

LI ABATE membership meeting 7-12-16, Ronkonkoma, NY

BBQ before the meeting. *Thank you to Joe, Claudia, Jackie and Mike for doing all of the cooking.*

7:35 Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance, Moment of Silence for the tragic events that have taken place in Dallas this past week.

Welcome new members and guests.

***Our website has been hacked. We are currently in the process of rebuilding the site.***

Minutes for the June 2016 membership meeting could not be posted on the website. Hard copied were available for members present at tonight's meeting.

**Motion 19-2016: Motion to accept June 2016 membership meeting minutes. (Seconded) All in favor.**

**Treasurer's Report:** Detailed income and expenditures were reported. *Bill also thanked all who are contributing to the veteran's appreciation fund. All donations will be quadrupled.*

**Motion 20-2016: Motion to accept treasury report. (Seconded) All in favor.**

### **Committee Reports**

**Membership:** Currently, LI ABATE has 1600+ members. *It is imperative that members renew and that we keep our membership numbers up. We are also encouraging all members to recruit new members, as the more members we have, the more effective we can be when we meet with public officials.* Membership pins will no longer be mailed, in effort to save on mailing costs. A coupon will be included with your membership renewal, which can be exchanged for a pin at any membership meeting or LI ABATE booth. If anyone continues to have problems receiving e-mail updates, please see Jackie or Nancy and your e-mail address will be corrected.

**Nancy / Newsletter:** All recent newsletters will be posted on the website when the rebuild is completed.

**Mike / Public Relations:** Mike continues to promote LI ABATE's dealership program in effort to inform motorcyclists about LI ABATE and to gain new members. He also informed new riders about LI ABATE at ***On the Road Again Motorcycle School***. Jim and Mike were also recently interviewed by ***News 12***, regarding motorcycle accidents. An AAA spokesperson was also interviewed, claiming that 95% of all motorcycle deaths in NYS occurred in Suffolk County. Statistics show that 7% - 12% actually occur in Suffolk County. Jim called Drew Scott of News 12 to correct this mistake.

**Doreen / Legislative Liaison:** Doreen reported that the NYS Senate and Assembly is on vacation. She spoke about bill #20757, which would include motorcycle awareness education in defensive driver courses. This bill went through the transportation committee, but has yet to be voted on. Bill # S4892 includes motorcycle awareness in new driver classes. Doreen went on to speak of exhaust pipe modification legislation. **Marty, Mike and Dale** have volunteered to assist Doreen with this legislation. *Currently any exhaust modification, even if modification remains under the NYS required decibel level, is against the law, with a fine up to \$800. This will be included in the proposed legislation.*

**Joe / Safety:** Joe made a list available to members regarding 50 -60 paving projects which are currently being worked on in both Nassau and Suffolk Counties. Joe will also work on a list of upcoming paving projects.

**Kathy / Products:** Kathy has been running great sales on merchandise at membership meetings. Ladies tank tops in white, black and pink, are now available for \$10. LI ABATE t-shirts in a variety of colors are available for \$10. Veterans Appreciation Run t-shirts are \$15. Kathy also has patches for the Veterans Appreciation Run, Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Run and yearly rockers.

### **Old Business**

**Scholarship:** Long Island ABATE has established a scholarship fund, which this year is being dedicated to **Stavros Dalambakis**, who was the inspiration for starting this fund upon his death in February 2015. Two \$500 scholarships will be awarded to children / grandchildren of LI ABATE members. The scholarship committee, **Debbie, Pastor Gerry and Ice Cream John**, have selected the two scholarship recipients: **Logan Rodowicz**, (sponsored by LI ABATE member **Vincent Rodowicz**) and **Tara Boyle**, (sponsored by LI ABATE member **Joy Devine**). We congratulate these two recipients, and wish them much success in their future endeavors.

**Port Jefferson Parking:** LI ABATE has been renting 50 parking spots in the Town of Brookhaven parking lot in order to provide **free** and **unlimited** parking for motorcyclists. This costs LI ABATE \$2500 for the year. The **Business Improvement District of Port Jefferson** has supported this endeavor and has reimbursed LI ABATE \$2000. *This year some members of BID did object to this reimbursement, as motorcycles continue to park on Main Street and remain there for an extended period of time.* Parking on Main St. is limited to 30 minutes. While we do not mandate that motorcycles park in this designated area, we do encourage motorcyclists to take advantage of this free and unlimited parking space to keep this program alive. LI ABATE has been actively trying to inform motorcyclists of this parking area. George and Mike handed out flyers to businesses along Main Street, requesting that they post them in their windows to inform motorcyclists of this free and unlimited parking. We will also put this flyer in **Full**

**Throttle Magazine**, in effort to reach more motorcyclists. Members have commented that they have seen many motorcycles parked in this designated area. We encourage anyone to take pictures of motorcycles parked in this area and send to board so we have proof that this lot is being utilized.

**Motorcycle Only Checkpoints:** On June 12, a motorcycle only checkpoint on the eastbound LIE by SCPD was reported to LI ABATE. Previously, LI ABATE had an agreement with the SCPD to end motorcycle only checkpoints. Since then, however, a new commissioner and new administrators have been in command. Jim spoke in front of the **Suffolk County Public Safety Committee**, after hearing that a motorcyclist was chased by police for not stopping at this checkpoint. He informed the committee of past agreements made with the police department as well as informing them that federal funding is no longer permitted for such checkpoints. **Suffolk County Legislator, Kate Browning**, chair of this committee, spoke to **Police Commissioner, Tom Sini**, and asked that these checkpoints cease until she, the police commissioner and Jim are able to meet. This meeting has been scheduled for August 1. LI ABATE will seek to end these checkpoints through legislation. **Suffolk County Legislator Sarah Anker** has agreed to meet to discuss motorcycle profiling legislation in Suffolk County. In addition, Jim has also been on the live radio show *People, Politics and Power* with **Tom Schillaro**, to speak about motorcycle only checkpoints. *If anyone is pulled over at a motorcycle only checkpoint, please e-mail [LongIslandABATE@aol.com](mailto:LongIslandABATE@aol.com) with details, especially those who are released without being ticketed.* This means that you were profiled because you were riding a motorcycle, not for probable cause.

