

Long Island ABATE 5-8-18 Membership Meeting, Ronkonkoma, NY

BBQ before the meeting.

7:34 Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance, Moment of Silence.

Welcome new members and guests.

Guest Speaker

Pat Hahn, is the *We The People* endorsed candidate for the U.S. Senate. Pat spoke about his support for the motorcycle community and signed up as a LI ABATE member. For more information, go to WWW.HAHN-USSENATE2018.COM. *LI ABATE welcomes any political candidate to come to a membership meeting to show their support for the motorcycle community.*

The minutes for our April 2018 membership meeting were published in the May 2018 newsletter and on the LI ABATE website.

Motion 10-2018: Motion to accept April 2018 membership meeting minutes as published in the May 2018 newsletter. (Seconded) All in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Bill was not at tonight's meeting, therefore income and expenditures were not reported.

Committee Reports

Nancy /2nd Vice-President / Website: Campout tickets are now available on the website. 2018 LI ABATE Scholarship applications are also available on the website. **Newsletter:** Anyone wishing to advertise in our monthly newsletter, please contact Nancy. *If you are not receiving LI ABATE newsletters or e-mails, please let Nancy know and the e-mail data base will be updated.*

George / Membership: To date, there are 2,020 members on the books. George will be focusing on getting expired members to renew. Memberships can be renewed by mail, online or at a membership meeting. Memberships can be renewed at any time. Your current membership will be extended for one year. ***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.***

Mike / Legislative Officer: Mike has made appointments to meet with four congressmen in Washington D.C. during the MRF Bikers in the Beltway legislative lobby day. **Safety Officer:**

Mike encourages all motorcyclists to brush up on riding skills by attending a safety seminar, or participate in an advanced rider course.

Andrea /Public Relations /Volunteer Coordinator: Unfortunately, Andrea will be moving and will not be able to continue in her role as public relations officer and volunteer coordinator.

Kathy / Products: T-shirts, ladies tank tops and ladies v-neck shirts are now available at \$10 each. Kathy also displayed a sample LI ABATE cut-off shirt. If anyone is interested in this shirt, please see Kathy as they will only be purchased by pre-ordering. Large canvas shopping bags with the LI ABATE logo are being ordered.

Old Business

LI ABATE 2018 Motorcyclist Handbook are now available.

2018 LI ABATE Scholarships: LI ABATE will be awarding three scholarships this year: two \$500 scholarships for graduating high school seniors and one \$500 scholarship for an already matriculating student in either a college or vocational school program. Scholarship applications are posted on our website. LI ABATE members' children and grandchildren are eligible to apply. Applications are due by June 30, 2018.

NYS Governor's Traffic Safety Committee Grant: LI ABATE was awarded \$29,400 for the year 2018, for educational and awareness materials to spread the motorcycle awareness message to the public sector. This year we will focus our awareness campaign on reducing the number of serious motorcycle accidents due to a driver making a left turn in front of a motorcyclist. We have been approved to purchase \$3,000 worth of new lawn signs. We have also submitted proposals for highway signs, billboard truck rental, signs on Suffolk County buses, etc. All proposals must be approved by the GTSC. LI ABATE must lay out the money to produce these materials, then will be reimbursed by the grant funds. In addition, with assistance from **Lotus, ABATE of Oklahoma**, LI ABATE has submitted a new grant application for \$79,700 for 2019. As a way of expressing our appreciation to Lotus, LI ABATE has donated \$1,000 to ABATE of Oklahoma to help them with motorcycle awareness.

Motorcycle Awareness Signs: Motorcycle awareness signs are now posted in front of all Suffolk County police stations for the month of May. In addition, Jim filed for permits to have motorcycle awareness signs posted on county roads through the summer. We are looking for volunteers to post these signs along Suffolk County roadways. LI ABATE member, **Pat O'Hara**, spoke with **Babylon Town Clerk Gerry Compitello**, and asked her if she would permit the posting of motorcycle awareness signs in the Town of Babylon. She was very receptive, and agreed to have signs made and posted.

LI ABATE has requested a meeting with the new Suffolk County District Attorney, and the new Suffolk County Police Commissioner, in order to introduce ourselves and establish a rapport, with the hope of establishing the fair treatment of motorcyclists.

Wounded Warriors Amputee Softball Team travel the country to play softball and encourage veterans, and others, that they can live their life to the fullest, even though gravely injured. They will play on 5/20 @ 12:30 at the Medford Sports Complex. The PGR, USVMC and LI ABATE have been invited to provide the team a motorcycle escort to the ballfield. The WWAST is also selling t-shirts to raise money for the team's travel expenses. A donation will be made to the LI ABATE Veterans Appreciation Fund for each shirt sold.

National Coalition of Motorcycles: 5/10 - 12, Alabama. Jim and George will attend.

