

ABATE OF FLORIDA SOUTHEAST CHAPTER

a Newsletter for Motorcycle Safety & Awareness

ISSUE 387

October 2015



A MERICAN
B IKERS
A IMING
T OWARD
E DUCATION



**NEXT
CHAPTER
MEETING
10 AM**

**Sunday
Oct 18, 2015**
at the American Legion



LET THOSE WHO
RIDE DECIDE!

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LET THOSE WHO RIDE DECIDE

THE SOUTHEAST CHAPTER PRESENTS

35TH ANNUAL EVENT

October 11, 2015

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at...

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Happy Halloween. Who is doing a fall leaf ride?.



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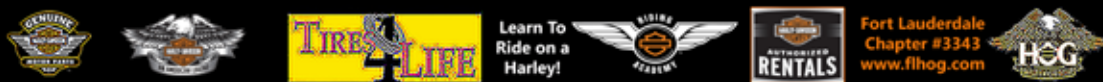
Hours - Monday - Saturday: 9am to 7pm Sunday: 10am to 5 pm Early Service Drop Off: Monday - Friday 7am

<p>Oct.8th Chester' All Staff Meeting 8am Oct. 10th Buffalo Soldiers Meeting 9am Oct. 18th Blue Knights Meeting 10 am Oct. 21st New Owners Ride 6pm Oct. 24th Calvary Chapel riders Meeting 9:30 am</p>			1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
 Free Hot dogs 12-3pm HOG ride to Charlie's Bar and Grill		 HOG GENERAL MEETING 7pm		Rock and Ride! Three dog Night The Guess Who Blood sweat and tears	Pre-Owned Blow out Weekend	 Pre-Owned Blow out Weekend
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
		 HOG Road Captains meeting 7pm		 Friends Helping Friends		 HOG Chapter Ride to Old Marco Fishing Lodge
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
 Free Hot dogs 12-3pm HOG Ride to Tin City Naples		 HOG Birthday Bike Night Bonefish Macs			 Casino Bike Night WELCOME to Paradise LAS VEGAS NEVADA 6pm-10pm	 Veterans Outreach Bash 12-3pm
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
 Free Hot dogs 12-3pm HOG Lunch at Brogues Down Under					Bike Night with the Florida Panthers vs	 Happy Halloween

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 Sat. Oct 24th 6:00 pm
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New Owners Ride and Breakfast
 Saturday Oct 24 @ 9AM



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www.abatese.org <> Hotline: 954-310-INFO (4636)

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To Advertise in this Publication, Please contact the "**Newsletter Editor**" or any B.O.D. Member in this list.

Please Note In order to maintain a "Professional" appearance on this list, you will need an abatese.us email account. NO EXCEPTIONS!! We don't need a sloppy page with many different email addresses. Call Mike Hager to help you get set up.

ABATE of Florida, Inc - www.AbateFlorida.com - flabate@bellsouth.net - (386) 943-9610 (voice & fax)



From Your President

ABATE Southeast Chapter President's Remarks October 2015

October is chocked full of events for the biker community to enjoy. Mark your calendars for the ABATE Southeast Chapter's 35th Annual Fall Rights Rally on October 11th (Sunday) at Mickey's Tiki Bar in Pompano Beach, noon to 5 p.m. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend and show support for your local motorcycle rights organization. Additionally, about a dozen members of the Southeast Chapter will be at Avon Park, volunteering to work and enjoying the activities at the ABATE of Florida Autumn Bike Fest that is happening October 2-3-4, 2015. The event will encompass the entire Main Street of Avon Park.

There will be biker and family activities, live bands, food and beer garden, primitive camping available, and numerous vendors. This is now the major fundraiser for ABATE of Florida Inc., and your support would be greatly appreciated, plus Avon Park in Highlands County is a nice day ride on the bike! Event information can be found at www.floridaabate.com.

Special recognition goes to a couple of Southeast Chapter members for their current fundraising efforts for both Joe DiMaggio's and Chris Evert's Children's Hospitals. ABATE lifetime member Gabe Carrera "The Attorney That Rides" rode his Harley Davidson motorcycle on a record breaking ride from the tip of South America to where the road ends in Alaska; to raise close to \$50,000 in support of these hospitals. Another Southeast Chapter member, Ada Hibbs, is collecting and has recycled over 450 pounds of aluminum cans and donating the cash in support of this worthy cause – in three months about \$500 – and she's still collecting! Congratulations to you both.

A brief summary of ABATE Southeast Chapter members whereabouts this past month. We were present at Scurvy Few MC Pirate's Party at Mickey's Tiki Bar, big fun with lots of pretty wrenches in attendance. Gabe Carrera had his welcome back party at American Legion Post 180, where I was privileged to represent the Southeast Chapter in presenting him a "Certificate of Recognition" for his record breaking ride and charity fund raising efforts. A group of us scooted down to the Southern MC clubhouse with cute little bears to support their Annual Teddy Bear Run. We were present at the Wheels of Man MC clubhouse to pay our respects at the celebration of life memorial for Pyle. We represented the Chapter at the American Legion Post 222 for Bike Night and were present at the Outcasts MC's "another damn good party" at Mickey's. We were also at States MC Key West Tune-up Party where the Southeast Chapter's Safety Booth was on display and enjoyed the Keltics MC "Ride 'em Hard" Party at The Sports Barn in Davie. Chapter members also supported Peterson's Key West Poker Run and doesn't it seem that every year the motels, lodging, etc., gets more expensive. I know a lot of people who can't afford the \$400 plus it takes for a two-night stay, and they wonder why attendance is down. Additionally, our members visited a bunch of MC clubhouses at their Friday night open houses this month.



Continued on page 11 →



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 \$50 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 mis-spellings or inappropriate language, or photos.

Motorcycle Rights & Safety Dedicated to

"Freedom of Choice, Freedom of the Road"

You may know us as the motorcycle organization that got the helmet law repealed in Florida or from our motorcycle rights and safety rally's throughout the year.

