

LI ABATE membership meeting 5-9-17, Ronkonkoma, NY

BBQ before the meeting.

7:33 Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance, Moment of Silence for recent fallen motorcyclist, **Chris Vorsik**.

Welcome new members and guests.

Minutes for the April 2017 membership meeting were published in the May 2017 newsletter.

Motion 13-2017: Motion to accept April 2017 membership meeting minutes as published in the May 2017 newsletter. (Seconded) All in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Detailed income and expenditures were reported.

Motion 14-2017: Motion to accept treasury report. (Seconded) All in favor.

Committee Reports

Jackie / Membership: Jackie reported that membership is close to 1800. Memberships can be renewed by mail, online or at a membership meeting. (Membership dues is \$20 per year, \$80 for 5 years or \$10 per year, up to 25 years, for lifetime memberships.) *Jackie urges applicants to please print clearly on membership applications. **It is imperative that members renew and that we keep our membership numbers up. It is the only way we can be effective when we meet with public officials in protecting the rights and safety of motorcyclists.***

Nancy / Newsletter: If you are not receiving LI ABATE newsletters or e-mails via mail chimp, please let Nancy know and the e-mail data base will be updated.

Nancy / Website: Scholarship applications can be printed from our website. *Applications are due by May 30th.* Nancy is again accepting video clips from motorcyclists following the format: *Hi, my name is _____. I am a(n) occupation. And I ride a motorcycle.* As in the past, clips should include motorcyclists in their work attire, then a clip of them on their motorcycles.

Mike / Legislative Liaison: Mike spoke of **ABATE of NY's Freedom Ride**, May 15th in Albany. This event gives motorcyclists the opportunity to lobby their state legislators for legislation that is fair to motorcyclists. LI ABATE is supporting the motorcyclist anti profiling bill and will propose rewording a bill relating to exhaust systems, which would permit motorcyclists to modify their exhaust system, providing the new exhaust system does not exceed the current 86 decibel level standard. Mike reports that Senator LaValle wants to lower the current decibel level from 86 to 82 for motorcycles. Mike also reported that Assemblyman Gant wants to raise the fine from \$100 to \$700 for those ticketed for exhaust violations. Mike suggested that

women riders contact Senator Kirsten Gillibrand for support for motorcyclists, as she is an advocate for women's rights.

Mike / Safety Officer: Mike is looking into getting "Watch for Motorcycles" displayed on digital highway signs. He also spoke of a location, near Bellmore Harley, where motorcycles were not tripping the light, forcing motorcyclists to make a u-turn on Sunrise Hwy. further down the road. He reported this situation and asks motorcyclists to report unsafe conditions to him.

Kathy / Products: Products (crew sweatshirts, \$15, zippered sweatshirts, \$25, hoodies, \$20, t-shirts, \$10, embroidered knit LI ABATE hats, \$15) are available for purchase at membership meetings. Kathy ran a special at tonight's meeting – 1 hoodie sweatshirt + 1 crew neck sweatshirt + 1 t-shirt all for \$40 or 1 year membership + 1 crew sweatshirt + 1 t-shirt all for \$40.

Old Business

Nassau membership meetings continue to be held on the third Tuesday of each month @ 7:30. Meetings are held at the Marine Corp. League Building 99, New York Avenue, Massapequa.

LI ABATE Scholarship: Long Island ABATE Scholarship, which is dedicated to the memory of **Stavros Dalambakis**, and all of our fallen brothers and sisters, is available to the children / grandchildren of LI ABATE members. This year, two \$750 scholarships will be awarded. One scholarship will be awarded to a graduating high school senior who will be attending college / vocational school, and one scholarship will be awarded to a currently matriculating college / vocational student. Scholarship applications are available on the LI ABATE website and due by May 30th.

Motorcycle Awareness Road Signs: We have 4 x 4 motorcycle awareness signs ready to be posted on county roads for the motorcycle season. *We are looking for volunteers to help post these signs.* If anyone knows of additional properties where we could post 4 x 4 signs with permission, in Suffolk and in Nassau, please let board know.

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. We will do this again for the 2017 riding season. This costs LI ABATE \$2500 for the year. Through the efforts of **Tommy Schaeffer, President of the Business Improvement District of Port Jefferson**, BID has supported this endeavor and has reimbursed LI ABATE \$2000. While we do not mandate that motorcycles park in this designated area, we do encourage motorcyclists to take advantage of this free, unlimited parking space, as BID will not continue to reimburse us if these spots are not being utilized. Parking on Main St. is strictly limited to 30 minutes (they do chalk tires) for all motorists.

National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM) Conference will be held in Reno, Nevada May 11- May 14. Jim and Mike will be attending. **Attorney, Mitch Proner**, will be picking up travel expenses. This is another great opportunity to network and to discuss issues that face motorcyclists from across the country.

New Business

Court Case: Motorcyclist **Chris Vorsik**, was killed on College Road in Selden by an alleged drunk driver. LI ABATE will be following this case. A preliminary hearing will occur May 11 in Central Islip.

