

# ABATE OF FLORIDA SOUTHEAST CHAPTER

NEW WEB: [www.abatese.org](http://www.abatese.org) • HOTLINE: 954.310.INFO (4636)

ISSUE  
322

## May 2010



A MERICAN  
B IKERS  
A IMING  
T OWARD  
E DUCATION

NEXT  
CHAPTER  
MEETING  
10 AM  
Sunday  
May 16, 2010



LET THOSE  
WHO RIDE  
DECIDE!

**ABATE of FLORIDA, INC.  
SOUTHEAST CHAPTER  
MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATION**  
Noon-5PM, Sunday, May 30th, 2010

**at CAFE 27** 4680 US27, Sunshine Ranches 33332  
954-659-8957 • 1/4 mi north of Griffin Rd

**Service with Honor Guard**

\$3/person  
\$5/couple

**Live Music  
Vendors**

*Safety  
&  
Membership  
Booth*

**50/50 & Door Prizes**

*You'll  
Have a  
Great  
Time!*

**Great Food  
Contests**

*Tons of  
Parking*



*All  
Bikes  
Welcome*

*Rain or Shine*

**ABATE**



ABATE of FL, Inc  
DOES NOT  
endorse  
drinking &  
driving.  
All Donations  
to ABATE  
are not  
deductible for  
Federal  
tax purposes



954-437-3642 or 954-245-1714 for more info.

**LET THOSE WHO RIDE DECIDE!**

**ABATE SE Elections June 6 -  
Note the Date Change**

# 2009 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

[www.abatese.org](http://www.abatese.org) Hotline (954)310-INFO (4636)

President	Jim "Jimbo" Sherrow (954)305-1599 <a href="mailto:Presidentabatese@gmail.com">Presidentabatese@gmail.com</a>	Newsletter Distribution Karin Rylands (954)430-0487	
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Safety Director	Geo Bograkos (954)868-2990 <a href="mailto:Safetyabatese@gmail.com">Safetyabatese@gmail.com</a>	Social Director Karin Rylands (954)430-0487 <a href="mailto:SocialdirectorAbateSe@gmail.com">SocialdirectorAbateSe@gmail.com</a>	
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## TO PLACE ADVERTISEMENTS



**You must submit print ready ads or PC compatible disk. Black type on white paper, including business cards, required. Ads and copy must be prepaid to "SE ABATE Chapter" and submitted at or before the chapter meeting to be included in that issue. Due to limited space all ads must be paid to date or they will be dropped without notification. THE ADVERTISER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL COPY AND AD CHANGES. Non-camera ready advertisements will incur a minimum \$25 layout charge and will be billed separately.**

*The Southeast Chapter Newsletter is published monthly by ABATE of Florida, Inc. Southeast Chapter, PO BOX 292693, Ft. Lauderdale FL 33329-2693 1600+ NEWSLETTERS PUBLISHED MONTHLY*

*The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC., or the Southeast Chapter. This publication encourages its members to express their own beliefs and/or opinions. ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. and the Southeast Chapter accepts no responsibility for the opinions, views, or comments contained in this publication. Southeast Chapter reserves the right to edit any article submitted for publication for misspellings or inappropriate language.*

# Membership Due

# Thanks if you have already renewed

## April

Nestor Alvarez  
 Garrett Gardner  
 Raymond B Johnson Jr  
 "harley rider"  
 Max Asman  
 James Bashwiner  
 John Cobb  
 Ginger Gaudreau  
 "Pantera"  
 Susan Jordan  
 Joe Mora  
 Armando J Penton  
 "Diver"  
 Marcos Ritter  
 Karin Rylands  
 Scott Schoedinger  
 James T Sears  
 Beverly Swasey  
 "Thor"  
 Russ Tyler  
 "Dave the Kid"  
 "Stell"

## May

Thomas Albarano  
 Tim Alloway  
 Toni Alloway  
 Lee Anzelmo  
 Christian Arteaga  
 Charlotte Auth  
 Judge  
 J Carlos Benito  
 Rick Bretones  
 Thomas Burke  
 Tony Carbonell  
 Jim Dawson  
 Ron Dawson  
 Litl Ray  
 Danny K Fennell  
 Randy Gettinger  
 Davy Jones  
 Wildcat  
 Marty Lux  
 Michael Paul Muray  
 Angela Nieman  
 Jose E. Pupo

Teddybear  
 Boots  
 Commander  
 Steve Thomas  
 Kevin Vail  
 Eurice Vasallo  
 Kenneth Wells  
 Eddy Ray West  
 Hoss  
 Dianna L.  
 Aberman  
 Vicente Andreu  
 Gman  
 Luzbin Barbosa  
 Yazmina Barbosa  
 Redneck  
 Jerry Benoit  
 Marjorie Broda  
 Driver  
 Teddybear  
 Poppie  
 Icepick  
 Allan Downard

Bill Farley  
 Michael Goldbach  
 Alan Holt  
 Bianca Kasper  
 David Kimbler  
 Bitchin Hank  
 Joyce Konczynski  
 Robert Kraft  
 Nine Lives  
 Brian Mc Namara  
 Rheda Mc Namara  
 Mulder  
 Joey  
 Dave Sim  
 Steve Urich

## June

Ronald Anania  
 Keith W. Bowers  
 Buddy Capps  
 Tim Capps  
 Stephen M Chomiak  
 Kevin Dwyer

Anthony Greaves  
 Dennis Griffin  
 Mongo  
 Griz  
 Emilio Jimenez  
 Demetrios Kirkiles  
 Michele Ould  
 Bill Ruddy  
 Kimberly Ruddy  
 Jose Salina  
 Doctor Detail  
 Tyrone Scanlon  
 Aja Sears  
 Taco  
 Tigger  
 Mamaha  
 Key  
 Cutter  
 Joker  
 Christy D Vittitow  
 Tuna  
 Martha Yappel

*You have 30 days from the last day of your expiration month to renew your membership or be deleted from the State's List. Also (very important) be sure to notify us of any*

## Pick up your newsletter here:

84 Diner	Keltics MC	Thunder Cycles
Blue Jays	Beer Barn	Boston Johnnys
Broward Motor Sports	Top Guns Cycle	CycleLab
Southern Fox	Wheels of ManMC	Biker's Inc.
Kelly's Bowl	HD Pompano	Mastermailer.
HD South	HD Sunrise	Players Pub
JP Mulligans	Ballers	On the road again
Vin "EZ" Cycle Parts	FOE- Eagles	Texas Rose
HD FTL	HD North	Crabby Jacks
VFW Post 9697	Heaven Cycles	Mickey's
Johnny Fucifino's	Lou's Tattoos (2 shops)	Lukes
Kings Head Pub	DP's on Beach	Wetz
Big Dawgs	Crotch Rockets to	Shanks
Daisy Dukes	Bar Hoppers	Firewater
American Legion 321		Flossie's



## ATTENTION

When you renew your ABATE membership, you may also purchase a yearly membership pin. Shirts and patches available also .  
**Call Susan Jordan (754)234-1239 for details!!**



# *President's Message*

## *Jimbo Sherrow*



For the past several months, I have been writing about the 2010 legislative session and urging people to attend the 15th Annual Rights Rally in Tallahassee, which was held on Monday, April 19th. I am very pleased to report that thanks to the efforts of the nearly 300 ABATE members and supporters who rode into the Capitol, ABATE's stiffer penalties bill (SB 1918) was unanimously approved by the Senate Transportation Committee by a vote of ten to one, and by the time you read this column, it will hopefully be headed to the Senate floor for the final vote it needs before it is signed into law by Governor Crist. The final Committee meeting was being held as the run was pulling into the Capitol rotunda, and the Committee members could literally feel the rumble of 300 bikes when our State President and Lobbyist Doc Reichenbach spoke to them just before the final vote on the bill. After the victory was announced to the crowd, there was a bell ringing ceremony to honor our fallen brothers and sisters from the past year, and since the run was on April 19th, the names of all of the Oklahoma City bombing victims were also read aloud along with the bikers.