ABATE of Florida is not a club, we are a motorcycle rights & safety organization dedicated to promoting motorcycle safety while remaining ever vigilant of the legislative issues concerning motorcyclists' nationwide.

We Are Not ANTI-HELMET, We are ANTI-HELMET Law!

One of the most popular misconceptions about ABATE is that we are anti-helmet. Nothing could be further from the truth. We are "anti-helmet law" if you choose to ride with or without a helmet it's your choice, it is your right to decide whether wearing a helmet is right for you. ABATE is an organization fighting to protect your rights.

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- REMINDER - Membership Due For Sep 2015 -

James Kenny Dennis

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Billy "Wild Bill" Duenas

Richard "Kick" Margolis

Frank Ferraro

Daniel Postal" Ortner

Cody Grabav

Carol Pruitt

Sherrie A "Snowleopard-
sher" Inman

Gary Rowe

Les "Wisconsin Les" Jensen

Rob Roy

Robert A "Godfather" Silva

Gary Swank



Welcome New Members

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Gina Currid

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AND IN THE COURTS**

Membership Due

Thanks if you have already renewed

October 2015

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Bowers

Heidi Payne

Martin "Spangler" Byrd

James "Jimbo" Sherrow

Ted "Smoky" Castellucci

Steve Thomas

Ed O'Hara

Gary Viggiano



Thanks goes out to those who donated to ABATE SE Chapter's Sponsorship Program. Suzanne Keen was our first Platinum Sponsor. To date, these are the names of those who have donated over \$950.00 to ABATE SE Chapter.

Platinum Sponsors:

Suzanne Keen
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Frank T.
Leo "Doc" Hinkley
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For Membership Renewals contact, Rick T-Man Molina by either email:
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*** PLEASE NOTE ***

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 changes.



Southeast Chapter Meeting Minutes Sep 20, 2015

Sgt @ Arms Steve “Nighthawk” Chomiak called the meeting to order at 10:05 am. There were 29 members, 2 guests. Total in attendance: 31 . The meeting started following the Pledge of Allegiance, moment of silence and a prayer by Poppi.

Presidents Report: Frank welcomed everyone for attending the meeting. He spoke about the Avon Park Event and how important it is to ABATE. He spoke about the drawing tickets we have for the March drawing at the State Office. Frank stressed on the need for help for the Oct11th event it's our 35th Year as the Southeast Chapter at Mickey's Tiki Bar. He also mentioned he will be attending the Court hearing in Hendry County with Steve Cohn where a person was killed and the driver was issued just a citation. He also reminded everyone to support our advertisers and local MC's.

Vice-Presidents Report: Poppy thanked everyone for coming and spoke about everyone supporting ABATE. He mentioned the good time at State's MC for their Key West kick Off Party. He also reminded everyone that as VP he is the main committee person.

Secretary's Report: A motion was made

to accept the minutes as printed, seconded, and no discussion. Marie mentioned that she has been in contact with The Broward Sheriff's Office about sending a representative to speak to us.

Treasurer's Report: T-man read the financial report for August. A motion was made to accept the financial report, seconded, all were in favor, the Motion was passed. T-Man also spoke about the drawing tickets we have. The tickets are \$5.00 each, with a chance to win \$7,000.00 first prize, \$2,000.00 second prize and \$1,000.00. The drawing takes place in March 2016 and do not have to be present to win. See any Board Member if you need tickets. We had a secret Santa who donated 4 tickets to the Chapter.

Sergeant at Arms Report: Steve mention that we all should check our bikes before taking off and reminded everyone Schools will open PLEASE watch your speed. And he needs help for the Oct 11th Southeast Chapter event.

Road Captain's Report: Gambler spoke on the importance of speed in school zones. He mention Sept 25th at Chester's Harley Davidson they are having a Las Vegas night, and the 26th is the Walk for Autism, leaving from Legion at 8:15 a.m.

Safety Director Report: Gambler spoke on the importance of staying hydrated the weather is still very, very hot. He asked the group about how they feel about having a CPR course for the membership and who would be interested.

Products Report: We are still having a shirt SALE. All our shirts in inventory will be reduced so we can reorder some new ones. Marie is working on a few ideas for new shirts.

Events Coordinator: Frank spoke about the participation for the Avon Park Event, October 2, 3 and 4. This event is critical to ABATE. Volunteers are still needed to help with the event. Frank stressed our October 11th fund raising event which will be held at Mickeys, this year. We need volunteers to help make this event successful. Be at Mickey's no later than 8:30 a.m. for set up. For Avon Park, check in at the hotel downtown for your duties; see Mudder (State ABATE VP) or anyone from the State office.

State Representative Report: The next State Meeting is Brooksville Oct. 10. Marie & Big Wheel will be attending to represent the Chapter. Ada has some family issues she is dealing with, so she will not be going. Frank will be heading the Event at Mickey's.

Membership Report: T-Man reported we had 7 new members join, 8 renews and no new Life members for a total of 542 active SE Chapter members. A reminder, when submitting all membership forms PLEASE fill them out completely, send it in a timely

manner, so that we can read it. Thank you very much for your support and membership to the Southeast Chapter.

Newsletter Editor: Squeezer reported all articles are due today with the exception of the President's and Secretary's reports. AGAIN it was mentioned that we have the BEST newsletter in Florida ABATE.

Legislative Report: Brad was not present; he is in Key West for the Poker Run.

Public Relations: Fern was excused. She is always out there promoting ABATE.

Billing and Invoicing: Pixie said everyone is up to date. She also mentioned when getting a new add remember to get the application filled out and get the check.

Please remember to support our advertisers, because they support us.

Social Director's Report: There was a lot of discussion about the monthly Birthday Parties and the lack of participation. Currently we are holding these parties at the Chapter meetings. Remember we will have cake after our meeting.

Newsletter Distribution: Poppy is in charge of the Newsletter Distribution. He will need some help, so if you are able please let him know. He is doing a great job.

