathers in attendance, then begin the meeting with with the Pledge of Allegiance. Next will be our treasury report, followed with political stuff.

I'll urge members to support our bills by contacting their assemblymen and senators to support our bills.

A discussion of our planned yard sale on June 24<sup>th</sup> is on the agenda. We'll also talk about a possible group ride to Local 2's Sweaty Buns ride on July 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Jim Nickle will give his VP report and Glen C will give a membership report.

I'll ask for questions from the membership. Then we close the meeting and those who are hungry will have delicious breakfast.

Reported by Local 1 President, Sporty Miligan

### Local #02 Simi Valley



Well it's hot but not hot, hot yet! We had a little shift in plans for our meeting place this month due to the construction happening at the VFW Post 10049 where we hold our meetings. The good thing that happened is that we had our meeting at Pat and Scott's house on the fly and they are gracious hosts! We still did our famous \$5.00 meal deal with BBQ hamburgers and hotdogs with all the fixin's to include desert! Norm and Scott cooked and Steve observed, it was all good and on time. We meet at VFW POST 10049 on 4242 East Los Angeles Ave on the second Tuesday of the month, we serve our great meal deal from 6:45 until 7:20 then our meeting starts at 7:30.

We started off with the Pledge of Allegiance. Pres Guy talked in depth about our upcoming Sweaty Buns run. Everything looks good for the next month's meeting. Be there or be square!

VP Jim talked about ABATE's 19th annual membership raffle and quickly sold out the tickets. YAY! Secretary Jane read the minutes, Pat gave us our treasury report and PR Norm talked about reading the Bailing Wire - hard copy or online. Jane filled in for Frank and gave us our membership report and Pig-face Bob talked about rides in the past and will post new rides soon.

Our guests for the evening were Keith and Sharon from Local 3/13. They shared the experiences of their road trip to Washington DC for MRF and talked about who they met.

We did have a membership drawing. Steve won and gave it back to ABATE! THANKS STEVE!

We should have our next meeting at the VFW next month, if not, you'll get a notification from our secretary Jane.

Pres Guy talked about the involvement and participation that is required to do our Sweaty Buns Run, we have good volunteers and we can always use more! Come out and volunteer! It's getting serious and exciting at the same time.

Please remember to bring gifts for prizes for our run to our next meeting. If you can't make it, call our secretary for help or suggestions. We miss all who couldn't make it to our meeting and hope to see you at the next one.

Time is flying fast and ride safe! PTL norm e.

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



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

Support Your Rights: President Tim "Tiny" Suffolk and his officers are busy planning events, rides, and general fun together, while working towards our goal to support motorcyclists' rights. 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!

Anti-Profiling Bill: Our Past President, and ABATE's California State Legislative Director, Chuck "Chief" Pedersen, and MRO 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 a new "Anti-Profiling" bill.

Activities: Our Local 3/13 is always welcoming new members. Bike Nights are held the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month, 7 pm, at Azar's Sport's Bar & Grill in Newbury Park; General Membership Meetings are on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of each month, 7 pm, at the Elks Lodge, 158 N. Conejo School Road in Thousand Oaks; and Sunday rides every Sunday, meeting at Azar's for breakfast around 9:00 am and kick-stands up by 10:15.

Come Join Us: To any or all of these events and bring your friends. Check us out on Facebook at [www.Facebook/ABATE313](http://www.Facebook/ABATE313) to follow our events and issues.

It's all about motorcyclists' rights across all clubs, groups & organizations!

Ride Free! Kathleen "MamaBear" B, PR Local 3/13

### Local #08 Orange County



Howdy all from Local 8. First and foremost a big thank you to Daniel Pfaffly for coming up with the idea of getting a bunch of us members and friends of Local 8 together for Harley Night at Costa Mesa Speedway last weekend. We spend a lot of time working together and it was good getting together just for the fun of it.

We are continuing to participate at Bike Nights around town and by the time you read this we will have had our third, Third Friday Bike Night booth at Lifestyle Cycles in Anaheim.

Planning is almost complete for our annual sale/outreach at the SoCal Cycle Swap Meet on July 30<sup>th</sup> in Long Beach. We are continuing to look for motorcycle related donations to sell. If you have something you don't need or want anymore, please call Steve at 562-298-6236. We'll convert your discards into cash for the lobbyist fund. You could also bring donations to the quarterly Board of Directors meeting in Buena Park in July. We will have a truck there to pick up whatever you have to give.

We held our Local meeting on Monday night with Boomer as our guest. We welcomed Bill M back into our Local after an extended hiatus.

Most of the discussion was about upcoming events including preparation for Bike nights and the swap meet. D-Man has developed a great set of talking points which we will use at these events.



# LOCAL REPORTS

Per tradition, we ended the meeting with the opportunity draw. Daniel won, and donated a portion of his winnings back to the Local – thanks Daniel! Opportunity rises again next month.

That's all for now, Ride Safe! Steve

## Local #11 North San Diego County



Dogman reviewed the Presidents, PAC, and Board of Directors meetings that were recently held in Fresno.

Our new Membership Director is Phillip Sanchez. We discussed ways to get members to come to our meetings and also how to retain memberships. We will be getting guest speakers for our meetings and our members will notified about them.

Our meetings are now posted in the San Diego Union Tribune calendar announcements - in the newspaper and E version.

The treasurer's report was given and we voted to contribute to the lobbyist fund. We also discussed fund raising ideas and the de-

letion of the state merchandise inventory.

Tim informed us that theft of motorcycles has been going up, especially in San Diego. He talked about other newspaper articles involving motorcycles and the public's emotional perception of lane splitting. He also went over the closed roads in our area.

