



ABATE of Florida, Inc - Southeast Chapter

2014-2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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954- 245-1714	Sharon "Princess" events@abatese.us		Publication, Please contact r 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 Prezident



On October 18th The States MC Florida held their Annual Rotten Ralph Memorial Service. Rotten Ralph was a probate for them when they were called The States Cycle Club which was over twenty years ago. He was killed in a motorcycle accident before he could be patched in and so was patched posthumously. Every year they honor him and all the brothers who have passed away. In his memory they build a coffin. They fill it with old or faded colors and American flags. They then light it on fire and set off fireworks. There was a service by the Saints Ministry MC. As always the pool table in the clubhouse

was covered in food cooked by the members. It was another great party for Ralph and all the brothers who have passed away.

From October 20th through November 2nd I was working the early voting for the November 4th elections so I had to miss out on two parties. The first was on October 24th which was our ABATE Southeast Chapter birthday party at the American Legion in Cooper City that was well attended from what I heard. Then on October 25th the Wheels of Man MC held their 41st Annual Halloween Party at their clubhouse in Deerfield Beach. I heard they had a spooky house set up in the walkway between the two warehouses. Unfortunately I don't have a whole lot to say about either party, but next year I plan to go to both of them.

Saturday the 8th of November the US Military Vets MC Florida #1 Chapter held their Annual at Mickey's Bar, back at the Tiki Hut. As always it was packed with plenty of Military Vet chapters from all over Florida. There were bikes parked all over the place and it was a good showing for them. The music was by Mighty Quinn, a band I had not heard before, but I am sure I will see them again. Hooks was calling out the numbers for the door prizes and was having a fun time doing it. The winning number for the shotgun that they raffled off was 111, a very low number, since our own Shakie Bob from Southeast Chapter had 444. After we left the Military Vets party we stopped at the Scurvy Few MC Clubhouse for their monthly birthday party. When we got there and parked, there was the best full moon that I have seen in a long time. Go figure it would be at their house.

On Saturday November 15th Gina from Candy's Cycle held her Epic Customer Appreciation Party at the Sports Barn in Davie. It started at noon and went well into the night. I know because when I left after 8PM it was still going on. There was music all day and night starting with Light Em Up and ending with Soulicide. In between there were 3, sexy little ladies, pudding wrestling. It was a site to see. Glenn from Candy's was calling out the door prize numbers. If you wanted to get your bike washed there were lovely young ladies in bikinis to make sure your bike was as clean as could be. There was a side car with all sorts of liquor to be raffled off and you even won the sidecar. Southeast Chapter's own Jimmy Les had the winning ticket. Congrats Jimmy. It was great to see all the the clubs and independents who showed up to make it a great party. Later that night the Southeast Chapter of ABATE held our monthly birthday party at Flossie's. From what I heard the party was a great one and the music was awesome as always. Unfortunately, I did not attend

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.

Pick up your Newsletters here!

Florida Spine Specialists Tin Cup Sports Bar & Grill 84 Diner Broward Motor Sports Peterson's HD South All American Cycle Big Dawgs American Legion 321 Keltics MC Tobacco Source Sports Barn Top Gun Cycle Wheels of Man MC Chester's HD Sunrise Peterson's HD North Heaven Cycles DP's on Beach On The Road Again CycleLab Scurvy Few MC Candy's Cycle Shop Biker's Inc. Cagney's States MC Shank's Town Tavern Big Twin Cycles Flossie's J.P. Mulligans



www.abatese.org

- REMINDER - Membership Due For December 2014 -

Bob "Spongebob" Anz Emmanuel "Mannster" Ayala Jr Timothy Jeschke Shawn "Ogre" Cannell David "Dave" Castle Katherine "Kate" Coluccio Richard "Donkey" Donk Bryan "B" Fugett Craig "Happy Gilmore" Glassman Kevin "Goff" Goff

James Jeffrey Jean Guy Leathead LaVae Newman Joe "Gator" Parker Geri Sciple **Tony Sciple** Brad Smith Fred Sutton III Jody D "Wild Child" Swett Clive "Dominator" Taylor Augusto "Alphabet" Villacaz



Welcome New Members



Membership Due

Thanks if you have already renewed

January 2014

Mitchell Abrams Thomas "Pizza-Chit" Albarano Bill "Squeaky" Ball H Marie Baxter Vito Bellezza Susan "Princezz" Bibber Alan J Boucher Chas "Chasman" Brandau Craig Burns Kathy "Kate" Colfax Ronald Cormier Dave "Pacer" Dayhoff Farzam "Sniper" Ebadypour Larry Fay Brett Gerber Donna Gregory David M "Gimpy" Gregory Bruce "Wrench" Henriques Richard O "Ziggy" Kaiser Dave "Woody" Lippincott Marty "Kraut" Lux James Robb "Shaymus" Mac Anespie James "Beacon" McConnell Jeff "Buzz" Mendham Gary Mishaly Rick "Big Papa" Morales Etanislao Onorato Michael Parmenter Vincent "Cradle Robber" Penna Delora "Goddess of Trouble" Petress Ray "Rainman" Purcell Dusty Rhodes Dale Rubin Jean "Sparrow" Rugg Bill "Can Do" Rugg Jr Claudio Sordelli Justin "Reverend" Stuckart Uli Fesseler von Stargard Gordon Woodard Douglas "Woody" Woudhuizer

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 \$525.00 to ABATE SE Chapter.

