



February 2012

"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: February 9, 2012

Meeting Location: Elk's Lodge #664 located at the intersection of Old Lincoln Trail and Hwy 161 in Fairview Heights, IL

Meetings start promptly at 7:00PM

Don't Throw Me Away!

I'm full of GREAT information and I can SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT ABATE OF ILLINOIS! You can:

- o GIVE ME TO A FRIEND!
- o THROW ME AT AN ENEMY!
- o TAKE ME WITH YOU TO THE DENTIST OR DOCTOR'S OFFICE AND LEAVE ME ON THE TABLE!
- o TAKE ME TO WORK AND PIN ME TO THE MESSAGE BOARD!
- o TAKE ME TO WORK AND GIVE ME TO A BUDDY!
- o TAKE ME TO WORK, SPIT SPITBALLS AT THE BOSS AND THEN GIVE ME TO A BUDDY!
- o TAKE ME TO THE UNEMPLOYMENT OFFICE FOR SPITTIN' SPITBALLS AT MY (OLD) BOSS!
- o **DON'T THROW ME AWAY! I CAN HELP ABATE OF ILLINOIS GET OUR NUMBERS UP!**



The Biking Life
MAGAZINE

WWW.THEBIKLINGLIFE.COM



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CHASERS



BELLEVILLE, IL

- Feb. 5-** Super Bowl Party- Food and \$1.75 Beer
- Feb. 11-** "The Crowd" from 9-1
- Feb. 14-** Happy Valentine's Day! \$2.00 Beer and .50 off call drinks
- Feb. 18-** Mardi Gras Party w/ "HUSH" from 9-1

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Public Relations Report/ Safety & Education Report

By: Katie Rose Gallagher

Public Relations: We had a good time at the Membership party at *The Nut*. We had a nice turn out of members and even signed up a couple new. Long time members and past officers, Mel and Judy Gulley were on hand to renew their membership and we recruited them to cut the yummy cake (made by Kristen Gallagher). **Do not forget the Chili Cook-off Saturday February 18th at TR's in Belleville. It's gonna be a great time.**

Safety and Ed: Well... I didn't make it to the State Seminar, but Pastor Doug was kind enough to bring me some good material back, so I'll be studying hard to learn the ropes. I can't wait to get to go into the school with Doug and learn from the best. He has also been kind enough to fax in the windshield wash program application (who needs me!! lol) and if we get the date requested, we will be at the I64 eastbound exit near New Baden on May 19th from 1-6pm. Yes... we have already started planning for Motorcycle Awareness Month!! It's going to be an awesome year!!

~Katie



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Membership Report



By: Mike Gallagher

Quote: "In every war they will kill you in a new way." That's a Will Rogers quote I got from Fleet Owners trucking magazine in an article titled, "*regs, regs & more regs.*"

Regardless if you're in the trucking, chemical, food business or a gun owner or motorcycle rider, you are in the sights of government regulators. A *totalitarian enactment* is a complete controlling government passing laws restricting your activities. That is what most politician and bureaucrats do for a living. If they are not passing laws or regulating activities then it appears they are not doing their jobs. Bragging rights for a politician is sponsoring or cosponsoring a bill. Very rarely do we hear of a law getting repealed. It is much easier to pass a bill to become law than repealing a law or regulation but it happens once in a while. When it happens, it's not because the politicians feel they did something wrong and go back to their desks to rework it. It happens because a group of citizens that were affected by said law/regulation organize and work to build a base to work within the system to repeal it. That's what happened in 1971 when Lou Kimsey the editor of *Easy Riders Magazine* started the first ABATE. Back then it was "*A Brotherhood Against Totalitarian Enactments.*" ABATE is a "Grass Roots" organization, that being an organization of the common people and without the common people there is no ABATE. We have fought back as our state house has found new ways to try to "kill us" for our efforts. The helmet law bills come to mind in all the different ways they have worked around trying to get one passed. Representative Flowers from the Chicago area has went as far as to attempt to outlaw dirt bike riding to anyone under sixteen and require helmets while you ride your dirt bike on your private property. How much more intrusive can a government get? That was stopped by a grass roots effort. Keep these things in mind when you're attempting to get new members. Without members or the common people there is no brotherhood or grass roots. Then we will all be facing new regs, regs & more regs similar to truckers as big government finds more ways to kill us. ~continued