Dogman Mark Castellero

## Local #20 Orange County



Alright! Listen up and uncover for the Pledge of Allegiance. 18 members and 2 guests, Susan and Robert, attended the meeting.

AB 342 and the Off-Road/RV bill are now a 2-year bill.

Rick and Spike went to Arlington, VA and knocked on 15 legislative doors and spoke to reps regarding profiling, E-15, etc. Rick spoke about MRF and will have the forms to sign up at the next meeting. MRF is welcoming patch holders. We have the backing at the federal level so the reps are more

likely to vote our way at the Capitol.

Spike brought us up to speed with Waco. Many interviews were conducted for the documentary coming soon.

Doreen spoke of the 5K run in Long Beach and had flyers for the bike night dates.

Ramiro Bucio wasn't present to collect \$82. Non Politically Correct Gill/Secretary Squirt



# Sarah Renee Phillips



## 18th Annual Memorial Run

Saturday, August 26th, 2017

First Stop (Sign-In) - Miss Darla's at 8 a.m.

110 Peabody Rd., Vacaville

Ride through Sarah's Garden

2nd Stop: Rockville Inn

3rd Stop: Turtle Rock



Sarah ~ 6/8/86 to 4/6/00

• BBQ Lunch & Live Music

Included with your \$20 donation

• Featuring: Blue Crew  
Consisting Of Members Of Savannah Blue Band

All proceeds benefit Sarah Renee Phillips Memorial Scholarship  
"For Information call 707-624-6310"

Final Stop - Moose Lodge 6585 Gibson Canyon Rd. Vacaville, Ca. 95688

Please join us for a day of reflection & fun in the name of our daughter. God bless us all!



# Bikers in the Beltway

by Keith Johnston, MRF Liaison



Greetings ABATE members! California has finally been represented at the Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) "Bikers in the Beltway" event, which is held every year in Washington D.C. This year the event was held on Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

If you are not familiar with what the event is, here is a brief description from the MRF website: "The Annual Michael "Boz" Kerr Bikers Inside the Beltway is the ONLY National Motorcycle Lobby Day held in our nation's Capitol. Motorcyclists from around the country ride to D.C. to help educate Members of Congress about the issues facing motorcyclists today." This year the focus was on six issues that are being addressed nationally. These issues are:

- 1) Bikers across the U.S. are being unconstitutionally profiled.
- 2) Autonomous vehicles on the roadway
- 3) The EPA is attempting to regulate your motorcycle.
- 4) Lack of representation on the Motorcycle Advisory Council established by the Federal Highway Administration.
- 5) Crash and Fatality statistics are skewed due to the wide definition of a motorcycle which includes autocycles.
- 6) The proliferation of Ethanol into the fuel supply.

We had four representatives from California and we were all first timers visiting Capitol Hill, so we stuck together for moral support. In spite of our inexperience I think California was very successful getting the word around to as many Congress members as we had time for.

The four representatives from California, shown left to right, are Spike, Keith, Sharon and Rick.



Monday evening before the actual visit to Capitol Hill we all met at the MRF headquarters in Arlington, Virginia for a Meet and Greet and briefing on what to do the next day. We were told that our unique form of attire would be a welcome sight and curiosity on Capitol Hill since most people were tired of seeing suits and ties all day, every day. Our national lobbyist, Megan Ekstrom, a great lady who is very knowledgeable and experienced, briefed us on what to expect once inside the member's office and how their staff would respond. We were given a list of all of our states representatives and Senators and information packages to leave at each office along with forms to fill out that would be returned to our lobbyist Megan so she could follow up for us after we all returned to our home states.

The next morning all of us that had ridden met in the parking lot of the MRF headquarters and rode as a group into DC where we had special parking for our motorcycles across from the capitol. Our first order of business was getting Spike through the metal detector. While we waited for that Sharon and I mapped out our path through the offices of the Representatives.

If you have never been to Capitol Hill, as we hadn't, we learned that the Representatives offices are in three buildings along the side streets next to the capitol and the Senators have their offices in two buildings on side streets on the other side of the Capitol building. Yeah, we were going to do some walking. According to the Health app on my iPhone we walked 3.9 miles.

We were able to get to both Senators offices and fifteen of our Representatives offices. We had a couple of meetings already scheduled, but were able to get a few more just by walking in. At the end of the day we were able to get five meetings with staff members. In all cases we were well received and most seemed generally interested in hearing what we had to say.

I was surprised in some cases at the level of knowledge some of the staffers had before we explained the issues to them. Since each of us in the group had different levels of concern on different issues, we were able to split up the talking points. I felt that in this way we were able to make more compassionate presentations for the different issues.

By the end of the day we were pretty tired, but we all had learned a bit about how things work on Capitol Hill and felt pretty good about what we had accomplished. I also learned what I need to do a couple of months before getting to Washington next year to assure we have more firm commitments for meetings.

Of course once the day was over did not mean the job was done. When I got back to California I wrote thank you letters to all of those that took the time to see us and listen. I also wrote follow up letters to those who were unable to see us, asking if they had a chance to read the information we left behind and explained that our lobbyist would be contacting them in the near future.

I know it is a long trek to Washington D.C. from California, but I hope to see more representatives from California next year so we can visit all of our Congress members.

Let's hope this year's efforts make a difference. I am pretty sure we got some of them on our side.

