

Long Island ABATE 2-20-20 Membership Meeting, Centereach VFW Centereach, NY

Barbeque before the meeting.

7:35 Meeting began

Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence for the two Special Forces Soldiers killed in Afghanistan.

Welcome members and guests.

The minutes for our January 2020 membership meeting were posted on the LI ABATE website.

Motion 4-2020: Motion to accept January 2020 membership meeting minutes as posted on the LI ABATE website. (Seconded) All in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Detailed income and expenditures were reported

Motion 5-2020: Motion to accept treasurer's report. (Seconded) All in favor.

Old Business

LI ABATE Lottery: LI ABATE's lottery fundraiser tickets are now available at \$20. The ticket numbers are based on the NYS evening daily numbers and have the potential of winning multiple times. The lottery will run from July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

National Motorcycle Anti-Profiling Bill: House Resolution 255 fights discrimination of motorcyclists on a national and state level. The MRF lobbied for this all through 2019. There are now 135 cosponsors nationally. The bill has the full support of **Congressman Lee Zeldin**, whose name is on the bill. Another "call to action" went out last month via e-mail. A prewritten letter will automatically be forwarded to your congressional representative, asking them to sign on to this bill. Congressman Peter King has not yet signed on to this bill. If your congressional representative has already signed on, then a thank you letter will automatically be forwarded. *NYS had the most responders for a "call to action" in the past 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. *Thank you to the **United States Veterans Motorcycle Club** for their generous \$1500 donation. This donation will be quadrupled and become \$6000.*

LI ABATE 2020 Motorcyclist Handbook: If anyone is interested in advertising in the 2020 Motorcyclist Handbook, please let Nancy know. Advertising prices remain the same as last year, \$100 for a full-page ad and \$50 for a half-page ad. (If advertising art is needed, an

additional \$25 fee will be imposed.) *A calendar of motorcycle runs / events will again be included in the centerfold.*

Open Mic Nights: Long Island ABATE and the Centereach VFW are sponsoring an “*Open Mic Night*” every Wednesday night from 7:00 – 9:30, in the lounge at the VFW. LI ABATE member, Loriann, from *Wildflower* and *Simple Days*, volunteered to run the Open Mic nights. There is a cash bar and food available. All proceeds are split between LI ABATE and the Centereach VFW. *Jim gave Bill (Treasurer) \$750 cash, along with an expense and profit report. This was LI ABATE’s profit share thus far. Come join us Wednesday nights!*

New Business

Social Media Coordinator: LI ABATE will be implementing a new title on the board. The social media coordinator will oversee the website, on-line newsletter, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc. Nancy is currently performing these tasks and will be the social media coordinator. If anyone is interested in assisting Nancy with any of these tasks, please let her know.

MRF CQ State Track: LI ABATE paid \$350 to the MRF (Motorcycle Riders Foundation), to give us 12 months of access to their data base. This access includes e-mail updates to designated board members relating to any state legislation pertaining to motorcycles. This service also includes *calls to action* where responses are automatically forwarded to your congressional representative when you enter your zip code.

Wild Apricot System for Membership: LI ABATE is looking into this system, which runs a database of memberships. Renewal notices will automatically be generated via e-mail. Members can renew online and download membership cards. LI ABATE currently has over 2,200 members in our database.

Veterans for a More Responsive Government: 1st Annual Veterans in Need Recognition Dinner will be held 2/28 at *Patrizia’s* of Hauppauge. LI ABATE has been chosen to receive a recognition award, the “Freedom Award”, for the support we give to our veterans in need. Proceeds from this dinner will go to the building of a basketball and athletic court at Phoenix House in Ronkonkoma, which helps veterans suffering from addiction “move to recovery”.

Suffolk County Traffic and Safety Board: Bill Forrester attended the last board meeting. He reports that a new traffic light sensor is being tested in Lyndenhurst, which is supposed to be sensitive to motorcycles. If successful, this sensor will be implemented in more locations.

Nassau County Traffic and Safety Board: Dale Solomon is the LI ABATE representative to this board. She reported that Nassau County Police were interested in speaking at a Nassau membership meeting. Dale will set this up.

Nassau County March Membership Meeting: The third Tuesday of March is St. Patrick's Day. It was proposed that the Nassau County March membership meeting be cancelled.

Motion 6-2020: Motion to cancel March membership meeting in Nassau County. (Seconded) All in favor.

National Council of Clubs: NCOOC conference will be held in Mississippi 2/24 – 2/16. Patch holders from around the country get together to discuss motorcycle issues. Jim has been invited to speak about the importance of patch holders and independent riders working together to address issues of concern to motorcyclists.

ABATE of NY Freedom Rally will be held in Albany on 5/18. Motorcyclists from across the state of NY will lobby NYS Assembly and Senate representatives on issues relating to motorcycling. LI ABATE members are encouraged to attend.

