

BIKER CIVIL LIBERTIES

SOUTHERN TIER ABATE

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Fellow Freedom Fighters, this month I would like to talk about the future of this chapter and where we will be going with it. As I have expressed before if we want to get anything done for us, we have to be taken seriously. Our participation in public involvement will go a long way. A lot of us do various things in the community to make things better and this is good. Next time you do, wear your ABATE shirt. That lets people know that you care about other things as well.

I really would like to start a public relations committee. I know I've talked of this before; the time has come. We can be involved with various parts of the community that can make a difference if we spend our time wisely. We need to overcome the stigma of the "lid guys", and this will help do it. Those interested in doing this let's talk after the meeting and set up a time when we can meet and start a plan of action.

Those of you who haven't read the state newsletter and not gone on the [ABATE of Iowa, Inc. website](#), you really should. You will see, and agree that that is what we should be doing to make motorcycling safer for us. The state collected over \$800,000 last year from our reggys to be dedicated for MC safety and it is there for us to have granted to us to use in this way. That is what the state ABATE is working on right now.

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VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3

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MARCH 2010

Upcoming Events:

- * Southern Tier ABATE Chapter Meeting
April 8th
American Legion Post 1194
- * Vestal Center Motorcycle Club
Spring Poker Run
May 1st
- * Triple Cities Chopper Club
Pancake Breakfast for the Vets
May 2nd

Check out our online calendar!

IN MEMORIAM

We were recently notified that Tom Fleming of Chenango Forks, a former Southern Tier ABATE member, passed away on March 17, 2010.

He is survived by his mother,

Mary Ellen Fleming and four brothers.

[View his obituary and see his guest book](#)

Do you know of any other lost brothers or sisters you'd like remembered? Send us any information you have and we will remember them here.

**SOUTHERN TIER
ABATE
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NEWSLETTER

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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)

I would also like to see some ideas for increasing our finances. It would be nice to put a lost member on the Forever List, and maybe award members for taking the MC Safety Course with a couple free years' memberships. They do this in other chapters. Why not us? We shouldn't be worried about whether we're going to make money on our parties, these should be rewards for us to enjoy.

If the membership is willing to get behind me and support me, you'll

see changes to the good in just a few months.

As always I thank you for your time and support.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Currently we have 70 Members, up 1 member from last month of 69.

Thanks to February Renewals!

1. John Grosso
2. Charlie Lohmeyer
3. Carl Squires
4. Bob Bullock
5. Tammy Jo Giannicchi
6. Mick Brown

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

Past Due Members

1. Andy Ellis [Feb]
2. Meggan Hobart [Jan]
3. Walt Huber [Jan]
4. Steven Kizis [Jan]
5. Lisa Swislosky [Jan]

Members due in March 2010

1. Mark Giannicchi
2. Patrick Nannery

Members due in April 2010

1. Mark Callahan
2. Kathy Freeman

Please keep your membership current.

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

I would like to see our membership grow. I would like to ask every member to try to get at least one person signed up. Bring them to a meeting or party to see what we are all about. I always have tri folds at the meeting or you can contact me to get some.

That is all I have for this month. Hope to see you all at the meeting. The weather is starting to break so remember to ride safely and be aware of the gravel that is still on most roads.

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.

I am considering this option myself being a 10 year member already. I ask that you also consider this option if financially possible.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

I don't have anything this month for you. The State Legislature is working on the budget so nothing but the leader's pet bills get worked on. We're not included.

ARE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE?

If not, you can't make your voice be heard! Registering is as easy as stopping by the post office and filling out a form. If you're not registered, DO IT TODAY!

MAKE YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!

TREASURER'S REPORT

At the March 11th meeting, Corky reported on the checking and savings accounts and gave the balances of both accounts as of March 11, 2010. All expenses and incomes for both accounts were discussed. At this point in time the chapter is financially sound.

As you know, we do not report our balances in the newsletter to keep them from prying eyes. However, if any member wants some information they may call Corky at 770 -7098. The books are also available for any member to look over.

CABIN FEVER PARTY

The Cabin Fever Party was held on March 20th. There was a decent turnout and we did make a small profit. The band, Legacy, played some great rock and roll and were happy to be entertain us. Thanks to all the members that came and a bigger thanks to the non-members that supported our event.

Ride safe.

WEB SITE NEWS

We're now on the Web at abateofstny.org and hope to keep you up to date with what's going on. We've been submitted to Google and MSN search engines. So we'll be found!