Quartermaster Report: Bob was present and had nothing to report.

Photographer's Report: Ada mentioned she is having computer issues, but to keep the pictures coming to her and Roque. She

Continued on next page →

is always there and ready with her camera.

Web-Master's Report: Rogue was present and reported things are going good.

Legal Council: Demetrios spoke about the equal rights on the road for bikes and that the police department consider motorcycle riders "Gang Members".

Old Business: There was no old Business to report

New Business: There was no new business to report

Good of the Order:

Marie spoke about the design and colors for new shirts for the chapter. She will be contacting Create A Stitch and coming up with some ideas.

Frank spoke about the Davie Moose issues. Ada reported on her can collecting and she raised \$500.00 to be donated to Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital. Big Wheel spoke about the new Facebook page. Bob spoke about Financial Planning, see him if they want help.

Going's On:

- 10/2,3,4 Avon Park
- 10/4 Mystic 7 MC – Mickeys
- 10/10 New Attitude MC
- 10/10 State Meeting Brooksville, FL
- Spooks and Scoots
- 10/11 ABATE SouthEast - Mickey's
- 10/16-19 Biketoberfest Daytona
- 10/18 Chapter Meeting- Davie Moose
- 10/25 Wheels Of Man Halloween Party

A Motion to adjourn the meeting was called

for, seconded, all were in favor. Our next meeting date is October 18. Hope to see everyone there.

See you on the Road - Wheels up.

Marie Baxter
Secretary S.E. Chapter



...President's Message continued from page 4

Finally we have some good news coming out of Washington D.C. The U.S. House of Representatives are working on amendments to the Highway Bill and the first amendment halts the federal funding of motorcycle-only roadside checkpoints and then assigns a study to the National Academy of Sciences to determine the best methods of preventing motorcycle crashes and improving motorcycle safety. Now we wait and see if Congress approves this legislation.

What are your motorcycle legislative concerns in Florida? I have asked our membership that question and some of the responses include:

- Persons injuring or killing motorcyclists with their cars should get stiffer penalties rather than simply a traffic citation;
- Texting and driving is a major safety concern across the biker community and should be elevated to a primary offense rather than a secondary offense;
- Toll charges for motorcycles - we have lesser impact than cars on the highways yet we must pay the same rate as autos because the State charges by the number of axles and not wheels; and
- Motorcycle parking issues – really, must each motorcycle pay the same amount as a car when two or three bikes use one car parking space? If you have any issues you feel ABATE of Florida Inc. should address with our State Legislature please share those with me and I will get the word to our organization's lobbyist.

Attention all bikers!! The Southeast ABATE of Florida Chapter needs you to join our cause to protect your motorcycle rights. ABATE represents all of Florida's motorcycles even if you are not an ABATE member, but we need your membership to support our efforts in protecting your "Right to Decide." Membership forms are in our monthly newsletter and located on our Southeast Chapter's website www.abatese.org. Or come to our fall event on October 11th and you can

sign up then. To our current ABATE members, PLEASE keep your contact information current. If you have made any changes (address, email, phone) please contact T-Man, our membership director, with your updated information at membership@abatese.us.

One of ABATE's main missions is safety. We specialize in motorcycle safety, training, driver awareness of motorcycles and serving as the only Motorcycle Rights Organization (MRO) with a lobbyist to represent us in the Florida Legislature. The training is provided free-of-charge in various ways including our Motorcycle Safety Booth providing information that we set up at events. Invite us to your event! We provide trained Motorcycle Safety Instructors for classroom instruction and print media such as the "LOOK OUT FOR MOTORCYCLES" bumper stickers that you have probably seen while riding. So if your club, organization, or business is interested in having your members receive this type of information and training, please contact me.

Everyone is invited to attend the Southeast Chapter's monthly meetings and events. Currently the monthly member birthday party is being held after the Chapter meeting and our next meeting is October 18th at the American Legion Post 321, 9081 SW 51St, Cooper City, at 10 a.m. To keep up to date with the ABATE Southeast Chapter, checkout our website (abatese.org) or call our Hotline 24/7 (954-310-4636) for Chapter information. You may always contact me at pres@abatese.us. RIDE FREE RIDE SAFE!!!

With respect.

Frank T.

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Vice-President



Abate SE Chapter is one of the largest chapters in Florida; we have approximately 500 plus members, thanks to the biking community in South Florida. We thank all the MC's, Associations, and independents, for your support, without you we wouldn't have a chapter.

The only thing we don't have is everyone's correct contact information, so we can keep you informed as to what's going on at the state level, to let you know as to what help you can be if needed; i.e. getting in touch with our leaders in state government. Also, to make a showing if needed, to oppose any laws that are being put forth to infringe on our rights as Bikers.

We would like to have our members correct contact information, so we are able to let you know what's going on. All your information will be kept secure, we never give out any information to anyone, and it's for Abates use only.

Please send your updated contact information to membership@abatese.us so we may update your information.

Your V.P.
Poppie

An advertisement for a law firm. On the left is a bulldog wearing a black Harley-Davidson t-shirt and a black cap. On the right is a man in a suit pointing towards the camera. The text is overlaid on the image.