<u>Platinum Sponsors:</u> Suzanne Keen Bars & Alice Shakey Bob & Princes Sharon Frank T. Leo "Doc" Hinkley



Bronze Sponsor(s):

Dean Cocchi

HARLEY DAVIDSON T-SHIRTS (Men's) size Large. New & gently worn. Misc. items-belts, boots, helmets, bike cover, etc. All low prices. Call Mary at: 954-452-8960



For Membership Renewals contact, George Torrence by either email: membership@abatese.us or by phone: 954-385-2837

* 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 Nov 16, 2014

President BARS called the meeting to order at 10:12 am. There were 38 members and no guests signed in. Total sign in: 38. The meeting started following the Pledge of Allegiance, a Moment of Silence and a prayer by Poppie.

Presidents Report

President BARS thanked all members for coming and thanks to the great show of support from our members and our brother MC's and Associations with representation today from the American Legion Riders Post 321, Post 180, Post 142, American Freedom Riders Post 36. VVA23. Widows and Sons and Keltics MC. The December issue of the Masterlink will be the last one printed and mailed to the membership. Citing costs, the state has decided not to mail it out. Their new policy will be looked at next year to see if it is feasible to mail. Right now it is not cost effective. It will be available on line and a number will be printed to be available at the state meetings. We have drawing tickets for the 2014 Toy Run Motorcycle and trailer grand prize. And also have drawing tickets for ABATES Bike Week Cash drawing. Total prize is 10,000.00 with 1st prize receiving 7,000.00, 3,000.00 for 2nd and 1.000.00 for 3rd

Vice-Presidents Report

Poppie reported it was an honor to give the invocation at the Veterans Day Memorial Service held by the Town of Davie. Jimmy Les coordinated the 21 gun salute with help from our members who are veterans, US Military Vets MC and Post 321.

Secretary's Report

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the October meeting as printed in the newsletter with the following corrections. Under Presidents report ABATE's bike week drawing first prize was incorrectly listed at 10,000.00. Correction reads: Total cash prize is 10,000.00 with 1st prize receiving 7,000.00, 2nd place 3,000.00 and 1.000.00 for 3rd. Motion seconded, all in favor motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Frank was excused. Paul presented the financial report to the membership. A motion was made and seconded to accept the financial report for October all in favor motion passed.

Sergeant at Arms Report

Steve conveyed belated Happy Veterans Day to our members who have served. The VA is being restructured. Make sure you go to the VA and double check to make sure your records are still there and up to date. You can also go to: myhealth.va.gov to enroll and access the myhealthevet web-site. You can order your meds, verify appointments etc. Also the is a brand new VA Clinic located at 9800 W Commercial Blvd Sunrise.

Road Captain's Report

information.

Postal wanted to thank Jimmy Les for all his hard work coordinating the Veterans Day Memorial event. Weather is finally real nice. If you have any suggestions on where to go for a group ride, please let Postal or any board member know and we will coordinate the ride. The Toy Run is on December 7th. We will meet at 84 diner, Kick Stands Up at 830am sharp. So come early if you want to have breakfast before we leave. And by the way Jimmy Les won the Grand Prize at Candies Cycle party. A sidecar valued at \$5,000.00 filled with \$1000.00 of liquor. His address is: Ops he is not saying. Congratulations Jimmy. Always check the hotline for weekly updates and if there have been any additions or changes made between meetings, this is where you will find the

Safety Directors Report

Gambler reported the weather is now great for riding. Before you go out, check your ride. Go to www.msfusa.org under motorcycle safety tips for complete explanation but here are just a few of the main items: <u>T-CLOCS</u> Inspection list. Tires, Controls, Lights, Oil, Chassis Stands. You do not want your day ruined if something happens which could have been avoided with an equipment check. A special thanks to Suzanne for or her help at the Veterans Day Memorial event. Gambler now has another class under his belt. He taught our safety program to a class of new truck drivers. Thanks again to Jimmy Les for his assistance in being able to have Gambler give our program at the Miami Lakes Educational Center where Jimmy teaches.

Products Report

Joel reported we now can get jean jackets and jean vests. If you need anything please contact them. Their contact information is printed in the newsletter.

Events Coordinator

Shaky was excused. BARS reported our next event will be our semi-annual to be held on Jan. 18, 2015. Location to be announced. We received our dates for 2015 from the South Florida Presidents Council they are; Semi-Annual on Jan. 18, 2015, Memorial Day Event on May 24, 2015 and our 35th Annual on Oct. 22, 2015. Please keep in mind the support we receive from the SFPC. We are the ONLY organization with 3 event dates on the calendar. They SUPPORT US, WE SUPPORT THEM.

State Reps Report

There was no state meeting. Next state meeting will be on 12-13-14 hosted by Treasurer Coast Chapter in Vero Beach.

