

ABATE membership meeting 1-8-13 at the Cathedral Pines Activity Bldg., Middle Island

7:37 Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance

Thank you to all who came to this membership meeting in our new location. All monthly membership meetings (second Tuesday of each month) will be held here. Welcome to new members and guests.

**Motion 1-2013: Motion to table the acceptance of last membership meeting, which will be published in the upcoming newsletter. (seconded) All in favor.**

Our apologies for not printing a December newsletter. Raybud has stepped down from this position and we are looking for a new person to take over the newsletter.

We are in the process of building a new, interactive website. **Nancy G.** has offered to moderate and maintain this website. Our chapter is applying for a \$500 credit card in order to buy a server on GoDaddy. GoDaddy requires this in ABATE's name. Raybud personally owns the server for our current website.

Complimentary memberships: We are trying this campaign in effort to increase membership in our chapter. Complimentary memberships have been passed out at recent motorcycle events, including St. Mary's Food and Toy run and the Coldfinger Run. We have added approximately 250 complimentary members with the hope that more people will be informed about LI ABATE and will renew as full members. Complimentary memberships receive a monthly e-mailed newsletter, e-mails about LI ABATE's events and discounts to these events. We will continue to pass out these complimentary memberships at future motorcycle events, etc. Any member can solicit complimentary members as well. **Greg** from **Full Throttle Magazine** has generously offered to leave and maintain complimentary membership applications each month as he distributes his magazine. NYS ABATE will also give out complimentary memberships to all who purchase a new motorcycle at dealerships.

2013 LI ABATE Motorcyclist's Handbook: This year we are making a greater effort to make this handbook more biker friendly, including more information on motorcycle runs and events. All bike clubs are encouraged to list their upcoming runs free of charge. As we did last year, we will be soliciting advertisers, either a business card or full page ad. Advertising forms/information is available from board members or at membership meetings. All members are encouraged to seek advertisers, as this handbook was a great success for us last year.

NYS ABATE Seminar: This year's board chose not to attend this annual seminar as it costs our chapter over \$1,000 to attend and the board did not feel it was informative enough to spend this money.

Grant Money: LI ABATE wishes to seek \$10,000 in grant money from ABATE MAC (which has \$75,000 available this year). Our thoughts are to purchase a used step van which we will have lettered to promote motorcycle awareness. We will use this van to attend events to inform others about ABATE, motorcycle safety and awareness, and to disburse related materials.

Advertising: LI ABATE will run ¼ page advertisement in **Full Throttle Magazine** all year long. We are in January's issue, which is their biggest issue with approximately 15,000 copies printed due to the Javitt's Motorcycle Show. We will continue with radio ads on WRCN, along with public service announcements on WBAB and News 12 traffic/weather sponsorship. We will again be seeking permits to post our 4x8 signs at police precincts in the month of May, as well as our 4x5 road signs along county roads.

New committees will be forming for this year, as we wish to have a very active year involving members. Refer to our newsletter or attend membership meetings for more information on upcoming committees.

1/18 – 1/20 Javitt's Center Motorcycle Show: Representatives from LI ABATE will be present each day to inform others about ABATE and to sign up new members.

Tentative 2013 Run list: (please refer to newsletter/membership mtgs for updated information)

March 24 – Chili Run to Finnigan's Wake, Jamesport

April 14 – Motorcycle Safety/Awareness Run and Bike Blessing

June 19 – Veterans Appreciation Run

August 17-18 – Campout

November 3 – St. Mary's Food and Toy Run

Possible Guest Speakers at upcoming meetings: SCPD (uses step grant money to inform / educate about motorcycle safety, Mitch Proner (NCOM attorney). *If anyone has any suggestions on possible guest speakers, please let us know.*

Elected officers sworn in. Appointed officers introduced.

Jim thanked **LI HOG** for their continued support and for publicizing our events within their chapter. Jim recently attended a LI HOG meeting and was impressed with their organization and member participation.

