

BIKER CIVIL WRITES

SOUTHERN TIER ABATE

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

For those of you that went to the TCCC swap meet there was a big change in the appearance of our table. Mark Beebe took the time to set up a board on what we are about, our accomplishments, and other info pertaining to us. Thank you Mark on a splendid job! There were many comments and a lot of conversation on ABATE and the issues at hand. I'm not sure if we gained any new members from this event but I feel more people are aware of what's going on in Albany. Excellent work and a big thanks to all that worked the table for ABATE.

The state seminar was an interesting day we learned some new things about running our chapters and also had the chance to discuss what we feel we need to do to improve ABATE as a whole. Our biggest agreement was that we feel we have lost face with our reps in Albany and our issues are being put on the back burner. So the chapters decided to change this attitude in Albany or change our representation. The gauntlet has been dropped. We will be creating more open dialog and information so they can understand the importance of our views. Our first and most important issue will be getting the vehicle confiscation bill passed.

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VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2

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FEBRUARY 2011

Upcoming Events:

- * February 10th: Southern Tier ABATE Chapter Meeting
With Special Guest Speaker—
Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo
American Legion Post 1194, Hillcrest
- * February 26th: 7th Annual Biker Boys Birthday Bash
For John E. Carr & Corky Edwards
Davy's Last Chance Saloon
Chenango Forks
8:00pm
- * March 10th: Southern Tier ABATE Chapter Meeting
American Legion Post 1194, Hillcrest
- * March 19th: Cabin Fever Party

Check out our online calendar for bike runs, benefits, and more!

IN MEMORIAM

No names submitted.

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ABATE
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***American Bikers
Aimed
Towards Education***

We're 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.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from page 1)

This has been kicked around in Albany like a flea-infested, 'coon hound that just rolled in manure. It's time this become a law. And, if the state police are so concerned about our safety, how about some stricter enforcement on unsecured loads? Those tree limbs and debris falling from a vehicle are an annoyance to cars be can be devastating to a motorcyclist.

This month we have Donna Lupardo coming to our February meeting to talk with us on how we can help her help us on our goals. I ask that you come and be ready to ask, listen, and learn. Hope to see you there.

Your loyal leader, Mick Brown

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Currently we have 86 Members, that's steady from last month.

We had no new Members join us.

We had 1 renewal since last newsletter:

1. Charlie Lohmeyer {14 Yrs}

We thank you for your continued support.

If you know any of the following folks, gently remind them it's time to renew!

Members Past Due

1. Matt Knight {Sept}
2. Jim Chapin {Nov}
3. Dominick Langella {Nov}

Members due in February 2011

1. Meggan Hobart
2. Walt Huber
3. Steven Kizis
4. Steve Medovich
5. Mark Paugh
6. Steve Petrylak
7. Al Smith
8. Carl Squires

Members due in February 2011

1. Mick Brown
2. Andy Ellis
3. Regina Excell
4. Annette Goodwin
5. John Grosso

Please keep your membership current. Your membership is crucial to fight for our aims and purposes.

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

Good News, Bad News? The good news is, Mick informed me that the state will not be raising the Membership dues. The dues will still be \$25.00 for Full Members and \$20.00 for Associate Members. The bad news is that we will lose our \$5.00 kickback at the end of the year from the state. If you multiply that by 86 Members, that is \$430.00 that will not be going into our chapter treasury at the end of the year. That means we have to find other ways to make money so we can survive as a chapter. Mick has come up with some great ideas and is working on them. If anyone has any other way to make money for our chapter, please come to a meeting and speak up or you can email one of the officers. We have had tough financial times in the past and pulled through fine. I am confident we can still survive as a chapter without the \$5.00 kickback from the state. Hippie {Membership Chairman}

LIFE TERM MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

The Life Membership program consists on a one time payment based on the number of years the member has in the organization. Beginning with their 25th year they are automatically a Charter Life Member and dues are waived.