Membership Trustee

George reported we have 585 members on the rolls and new Life Member cards were received for: Ervin Nissen, Barry Katcher, Matt Popolick, Angela Santiago and Thomas Sharkey. Congradulations to our newest Life Members. Their cards will be mailed certified to them. Jimmy Les will take care of the Life Card for Thomas Sharkey personally.

PLEASE take the time to fill out completely, and do it in a way that we can read it. Also all checks must be filled out completely.

Newsletter Editor

Cesar reported just a reminder to all trustees. all reports and pictures are due today with the exception of the Presidents report and the minutes of the meeting provided by our chapter secretary. Over 400 pictures were sent in to him. Many thanks to all. Not all of them will be printed, but he now has a multitude to choose from, but keep them coming. He was questioned on how come a members birthday was not listed in the newsletter. Cesar does not have the list. It is sent to him. If you want your birthday recognized. please e-mail our social director Jimmy Les at: social director@abatese.us This month's newsletter was on line on 10-31-14 and is always available on line at www.abatese.org. If you want a printed copy, pick one up right here at the monthly meeting or at any of the establishments we deliver to. They are listed in the newsletter. All correspondence can be sent to him at the following Email address: news@abatese.us

Legislative Report

Brad reported on the Red Light camera issues which were recently addressed by the Florida Supreme Court. Basically if you get a ticket, it is probably valid. However please contact Demetrious Kirkiles or Chris Sharpe, they specialize on this. New legislative session begins on 3/3/15. We have not received information on any bills which affect us. We will keep you posted.

Public Relations

Fern was excused. She has done a great job with the hotline and is always out and about supporting ABATE.

Billing and Invoicing

Pixie reported all billing is up to date. We are running a month in advance. Thank you Pixie.

Social Directors Report

Jimmy Les reported Decembers birthday party will be right here at the Legion right after the monthly meeting.

Newsletter Distribution

Charlie thanked all our members who deliver the newsletter for all their hard work . Hats off to all and to Cesar, the newsletter was done and posted online by the first of the month and looks great.

Quartermaster's Report

Bob reported there was nothing to report at this time.

He requested the board check with the SFPC in allowing Bob to bring his small motor home to the Toy Run to provide for our needs. BARS will check and advise.

Photographer's Report

Rogue reported he has been getting pictures. Many thanks to all. He has more pictures which he will upload this week.

Web-Master's Report

Rogue reported the web is up and running.

Legal Council

Brad reported he had nothing to report.

Old Business

None

New Business

Gambler reported since the state is either low or totally out of safety items for giveaways, he requested the chapter look into purchasing our own. BARS will check at the next state meeting to find out what the states outlook and position is and Gambler will check on the cost to purchase the items ourselves. Safety items are to be provided by the state office. We should not have to pay for them.

Good of the Order

On 11/22/14, Post 321 is having a special Thanksgiving for 75 families of returning troops. Thanksgiving baskets will be given to them in appreciation for their service. Donations of canned goods and food items are still being accepted. Stop by and show your gratitude and say thank you. Gambler reported if you need any information or help with your VA benefits, Post 321 has a Service Officer who can help. His name is Alan Cohen. Contact Post 321 for his contact information.

The Toys in the Sun Run will be on Dec. 7, 2015. Our own Jimmy Les will be onstage with the poem he wrote dedicated to our Veterans. A 21 gun salute and The Flag will be there just as it was at the Davie Veterans Day Memorial. Donations of 120.00 were collected from those who wanted their picture taken in front of the flag. Those proceeds were given to the chapter.

A very Special Thank You to Jimmy Les and all of our members who help him in erecting the frame every time it is needed. Please bring an unwrapped toy that does not require a battery. If the family cannot afford the toy, how can they afford the batteries. Due to child allergies etc, please do not bring a stuffed animal. However, we all like stuffed animals, so in addition to an unwrapped toy, if you see a stuffed animal which you fall in love with and want to donate, please contact Jimmy Les. Stuffed animals have a tremendous positive effect on a veteran who suffers from dementia or Alzheimer's. Elder care, dementia, Alzheimer's disease will have an effect on us at one time or another. More than likely with one of our family members. The Sandy Ninniger Nursing home welcomes any donations of stuffed animals. These veterans have watched our back, now it is our time to watch theirs.

On Dec. 21 201 5, after our monthly meeting we will have a combination of parties, our monthly birthday party and our Christmas party. If you want to bring a covered dish you may, but it is not required. Food, birthday cake and refreshments will be served on behalf of your Board of Directors. So please come out and enjoy with your brothers and sisters.

Upcoming Events

11/22/14 - Post 321 Thanksgiving to our returning deployed troops. Starts at 300pm 11/22/14 - Scurvy Few MC Stateside Chapter Pirates Bazaar

11/22/14 - Los Coqui MC Salsa Night

11/22/14 - Wheels of Man MC Benefit for their member Cracker who was involved in an accident.

Oh boy. 11/22/14 will be a long day

112/7/14 - Toys in the Sun Run - Meeting at 84 diner with KSU at 830am sharp. No stuffed animals, no toys requiring battery's.

See Good of the Order for stuffed animal donations.

