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Promoting Motorcycle Safety, Awareness & Education

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NOVEMBER 2009

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**ABATE of New York
Long Island Chapter**
OUR ANNUAL FOOD & TOY RUN
FOR ST. MARY'S CHURCH
IN HAMPTON BAYS, NY

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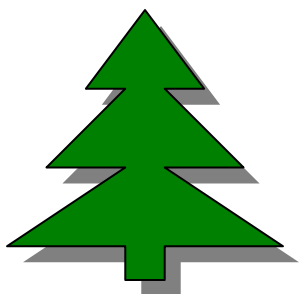
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ABATE of Long Island
wishes to send their
condolences to
AJ Travis in the
passing of his Father
on October 29,2009

TO USE THIS GIFT CARD PLEASE FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS ON PAGE 15

A Holiday Gift For You



A B A T E is American Bikers Aimed Toward Education

The main purpose of the ABATE organization is to work toward continued freedom of the road by insuring that motorcyclist's point of view is presented to our legislators and to promote motorcycle safety, rider education and awareness. We are trying to alleviate the very real possibility of "Big Brother Government". We encourage all our members to be informed registered voters. We write letters to our elected officials and stay aware of what is going on with motorcycle legislation, education, and other transportation issues. We welcome interested persons to any of our activities or to join our organization.

LONG ISLAND CHAPTER OFFICERS:

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 VICE-PRESIDENT: JOE BILLOTTI / HARDTAIL101@AOL.COM
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HOTLINE

1-888-LIABATE

May be used to contact any Officer,
 or any Information ABATE needs
 to know, or any Information that
 you need to know

ABATE OF NEW YORK
 LONG ISLAND CHAPTER
 P.O. BOX 22
 YAPHANK, NY 11980

ABATE of Long Island encourages all members to submit letters, articles or cartoons they feel may be of interest to fellow ABATE members. ABATE of Long Island supports the rights of ALL motorcyclists, however ABATE of Long Island does not endorse any products or services other than its own. All articles and photo's within the contents of this newsletter and our website are property of Long Island ABATE. You cannot use them without express written consent of the newsletter editor, webmaster or the board members of ABATE of Long Island 01/2009

CHAPTER MEETINGS START AT 7:00PM FOR FOOD AND THE MEETING STARTS AT 7:30PM

NEXT MEETING DATE IS: TUESDAY NOVEMBER10 , 2009
 THE RIVERHEAD Elks Lodge 1239 E. Main Street Riverhead, NY
 DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER 2009 NEWSLETTER IS THE 20TH of NOVEMBER

TO USE THIS GIFT CARD PLEASE FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS ON PAGE 15

*1 Year Membership in
 ABATE of NY*

To:

From:


ABATE of LONG ISLAND

EVENT SCHEDULE FOR “ 2009 ”

DATE:**EVENT:****LOCATION:**Sunday November 8thToy & Food RunSt. Mary's Hampton Bay'sSaturday December 12th**Christmas PartyYet To Be Determined

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Membership Applications available at all Events

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Watch for future updates or check out our website for further information.

<http://www.longislandABATE.org>

Or call our Hotline 1-888-LIABATE

President's Page

The two hardest things for me to do as President of our chapter is to speak at a microphone during our events and write an article for our newsletter. But this month I'm actually excited to tell you how much FUN October has been!!! It started with the VETS ROCK concert at the Brookhaven Amphitheatre on Oct 4th. Brookhaven Town Supervisor Mark Lesko heard that L I ABATE donated \$5,000 to various Veteran Organizations this year; therefore he invited us to participate in Vets Rock. The concert consisted of 4 great bands; John Kay & Steppenwolf, Foghat, The Outlaws and Molly Hatchet. All proceeds from the event were donated to various veteran charities. As a favor to L I ABATE member Big John, Molly Hatchet agreed to perform at a significantly reduced fee. As a show of appreciation from Supervisor Lesko and the Brookhaven Town Board, L I ABATE was credited with the sponsorship of the Molly Hatchet Band, as well as an overall sponsor of the entire event. I would like to thank Jim Faith from James Faith Entertainment for his assistance and support which was instrumental in our being invited to participate. For those of you that were there you may have noticed our banner prominently displayed next to the stage. We also had a booth set up inside the theatre where we passed out literature, sold T shirts and signed up new members. Big John & Anthony Pirro also donated their luxury limousine bus for the day and chauffeured all the band and crew members back and forth from the hotel to the venue. We affixed 2 - 4'x 5' L I ABATE banners to the bus and received a lot of publicity as the bus traveled back and forth all day and night. As the band members entered the bus they graciously autographed a guitar for us and thanks to Deputy Supervisor Kathy Walsh, we were able to raffle it off on stage. This generated enormous publicity and a nice donation to L I ABATE. My personal favorite moment was when Phil McCormack, (lead singer for Molly Hatchet) came out on stage wearing a Long Island ABATE "T" shirt and ac-

knowledgeed L I ABATE!