0-5 yrs Membership is \$400.00

6-10 yrs Membership is \$300.00

11-15 yrs Membership is \$200.00

In addition to all benefits of a full member the Life Member will receive: A Life Member patch, A distinctive Life Member card, and yearly pins.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Sorry that I haven't had a chance to contribute to the newsletter in the last few months. Personal business as well as little happening in NYS government were the cause. That being said, here's what's happening. The ABATE business seminar was held in Owego at the Treadway Inn on Jan. 15th. The featured speaker was Mitch Proner, an attorney from NYC who is a member as well as an advocate for motorcycle rights. He has filed a class action lawsuit against the NYS Police and DMV to prevent any further motorcycle-only stops in NY. His case is based on Federal law and the Constitution. Simply stated, he believes that these stops are a violation of the Fourth Amendment which protects Americans from unreasonable search and seizure. I have a copy of the lawsuit and it will be available at our next few meetings if you would like to see it. (It's 52 pages long so be prepared to spend some time.) In the afternoon, we break up into seminars to discuss each respective officer's position.

Prospector is once again our state legislative coordinator. This, in itself, is probably the most positive thing that has happened at the state ABATE level in quite some time. He is a very strong, positive force in dealing with the State Legislature because of so many years advocating on our behalf. The vast majority of those in the Legislature have met him and respect his opinions. In fact, many of them will call him to get advice on motorcycle related issues. He is very active with the Chapter coordinators and is sending us weekly reports of his activities in the Capitol. He has already met with all of the new members of the Assembly and the Senate. (I've been on the phone with him twice since the seminar.)

Our major focus for legislation this year is the Vehicle Confiscation Bill. Once again, NYS is up to their old tricks of confiscating a bike because the frame and motor numbers don't match. Or worse, if you have painted over the VIN. They consider this as an alteration of the VIN and will take your bike and sell it at auction. They don't have to notify you of the sale and you aren't even allowed to bid on your own bike at the auction. We have had it with this absolutely outrageous practice and are pulling out all of the stops to get this bill passed this year.

Most of you remember that four of our members made a commercial for Sen. Tom Libous' re-election campaign last year. We are now calling in the favor we earned for our time. I met with the Senator yesterday and he has agreed to be the Senate sponsor of the bill. This is a really big deal because, as Deputy Majority Leader, he decides which bills go to the floor and when they are introduced. In the Assembly, our good friend and S/T Chapter member Donna Lupardo is once again the sponsor. I have asked each of them to allow minority party members to sign onto the bill in order to promote the bi-partisanship that is currently occurring in the Capitol with our newly elected Governor Andrew Cuomo. Both agreed that this was a good idea and will accept anyone who wants their name on this bill. I will be meeting with both of them (in a joint session) in the near future to iron out the details.

Speaking of MOA Lupardo, I have confirmed that she is coming to our next meeting on Feb. 10th to speak and update us on what's happening in Albany. You don't want to miss this meeting if you care about motorcycle rights in NYS. There's a lot happening right now and I anticipate a very active legislative session this year. I'm dreaming of warm weather each time I check the charge on my motorcycle batteries. Until next month, stay active in the Chapter by coming to meetings. Your input is always wanted and appreciated.

Steve

WEB SITE NEWS (ABATEOFSTNY.ORG)

I made a mistake in the last newsletter so I posted an Errata announcement correcting the mistakes. Sorry for any problems this may have caused.

The State Board announced their decision to not endorse any sound testing legislation.

You can now download the State newsletter, "Freedom Writer" from our Electronic Library.

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

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

Then go to the Web site and tell me you don't need a paper copy any more! Under *About & Contact Southern Tier ABATE*, you can order the electronic

version! I'll send you a colorful, fully interactive PDF version instead.

Associate Members in good standing are eligible for email delivery.

MINUTES FROM JANUARY MEETING

January 13, 2011 – Start 7:11pm—18 members (including officers) attended.