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Sincerely,

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Thank you to the following:

**Donations to the General Fund:**

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**From the ABATE Locals:** 3, 19 & 24

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Mario Diaz, L8

Rick Mullaly, L#52

**From the ABATE Locals:** 1, 3/13, 17, 19, 23 & 24.

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 “Brothers & Sisters”  
Lost in 2017**

- Frank Green, Local 6 (December 2016);
- Terry Phillips, Local 25 (Deacon’s son)
- Melissa Woolery, Local 8 (June 2016)
- Diana “Doc” Mason, Local 17
- Jay Guerro, Local 24
- Larry Lieswald, Local 00
- Steve Broughton, Local 1/40
- Jack Howell, Local 27
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glennphillips01@comcast.net

<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>E</b>
17	17	17	17	17
11	31	51	61	61
5	25	45	55	75
6	16	36	46	66
2	22	42	52	62

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## ABATE Events for 2017

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

**June 24** – Sporty's Yard Sale - 818/361-8800 for details

**July 21** – ABATE Local 8 – Bike Night - Lifestyle Cycles 1510 State College Blvd Anaheim CA

**July 22** – ABATE Local 17 – Summer Bingo DTBA (see flyer in this issue for details)

**July 23** – ABATE Local 2 – 22<sup>nd</sup> Sweaty Buns Run (see flyer in this issue for details)

**July 29** – ABATE of CA 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarterly Meetings – Buena Park – American Legion

**July 28/July 31** – ABATE Local 24 – 2017 South Tahoe Run (see flyer in this issue for details)

**July 30** – ABATE Local 08 – Swap Meet at the So Cal Cycle Swap Meet

**August 18** - ABATE Local 8 – Bike Night - Lifestyle Cycles 1510 State College Blvd Anaheim CA

**August 26** – ABATE Local 17 – Sarah Renee Phillips Run

**October 7** – ABATE Local 17 – Fall Bingo

**October 21** – ABATE of CA. 4th Quarterly Meetings – Fresno – Piccadilly Inn Airport

**November 18** – ABATE Local 38 – Turkey Run

**December 2** – ABATE Local 17 – Christmas Party

**December 3** – ABATE Local 17 – 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Toy Run

### Bike Nites:

ABATE Local 3/13 – 1<sup>st</sup> 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.



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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.

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# Sporty's Rides

June 4<sup>th</sup> I went to the Shaggers club house in Lancaster off Sierra Hwy. It is right next to High Desert cycle. I was impressed! The place looks nice, especially with all the Shagger cut offs displayed in glass framed on the wall. I got emotional especially seeing Jack's wife, Janell's, cut off displayed. I delivered their raffle prizes I had got from Glendale HD.

After the meeting I told Poobear that I would check to see if there was any Shagger flyers for their camp-out at the Rock Store. There wasn't so I left some there and chatted with my friend John who works as a funeral escort cop - he has his own company. I left the Rock Store and traveled to Bartels HD to also drop off Shaggers run flyers. Passed out flyers to some of the folks that were at the shop as well as ABATE membership application cards as well.

June 10<sup>th</sup> I went to Top Rocker to see what was being done with my bike or at least get an idea of possible cost. When they get the parts needed, they can get a better estimate of the cost. It was sort of busy and they were just starting to do the BBQ of hot dogs. I got one. Hung around for a couple of hours.

About 1 pm or so I left and took a ride through Old Topanga Canyon then Topanga Canyon road to PCH. Boy was the traffic tight because they were doing a bicycle event, so I turned on to Temescal Canyon road, which leads to Sunset Blvd. Took Sunset to West Hollywood and Westwood, then Century City, then Hollywood, then home.

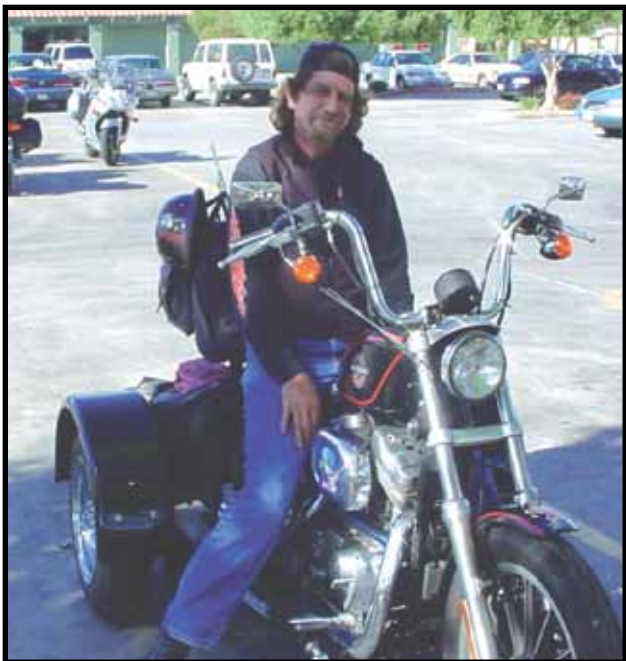
June 11<sup>th</sup> was the date for the Elks Lodge Sunland Tujunga veteran's poker run. It started at the Elks Lodge in Tujunga. This is the location of Local 1's meetings. They had coffee and donuts waiting for the riders at the start. So at 10 am we left as a group. I should mention that there was approximately 30 signed-in riders. They would have gotten a few more but they had a "No colours" on their flyer. I am going to try to change that policy. We shall see.

This run went to poker check points that we have all done many times before - a market next to Carl's Jr in Castaic, the Rock House, the Big Oaks Lodge and the Santa Clarita Elks Lodge. Then back to the Elks Lodge in Tujunga. This year

I went with Pops aka Buz. He rides a VW trike that is pretty nice.

Let's just say it was a cold ride for June, but we had a good ride. The food they served was good and the band played music that most of the folks enjoyed. Earl and the Elks Lodge crew put on a good event. Just need them to ease up on there no colors policy.