MRF Bikers in the Beltway: 5/14 – 15, Legislative Lobby Day. Jim, Nick and Mike will attend. One of the legislative priorities will be the anti-profiling of motorcyclists.

Jim was made aware that the driver who caused the motorcycle accident involving **Ron Starke**, who ultimately lost his leg, was very sorry for his actions and wanted to express his remorse to the motorcycle community. After a lengthy discussion at the April meeting, members felt that the driver could best serve the motorcycle community by speaking about this experience to high school driver's education classes. Jim spoke to Ron about what occurred at the meeting, and Ron expressed his appreciation of the position that members took.

New Business

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 2018 riding season. This costs LI ABATE \$2500 for the year. 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 parking on Main St. is strictly limited to 30 minutes (they do chalk tires) for all motorists.

Lynyrd Skynyrd will be playing at Jones Beach 6/23. If anyone is interested in going to the show and selling CD's before the show, they can get in for free. CD's are of Skynyrd's greatest hits and will cost \$20 (\$10 will go to the band and \$10 will go to the **Shriner's Children's Hospital**). Please contact Jim if interested.

LI ABATE Run / Event List

June 10 - Veterans Appreciation Run. Registration will be at the Riverhead ELKS, \$20 per person. This year we will end the run at Havens Beach in Sag Harbor, to honor Lance Corporal **Jordan Haerter**, on the 10th anniversary of his death in Ramadi, Iraq. We will also be honoring

the Leathernecks MC. Bill has spoken to the mayor of Sag Harbor, who is very enthusiastic about our arrival. *All proceeds from this run will be quadrupled and given to local veterans organizations.* For an additional \$5, an after party will be set up at the Riverhead Elks. Food and music by *Sucker Punch* will be included.

August 18-19 - LI ABATE Annual Campout. Presale tickets are now available @ \$30. (Tickets will be \$40 the day of the campout.)

November 4 – Food and Toy Run

December 8 – Holiday Party

LI ABATE Booths

May 19 – Oakdale Harley Anniversary Party

June 15, 16, 17 – Strawberry Festival, Mattituck

June 23 – Nassau Harley

September 12 – 16 – Catskill Mountain Thunder @ Blackthorn, Durham, NY

If anyone is interested in volunteering at a LI ABATE booth, please contact Nancy. We greatly appreciate any assistance.

Motorcycle 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. *Approximately 20-30 veterans are buried each month with no family in attendance. Karen encourages anyone to be a part of the flag line and honor those who served our country.*

If anyone is interested in joining the Patriot Guard Riders, go to PGRNY.org to sign up. There is no registration fee or dues. You will receive e-mails with the dates and times of PGR missions.

Bayport Aerodrome Antique Motorcycle Show – 5/20. (Use the North entrance to the Aerodrome, off Nichols Road / Church Street.)

Bikers for Christ MM / Rushing Wind Biker Church: 6/16 Down Biker Run, \$20pp. Run begins at the Rushing Wind Biker Church and ends at Motorcycle Mike's.

Rhinebeck Antique Motorcycle show and Swap Meet - 6/15-16.

Founding Sons Law Enforcement / Military MC: 7/22, 6th Annual Kick Stands Up Motorcycle Poker Run and Car Show. 11am -4pm @ Amphitheater at Bald Hill. KSU Registration 8-10, KSU11am, \$20 motorcycles and cars. *Proceeds to benefit homeless veterans.*

America's 9-11 Foundation Ride: 8/16 meet in Somerset, PA to ride to Shanksville, PA. 8/17 ride from Somerset, PA to Pentagon. 8/18 ride from Pentagon to Ground Zero, NYC. Ride limited to 600 bikes. \$160rider / \$40 passenger. Ride will be fully escorted. For more information go to Americas9-11FoundationRide.org.

Leathernecks MC – 10/21 - 17th annual VA Hospital Run. Reg. 9:00 Marine Corps League, Massapequa, \$20 rider / \$10 passenger. (includes food, music, door prizes)

Open Floor

Am Vets Post 1174: 5/24 Paint and Sip Fundraiser, 7-9pm, American Legion, Bohemia. E-mail ges242@optonline.net to reserve.

Memorial Day HD Motorcycle Raffle to benefit family of Lt. Christopher Raguso, FDNY. Drawing 6/9, tickets \$50 each. For more info or to order go to www.marceejay.com.

Steak Dinner at the Riverhead Polish Hall: 6/14, \$30pp. *All proceeds from the 50/50 and the raffles will go to LI ABATE's Veterans Appreciation Fund.* LI ABATE has reserved 2 tables. For tickets, see Bill or Jim or contact mikeosip@optonline.net .

50/50: \$90 to the winner.

Motion 11-2018: Motion to adjourn. (Seconded) All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:52