TJ's report: Motion to waive reading of the minutes. . Motion to accept (mta) Mark B, 2nd Chrissy V, motion passed

Toni reads Treasury Report. As you know, we do not report our balances in the newsletter to keep them from prying eyes. However, if any member wants information they may call Toni at (607) 768-0082. The books are also available for any member to look over. mta Johnny C, 2nd Mark G, motion passed

Eric reads Membership Report: 86 members (steady from last month), State has not sent the most recent membership information. See last known report in *Membership Report* section. mta Chrissy V, 2nd Kenney G, motion passed

Shelly reads Newsletter/Website Report. Added more notes about Donna Lupardo coming to the February meeting. Noticed more activity in Summer, but staying steady on Web site visitors. See *Web Site News* and *Web Site Usage Statistics* for more details. mta Mark, 2nd Chrissy, motion passed

Steve reads Legislative Report. There are 6 bills being brought up in the State Assembly. A more current list can be found on the Web site. We intend on talking to Donna about these bills. Tom Libous is listening a little better due to the commercial we did for him. Hopefully he'll be on board with us. Per Corky, currently in NJ there are limits on your riding based on years of experience. This may go to the Federal level. It already is like this in Europe. mta Johnny C, 2nd Penny, motion passed

Corky read Vice President's Report. Appeared in court in front of Judge Puella on Monday for the helmet ticket he received on the Lid Run. Thought he proved his case pretty well (showed up with all the paperwork). Judge agreed, however technically he was breaking the law. Ordered a transcript of trial and talked to lawyer. Once he has the transcript he will contact his congressman and show them how he got the permits and still got ticketed. Festive time of the year—Corky & Johnny are having annual birthday bash. See flyer on Page 8. mta Jean, 2nd Johnny, C motion passed

Mick reads President's Report (See *President's Report* section). At the State level, membership will stay at \$25 but the chapters won't get their kickback. Mick made a proposal to go electronic & save our money. For those of you without Internet access, we will be happy to make a copy for that member. There has been a movement going on about highway safety—they will be pulling motorcyclists-only program & roadblock or checkpoint. They will be going to Federal court about this action. They cannot single out motorcyclists unless they have a good reason. We have a new State President and Secretary. Come to seminar at Owego Treadway on January 14-16. mta Corky, 2nd Kenney, motion passed

New business:

1. Gas cards: we are going to start selling them again.
2. TCCC Swap Meet
3. March 19: Cabin Fever Party
4. Kenney makes a motion to reimburse Corky for his court cost & fines. mta Mark, 2nd Steve, motion passed
5. Toni makes a motion that TJ Gianicchi file for the Lid Run permit. She agreed.

Old business:

1. Do not bring alcohol to our events. The Legion needs to make money too.

Motion to Adjourn. mta Kenney, 2nd Chrissy, motion passed—Meeting adjourned at 8:03pm.

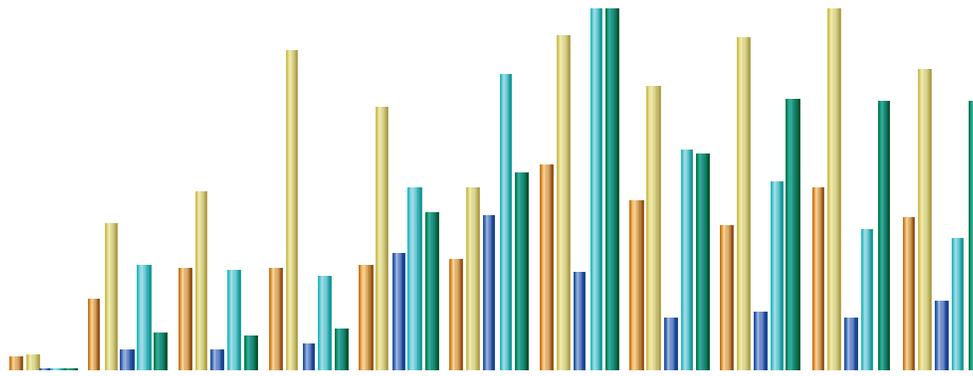
WEB SITE USAGE STATISTICS

SUMMARY

Reported period	Month Dec 2010				
First visit	01 Dec 2010 - 00:05				
Last visit	31 Dec 2010 - 13:53				
	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Viewed traffic *	106	213 (2 visits/visitor)	1932 (9.07 Pages/Visit)	3766 (17.68 Hits/Visit)	183.96 MB (884.4 KB/Visit)
Not viewed traffic *			3058	3734	74.85 MB

* Not viewed traffic includes traffic generated by robots, worms, or replies with special HTTP status codes.