12/14/14 - Toys for Tots in West Palm Beach 12/21/14 - Calvary Chapel event to be held at the States MC clubhouse.

Please check the hotline for updates and any changes. 954-310-4626 All Southeast Chapter Group Rides start at our

All Southeast Chapter Group Rides start at our American Legion Post 321 unless otherwise advised.

A motion was made to adjourn, seconded, all in favor. Meeting adjourned 11:12 am

Continued on next page ------>

ABATE of Florida, Inc - Southeast Chapter

...Minutes continued from page 10

These minutes were summarized and submitted by:

Paul A. Melcer Secretary





...President's Message continued from page 4

even though it was my birthday. I just stayed too late at Gina's party.

On behalf of myself and the rest of the board and all the members of the Southeast Chapter of ABATE we want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Remember,

HERE TODAY GONE TODAY





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* NEW

LOCATION



The November Birthday Party at Flossie's!

ABATE Southeast Chapter Sponsorship Program

The Chapter's Executive Board have asked many times for suggestions from our members on how to raise money to support our Chapter and also to recognize those Brothers and Sisters, who provide extra monetary resources to support and promote the S.E. Chapter's mission, and this is a suggestion worth implementing. Therefore the ABATE S.E. Chapter will establish <u>ABATE SE Chapter Sponsorship Program</u>. This will provide those that are able to provide a donation to the Chapter and to have name recognition in our Monthly Newsletter and on the ABATE Website for one year. The categories for Sponsorship are: Platinum Donor \$125+; Diamond Donor \$100+; Gold Donor \$75+; Silver Donor \$50+; and, Bronze Donor \$25+.

As of April 2013's Official State Membership Report, the S.E. Chapter is comprised of 632 members of which, 42% are Lifetime Members and 58% Annual Members. I am a Lifetime Member and when I joined I thought that a bulk of the \$150.00 fee would go to support the Chapter. In reality, only \$50 of that fee goes to the Chapter and the remaining \$100 goes to Florida State Abate, and our Annual Members pay a \$20 fee, the Chapter only receives \$10 with the State collecting the remainder. Therefore after five years, the Chapter's Lifetime Members no longer financially support the Chapter with any sort of annual dues payment. If you have been a Lifetime Member for over five years, you do not provide any financial support to the Chapter unless you: buy ABATE Chapter products; pay to attend Chapter events; post an ad in our Newsletter; or make a monetary donation. It is very financially difficult to support 632 members when 42% of the memberships, after five years, have no obligation to do so. Some state ABATE's, California for example, charge a onetime lifetime membership fee (\$450) and then each year afterwards "in order to maintain your lifetime status and benefits", must pay \$50 per year sustaining fee. Florida ABATE does not do that, yet.

This is an opportunity for all SE ABATE Brothers and Sisters to become ABATE SE Chapter Sponsors.

I want to Sponsor ABATE S.E. Chapter with the following Donation (not tax deductible): Check One:

14	ABATE of Florida, Inc - Southeast Chapter
ABATE S.E. Chap	ponsorship Form and make checks payable to: ter, P.O. Box 292693, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33329-2693. ank you in advance for your support!
[] Bronze Donor \$25+	State, Zip:
[] Silver Donor \$50+	City:
[] Gold Donor \$75+	Address:
[] Diamond Donor \$100+	Name:
[] Platinum Donor \$125+	



Vice-**President**



Finally we got some really great weather for riding, we all should enjoy it now, it usually doesn't last as long as we would like.

I've been riding some, not as much as I used to. Maybe I'm getting older, and slower, can't see as good as I used to at night, aches and pain, all probably more excuses than reasons, but trying to get out more.

Abate SE had the honor of participating in the city of Davie's Salute to Veterans at Veteran Park in Davie. It went very well.

Jimmy Les (ABATE SE) got credit for organizing our part in the ceremony, the Big Flag was erected, and lots of pictures were taken. I was honored to do the opening Invocation. The Twenty One Gun Salute, "Gunner" Military Vets MC, did the cadence. "Bandit", also Military Vets MC, "Gambler" Legion Riders, "Joel" Abate SE, "Jimmy Les" Abate SE, a couple of others all manned rifles, sorry I don't know all their names. All that participated are Abate SE chapter members. This was Great PR for us. Thanks goes out to all who took part in it.

I wish all a Merry Christmas and Happy and Blessed New Year.

Your V.P. Poppie











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ABATE of Florida, Inc - Southeast Chapter

















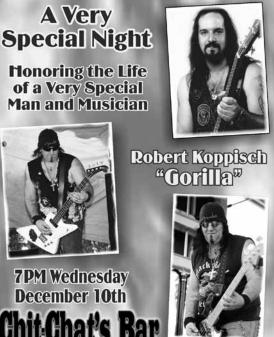
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(Meeting Place for SE ABATE)





