

# CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

SOUTHERN TIER ABATE

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I made a promise to you last year, that if you told me what you wanted to get accomplished in ABATE, I would direct and lead you to reach these goals.

Last year as president I was getting the feel for the job. This year I will keep my promise to you. By November of this year, you will be glad you've supported me, or wish you never knew my name. Either way there will be change in this chapter. The message I've heard from the members that are talking, they are tired of standing still. So our message will be lead, follow, or get the hell out of our way.

We will no longer wait for a cue from the state for direction. Things last year went nowhere as far as I'm concerned. If things change, which I hope they do, we will support them. However the board has to remember that they work for us, and decisions we make, need to be followed through.

This chapter will work on the goals we have set. Now I know you're saying what goals right? I listen to you this year and put your ideas on paper;

Get a website: We are setting up a new website, and as soon as it's online we will be open to ideas to make it better to serve you. The website will be abateofstny.org.

Committees or groups of brainstormers: We need you to help with ideas to and support in these areas.

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### JANUARY 2010

#### Upcoming Events:

- \* Triple Cities Chopper Club Swap Meet  
January 30<sup>th</sup>, 10:00am  
American Legion Post 80  
Admission \$5.00
- \* Southern Tier ABATE Chapter Meeting  
February 11th  
American Legion Post 1194
- \* John E Carr & Corky Edwards' Birthday Party  
February 20<sup>th</sup>, 8:00pm  
Davy's Last Chance Saloon

## NEW YORK INTERNATIONAL MOTORCYCLE SHOW

On January 24<sup>th</sup>, Tony, Jean, Mark, and I went to the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual *Cycle World* New York International Motorcycle Show at the Javits Center in NYC.

Cruisers, sport bikes, and even scooters were represented by both US and international manufacturers including HD,

Victory, BMW, Ducati, Suzuki, Star, Yamaha, Honda, and Kawasaki. We saw Royal Enfields and Triumphs. Most could be "tried on for size"!

Into vintage or custom bikes? Many were on display including their history. Want to know more? Then visit the History of

Motorcycling table.

Need stuff? Over 100 vendors were there. Leather of all types; the latest riding gear. It was the last day of the show so most prices were negotiable.

Diverse motorcycle groups were

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**SOUTHERN TIER  
ABATE**

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***American Bikers  
Aimed  
Towards Education***

Soon to be on the Web!  
[abateofstny.org](http://abateofstny.org)

**WHAT IS A.B.A.T.E.**

ABATE is an acronym for **American Bikers Aimed Towards Education**. We are a non-profit organization formed to promote and protect the interests of motorcyclists. We are a grassroots organization which provides information on federal, state, and local legislation affecting motorcyclists as well as providing social events for riders.

If you would like more information on **ABATE** you may write to:

Southern Tier ABATE  
PO Box 2441  
Binghamton, NY 13902

**CHAPTER MEETINGS**

The Southern Tier Chapter of ABATE of NY meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at:

J. P. Mangan American Legion Post 1194  
363 West Service Road  
Hillcrest, NY 13901

Meetings start at 7:00pm.

**EYE ON MEMBERSHIP**

Past Due Members as of November 2009

1. Ron Jones
2. Charlie Lohmeyer

Renewals for the month of December, 2009

1. Jim Chapin
2. Corky Edwards

Renewals for the the month of January 2010

1. Steve Medovich
2. Mark Paugh

Members due in January 2010

1. Meggan Hobart
2. Walt Huber
3. Steven Kizis
4. Carl Squires
5. Lisa Swislosky
6. Al Smith
7. Steve Petrylak

Members due in February 2010

1. Mick Brown
2. Andy Ellis
3. John Grosso

## MINUTES FROM JANUARY MEETING

January 14, 2010 – Start 7:15pm

TJ reads summary of December minutes. Motion to accept (mta); Toni, 2<sup>nd</sup> Chrissy

Corky reads Treasury Report. mta Jerry, 2<sup>nd</sup> Toni

Eric reads Membership Report: 68 members, 2 renewals, 9 due in January see total report in *Eye on Membership* section. mta Ed, 2<sup>nd</sup> John