So that's about all for this installment of Sporty's Rides. Support ABATE events and look



by Sporty Milligan

Hi folks! Where does the time fly? Welcome to another chapter in the life of Sporty.

Since my last column, my 2002 883/1200 Sporty, with the Voyager kit ability to make it a trike, developed a knock in the rear cylinder. This occurred on the way home from Ontario after the Local 19 monthly meeting. It started making a knock in Pasadena. I stopped at the Lake Mobile station to get a cup of joe. After drinking my coffee, I took off for home. It was still making a knocking noise, but I made it home ok.

The next day I rode it to my AA evening meeting, where I was told that it needed to immediately go back to the shop. So Friday I rode it back to Top Rocker for repairs. After opening up the top end, they found no problems. The mechanic finally found the problem; it needs a clutch hub and a rear cylinder rod bearing. Also my Screaming Eagle mufflers are toast. So it's will be repaired as soon as parts arrive.

I found a set of slash cut mufflers to fit my bike on Amazon premium and a new set cost \$89.00 - no shipping charge. Good deal. You're probably going to say this is a costly deal. Well it's going to cost about \$1,700.00, but to pay for the repairs Renee said to use my credit card so I can get rewards points.

Once the repairs are made to the bike, I plan is to reattach the Voyager kit. We'll see how that goes.

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# Motorcycle Safety Report

by **Norman e. Newiger, Safety Officer**

## Summer Happens

As I write this article, summer is here, the June gloom was the last of the cooler days and nights. All it takes is about two weeks of unbalanced weather then Bam, it's hot! Around the third week of June the furnace of the highways turns up, black asphalt becomes unbearable and wrecks of the oils and whatever that's imbedded into this amazing black surface we ride on.

Wearing a black full face helmet can make one rider the only miserable person in heavy traffic whether on the jammed packed freeway, or highway, and the worst one, cutting thru heavy city traffic with too many street lights. When we ride during these times we need air movement.

I've been caught a few times where all of a sudden you're in the middle of all the traffic with no relief. You feel the heat creeping up your pants while the sun is cooking you from the top. Your visor is up because your face is starting to steam with sweat and only air movement can relieve you! As you ride it feels like you're riding into a blow dryer on high. I love it! Well kind of. If it's part of the adventure for the day then no problem for me. When it's your only mode of transportation at the time or you just didn't think about it, then it will slowly wear you down.

Have you ever been riding in hot weather and started to feel faint, maybe tired and/or weak all of a sudden? How about getting a headache or hallucinating as well? If so, this could lead to you into making a life threatening decision for you and or a friend! Your body has natural means of regulating its own temperature, but failure to do so in the face of extreme heat is called heatstroke! Depending on the severity, it could lead to organ damage and possible death - everyone is susceptible. It doesn't matter if you are in a desert, jungle, mountains or in your backyard! It doesn't matter if you're walking, jogging, yard work, working out doors or even riding your bike. In the shade or on a hot roof heat stroke can and does happen, really quick if you're not paying attention to your body. Heat waves result in more deaths in the USA than hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, lightning, and earthquakes combined.

Here are some examples of possible heat stroke symptoms: Headache, nausea, muscle cramps, profuse sweating, dizziness, confusion, exhaustion, high body temperature, rapid heartbeat, dry skin and hallucinations. Some symptoms can be more prevalent than others, everybody is different as well as your current location.

Heat exhaustion can progress to heat stroke when the body's temperature regulation fails. The affected individual develops a change in mental status, becomes confused, lethargic and may have a seizure, the skin stops sweating and the body temperature may exceed 106 F (41 C) This is a life threatening condition and emergency medical attention is needed immediately!

If you or someone you are with are experiencing any of these symptoms, here's what you should do: Get yourself or the person into a cool shady area or an air conditioned build-



ing, remove clothing to include boots and socks and apply cool water to the skin or if possible a cool bath or shower. Possibilities are endless, but sometimes you have to use what you have at the location that you are at, even a cool concrete floor helps. You can accelerate body cooling by using a fan to blow cool air on the person. Drinking cool water will help with hydration and certain sports drinks can help as well.

Riding in hot weather above 90 degrees can be dangerous if not properly addressed. You could be riding and not notice any sweat on your arms or head, but you have to think about evaporation as you ride, (remember dry skin) you could be blow drying yourself at any speed. This is very misleading to your brain because other symptoms may happen in due time when you think it's all right, that is for now.

Wearing shorts, no helmet, or no shirt will not make you any cooler than if you were fully dressed. In fact, it's better if you know you are sweating than not knowing, i.e. you sweat because your body is trying to cool down and now you know it. At this point you can make a decision to prevent any type of heat stroke or heat exhaustion. If you or anyone riding with you feel unsure about yourself or the other person, always call 911. The severity of heatstroke/heat exhaustion may be unknown at the time and it's better to be safe than sorry.

Hot weather truths or myths: #1 - Mesh gear will keep you cooler. Yes and no is the right answer! Mesh gear will keep you cooler to a certain degree and provide just a little relief from the heat. In the temperate zone in the 80s mesh type clothing works well, but in the 90s it's a different story. Riding in temperatures in the 90s won't provide any cool options with which your thyroid can work (your thyroid regulates your body temperature). While riding in temperatures at about 90 plus degrees you need some skin surface moisture (sweat) and some air

Remember this, lots of hot air and no skin moisture is potentially a very bad thing that can happen to anyone. It could lead to dehydration and or heat exhaustion/sun stroke. As you ride with mesh type clothing on your body, the air is quickly wicking away any moisture coming to the surface of the skin which will leave you dry and hot!