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www.abatese.org

2014	December 2014				2014	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Chit Chat's Bike Night	Cafe' 27 4 Bike Nite States MC Pompano Dinner	5	6
7	8	9	10 Chit Chat's Bike Night	Cafe' 27 11 Bike Nite States MC Pompano Dinner	12	13
14	15	16	17 Chit Chat's Bike Night	Cafe' 27 18 Bike Nite States MC Pompano Dinner	19	20
Chapter Meeting	22	23	24 Chit Chat's Bike Night	Cafe' 27 25 Bike Nite States MC Pompano Dinner	26	27
28	29	30	31 Chit Chat's Bike Night			
			-	liner with KS	SU at 830am	sharp.
		•		fter chapter he States M	•	

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

2015 January 2015					2015	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Cafe' 27 Bike Nite States MC Pompano Dinner	2	3
4 States MC - Blessing of the Bikes	5	6	7 Chit Chat's Bike Night	8 Cafe' 27 Bike Nite States MC Pompano Dinner	9	10
11 Chapter Meeting	12	13	14 Chit Chat's Bike Night	15 Cafe' 27 Bike Nite States MC Pompano Dinner	16	17
18 ABATE Motorcyclists Rights Rally	19	20	21 Chit Chat's Bike Night	22 _{Cafe} ' 27 Bike Nite States MC Pompano Dinner	23	24
²⁵ Der Krieger Annual Blowout	26	27	28 Chit Chat's Bike Night	29 _{Cafe' 27} Bike Nite States MC Pompano Dinner	30	31
Additional Info: 01/31/2015 - Dania Beach Vintage Motorcycle Show						
Always Check the Hotline for more additinal information: 954-310-4636 Sometimes "Events" get missed or don't get listed in time for the Calendar.						



Spot the Difference

At first glance, these pictures look identical, but they are not. Can you spot the 6 differences? See page 39 for answers.





ABATE of Florida, Inc - Southeast Chapter

Road Captain's report

This is Postal, aiming to educate and motivate.

Happy Holidays to all, I am very grateful for my family and friends.

Candy's Cycle had their first costumer appreciation day it was awesome live music, dancers, pudding, wrestling and they raffled off a 5000.00 dollar side car full of booze, yes booze which was won by one of our own, Jimmy Less, he really deserves it for all the effort time and money he puts out supporting the veterans, the biking community, and much more.

The Toy Run is just around the corner. Hope to see you out there. It's a great day for the kids and the community; don't forget to bring a toy.

Enjoy the Holiday's and be safe. Remember Friday night is club night support your local MC's they support us also don't forget Thursday's dinner at States MC starting at 6:30.

As always, until next time, Ride safe and keep the shiny side up.

Postal

PS. Thank you Rogue for the picture my mom loves it.





ABATE of Florida, Inc., Southeast Chapter www.abatese.org American Bikers Aiming Toward Education

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December Birthdays

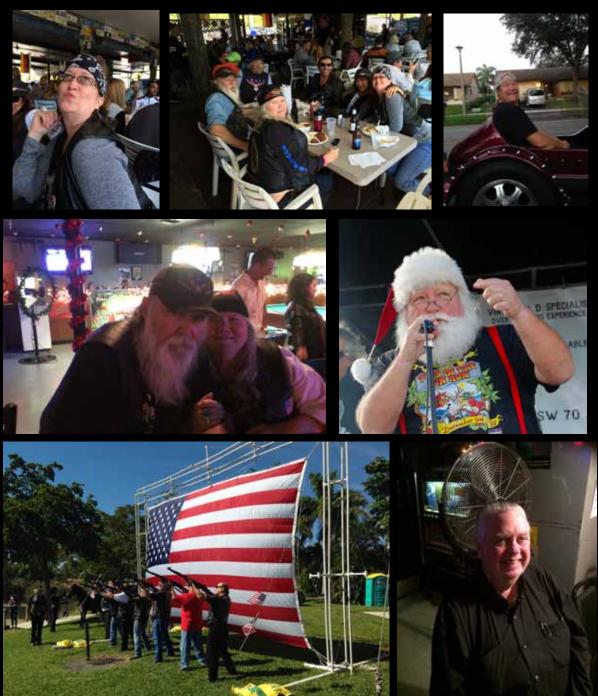
Robert Torrance "Sneak 65" Gina KMC Luis Alvarez "Bigote" Alice Calabrese Lee Ann Lewis "Wildcat" Bunny Mione "Bunx" Kevin Hughes "Shepherd" Roy Roden Donna Chomiak Richard Andres "Tree" Rich Hernandez "Stead" George Bograkos "Geo" Guy Knaak "Ontos" Mark Hudson "Huddy" Ray Purcell "Rainman" Joyce Konczynski "Blondie" Patrick Behan Joseph Podojack "Sportster" James Sears "Jimbo" Steve Lucas "Dead Dog" Jody Ray Dick Burns

Joe Marshall "Biker Joe" James McAnespie "Shameless" Hyacinth Stewart David Castle Jose Rivera Jr. Stu McLees Sandy Saunders Paul Davis Shirley Haley

12/21/14 - ABATE SE Chapter Birthday Party at A. L. right after ABATE Meeting.



This Page is Sponsored by Princess Sharon









Merry Christmas

I'd like to start by wishing my brothers and sisters Merry Christmas, or Happy Holidays, which ever you prefer. Personally I prefer Merry Christmas. The reason I do is the season for the Celebration, is to celebrate the birthday of Gods only Son Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Through His birthday, we as believers, also got a new birthday, we received the opportunity to be born again, in Christ Jesus, by accepting Him as our Lord and Savior.

