

BIKER CIVIL WRITES

ABATE OF NYS, INC., SOUTHERN TIER CHAPTER

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Well Spring is just around the corner and we'll be dusting the Scooters off and blowing out the cobwebs soon. Keep in mind that the sleepy-headed general public will not be looking for you. I hope for a completely safe spring startup this year instead of the usual slaughter and indifference that we see, but that's just a wish and not a reality. As we heard last month from Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo, New York State is in a financial crunch like never before and I suspect that most of the time this year will be spent on balancing the budget and not getting bills passed. It will be up to us to support/educate our representatives in getting what bills they do get to vote on that effect us. The State ABATE has asked all chapters to visit their legislators in their home offices so they can be familiar with our views. Don't be afraid to ask them to co-sponsor some of these bills. Steve is doing just that as we speak and I encourage you to go with us to see them.

We will no longer be getting our membership incentive package from the state ABATE. This money helped us in the costs of running this chapter. We are now selling Gas raffle tickets for \$2.00 donations to help offset this deficit. The prizes will be awarded at that

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VOLUME 2, ISSUE 3

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MARCH 2011

Upcoming Events:

- * March 10th: Southern Tier ABATE Chapter Meeting
American Legion Post 1194, Hillcrest
- * March 19th: Cabin Fever Party
- * April 14th: Southern Tier ABATE Chapter Meeting
American Legion Post 1194, Hillcrest

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

IN MEMORIAM

No names submitted.

**ABATE OF NYS,
INC., SOUTHERN
TIER CHAPTER
OFFICERS**

PRESIDENT

Mick Brown
(607) 217-5669
dadspar@yahoo.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Corky Edwards
(607) 770-7098
newyorkabate@aol.com

LEGISLATIVE

Steve Faughnan
(607) 692-3809
sfaughnan2@stny.rr.com

SECRETARY

T. J. Giannicchi
(607) 242-7923
giannicchi@aol.com

TREASURER

Toni Jamison
(607) 768-0082
caretaker48sls@aol.com

MEMBERSHIP

Eric Lenga
(607) 729-1350
hippiedude67@yahoo.com

NEWSLETTER
WEB MASTER

Shelly Hinton
(607) 761-4411
DrWhoToo@gmail.com

***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)

Freedom Rally in August. Please support your chapter so we may continue to run and expand as we have been doing in the past.

Don't forget you can get your newsletter emailed to you. *Under About & Contact Southern Tier ABATE*, you can order the electronic version! Shelly will send you a colorful, fully interactive PDF version instead. This will save the chapter as well. She also puts a copy on our website under the *Electronic Library* that you can download at any time.

Cabin Fever party is coming up this month. As always it will be a good time. Grab a friend and come to the Legion and listen, dance, or just chat with people that have the same interests in mind as you. You won't be disappointed.

Ride Safe.....Mick Brown

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Currently we have 89 Members, that's up 3 from last several months.

We had 1 new Member join us.

1. Mary Jones

Welcome aboard Mary!

We had 2 returning members.

1. Gerald "Bushy" Boushie {?}
2. Desi Meacham {?}

Welcome back!

We had 6 renewals since last newsletter:

1. Mick Brown {11 yrs}
2. Steve Petrylak {4 yrs}
3. Al Smith {12 yrs}
4. Carl Squires {3 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. Jim Chapin {Nov}
 2. Dominick Langella {Nov}
- The state is ready to drop you, please hurry!

3. Meggan Hobart {Jan}
4. Walt Huber {Jan}
5. Steven Kizis {Jan}
6. Steve Medovich {Jan}
7. Mark Paugh {Jan}
8. Andy Ellis {Feb}
9. Regina Excell {Feb}
10. Annette Goodwin {Feb}
11. John Grosso {Feb}

Members due in March 2011

1. Bob Bullock
2. Mark Giannicchi
3. TJ Giannicchi
4. Patrick Nannery

Members due in April 2011

1. Mark Callahan
2. John Crossman
3. Tom Finch
4. Cathy Freeman
5. George Kilpatrick
6. Don Lantz Jr
7. Dana Woodruff

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.