#2 - While riding with no shirt or sleeveless type of clothing and no helmet will keep you

cooler. No. You see this all the time (mostly male riders), and this could promote dehydration and sun stroke/heat exhaustion faster, plus, you can get sun burnt and thus raise your body temperature as well. Keeping your skin covered will help reduce the chances of skin cancer down the road if, in fact, you do this quite often. Sweating is a good thing, moisture is released through the surface of your skin and transfers excess heat away from you via the needed air flow, or shall we say controlled air flow.

#3 - Will a cool wet neck tie or wrap cool me down? Yes and no is partially correct, but no is truer! While riding in real hot weather a neck tie/wrap cools you down just a little bit and it might feel good, but your body's still hot. Your body's core is what is really hot - think upper mid-section of yourself. If your body's core is hot and I mean Hot then the blood moving to all your extremities is overheated. You need relief at the core, not your neck! An evaporative type of cooling vest that allows you to control airflow will assist your thyroid and body with keeping your blood at a far more acceptable temperature than any type of wet neck tie or wrap. Try it, your body will thank you.

#4 - Can you drink too much water? Yes, drinking a lot of water real fast can make you sick at first, so be careful on your intake. You should drink water continuously throughout the day. When you are riding in extreme hot weather, pull over and drink water even if you feel okay. You have to be smart and remember this, everybody's body is different. You might be feeling okay, but the other person(s) may not. The worst that could happen is that you pee more and that's better than being whisked away in an ambulance with intravenous lines in your body.

Yes, you do need electrolytes in your body while sweating your ass off! Be careful of what you put into your body. Sports drinks can help, but read the ingredients so as you know what you are putting into your body. A lot of energy drinks pump you up with caffeine and sugar, which promote dehydration. Beer is not the answer! The alcohol will help in dehydrating your body as well - true! The key word is electrolytes; you can get the sport drinks that provide them as well as additives that you can add to any drink.

Finally, use common sense. If the heat is intolerable, stay indoors when you can to avoid activities in direct sunlight or on a hot asphalt highway. This is not about being a macho type of person where you think you are impervious to hot weather, it's about knowing when it's time to be cautious.

If you're in a group and are riding in a hot zone, it is good to communicate with others in your party to make sure they are good, it's easy! Pay special attention to the elderly, infants, kids and anyone with a chronic illness, as they may dehydrate easily and are more susceptible to heat related illnesses.

Being wise will prolong your riding life. It's about riding in the safest environment that you can put yourself and, possibly, others in.

Be safe and cool as possible on the highways of life!



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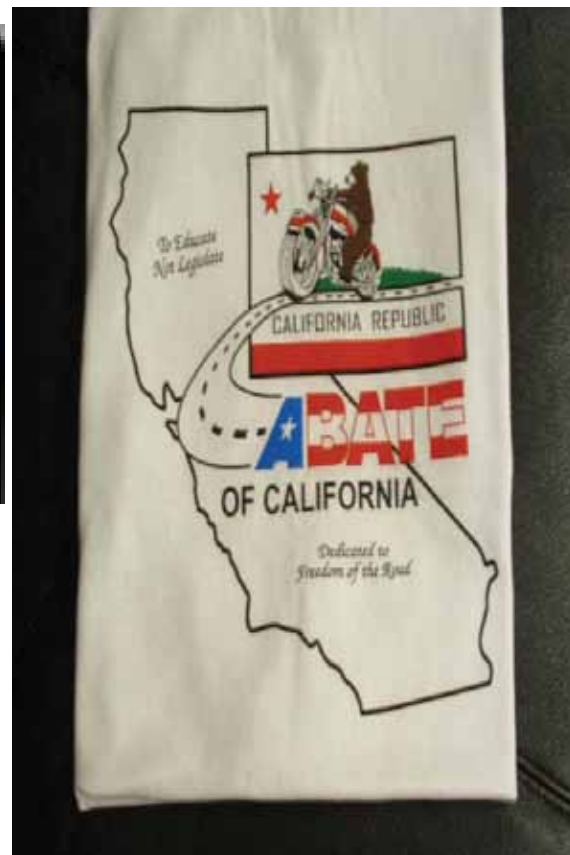
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Description	Item #	Price	Quantity	Extended Price
ABATE Hat (Red/Gold) - Embroidered	06-141	\$8.95		
ABATE of California Hat (Red/Gold) - Embroidered	11-311	\$8.95		
ABATE Freedom of The Road Oval Sticker 9" x 6"	06-160	\$1.55		
ABATE CA Embroidered Bear Patch	07-177	\$4.00		
ABATE Emblem - Large 12" x 9" - Embroidered	07-174	\$16.58		
ABATE Emblem - Medium 6" x 4" - Embroidered	07-175	\$11.76		
ABATE Emblem - Small 4" x 2" - Embroidered	07-176	\$3.43		
ABATE Motorcycle License frame - Top	06-180	\$5.77		
ABATE of California pin (2 color Gold & Black)	07-172	\$1.39		
ABATE of California pin (3 color Gold & Black)	07-173	\$1.39		
ABATE Justice - PAC Patch - Embroidered	07-178	\$3.43		
<b>Men's Short Sleeve T-Shirts</b>				
ABATE w/ Emblem - Medium - W/pocket - Navy	07-191	\$8.80		
ABATE w/ Emblem - Medium - No pocket - Gray	07-194	\$8.30		
ABATE w/ Emblem - Large - No pocket - Gray	07-195	\$8.30		
Got Rights - Small - Black	06-150	\$8.00		
Got Rights - Small - Gray	06-151	\$8.00		
Got Rights - XX Large - Gray	06-158	\$8.00		
<b>Men's Educate Not Legislate</b>				
Small - Short Sleeve No Pocket - White	11-315	\$7.50		
Medium - Short Sleeve No Pocket - White	11-316	\$7.50		
Large - Short Sleeve No Pocket - White	11-317	\$7.50		
X-Large - Short Sleeve No Pocket - White	11-318	\$7.50		
XX- Large - Short Sleeve No Pocket - White	11-319	\$9.00		
XXX-Large - Short Sleeve No Pocket - White	11-320	\$9.50		
Small - Short Sleeve With Pocket - White	11-321	\$8.50		
Small - Long Sleeve No Pocket - White	11-326	\$10.00		
XXX Large - Long Sleeve No Pocket - White	11-331	\$12.00		
<b>Women's Educate Not Legislate</b>				
X-Large - Short Sleeve - White	11-335	\$8.00		
XX-Large - Short Sleeve - White	11-336	\$9.50		
Small - Long Sleeve - White	11-337	\$11.00		
XX-Large - Long Sleeve - White	11-341	\$12.50		
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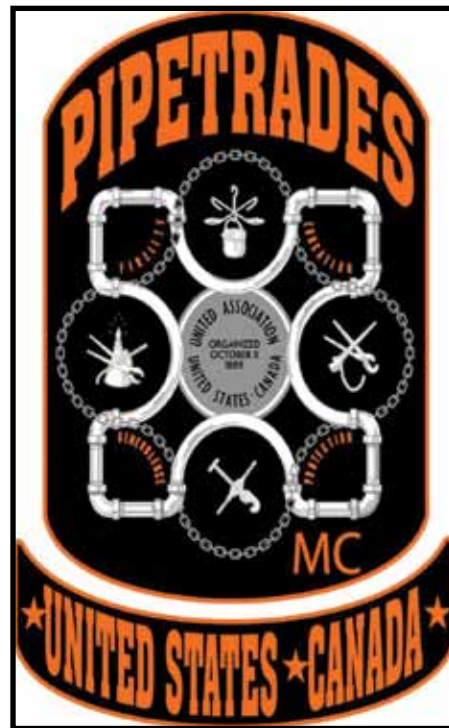