Let me explain. Our natural birthdays are numbered, some of us get to celebrate more than others, and when these birthdays stop our life is over. The life you started with your first natural birth will end.

The good news is that when God sent His only begotten Son to be born, live, and die for our sins, and I mean all of our sins, we start a new life, we get a new birthday. Now this birthday will not be numbered, because you start living an eternal life with Christ, and numbers don't matter in eternity.

Life expectancy is about 80 years eternity is forever, which would you rather have? Now the way I look at the Christmas Season, it's probably the most happy and joyful and important celebration we can celebrate. We all have the opportunity to get that new eternal birthday by accepting the fact that Jesus Christ was born, died, and rose from the dead, for our sins, so that we can have that Birthday that is offered through faith that Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior.

So know we must make sure we keep Christ in Christmas, because we are not only celebrating the birthday of Jesus Christ, we are celebrating what Father God offered to each and every one of us "Eternal Life".

In closing May God Bless all of us in the mighty name of Jesus Christ.

As always

Your Chaplin, Poppie







From Your Safety Director





FROM YOUR SAFETY DIRECTOR

How many times have you said to people "I'm an ABATE member"? And how do they respond? Oh! you are the organization that got rid of the helmet law in Florida. How do you respond to that? Do you even know what else ABATE has done or been a part of in the past 30 years? Like most people the answer is no, or you can only name a couple of issues. Well let me refresh your memory and give you some ammunition so you can give a good informative response. Any time you see the word we, it means ABATE.

- July 1, 2000, we had the Helmet law repealed. (NO BRAINER)
- We've are the 4th largest State Motorcycle Rights Organization in the country.
- We got the handlebar heights law modified.
- We successfully fought a bill that would forbid our children from riding on our bikes.

• We successfully fought a bill that would confiscate motorcycles for going 30 MPH over the speed limit.

• We developed an effective Motor Cycle Awareness Program (MSAP) that has raised motorist's perception and awareness of motorcycles.

- We successfully fought a bill against vertical tags that had over \$1,100 in fines for the first offense.
- Supported and fought for a texting-while- driving ban for the last few years.
- We publish monthly press releases and/or articles in many online and print publications.
- The President of ABATE of Florida, Inc. sits on the Board of Directors of the National Collation of Motorcycles (NCOM).

You can get the entire list on our website along with other valuable information including other websites of interest. Until next time remember, don't gamble with your safety or the safety of others.

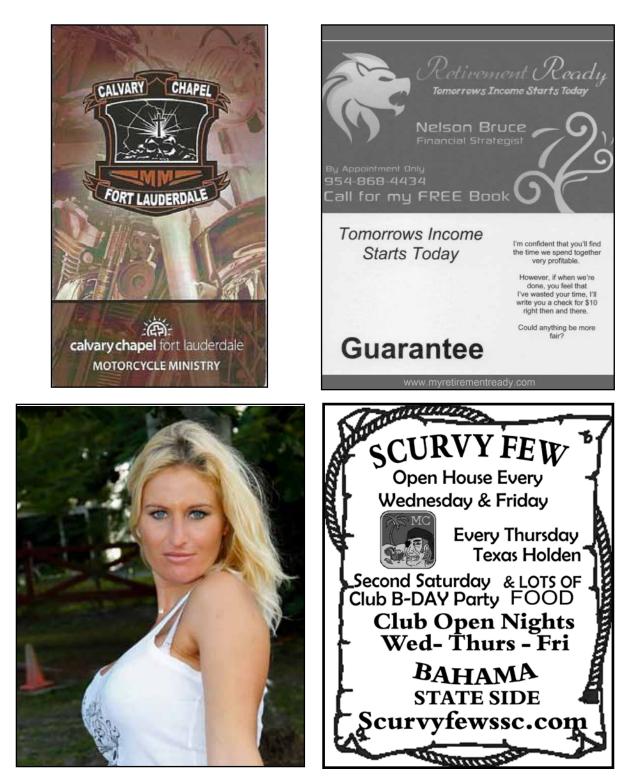
MARY CHRISTMAS TO ALL, AND TO ALL A GOODNIGHT

Gambler Safety Director

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Answers to Spot the Difference on page 27.

1- Bush is taller.

2- Ground spot light is missing.

3- There are duplicate fountains.

4- "Seal" is spelled wrong.

5- Man with bag has moved.6- Lady is wearing long pants..



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



MOTORCYCLISTS GAIN SOME RELIEF FROM CONGRESSIONAL HELMET LAW EFFORTS

Driven by discontent, disillusionment and distrust, American voters saw red in November's mid-term elections and whisked control of the Unites States Senate to the first Republican majority since 2006 and won additional seats in the Republican-led U.S. House of Representatives, as well as favoring the GOP in numerous statewide races and a majority of gubernatorial contests nationwide.

While most of the electorate is simply happy to see an end to a record \$4 billion in campaign ads appearing incessantly on television, radio and newspapers, and in in-boxes and mailboxes everywhere, motorcycle riders should be especially glad to have won at least a temporary respite from helmet law threats from Congress and in states where Republicans have remained or gained in governance.