Hello. I apologize for having the same report in the last 2 newsletters. I did not get the report from the State in time for the last newsletter. I would like to discuss another level of membership the State has set up to memorialize members passed. The ABATE of New York Forever Member will be memorialized through a unique card and memorial certificate and annual ABATE of New York pins. Forever Members' names will be published in a special section of every subsequent issue of The Freedom Writer and on the ABATE of New York website. The card and certificate are meant for the memorializing party to treasure, pins perhaps to be saved or placed at the grave, and the publication so all can remember. Forever Membership has been established at a one-time cost of \$100.00, and eligibility is limited to those who were Members of ABATE of New York at the time of death. About 1 year ago on St Patrick's Day we had a 6-year member Tom Fleming die of a heart attack unexpectedly. Tom was a great Brother and an active Member of our Chapter at the time of his death. I would like to discuss setting up an fund for Forever Members based on donations from Members without using the chapter's money. I would like to keep Tom on as a Forever Member. If anyone would like to donate money for Tom's Forever Membership please let me know or come to the meeting. I will donate \$20.00 to get this going. If you have any input on this program please come to the meeting and speak up or email me or one of the other officers. That is all I have for this month. I hope to see more Members at the meetings. Think Spring and Ride Safe! Hippie

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.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Helmet Protest Run—As you know, I received a helmet ticket while leading last year's helmet protest ride. I, in turn, fought the ticket and took it to court.

I am in the process of getting the transcript from my trial typed out. When that is finished, I would like the chapter's approval to approach my city councilman and then city council as a whole to attempt to make sure our permit is approved for the next run WITHOUT helmets.

On Monday, May 16th, ABATE of NY will hold its annual Freedom Rally in Albany. Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend the rally as I plan on being in Maryland for the MRF's "Beast of the East" conference.

I, however, would be willing to make arrangements for those headed to Albany motel rooms. I have the contact numbers for the motel we have stayed at in the past, except for last year. I do not know as of yet what the state plans as far as lodging goes, except that there was a fire at the Blackthorn during the past year.

This wasn't decided during the meeting, but I just wanted to bring it to your attention.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

No report submitted.

WEB SITE NEWS (ABATEOFSTNY.ORG)

Do you want to know what bills are currently up in the State Senate and Assembly? There are now links to both state houses and the current bills being considered.

On the less serious side, you can now play online motorcycle games. These are completely online and no software to download. HAVE FUN!

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 FEBRUARY MEETING

February 10, 2011 – Start 7:10pm—22 members (including officers) attended.

Kenney made a motion to waive normal meeting procedures.

Donna Lupardo on floor. Bills she's working on:

Helmet Bill—She is now a sponsor of the bill. She's taking it over and reworking the language that explains the bill.

Confiscation Bill—She is going to make sure this bill will be passed. The State Senate is the biggest hurdle. Tom Libous is in charge of all bills that go to the State Senate. They will make sure there is a paper or site that explains this bill. If we can get both parties to come together, we can be unstoppable.

Motorcycle Insurance Notification Bill—No-fault insurance does not include motorcyclists. This bill would require insurers to notify clients of the specific limitations associated with motorcycle insurance policies.

Noise Ordinance Bill—Not going anywhere

She believes that Governor Cuomo is someone to work with.

Questions asked:

Mick asks about the Confiscation Bill by telling a story.

We need to come face to face with this bill and we need to address this.

Corky asks do emails people send make a difference.

They have a person that keeps count and sifts through them. They do look at the emails that have the same topic more often than some of the strays that come in.

Mick asks how do we approach Governor Cuomo with ideas and concerns especially motorcycle safety.

Money has been passed out to so many groups that there is no money to go towards motorcycle safety. It got swept under the rug. She is working on straightening this out. She will look at excessive spending and prioritize.

Steve asks how she feels about Barbara Fiala being Motor Vehicle Commissioner.

Barbara Fiala is based in Binghamton and Albany so she'll still be accessible. Donna thinks it isn't bad she's the new commissioner. She just needs to be educated about motorcycles.

We need to meet with her or write her at home. She feels talking to her is the best way.

Kenney speaks and says he doesn't know her well but he does know people who work with her.

Steve states that after last Fall's elections he was feeling optimistic about progress. Will they work together?