#### Officer's Reports:

Wayne / First Vice-President: Wayne is currently editing our newsletters. He would like to make the newsletter more enjoyable to read and asks anyone who has anything they would like to share (ie: a nice back road, a trip they've recently taken, etc.) to please submit it. The Suffolk County Traffic and Safety Board contacted LI ABATE regarding a seminar the Family Services League is putting on concerning "distracted driving". Although their agenda for this year is full, they are very interested in the presentation LI ABATE is giving in the high schools and would like to give us some time to present at future seminars.

Stavros / Second Vice President: Stavros also thanks LI HOG for the platform they have given LI ABATE and for the certificate they presented to us at their last meeting. Stavros encourages all members to get more involved throughout the year, stating "we are only as good as our volunteers". A special thank you is given to Joe and Wayne. Because of their efforts, we now have a trailer equipped to transport motorcycles. We will use it to transport a motorcycle for someone who is in need.

Bill / Treasurer: The last treasurer's report for 2012 has been finalized and the advertising bill for Full Throttle Magazine has been paid for the year. Bill mentioned that although the turnout for the St. Mary's Food and Toy Run was low due to the impact of Superstorm Sandy, the generosity of those who attended yielded \$1800 in donations in addition to the food and toys purchased. LI ABATE donated an additional \$600 and purchased \$300 worth of toys in anticipation of a low turnout. Bill also spoke of a fundraiser on 1/19 at the Red River Inn for the Breezy Point Fire Department who lost equipment, vehicles and sustained damage to their firehouse during Superstorm Sandy.

**Motion 2-2013: Motion to accept treasurer's report. (seconded) All in favor.**

Joe / Safety Officer: Joe asks for anyone to let him know of any road hazards which he will report. He also requests if anyone sees an article in a magazine, internet, etc. that may be of interest to motorcyclists, or if anyone has any tips / practices they do to remain safe on the road, to please let him know. Joe will be attending the monthly Suffolk County Traffic and Safety Board meetings as LI ABATE's representative.

Nancy / Public Relations: 1/9 NOA (No one in attendance) at Calverton. This monthly service honors veterans who have passed away during the previous month but had no family members attend their service. 1/12 fundraiser for a veteran who had his home burglarized and set afire. 1/21 USVMC's annual pack-out. Volunteers needed to pack boxes to be sent to our troops overseas.

Gina / Products: Products will be available at our monthly meetings now that all products can be stored at the new meeting location.

Kim / Membership: Our chapter currently has approximately 500 members. Kim encourages all to renew expired memberships. If anyone thinks they are not receiving updated e-mails, please let Kim or Wayne know.

Steve / Road Captain: Steve asks if anyone would like to volunteer to be a road guard or to assist with the runs, please let him know.

Ski / Chaplain: If anyone knows of a person who went down on a motorcycle, please let Ski know. He will put them on a prayer list, make a personal visit to, etc. Ski also spoke of a Downed Biker Fund which is contributed to regularly by his church. All are welcome to Sunday service at the Rushing Wind Biker Church. In addition, there is now a mini service on Wednesday nights for anyone in need of an emotional or spiritual "pick me up". Soup and sandwiches are served. The last Saturday of the month is open mic night at the church. All Rushing Wind Biker Church events are listed monthly in Full Throttle Magazine.

Jim / Distribution: Once flyers for LI ABATE events are printed, Jim will be seeking help with distribution. If anyone is interested, please see Jim Hartman.

Bob / Sergeant At Arms: Bob thanks members for re-electing him to this position and looks forward to serving again this year.

Discussion on floor:

Bob Brinker / Director of LI HOG: Bob thanked Bill Quinn for his assistance in identifying a veteran in need, who was presented with a motorized wheelchair at Christmas time. 3/9 Blood Drive for LI Blood Services at Oakdale Harley 10:30–3:00. 3/21 HOG fundraiser/Comedy Night. Tickets are \$15, please see Bob or Stavros. Bob also expressed his appreciation for the relationship between LI HOG and LI ABATE.

**Barbara**, a member in attendance, suggested and will coordinate a Pot Luck Night at our March membership meeting. Please bring a dish that you would like to share to our March membership meeting.

**Tina** says that she and **Mike** enjoyed singing their rendition of *Jingle Bells* at our holiday party.

Happy Birthday to **Stavros** and **Jackie**.

**Motion 3-2013: Motion to adjourn. (seconded) All in favor.** Meeting adjourned at 9:29.