

Long Island ABATE 7-10-18 Membership Meeting, Ronkonkoma, NY

BBQ before the meeting.

7:34 Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Welcome new members and guests.

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

Motion 15-2018: Motion to accept June 2018 membership meeting minutes as published in the July 2018 newsletter and posted on the LI ABATE website. (Seconded) All in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Detailed income and expenditures were reported

Motion 16-2018: Motion to accept treasury report. (Seconded) All in favor.

Committee Reports

George / Membership: To date, there are 2,040 members on the books. Membership year pins are available at membership meetings and LI ABATE booths. George is 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.***

Nancy / Vice President / Website: Campout tickets are available at membership meetings, LI ABATE booths and on the LI ABATE website. Advance tickets are \$30, \$40 the day of the campout. Nancy will post Veterans Appreciation Run pictures on the website. **Newsletter:** Motorcycle event flyers will be included in our newsletter for one month free of charge. Please let Nancy know.

Josephine / Public Relations: Jim introduced Josephine as LI ABATE's new public relations person, as Andrea has recently moved. *Thank you Josephine for volunteering for this important position.*

Kathy / Products: T-shirts were sold at tonight's meeting at 3 for \$25, year rockers 3 for \$1 and patches were \$1 each.

Debbie / 2018 LI ABATE Scholarships: LI ABATE awarded 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. A total of nine scholarship applications were submitted, six from graduating high school seniors and three from matriculating college students. The high school winners were **Benjamin Bradfield**, who will be pursuing a math major at Queens College, and **Kieran McLaughlin**, who will be attending SUNY Maritime. The college winner was **Angelina Bradfield**, who is studying to become a physician's assistant at Queens College. *Congratulations to all the 2018 winners.*

Scholarship committee suggested changing the award recipients for 2019 to one high school graduating senior and one matriculating college student. Each scholarship would total \$1,000. The committee also suggested starting a \$500 Enlistment Appreciation Award for a high school senior who is entering the military. Separate fundraisers would be planned to raise money for these awards. All suggestions were met with approval by those LI ABATE members in attendance at tonight's meeting.

Old Business

Veterans Appreciation Run: Donations continue to come in for the Veterans Appreciation Fund. The Riverhead Polish Hall held a steak dinner on flag day, in which the proceeds from their Chinese auction, \$2800, were donated to LI ABATE's veterans fund. Thank you to **Mike Osip**, for again making this incredible donation. In addition, the winner of the 50/50 donated \$630 to LI ABATE's veterans fund. All donations will be quadrupled. We would also like to thank **Ron Monteleone** for submitting an article about the run for publication in the ***South Shore Press***.

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 purchased \$3,000 worth of lawn signs displaying this message. We have also submitted proposals for additional highway signs, which were approved, however we have encountered obstacles posting them. LI ABATE has submitted a new grant application for \$79,700 for 2019.

Lynyrd Skynyrd played at Jones Beach 6/23. Jim thanked all who volunteered to sell CD's before the show in effort to raise money for the **Shriner's Children's Hospital**. (CD's were a collection of Skynyrd's songs. \$10 went to the band and \$10 went to the **Shriner's Children's Hospital**).

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. This meeting is still pending.

New Business

R&D Racing: Jim wanted to clarify that LI ABATE does not sponsor R&D Racing. The owner is appreciative of what LI ABATE does, and hung a LI ABATE banner to offer exposure. Similarly, WWAST (Wounded Warriors Amputee Softball Team) banner / stickers were posted in attempt to give publicity and exposure.

Motorcycle Accidents: **Joseph Jacob**, 25, was riding 03 Yamaha on LIE exit 62 when he hit the guardrail and was killed. Specific details unknown. **JohnGreene**, 49, was riding 95 Harley, south on Vets at Sunrise Hwy, when he stuck barricade and was killed. Details unknown. **Chris and Rose Pesce** were hit by Desri Medlock on July 8th. Both survived the crash, however Rose suffered serious injury and was in surgery at the time of this meeting. Medlock was allegedly high on PCP and fled the scene. Jim and Mike attended his arraignment where it was learned that the driver has a previous felony and two misdemeanors. Jim advocated on behalf of Chris and Rose to the ADA. The driver was held on \$20K cash or \$45K bond.

First Amendment violation: There is a new vendor at Cedar Beach in the Town of Babylon, who had a “no colors” sign posted outside his establishment. It is a First Amendment right for colors to be worn, and government entities are not permitted to discriminate. Since Cedar Beach is a Suffolk County beach, the vendor must follow this law, as the establishment is government property. Jim contacted **Double D**, who wrote and sent a letter to the Town of Babylon expressing this First Amendment discrimination. LI ABATE will follow up.

LI ABATE Run / Event List

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

June 23 – Nassau Harley

August 25 – US Military Vets @ American Legion, Mastic

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.

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.*

US Veterans MC National – 8/5 Mid-summer bash

Alliance MC – 8/19 22nd Annual Life Ride Event to benefit Bridges of New York. Reg. 10-12 @ Eisenhower Par, parking field one. \$20 per rider, \$10 per passenger. State Troopers will escort this ride.

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

50/50: \$90 to the winner.

Motion 17-2018: Motion to adjourn. (Seconded) All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:36.