We have a lot of work to do. We are financially broke. We need to reorganize funds and distribute to the most important. It's frustrating, but everybody is in agreement that something needs to be done.

Cuomo put a lot of safeguards out when he was State Attorney General. He prosecuted the crooks and they were replaced with new people.

We thanked Donna for coming and continued with the regular meeting.

TJ's report: Motion to waive reading of the minutes. Motion to accept (mta) Kenney, 2nd Rob, 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 Tom, 2nd Ron, motion passed

Eric reads Membership Report: 87 members (up from last month). See *Membership Report* section. mta Jerry, 2nd Tom, motion passed

Shelly reads Newsletter/Website Report. Apologized for getting newsletter out late. Added links to Web sites. See *Web Site News* for more details. mta Paul, 2nd Ron, motion passed

Kenney made a motion to spend \$5.00 per month to automatically print the addresses on the newsletter, 2nd Stoney, motion passed

Toni asks who is printing the newsletter because last month was too dark. Same printer as always. Shelly will see if she can lighten the copy.

Steve reads Legislative Report. Driver Education Bill introduced to both houses. Every driver has to learn about motorcycles. mta Mark, 2nd Tom, motion passed

Corky reads Vice President's Report. Wants to avoid ticket problems for this year's Lid Run. Won't be going to State Freedom Rally this year. See *Vice President's Report* section. mta Mark, 2nd Tom, motion passed

Corky made a motion that the Southern Tier Chapter of ABATE of NY will allow Corky Edwards to approach the Binghamton City Council to secure a parade permit issued for the Annual Lid Run without helmets. 2nd not recorded, motion passed

Mick reads President's Report. Mark made a display for the swap meet. Great job Mark! Proposal for dues electronic rebate. We need to keep up with repre-

(Continued on page 8)

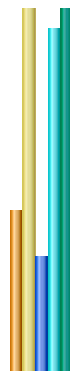
WEB SITE USAGE STATISTICS

SUMMARY

Reported period	Month Jan 2011				
First visit	NA				
Last visit	31 Jan 2011 - 19:24				
	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Viewed traffic *	121	274 (2.26 visits/visitor)	1370 (5 Pages/Visit)	4153 (15.15 Hits/Visit)	217.39 MB (812.42 KB/Visit)
Not viewed traffic *			3920	4775	152.82 MB

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

MONTHLY HISTORY



Jan
2011

Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Jan 2011	121	274	1370	4153	217.39 MB
Total	121	274	1370	4153	217.39 MB

CALENDAR VIEWS

37 views by **public visitors** (667 all time views).

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"

SOUTHERN TIER ABATE CABIN FEVER PARTY



The fun begins at 7PM
At the Hillcrest American Legion
On Saturday, March 19, 2011
Dance to the rocking tunes of
Short Change Band
Food, raffles and door prizes
All this for just \$10 a person or \$15 a couple
Now get on your bad motor scooter and ride!

MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY MEETING

(Continued from page 5)

sentatives. Encourage them to think positively towards us and our issues. See *President's Report* section. mta not recorded, 2nd not recorded, motion passed

New business:

1. Need more fundraising.

Old business:

1. Great swap meet.

Motion to Adjourn. mta Chrissy, 2nd Toni, motion passed—Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.

SOUTHERN TIER ABATE YELLOW PAGES

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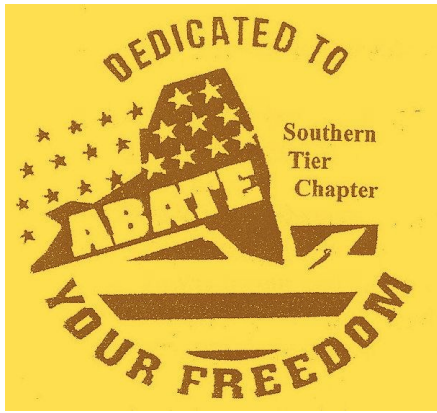
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ABATE OF NYS, INC.,
SOUTHERN TIER CHAPTER

PO Box 2441
Binghamton, NY 13902

*American Bikers Aimed
Towards Education*

We're on the Web!
abateofstny.org

Next Meeting: March 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

Email newsletter Email address _____

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: _____