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ABATE of California, a leading organization in protecting motorcycle rights in California, is proud to offer our "Off-Road" Division to fulfill our desire to protect the riding rights of ALL riders in California, both on and off-road.

Recently the off-road community was caught totally off guard by the passage of Assembly Bill 1595 that severely impacts the ability to modify and use "upgraded" off-highway side-by-side vehicles.

AB 1595 prohibits the use of (approved/sanctioned racing style) seat belt harnesses, prohibits the addition of full roll cages, and requires mandatory helmet use in these and ONLY these vehicles.

Portions of this law went into effect on January 1, 2013 and all parts of the law were enforced on July 1, 2013. AB 1595 had an immediate and very negative impact on side-by-side safety and prevents the use of many of these family recreational vehicles that have been upgraded with additional safety equipment.

Please join ABATE of California in our quest to repeal this poorly written legislation and help us restore the rights of side-by-side owners statewide who use these vehicles for safe and responsible family off-road recreation.

Your annual membership will help us retain a full time lobbyist to watch out for future negative off-road legislation. With everyone's help, we can beat these laws, without your help, we could lose all of our off-road freedoms. Join us now!

**Off-Roaders - Protect Your Rights - Join Us NOW!**

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## Simi Valley - Local #02-Reg#7

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

Crashman1@sbcglobal.net

## Thousand Oaks/Ventura Local#03/13-Reg#7

Tim Suffolk 3rd Thurs - 7:00 PM  
Thousand Oaks Elks Lodge  
805/587-6848 158 N Conejo School  
Thousand Oaks  
91362

## San Diego County - Local #06-Reg#12

Snowman 1st Sun - 12 Noon  
C/O Boozefighters M/C Kate Sessions Park  
P O Box 501946 Pacific Beach  
San Diego CA 92150 92109  
619/855-9981

## Orange County - Local #08-Reg#11

Steve Howe 2nd Mon.7:30PM  
PO Box 5473 American Legion #354  
Buena Park, CA 90622 8071 Whitaker  
562/298-6236 Buena Park  
santabeard@yahoo.com 90621

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

Dan Buse 2nd Sun - 11 AM  
buse13@att.net Escondido Moose Lodge  
760/807-7294 25721 Jesmond Dene Rd  
Escondido 92026

## Alameda, Contra Costa, Solano & Napa Counties L#17 Region #3

Glenn Phillips 3rd Sun.- 10:00 AM  
P O Box 148 Judy's Wild  
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## Pomona Valley - Local #19-Reg#8

Jeff Bassler 4th Wed - 7:00 PM  
C/O 9648 Calle Vejar Round Table Pizza  
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91730 Ontario, CA 91729  
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## Orange County - Local #20-Reg#11

Gill Mellen 2nd Tues - 7:00 PM  
2104 Continental Ave. American Legion  
Costa Mesa 92627 5646 Corporate Ave.  
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# ABATE MEETINGS

## Antelope Valley - Local#21 -Reg#8

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## San Bernardino - Local#23-Reg#9

Ron Morris 1st Sun 9:00 AM  
909/794-6563 Vicky's Restaurant  
502 S Waterman Ave  
San Bernardino CA 92408

## Fresno - Local#24-Reg#6

Ed Rogers 1st Tues. 7:00 PM  
559/264-2891 High Sierra Grill House  
www.abatelocal24.org 2003 W Bullard Ave.  
Fresno 93711

## Sacramento - Local#25-Reg#2

Lil' David Morena 3rd Thurs - 7:00 PM  
916/616-9605 Denny's  
3520 Auburn Blvd.  
Sacramento 95821

