

# BIKER CIVIL WRITES

ABATE OF NYS, INC., SOUTHERN TIER CHAPTER

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Well by now most of you have heard about Onondaga's Lid Run on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, and the loss of a fellow rider's life. Of course the first thing out of the police at the scene's mouth is he would have survived if he was wearing a helmet. It's amazing how they can be so opinionated yet when one of theirs dies while texting, it's under investigation. Without getting any further into that, I would like to express my condolences to his family and friends. He was a good man with many loved ones. He will be remembered.

Any person who thinks Phil Contos died because he wasn't wearing a helmet is a fool. He died in an effort to win back one of our freedoms... the Freedom of Choice! Without people protesting about something, the government thinks it's ok and the next thing you know, you have to wear air bag suits, bright colored vests so others can see you and all the other things that they can come up with to protect you against yourself. This is the way it works.

I'm not saying you should or shouldn't wear a helmet, I'm saying it should be

*(Continued on page 2)*

### VOLUME 2, ISSUE 8

#### In this issue:

President's Report	1
Membership Report	3
Vice President's Report	4
Legislative Report	4
Minutes from July Meeting	5
Legislation We Support	7
Lid Run Flyer	8

### AUGUST 2011

#### Upcoming Events:

- \* August 11<sup>th</sup>: Southern Tier ABATE Chapter Meeting  
American Legion Post 1194, Hillcrest
- \* August 13<sup>th</sup>: Southern Tier ABATE Annual Lid Run  
American Legion Post 1194, Hillcrest
- \* September 8<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

Philip A. Contos, July 2,  
2011

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

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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)*

your choice. It affects you; no one else's health. What's next? Turn people away from Mickey D's because their cholesterol's too high?

We waste too much time and money in New York trying to be Big Brother. It's time we get back to being ourselves and stop worrying about some idiot that should think for himself. Maybe if we did, he'd to stand on his own two feet and we wouldn't be wiping his nose for him anymore.

To wrap this up, don't let this mishap shake you up, when God wants you he'll let you know. In the meantime let's get this mandatory helmet law repealed and ride!

Your President, Mick Brown

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Currently we have 99 Members, that's up 4 from last month of 95.

We had 1 new Member join us.

1. Holly Sickles

Welcome aboard new Member!

We had 6 renewals since last newsletter:

1. Jim Chapin {11 Yrs}
2. Sal Oliva {6 Yrs}
3. Mark Paugh {3 Yrs}
4. James Shaffer {2 Yrs}
5. Dana Woodruff {7 Yrs}
6. John McKenzie {15 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. Patrick Nannery {Mar}
2. Mark Callahan {Apr}
3. John Crossman {Apr}
4. Tom Finch {Apr}
5. Cathy Freeman {Apr}
6. Mike Murray {May}
7. Candy Spacek {May}
8. Nicole Deering {Jun}
9. Dave Dipierri {Jun}
10. Debora Gardner {Jun}
11. Kenny Gardner {Jun}
12. Sid Gyles {Jun}
13. Edward Vandermark {Jun}

### *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. Rob Mock III
11. Georgiana Nickerson
12. Diana Pellegrino
13. Andy Reynolds
14. Christina Voloshen
15. Jon White

### *Members due in August 2011*

1. Corky Clark
2. Rich Fetterolf
3. Sara Fitzsimmons
4. Dan Hartman
5. Toni Jamieson
6. Penny McKay
7. Edward Miller
8. Paula Pudiak
9. Ed Snyder
10. Mary Snyder
11. Dave Stone
12. Karen Stone

### *Members due in September 2011*

1. Mike Semcho

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 would like to thank Steve and Eileen for having us at their home for the chapter campout on July 9<sup>th</sup>. As usual it was a great time with great people and the weather was perfect. Please don't forget about the Lid Run on August 13<sup>th</sup>. This is another great opportunity to boost up our membership. If you know someone that is interested in attending, please inform them about the run. Hopefully we can get a few members from this event. I finally received Tom Fleming's Forever Member card and plaque. I was disappointed to see he was not mentioned in the Forever Member section of the last state newsletter. I have talked to Topaz and she assured me he will be mentioned in the next issue. That is all I have for this month. Take care and 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