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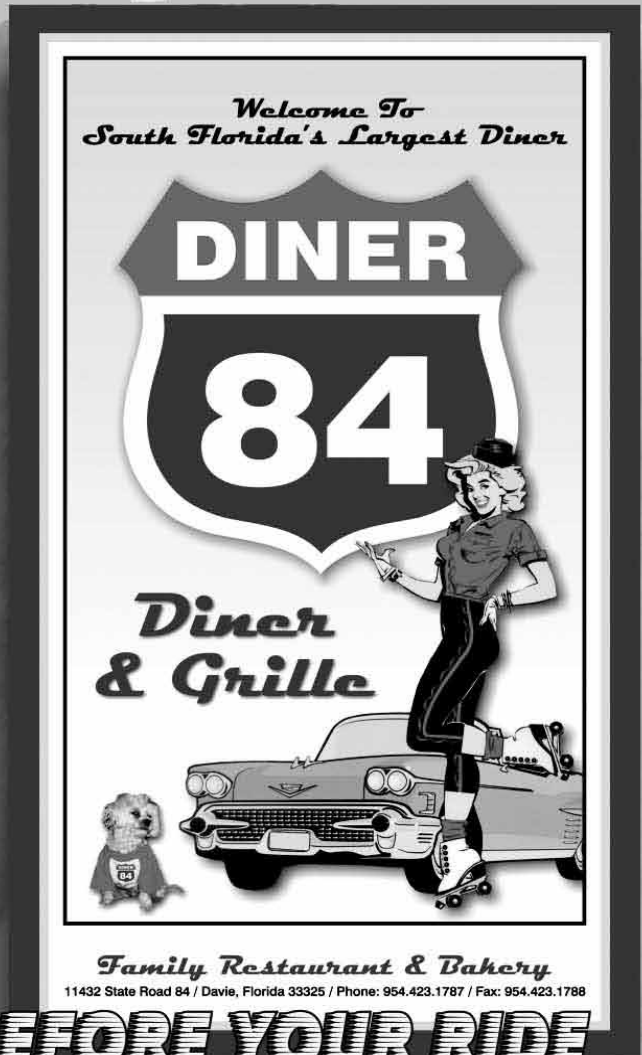
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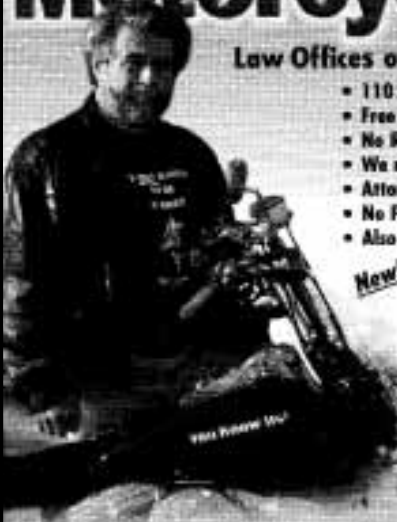
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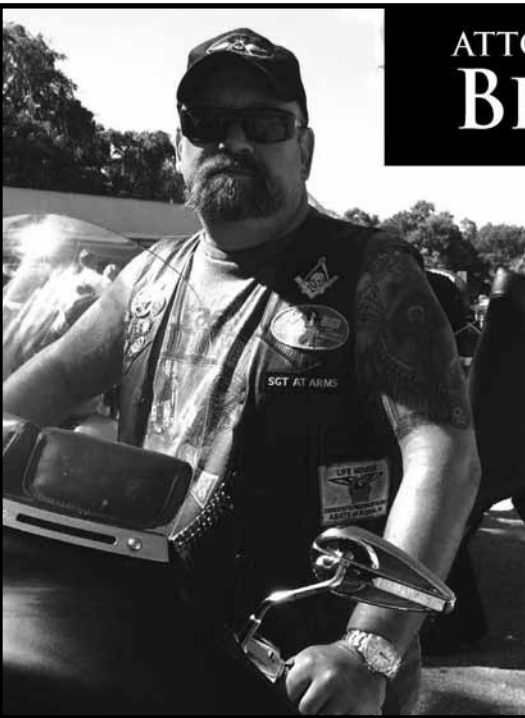
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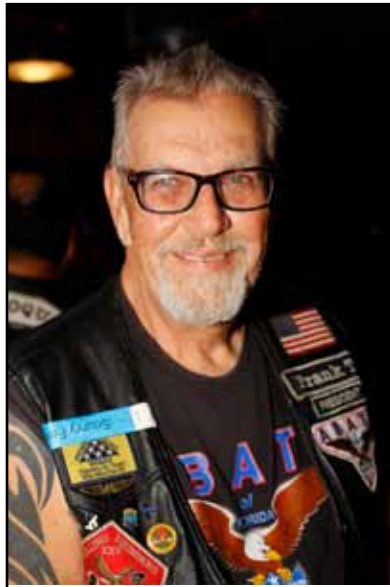
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14 in WOTR for information

2015

October

2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 States MC Pompano Dinner	2	3
4 MYSTIC SEVEN - ANNUAL	5	6	7	8 States MC Pompano Dinner	9	10 NEW ATTI- TUDES MC - ANNUAL
11 S.E. ABATE RIGHTS RALLY	12	13	14	15 States MC Pompano Dinner	16 DAYTONA BIKETO- BERFEST	17 DAYTONA BIKETO- BERFEST
18 <u>Chapter Meeting</u>	19	20	21	22 States MC Pompano Dinner	23	24
25 WHEELS OF MAN MC - HALLOWEEN PARTY	26	27	28	29 States MC Pompano Dinner	30	31

Additional Info:

10//02, 03, 04/15 Avon Park

10/04/15 - MYSTIC SEVEN - ANNUAL

10/10/15 - ABATE of Florida inc., state meeting Hillsborough Chapter

10/10/15 - NEW ATTITUDES MC - ANNUAL

10/11/15 - S.E. ABATE RIGHTS RALLY

10/16-19/15 - DAYTONA BIKETOBERFEST

10/18/15 - Abate SE Chapter Meeting

10/25/15 - WHEELS OF MAN MC - HALLOWEEN PARTY

Always **Check the Hotline** for more additional information: **954-310-4636...**
 Sometimes "Events" get missed or don't get listed in time for the Calendar.