## Riverside - Local#27-Reg#9

Kenny Nuttall 1st Tues - 7:00 PM  
P.O. Box 7070 American Legion  
Riverside CA 92513 2979 Dexter Dr.  
951/377-5772 (in Fairmont Park)  
Riverside, CA 92501

## Morongo Basin - Local#29-Reg#13

Marty Rapp 2nd - Thurs - 6:30 PM  
P.O. Box 2334 Odd # Months  
29 Palms CA 92277 Call Marty for Location  
760/367-1694

## North Valley - Local #31-Reg#2

Larry James 2nd Tues - 7:00 PM  
Panighetti's  
530/893-4827 2760 Esplanade  
Chico 95973

## Yuba City - Local #33-Reg#2

Steve Katen 2nd Tues. - 7:PM  
530/749-1003 American Legion  
5477 Feather River Blvd.  
Olivehurst 95961

## Imperial Valley - Local#38-Reg#12

Ed Aranda Last Thurs - 6:30 PM  
Edward\_A12@yahoo.com  
La Fonda Bar & Grill  
1950 South 4th St.  
El Centro, CA 92243

## Bakersfield - Local#40-Reg#6

Robert Northam 3rd Tues. 7:00 PM  
Kilroy16@yahoo.com Rusty's Pizza  
5430 Olive Dr  
Bakersfield 93308

## High Desert Local 44/47-Reg #13

Dave Hastings 2nd Sat. 9:30 am  
16782 Danbury Ave. Eagles Order #4181  
Hesperia, CA 92345 16195 Main St  
760/947-4700 Hesperia 92345

## Grass Valley - Local#52-Reg#2

Craig Griswold 3rd Wed - 6:30 PM  
21183 State Hwy 20 Alta Sierra  
Penn Valley Pizza & Grill  
530/263-8071 15690 Johnson Place  
Grass Valley 95949

## Ridgecrest - Local #58-Reg#13

Meet with Local#44

## Regions With Local info:

Region 2: Regional Representative  
Craig Griswold 25, 31, 33 & 52.  
Region 3: Vacant  
Region 6: Regional Representative Ed  
Rogers  
24 & 40.  
Region 7: Regional Representative -  
Chuck Pedersen 2 & 3/13.  
Region 8: Regional Representative  
Sporty Milligan  
1 & 19.  
Region 9: Regional Representative  
Mark Loudermilk 23, & 27  
Region 11: Regional Representative  
D-Man 8, & 20.  
Region 12 Regional Representative  
Dave Connors  
Locals 6, 11 & 38  
Region 13: Regional Representative  
Yermo Eddy  
21, 29, 44/47.





## NCOM Biker Newsbytes



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

### NCOM BIKER NEWSBYTES

Compiled & Edited by Bill Bishop,  
National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM)

**BIKER ANTI-PROFILING MEASURES UNDER CONSIDERATION IN CONGRESS:** H.Res.318/S.Res.154: "Promoting awareness of motorcycle profiling and encouraging collaboration and communication with the motorcycle community and law enforcement officials to prevent instances of profiling," was referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations on June 2, 2017. Concerned motorcyclists are encouraged to contact their federal lawmakers in the U.S. Senate & House of Representatives to co-sponsor and support these bills.

Under the companion measures in the Senate and House, "motorcycle profiling" means "the illegal use of the fact that a person rides a motorcycle or wears motorcycle related apparel as a factor in deciding to stop and question, take enforcement action, arrest, or search a person or vehicle with or without legal basis under the Constitution of the United States.

**FEDERAL LEGISLATION COULD PROLIFERATE E15 GAS:** Despite objections that the proliferation of E15 gasoline into the U.S. marketplace will negatively impact every American who owns a car, lawnmower or boat, two new federal bills have been introduced to expand availability of the higher concentrate ethanol fuel.

Senator Deb Fischer (R-NE) and U.S. Representative Adrian Smith (R-NE) introduced the "Consumer and Fuel Retailer Choice Act" (S.517 & H.R.1311) amending the Clean Air Act to allow the sale of E15 (15% blend ethanol gas) during summer months (June 1 - September 15).

Motorcycle and ATV owners risk damaging their machines by even inadvertently putting E15 in their tanks, as the higher blends of ethanol can cause engine and fuel system damage, void manufacturers' warranties and violate federal law.

Motorcyclists should also be concerned about the availability of compatible fuel supplies if gas stations primarily provide E15 gasoline that's EPA-approved for the majority of their driving customers -- but no on- or off-road motorcycles or ATVs appear on the EPA's list of vehicles approved to use E15.

**ZERO MOTORCYCLES NEW "DON'T WAIT FOR WASHINGTON" E-BIKE PROGRAM:** The recently launched program was created to advo-

cate for electric motorcycles and assure buyers they will get the Electric Motorcycle Federal Tax Credit. "Don't Wait For Washington" assures "up to \$1,869 on a Zero motorcycle if the government fails to reinstate the Electric Motorcycle Tax Credit."

The initiative serves the dual purposes of driving the conversation on electric motorcycles forward while legislation languishes in Washington, and of motivating would-be electric motorcycle riders to join the e-movement.

Should the federal government fail to reinstate the tax credit by the end of the year, then Zero will step up and send 10% cash back to buyers, matching the expired tax credit for new, eligible 2017 Zero motorcycles.

**MAINSTREAM MEDIA PROMOTES RIDERSHIP:** According to the Motorcycle Industry Council (MIC), a not-for-profit national trade association, their 2014 rider survey reports that "56% of Generation Y riders use their motorcycles as a primary means of transportation," and that factoid recently appeared in a Ride To Work Day graphic on the front page of the June 19 edition of USA Today's Life section.