The final language of SB 1918 differs slightly from the original version, but it still provides stiffer penalties for moving violations which result in serious bodily injury or death of a motorcyclist, bicyclist, pedestrian, or person of other means of conveyance. A person who commits a noncriminal traffic infraction which causes or results in serious bodily injury of a motorcyclist, bicyclist, pedestrian, or person of other means of conveyance shall serve a mandatory 30 days house arrest, be fined \$500, and have his or her driver's license suspended for 30 days. A person who commits a noncriminal traffic infraction which causes or results in the death of a motorcyclist, bicyclist, pedestrian, or person of other means of conveyance shall serve a minimum of 90 days in jail, pay a fine of \$1,000, and have his or her license suspended for a minimum of one year. The original version of the bill required jail time for infractions causing serious injuries, but the Committee apparently felt that it would overburden the jail system if the State had to incarcerate all of the drivers who injure bikers, so they changed it to 30 days house arrest instead. The final version also drops the requirement of attending driver safety and improvement courses, but it is still a huge improvement over the current law, and if passed, it will be one of ABATE's most significant accomplishment since the modification of the helmet laws in 2000 to allow Freedom of Choice.

In addition to our anticipated victory on SB 1918, we made it to the end of the 2010 legislative session without anyone being stupid enough to introduce a helmet bill. There was apparently one freshman representative who was asked to sponsor a bill by some of the more senior members who did not want to do it themselves, but after Doc Reichenbach paid him a visit to explain our position and the fact that ABATE members exercise their right to vote, he wisely decided that it was not a good idea and backed off. Thanks to the vigilance of ABATE on this issue, we will be celebrating the 10th anniversary of Freedom of Choice in Florida on July 1st, and hopefully for many years to come.

Now that the legislative session is almost at an end, ABATE will be turning its attention to the fall elections, so stay tuned for more information about which candidates support our issues, and which ones need to be taught a lesson at the ballot box about just how pissed off we can get when they do not support us. Although ABATE

cannot officially endorse candidates for office, or support them financially, we are very good at figuring out who supports our issues and letting the motorcycle community know who they are so that each individual can make an informed choice when they head into the voting booth. If you are not registered to vote, or if you have changed your address since the last time you voted, make sure you are registered and eligible to vote so that come November, you can exercise the most precious right we have in a free society.

Before we celebrate on July 1st, ABATE is also hosting its annual Memorial Day Event at Cafe 27 on Sunday, May 30th. We have been holding this party for several years now and in addition to having a great time, we also use the event to honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. As usual, there will be food, cold beverages, plenty of vendors, live music and probably some rain as well, since it is an ABATE party, but that has never stopped us in the past. The event will run for most of the day starting at noon so please stop by with your friends or family if you are out riding around that day, and show your support for ABATE and all it has done in 2010 and other years to protect your right to ride safe and free.

Finally, the May Chapter meeting will be the last chance to nominate candidates for the Chapter elections that will be held in June, or to ask questions of anyone who has been nominated for a position. There are a number of folks running for the Executive Board and other positions, so it should be one of the more interesting elections we have had in the past few years. If you have any questions about who is running for which positions, feel free to contact me or any other Board members, or better yet, come to the May meeting and see for yourself. The Southeast Chapter does not permit write-in ballots, so if you want to vote for one of the candidates, you have to attend the June meeting and do it in person.

Remember, ABATE is for everyone, no matter what you ride. For more information, check out the Chapter newsletter and the website, [www.abatese.org](http://www.abatese.org), or stop by one of our monthly meetings and get involved. You can also call me at 954-305-1599.

Ride safe and free, and remember that the price of freedom is eternal vigilance.

## **Jimbo Sherrow** **President, Southeast Chapter**



**If you would like to be included on the ABATE email list please send George Torrence - Membership Trustee -your current email address @ [membershipabatese@gmail.com](mailto:membershipabatese@gmail.com)**



## **ABATE of Florida, Southeast Chapter**

Apr. 11, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 10:15am by Sgt. @ Arms BARS with 49 members, 2 guests, and no At-Large members in attendance. Total in attendance: 51. Followed by the Pledge of Alliance the meeting started with a prayer given by our chaplain; Poppi.

### **Presidents Report**

Jimbo thanked all members for coming and welcomed new members Dawn & Bob. Next weekend is the State meeting in Tallahassee. Please contact Chris Sharp who will be leading the ride up. Our Memorial Day Event is all set for May 30, 2010 at Café 27. We will need your help. We only have 3 events per year to raise money for our chapter. We will also need help loading and unloading the trailer. Any time you can give is greatly appreciated. May 6 thru 9 is the NCOM convention in Orlando. If interested please contact Jimbo or any board member. Information will also be on the hotline. Our Road Captain Chris is progressing slowly but he needs visitors. He is at the Sea view Nursing and Rehab Center located at 2401 NE 2<sup>nd</sup> St. in Pompano. Please stop by to say "Hello".

### **Vice-Presidents Report**

Old Hippie reported we have had several riders go down, so please be vigilant out there.

### **Secretary's Report**

A motion was made to accept the minutes of March's meeting as printed in the newsletter with 1 correction. Advertising nomination left out. Motion seconded, all in favor, motion passed.

### **Treasurers Report**

Alice read March's report. A motion was made, seconded to accept the Treasurers report. All in favor, motion passed.

### **Sergeant at Arms Report**

BARS reported with our event we will need a lot of help, not just at the event but before and after. Please help out wherever you can.

### **Road Captain's Report**

Newcomer reported right after today's meeting will be heading to Café 27. Upcoming we have the State Meeting, NCOM and Leesburg

**PLEASE CHECK THE HOTLINE 943-310-4636 FOR MEETING PLACE AND TIMES FOR ALL EVENTS.**

S.E. Chapter

## **Safety Directors Report**

Geo reported there was not much going on at this time. Waiting on the summer driver education school schedule.

### **State Reps Report**

Jimmy Les reported there was no state meeting this month. Next weekend is the most important state meeting of the year to attend. The state meeting in Tallahassee will be held on Sun. 4/17/10. There will be a police ride to the capitol to meet with our elected officials on Mon 4/18/10. If you need any information please contact Chris Shape

### **Products Report**

Susan reported if you need anything you do not have to wait for the meeting, just give her a call. Her number is in the newsletter. We have the bumper stickers in stock for only a buck a piece.

### **Membership Report**

George reported we now have 604 members. Renewals are listed in the newsletter, if you personally know anyone on the list, give them a call to make sure they renew.

### **Newsletter Editor**

Suzanne reported she needs all articles no later than Tuesday so we can have the newsletter to the printer no later than Friday. Karin reported we need some more help in distribution of the newsletter to certain areas. If you are available, please contact her.