Do you have an event you'd like to see on the Calendar? Send me the event, date/time, place, and contact info. I'll make sure it gets posted.

Sorry about the sample pictures! I needed to set up the page and that's what was provided. You can email me

separate photos or (for the more computer savvy) you put a bunch in a Zip file and send that to me.

What would you like to see? Under *About & Contact Southern Tier ABATE*, I've provided a form to send feedback to me.

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 PDF version instead.

Associate Members in good standing are eligible for email delivery.

MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY MEETING

March 11, 2010 – Start 7:??pm—23 attendees including officers.

Waive reading of February minutes. Motion to accept (mta) Chrissy, 2nd Bob

Corky reads Treasury Report. mta Chrissy, 2nd Johnny C.

Eric reads Membership Report: 70 members, 0 new members, 4 renewals, 5 past due, 2 due this month, 3 due in April. Past Due members will be dropped after 2 months. Please pay attention to your membership status. If you know any of the Past Due members or renewals, let them know it's time to renew. See total report in *Eye on Membership* section. Lifetime membership: 0-5 years (\$400), 6-10 years (\$300), and 11-15 years (\$200). You get a patch, card, and pin every year. Also, please tell your friends and family about ABATE and get them signed up. Any questions? Get a hold of Eric. mta Tony, 2nd Ron

Steve reads Legislative Report. Not much is going on except whose scandal will we support this year. Every single elective office is open. Register to vote. It takes 5 minutes to fill out a post card. Give Shelly a round of applause. See *Legislative Report* section for more info. mta Johnny, 2nd Ron

Shelly reads Newsletter/Website Report. Web site is up and running. Please send her pictures from different past events. Make sure you tell her what event it was. Some folks didn't get the electronic version and she will send it out again. Please contact her if you didn't get the newsletter or if there are problems. Calendar is up. mta Jerry, 2nd Jean Kenney Ride safe. mta John McK, 2nd Dan

Mick reads President's Report (See *President's Report* section). We need to be more visible in the community. Start a public relations committee. Look at ABATE of Iowa Web site. They are a model for what other ABATE chapters should be doing. Raise money. It would be nice to be able to memorialize lost members and reward motorcycle safety course graduates. Shouldn't have to worry about making money at parties. They should be for fun. mta not recorded, 2nd not recorded

New business:

1. We need to try and get more members
2. Tickets for Freedom Rally Raffle? Give out gas cards for prizes. \$2/ticket or \$5/3 tickets. Motion to have 1000 tickets made up (wording to be decided). mta Steve P. 2nd Jean
3. State Chapter Meeting at 1:00pm on Sunday. One member from local chapter must attend.
4. State Lid Run (Freedom Rally)
Lodging: Friday—Sunday \$60/night double occupancy; Chapter pays 1/3 the cost.
Meet @noon on Sunday in Northgate Plaza, Upper Front Street, Binghamton
5. Do we want to do a Codger Run again? Yes. Tentatively set for July 18th; free ride with friends
6. Toni was wondering if people would want to get together and watch "Sons of Anarchy" together—Nice idea; but bad timing

Old business:

1. Cabin Fever Party: Who's taking charge of it? We owe \$1 rental fee for party. Toni is all set for party. Show up early and help set up if you want. Bring friends.
2. The letter I (who?) wrote in newsletter; haven't heard noise about what was written. No comments?
3. How was Corky's Birthday Party? He and Johnny remember nothing.

50/50—\$45 counted by ?. Johnny C. won.

Motion to Adjourn. mta not recorded, 2nd not recorded—Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

SAMPLE LETTER TO GOVERNOR PATERSON

Stephen Faughnan
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
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!**

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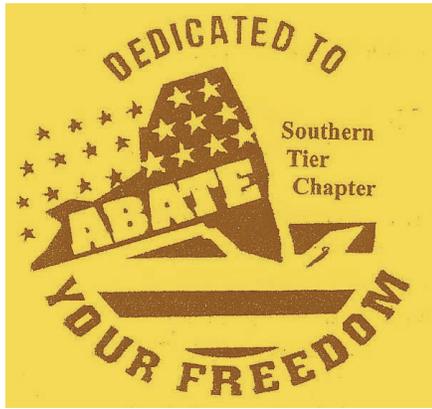
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30 Charlotte Street

Binghamton, NY 13905

(607) 729-6444

SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT US!



SOUTHERN TIER ABATE

PO Box 2441
Binghamton, NY 13902

*American Bikers Aimed
Towards Education*

We're on the Web!
abateofstny.org



Next Meeting: April 8th



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: _____