2015

November

2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5 States MC Pompano Dinner	6	7 US MILITARY VETS MC CH 1 - ANNUAL
8 CMA - ME- MORIAL EVENT	9	10	11	12 States MC Pompano Dinner	13	14 HEATHENS MC - AN- NUAL
15 <u>Chapter Meeting</u>	16	17	18	19 States MC Pompano Dinner	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 States MC Pompano Dinner	27	28
29	30					

Additional Info:

07/11/15 - US MILITARY VETS MC CH 1 - ANNUAL

08/11/15 - CMA - MEMORIAL EVENT

14/11/15 - HEATHENS MC - ANNUAL

Always **Check the Hotline** for more additional information: **954-310-4636...**
 Sometimes "Events" get missed or don't get listed in time for the Calendar.

2015 CALENDAR

MANDATORY ANNUAL CLUB EVENTS ARE LISTED IN BOLD

SFPC

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SFPC CHAIRMAN

OCTOBER

4-MYSTIC SEVEN - ANNUAL
10-NEW ATTITUDES MC - ANNUAL
11-S.E. ABATE RIGHTS RALLY
16th-19th DAYTONA BIKETOBERFEST
25-WHEELS OF MAN MC - HALLOWEEN PARTY

NOVEMBER

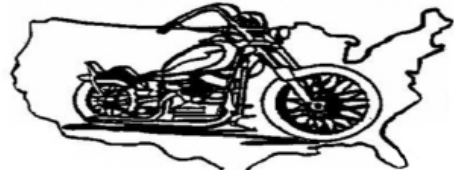
7-US MILITARY VETS MC CH 1 - ANNUAL
8-CMA - MEMORIAL EVENT
14-HEATHENS MC - ANNUAL

DECEMBER

6 SFPC TOYS IN THE SUN RUN
12-PETERSONS TOY RUN BIKE DRAWING
12-HERMANDAD MC - ALFREDO MEM/TOY RUN
13-WINGS OF GOLD MC MIAMI - TOY RUN
19-SFLCOC - CHRISTMAS PARTY
20-CALVARY CHAPEL - CHRISTMAS SERVICE



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Road Captain's report

RIDING SEASON IS HERE

October is here and fall is in the air. The weather will feel a little less heavy because the humidity finally begins to drop and the rain will start to subside. Now it's time to ride. Isn't that what most of you have been waiting for? Let's get out there and have fun. Let's explore Florida like tourist and see what adventure awaits us. I can do one day rides, but probably will not to do any overnight rides. SHAME ON ME. But if anyone else wants to set up an overnight ride and be the Road Captain, feel free to do so and please ask to put it on the Hot Line.

I led my first ride since my surgery on September 6th down to the Southern MC for their Teddy Bear Run. It was a good day, starting out. Great ride down, Rainy coming back up. But it was expected and wet or dry, we had fun. Next time you should join us. Dust the bike off, fill the tank, check the oil and the tires. By the way, cages are always welcome too. The more the merrier.

This month is a busy one for events out of town.

October 2, 3, and 4 is ABATE of Florida's Autumn Bike Fest at Avon Park. Please do your best to attend and if possible, help out.

October 11 ABATE SE Chapter's 35th Annual Event being held at Mickey's Tiki Bar, 350 SW 12 Avenue Pompano Beach. Starting at 12 Noon – 5:00 PM.

October 16, 17 and 18 is Biketoberfest in Daytona Beach. Always a fun time and very crowded. Parking limited on Main Street.

Call the Hot Line and find out what rides and events are happening locally. IT's updated every Tuesday. The Hot Line Number is 954-310-4636.

See you at the next ABATE SE Chapter Meeting on Sunday October 18th 10:00 AM at the American Legion Post 321, 9081 SW 51 St., Cooper City. Have a great Halloween everyone.

Until next time, keep the shiny side up and the rubber on the road.

Jim "Gambler" Willard
Road Captain
ABATE SE Chapter



Attorney Gabriel Carrera

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- Car & Truck Accidents
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The Attorney That RIDES

The advertisement features a large, bold title for Attorney Gabriel Carrera. Below the title, there are three bullet points listing his areas of expertise: Motorcycle Accident Law, Car & Truck Accidents, and Personal Injury. A quote in white text on a dark background reads "No Fees! No Costs Unless You Win!". The phone number (954) 533-7593 is prominently displayed in large yellow and red digits. At the bottom, the website www.Attorney That RIDES.com is listed. The ad also includes a photograph of a man in a red and black shirt leaning over a motorcycle, and a portrait of Attorney Gabriel Carrera in a suit. A logo for "The Attorney That RIDES" featuring an eagle is also present.



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Please Contact:
Cesar "Squeezer" Tejera
954-383-8380

Or any member of the
 Board of Directors

Mail your information and check to:

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Southeast Chapter
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ADDRESS: _____

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October Birthdays

Birthdays

Bob Anz "Sponge Bob"
Kate Herman "Opal"
John "Key"
Gordon Holly "Skip" "Bandit"
Al Acevedo "Newcomer"
Sonni Joyner "Thumper"
Harry Ness
Vicky Wojnar "Spin Girl"
Lynda Sadoff "Boots"
Royce Taylor
John "Lefty"

Brett
Barry Reaves
Theresa Bograkos
Bill Ruddy
Rick Kaiser
Brianna Coy "Victim"
Pat "Tank"
Nelson Obarrio
Jim Willard "Gambler"
Mike Hagar "Rouge"

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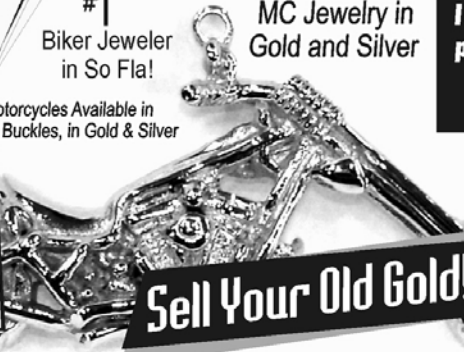
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If I may digress for a moment...

Old Glory - torn and tattered

It has been 15 years since we were attacked by Al Qaeda, whose intention was to destroy us. Instead of them destroying us, we became more united than ever. Regardless of sex, religion, or ethnic heritage, we were all Americans before anything else. Old Glory could be seen flying over almost every yard in the country. I was never prouder of my country than immediately after those attacks. We all stood as one; indivisible, one nation, under old glory. Foreign attackers could not take us down.