Hi all. The legislative session for 2011 is basically over. The Confiscation Bill passed the Assembly (again) but never made it to the floor for a vote in the Senate (again). The Senate passed the insurance bill that would force insurance agents to inform motorcyclists that their policy does not have a no-fault clause. This bill didn't make it out of committee in the Assembly. Lastly, the Senate passed a bill that would create a new violation termed reckless aggravated driving. Basically it would penalize people who are swerving in and out of traffic. The penalty is a class A misdemeanor. It also included language that said if you are clocked going more than 30 mph over the posted speed limit, you fall under the new law. It never made it out of committee in the Assembly, so it's not the law yet. I expect to see it re-introduced next year and it may gain enough support to pass both houses.

Another disappointing session. This time it was the gay marriage debate that de-railed our legislation. They spent most of the last week of the session debating this in the Senate. What a waste of time. With all of the important business that NYS has to deal with, it's hard to believe that they could do such a thing. All through this time I was saying, "Just pass the bill and move on!" But of course, that's not what happened. They argued all the way to the end over a bill that should have been passed a long time ago. Maybe next year we can get something positive accomplished for the motorcycle riders of NY.

The summer party was held on July 9<sup>th</sup>. A great time was had by all and once again, it was the cooperation of the members that made for so much fun. The fireworks show was great as usual! Thanks to Hippie and Jim. Ten people stayed the night and we had the drum circle going full blast on the front porch the next day. Thanks to everyone who helped, brought food or added to the fun.

As an ending note, remember to watch out for the cagers, they're everywhere and they're not looking out for you. Also, if you're like me, you express your displeasure with people who cut you off, pull in front of you and do all of the other things that these idiots do to try and kill you. However, don't forget to thank anyone who yields the right of way to you with a wave and a smile. This works better for our image than your finger will.

Ride safe, Steve

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

It was a busy month. You can now read motorcycle news sent to us from Aid to Injured Motorcyclists/National Coalition of Motorcyclists (AIM/NCOM). I'll be looking at ways to provide updated news on a regular basis. Our first feature is a win for motorcyclists in New Hampshire. You'll have to go online to learn more about they are the first state to prohibit motorcycle-only checkpoints!

Steve sent me his revised letter to Congressman Richard Hanna regarding

the Confiscation Bill. I've replaced his original letter. Please use it as a model to alert other members of the New York State Legislature that you want them to pass this bill.

Every once in a while we make mistakes. You can find newsletter additions and corrections on our Home page. That's also where we post any late-breaking important information. Check us out periodically to see what's new!

### 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 JULY MEETING

July 14, 2011 – Start 7:07pm—23 members (including officers) attended.

TJ reading Secretary Report waived. Motion to accept (mta) Shelly, 2<sup>nd</sup> Chris, 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 Jean, 2<sup>nd</sup> Chrissy, motion passed

Eric reads Membership Report. 98 members (1 new member/5 renewals). See *Membership Report*. mta John, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ron, motion passed

Shelly reads Newsletter/Website Report. Added News page. Reorganized Favorite Links and added links for legal aid and safety products. Provided summary, detail, and contact information regarding the Adopt-A-Highway program. We need to see if members are willing to volunteer. See *Web Site News*. mta Mark, 2<sup>nd</sup> Chrissy, motion passed

Steve reads Legislative Report. Both a good and bad year. 3 bills passed the Senate, but died in the Assembly. The session is over. We need to keep pushing on. mta Ron, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jean, motion passed

Corky absent

Mick reads President's Report. We lost a fellow rider, Phil Contos, on the Onondaga Lid Run. Whether the police's assessment that wearing a helmet would have saved his life is correct or not, he died in an effort to win back our freedom of choice. See *President's Report*. mta Tonyy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sal, motion passed

### *New business:*

1. The Humane Society 2011 Duck Derby. (August 20<sup>th</sup>, 12-4pm) Mick has brochures. More information @[www.DuckRace.com/Binghamton](http://www.DuckRace.com/Binghamton).
2. John McKenzie hit a big "heave" in the road on the highway part of Rt 434 in Binghamton. He could have broken is back when his bike hit it at 60mph. Be on the lookout for pot holes and cracks in the road.