Steve reads Legislative Report. A bunch of bills passed over from last year. Will have an update at next meeting. Will get more at the seminar this Saturday. Also see *Legislative Report* section for more info. mta Chrissy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mark

Kenney reads Vice President's Report. Important election coming up. We need to let them know what's on our mind. We're a grass-roots organization; things start here. Go to the Seminar this Saturday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, at the Treadway Inn in Owego. Starts at 9:00. mta John, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mark

Mick reads President's Report (See *President's Report* section) Also met an attorney that is interested in our group who does personal injury as well as other work. Would you like him to come in and talk to you about himself? Other issues? Having a local attorney can be an advantage for the people that need special problems resolved. Many of the big groups seem to be cold and impersonal, sometimes not taking care of your needs. They seem more interested in the bottom line. All agreed to hear him and will ask him to come in. His name is ARKIN SERJANEJ. mta Toni, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed

New business: Shelly is working on the website and prices are all about the same. We need to get a debit card for the treasurer so we can secure a website. We've got a table at the TCCC'S SWAP MEET, this Jan 30<sup>th</sup>. Opens at 10:00; \$5.00 a person to get in. Do we have any products we want to sell there? Last month Square Deal Riders were recognized by AMA as the CLUB of the YEAR. John & Corky's birthday party at Davy's in February.

Motion to Adjourn. mta John, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

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Legislative: we need to show a united front on our issues. Be educated in these and not be afraid to express our views when someone asks about them. Also we need people to work with petitions and get signatures about bills we want passed and bills that we don't.

Financial: We need ideas for fundraisers, be they products (t shirts, pins, patches, etc.) barbeques, rides, or events. Let's hear your ideas and some plans that can be put together.

Rides for exposure: We have the Lid Run, and we did the Codger Run last year. Also, Corky (the girl) suggested a memorial run for our brothers that are gone.

Membership: Every group I've ever been in has had a problem with membership. We need ideas to help get more members and to keep them here. Also, some people to work the tables at rides and events, and help Eric. We shouldn't expect one person to do it all. Talk to your friends about us; get them involved.

Ideas about our image to the public: How do we look to people who aren't involved in motorcycles? Do they know what and why we're doing what we're doing? Let them know. Don't be afraid to show your patch at things you go to.

OK I've talked long enough and hopefully you've got something wondering in your head that will come out in the lines of a suggestion to help. Now bring it to the table. At the next meeting, which will be Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>, we can talk about this and go from there.

**SOUTHERN TIER ABATE YELLOW PAGES**

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Binghamton, NY 13905

(607) 729-6444

**SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT US!**

## LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Hi all. Hope that everyone's getting through the long winter with dreams of warm weather and riding season. The annual ABATE Business Conference was held on January 16<sup>th</sup> at the Treadway in Owego. I attended the legislative seminar and despite the fact that there were 20 people in a room that was only 12 x 12, we did get some things accomplished. George Gorman, our state legislative coordinator has some interesting ideas about how we may be able to change some of the long term problems that we have been encountering over the years in trying to accomplish our goals.

First, he is suggesting that we change our tax exempt status to 501(c) 3. This would allow us to create some new ways of raising money and possibly establish an Experienced Riders School (ERS). ABATE would administer and run the program, hopefully using the educational funds currently being used for the NYS Police (NYSP) 5060 "safety" road stops that target only motorcycles. The ERS would actually use the fee you pay when you register your bike for the purpose that it was intended... SAFETY! He is also looking into the possibility of starting a motorcycle awareness course that could be taught in high schools. ABATE would provide training for our members who are interested and pay them for their time.