The next big event was Oct 18th. L I ABATE purchased 30 tickets to Lynyrd Skynyrd at the Capital One Theatre @ Westbury. John & Anthony once again provided their limo bus to us for one heck of a party! We parked the bus around back and tailgated for 2 hours before the show. Then we went inside and enjoyed the show from the first 4 rows. I gave Johnny Van Zant (lead singer) a L I ABATE "T" shirt and he graciously accepted it and held it up for the audience to see.

Then 5 days later we took another bus trip to Westbury and saw The Marshall Tucker Band and The Charlie Daniels Band. Again we tailgated for 2 hours before the show. The theatre was gracious enough to allow us to set up a booth by the entrance and we raffled off an autographed guitar again. This time it was signed by the members of Marshall Tucker. It was supposed to be signed by Charlie Daniels also but something got mixed up. The raffle was a fund raiser for the Shriners Children's Hospital Transportation Committee. Big John and I are members of the committee and because the raffle was so successful, there was also enough money for L I ABATE to receive \$600. The most amazing moment of the night was when Doug Gray (lead singer) stopped singing and brought the autographed guitar on stage and raffled it off in the middle of the performance. He spoke about L I ABATE and the Shriners. The video of that can be seen on our website. The lucky winner of the guitar, Rich Marx, happened to be one of the 37 people that were on our bus! Thank you Rich, for being a good sport and understanding why Charlie didn't get a chance to sign it.

These awesome events not only provided a great social opportunity, but they also raised a lot of money for L I ABATE!! I don't know if you can appreciate the enormous favor that Doug Gray did for us, but it was HUGE for him to honor us like that!! When I thanked him after the show he just smiled and said that it was his pleasure to help! And believe me, he truly meant it! **He is one class act!!** I hope someday we get the opportunity to show him our sincere appreciation for everything he did for us! Maybe a limo bus ride to see him perform in South Carolina? (that's a hint to John)

Thank you John for setting it all up for us!!

Please try to attend our most fulfilling run; The Food & Toy Run to St Marys church on Nov 8th. We are leaving the Riverhead Elks Lodge at 11:00am. Please try to make it, the kids really appreciate it!!

Our next general meeting is Tuesday, Nov 10, 7:00pm at the riverhead Elks. I hope to see you there!

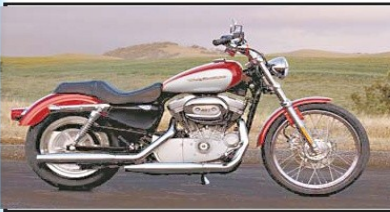
Jim Barr

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Pictures from the last 2 ABATE Concert Events. Lynyrd Skynyrd 10-11-09, Charlie Daniels & Marshall Tucker 10-23-09



Pictures from the last 2 ABATE Concert Events. Lynyrd Skynyrd 10-11-09, Charlie Daniels & Marshall Tucker 10-23-09



Jim Barr with Rich Marx The winner of the Autographed Guitar Raffle that was signed by Marshall Tucker on 10-23-09



Joe Billotti our Vice President and friends on the party bus

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The party bus that John & Anthony Supplied to us with our tailgate party.

Meeting Minutes

ABATE membership meeting 10-2-09 at the Wedge
29 members present, heroes/salads served, ABATE products available

7:36 Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance

Old Business

Membership Drive Incentive: Any current member that signs up a new member will receive a \$5 certificate good toward sponsor's membership renewal. Our goal is to reach 750 members by the end of 2009. The more members we have, the more effective ABATE will be with our local politicians.

Vets Rock Concert: Long Island ABATE is involved in the production of the Town of Brookhaven's Vets Rock Concert. ABATE is not profiting from the ticket sales, however we are getting name recognition and are increasing our rapport with local politicians. We would like to raffle off a guitar signed by all of the band members.

Motion to purchase 10 lawn tickets @ \$25 each (seconded and passed) *Tickets were raffled off to 10 members at this meeting.*

Charlie Daniels / Marshall Tucker tickets sold out!

Lynyrd Skynyrd tickets and party bus @ Capital One Theater 10/18 still available. There are only 12 left and they are going fast.

New Business

ABATE State Board Meeting: Jim proposed weighted voting state wide. Each chapter gets 1 vote for up to 50 members. Each additional 50 members would receive another vote.