"This major mainstream media placement is especially significant to the MIC as the industry association is actively promoting motorcycles as transportation and seeking new generations of riders," says the MIC communications department, which has previously worked on Ride to Work Day segments with "Good Morning America," ABC's national morning news show, and with "The KTLA Morning News," the biggest morning news program in Southern California.

The MIC exists to "preserve, protect and promote motorcycling through government relations, communications and media relations, statistics and research, aftermarket programs, AIMExpo, development of data communications standards, and activities surrounding technical and regulatory issues."

**LOUISIANA TO TEACH NEW LICENSEES HOW TO INTERACT WITH POLICE:** Louisiana Governor Bel Edwards has signed into law a requirement that driver education classes must include a segment on interacting with police in their course curriculum.

Introduced by Senators Ryan Gatti (R-Bossier), Wesley Bishop (D-New Orleans) and Gary Smith Jr. (D-Norco) on March 20, 2017, SB17 "Provides for driver education to include instruction on appropriate driver conduct when stopped by a law enforcement officer."

The bipartisan measure was signed by the governor on June 16 as Act No. 286 with an effective date of January 1, 2018.

**HANDLEBAR HEIGHT LAW MODIFIED IN MARYLAND:** Maryland has become the most recent state to modify or repeal their antiquated and discriminatory handlebar height law, which many states enacted in the sixties to provide a law enforcement tool for pulling over bikers on their choppers.

Governor Larry Hogan approved Senate Bill 668 on May 25, 2017; "Increasing, from 15 inches to 20 inches, the maximum height that the handlebars of a motorcycle may be above a specified part of the motorcycle seat in order for a person to lawfully operate the motorcycle."

SB668 was introduced February 3, 2017 by lead sponsor Senator H. Wayne Norman, Jr. (R-D35) and becomes effective October 1, 2017, and ABATE of Maryland advises to "Remember that the height is measured from the seat to the highest point on the handlebars, not from the bottom of the handlebar to the grips or highest point."

**NEW HAMPSHIRE OKAYS COLORED HEADLAMPS FOR MOTORCYCLES, SAME AS CARS:** New Hampshire Governor Chris Sununu signed

HB458 into law on June 8, 2017, an Act relative to motorcycle headlamps. Sponsored by Rep. James Spillane (R-Deerfield), "This bill allows headlamp colors approved by the director of the division of motor vehicles for automobiles to be considered approved for motorcycle headlamps," with an effective date 60 days after its passage (August 7, 2017).

**OREGON ENACTS LAWS EFFECTING TRIKES & AUTOCYCLES:** In dealing with the increased popularity of three-wheeled vehicles, Oregon lawmakers have passed two new laws to make it easier for riders to get in the saddle. House Bill 3125 was signed into law by Governor Kate Brown on June 14, 2017 to define an "autocycle" and provides that a person may operate one without a motorcycle endorsement. The Act takes effect immediately under the Emergency clause.

Sponsored by the Committee on Transportation Policy, under HB3125 "autocycle" means a motorcycle that: (1) Is manufactured to travel on three wheels; (2) Has a steering wheel for steering control; and (3) Has nonstraddle seating, and (4) is equipped with a manufacturer-installed three-point safety belt or safety harness.

Senate Bill 36 "Provides that Department of Transportation may waive skills test for person seeking motorcycle endorsement to operate three-wheeled motorcycle [trike]," and was also signed by the governor on June 14.

**LICENSE PLATE MOUNTING OPTIONS FOR SOUTH DAKOTA RIDERS:** Effective July 1, 2017, motorcycle owners in South Dakota will be allowed to mount license plates to their motorcycle "in any visible manner other than upside down."

Governor Dennis Daugaard signed Senate Bill 79 into law on March 9, after overwhelmingly passing through both chambers of the state legislature.

**FAIR WARNING: MOST DRIVERS KNOW THEY'RE BAD DRIVERS:** Millions of drivers admit that they don't always make thorough mirror checks when pulling away, according a driver survey, with 25% admitting they don't look in their mirrors when pulling out into traffic.

Of 2,025 drivers polled, 15% admitted not always looking at road signs, 68% admit rarely driving with both hands on the wheel, and over half (52%) believed bad habits such as these would ensure they failed the driving test if they had to do it again.

Too many people are injured on the roads due to poor judgment and a lack of road skills says David Carter, spokesman for Accident Advice Helpline in the U.K., which conducted the research, adding: "It is worrying that more people don't feel confident in their own skills on the road and feel that they've developed bad habits which would cause them to not pass their driving test."

**GONE BUT NEVER FORGOTTEN:** This year has been tragic for our bikers rights family, suffering the loss of two past NCOM Board of Directors; Butch Harbaugh (NCOM Legislative Task Force) and Dennis "Big D" Watson (NCOM Region IX), both recipients of the Ron Roloff Lifetime Achievement Award (2003 & 2006) in whose memory the recent National Coalition of Motorcyclists' NCOM Convention in Reno was dedicated, and now we regretfully report the passing of longtime biker advocate and Easyriders magazine writer "Twiggy" Blakeboro (73, of Lompoc, CA) who died June 11, 2017. Twiggy was much beloved by his peers and was a past recipient of the NCOM Silver Spoke Award - Media (1997). "Nuff said." R.I.P. Brothers, Ride In Peace.

**QUOTABLE QUOTE:** "If not me, then who?" ~ USMC 1st Lt Travis Manion (Nov 19, 1980 - April 29, 2007), upon his second Iraq tour; KIA saving his men from ambush ([TravisManion.org](http://TravisManion.org))