Speaking of 5060, I am asking each one of you to send a letter to Governor Paterson stating your opposition to this program that unfairly targets motorcycles only. All of us have to have our bikes inspected by a qualified, certified mechanic each year. Is there a trooper who is more qualified to check for safety than your favorite motorcycle mechanic? Of course not! But the NYSP seem to think so. It seems likely that they will continue 5060 again this year, because it makes money for the state. Some ways that we can defeat this program is by petitioning the governor and by avoiding the stops. There is a site on the Web, <http://www.roadblocks.com> that will tell you where the checks are being setup each day. Simply check this site before you ride and avoid these areas. If they aren't making any money from this program, they will soon abandon it. We can also petition our county legislators and executive because they ultimately decide whether to approve the grant money that funds this program.

It was also decided that noise will probably be our biggest challenge in the future. I've already gone on too long and so I'll address this issue in next month's column.

## NEW YORK INTERNATIONAL MOTORCYCLE SHOW

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also represented. For example, MSF and the Hell's Angels were there. ABATE had a table and were actively recruiting new members. We also met a new group called New York Motorcycle & Scooter Task

Force (NYMSTF). They are a political action group working towards reforming NYC laws.

In between, we attended several educational seminars including "Your Bike and What Cops Look For", the "Advanced

Riding Clinic", and "Long-Distance Touring Tips". While we didn't have time, there was also an entire educational area set up just for women riders.

If you get a chance to attend next year, DO IT! You'll have a blast!

## LABELS—A POEM OF PROTEST BY BRUCE ARNOLD

"Democrat", "Republican",  
The parties of the system;  
Puppets both, for sale their votes,  
No character or wisdom.

"Liberal", "Conservative",  
For change or status quo?  
Pick either one, the change is none,  
For charlatans are both.

Far "Left" we place the Anarchists,  
Libertarians claim far "Right";  
Yet both decry the government:  
False continuum brought to light.

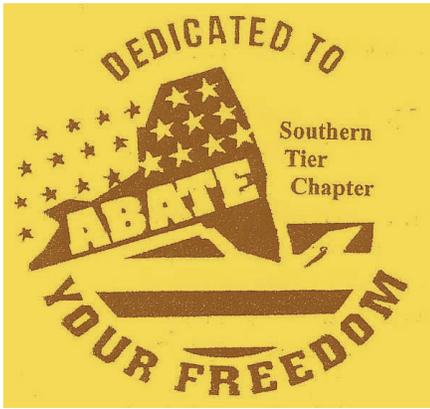
For oil, "We" bomb their mud huts,  
Strip them bare, then offer "Aid";  
And fake their retribution as  
Pretext--a false flag raised.

Unarmed hundred thousands killed  
By weapons of "Defense",  
While rights are lost for "Freedom" sake--  
On profit, all depends.

With stroke of pen, the "Patriot" Act,  
And patriots' gifts are taken;  
Then "Citizens United" leaves  
Our citizens forsaken.

We protest loss of liberties,  
Put "World Wide Web" to use;  
Cloudmark Authority censors us  
For "messaging abuse".

They label us to finger-point,  
With labels, "They" deride us;  
Their labels keep us all at bay,  
For with labels, "They" divide us.



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**Next Meeting: February 11<sup>th</sup>**

**MAIL TO:**

**ABATE OF NEW YORK, INC.  
PO BOX 300  
WALKER VALLEY, NY 12588-0300**

- Full Membership—\$25 per year—includes Membership Packet, Newsletter, all benefits in accordance with state by-laws
- Associate Membership—\$20 per year—available only to additional members of a full member's household (no newsletter), all benefits in accordance with state by-laws
- Member-at-Large—\$25 per year—same benefits as full member only you elect not to affiliate with a local chapter

Name \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chapter selected \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ Member-at-Large

I agree to comply with ABATE of New York's by-laws and promote motorcycle education, legislation, and activities in accordance with ABATE of New York, Inc.

Credit Card No. \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ (VISA or MC only)  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Membership appl. taken by: # \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Patch Due: \_\_\_\_\_ Pin Due: \_\_\_\_\_ New: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_ New Member's No.: # \_\_\_\_\_

**ABATE of New York, Inc. Member's Receipt**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Received from: \_\_\_\_\_ Membership # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Southern Tier Chapter 1 Year Membership accepted by: \_\_\_\_\_