

Long Island ABATE 11-12-19 Membership Meeting, Centereach VFW Centereach, NY

Buffet dinner served before the meeting. *Thank you to Nancy, for all the cooking for tonight's meeting.*

7:50 Meeting began

Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

Welcome new members and guests.

*Thank you to LI HOG for the deal on the new PA system. A special thank you to **George Marchelos** for donating two tripods for the speakers.*

The minutes for our September 2019 membership meeting were posted on the LI ABATE website.

Motion 30-2019: Motion to accept September 2019 membership meeting minutes as posted on the LI ABATE website. (Seconded) All in favor.

The minutes for our October 2019 membership meeting were posted on the LI ABATE website.

Motion 31-2019: Motion to accept October 2019 membership meeting minutes as posted on the LI ABATE website. (Seconded) All in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report not given as Bill was not present at tonight's meeting. *Facebook donations for LI ABATE's general fund totaled \$1630. Special thank you to **Mike Levine** for his \$500 donation.*

Old Business

LI ABATE Lottery: LI ABATE held a fundraiser based on the NYS evening daily numbers. The lottery runs from July 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019. Approximately 500 tickets were sold with an average payout of \$500 per month. *Thank you to **George and Debbie Stondell** for administering and managing this lottery.* The top lottery ticket sellers were: **Karen Wirth** 1st prize \$100, **Griff Wolz**, 2nd prize \$75, and **Sherril Hart** 3rd prize \$50. LI ABATE will repeat this lottery fundraiser July 2020 through December 2020.

2019 LI ABATE Scholarships: \$2,000 was awarded for the 2019 LI ABATE Scholarships. \$1,000 was awarded to **Vanessa Gironde**, graduating high school senior, and \$1,000 was awarded to **Sophie Greenseich**, a matriculating college student.

Military Appreciation Award: This year LI ABATE also awarded a Military Appreciation Award to a graduating high school senior entering the military. \$500 was awarded to **Brandon Johnson**, who enlisted in the United States Marine Corp.

LI ABATE Truck: **Wayne Lefferts** from **Wayne Blast Creations**, wrapped the LI ABATE truck. *Thank you, Wayne for your continued support for LI ABATE. Also, thank you again to **Chris Beckhans, Joe Pizzo** and **Billy "Boots"**, for working on the truck.*

National Motorcycle Anti-Profiling Bill: This bill fights discrimination on a national and state level. In 2018, US Senate voted 100-0 to approve this bill. It then needed a companion bill in Congress. The MRF lobbied for this all through 2019. The bill has the full support of **Congressman Lee Zeldin**, whose name is on the bill. There are now 108 cosponsors nationally. *NYS had the most responders for a "call to action" to get their congressional representatives to sponsor this bill.*

Veterans Appreciation Fund: The 2020 Veterans Appreciation Fund is underway with a donation jug being passed around. *Through the generosity of the motorcycle community, and our three private benefactors, LI ABATE was able to donate \$160,000 to local veteran organizations in 2019.*

LI ABATE Campout: This year was LI ABATE's 15th annual campout. Unfortunately, over the years, attendance has been dwindling. This year LI ABATE took a large financial hit due to the poor attendance. It was time to consider reorganizing or cancelling the event. A "Save the Campout" committee was formed to revitalize this event, with **Rosemary Marchlowska** at the helm. Anyone with any ideas to improve the campout, please let us know. There will be a Chinese Auction Fundraiser 12/15 at the Red River to raise money for this event. We are seeking donation baskets to raffle off.

New Business

LI ABATE Food and Toy Run: We had a great turn out for the Food and Toy Run. Toys and food were packed inside the newly wrapped LI ABATE truck, and \$2200 was raised. Thank you to **Road Captain Joe Pizzo** for mapping the route and to **Bill Forrester**, who was instrumental in getting the Suffolk County Sheriffs to escort the run. A special thank you to all the participants. You do make a difference in the lives of needy children and families each holiday season.

2020 Meeting Location: Members preferred to hold monthly membership meetings at the Centereach VFW. We are currently in discussions about renting the meeting room for 2020. There will be no membership meeting in December.

Cars for Veterans: Centereach VFW gives away cars to veterans. If anyone knows of a deserving veteran who needs a car, contact the VFW. Applications are available.