As recently as this summer, the Obama Administration included a thinly-veiled attempt to impose a national helmet law through the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) surface transportation reauthorization proposal to Congress, but the measure was derailed by the Republican-controlled House. Three years ago, motorcyclists across America successfully opposed a proposed amendment to S.1449, the "Motor Vehicle and Highway Safety Improvement Act of 2011," that would have called for a National Mandatory Helmet Law for all motorcyclists.

Although federal agencies like the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) will undoubtedly continue to advance their pro-helmet law agendas, lacking a Democrat majority in either chamber will likely curb enthusiasm for helmet law mandates from Washington, for now.

PAY-TO-PLAY HELMET LAW PROPOSED IN NEW MEXICO

In a unique scheme to punish motorcyclists for exercising their right to ride without a helmet, a Discussion Draft of a Senate bill proposed for the 2015 52nd Legislature for the state of New Mexico would create a system of taxation for riders who opt not to wear a helmet. Specifically, "The department [Motor Vehicles Division] shall make available distinctive motorcycle validation stickers that signify that any person age eighteen or older who operates a motorcycle on which that sticker is affixed are not required by law to wear a safety helmet. The department shall issue validation sticker when a qualifying person pays the fee as provided for."

A standard validation sticker is just \$15 annually, but it would cost \$692 per year for the "distinctive motorcycle validating sticker" that allows the rider to go lidless...the additional tax revenue to be distributed as follows: \$541.60 to the trauma system fund, \$135.40 to the brain injury services fund, and \$15 as additionally provided by law. Otherwise, the rider and passengers must wear a helmet, even though New Mexico law currently does not require helmet use for those 18 and older.

"My concern is this will turn into a helmet law in New Mexico," said Annette Torrez, chairperson for the New Mexico Motorcycle Rights Organization (NMMRO) and a member of the National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM) board of directors, who reported on the effort at a recent NCOM Regional Meeting in Baltimore, Maryland. "We found out that a lobbyist in New Mexico asked a senator to draft the bill, and though it does not have a sponsor yet, we are currently researching who is behind it."

TEXAS SAYS NO POLARIS SLINGSHOTS

The Polaris Slingshot, a brand new three-wheeled sports-vehicle now just arriving at dealerships across the U.S., lacks componentry necessary to be considered "a car" and in most states you register it as a motorcycle; but the Texas DMV says "Whoa pardner, not so fast."

Though Polaris says they'd already received approval from the Lone Star State to sell their Slingshot there, according to a letter to Texas Polaris dealers posted on a Slingshot forum on November 4th they were notified by the Vehicle Titling and Registration Division of the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles that the DMV is taking the position that even if dealers are licensed to sell it as a motorcycle, owners of the Slingshot will not be able to register it because it is not street legal as far as Texas "motorcycles" are concerned. The conflict hinges on the wording used to define a motorcycle in Texas. The Texas Department of Public Safety Motorcycle Operator's Manual says threewheelers are defined by certain characteristics, one of them being "saddle seating," meaning "seating in

ABATE of Florida, Inc - Southeast Chapter

which the rider/passenger straddles the vehicle," but the Slingshot's seats sit side-by-side. Because it doesn't have a "saddle," the DMV ruling prohibits the Polaris Slingshot from being registered as a motorcycle, so they will not be sold in the state until this "VERY urgent matter" is resolved.

The Texas precedence has the potential to sway other states to define the Slingshot similarly, a scenario Polaris is surely hoping to avoid.

Polaris has fought hard for their not-car classification, and have used the fact that their vehicles are legally considered motorcycles to ease their passage through regulatory waters, but this gray area has led to some other unintended legal consequences, such as operator licensing, vehicle registration and applicable helmet requirements. Ultimately, it has everything to do with the way laws are written and how "motorcycle" is defined therein, which varies from state to state.

INDIANA SCOOTER RIDERS FACE NEW REGULA-TIONS

Indiana officials are warning motor scooter drivers that starting in January they'll need license plates on those bikes. Legislators have approved Indiana's first license requirements for scooters, and under the new law drivers of scooters with engines of 50 cubic centimeters or less will need to buy license plates and pass a Bureau of Motor Vehicles test involving road signals and signs. Operators of scooters with larger engines will be required to follow motorcycle requirements, including holding a valid motorcycle license or learner's permit.

Evansville police officials told a legislative committee that scooters had often been involved in accidents and used in crimes such as robberies, but that the owners couldn't be found because they lacked any registration.

The new law doesn't require insurance for drivers of the smaller scooters, and the registration will cost \$26.35, plus a \$10 excise tax.

Law sponsor Rep. Dave Wolkins (R-Winona Lake) said not requiring a driver's license for scooter operators was important because he felt it was necessary that those with drunken driving convictions still have a way to get to work.