Membership Report ~*continued*

We are still holding out right at 190 members for the chapter. Thanks to everyone (around 30) that came out to The Nut Sports Bar for our membership party on the 22nd. Bob Sherby re-upped for five more years and that put him paid up till July 2018! Way to go Bob and of course we know Bob as the proprietor of *Fay Inn* in Fayetteville that advertises in this newsletter every month.

Either Todd Speirs or Steve Elsford won the 50/50 can't remember which one. I know they donated some back and purchased two Marble Run books. We signed up six members, gave away 3 t-shirts and had a good time watching football and just hanging out till Sheila run us all out at 7:00pm. Don't forget to visit us on face book as *St Clair ABATE*. The End.

Respects, Mike G.



From Tha' Prez

By: Ron Carter

Just going to touch on a few things to be gone over at the meeting...by putting the touch on you...

T-shirts: Talked to Tina over the weekend (nice talk) and she showed me where the chapter is, right now, on t-shirt sales - about \$350 in the hole on (chapter shirts/White Lightning shirts). If we sell the rest of what we have, we run the risk of making a few dollars...it is a risk I am willing to take. Katie will have them available at the meeting so please buy one (or six) for yourself or as a gift for a loved one (or even someone you don't like...just buy a damned shirt!).

~*continued*

From tha' Prez ~*continued*

We will also have "See Motorcycles" signs available at the meeting for the low, low price of...well...just come to the meeting with some money and we will work something out.

Also, **bring a friend to the meeting**...if you have no friends, an enemy or a stranger or an in-law will do. Let's get busy and start pushing memberships. We need to build our membership level up to at least what it was last year. It would be great to hit 300 hundred (I think back in the day we may have exceeded that...ask Mike G.). If each member brings in one new member the chapter would be well over 300 in membership. Don't forget, it is numbers...whether it be in dollars or organization members...that are what the politicians pay attention to and where we get our influence over them. If you need any membership apps, we will have them at the meeting - see Katie or Mike.

Last...**it would really help out if some new advertisers were brought on board for the chapter newsletter.** Their dollars are what help to pay most of the cost of the newsletter each month and it gets hard to get money from the same people year after year. While we have our loyal advertisers who come through each year, we open roads to new memberships and spreading our message out there when we bring in new people.

Tina is in charge of advertising...She said a number of ads are about to expire and if they don't renew the cost of the letter will be born directly and completely by the chapter. See Tina for ad rates.

I know I'll see you all at the meeting and can't wait, as I have no doubt you are each chomping at the bit to get there...Beer & soda are on special at the Elk's this month -"**All you can drink for all you can pay**".

Th-Th-Th-That's all folks!
Ron Carter
Prez O' St. Clair County Chapter
ABATE of Illinois



St. Clair A.B.A.T.E.

2nd Annual Chili Cook-Off

**Feb 18, 2012 (Sat)
Noon - 4pm**

TR'S PLACE

4910 Concordia Rd

Belleville, IL

618-277-7135

Sign-up 11am-Noon

{ mild, medium, hot }

\$10 each entry

Chili Winner Announced & Awards at 5pm





THE BATTLE BEGINS; SHALL WE GO IT ALONE?

By: Pastor Doug White

Here are some words from the founders of our great nation. I am in whole-hearted agreement with them! The battle for the rights of free men is re-engaged in the General Assembly. Mandatory helmet bills, bills to prohibit motorcycle only/profiling checkpoints, and some very powerful restrictions in other areas that are not necessarily motorcycle rights are being pushed on us again. We must be vigilant and diligent or we might lose things that have been hard-fought for by others. We need active, voting members! Each one, reach one! Every current member needs to reach one other motorcyclist to join ABATE and give us help! "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.--That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed...". Thomas Jefferson, in the Declaration of Independence. This declaration says God granted these unalienable rights and governments keep them secure. To take them away is a violation of God's law. Benjamin Franklin went on to say later. "The U.S. Constitution doesn't guarantee happiness, only the pursuit of it. You have to catch up with it yourself."

