



August 2011

Chapter Newsletter

"A Brotherhood Aimed Toward Education"

The mission of the members of A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois is to preserve the universal right to a safe, unrestricted motorcycling environment, and to propose and advocate actions that can be taken by elected and appointed officials to protect and conserve the natural resources of the State of Illinois, and ensure through professional management that sustainable use, recreational opportunities and enjoyment of these new resources are available for this and future generations.

Next meeting date is

Thursday, August 11, 2011

At the Elk's Lodge #664 located at the intersection of HWY 161 and Old Lincoln Trail, Fairview Heights, IL.

Meetings start promptly at 7:00pm.

1991



2011



Chapter Officers

President: Ron Carter rcarter1947@hotmail.com	V. President: Al Yung yungajy@yahoo.com	Secretary: Sue Starko sstarko@charter.net	Activities: Alex Cortez acortez_2@yahoo.com
Sgt at Arms: Roger Johnston Rramjet52@yahoo.com	State Board Rep: Renie KinKade rkrk143@ameritech.net	Membership: Mike Gallagher yankeemike1@sbcglobal.net	Newsletter Tom Clark: squirtsbikerpage@yahoo.com
Alt State Board Rep: Mike Gallagher yankeemike1@sbcglobal.net	Region Rep: Alex Cortez acortez_2@yahoo.com	Public Relations: Katie Gallagher irishrose@yahoo.com	Alt State Board Rep: Alex Cortez acortez_2@yahoo.com
Treasurer: Tina Carter tinacarter08@yahoo.com	Safety & Education: Kelly Silvey kgsilvey@live.com	Legislative: Mike Gallagher yankeemike1@sbcglobal.net	



Treasurer's Report

By: Tina Carter

Beginning Balance: \$2,902.65

Credits: \$143.00

Debits: \$230/80

Ending Balance: \$2,814.85

CHASERS



BELLEVILLE, IL

August 6- Scott Miller 8-12

August 7- HUSH 6-10

August 13- 3D 9-1

August 20- JD Acoustic 9-1

August 21- HUSH 6-10

August 27- Mondan Band 8-12

September 4- HUSH 6-10

September 10- Chasers Anniversary Party



Public Relations

By: Katherine Gallagher

On June 9th, several members joined me in going to Congressman Jerry Costello's annual fundraiser at Pop's. As usual, a good time was had by all. We did have a chance that day to meet Jerry Costello Jr and talk to him about the possibility of him taking over for Dan Reitz. He was very excited to talk with us and assured us that he has the same view on motorcycle rights as his father. He even amused us with tales of his many trips to Sturgis.

On Monday, July 25th he was sworn in to fill a vacant seat in the Illinois House in a district that includes parts of Monroe, St. Clair, Randolph and Perry counties. We look forward to working with him during the remainder of this term until it expires in January 2013 and if he makes a bid for re-election.

Thanks, Katie Rose



Legislative Report

By: Bob Myers;
Slightly edited by Mike Gallagher

None of our US Representatives have signed on as co-sponsors of HR 1449, the "Right To Repair Act". We need to have all members and their families and all their friends call on this one as it affects not just us but the entire motoring world and our small business owners. Call Congressman Costello at his Washington D.C. office (202-225-5661) and ask him to sign onto HR1449.

On HR 412, the bill to exempt Youth OHV's from the "Lead Law Ban", we still only have (9) that have stepped up to co-sponsor and they are J. Biggert (13), J. Costello (12), R. Hultgren (14), A.Kinzinger (11), P. Roskam (6), R. Shilling (17), A. Schock (18), J. Shimkus (19), J. Walsh (8)

On HR 904, which would ban the Sec of Transportation from providing grants for Motorcycle Only checkpoints we still only have (6) US Representatives who have signed on and they are : J. Costello (12), R. Hultgren (14), A. Kinzinger (11), A.Schock (18), J. Shimkus (19), J. Walsh (8). To get your US Representative's ph # call the switch board operator at (202) 224-3121

At the April BOD I told you about SA 264 which was a bill like HR 412. This bill is for all purposes dead, says Jeff Hennie of the MRF.

FYI. There is another bill introduced by US Rep. Jim Sensenbrenner (Wis). HR 748 would prohibit the EPA from allowing the sale of gasoline containing more than 10% Ethanol in light duty vehicles. As individuals you can call your US Representatives and voice your support of this bill. We will talk about this at the Aug. BOD meeting to get full BOD approval to support the bill.

State Issues

HB2860 is our "Dead" Red Light bill. and SB1913 is the uniformed truck speed on 4 lanes bill which we supported.

No word on the Governor signing our bills but let's let him know how we feel and call him to sign them into LAW. His Springfield # is (217) 782-0244 - and his Chicago # is (312) 814-2121

No word from the Ill. State Supreme Court on the theft of the Cycle Rider Safety Training Fund.



Pictured is Pastor Doug White, Larry Pelker: President of Backroads chapter, Costello, Alan Yung, and yours truly. Not pictured from St Clair Chapter- Karla Theis and Kevin Schatner.

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From da' Prez

By: Ron Carter

We at St. Clair Co. ABATE would like to welcome Tom Clark on board as the new (4th in 7 months...going for the record here) newsletter editor. His e-mail address will be listed in the officer list in this newsletter. If you have anything of interest you wish to have put in, contact Tom. If you have an ad or flier to place, contact Tina.