Motorcycle Accident: LI ABATE member, **Mike Ryan**, was cut off in front of *Insignia Restaurant* in Smithtown while riding his motorcycle. He lost part of his leg. **Mike Sauger**, who also lost his leg in a motorcycle accident, spoke to Mike and encouraged him to continue to live life to its fullest. Mike Ryan was in good spirits at a recent fundraiser being held for him.

Committee Reports

Nancy / 2nd Vice President: If you are not receiving LI ABATE newsletters or e-mails, please let Nancy know and the e-mail data base will be updated. Many e-mails are going to a SPAM / junk mail folder, so please check this folder. **Membership:** Nancy will be assisting George with membership. ***If anyone is having a problem with their membership, please let Nancy know so that it may be resolved.*** 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.***

Josephine / Public Relations: An article about the Veterans Appreciation Dinner was printed in the November 6th edition of the *South Shore Press*.

Gary / Volunteer Coordinator: Gary thanks all who volunteered for LI ABATE's runs / events this year.

Election Nominations

Nominations for LI ABATE Officers for 2020 will be taken again tonight. New officers will take effect in January. Our corporation is set up to include five trustees: **President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Treasurer, and Membership Secretary**. Elections will be held for these five titles. These five elected officers will then appoint six more officers, who will also be voting board members: **Sergeant at Arms, Recording Secretary, Legislative Liaison, Public Relations, Safety Officer and Road Captain**. In addition to these eleven voting board members, other positions will be appointed. These positions are non-voting board members: **Newsletter, Webmaster, Products Volunteer Coordinator, and Chaplain**. We encourage all who are interested to become involved.

Motion 32-2019: Motion to reopen nominations for 2020 LI ABATE Officers. (Seconded) All in favor

President

At the October meeting, **Jim Barr** was nominated for the office of President. Jim accepted the nomination. There were no additional nominations at tonight's meeting.

Motion 33-2019: Motion to close nominations for President. (Seconded) All in favor

1st Vice President:

At the October meeting, **Nick LaMort** was nominated for the office of 1st Vice President. Nick respectfully declined the nomination due to increased work obligations.

Mike Lauro was nominated for the office of 1st Vice President. Mike accepted the nomination. There were no additional nominees for 1st Vice President at tonight's meeting.

Motion 34-2019: Motion to close nominations for 1st Vice President. (Seconded) All in favor.

2nd Vice President:

Nancy Greenseich was nominated for the office of 2nd Vice President. Nancy respectfully declined.

Chris Beckhans was nominated for the office of 2nd Vice President. Chris accepted the nomination.

There were no additional nominees for 2nd Vice President at tonight's meeting.

Motion 35-2019: Motion to close nominations for 2nd Vice President. (Seconded) All in favor.

Treasurer:

Bill Quinn was nominated for the office of Treasurer. Bill accepted the nomination. There were no additional nominees for Treasurer at tonight's meeting.

Motion 36-2019: Motion to close nominations for Treasurer. (Seconded) All in favor.

Membership Secretary:

Nancy Greenseich was nominated for the office of Membership Secretary. (seconded) Nancy accepted the nomination.

There were no additional nominees for Membership Secretary at tonight's meeting.

Motion 37-2019: Motion to close nominations for Membership Secretary. (Seconded) All in favor.

Motion 38-2019: Motion for Recording Secretary to cast one ballot for all unopposed officers. (Seconded) All in favor

LI ABATE Run / Event List

12/14 – Holiday Party, Grille in the Ville, Farmingville. Free to LI ABATE members, \$10 non members.

Motorcycle Clubs 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. Bill 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.

Pat / LI HOG: 12/8 LI HOG Annual Toy Run. Registration 10:00 Babylon Town Hall, KSU 12:00. Run goes to Little Flower. *Please bring unwrapped gifts for teens / tweens.*

Floor

Debbie / Am Vets: Debbie presented Josephine with a blue star banner. Josephine's son is presently on active duty.

Karen Wirth expressed gratitude on behalf of the Jewish War Veterans Post for LI ABATE's donation to them at the Veterans Appreciation Dinner.

50 /50: \$65 to the winner. *Winnings were donated to the Veterans Appreciation Fund.*

Motion 27-2019: Motion to adjourn. (Seconded) All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:04.