



AUGUST  
NEWSLETTER  
2020



Long Island  
**ABATE**

AMERICAN BIKERS for AWARENESS, TRAINING & EDUCATION

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# Long Island ABATE



## AMERICAN BIKERS for AWARENESS TRAINING & EDUCATION

The main purpose of the ABATE organization is to work toward continued freedom of the road by insuring that motorcyclist's point of view is presented to our legislators and to promote motorcycle safety, rider education and public awareness. We are trying to alleviate the very real possibility of "Big Brother Government". We encourage all our members to be informed registered voters. We write letters to our elected officials and stay aware of what is going on with motorcycle legislation, and other transportation issues. We welcome interested parties to any of our activities or to join our organization.

# NOTICE

All articles and photo's within the contents of this newsletter and our website are the property of **Long Island ABATE**. You may not use them without the express written consent of the newsletter editor, webmaster or the **Long Island ABATE** board.

## MAILING ADDRESS

**Long Island ABATE**  
P.O. BOX 22  
YAPHANK, NY 11980



## ABATE HOTLINE

Call the **ABATE HOTLINE** anytime for any info or to contact any officer

**1-888-LIABATE**

*Long Island ABATE encourages all members to submit letters, articles or cartoons they feel may be of interest to fellow ABATE members. Long island ABATE supports the rights of ALL motorcyclists, Long Island ABATE does not endorse any products or services other than its own.*

## DISCLAIMER

*The thoughts and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual contributors alone and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Long island ABATE board and it's members.*

# President's Message

MEMBERS,

Unfortunately, it is time to say goodbye. Before I do, I must tell you what an honor it has been for me to serve you! Some people believe a president or executive board leads an organization. I believe that the membership leads an organization, and it is the responsibility of the president and executive board to serve the membership by carrying out their mandate. (I wish politicians would remember this rather than dictating their will upon those they vowed to serve).

When I was initially elected as President, I had the strong belief that no one should remain in the position for more than 3 years. Its been more than 10 years and I still have that same belief. If one person stays as president too long, it stifles the growth of the executive board and the organization. I have offered to step aside during each election cycle to clear the way for others to serve, but each time I ended up accepting the position due to the lack of any other nominees. I have also stated repeatedly that if a change is ever desired by the members, or if I felt I was ineffective, I would move aside at any time rather than the members having to wait for the next election.

Recent events in the motorcycle community have caused me to make personal decisions that are unpopular with a large section of the motorcycle community. As a result of my choices, I am no longer welcome to attend the community events or interact with the members of the community the way that is necessary for me to be effective for Long Island ABATE. If I had remained in my position, I would have stifled the growth of the organization, which I have always vowed not to do. People come and go, but the organization is the most important thing.

This explanation is not a complaint and the specifics are not relevant (so please don't ask). There are certain expectations within the community, and I had full knowledge of what the result would be. I made a conscious decision and I have no hard feelings for anyone in the process. I just hope that you all understand that I am stepping aside because of what you mean to me and not because I no longer care! Each of you will always have my love and respect! If you ever need anything from me personally, my email is [JB57PAN@aol.com](mailto:JB57PAN@aol.com) and my cell is 631 495-5485.

No matter how hard I try, I could never thank the current and former executive board officers enough for all their support and dedication to Long Island ABATE, as well as to me personally! You guys are amazing!! Please continue to support Long Island ABATE as you always have and pitch in to help make it better than ever!

Despite the result, I still believe that "it is better to be hated for who you are than be loved for who you're not".

Please continue to support Long Island ABATE

I want to thank Chris Beckhans for agreeing to take over as your President and Nick LaMorte for returning to the board a 1st Vice President

Respectfully,

**Jim Barr**

# Sturgis Rally History

How the largest biker party in the world began!

Today, the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally continues to reap the support and attendance of both participants and motorcycle fans all over the United States and in some parts of the world. In 2015, a record 739,000 attended the rally's 75th anniversary, including entire families who came with their RVs and rode the few last miles to Sturgis on their motorcycles.