Town of Brookhaven Motorcycle Awareness Signs: Brookhaven Town will again post motorcycle awareness signs in each council district. Each sign will post the Councilperson's name along with LI ABATE. A press conference is being coordinated to show that LI ABATE and local municipalities are working together for motorcycle awareness. *Thank you to **Kathy Pfeil** for helping this to occur again this year.*

Fire Rescue Emergency Services will request, on behalf of LI ABATE, that a motorcycle awareness sign / message be displayed in front of fire departments and ambulance companies.

NYS Governor's Traffic Safety Committee Grant request has been successfully submitted, thanks to **Lotus from ABATE of Oklahoma**. Mike and Jim met her last year while attending an MRF Conference in Oklahoma. She offered to help us write a grant and ended up writing a 51 page grant. LI ABATE is requesting funds for educational and awareness materials as well as funds to spread the motorcycle awareness message to the public sector through various media outlets.

Your Island Radio Show: LI ABATE is once again sponsoring *Your Island* radio show with host **Tom Schillaro**, who is also a LI ABATE member, for 10 weeks. The radio show airs Monday through Friday on 103.9, from 12:00pm – 2:00pm. Jim has been a frequent guest on this show, speaking about a variety of motorcyclist's issues. A sponsorship would give LI ABATE the opportunity to air commercials multiple times during the show, as well as the host talking about LI ABATE and urging others to join.

USDA Educational and Safety Seminar: This year Jim and Kathy will be giving a motorcycle awareness presentation to all attendees.

MRF / Bikers in the Beltway: The Motorcycle Riders Foundation, MRF, advocates for motorcyclists on a federal level. Jim, Mike, and Nick will be attending their annual Bikers in the Beltway on May 22-23. Legislative packets will be given and participants will lobby their local congressmen for specific motorcycle legislation.

Wounded Warriors Amputee Softball Team will be playing a softball game May 21 at the ball field on Horseblock Road and Rt. 112 (across from Lowe's) at 12:00. The **Patriot Guard Riders**, along with LI ABATE will be escorting the team to the field. KSU at 11:00, Radisson Hotel, Motor Parkway to escort. These amazing veterans travel the country to show other wounded veterans that there are no limitations. They also sponsor a camp for young amputees. Come cheer these very motivational players on. Admission is free / Donations are accepted.

Riverhead Polish Hall Annual Steak Dinner will be held June 14, Flag Day. Tickets are \$20 each. If anyone is interested in attending, Bill Quinn has tickets. Last year all raffle money proceeds were donated to LI ABATE's *Veterans Appreciation Fund*. This donation totaled \$2500, which became \$10,000 with the matching funds from three private donors.

LI ABATE Run / Event List

June 11 – 2017 Veterans Appreciation Run. The run will begin at the Riverhead Elks and end in Montauk. *All proceeds from this run will be quadrupled by three private donors and given to local veterans organizations.* **Kathy Pfeil** has gotten the **42nd Infantry Division Band** to play at Montauk. A bugler will also be present to play *Taps*. Sign up is from 9am-11am at the Riverhead Elks, \$20 per person.

August 19-20 - LI ABATE Annual Campout. Advance tickets are \$30, \$40 the day of the campout. Ticket price includes lunch, dinner, live music, bike games, bike contest and camping fees for Saturday night. **Lisa Polizzi** will be headlining this year, along with **Wildflower** and late night with **Simple Days**.

November 5 – Food and Toy Run

December 9 – Holiday Party

LI ABATE Booths

Nancy will be compiling a calendar of scheduled LI ABATE booth dates and locations. If anyone is willing to volunteer, please contact Nancy or Andrea.

2nd Wednesday of the month, May through October – **Full Throttle Bike Nights**, Meadowlands Bar and Grill, East Meadow

2nd Thursday of the month, June, July, August – Bike Night @ Red River In

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.*

5/27 – Memorial Day Weekend 9:30 Flag Placement on the graves of veterans at Calverton National Cemetery, section 42. 6/3 – removal of flags.

Bayport Aerodrome Society: 3rd annual Celebration of Vintage Transportation, 5/21, 10am-4pm. \$10 to enter car or bike in the show. Trophies awarded in each class. Contact Mudfish at 6316825973 to enter. Space is limited.

Bikers for Christ Motorcycle Ministry: June – Downed Biker Run

Founding Sons Law Enforcement / Military MC: 7/16, 5th Annual Kick Stands Up Motorcycle Poker Run and Car Show. *Proceeds to benefit homeless veterans.* 11am – 4pm, 939 Johnson Ave, Ronkonkoma. Motorcycles / cars \$20, passengers \$10, registration starts 9:30, includes buffet lunch, poker run cash prizes.

LI HOG: 8/6 – 14th Annual Texas Roadhouse Motorcycle Ride *to benefit Homes for our Troops.* Registration @ Texas Roadhouse, East Meadow \$30 single rider, \$50 with passenger. Ride goes to Deer Park Fire Dept. Training Field. Fees include breakfast, bbq and concert at the end of the ride.

Leathernecks MC: 10/29 VA Hospital Run. Run begins at the Marine Corp League, Massapequa and goes to the VA Hospital, Northport, then back to the Marine Corp League for after party.

50 / 50: \$108 to the winner. *Winner generously donated all winnings to the Veterans Appreciation Fund.*

Motion 15-2017: Motion to adjourn. (Seconded) All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:55.