Summer doldrums are hitting us with low membership turnouts at the meetings but local membership overall is holding steady. Don't look at coming to a meeting as a tedious chore or dread it like an AA meeting or a car payment...think of it as a chance to see a few friends for an hour a month that you seldom get to see. I promise we won't keep you out late if you need beauty sleep (at least, for those who need it) and we won't keep asking you to donate your time (at least, not often) to ABATE events nor donate your money (at least, not much) to the ABATE cause.

Remember why you joined ABATE...no - it was not to get me or Mike G. off your back to join (at least, I hope not).

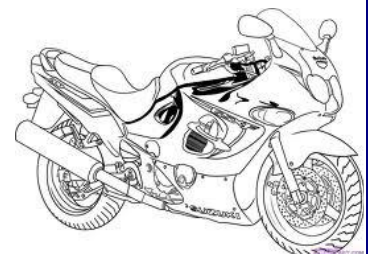
The real reason why one joins ABATE is selfish to the max...each and every person out there wants to protect their rights and freedoms as motorcycle enthusiasts - and - there is not a damned thing wrong with that. They don't want a free ride; they are willing to pay for what they get as long as there is a fair return. But as with anything, the admission price is only the start. As with all things, something you invest in is only as valuable as what you put into it. It is fine to invest only a little in something but then that is all you will get from it. ABATE is a collective concern and it takes all, working together, to make it work for each individual. With an across the board effort, if all members do a little, no one person or small group of people, have to do a lot...and one would hope that no one wants to be seen as someone expecting others to pay the cost for something that is a benefit for themselves. I know there are plenty of those out there always searching for the free ride but I will never believe they are ABATE people.

This is your organization, set up to protect you, existing to keep your rights in place, your freedoms intact. \$25 a year, to some, seems like that should be enough. It is not. You get what you pay for and you should ask your self once in awhile, what is my freedom worth. What price do I place on my right to ride without the government constantly crawling up my ass and emptying my wallet?

\$25 is a start but it is only the down payment...the balance of the cost is coming due now...and it is your time and effort we need Time to buck up before your rights and freedoms get foreclosed on and repossessed. Once gone...they don't come back!

See you at the next meeting (or at the Sept. meeting for those going to Sturgis).

Ron Carter
Prez-O-St. Clair Co. ABATE



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Words o' Wisdom

By: Pastor Doug White

WISE GUY OR WISE?

The writer of the Proverbs in the Bible wrote the following words. "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding." (Prov 9:10) This simple proverb is meant to impart wisdom to all the hearers and takes us back to our very created essence. It is a principle that every citizen and of course that includes bikers should get a hold of. It is a principle common to all men since all men are created by the same God. It is not a "churchy" statement but an honest human statement.

The founders of the country, to include Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson, understood this principle and incorporated it into their writings and speech. Franklin reminded his fellow conventioners that if God takes note of even a sparrow falling then a nation could not arise without His knowledge. He then called on his friends to join in prayer to establish the nation.



Thomas Jefferson in penning the *Declaration of Independence* said, "We hold these truths self-evident that all men are created equal and that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." He understood that leaders were accountable to God to protect rights given by Him as unalienable. They were not free to take away what every man's Creator had given. It is a principle that simply states we are all accountable to God one day for everything we say, do or think. When we live with that idea in mind we are more careful how we treat one another. It is a principle that guards men in their relationships with each other. It prevents us from taking what does not belong to us. It encourages us to do the best we can with every gift God gives us. It encourages us to be grateful for everyday we get to ride and enjoy the beauty of the creation He made. It is the very foundation upon we make appeals to our government leaders to use great caution in making laws that steal the very unalienable rights God gave to us, not the government.

It is in this principle we become wise and not just wise guys.

We are living under friendly skies! Fear the Lord and live free.

Have great rides!
Pastor Doug





Racing Time Schedule

MX and TT Scrambles:

Gate Opens 9:00am

Youth Practice	10:30am
Youth Racing	NOON
Big Bike Practice	4:00pm
Big Bike Racing	5:30pm

Hare Scramble

Gate Opens 8:00am

Youth Racing	10:30am
Big Bike Racing	11:30am

Call before you Haul
618-227-3478
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<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
2 Apr	Motocross [D18 Pts]
7 May	Motocross
15 May	Hare Scramble [D17 Pts]
	<u>Rain Out Make-Up TBD</u>
4 Jun	TT/Scrambles [D18 Pts]
11 Jun	TT/Scrambles [D18 Pts]
25 Jun	Motocross [D18 Pts]
10 Sep	TT/Scrambles [D18 Pts]
9 Oct	Hare Scramble [D17 Bonus Pts]
6 Nov	Buddy Hare Scramble [Toys for Tots]

Anyone Under 18 Must Have Parents At Race To Sign Waiver or Notarized Consent Giving a Guardian Permission to Sign Waiver

NO PETS , NO BICYCLES, NO RIDING PIT BIKES OR RACE MACHINES OUTSIDE PIT AREA

NUMBER PLATES MUST BE DISPLAYED ACCORDING TO AMA RULES

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