Now, less than two decades later, we are being torn apart. Not by foreign attackers, but from within. The fabric that made this country the greatest in the world is tearing apart at the seams. What has happened to US? What will it take to mend the fabric that is falling apart? What will it take to bring us together as a people once again? Will it take another attack? Well, let me tell you, that attack has already started.

We are currently being attacked by our worst enemy; the enemy within. Divisiveness is a huge cancer on our society that is growing larger by the day. These divisions are brought about by prejudice labeling and our own hubris.

Prejudice labeling has been pitting blacks against whites, conservatives against liberals, secular against religious, straights against gays; I could go on and on. People who have abortions are not all Godless Liberals; conservatives have made the choice to have abortions also. Not believing in marriage equality does not make you a religious bigot; it just means your values on marriage are different. Not all democrats are for gun control, believe it or not, many love their guns. Not all blacks are thugs and not all cops have a racial bias... So let's accept that we, as individuals, have differences of opinion on different topics and stop using labels to define and divide us.

While we are at it, let's tone down the hubris; Black pride, White Pride, Gay Pride, Christian pride, Southern Pride, Hispanic Pride, etc. Why not just American Pride? I was born in another country and came to the United States at the age of 7 not knowing more than a couple of words of English. My ancestry is half black and half white. I do not define myself by my place of birth, nor by color (which one would I choose?). I define myself as American! As to my race, why not go with human?

My mother and I did not come to this country so we could become Hispanic Americans. We came here to become Americans! The immigrants before us that made this country great did not come here to be identified by their heritage; they came here to be Americans. And many of them went to war in defense of this country shortly after arriving here, That is how much they wanted to become Americans! Americans by choice. Their different heritages provided us with different foods, values, religions, and ideas. Not to divide us, but to unite us in the melting pot that is the US of A. And like a great stew, these differences are the ingredients that made this country great. Let's not use these differences to divide us, but to unite US. And this will make Old Glory strong again.

Your editor - "Squeezer"





My Church

I belong to a small store front Church called Harvest Fellowship; located at 6500 Stirling Road east of Davie Rd. We are lead by a really down to earth Pastor, "Joe Cella". All his teachings are Bible based, that will always lead you to Jesus Christ.

We start our services with music and Praise and Worship, then a timely teaching.

We start our service at about 10:30am and end at about 12:pm, in plenty of time to "ride", remember I'm a biker also. We are very biker friendly; as a matter of fact we are everybody friendly. All are welcome.

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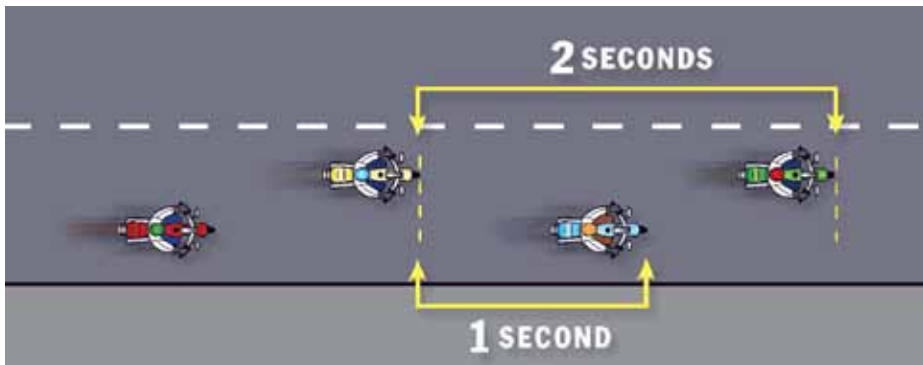
From Your Safety Director



GROUP RIDING

Is riding in a group safer than riding alone? You certainly are more visible to the other motor vehicles. You are only safe if the other riders know the rules of the road. Riding side by side looks good in parades when doing 20 miles per hour or less, but, not recommended for a group ride when you are going much faster. If the rider next to you has to swerve away from an oncoming vehicle or road debris, he could take out the rider beside him and possibly several behind. It is highly recommended when riding in groups that you ride in a staggered formation. This leaves room between each rider to allow for any emergency situations that could cause a rider to suddenly swerve to his left or right. Remember this rule of thumb; follow two seconds behind the bike directly in front of you and one second behind the bike to your left or right. (See diagram below). Hand signals are a big part of riding safe and knowing what the Road Captain is relaying to the riders behind him. **The hand signal chart is also located in this issue on page 45** and should be studied and remembered. You or your passenger should repeat the hand signals for the riders behind you that may not be able to see the Road Captain. The Road Captain may review the hand signals at his pre-ride safety meeting as well as other important information.

Let's end with some simple rules that everyone should follow to show respect for the other riders. (1) Perform a pre-ride check of your bike to make sure it is in good working order before you get there. (2) Show up on time, with a full tank of gas. Nothing is more irritating than a bunch of biker's waiting for one person who forgot to get gas before they arrived. (3) Attend the pre-ride safety meeting that the Road Captain gives. (4) Ride with caution, be aware of your surroundings and help the new riders. And very important, **KEEP UP!** Don't fall behind and don't leave gaps in the formation that will allow cages to enter and possibly endanger other riders.



Don't forget to check out the Hand Signal Chart on page 45.

Until next time, don't gamble with your safety or the safety of others.

Jim "Gambler" Willard

Safety Director *RIDE SAFE*





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MONGOLS MC PATCH FORFEITURE CASE DISMISSED

In a long-awaited decision with ramifications that could affect all patch-wearing clubs, on September 16, 2015 Federal District Judge David O. Carter issued a dismissal of the government's most recent attempt to seize the Mongols Motorcycle Club's name and patch.