### **New Business**

**Veterans Appreciation Fundraiser:** In effort to supplement funds raised on the Veterans Appreciation Run (which had a poor turnout due to weather), LI ABATE is hosting a fundraiser at the Red River In, July 31, from 1-6pm. There will be vendors, raffle baskets, food, live music and drink specials. \$15 donation. *Parking will be in lot across the street and at the Yaphank Fire Department.* We would like to thank the **Riverhead Polish Hall** for their very generous donation of \$2000, which was raised from their annual steak dinner. We would also like to thank the **Polish Hall bartenders**, who donated all of their tips for the evening, **Island Federal Credit Union** for their \$500 donation, **Vietnam Veterans Chapter 11** for their \$500 donation, **Leathernecks MC** for their \$300 donation and the **Marine Corp League** for their \$300 donation. Additionally, thank you to our membership, who donated \$708 at the last membership meeting. All of these donations will be quadrupled by our benefactors!

**Governor Cuomo's Breast Cancer Run:** An invitation was sent to members of LI ABATE to join **Governor Cuomo, Sarah Lee, Billy Joel** and others on a run to promote breast cancer screening. The run began at Sunken Meadow, with a stop at Citifield, then on to New Paltz. On the stage

before the run, **Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone** acknowledged and spoke about LI ABATE. Jim, Mike, George and Gary went on this run. Important contacts were made.

**New lawn signs** are now available at membership meetings and LI ABATE booths.

### **LI ABATE Run / Event List**

**July 31** – Veterans Appreciation fundraiser @ Red River, Yaphank. \$15 donation. Food, live music drink specials included.

**August 20-21** LI ABATE Annual Campout, Cathedral Pines County Park. Advance ticket sales will be \$30, increasing to \$40 the day of the campout. Ticket price includes food, music, bike games, bike contest, and camping fee for Saturday night. **Yankee Rebel** will be headlining. Additional music will be provided by **Wildflower** and **Simple Days**.

**November 6** – St. Mary's Food and Toy Run

**December 10** – Holiday Party

**LI ABATE Booths** Nancy is currently putting together a schedule of events where LI ABATE will be setting up a booth in order to hand out motorcycle awareness materials and sign up new members. Last year, we had at least one booth set up almost every weekend. If anyone is willing to volunteer to help us run these booths, please contact Nancy.

Full Throttle Bike Nights: LI ABATE sponsors 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month @ JD Wings, Centereach

7/30- Countryfest, Riverhead

### **Motorcycle Club Runs / Events**

**Patriot Guard Riders:** NOA, No One in Attendance, ceremony the second Wednesday of each month at Calverton National Cemetery. Group meets up by the restrooms at 9:30am. *Bill encourages anyone to be a part of the flag line and honor those who served our country.*

**Full Throttle Bike Nights:** Weekly bike nights will be held Wednesdays @ JD Wings, Centereach.

**Sticky Finger Motorcycle Run:** 7/17 to benefit Stony Brook Cancer Center, Reg. 12 noon, \$30 rider, \$30 passenger(admission gets rider/passenger into the Great South Bay Music Festival), KSU 2:00

**FWW Post 4927:** 7/24, 11:00 – 4:00 Motorcycle Poker Run and Car Show for homeless veterans. VFW Horseblock Road, Centereach. Motorcycles \$20, passengers \$10 includes food, music, bike blessing, raffle prizes.

**Am/Vets:** 7/30, flag line @ Centerport Yacht Club for “Sail Away Program”, which offers veterans a boat ride for the day then dinner afterward. This outing has been proven to be very therapeutic for veterans with PTSD.

**Bob / LI HOG:** 8/7, 13<sup>th</sup> annual Texas Roadhouse Motorcycle Ride. Reg @ Texas Roadhouse, East Meadow, ends @ Deer Park Fire Dept. Training Field, \$30 single rider, \$50 with a passenger, \$10 non-riders, includes breakfast, bbq and concert at end of run.

**Queensboro MC:** 8/14- Summerfest 10am-5pm \$10 donation. Swap meet, bike games, food, beverages, vendors. Fireman’s Field, Baldwin

**Tom / Alliance MC:** 8/21, 20<sup>th</sup> annual Life Ride to benefit Bridges of NY. Starts Eisenhower Park and ends Wantagh Park, \$20 rider / \$10 passenger reg. 10-12, KSU 12 noon.

**Leathernecks MC:** 8/28 VA Hospital Run. All money raised goes to social events for veterans. Leathernecks are collecting socks, underwear, sweatpants, etc. for veterans.

**Dee Snyder Run:** 10/2 to benefit LI Cares

**Ward Melville Heritage Organization** “Motorcycles Across the Decades” is open through 9/5, 10am – 5pm.

**PAD LOCKED IN:** an escape game experience. Ocean Ave., Ronkonkoma. Discounts offered to LI ABATE members.

*Continued thoughts and prayers go to Ron, Harry ,Mark, Josephine and Bill.*

**50/50:** \$115 to the winner.

**Motion 21-2016: Motion to adjourn. (Seconded) All in favor.** Meeting adjourned at 8:58.