Bikers in the Beltway: MRF lobby day in Washington D.C. will be Tuesday, 5/19. This is an opportunity for motorcyclists from across the country to lobby US Congressional and Senatorial Representatives about targeted issues relating to motorcycling. There will be an informative meeting Monday 5/18 at 6pm. Lobbying packets will be handed out.

Centereach VFW Memorial Day Parade will be held 5/24. LI ABATE has been invited to ride in this parade. More information to follow.

American Legion Riders, Elmont invited LI ABATE to guest speak at their March membership meeting. Jim and Chris will attend.

Officer Reports

Chris / 2nd Vice President: Chris is looking for vendors / service providers to give discounts to LI ABATE members. A list of these vendors / service providers will be included in the 2020 Motorcyclist Handbook and on the LI ABATE website.

Nancy / Membership: 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. ***If anyone is having a problem with their membership, please let Nancy know so that it may be resolved.*** Credit is being given to those that have automatically renewed on line and have additionally paid for a membership renewal. 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.***

Debbie / Legislative Coordinator: Debbie is currently tracking bills in the transportation committee. One pertaining to exhaust, 2560, proposes raising penalty from \$100 to \$750. She will send letters to all NYS Congressional Representatives denouncing this bill. She is also working with Assembly Representatives to abolish the current exhaust pipe law. A second bill, AB5098, relates to putting motorcycle awareness signs on state highways. She also reports that a new helmet law proposal is being floated. (If current law is repealed, a new law will be ready to take it's place immediately.) Locally, Debbie is working on getting motorcycle spots in county facilities and parks. She conveys that the state and local representatives she has spoken to are supportive of LI ABATE.

Josephine / Public Relations: Josephine is working with Ron Monteleone and Maureen Griffin on social media videos promoting LI ABATE. The goal is to get more people involved in our organization.

Gary / Volunteer Coordinator: If anyone is interested in volunteering to assist with LI ABATE runs, events, booths, etc. please see Gary. *We need volunteers!*

Bill / Donations Coordinator: Bill is going around to companies and corporations for donations which will supplement and decrease our meeting and event expenses. This in turn, will allow us to focus our funds on motorcycle awareness.

Kathy / Products: Colored crew neck sweatshirts are \$15. We also have long sleeved LI ABATE shirts, *with Long Island ABATE down the sleeves*, for \$15. Sizes range from small to 4X.

LI ABATE Run / Event List

4/19 – Safety and Awareness Run in conjunction with ***Full Throttle Magazine*** and ***Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone***. Run will begin at the H. Lee Dennison Building in Hauppauge. *All funds raised at this event will be dedicated to LI ABATE's 2020 Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Campaign.*

6/14 – Veterans Appreciation Run

8/1 – Nassau County Firefighters Operation Wounded Warrior and LI ABATE Veterans Appreciation Day. Proceeds to help veterans in Nassau County. *Wounded Warriors Amputee Softball Team* will play at Eisenhower Park. There will also be live music and bbq. More information to follow..... 8/2 - WWAST will play in Moriches. Motorcycle escort will be provided by *Patriot Guard Riders, LI ABATE.*

8/29 - Motorcycle Rally / Campout

10/13 – Veterans Appreciation Dinner. Centereach VFW. All funds raised throughout 2020 will be distributed.

11/1 – Food and Toy Run

12/5 – Holiday Party

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.

I Don't Know MC – 2/29, 1st annual anniversary party at Uncle Chucks, West Islip, 7-11pm.

Queensboro MC – 3/14, St. Patrick's Day party @ clubhouse.

Alliance MC- 3/29, Pig Roast, 2 Hunter Ct., Amityville.

Sacred Thunder: 5/23 – Lend a Helping Hand Ride to Pinelawn Cemetery to put flags on the graves of our veterans. *All money raised will be donated to LI ABATE's Veterans Appreciation Fund.*

AmVets – 5/24, "Rolling to Remember" Washington D.C. *Remind our government of its accountability for U.S. POW/MIA and the veteran suicide epidemic hitting our country. Register to ride @ rollingtoremember.com*

Floor

AmVets Raffle: 2020 Street Glide. Tickets \$20 each, 2500 tickets total. Drawing to held in July. *All proceeds will go to "22 a Day" / Veteran suicide epidemic*

Discussion about lane splitting vs lane filtering.

Full Throttle Magazine will be ending. We thank Lee and Gregg for a great run and for all those who helped to portray motorcyclists in a positive manner.

50 /50: \$95 to the winner. **Bill and Peggy** *donated all their winnings to the 2020 Veterans Appreciation Fund. Thank you, Bill and Peggy, for your generosity.*

Motion 7-2020: Motion to adjourn. (Seconded) All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:23.