### **Legislative Report**

Old Hippie reported nothing pressing right now as there is a lot of discussion on SB6, but we must be vigilante on the bills which have numbers assigned but no content.

### **Public Relations**

Marjorie reported if you have any issues with the Board of Directors, any members of ABATE or issues with ABATE of Florida and have something to say, our monthly meeting is the venue to discuss any issue. Not out in public. There is a right place and time to discuss any issue.

### **Advertising**

Hope reported we need advertisers. All bills have been mailed out and we have a few which we would like to hand deliver. If you are available, please see her. **We must patronize our advertisers.** What good is getting advertisers if not one of our members go

there? Even if you just drop by to say “Hello” and “Thank” them for their support. Make sure you tell them you saw their as in our newsletter.

#### **Events Coordinator**

Shaky Bob reported we are all set for our Memorial Day Event which will be held at Café 27 on May 30, 2010. The next event committee meeting will be on Monday May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 700pm right here at the American Legion.

#### **Social Directors Report**

Karin reported this month’s birthday party is being held at Café 27 following today’s meeting. Next month’s birthday’s party will be held on May 22, 2010 at Hollywood Johnny’s starting between 7 and 8pm. So come on out. If you want your birthday recognized, please give Karin a call. She will add you to the list.

#### **Quartermaster’s Report**

Bob Anz was out of town. No report.

#### **Photographer’s Report**

Brett was not present but there are over 1000 pictures and 300 fans on the face book web-site

#### **Web-Master’s Report**

Ricky Mouse reported web up and running. If you have any issues with the web or you want pictures posted, please contact him at: webmasterabatese@gmail.com. Don’t forget our web address is: [www.abatese.org](http://www.abatese.org)

#### **Trash master’s Report**

Commander Louis reported we had less than 1% of our members show up for the trash pick up and we need to take a serious look at this program. We committed to provide this community service. It was very disappointing to see only 6 members out of the 615 we have show up. Trash pick up is only 4 times per year, once per quarter; we would like to see as many members come out. Next pickup will concentrate on the area west of 27 as the construction in that area is now complete.

#### **Legal Council**

Demetrious reported all quiet.

#### **Old Business**

Election chairperson Geo opened nominations for the 2010-2011 Board of Directors and Trustee positions. Note members who were previously nominated and were not present at this meeting to accept or decline are listed as undecided.

S.E. Chapter

#### **President:**

James Sherrow – Undecided  
James Lesniak – Decline  
Robert Calabrese – Accepted  
Bob Leavitt - Undecided

#### **Vice-President:**

Bob Leavitt – Undecided  
Robert Calabrese – Declined  
Chris Sharp – Declined  
James Sherrow- Declined  
Leo Breault - Undecided

#### **Secretary;**

Alice Calabrese – Declined  
Steve Chomiak - Undecided  
Paul A. Melcer - Undecided

#### **Treasurer;**

Alice Calabrese – Undecided  
James Lesnial – Accepted

#### **Sgt. @ Arms;**

Robert Calabrese - Declined  
Leo Breault – Undecided  
Terry Lanius – Declined  
Louis Subirats – Declined  
John Rose – Undecided

#### **Road Captain:**

Al Acevedo – Declined  
George Bograkos – Undecided  
James Sherrow – Declined  
Hank Lankutis - Declined

#### **Safety Director:**

George Bograkos – Declined  
Barry Sadoff. - Accepted  
Elwin Barnard - Accepted

#### **State Representatives**

James Lesniak – Undecided  
Chris Sharpe – Accepted  
Demetrious Kirkiles – Accepted  
Bob Leavitt – Undecided  
Suzanne Keen - Undecided

#### **Products;**

Brett Garber – Undecided  
Fern Cameron – Declined  
Boots Sadoff – Declined

#### **Membership:**

George Torrence - Accepted

#### **Newsletter Editor;**

Suzanne Keen – Declined

Leeann Lewis – Accepted

**Legislative Liaison:**

Bob Leavitt - Undecided

**Legal Council**

Chris Sharpe – Accepted

Demetrious Kirkiles - Accepted

**Public Relations**

Marjorie Rheame – Declined

Fern Cameron – Undecided

Al Acevedo- Declined

**Advertising**

Hope Lanus – Accepted

**Membership**

George Torrence - Accepted

**Event's Coordinator**

Bob Neiman – Declined

Al Loper – Declined

Jackie Precious – Undecided

Ron VanEck – Declined

Fern Cameron – Undecided

Al Acevedo - Undecided

**Social Director**

Karin Rylands – Accepted

Fern Cameron – Declined

Al Acevedo – Declined

Marjorie Rheame – Accepted

Lynn Hara - Accepted

**Quartermaster**

Bob Anz – Undecided

George Torrence - Undecided

**Photographer:**

Brett Garber –Undecided

Paul Davis – Undecided

Fern Cameron – Accepted

Axman Wojnar – Declined

Mike Hager – Declined

Leeann Lewis - Declined

**Web-Master:**

Ricky Jans – Declined

Mike Hager - Accepted

**Trashmaster**

Rick Jordan – Accepted

Louis Subirats – Declined

Jimmy Lesniak - Undecided

**Chaplain**

Frank Cocchi - Accepted

Tumbleweed – Undecided

Nominations closed until next month when nominations will close for the year with voting to take place at the June meeting.

**New Business**

With June's meeting falling on Father's Day, a motion was made, seconded to move June's meeting. After discussion June 6<sup>th</sup> was decided upon. Vote all in favor, motion passed.

**Good of the order**

Our chaplain Poppi reported on the upcoming CMA National Run which will be held on May 2, 2010. This is the only event they hold for a fundraiser. Poppi is soliciting sponsorships. A motion was made, seconded to pass the hat. No discussion, all in favor motion passed. Poppi reported our members stepped up and donated \$147.00 for this event.

Marti reported the Ladies Auxiliary of the Legion is having a yard sale on May 8, 2010. Table space is available for \$30.00. Please contact her if you are interested.

Commander Louis is working to recruit membership in the Patriot Guard Riders. Their purpose is to stand a

flag line paying respect for any service member who has passed away also to prevent the family of the deceased having to deal with any funeral protesters. There are a number of organizations out there who want to disrupt a military funeral. The PGR also has welcome home missions for service personal returning home from combat. If you are interested please contact him @ 305-297-1651 for information. There is no cost involved to be a member, just the want to say Thank You and pay respect to our service men and women.

A motion was called for and seconded to adjourn, all in favor, motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 11:28 am

These minutes are summarized and respectfully submitted

*Paul A. Melcer*

Paul A. Melcer  
Secretary



S.E. Chapter



Abate of Florida, Inc.





**10365 ROYAL PALM BLVD  
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& ROYAL PALM BLVD)  
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7p.m. \$1.00 Bottles Bud, Bud Light

Tuesday= 49cent Wings after 6

Wednesday=All U Can Eat Pasta \$8.99

Patio Paradise \$1.49 Pabst Tall Boy's

Live Music @ 6:30p.m. on the Patio with Tom Allen

Thursday=Country Western Night Line Dancing 7p.m.

\$3.00 Shot Specials

Friday= TGIF PARTY 1/2 Price Appetizers 4-6p.m.

Prime Rib Fridays \$12.99

Live Music Mr. Lucky 8:00p.m./ Kill the KEG 9p.m.

Saturday=Bike Day Ride in and Receive 15% off

Live with Walt Rooney on the Patio 4:00

Abracadabra Karaoke 9:30p.m.

