

# BIKER CIVIL WRITES

ABATE OF NYS, INC., SOUTHERN TIER CHAPTER

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By now most everyone has gotten their motorcycles out and has gone through the spring ritual of cleaning and changing the oil. Be sure to check your brakes and tires as well. Besides just going down the road, it's important to be able to control your bike through the turns and to stop when needed.

Now I've talked about watching out for the other vehicles on the road, and I'm sure you're getting tired of hearing it. Keep in mind that reaction time is what keeps you rolling safely, or becoming road pizza.

I ask that everyone keep an eye on the legislation that is going down and voice your opinion to the proper people. Your opinion can make a difference. There are a lot of bills out and some are positive for the motorcyclists. Albany needs to hear your voice too. You can access this information on our website, [abateofstny.org](http://abateofstny.org) and get the skinny on what's

*(Continued on page 2)*

### VOLUME 2, ISSUE 6

### JUNE 2011

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#### Upcoming Events:

- \* June 9<sup>th</sup>: Southern Tier ABATE Chapter Meeting  
American Legion Post 1194, Hillcrest
- \* July 9<sup>th</sup>: Southern Tier ABATE Chapter Summer Campout
- \* July 14<sup>th</sup>: 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**

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*American Bikers  
Aimed  
Towards Education*

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We're on the Web!  
[abateofstny.org](http://abateofstny.org)

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**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.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

*(Continued from page 1)*

happening. We stand to have one of the best years for passing laws concerning motorcycle safety and awareness. Be part of it!!!

Last there are a lot of events going on out there. Let people know about our website so they can see the events on our calendar and even list theirs if they have one.

Your President, Mick Brown

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Currently we have 90 Members, that's up 3 from last month of 87.

We had 3 new Members join us.

1. Billy McManus
2. Philip Marshall
3. Robert Ayers, Jr

Welcome aboard new !

We had 4 renewals since last newsletter:

1. Steven Kizis {10 yrs}
2. John Grosso {8 yrs}
3. Crystal Morabito {7 yrs}
4. Tony Morabito {7 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. Andy Ellis {Feb}
2. Bob Bullock {Mar}
3. Patrick Nannery {Mar}
4. Mark Callahan {Apr}
5. John Crossman {Apr}
6. Tom Finch {Apr}
7. Cathy Freeman {Apr}
8. George Kilpatrick {Apr}
9. Dana Woodruff {Apr}

*Members due in May 2011*

1. John H Day, Jr
2. Mike Murray
3. Candy Spacek

*Members due in June 2011*

1. Ron Aton
2. Jamie "Packrat" Bates
3. Mark Beebe
4. Nicole Deering
5. Dave Dipierri
6. Debora Gardner
7. Kenny Gardner

8. Sid Gyles
9. Shelly Hinton
10. Edward Vandermark

*Members due in July 2011*

1. John Carr
2. Alicia Chapin
3. Duane Coats
4. Tony DeWan
5. Jean DeWan
6. Tina Hamrick
7. William Hohn
8. Eric Lenga
9. Donna Lupardo
10. John McKenzie
11. Rob Mock III
12. Georgiana Nickerson
13. Diana Pellegrino
14. Andy Reynolds
15. Jim Shaffer
16. Christina Voloshen
17. Jon White

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, please note that at the time of this report I have not received the updated Membership report from the State. If you renewed and are not mentioned in this report, you will be mentioned at my updated Membership Report at the meeting. We have been having a pretty good turnout at the meetings but I would like to see more Members attending. We have a lot to discuss in a short period of time. There is a lot of informative information discussed at these meeting. Hope to see you there. That is all I have for this month. Ride Safe!

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 receives: A Life Member patch, A distinctive Life Member card, and yearly pins.

## VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

No report submitted.

## LEGISLATIVE REPORT

No report submitted

## NEWSLETTER/WEB SITE NEWS ([ABATEOFSTNY.ORG](http://ABATEOFSTNY.ORG))

It was the end of the semester and nothing was changed except for routine updates.

### **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 MAY MEETING

May 12, 2011 – Start 7:17pm—20 members (including officers) attended.

