

7:40 Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance; Moment of silence

Welcome new members / guests: **Jim**, owner of the Brickhouse Brewery, is happy to see that “our message (*motorcycle safety and awareness*) is getting out there.” **Todd**, administrator of ABATE membership meeting 5-8-12 at the Riverhead Elks

LongIslandRides.com, spoke about his website, which promotes bike events and riding on Long Island. It is a great place to meet up with others and ride.

Congratulations to **Ice Cream John** for 24 active years in ABATE.

Old Business

Motorcycle Safety and Awareness run was very successful. Thank you to all who sponsored and supported this event: **Full Throttle Magazine, Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone, Brickhouse Brewery, WRCN, Suffolk County Police Department, Suffolk County Sheriff’s Department, NYSDMV, On The Road Again Motorcycle School**. We also thank all of those who volunteered to help at this event.

A few LI ABATE board members recently met with **Assemblyman Dan Losquadro** at his office in Riverhead. Assemblyman Losquadro supported ABATE when he was a Suffolk County Legislator, and continues to support ABATE at the state level. He is also currently a member of the NYS Transportation Committee. The issue of no-fault insurance for motorcycles was discussed, as it has been brought up in committee. ABATE is attempting to gather information on this issue, as the possible cost of such insurance could be very high. Assemblyman Losquadro, who had previously been an insurance agent, will make inquiries about the possible implications of this insurance.

A great example of how an idea was brought up at a monthly membership meeting, and thanks to members networking, became a very productive idea, concerns posting a motorcycle awareness message on the electronic signs outside of fire departments. Initially this idea was brought up by **Kathy Pfeil**, who was instrumental in posting a sign outside of the Mastic Ambulance Building. Member **Jimbo Timms**, heard this, had contacts in the Coram Fire Department, and was able to get our message posted on their sign for the month of May. Member **Jean Bieslen**, who also heard of this, was instrumental in getting this message posted at the Bellport, Hagerman and other Fire Departments.

Thank you to **Brookhaven Town Supervisor Mark Lesko** and **Deputy Town Supervisor Kathy Walsh**, who have sponsored and posted a 4’ x 8’ sign regarding motorcycle awareness on the corner of County Road 83 and State Route 25. This sign will be posted through September. Additionally a certificate of appreciation was presented by the Brookhaven Town Board and Supervisor Mark Lesko to LI ABATE for “dedication to the safety of motorcyclists through promoting motorcycle safety, rider education and awareness.”

With the permission of **Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone** and **Chief of Police Jim Burke**, ten 4' x 8' signs regarding motorcycle safety and awareness have been posted in front of each police precinct for the month of May. Ten more 4' x 5' signs will be posted on various county roads through the month of September.

LI ABATE will begin a motorcycle awareness campaign via radio commercials on WRCN. Details to follow.

It has come to our attention that Allstate Insurance Company was instrumental in having signs posted stating "Watch for Motorcycles" in 30 cities across the nation. The fact that an insurance company is taking the initiative and promoting motorcycle awareness is a very positive step. Member **Steve Sorensen**, has contacted Progressive Insurance on ABATE's behalf as a possible corporate sponsor to fund motorcycle awareness signs.

Suffolk County Police Department representatives will be guest speakers at our June 12th membership meeting at the AM VETS in Ronkonkoma.

LI ABATE continues to receive publicity in local publications. The **Town of Brookhaven** put pictures and an article regarding our recent Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Run on their website, as well as forwarding this to local publications. In addition, **Suffolk County Legislator Tom Muratore** had an article and picture printed in the *Our Place Newsletter*, regarding his attendance at our February membership meeting.

Turmoil continues to exist within the ABATE of NY State Board. More to follow.

6/17 Memory Run for ABATE member and active Patriot Guard member, Bill Early, who recently passed away. All proceeds will go to the family to help with funeral costs, etc. The run will begin at Cross Bay Motor Sports and end at Blacksmith's in Smithtown. \$20 per rider / \$10 per passenger.

Officer's Reports

Stavros / Vice-President: brought to our attention H.R. 904 which prohibits funding of motorcycle only checkpoints. He also presented the certificate of appreciation to members, which was received from the Town of Brookhaven.

Wayne / Vice-President: informed us that **Rich Rossi of Specialized Insurance** has donated \$1.00 for each motorcycle in attendance at the Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Run. Wayne and Gina recently spoke to multiple classes at Centereach High School, regarding motorcycle safety and awareness. Afterward, high school students designed posters which were presented at their district-wide art show depicting their own ideas concerning motorcycle safety and awareness. These posters were also exhibited at our membership meeting.

Gina / Products and Public Relations: Photograph taken of **Brookhaven Town Supervisor Mark Lesko** and **Deputy Town Supervisor Kathy Walsh**, along with LI ABATE board members in front

of the motorcycle awareness sign erected on County Road 83 and State Route 25, will be posted on facebook as well as on our website.

Bob / Sergeant At Arms: wrote and read "Leather and Chrome" which will be printed in our newsletter.

Bill / Treasurer: informs us that military honors for those soldiers who passed away and had no family members in attendance, are held on the second Wednesday of every month at Calverton Cemetery. He also asks for volunteers at the Veterans Run, which will be on 6/10. Bill would like to pay a special tribute to all Vietnam Veterans at this event. Bill was also able to get a second backer to match all funds raised on this run. *Bill, we all thank you for your unending dedication to veterans.*

Wayne O./ Road Captain: thanks everyone who volunteered at the Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Run. Campout tickets are now available. Tickets are \$25 each for the first 200 sold, and \$35 each for the second 200 sold.

Ski / Chaplin: 6/9 Blood Drive at the Rushing Wind Biker Church, to raise money for a scholarship fund for two children of a biker who went down. 6/23 is their Church Sponsored Downed Biker Run, to raise money for their downed biker fund. There is an on-going fundraiser for the month of May at the church for Bob Ursum, the motorcyclist who was injured on the toy run.

Motion 7-2012: Motion to adjourn. (seconded) Meeting adjourned 9:32