Sunday=BIKERS SPECIAL ALL DAY

Rib Dinner Buy Get One Free

**Happy Hour Mon-Sat 11a.m.-7p.m.**

## Call to Action

Website at

<http://www.abateflorida.com/>

At the top in the choices on the left, click on the new selection  
“Legislative Info Center”

Once you are in the new Legislative Info Center, at the top left, you cannot miss the SIGN UP NOW message. Click on that and proceed with the sign up as indicated.

BROWARD COUNTY  
LIBERTARIAN PARTY  
SUPPORTS ABATE &  
“FREEDOM OF THE ROAD”  
VISIT; WWW.LPBROWAR-----  
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Don't Forget that June is our elections and the meeting date has been changed to June 6, 2010 at 10am at the Cooper City American Legion. Come out and let your vote be counted

# Nick's Restaurant and Diner



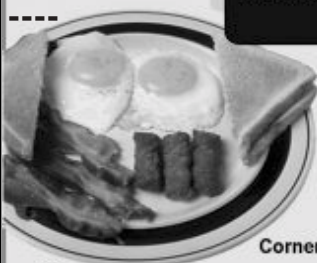
Est. 1962

**We cater for all occasions.**

*Biker Owned and family operated*

*Open 7 Days a Week ...!! 6am - 9pm* Free Parking  
*on the back and adjacent to the Railroad Tracks*

*Nick's .. where you can eat delicious food at an incredible value...!!*



**Breakfast Specials** Mon to Fri 6am - 9am starting at **\$1.99**

**Lunch Specials** Mon to Sun 11am - 3pm starting at **\$4.99**

**Early Bird Dinner Specials** Mon to Sun 4pm - 6pm **\$7.95**

*Serving South Florida since 1962...!*

Corner of Dixie and Hallandale Beach Blvd. - Few Blocks from Gulfstream and Mardi Gras Casino

**105 East Hallandale Beach Blvd - 954-458-0363**



**Vin-"EZ" Cycle Parts is now...**

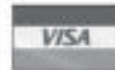
Open Tues - Fri 10am-5pm  
Saturday 11am to 3pm

# ALL AMERICAN CYCLE



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**(954) 893-1111**      [jwents@bellsouth.net](mailto:jwents@bellsouth.net)

Wotmag

# **Johanny's** HOLLYWOOD

**IS PROUD TO HOST THE ABATE BIRTHDAY PARTY MAY 22ND**

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# Happy Birthday!

Our April Birthday Party at Café 27 was mixed with sunshine and rain, but we had a wonderful time anyway with 31 of you attending. Thank you for being there.

The May Birthday Party will be at Hollywood Johnny's on May 22th and the music will be by Hoodoo Blue. We will meet as always between 7 and 8pm.

Happy Birthday to all those below please come and have fun at your party!

Al Reynolds "Prowindo"

Luis Rayon "Daddy"

Glem Katz "Ruffrider"

Robbie Merritt "Smoke"

Joe Mora

John "Happy"

Kim Saldarini

Terry Lanius "Blindman"

Mike Speed "Toaster"

Evelyn Otero

Karin Rylands "Princess Etaba"

Paul Melcer

Tim Farina

Remember if you name is not included please contact me. Send info to

[karin.rylands@att.net](mailto:karin.rylands@att.net) or call 954-430-0487Till next month Ride Safe and Free

Karin



## *OldHippy's Corner*

Things are different here

Being a member of **ABATE**, **MRF**, **Bolt** (Friends of Bikers Of Lesser Tolerance) and **B.A.D** (Bikers Against Discrimination). I use these and other resources to help in getting ideas to help me write this column  
The one thing that I have notice when I do research for this column is that we seem somehow to have it a little better than some of our brothers and sisters in the biking community in other states. To give some example: Of course we are not like up north, we have a year round riding season! With that said we are seen a lot more motorcycles on the roads and also because of this we have more riders that would not normally even ride picking up a bike. This has helped us all in many ways and the main reason is numbers. With our numbers we have been able to have a stronger voice and when it has come the time when it is needed, they the guys that got somehow elected that are being paid by us and if they what to stay there have taken notice.

North Carolina has seems to have a lot going, between the Cops stopping riders for not having in their opinion, approved helmets to Motorcyclist Only Checkpoints they have had a issues that have come up that are being address by the motorcycle freedom rights riders. In fact have notice per sq. miles there is more MRO then most.

ABATE has even teamed up with CBA to form Concerned Bikers Association/ABATE of North Carolina, Inc. to bring more power to the table.

Again we are fortunate, with our current laws we do not have the officers stopping us for wrong head wear and infringing on our rights.

### **Street Gang law**

Kentucky had a proposed Street Gang law. (Got held off) I wonder why?

Could it be that our local government falls into the category?

Read the paper and every day you hear of some office official somewhere being indicted for corruption.

NC bikers when got the same hit, they reacted by giving a statement to the Carolina General Assembly:

NC legislature and several Police Departments would qualify as gangs, as would just about any organization if not for arbitrary interpretation and discretionary enforcement.

### **Other places that things are happening**

IN La Salle Parish LOUISIANA sheriff and local police chiefs published a PANIC announcement to citizens that there were going to be hundreds of members of outlaw motorcycle gangs riding into the area, and asked the citizens to keep a close eye on anyone wearing vests with patches, and motorcyclists with tattoos.

ABATE did a call to action and it was dropped

Boston they are fighting a noise ordinance where there are tickets being written for not having OEM (stock) pipes. Remember the EPA ruling!! They have a tough road and last I heard they have an injunction to stop enforcement,

Motorcycles only check points everywhere! Mass., North Carolina, New York, and the list go on and on.

These and among all the good things that have come about from freedom fighters in the biker community in other places like all the states that have or are trying to have laws changed to protect are rights to chose when it comes to the helmet issues.

Nebraska, New Mexico, Virginia just to name a few of the helmet issues that have been brought up. We again are lucky,,,, for one we have the freedom of choice to wear or not and believe me after I have read all the crap that has happen in other places that have a mandatory helmet law we are fortunate , In other places riders are being pulled over the biked parked because badge carrying asshole thinks he knows what an approved headwear or eyewear.

It happens all the time up there, imagine you are on a trip and this Rookie cops pulls you over and not only writes you a ticket, but because you are not carrying one of those he thinks is an approved condoms on your head, you have to either leave the bike in the middle of nowhere, have it towed or walk you bike out of the middle of nowhere till you either get out of the jurisdiction or get a new lid,

We are lucky

We have a strong MRO like ABATE and we also have a strong COC, that keep tracks of things, especially down here, this has made a big difference when it comes to anything that might infringe on our rights because we are bikers, and they know that all we have to do is have a Call to Action and the guys up North take notice.

I can spend a whole day on what is happing to other bikers somewhere and that is why along with the weather is why I feel lucky that I am down here and you should too.

Till next time

Keep the shinny side up and the greasy side down

*OldHippy*

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# Vice Prez



After Tax time and into May is a very busy time for some of us in the Biking community. **May is Motorcycle Awareness Month** and with it brings the time when there are a lot of Biker Freedom Rights Rallies also taking place in many places like the one that was just held by ABATE of Florida which took place at the state's capital.

Some of the other things are:

MRF has their Bikers inside the beltway run this month where they ride into the capital.