MONTHLY HISTORY



Feb 2010 Mar 2010 Apr 2010 May 2010 Jun 2010 Jul 2010 Aug 2010 Sep 2010 Oct 2010 Nov 2010 Dec 2010

CALENDAR VIEWS

29 views (592 all time views) as of January 1st.

Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Jan 2010	0	0	0	0	0
Feb 2010	8	9	12	12	35.27 KB
Mar 2010	49	102	562	2990	24.61 MB
Apr 2010	71	125	565	2871	22.16 MB
May 2010	71	225	706	2709	26.20 MB
Jun 2010	74	186	3312	5192	107.37 MB
Jul 2010	77	128	4430	8509	135.81 MB
Aug 2010	145	236	2797	10381	246.99 MB
Sep 2010	119	200	1494	6339	147.71 MB
Oct 2010	101	235	1640	5378	185.97 MB
Nov 2010	128	254	1499	4020	183.12 MB
Dec 2010	106	213	1932	3766	183.96 MB
Total	949	1913	18949	52167	1.23 GB

LEGISLATION WE SUPPORT

BILL NO S01338 [No same as]
SPONSOR DILAN
COSPNSR DIAZ, HASSELL-THOMPSON

Amd S423-a, V & T L

Provides that ownership of unidentifiable part in identifiable motorcycle, other than a stolen motorcycle shall be returned to such owner, provided that department has made findings such owner had no knowledge part was unidentifiable and that owner wasn't responsible nor acted in concert to render such part unidentifiable; provides that a department investigation shall take place within thirty days after seizure of motorcycle; and requires commissioner to establish criteria to determine whether motorcycle shall be confiscated, seized or impounded and also to establish a system to ensure return of motorcycles to owners in undamaged condition.

Status: 01/06/2011 REFERRED TO TRANSPORTATION

Bill Text:

Text not available

BILL NO S01184 [No same as]
SPONSOR PARKER
COSPNSR MAZIARZ

Amd S502, V & T L

Requires five hour pre-licensing course to include a motorcycle awareness and safety component, and the driver's license examination to include two questions concerning motorcycle awareness and safety.

Status:

01/05/2011 REFERRED TO TRANSPORTATION

Bill Text:

Text not available

Information provided by:

<http://www.newyorkfreedomriders.com>

New York Freedom Riders

Riders Against Constitutional Erosion

"Freedom Is NOT A Spectator Sport"

**7th Annual Biker Boys Birthday Bash
for John E Carr & Corky Edwards
The fun begins at 8 on Saturday, February 26
at Davy's Last Chance Saloon, Chenango Forks**



**Come enjoy the live music of LEGACY
As always NAKED CHICKS GET IN FREE!**

WARNING: The Surgeon General has determined that your attendance of this party will result in the lowering of your moral standards due to the inordinant of fun, some of which may actually be legal.

SOUTHERN TIER ABATE YELLOW PAGES

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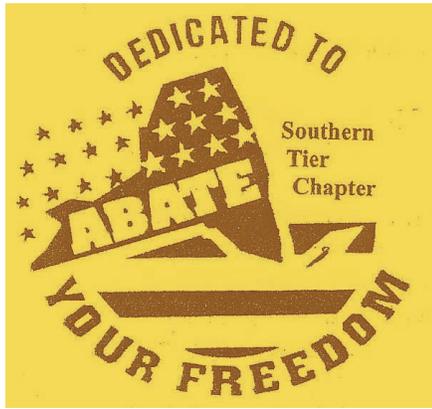
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SOUTHERN TIER ABATE

PO Box 2441
Binghamton, NY 13902

*American Bikers Aimed
Towards Education*

We're on the Web!
abateofstny.org

Next Meeting: February 10th

MAIL TO:

**ABATE OF NEW YORK, INC.
PO BOX 340094
BROOKLYN, NY 11234**

- 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 Southern Tier Chapter 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: _____