In the case titled United States of America versus Mongols Nation, Judge Carter saw the key legal question in the case as the "distinctness" between a "person" and "an 'enterprise' that is not simply the same 'person' referred to by a different name."

In layman's terms, the good news is that the government's indictment is hereby dismissed pending appeal, which appears unlikely.

"We won," said Richard Lester, a California-based attorney who has rallied support for defense of the patch forfeiture case through various Confederations of Clubs around the country and the National Coalition of Motorcyclists, organizations he helped to establish. "We didn't win the day on key legal points, and the court's decision didn't make the statement we wanted to make in defending the patch, but we won."

The protracted litigation against the Mongols MC on racketeering charges began October 21, 2013 when the indictment against the club was unsealed. Although the club won its first trial, the judge's ruling was poorly written and welcomed the charges to be properly re-filed.

While the constitutionality of seizing the Mongols insignia -- or the insignia of any motorcycle club -- remains unresolved under the dismissal, Judge Carter did rule that the government cannot indict a club as an "enterprise" for racketeering without also indicting a group who can be actually punished; noting that the indictment makes "no meaningful distinction between the association Mongol Nation and the enterprise of the Mongols Gang," which is good news for all motorcycle clubs.

The prosecution, and subsequent persecution, of

the club as a whole was designed to bankrupt the Mongols with mounting legal fees, but money has been raised by both the Mongols club and through the "Save the Patch" effort launched by the COCs and NCOM, and the Trademark Defense Fund I will continue to accept donations until the enormous debt is retired or if needed for a governmental appeal.

CONGRESSIONAL MEASURE ADDRESSES MOTORCYCLIST SAFETY

A Congressional sub-committee has approved two motorcycle safety measures for inclusion in the federal highway bill; one to de-fund motorcycle-only checkpoints, and another to prohibit the DOT from lobbying on any pending legislation.

On September 10, the Subcommittee on Research and Technology of the U.S. House Science, Space and Technology Committee passed the two amendments to the "Surface Transportation Research and Development Act of 2015" to be incorporated in the House version of the surface transportation authorization bill.

Amendment No. 036 directs a study to be conducted to determine the most effective methods of preventing motorcycle crashes, and further bars federal funding to states to conduct motorcycle-only checkpoints until the research is completed.

Amendment No. 037 prohibits the Department of Transportation from lobbying on any pending federal, state or local legislation. The current "NHTSA Lobby Ban" only prevents the federal DOT from lobbying at the state level.

The U.S. Senate's version of the highway funding bill already contains language to prohibit federal funding of motorcycle-only checkpoints.

NTSB CALLS FOR COLLISION AVOIDANCE SYSTEMS FOR ALL VEHICLES

In a report released June 8, the National Transportation Safety Board outlined the life-saving benefits of currently available collision avoidance systems, and recommends that the technology become standard on all new passenger and commercial vehicles.

"You don't pay extra for your seatbelt," said Chairman Christopher A. Hart. "And you shouldn't have to pay extra for technology that can help prevent a collision

altogether.”

NTSB’s Special Investigation Report, “The Use of Forward Collision Avoidance Systems to Prevent and Mitigate Rear-End Crashes,” stresses that collision avoidance systems can prevent or lessen the severity of rear-end crashes, thus saving lives and reducing injuries.

According to statistics from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), rear-end crashes kill about 1,700 people every year and injure half a million more. More than 80% of these deaths and injuries might have been mitigated had the vehicles been equipped with a collision avoidance system.

Citing slow progress as a major safety issue, the report notes that a lack of incentives and limited public awareness has stunted the wide adoption of collision avoidance technology.

Only 4 out of 684 passenger vehicle models in 2014 included a complete forward collision avoidance system as a standard feature. In the report, the NTSB recommends that manufacturers make collision avoidance systems standard equipment in newly manufactured vehicles.

MISSOURI MOUNTED PLATES

In a measure signed into law on July 13 by Missouri Governor Jay Nixon, SB254 modifies provisions relating to motor vehicle license plates, allowing trailer and motorcycle license plates to be mounted horizontally or vertically on the left rear of the motor vehicle.

NEW YORK ADVENTURE LICENSE PLATES

The New York State DMV has unveiled the 9 new “I LOVE NY Adventure Custom Plates” designed especially for motorcycles. There are three themes (hunting, fishing, and parks) for a total of nine new designs that are available to anyone holding a valid Department of Environmental Conservation sporting license or Parks Empire Passport.

The NY DMV also offers custom motorcycle plates for military and veterans, police organizations, medical doctors, the AMA and HOG. Historical and vintage motorcycle plates are also available.

PAINTED MESSAGES AT ACCIDENT SCENES TO SPARK AWARENESS

Coroners in six counties in North Carolina will soon use a stencil to spray paint on the road a cross and message that says; “Look Twice Save A Life” at the scene of all deadly motorcycle accidents.

Anderson County Deputy Coroner Don McCown said he hopes this warning message prominently displayed at fatal accident sites will increase awareness and decrease the number of accidents involving motorcycles.

“We’re hoping it will remind the public that someone died at this location, and more than likely they died of distracted driving or someone not being aware of their surroundings,” explained McCown, adding that the number one reason given for most deadly motorcycle accidents is that the driver never saw the rider. “There are a lot of motorcycle riders out this time of year and we have to share the road.”

ALLSTATE DONATES WARNING SIGNS AT DANGEROUS INTERSECTIONS

Allstate insurance company and its engineering partners are working closely with local traffic authorities to review available crash data and to identify intersections with a high number of multi-vehicle crashes involving motorcycles. Allstate then donates warning signs to be installed at the site with the intent of elevating awareness of motorcycle incidents that would not be readily apparent to a driver.

The warning signs used in the campaign are yellow diamond warning signs that read “Watch For Motorcycles.” Allstate worked in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration to design the current sign to ensure compliance with section 2A.06 paragraph 13 of the M.U.T.C.D.