TJ's report: Motion to waive reading of the minutes. Motion to accept (mta) Tony, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ron, 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 Ron, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jean, motion passed

Eric reads Membership Report: 90 members (3 new members). See *Membership Report*. mta Ron, 2<sup>nd</sup> John McK, motion passed

Shelly reads Newsletter/Website Report. Only routine updates. See *Web Site News*. mta Toni, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jean, motion passed

Steve reads Legislative Report. He read the second letter he sent to Richard Hanna regarding HR 904 explaining the resolution and removed any reference to helmets. He also included a reference to the Circuit Court decision, Indianapolis v. Edmond, which upheld that the checkpoints violated the Fourth Amendment. He will send Shelly a copy of the letter for publication. mta Jerry, 2<sup>nd</sup> Chrissy, motion passed

Corky reads Vice President's Report. We've got to start selling Gas-O-Rama tickets. \$2.00 each or 3 tickets for \$5.00. Contact Corky if you need tickets to sell (or buy). Drawing will be held after the Lid Run on August 13<sup>th</sup>. mta Chrissy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tony, motion passed

Mick reads President's Report. Let people know about our website. See *President's Report*. mta John C, 2<sup>nd</sup> Chrissy, motion passed

### *New business:*

1. Shelly is looking into Adopt-A-Highway Program. ABATE would get out there if we adopt a highway. Mick said he will find a section of highway open.
2. Chrissy has Tom Fleming patches. They can be bought individually, but she needs the money (\$5.00) up front.
3. Corky rides with the Patriot Guard Riders at funerals for fallen soldiers and veterans. Anyone is welcome to sign up and ride.
4. Bob Melonowski went down in Endicott. He is in Wilson, Room 349. Go and see him if you can.
5. Chrissy says that there are a lot of bikes and new riders (especially on scooters) out there. Watch out for them!

### *Old business:*

1. State Lid Run in Albany on May 16<sup>th</sup>. If you want to go, meet at noon at old Ames Plaza on Upper Front St on Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>.
2. Summer Campout on July 9th.  
⇒ Jerry made a motion to increase the budget for all expenses to \$500.00. mta Steve, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ron, motion passed
3. Corky will look into having Sting of Pearls play for the Chapter Lid Run party.

Motion to Adjourn. mta John C, 2<sup>nd</sup> John McK, motion passed—Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

## WEB SITE USAGE STATISTICS

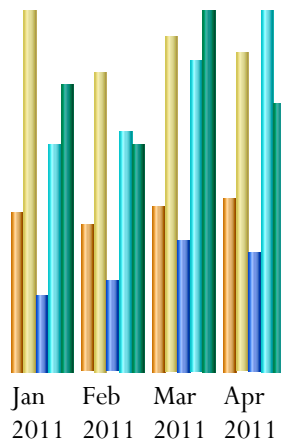
### SUMMARY

|                      |                     |                              |                            |                            |                                |
|----------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Reported period      | Month Apr 2011      |                              |                            |                            |                                |
| First visit          | 01 Apr 2011 - 00:04 |                              |                            |                            |                                |
| Last visit           | 30 Apr 2011 - 22:39 |                              |                            |                            |                                |
|                      | Unique visitors     | Number of visits             | Pages                      | Hits                       | Bandwidth                      |
| Viewed traffic *     | 132                 | 242<br>(1.83 visits/visitor) | 2169<br>(8.96 Pages/Visit) | 6588<br>(27.22 Hits/Visit) | 201.57 MB<br>(852.92 KB/Visit) |
| Not viewed traffic * |                     |                              | 6868                       | 8183                       | 319.82 MB                      |

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

### MONTHLY HISTORY

| Month    | Unique visitors | Number of visits | Pages | Hits  | Bandwidth |
|----------|-----------------|------------------|-------|-------|-----------|
| Jan 2011 | 121             | 274              | 1370  | 4153  | 217.39 MB |
| Feb 2011 | 110             | 227              | 1620  | 4381  | 170.81 MB |
| Mar 2011 | 125             | 255              | 2410  | 5693  | 271.94 MB |
| Apr 2011 | 132             | 242              | 2169  | 6588  | 201.57 MB |
| Total    | 488             | 998              | 7569  | 20815 | 861.71 MB |



### CALENDAR VIEWS

53 views by **public visitors** (758 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"

Stephen Faughnan  
363 South St.  
Chenango Forks, NY 13746

March 16, 2011

Hon. Richard Hanna  
319 Cannon HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Sir,

I am writing you today in support of HR 904 introduced by Rep. Sensenbrenner. This resolution would prohibit Federal funds from being used to conduct motorcycle only road stops. First, a little history. The NYS Police in conjunction with the NYS Department of Motor Vehicles began conducting motorcycle only stops in NY two years ago. They called the program "Trooper 5060" in reference to the badge number of a State Police officer who was tragically killed in the line of duty pursuing a criminal who happened to be riding a motorcycle.