NCOM just had their Nation Convention in Orlando, which drew a large crowd

There is a new foundation in Illinois called the Black Nail Brigade, which is a foundation against distracted driving that, got started when Anita Zaffke was killed at a stop light when she was hit from behind by a lady that was doing here nails. They have a mobile interactive display that they use to get the point across and also they have a link for a FL. Site called Stop Florida Killings Now. They have runs all month

These are the times where we can make an impressive show of solidarity among the people that ride and also a time when need to do all we can to bring about more safety awareness to general motoring public about motorcycles.

We are in the middle of our election process for the Board and trustee position of this chapter and we have a small group on members who have stepped up to throw their hat into the ring. Nominations are still open, so if you are interested please do.

Our event is coming up at the end of the month and as usual we need all the volunteers we can get for not only the setup and breakdown, but also assist in coordinating the event. If you would like to help just see Shaky or one of the Board members and we will welcome anything little bit you can do

Side note:

If anyone has any connection where we might get some free exposure to the media or public to support the Awareness month let me or any other board member know.

Enough for now

Ride Free and Ride Safe

## OldHippy

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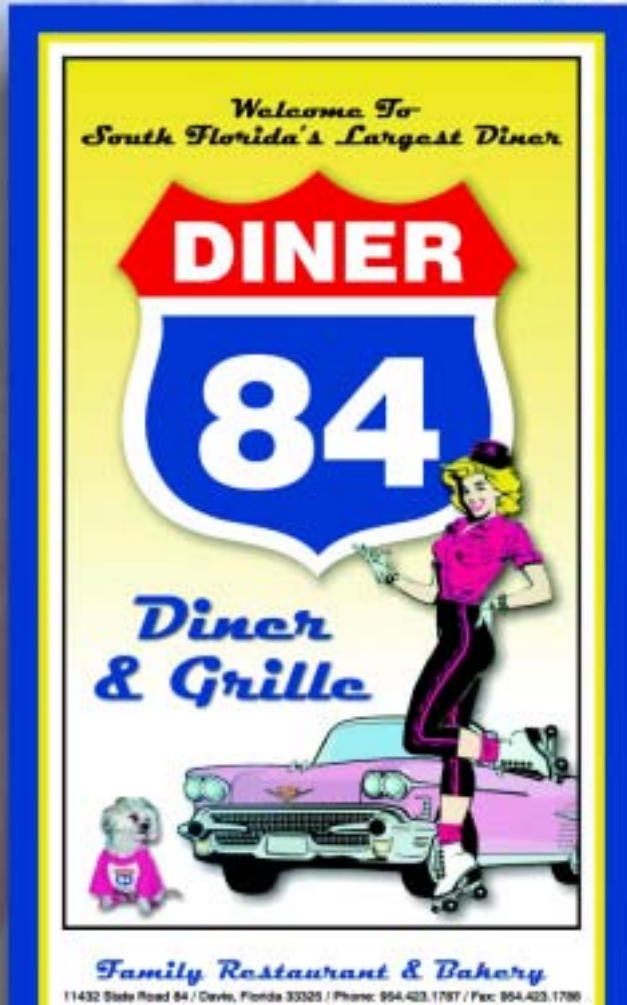
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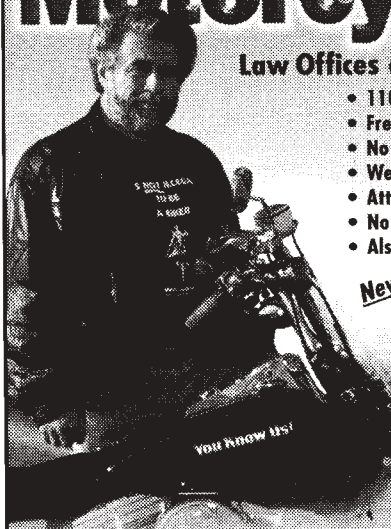
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9 NCOM Orlando	10	11	12	13	14	15 USMVMC WPB Annual
16 ABATE Chapter Meeting WOG Miami	17	18	19	20	21	22 ABATE B'day Party WOG Pt.St.Lucie
23 SFJ WPB Annual	24	25	26	27	28	29 Load the Trailer
30 ABATE Memorial Day Celebration	31 Memor ail Day					

## June-2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6 ABATE Chapter Meeting AOA Treasure Coast Annual	7	8	9	10	11	12 ABATE State Meeting New Attitudes Annual
13 WOG WPB Annual	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 Father's Day Petersons	21	22	23	24	25	26 ABATE Palm Beach Annual
27 WOG Miami	28	29	30			

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**Electrical Storms**

**Riding them out could be a big mistake**

Summer is almost here. That means fast moving thunderstorms. Thunderstorms mean lightning. Lightning is not cool for bikers. Here's a scenario for you to ponder:

You are riding out in western Broward, Miami-Dade, Palm Beach or out in the "Glades and an electrical storm blows in. There is no civilization (read: shelter) for a several miles. Should you ride out the storm? If not, what should you do?

No doubt you have heard that because your tires are made of rubber, and because rubber is not a good electrical conductor, so long as you keep your feet on the pegs lightning will not hit you since it cannot find a path to ground through you and the bike. **WRONG!!!**

Though rubber is a pretty good insulator at the normal voltage levels we mere humans deal with, it is not very effective against the voltage in a lightning bolt.

On the other hand, you may also have heard that if a lightning bolt hits a car the occupants are safe because the car is riding on rubber tires, etc. Actually, this is almost true! So long as the occupants stay away from anything metal they will more than likely survive a lightning hit without any injury whatever.

What protects occupants of a cage is not their rubber tires, but the fact that they are enclosed in a metal container. If a lightning bolt hits the surface of the car it spreads around the occupants, **NOT THROUGH THEM**, and goes to ground.

A lightning bolt that hits you or your motorcycle is a different matter entirely.

Let me give you an idea of magnitudes we are dealing with here. The master fuse on your bike handles about 30 amps before it blows. An average lightning bolt

produces a current of about 20,000 amps. Even 30 amps can easily kill you because it disrupts your heart's electrical system and the heart then simply stops working. Your heart doesn't stand a chance against a lightning bolt.

Anyway, if you are out in the open on your bike when lightning flashes begin, and if you can hear the thunder caused by those flashes in less than three seconds from when you see the flash, it's time to stop your bike and get off it.

Immediately find low ground, but **NOT** under a single or small group of trees.

Squat on the ground with your legs together, head lower than back, but **NOT** touching the ground. Do **NOT** lay down on the ground.

**LET YOUR CLOTHES GET WET!!!** (In this way, if you are hit the majority of the electricity will follow the moisture of your wet clothes around your body.) Do not get up until thunder following a lightning flash is **AT LEAST** five seconds after the flash. (Which means the lightning struck more than 1 mile away.) Incidentally, lightning can, and **DOES**, hit the same place twice - frequently.

If there are more than 5 seconds between the lightning flashes and your hearing that thunder, head for shelter. This is the only time trying to ride out from under an electrical storm makes any sense.

Best shelter, of course, is a hard covered surface connected to ground with metal. Get under it and wait out the storm.

With Respect,

**"Geo"**



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ABATE is a not-for-profit Motorcyclist's Rights Organization  
Our mission is to lobby and educate the government and general public to promote motorcycling in a safe and positive image.

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**ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC STATE MEETING  
HOSTED BY THE GULF COAST CHAPTER  
JUNE 12, 2010**

Friday, June 11<sup>th</sup> there will be a "Meet and Greet" at the Comfort Inn on Pensacola Beach 6 pm until ?