MINIBIKE MANUFACTURER TO PAY RECORD \$4.3 MILLION FEDERAL FINE

Baja Inc. of Anderson, South Carolina, has agreed to pay a record \$4.3 million civil penalty to settle a complaint from federal regulators that it delayed reporting safety defects on its go-karts and minibikes, the Consumer Product Safety Commission has reported. The settlement resolves CPSC charges that the firm knowingly failed to report within 24 hours, as required by federal law, known defects and an unreasonable risk of serious injury involving 11 models of minibikes and go-carts sold nationwide from November 2004 through June 2010.

The defects in Baja's products, which consisted of fuel leaks and unintended acceleration, resulted in the recall in 2010 of 308,000 Baja Motorsports minibikes and go-karts, which is when Baja filed its Full Report with CPSC.

Although the company agreed to pay the fine, it did not admit any wrongdoing and said it was paying to "avoid the cost, distraction, delay and uncertainty" of continued proceedings.

Previously, the highest penalty the safety commission had issued was a \$4 million fine against Graco Children's Products in 2005 for failure to inform CPSC about dangers to children.

NEW ARMY RULES BAN BASKETBALL SHOES AND CLUB COLORS

U.S. Military installations worldwide require military members and employees to utilize a variety of safety equipment to ride motorcycles on base that is not required by laws outside their boundaries, but some new Army rules in Hawaii sound way off base. On Nov. 1, Military Police and leaders at all levels began enforcement of U.S. Army-Hawaii Policy Letter 11 on Motorcycle Safety, consisting of four major changes to the pre-existing policy, including changes to required safety equipment and prohibited equipment. "When operating a motorcycle on USARHAW installations, riders must wear a DOT approved helmet, protective eyewear, abrasion-resistant gloves, long pants (excluding PT pants), long sleeves, and leather/

canvass boots or sturdy over-the-ankle shoes," and such regs are typical of most military bases, but their new policy "prohibits riders from wearing high-top basketball shoes while riding."

Additionally, the new policy specifies the use of reflective gear at all times, and riders must wear either a fluorescent (brightly colored) and reflective vest, jacket or upper outer garment, or they must wear a motorcycle specific jacket with padding/armor.

But what's most concerning is "Prohibited Equipment" that is NOT allowed to be worn: "Riders on-post are not authorized to wear any garment that displays an

affiliation with a motorcycle club or other group that offers or solicits membership."

The new policy applies to all motorcycle operators on USARHAW installations. In addition, the policy applies to all 25th Infantry Division Soldiers, both on and off-post.

STUDY SHOWS LANE SPLITTING POSES NO AD-DITIONAL DANGERS

A series of new studies out of the University of California, Berkeley found that the practice of lane splitting poses no additional danger to motorcyclists. California is the only state that allows for the maneuver, which is the act of a motorcyclist passing slow or stalled traffic by riding in between cars along the lane lines.

Two yearlong studies were recently released by UC Berkeley and were commissioned by the California Highway Patrol and the Office of Traffic Safety, and determined that the seemingly risky move of weaving in-between traffic to be no more dangerous than just riding a motorcycle, when executed in a safe and prudent manner.

The state-commissioned research considered thousands of accident reports and found lane splitting is poses no more risk than riding a motorcycle in a marked lane, with the exception when lane splitting (a.k.a.; lane sharing, or filtering) is done at speeds over 10 miles an hour in excess of traffic flow. One report is a crash study that examined 8,262 motorcyclists who were involved in crashes while lane splitting between June 2012 and August 2013. The second report examined lane-splitting habits among various groups in 2012 and 2013.

Researchers found lane splitters are less likely to be rear-ended (2.7% of crashes vs. 4.6% for average motorcyclists), and lane-splitting motorcyclists involved in crashes were notably less likely than other motorcyclists to suffer head injury (9.1% vs. 16.5%), torso injury (18.6% vs. 27.3%), or fatal injury (1.4% vs. 3.1%).

Lane-splitting in California appears to be on the rise, with 62% of motorcyclists admitting to lane-splitting on both freeways and other roads, a 7.5-percentage-point increase over 2013.

Data from the studies will be shared with the CHP, which this year began working on guidelines for lane-splitting. Authors say the report, the first of its kind about lane-splitting, will be followed up by more in-depth analysis, including looking at rider age, rider gender, motorcycle characteristics and collision and roadway characteristics.

In many countries, lane splitting and filtering are normal practices for motorcyclists, particularly in highly urbanized areas of Europe and Asia.

LANE FILTERING APPROVED DOWN UNDER

Following consultation with riders, motorists and road safety groups, the government of Queensland, Australia decided to make changes to the laws regarding motorcycle riding, and beginning early next year motorcyclists will now be able to move around stationary or slow moving vehicles, as long as they are travelling less than 30 kilometres an hour (18.64 mph). A trial in New South Wales found lane filtering could help ease traffic congestion and Transport Minister Scott Emerson agreed it should be rolled out in Queensland, but it will only be allowed for experienced riders and won't be allowed in school zones during school hours.

Among other "sensible changes," motorcyclists will also now be able to legally stretch their leg off the bike to help avoid fatigue, take both feet off the footsteps to reverse into a parking space and turn their head to do a shoulder check.

QUOTABLE QUOTE: "Since when do we have to agree with people to defend them from injustice?" ~ Lillian Hellman (1905-1984), American playwright and memoirist





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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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