

ABATE membership meeting 4-10-12 at the Am Vets, Ronkonkoma

7:50 Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance; Moment of silence

Welcome new members **Paul (I Don't Know MC)**.

Congratulations Long Island Chapter of NYS ABATE, (previously Eastern Suffolk, then Suffolk County Chapters), which turned 24 years old this April .

Old Business

Long Island ABATE Motorcycle Handbook has been a great success, thanks to the efforts of those who solicited advertisers. A special thank you to **Steve Sorensen** for his dedicated effort. The book has been put together by **Raybud** and **Sue**, who is a graphic designer and reworked most of the advertisements.

At a previous meeting, it was brought to the attention of the Board that the Suffolk County Sheriffs would be scheduling motorcycle only roadblocks. This information is **not true**. **Suffolk County Under Sheriff Joe Caracappa** and **Suffolk County Sheriff Vinny DeMarco** have stated, there will be no sheriff sponsored motorcycle only roadblocks. In fact, Long Island ABATE has gotten much support from the Sheriff's Department.

There is a new Chief of Police in Suffolk County, **Chief Jim Burke**. Board members of Long Island ABATE will schedule a meeting with the new chief to discuss motorcycle issues.

Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Run, in conjunction with Long Island ABATE's Bike Blessing, April 15 at the H. Lee Dennison Building, Hauppauge. There is currently over 50 pre-registered riders. (Those who pre-register receive a discount and will ride at the beginning of the run.) **Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone**, who is a co-sponsor of this event along with **Full Throttle Magazine**, will speak before the run. WRCN will sponsor the run with radio commercials. The run will be fully escorted by the Suffolk County Police Department along with the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department on the expressway. Jim will speak about this event on Full Throttle's radio show, which airs Saturday night @ 7pm on WRCN.

At a previous meeting, member **Kathy Pfeil** stated that the **Mastic Ambulance Company** had posted a sign in front of their building which says “Look Twice, Save a Life, Motorcycles Are Everywhere”. As a result, member **Jimbo Timms** spoke to his brother **Timmy, who is a Chief in the Coram Fire Department**, who will also put this message on the electronic sign in front of their department for the month of May. Timmy will also speak to the chiefs in the Selden and Centereach Fire Departments for their support as well.

Lynyrd Skynyrd Concert 7/8 @ Westbury. LI ABATE purchased 50 tickets (sold out) to this show. There will be a hospitality tent in the parking lot before the show. LI ABATE is profiting \$6 per ticket.

Travis Tritt Concert 7/27 @ Westbury. LI ABATE has purchased 20 tickets for this show. Contact LI ABATE for ticket information or purchase.

NCOM (National Coalition of Motorcyclists), 5/10-5/13, Indianapolis, Indiana
Motorcyclists working *together* for the benefit of the motorcycle community.

New Business

Long Island ABATE continues to build a rapport with our elected officials. On April 4th, some board members met with **Senator Flanagan**, to discuss the motorcycle only roadblocks endorsed by the NYS Troopers. It is ABATE’s intent to ask our state officials to stop the funding for motorcycle profiling. Board members spoke of the model used in Suffolk County to use grant money for education and awareness. A meeting has also been schedule with **Assemblyman LoSquadro**, who is also on the NYS DOT committee.

NYS ABATE has hired back their previous office manager, Chris Werder.

Motorcycle Safety Power Point / Video Presentation, is given by Wayne and Gina to the junior and senior classes at local high schools. On April 18th they were invited to give this presentation at Centereach High School. (They were also invited back to the Patchogue-Medford High School.) The art teachers at Centereach High School are supporting this program by having a contest for their

students to design advertisements and bumper stickers regarding motorcycle safety / awareness.

Long Island ABATE will be compensating the Riverhead Elks by giving \$60 rent for each of our bimonthly meetings held there.

Jim spoke with **Patrick Caracciolo of WRCN** of Long Island ABATE's intent to do a motorcycle awareness campaign for the month of May. Staff at WRCN will assist in putting together a radio commercial.

Campout, 8/18-8/19, Cathedral Pines, Middle Island: Tickets have been ordered. There will be 400 tickets available. The first 200 tickets sold will be \$25 each. The second 200 tickets will be \$35 each. Please contact board members or **Michael Barba of Continental Car Care**, Portion Road for tickets. This year the Pamela Betty Band will perform. *We need volunteers for this event!*

Veterans Appreciation Run, 6/10: Please contact Bill (Treasurer and Chairperson of this event) if you would like to offer assistance at this run.

Officer's Reports

Stavros/Vice-President: Lighthouse HOG has recently dismantled and has become the newly formed Long Island Harley Riders. Stavros spoke at their recent meeting about ABATE and was able to sign up new members. Stavros also thanks everyone who attended the Chili Run. It was a great success. He also reports that George Wallace is no longer a member of the Port Jefferson Board.

Bill /Treasurer reports that our treasury is in great shape thanks to the success of the handbook. He also extended a special thank you to the **Iron Workers Brooklyn ABATE Chapter** for riding out to our chili run in the rain.

Wayne O. /Co-Road Captain expressed disappointment / frustration that so few of our members attend monthly membership meetings. He is looking for suggestions to increase attendance. "We are only as good as our members." He also asks if anyone is interested in becoming a road guard, please contact him or Jim Hartmann.

Ski /Chaplain thanks all who came to the Easter Sunrise Run. He reports they had approximately 100 riders. Ski encourages motorcycle riders to become involved in their church, which is located on 129 Knickerbocker Ave, Bohemia. He reports of 2 upcoming events sponsored by his church: 6/9 Blood Drive and 6/23 Downed Biker Run.

Gina/Products reports that new products are available including ladies sweatpants and ladies v-neck t-shirts.

Kim/Membership said membership is up to the 600 mark. If any member is having a problem, such as not receiving a newsletter, membership card, etc., please let her know.

Motion 6-2012: Motion to adjourn. (seconded) Meeting adjourned 9:18