Perhaps you are thinking a motorcycle helmet law is not much in comparison to the founding of this country. I would remind you that the founding of America followed protests of the tyranny of tea, taxes and stamps, all which seem small to our thinking today. But Thomas Paine said, "Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly. Heaven knows how to put a proper price upon its goods; and it would be strange indeed, if so celestial an article as Freedom should not be highly rated." ~*continued*

The Battle Begins; Shall We Go it Alone? ~continued

Finally, we must not be so foolish as to forget our Creator. We need His divine assistance - our prayers! Benjamin Franklin said to the halted Constitutional Convention, "I have lived, Sir, a long time, and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth- that God Governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without his notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without his aid? We have been assured, Sir, in the sacred writings, that "except the Lord build the House they labour in vain that build it." God help us this year! God and freedom fighters - great team!

~Pastor Doug

<h1>Treasury</h1>	
Beginning Balance:	\$1701.50
Credits:	\$ 520.00
Debits:	<u>\$ 412.94</u>
Ending Balance:	\$1808.56

Get Yer
"M"!



Get
Involved!



Activities Report

By: Alex Cortez

Our St. Clair Co ABATE Chili Cook Off is on Feb 18, 2012

from Noon – 4pm at *TR's Place* in Belleville. **Come on out and celebrate Mardi Gras with us and try some of the chili!** Bring your already prepared chili in with \$10 per entry (Mild – Medium – Hot)

2012 St. Clair County ABATE Chapter Officers

<p>President: <i>Ron Carter</i> rcarter1947@hotmail.com 618-618-6770</p>	<p>V. President: <i>Al Yung</i> yungajy@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Secretary: VACANT</p>
<p>Activities: <i>Alex Cortez</i> acortez_2@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Treasurer: <i>Tina Carter</i> tinakcarter08@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Sgt at Arms: <i>Ed Main</i> emain68@yahoo.com</p>
<p>State Board Rep: <i>Mike Gallagher</i> yankeemike1@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p>Membership: <i>Mike Gallagher</i> yankeemike1@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p>Newsletter <i>Tom Clark</i> squirtsbikerpage@yahoo.com</p>
<p>Alt State Board Rep: <i>Katie Gallagher</i> irishrose508@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Region Rep: <i>Sheila Gallagher</i> gallaghersgetaway@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p>Public Relations: <i>Katie Gallagher</i> irishrose508@yahoo.com</p>
<p>Alt State Board Rep: <i>Alex Cortez</i> acortez_2@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Safety & Education: <i>Katie Gallagher</i> irishrose508@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Legislative: <i>Doug White</i> pastorwhite@edgemontbi.blechurch.org</p>
	<p>Honorary Chaplain: <i>Doug White</i> pastorwhite@edgemontbi.blechurch.org</p>	



Legislative Report

By: Pastor Doug White

State-wise we have only one bill that we are watching and it is for support. We are following the followup bill to the Red Light law, SB2528, the 120 second wait before proceeding through an unchanging red light. It is in the Transportation Committee now. We do have some warning that Rep. Mary Flowers does plan to reenter three bills; HB0290, a universal helmet law, HB 0285, helmets on everybody under 26 and HB0292, the comprehensive ATV/Off-Highway Motorcycle bill. Nothing has been officially done yet but it is probably coming. However we do have the State Legislative Agenda for this year.

Here are the things ABATE of Illinois and thus St. Clair County Chapter, plan to tackle in 2012:

- *Promote and protect the Cycle Rider Safety Training Program. Many parts to this one.

- *Promote and protect off road riding resources. Many phases in this one.