Kathy Walsh Fundraiser: Kathy is a large supporter of ABATE. PAC funds purchased 5 tickets. Attending officers were able to network with local politicians about

ABATE.

New Proposed Alternate Meeting Location for 2010 is the American Legion Hall on Church Street in Ronkonkoma. It was proposed that we continue with the 2nd Tuesday @ Riverhead Elks and alternate months with the 2nd Wednesday @ Ronkonkoma.

Motion to try to get the American Legion Hall for the 2nd Tuesday alternating monthly meetings. If the 2nd Wednesday is not available, President would do what he thought was best for our organization. (seconded and passed).

Nominations: Proposed to limit board officers to 7 members (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership, Sergeant at Arms, Legislative Liaison) as outlined in NYS ABATE by-laws.

Motion to limit board officers to 7 members (seconded and passed unanimously).

Nominations for new board officers in 2010:

President: Jim Barr (accepted)

Vice-President: Joe Billotti (accepted)

Treasurer: Bill Quinn (accepted)

Secretary: Roseann Barr (accepted)

Membership: open

Legislative Liaison: open

Sergeant at Arms: Jim Coon (accepted)

Appointed positions include: Products, Public Relations, Road Captain / Road Guards, Newsletter / Webmaster, Distribution, Chaplin, Photographer, Safety Officer, Run Researcher. *Anyone interested in holding or helping out in any of these positions, please let your interest be known. We would love as much participation as we could get!*

Networking: Little John organized a meeting of multiple fire riders clubs and invited Jim (President) and Joe (Vice-President) to attend, discuss issues and join forces.

Jim was also invited to speak about ABATE at the upcoming Local 3 Electrical Workers meeting. Local 3 electrical workers promised to provide support for ABATE's causes.

St. Mary's Food and Toy Run will be November 8th. We have boxes available to put in various locations for food and toy donations. Joe also has tax deductible forms for any business donating \$500+.

10:36 Motion to adjourn (seconded and passed).

Roseann



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
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In Reply Refer To

September 17, 2009


Jim Barr, President
ABATE of New York
Long Island Chapter
P.O. Box 22
Yaphank, NY 11980

Dear Mr. Barr

On behalf of the veterans and staff at the Northport VA Medical Center we wish to thank you, and all members of the Long Island Chapter of ABATE of New York, for your generous donation of \$2500.00. It is acknowledged that this money is part of the proceeds raised from your Veterans Appreciation Run to Montauk, Which was held on June 14, 2009.

Pursuant to your request, this money was earmarked for "Canteen Services", and used to purchase "canteen books". Some of the uses of these "canteen books" include, but are not limited to, patient haircuts, outpatient programs, patient recreation programs. Toiletries, and other needed or emergency patient items purchased at the canteen. Thank you for your support. Our veteran's lives are truly enhanced by knowing there are those who care.

Sincerely,


LYNN MOTT
Acting Chief, Voluntary Services



Our Booth and guitar from the Vets Rock.

Pictured from left to right

**Bill Quinn & Donna,
Jim & Roseann Barr,
Raybud,
Tina Armstrong,
and Joe Billotti.**

Chaplain's Page

Is it too cold for ya?

As the weather gets colder and the wind gets stronger we see our comfortable riding time of year quickly winding down. It seems like every couple days now I am adding one more article of clothing when I ride, or at least replacing one with another one that's a little heavier. It won't be long now until we won't recognize our brothers and sisters in the wind till they stop and peel off a few layers of clothing. I miss already being able to wear a sleeveless shirt, my vest and colors, and fingerless gloves. The tan is almost gone already. I have to warm the bike up a bit longer. We are coming into the seasons that we have to bundle up, cover up, and find artificial ways to keep warm and comfortable while the weather and the elements try their



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darndest to make our lives miserable. God really speaks to me through these kinds of thoughts about how much this is so similar to how our life is as a whole. We have seasons of comfort and warmth, joy, contentment, and times that can be care-free and fun. Then there are seasons of turbulence, discomfort, sadness, despair, cold and dark. All of our lives go through the different seasons just as much as the environment around us does. In the book Ecclesiastes and the third chapter it talks about for everything there is a season and a time for all things. You may remember Simon and Garfunkel's song quoting the book Solomon wrote (Ecclesiastes).