Saturday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at 12 pm is the State Board Meeting at "Our Lady of Assumption" Catholic Church (Hunt Hall) 920 Via DeLuna Way on Pensacola Beach

State Delegate Meeting 2 pm until ? – all are welcome with lunch being provided by the Gulf Coast Chapter

Come celebrate the Gulf Coast Chapter's 15<sup>th</sup> birthday with a party after the meeting – 7 pm until ? – Sandshaker Lounge and Grill next door to the Comfort Inn

Lots of restaurant choices within walking distance on Pensacola Beach

Comfort Inn, 40 Pickens Road, Pensacola Beach has a block of rooms reduced well below summer rates to ABATE of Florida, Inc for \$99 plus tax per night. Features a swimming pool and private beach area with free continental breakfast from 6:30 am to 9:30 am daily. Call (850) 934-5400 for reservations and ask for ABATE rates.

Camping available with advance reservations. Call Satch @ (850) 324-7529 for location of campgrounds.

**DIRECTIONS:** Hwy 98 to Gulf Breeze. Turn at Pensacola Beach sign. Cross bridge to toll booth \$1.00. Continue on Via DeLuna to intersection. Turn right on Ft. Pickens Rd. Comfort Inn is on right beside Sandshaker Lounge.

**DIRECTIONS TO MEETING HALL FROM COMFORT INN:** Take a left after crossing road to the intersection. Turn right on Via DeLuna and go approximately 3 miles – "Our Lady of Assumption" and Hunt Hall on the right.

Any questions or more information contact Satch (850) 324-7529 or email at [gcabatepres@bellsouth.net](mailto:gcabatepres@bellsouth.net).

Welcome To  
Pensacola Beach



ABATE of Florida, Inc and the Gulf Coast Chapter DO NOT condone drinking and driving.  
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## 2010 CALENDAR

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**SFPC** ANNUAL CLUB EVENTS ARE LISTED IN BOLD ITALICS WITH\*  
Call (954) 430-8697 or (954) 578-2900 for changes, deletions, additions or inquiries

### MAY

- \*2 - *Southern MC Annual*
- 8 & 9 - National COC Convention Orlando
- \*15 - *USMVMC West Palm Annual*
- \*16 - *Wings of Gold MC Miami Annual*
- 22 - Wings of Gold MC Pt St. Lucie party
- \*23 - *Soldiers for Jesus MC West Palm Beach Annual*
- 30 - SE ABATE Memorial Day Event

### JUNE

- \*6 - *ADA MC Treasure Coast Annual*
- \*12 - *New Attitudes MC Annual*
- \*13 - *Wings of Gold MC West Palm Annual*
- 20 - Peterson's North Store Fathers Day Event
- 26 - Palm Beach ABATE Annual Event
- 27 - Wings of Gold MC Miami party

### JULY

- 3 - USMVMC South Broward Party
- 11 - ADA MC West Palm Beach party
- 17 - Wheels of Man MC Chili Cook-Off & Party
- 18 - States MC Lake Worth party
- \*25 - *Black Pistons MC Ft. Laud. Annual*

### AUGUST

- 9-15 70th Annual Sturgis Bike Week
- 13 to 15, - 15th International South Florida Tattoo Expo
- 15 - ADA MC 43rd Anniversary Party
- \*22 - *Wings of Gold MC Port Saint Lucie Annual*
- 29 - US Military Vets MC Pompano Party

### SEPTEMBER

- 11 - Outcast MC Party
- 12 - States Pompano MC 17th Key West Tuncup Party
- 16-19 Phil Peterson's 37th Annual Key West Poker Run
- 26 - Southern MC Teddy Bear Run & Party

### OCTOBER

- \*3 - *Mystic Seven MC Annual*
- 9 - BBRA Art Auction & Comedy Night
- 10 - ADA MC Treasure Coast Party
- 14 to 17 - Daytona Biketoberfest
- 17 - Keltics MC Miami party
- 23 - USMV MC Homestead benefit party
- 24 - SE ABATE 30th Annual Motorcyclists Rights Rally
- 30 - Wheels of Man MC 37th Annual Halloween Party
- \*31 - *Alternative Ft. Laud Annual*

### NOVEMBER

- \*7 - *USMVMC National 23rd Annual*
- 13 - Soldiers for Jesus MC West Palm Beach Party
- 14 - Wings of Gold MC Palm Beach Party
- 21 - CMA Memorial Event
- 28 - Heaven Cycles 33rd Anniversary Party
- 28 - USMV MC Martin County Toy Run

### DECEMBER

- \*5 - *23rd Annual SFPC Christmas Toys in the Sun Run*
- 11 - Drawing for the Toy Run bike at H-D of Miami
- 12 - ABATE West Palm Beach Party
- 18 - SFLCOC Christmas Dinner Party
- 18 - Wings of Gold MC West Palm Toy Drive
- 19 - Calvary Chapel 11th Annual Christmas Service



**12th ANNUAL  
ROCK N' ROLL SUNDAY**

**Noon-6, Sunday, May 16th, 2010**  
**Greenacres Community Park**  
 Jog Rd & Constitution Way - 1 Block N of 10th Ave

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**Soldiers For Jesus M.C.**  
**3rd ANNUAL**  
**Sunday May 23, 2010 - Noon to 6pm**

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**Sunday May, 16th - Noon till 6pm**  
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## **In GOD we trust**



### **In Recognition of the Memorial Day Celebration**

How many times have you heard freedom is not free? And we all know how true that is, especially the freedom we enjoy in this country. We all have to be very grateful to the men and women in our armed forces who gave their lives, and for those who fought, and for those who are fighting right now in various parts of the world right now, once again

I say thank you !!!!!

I have many friends who fought and some that gave their lives so that we can enjoy the freedoms we enjoy in this great country of ours. As it says in John 15:13 "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. As you know this is an on going fight, and men and women will be dying for this freedom we enjoy over and over again, unfortunately this is the way it is.

Now think about this, GOD so loved us that he gave his only son Jesus Christ to suffer and die for you and me!!! Now if your a parent like I am, could you do that for anyone? I know I couldn't. So knowing that, it should give you food for thought. Our Lord Jesus Christ willingly gave his life once, and for all, and He doesn't have to do it over and over again. He died, He conquered death, and rose again to sit at the right hand of God the Father, so we can have the greatest freedom of all, that is the freedom to choose life or death for eternity through his sacrifice.

Please take the time to stop and think which you will choose, it is the most important choice you will ever make.

So as we celebrate this Memorial Day, we must remember that this holiday was initiated to memorialize all our fallen men and women that made the ultimate sacrifice for the United States of America and our freedom. Be proud to be an American and that our country was founded on Godly principals so we must pray to keep it that way, and beware of those trying to change that.

In closing I must once again say THANK YOU, to our GOD, and our brave military, without whom we would have nothing.

As always  
Your Chaplain se chapter  
Poppie



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**NIGHT OF MAYHEM**

Every month, 1 night of Mayhem around the middle of the month.  
 4 separate prizes nightly (bar tabs)  
 (Judged by the Audience Participation)  
 "BEST OF" such as: oldest bike week tee shirt...  
 best costume... furthest away Harley tee shirt...  
 longest legs... shortest legs...  
 best female tattoo... best male tattoo, etc.  
 We will advertise the four venues for the night in advance so anyone that wants to participate can be prepared. It will change monthly and suggestions will be considered.  
**SATURDAY MAY 15** will be the first **NIGHT OF MAYHEM** featuring "Wrecktifier"  
**70's NIGHT** also held monthly...  
 The first one is Saturday June 12...  
 Featuring "O Mo Fo", a 6 piece band with a brass section playing all your favorite 70's dance tunes.

