

CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

SOUTHERN TIER ABATE

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Friends, Let me say that there is a lot to talk about tonight, so I'll be brief with this so we can get things done.

I'd like to thank all that worked at the Swap meet at the ABATE table. It was a busy day for all, and the feedback from the people that talked to me was, they walked away from the table with some new learned wisdom thanks to you. Good work!! Also thank you for the things that were donated for our cause. We raised \$81.00 and, gained a new member. We got a contact for helmet stickers and I had some printed for us and are here to hand out. The table costs us nothing, just the entry cost per person. Thank you, TCCC members, for your support.

We need to make a decision on what to do with the debit card. As you know from last meeting we had to have one to get a website up. Now do we destroy it or have Corky lock it up in his safe for future needs. If Corky doesn't have a safe, we could lock it up in mine. Overall, it is Corky and I that are responsible to you for the treasury so it should be one of us to store it.

Please take a minute to thank Shelly for doing the website setup and the newsletter. It's not easy to set it up and get it off the ground. There are some newsletters that were

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VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

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FEBRUARY 2010

Upcoming Events:

- * Southern Tier ABATE Chapter Meeting
March 11th
American Legion Post 1194
- * Cabin Fever Party
March 20th, 7:00pm
American Legion Post 1194

IN MEMORIAM

It is with sadness that I let you all know of the passing of Walt Rutski, we lost Walt this morning. He had been sick for some time now. Walt was the Past President of Finger Lakes ABATE a title he held for 11 years. He was a 16 year

member of ABATE of New York, Inc. and was also Past President of ABATE of NY, Inc. a title he held for 4 years. He leaves behind his wife Cherlyn (Dunior to many). At this time the details have not been finalized, but as soon as I have

all the information I will be contacting you again. Please keep Dunior in your thoughts and prayers.

Kathy A Grasby
ABATE of NYS, Inc.
State Secretary

**SOUTHERN TIER
ABATE**

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NEWSLETTER

WEB MASTER

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***American Bikers
Aimed
Towards Education***

Soon to be on the Web!
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 2nd 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

Currently we have 69 members.

Welcome New Members!

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Regina Excell | 3. Walt Huber |
| 2. Annette Goodwin | 4. Steven Kizis |
| | 5. Carl Squires |
| | 6. Lisa Swislosky |

Thanks to January Renewals!

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Ron Jones | Members due in February 2010 |
| 2. Steve Medovich | 1. Mick Brown |
| 3. Mark Paugh | 2. Andy Ellis |
| 4. Steve Petrylak | 3. John Grosso |
| 5. Al Smith | |

Past Due Members

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Charlie Lohmeyer | Members due in March 2010 |
| 2. Meggan Hobart | 1. Bob Bullock |
| | 2. 2- Mark Giannicchi |
| | 3. 3- TJ Giannicchi |

Please keep your membership current. The state will only keep you on for 2 months after your membership card expiration date.

MINUTES FROM JANUARY MEETING

February 11, 2010 – Start 7:13pm

January minutes not read (Secretary unavailable). Motion to accept (mta) Chrissy, 2nd Toni

Corky reads Treasury Report. mta not recorded, 2nd not recorded

Additional Treasury Business:

1. Motion to transfer State Membership rebate back to checking. mta Chrissy, 2nd Cathy
2. Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) renewal motion. mta Toni, 2nd Ron

Eric reads Membership Report: 69 members, 2 new members, 5 renewals, 8 past due, 3 due this month, 3 due in March. See total report in *Eye on Membership* section. mta not recorded, 2nd not recorded

Shelly reads Newsletter/Website Report. Newsletter was produced and printed. Mailing labels were unavailable however most printed newsletters were given out at TCCC Swap Meet. She will look into obtaining an electronic version from the State. She will include a message about obtaining an electronic version in lieu of a printed version. Web site has been purchased from InMotion Hosting. Functional site should be available by next meeting. mta Chrissy, 2nd Toni

Steve reads Legislative Report. George Gorman wants to change our status to 501C instead of PAC fund. Provides a way to bypass legislation. Very hard to do (Discharge Petition). Please write to governor (see sample letter) to stop this pull over for inspection (Trooper 5060). Get Barbara Fiala to not approve use of Trooper 5060 funds in Broome County. See *Legislative Report* section for more info. mta Cathy, 2nd Jerry

Kenney had nothing to report. mta Chrissy, 2nd Stoney

Mick reads President's Report (See *President's Report* section). Successful table at TCC Swap Meet. Made \$81 and gained 1 new member. Proposed to keep debit card: Mick or Corky? Voted for Treasurer. Ideas for fund raisers. mta Chrissy, 2nd Tony

New business:

1. Cabin Fever Party: Who's taking charge of it? Band (\$300 tops)? Door Prizes? Posters? Corky is handling it (see poster).
2. Would we be interested in replacing our chapter party with a Regional party? Pros: More people; more activities. Cons: Possible location, lack of intimacy with local members. Decided not to eliminate chapter party. Would also participate in a Regional party.

50/50—\$55 counted by Jean. Mick won and donated it back.

Motion to Adjourn. mta not recorded, 2nd not recorded

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Hi all. Last month I updated you on some of the things ABATE is trying to do this year. This month I promised to talk about noise. It's an uncomfortable subject because we all believe that we should have the right to customize our bikes for that perfect sound as well as performance. The problem is that most of the population doesn't agree.