Well just as we put on more clothing and garments to protect us from the harsh and sometimes devastating effects of nature, we have to "put on" an emotional, spiritual, and yes sometimes even physical protection to be able to withstand the challenges, attacks, disappointments and heartaches that life throws at us, sometimes seemingly out of nowhere. In the life of a Christian, God's word calls it putting on the armor of God. In Ephesians chapter 6 it really goes into details about this armor and how and why it protects us from the attacks that come at us in our life. Like an advertisement for body armor is to someone who rides a rice rocket, it shows the benefits and reasons. Way too many people go through this life without protection against what is a natural part of life, the bad stuff. We will all go through the bad stuff. Some more than others. Like living your

life in Siberia and having to deal with tough conditions much more than most, some people choose to live a life with extended seasons on coldness and despair. Yes it is a choice, not your lot in life. If you believe that you have to have a rougher life than others you've been conned into believing a lie.

Most people these days don't put on the armor or outer wear in their mind and spirit to be able to not just exist, but thrive during those seasons of challenge. They numb themselves. Now it is just like someone drinking or doing drugs so they won't feel the effects of the wind and cold while they ride without additional clothing. They don't feel what the elements are doing to them until the damage is done.

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And then they are left in a state of hypothermia (the warmth is stripped from their body), frostbite (their skin and protection is damaged and calloused to where they can no longer feel sensations), if it doesn't eventually kill them. And they don't even know this is happening because they are in a mind altered state. Much the same happens in the mind, emotions and spirits of today. Some deal with challenges by drinking, some by doing drugs, and then there are the socially acceptable drugs like Prozac, valium, and all the others out there. Everybody out there is riding though the cold weather of life in shorts, a tank top, sneakers and no helmet on. They use what is a socially acceptable numbing agent that is telling their brain that it is not cold; there is no wind, no rain, no hail, no snow, and no sleet. And all the while they are taking an emotional, spiritual and physical beating and they don't even realize it. So they end up either dead or needing these drugs for most of their lives.

Chaplain Cont.

Now don't get me wrong, there is a place for these medications and stuff, but it is to get someone through a short transition while they put their natural body armor and defenses in place.

What happens to people like this, is when they do come to the seasons in life that are warm and sunny and comfortable and happy, they can't even enjoy them cause they are looking over their shoulder for the next rainy day to sneak up on them. And the only people happy are the ones with pharmaceutical stock or the drug dealers.

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09/09

So if you are coming into a fall or winter season in your life, know there is a better way, a much better way to bundle yourself up and stay riding through the tough seasons in your life. You will be surprised how joyful, invigorated, energized, and how you can thrive during what seems like tough times. Time to get on the full, real armor that protect from ALL outside disturbances. And you can keep riding through; enjoying the life and the ride God has you on. OR, you can be like the most and put the bike in the garage, put the battery tender on it, cover it up, crawl into the house and hibernate till spring. People do that in life, just as they do it with their ride.

Personally, I have seen and experienced some of the most fantastic and outstanding things during the tough seasons of my life, and I have seen great things while riding my hog in subfreezing and rainy weather. So as for me I will put my armor on, bundle up and continue to ride through this fantastic experience God has called my life.

If you want to know more, you know where to find me.
See you on the road.

Ski-man

Pastor – Rushing Wind Biker Church

Elder – Bikers for Christ

Chaplain – ABATE of Long Island

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VP's Report

With the camp out, a total success, behind us now I sat here at my desk for a while not knowing what to write about. I looked back on this year and thought I would write about how it's been for me being involved. Boy, it sure has been fun meeting so many of you in the last few years while I was trying to build up the camp out. No matter where I go someone will come up to me and talk about the camp out or the other great runs we do all year.

This past year I think we have fifteen people on the board and a nice size list of non board members who also get involved when their help is needed. I really believe we have moved forward this year and with the club nominations coming up this month for next years board members who knows what we can accomplish next year. hope everybody can make this months general meeting at the Riverhead Elks lodge on Nov 10th at 7:00 pm . This is when we will be finalizing nominations for next years board members. So whether you would like to run for a position or just cast your vote this is a great place to start getting involved.

Until next time, ride safe

Michael Barba

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Membership Report

I want to start by saying thanks to everyone who showed up at the Biketoberfest. We had a good turnout.

Long Island ABATE is having a membership drive from now until 12/31/2009. If you sign up a new member (not renewal) you will receive a coupon worth \$5 towards your membership renewal in Long Island ABATE. There's no limit to how many you can sign up. Coupon has no cash value except for membership renewal purposes.

Please renew early it makes record keeping easier and there's no delay in your newsletter. See everyone at St. Mary's Food & Toy Run on Nov. 8th. ride safe.

Karen

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8 St. Mary's Food & Toy Run Signup 10-11a Riverhead Elks Lodge	9	10 General Meeting Officer Elections Riverhead Elks Lodge 7pm	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 Officers Meeting 7pm Yaphank	25	26	27	28
29	30					

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