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<b>Saturdays</b> 1st...Miss Dympeysa Class Band 8th...Aces & Kings 15th...Wrecktifier (Night of Mayhem) 22nd...Miss Dympeysa Class Band: 29th... Riverdown June 5th...Riff Raff	<b>Wednesdays...</b> Pete Andrews (solo artist) on stage <b>THURSDAY'S</b> All New Allstar Jam featuring Tony & Johnny from The Storm...hosted by Tony Ciolini

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April 17<sup>th</sup>, my first morning at the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Freedom Rights Rally begins. Waking up to the sounds of bikes being ridden through the Monticello KOA campground, familiar greetings, and the smell of eggs and bacon mixed with campfires is always a fond waking of the senses. Of course, bikers walking by our campsite with quizzical expressions looking over and seeing me typing away on my laptop is kind of humorous, but they understand better as they read this in the magazine.

Chatting with Scribe on the 7 hour drive up and later hanging out with friends that I only see every two months, combined with the common goals ABATE of Florida, Inc. members have had me thinking about how effective a well organized Motorcyclist Rights Organization (MRO) can be when it comes to exerting influence on our elected officials.

Take our own state for example. In Florida, our Legislators are now in session for two months. Knowing this, ABATE of Florida, Inc. organizes our annual Freedom Rights Rally around this time each year. Most of you know about the hundreds of motorcyclists that ride to the state Capitol building for our rally on the rotunda. Afterwards, we go into the Capitol and meet with our elected officials.

In years past, ABATE of Florida's State President has led our ride from the Monticello KOA to the Florida State Capitol building and continued by leading the ceremonies before we head inside. What's going to make this year different is while we're outside tolling the bell honoring those that have passed before us and letting the public know why we're at the Capitol, our Stiffer Penalties Bill SB1918 will be being heard in its first Senate Committee Hearing. ABATE of Florida's President & State Legislative Trustee will be testifying for passage of our Bill at the exact same time we are rallying for motorcyclists' rights just outside the same building.

If ABATE of Florida's members were not committed to our causes, if our 32 chapters were not pushing for our issues on the local level, and if the State Board of Directors were not working so well with each other towards a common goal, many of our victories would not be possible. These are signs of a well-organized Motorcyclist Rights Organization. Getting the law changed so motorcyclists have the choice to wear a helmet, have a choice how high their handlebars are, and have the option to get the Bikers Care motorcycle tag; at the same time helping fund many charities; are all signs of the influence ABATE of Florida members have. The fact that Doc Reichenbach, our State President, is on a first name basis with almost every elected official in Tallahassee is a sign of how ABATE of Florida's members affect the outcome of elections.

When you're asked what influence is, direct the person to the accomplishments of ABATE of Florida and other MROs across the United States of America. Well organized MROs are not only a Brotherhood and Sisterhood, we're the protectors of motorcyclists' rights.

Öæ^Åñ & à[ , } +Üæ@  
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[statepr@abateflorida.com](mailto:statepr@abateflorida.com) [www.abateflorida.com](http://www.abateflorida.com)

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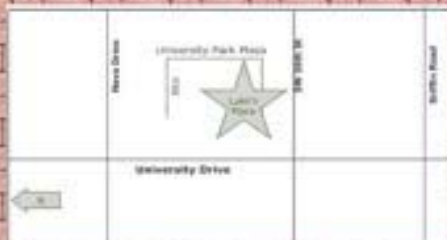
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S.E. Chapter

Abate of Florida, Inc.



# Who are they? ABATE 2000



Front Row: Sarah Roman, Victor Roman, Christine Roman, Lisa Widle, Snake, Loretta, Cigar Charlie

Back Row: Carla, Glen Katz, Jose, Irish Paul, Brenda, Wizard, Chuck Widle, Marie Baxter, Val Loper, Big Ed Stricklin, Jim Lippy, Alan Loper, Jimmy Les, Paul Melcer, Unknown, Joe Baker, Unknown



**NCOM BIKER NEWSBYTES**  
**Compiled & Edited by Bill Bish,**  
**National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM)**

**MOTORCYCLE THEFTS FALL**

Motorcycle thefts in the US fell by 13% to 56,093 last year from 64,492 in 2008, the biggest drop since 2007 according to the National Insurance Crime Bureau in an April 13th statement. Honda was the most stolen brand accounting for 24% of the thefts, followed by Yamaha, Suzuki, Kawasaki and Harley-Davidson, said the NICB citing National Crime Information Center data.

The recession prompted lower bike sales and a decrease in production, pushing motorcycle thefts down for a third consecutive year. Sales of new bikes fell 43% in 2009 from the year-earlier period, according to the Motorcycle Industry Council. Likewise, the Japanese Automobile Manufacturers Association reported a 47.4% decrease in motorcycle production last year.

Recovery rates have declined along with thefts, with only 30% of the stolen bikes recovered in 2009, compared with 41% in 2006, NICB data show. The top five states for motorcycle theft were warm-weather ones: California, Texas, Florida, North Carolina and Georgia, together accounting for 39% of the total.

It should be no surprise that the summer months of July (6,319); August (6,079); and June (5,672) saw the most theft activity while the fewest thefts were recorded during the winter months of December (2,927); February (3,100); and January (3,570).

The best way to prevent theft is to keep your motorcycle out of sight or covered up and secured to an immovable object with a good through-the-frame lock in addition to the steering lock.

**MAINE REQUIRES MOTORCYCLES TO DISPLAY INSPECTION STICKERS**

Maine Governor John Baldacci on April 9, 2010 signed LD 1675 into law, requiring the state's 50,000 registered motorcycles to carry inspection stickers that are "completely and clearly visible from the rear" starting in 2012.

A bill that started in the state legislature as a broadly worded bill to quiet noisy motorcycles evolved into a measure requiring riders to display inspection stickers when Maine's Transportation Committee concluded that 38% of Maine motorcycles aren't inspected, noting faulty and noisy motorcycle mufflers would fail annual inspections.

The bill also sets up a task force to explore other methods of reducing motorcycle noise, including sound testing, and report to the Transportation Committee by January 15, 2011. LD1675 passed the Maine House by a vote of 104-33 on March 22. The Senate passed it April 5, with no tally released.

**MOTORCYCLE SAFETY BILL PASSES IN OKLAHOMA**

"Gunner's Bill" has been signed into law by Oklahoma Gov. Brad Henry, providing for the state's first comprehensive motorcycle safety program. HB 2264, authored by state Rep. Mike Christian and state Sen. Steve Russell, allows the state to add a \$3 fee, designated for motorcycle safety and education, to the existing cost of registering a motorcycle. It also establishes a revolving fund into which the money is to be deposited.

Rep. Christian said the legislative action was necessary because motorcycle registrations continue to increase in Oklahoma; therefore, without training and prevention efforts, vehicle crashes involving motorcycles are likely to increase. According to the Oklahoma Tax Commission, there were 115,381 registered motorcyclists in the state in 2008, a 14.3% increase over 2007. Motorcycle fatalities increased 17.6% during the same period, and injuries increased 21.4%. HB 2264 is known as "Gunner's Bill" in honor of Robert "Gunner" Catcher, a motorcyclist who died after being struck by a pickup in 2009. The driver of the truck said he did not see Gunner.