The NHTSA (National Highway Safety Administration), in their Fatality Analysis Reporting System, supports the Hurt Report’s findings, showing 46% of all multi-vehicle motorcycle crash fatalities (8,107 out of 17,470 fatalities from 2006-2012) occurred at intersections. This data shows that, on average, three motorcyclists are killed every day from multi-vehicle crashes at intersections in the US.

MOTORCYCLE HELMET CAMERAS “ILLEGAL” DOWN UNDER

A motorcycle rider “down under” unsuccessfully challenged a citation for using a camera attached to his

Continued on next page →

helmet, setting an important legal precedent for riders in the Australian state of Victoria.

Victorian police cited a technicality within the rules to argue the camera was an “unauthorised alteration” to an otherwise Australian Standards-approved helmet. Items that protrude more than 5mm from the helmet surface are deemed illegal attachments, the police argue, and therefore render the helmet non-compliant with the Australian Standards.

In other words, as far as Victoria Police were concerned, it’s as if the rider wasn’t wearing an Australian Standards-approved helmet at all. In all Australian states and territories, motorcycle riders must wear a helmet approved by Australian Standards while riding.

As a landmark ruling by a Victorian court, the decision effectively bans motorcycle riders in that state from wearing helmets with cameras attached, but meanwhile police in other states enforce the laws much differently.

So while riders in Victoria are now fair game and have even reportedly been fined for attaching tinted visors to their helmets, and New South Wales police have already been targeting riders for wearing cameras, police in Western Australia and Queensland wear helmet cameras themselves -- the very act that has seen motorcyclists fined in NSW and, now, Victoria.

“Riders tell us they wear helmet cameras to improve their safety while on the roads and that drivers and other road users show more care when there is a camera in use,” said the rider’s lawyer, who is considering an appeal. “Riders should not be penalized for trying to improve the safety of their riding,” he said, adding that cameras are also ideal for capturing evidence during a collision.

CIVIL FORFEITURE LAWS LEGALIZE PROPERTY SEIZURES

The recent attempt by the government to seize the patches of motorcycle clubs has focused attention in the motorcycle world on civil forfeiture laws. What started off as a measure to cripple drug kingpins and crush their criminal empires by confiscation of their property has morphed into an often abused law enforcement tactic that harms blameless citizens.

“Civil forfeiture” is the legal procedure which allows

police to seize property suspected of being related to a crime, and in testimony given before a citizen commission, one police chief was surprisingly frank in referring to assets seized as “pennies from heaven,” and said the money acquired was sometimes used to buy “toys” that the department could not usually afford.

Under state and federal law, police departments can seize and keep property that is suspected of involvement in criminal activity. Unlike criminal asset forfeiture, however, with civil forfeiture, a property owner need not be found guilty of a crime -- or even charged -- to permanently lose their cash, car, home, or other personal property merely on suspicion that a crime might have been committed.

No hearing is held prior to seizure, which occurs abruptly without any notice or warning whatsoever. Although civil forfeiture doesn’t draw criminal charges against the owner, it does deprive him of his property without due process based solely on an officer’s “reasonable suspicion,” and a portion of the assets seized typically is retained by the police departments who seized the property in the first place.

In 2012, \$4.5 billion was acquired via civil forfeitures in tens of thousands of instances nationwide, and in most cases the value of the assets seized was less than what it would cost to hire an attorney to go to court to win it back.

Asset forfeitures have been abused by many police departments, but like the Mongols MC and other motorcycle clubs, citizens are starting to fight back. Americans from all sides of the political spectrum have started to expose the dangers of civil forfeiture, and members of Congress from both sides of the aisle have introduced legislation to reform the federal civil forfeiture laws. Reforms of state laws have also been called for.

QUOTABLE QUOTE: “If you do not take an interest in the affairs of your government, then you are doomed to live under the rule of fools.”

~ Plato (428-347 BC) Greek philosopher, student of Socrates and teacher of Aristotle



ATTENTION ALL ABATE SE CHAPTER MEMBERS

Due to the large expense incurred mailing our monthly Newsletter, effective January 1, 2014, the Newsletter will no longer be mailed to your home address. **REMEMBER:** The ABATE SE Newsletter is free on-line at Chapter's website: www.abatese.org. You may also pick up a copy of the Newsletter at any of our 28 distribution sites located in Miami-Dade and Broward Counties, or at the monthly Chapter meeting held on the third Sunday of the month at American Legion Post #321 – Cooper City, 9081 SW 51st Street. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the SE Chapter President.



Membership Application

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RIDING IN GROUPS

It's riding season and whether you are riding with ABATE or a group of friends you need to know the basic hand signals. Here they are. Learn them.

Stop - arm extended straight down, palm facing back



Single File - arm and index finger extended, all straight up



Turn Signal On - open and close hand with fingers and thumb extended



Speed Up - arm extended straight out, palm facing up



Hazard or Standby - on the right, point with right foot, on the left, point with left hand



Refrainment Stop - fingers closed, thumb to mouth



Yes/Good/Close - arm extended upward 45 degrees, palm toward ground, all fingers together, moving to one down back to level



Highbeam - tip on top of helmet with open palm down



Conflict Stop - arm extended, fist clenched with short up and down motion



Hillow Me - arm extended straight up from shoulder, palm forward




Pull Off - arm positioned as for right turn, forearm swing toward shoulder



Please advise the Editor by email (news@abatese.us) when your item is sold. Thank you.

Classifieds for Members are run at "No Charge". Non-Member classifieds are only \$5.00. Please be respectful, space is limited to 6 months due to new items that come in. If you do not contact the Editor once your 6 month period is up, you will be removed without notification. Call any Board Member to place a classified ad. See page 3 for phone numbers.



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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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ABATE Southeast Chapter's Website

<http://abatese.org/>

UPCOMING SE CHAPTER MEETINGS

October 18, 2015 - Sunday 10 am

November 15, 2015 - Sunday 10 am

at:

American Legion Post #321 - Cooper City

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