### *Old business:*

1. We need to sell Gas-O-Rama tickets.
2. Chapter Lid Run August 13<sup>th</sup>. Starts at American Legion Post 80 and ends at American Legion Post 1194.
3. Summer Campout was awesome.

Motion to Adjourn. mta Sal, 2<sup>nd</sup> Shelly, motion passed—Meeting adjourned at 7:52pm.

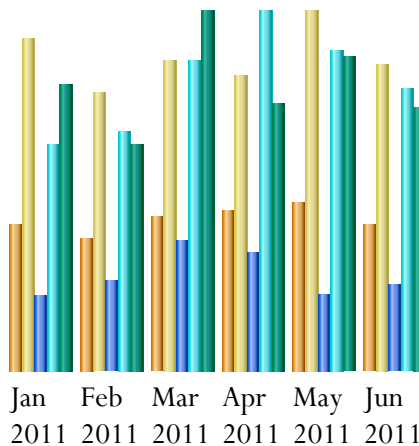
## WEB SITE USAGE STATISTICS

### SUMMARY

<b>Reported period</b>	Month Jun 2011				
<b>First visit</b>	01 Jun 2011 - 09:18				
<b>Last visit</b>	30 Jun 2011 - 20:23				
	<b>Unique visitors</b>	<b>Number of visits</b>	<b>Pages</b>	<b>Hits</b>	<b>Bandwidth</b>
Viewed traffic *	<b>120</b>	<b>253</b> (2.1 visits/visitor)	<b>1556</b> (6.15 Pages/Visit)	<b>5124</b> (20.25 Hits/Visit)	<b>199.22 MB</b> (806.32 KB/Visit)
Not viewed traffic *			<b>5189</b>	<b>6336</b>	<b>166.25 MB</b>

\* 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
May 2011	139	296	1397	5866	236.28 MB
Jun 2011	120	253	1556	5124	199.22 MB
Total	747	1547	10522	31805	1297.21MB

### CALENDAR VIEWS

57 views by **public visitors** (891 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"

# **20<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL LID RUN**

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 2011**

**IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT HELMETS ANYMORE!**

**IT'S ABOUT MOTORCYCLE ONLY ROADBLOCKS!  
IT'S ABOUT CITIES OUTLAWING MOTORCYCLES IN  
CERTAIN AREAS!**

**IT'S ABOUT YOU BEING ABLE TO CUSTOMIZE YOUR  
MOTORCYCLE THE WAY YOU WANT!**

**IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU STOOD UP FOR  
YOUR RIGHTS AS A MOTORCYCLIST!**

**WHERE: AMERICAN LEGION Post 80  
MAIN STREET, BINGHAMTON**

**WHEN: SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 2011  
SIGN IN NOON, KICKSTANDS UP AT 1PM**

**COST: \$10 PER PERSON**

**THE RIDE WILL GO THROUGH BROOME COUNTY  
ENDING AT AMERICAN LEGION Post 1194**

**LIVE MUSIC BY THE CHANNEL MONSTERS**

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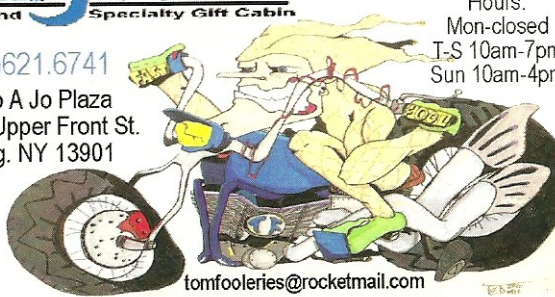
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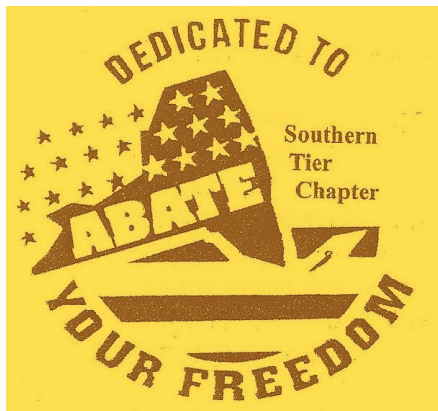
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*American Bikers Aimed  
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We're on the Web!  
[abateofstny.org](http://abateofstny.org)

**Next Meeting: August 11<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

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: \_\_\_\_\_