The program seemed innocent enough at the time. The stated purpose was to perform safety checks on motorcycles to insure that the riders were operating a vehicle that was in compliance with NYS DMV regulations. Unfortunately, this is not what actually occurred.

The supposed "safety stops" became a tool to generate money for NYS and to issue tickets for non-compliant helmets. The NYS Police set up roadblocks in areas where they knew a large volume of motorcycle traffic would be because of annual motorcycle rallies. They post a sign on the highway indicating that all motorcycles must turn into a State rest area. They place the motorcycles in an area that can best be described as a holding pen, complete with fences and armed troopers and sheriff's deputies. They then look at helmets or anything on the motorcycle that they feel may not be in compliance. The riders who are pulled over have been detained for as long as 45 minutes, many with no tickets issued. Many of the tickets issued are overturned in a court because of non-specificity of the charges or even non-compliance with the NYS Police policy statement on motorcycle only stops. In fact, there is so much vague language in the policy, as well as discretion for the officers that the policy is not being enforced in anything resembling a consistent manner. I'm not even sure if the Troopers themselves understand their own procedure.

Every motorcycle registered in NYS has to be inspected by a licensed motorcycle inspection station each year. These trained professionals are qualified to perform the inspections, as certified by NYS. They are the ones who should be making the determination if a motorcycle is safe to operate, not the New York State Police who have no special knowledge of the factors that affect the safety of the riders. Additionally, if the NYS Police are truly concerned for the safety of the riding public, they would be far better off checking the operators of other motor vehicles that seem to cause most of the non-alcohol related accidents involving motorcycles. It is well established that the best way to prevent motorcycle accidents is through education of all people who use the roads.

It is my understanding that a police officer is supposed to have reasonable suspicion or cause to detain anyone who is legally using our public roadways. This is guaranteed by the Constitution of the US. The "Trooper 5060" program denies this right for anyone riding a motorcycle in the area of these stops.

I have special knowledge of these facts because I am the legislative coordinator of the Southern Tier Chapter of ABATE of NY (American Bikers Aimed Towards Education) and have been riding motorcycles since 1971. I am also an Assistant Chief with the City of Binghamton Fire Department and have been to my share of accidents over the years. I am a registered Republican who voted for you in the last election (not that this should influence your decision) and am passionate about protecting the safety and rights of motorcycle riders.

I urge you or your staff to talk with Rep. Sensenbrenner about HR 904 and sign on as a co-sponsor of this resolution. I would also appreciate any feedback or comments that you may have in regards to this situation. Please feel free to contact me by mail or phone (607) 760-4594.

Thank you for your consideration and time.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Faughnan



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### FAB-IT-ALL

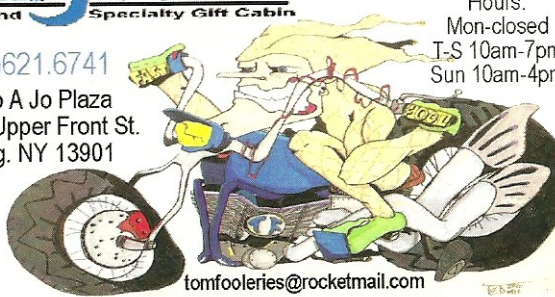
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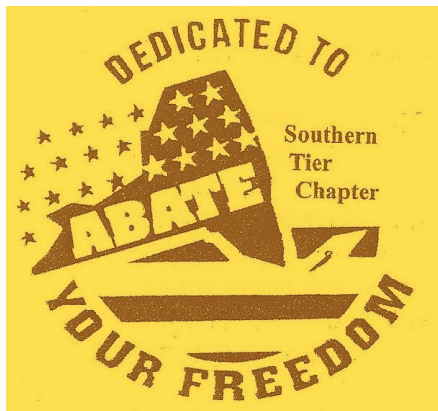
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## SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT US!



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

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Binghamton, NY 13902

*American Bikers Aimed  
Towards Education*

We're on the Web!  
[abateofstny.org](http://abateofstny.org)

**Next Meeting: June 9<sup>h</sup>**

**MAIL TO:**

**ABATE OF NEW YORK, INC.  
PO BOX 2441  
BINGHAMTON, NY 13902**

\_\_\_\_\_ 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

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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: \_\_\_\_\_