"I heartily salute each and every one of ABATE of Oklahoma's and the OK Confederation of Clubs volunteer officers and members, and look forward to our continued success working together in the spirit of unity to make Oklahoma the best state in which to ride," said Tiger Mike Revere of ABATE of OK and a

member of the Board of Directors of the National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM).

Also signed into law was SB 1670 - a bill that changes the makeup of the Oklahoma Motorcycle Safety Advisory Committee. "So, not only will we generate about \$400,000 each year but we will also have a substantial say in how it is spent," commented John Pierce, ABATE Legislative Coordinator.

### **WYOMING BIKERS WORK WITH CITY TO PROMOTE MOTORCYCLE AWARENESS**

The Casper City Council voted unanimously to pay for motorcycle-safety billboards in the coming months, with Wyoming Central ABATE picking up the campaign halfway through the riding season. The council approved \$5,400 in grant money to pay for four billboards from April through July, when Wyoming Central ABATE would begin paying for the billboards with its own message to run through October.

The push for motorcycle awareness stems from two high-profile accidents involving motorcyclists last summer, including an ABATE member who was killed by a left-turning Hummer. The accidents prompted Wyoming Central ABATE to meet with city officials and hash out a plan to increase awareness of motorcycles among drivers. The Casper Police Department applied for grant money from the Wyoming Department of Transportation to be used on a "campaign targeting the reduction of the number and severity of motorcycle crashes in the Casper area," according to a city memo.

### **MICHIGAN HELMET LAW REPEAL REPEAT?**

Once again, Michigan legislators are moving to repeal the state's 40 year old mandatory helmet law, but their governor threatens veto action. In late March, the House voted 63 to 46 to approve an amendment to the current Michigan Helmet Law which would allow motorcycle riders 21 years old and older to operate their motorcycle without a helmet as long as they carry \$20,000 or more in insurance.

The bill now goes to the Senate for consideration. If the Democratic-led House and Republican-led Senate both approve as they have in

the past, the bill would again go to the governor for her signature or veto. Proposals to eliminate or ease the law were passed by the House and Senate in 2005/2006 and 2007/2008, but Gov. Jennifer Granholm vetoed both measures.

ABATE of Michigan and the Michigan Confederation of Clubs continues to hold sway in the Legislature using arguments that include personal freedom and economic impact. The Democratic governor leaves office next year and is not seeking reelection.

### **MOTORCYCLE ADVISORY COUNCIL SURVEYS ROAD CONDITIONS**

The Motorcyclist Advisory Council (MAC) to the Federal Highway Administration has made recommendations to U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood and his predecessors on various topics, including 1) Barrier design; (2) Road design, construction, and maintenance practices; and (3) The architecture and implementation of Intelligent Transportation System technologies. Of special significance was the creation and approval of the yearly Motorcyclist Road Conditions Survey, which can be accessed at <http://tinyurl.com/ykbqsr6>.

The purpose of the survey is to better communicate to the MAC, road construction engineers, and transportation safety officials the specific needs of motorcyclists that should be considered when developing new roadways or altering existing routes.

The MAC-FHWA coordinates and advises the Secretary of the Department of Transportation on infrastructure issues of concern to motorcycle riders, and is comprised of ten members of the motorcycling community with professional expertise in national motorcyclist safety advocacy. James "Doc" Reichenbach II, State President of ABATE of Florida and Chairman of the Board of the National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM) serves on the MAC as one of two members representing state motorcyclists' organizations.

### **ANTILOCK BRAKES MAKE MOTORCYCLES SAFER**

With motorcycle ownership skyrocketing from 4.3 million to 10.4 million over the past decade, and a corresponding increase in rider deaths and injuries, two new studies have found that equipping motorcycles with antilock brakes makes them much safer.

The studies, one by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety and the other by the Highway Loss Data Institute, found that bikes with antilock brakes are involved in 37% fewer fatal accidents per 10,000 registered vehicles and reported 22% fewer accident damage claims per insured vehicle year.

Stopping a motorcycle is trickier than stopping a car. For one thing, the front and rear wheels typically have separate brake controls. In an emergency, a rider faces a split-second choice to either brake hard, which can lock the wheels and cause an overturn, or hold back on braking and risk running into the emergency. This is when antilock brakes can help by reducing brake pressure when they detect impending lockup and then increasing the pressure again when traction is restored. Brake pressure is evaluated multiple times per second, so riders may brake fully without fear of locking up. Until lately, such crash avoidance technology as antilock brakes has primarily been available only on larger, more expensive motorcycles, but they are now available on 60 new models.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is considering whether or not antilock brakes should be mandatory on motorcycles.

## **OUTLAW BIKER 101**

Law enforcement officers from across the country gather each year at a heavily guarded secret location for annual training on “combating biker gangs”:

As quoted directly from promotional material for the course: “Outlaw Motorcycle Gang Investigations: From the Inside - Combating Biker Gangs, from the International Association of Undercover Officers: A five day (36 hour) training program for law enforcement officers, prosecutors, corrections personnel and criminal analysts addressing the problems and pitfalls of investigations of Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs. The instructors, have managed,

supervised or directly participated in investigations of Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs throughout the United States. The investigative techniques they used will be presented. Also, the many pitfalls and mistakes they made will be graphically demonstrated. Due to the sensitive nature of the training program and threats of physical harm to some of the speakers, the exact location of the training program will only be revealed to those who register. Special security will be maintained and only certified law enforcement officers with proper identification will be admitted.”

As one of America’s foremost authorities on biker discrimination, Minnesota Aid to Injured Motorcyclists (A.I.M.) attorney Steven O’Brien, who also serves as legal counsel to the Confederation of Clubs of Minnesota and ABATE of Minnesota, applied for the course last year but was denied admittance with the written admonishment that he would be better suited to attend the NCOM Convention. O’Brien was instrumental in getting the nation’s first and only biker anti-discrimination law on the books in Minnesota, and then was successful in getting the new law upheld by the courts when an ABATE member was denied service at a bar.

For like-minded bikers concerned with preserving Freedom of the Road, the Silver 25th Annual NCOM Convention will be held Mother’s Day weekend, May 6-9, 2010 at the Orlando Airport Marriott, 7499 Augusta National Dr., Orlando, Florida. Reserve your place in history now by calling the National Coalition of Motorcyclists at (800) 525-5355 or visit [www.ON-A-BIKE.com](http://www.ON-A-BIKE.com). A special NCOM room rate is available by calling the Marriott hotel at (800) 380-6751.

**QUOTABLE QUOTE:** “The story of America’s quest for freedom is inscribed on her history in the blood of her patriots.”

Randy Vader, American author/composer

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#### **GOALS & PURPOSES OF ABATE**

**To** print a newsletter to keep all bikers informed with regard to legislative actions and events around the state and throughout the country.

**To** become a powerful and viable political force in legislative matters concerning all motorcyclists rights.

**To** provide a lobbyist to represent ABATE of Florida, Inc. on the state and national level.

**To** promote voter registration and motivate members to write their legislators.

**To** promote safe riding habits without infringing on individual rights.

**To** educate the public about motorcycle awareness.

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#### **UPCOMING SE CHAPTER MEETINGS**

**May 16,2010 Sunday,10am**

**June 6,2010 Sunday,10am**

at:

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