- *Work with units of local government to prevent ordinances that would place restrictions on motorcycle sound that are different from the provisions of the Illinois Vehicle Code.

- *Prevent discrimination by establishments open to the public based on whether a prospective patron rides a motorcycle or wears motor cycle attire.

- *Work with DNR and various constituency groups to reduce deer/motorcycle collisions.

- *Stop police agencies from conducting motorcycle only and unwarranted roadblocks of motorcycles and from interfering with legitimate motorcycling activities.

- *To raise the handlebar height limits to the top of the head.

- *To legalize vertical license plates.

- *Oppose all mandatory helmet legislation whether for child of adult.

This is going to be a great year. I hope many of you will make it to Legislative Day at the State Capital on March 07, 2012! More to come on this one for sure; it's a great time! ~*continued*

ABATEPAC's GRADES AND ENDORSEMENT OF CANDIDATES

The party primary's for Illinois are coming up on March 20, 2012. As you know the first best place to fight our battles is at the ballot box ELECTING people who are friendly and understanding of our issues. To assist us in this ABATEPAC issues a grade for the candidates to show how they have responded or are likely to respond to issues close to our hearts. This score is based on several things, which I will be glad to share with anyone at our next chapter meeting. Grades range from A+ to F and NR for not responding to our questions. Voter registration for this primary ends Feb 21. Illinois is divided up into 59 Legislative Districts with one Senator each and each of these districts is divided into 2 Representative District with a State Representative in each of these. The districts that affect much of the St. Clair County Chapter are Legislative (Senate) District 57, including Rep. Districts 113 & 114; District 56, including Rep. Districts 111 & 112; District 58, including Rep. Districts 115 & 116; District 54, including Rep. Districts 107 & 108. Breaking it down further we are most affected by 57, 113 & 114; 56, 112; 58, with parts of 115 & 116; 54, 108.

I am using ALL CAPITALS for the ABATE endorsed* candidates:

- 57th:** SENATOR JAMES CLAYBORNE JR (Democrat) A
- 113th:** JAY HOFFMAN (Democrat) A
- 114th:** REPRESENTATIVE EDDIE LEE JACKSON (Democrat) B
- 56th:** SENATOR WILLIAM HAINE (Democrat) A
- 112th:** REPRESENTATIVE DWIGHT KAY (Republican) B
- 58th:** SENATOR DAVID LUECHTEFELD (Republican) A
- 115th:** REPRESENTATIVE MIKE BOST (Republican) A
- 116th:** JERRY COSTELLO II (Democrat) B
- 54th:** SENATOR KYLE MCCARTER (Republican) A
- 108th:** PAUL EVANS (Republican) B

NOTE: All the candidates above are endorsed by ABATE so no others are listed.

*A copy of our report filed with the State Board of Elections is (or will be available) on the Board's official website (www.elections.il.gov) or for purchase from the State Board of Elections, Springfield, Illinois.



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

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<u><i>Date</i></u>	<u><i>Event</i></u>
18 Mar	Hare Scramble [D17 Bonus Pts]
14 Apr	TT/Scrambles [D18 Pts]
21 Apr	TT/Scrambles [D18 Pts]
12 May	TT/Scrambles [D18 Pts]
2 Jun	Motocross [D18 Pts]
16 Jun	TT/Scrambles [D18 Pts]
15 Sep	Motocross [D18 Pts]
22 Sep	TT/Scrambles [D18 Pts]
4 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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A.B.A.T.E. of ILLINOIS
Annual

LEGISLATIVE DAY

Wednesday March 7th, 2012



Starting place: State House Inn, 101 E. Adams, Springfield, Illinois
(Governor's Ball Room)

Starting time: 8:30A.M. Coffee and Rolls

Purpose: Meet your legislators and other elected officials.
Explain motorcycling issues to our representatives.
Learn the legislative process.

Debriefing: 4 P.M. at State House Inn (Gallery Room)

Reception: 6:30 P.M. in Gallery Room at State House Inn

Come – Be Seen – Make a Difference!