Noise ordinances are popping up everywhere, some, like the one in the Town of Dickinson, don't require a police officer to hear the offending noise. A complaint from a neighbor is enough for a ticket to be issued. If that's the case, then it might be possible for a police officer to issue you a ticket for loud pipes without a decibel meter check. I don't expect that these noise ordinances are going to go away, in fact, they will probably increase with the passage of time. Do you think you're safe living in the country? Think again. With more and more yuppies moving out of suburbia, they will bring their values and try to impose them on you. (I've already seen it happen where I live.)

So the question is, "How do we deal with it?" I have a couple of ideas, some of which will not be popular. First of all, stock pipes meet all regulations. Custom pipes can be bought that also meet the regulations. Leave the baffles in. Or maybe the most important (and most acceptable) solutions is the simplest... don't over-rev your motor or really wank on it when you're in a residential neighborhood. Keep the rpms down and the noise level is reduced. Leave revving it for the Interstates. No homes, no pedestrians and you can still be heard by folks in cars. Our old argument that "loud pipes save lives" is not accepted by anybody but us (as I've heard from numerous politicians).

Well, there you have it. I know that some of you won't agree with anything I've said here. Come to the meeting and let me know if you have some better ideas, I'm certainly willing to listen. But the bottom line remains, we need to deal with this problem before the government does it for us. We need to spread the word to all bikers, not just members of ABATE.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from page 1)

printed out this last month, but I don't have the addresses to mail them out. There was some handed

out, at the swapmeet. If you didn't get one there is some still here. Next month will have more in it and be mailed to all. It will be your option to get it on the website or

mailed after that. Please email Shelly and let her know if you want it emailed. This will save us a lot of money to be used in other areas.

WEB SITE NEWS

If you've read the minutes, then you know that we've secured a Web site. While as of this article we haven't started building the site yet, if all goes well, we should have an operational site by the next Chapter Meeting.

We've secured our space with InMotion Hosting and currently their "under construction" page is visible. If you see that, you've found our electronic home. Keep checking back

to see what progress we're making.

We're hoping to provide a photo gallery, news about bike runs, and links to motorcycle resources in addition to our educational and legislative activities.

What would you like to see? Once we're up and running, we'll provide a way for you to tell us your ideas and submit content for possible inclusion.

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

Would you like to see the full-color version, save a tree, and save the Chapter postage in the process?

Then email Shelly and tell her you don't need a paper copy any more! She will send you a PDF version instead.

Associate Members in good standing are eligible for email delivery.

SAMPLE LETTER TO GOVERNOR PATERSON

Stephen Faughnan
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
City, NY XXXXXX

January 19, 2010

Hon. David Paterson
State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Sir,

I am writing you to ask you to end the New York State Police program known as “Trooper 5060”. This program unfairly targets motorcycles for “safety checks”. I believe that this is selective enforcement of DMV regulations because these stops only affect motorcycle riders. Additionally, I have my motorcycle inspected by a qualified, licensed motorcycle mechanic each year as required by law. I cannot imagine that a NYS Trooper is more qualified to ensure compliance than a trained professional mechanic. This inspection should be enough to satisfy DMV regulations. I believe that the 5060 program is discriminatory by its very nature and should be discontinued immediately.

Safety for a motorcycle rider should be dealt with through educational programs for all licensed drivers, not targeted enforcement. The “Rule of Law” states that *no one* is above the law. It is implicit that *enforcement* of the law should also be equal for all. Selective enforcement could not possibly be in the best interests of the people of New York State.

We are all interested in protecting and preserving the environment. Even though I have a motorcycle with a fairly large engine, I still get 52mpg. That’s better than most hybrid vehicles and certainly better than any conventional automobile. Instead of discouraging motorcycle use by selective enforcement of DMV regulations, we should be encouraging as many people as possible to ride thereby decreasing our carbon footprint.

I hope that you agree and will act to stop the “Trooper 5060” program from being continued this year and henceforth.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Faughnan
Legislative Coordinator
Southern Tier Chapter
ABATE of NY

**It doesn’t take long to create a letter of your own. Use this as a guide.
A “snail-mail” letter shows our officials the level of commitment we have to our cause!**

SOUTHERN TIER ABATE YELLOW PAGES

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(607) 772-1538

PROCARE COPIER SYSTEMS

30 Charlotte Street

Binghamton, NY 13905

(607) 729-6444

SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT US!

SOUTHERN TIER ABATE CABIN FEVER PARTY



The fun begins at 7PM

At the Hillcrest American Legion

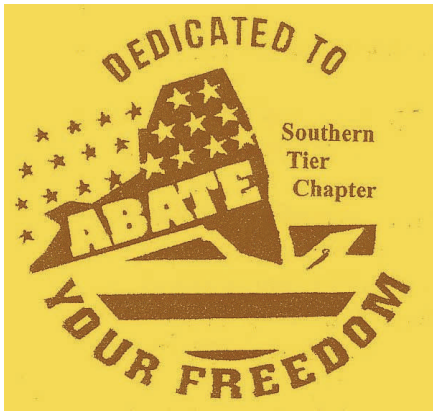
On Saturday, March 20, 2010

Dance to the rocking tunes of

LEGACY

Raffles and door prizes

**All this for just \$10 a person or \$15 a couple
Now get on your bad motor scooter and ride!**



SOUTHERN TIER ABATE

PO Box 2441
Binghamton, NY 13902

*American Bikers Aimed
Towards Education*

Soon to be on the Web!
abateofstny.org

Next Meeting: March 11th

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: _____