In Sturgis, S.D., on August 14, 1938, a group of nine men raced their motorcycles with a small group of people watching. The bikers were known as the Jackpine Gypsies Motorcycle Club which later organized the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally along with a fellow member and owner of the Indian Motorcycle Shop, J.C. "Pappy" Hoel. Pappy Hoel worked for his family's ice business before buying a motorcycle franchise and becoming one of the most successful dealers in South Dakota. Since then, the rally has continued every year since that first race in 1938 -- with the exception of two years during World War II. Now, seven decades after the first rally, the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally is still going strong and doesn't show any signs of slowing down.

An event that started out as a small group of racers has turned into the largest motorcycle gathering in the world. All types of motorcycles are represented at the rally as well as all different types of people. In 1960 the attendance of the rally topped only 800 people and in 1970 that number grew to 2,000. The Rally mentions in its official guidebook that after 1970 the attendance of the weeklong event grew exponentially. In the year 2000 about 550,000 people attended the rally. Of course, Daytona Beach, Fla., is infamous for its Bike Week event, but one of the things that makes the attendance of the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally so exceptional is that the city of Sturgis normally only has a population of about 6,000 people. In addition to the city of Sturgis' small population, the entire state of South Dakota nearly doubles its population when the rally bikers show up each year.

The Sturgis Motorcycle Rally keeps its traditional racing roots by offering a half-mile (.8-kilometer) motorcycle race similar to Hoel's first race. Other races, competitions, concerts and far more entertainment than the original founders ever planned have been added, too.

A motorcycle ride through the Black Hills and Badlands offers thrilling experiences and fantastic scenery. From north to south and east to west, the entire region is dotted with epic rides. It's no wonder hundreds of riders make the annual pilgrimage to Sturgis for the motorcycle rally each year. For skill-rated scenic rides, view or download the Black Hills Motorcycle Map.

The region hosts tons of concerts and special events throughout the rally week, as well as pre- and post-rally events.

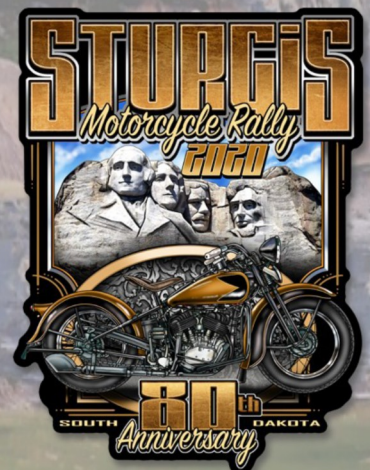
## ***FUTURE RALLY DATES***

Friday, Aug. 6, 2021, to Sunday, Aug. 15, 2021

Friday, Aug. 5, 2022, to Sunday, Aug. 14, 2022



This undated photo shows Neil Hultman riding a motorcycle with a sidecar in Sturgis, S.D. Hultman is the second-oldest surviving member of the Jackpine Gypsies, the motorcycle club that started what is now the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally.





**The Black Hills of South Dakota** are famous worldwide for the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally. Hundreds of thousands of visitors rumble into the region each August for this larger-than-life gathering of motorcycle enthusiasts, now celebrating its 80th anniversary.

While the festivities of the event intrigue and conjure up a variety of images for those who ponder about the event, it is the one-of-a-kind riding experiences that contribute to bringing motorcycle enthusiasts back to this area year after year. As a rider in the Black Hills, I am often asked "What are the "musts" to experience this area on a motorcycle?" Those of us who live and ride here truly appreciate this amazing region, and when we hear that people think we have the best motorcycle rides you can find, we can't disagree. With so many in such a compact area, it's hard to beat. While the entire Black Hills and Badlands region offers picturesque and exhilarating riding experiences, a few key rides continually draw riders' accolades, whether locals or first-time visitors to the area.

Ride into Wyoming via SD Highway 34/WY 24, which guides you along a two-lane scenic highway through Belle Fourche, Aladdin, Alva and Hulett on the way to our nation's first National Monument, Devils Tower. Loopback via US Highway 14/I-90, either through Moorcroft or Sundance, back into South Dakota.

Head east to Badlands National Park with stops at the many picture-worthy scenic overlooks, including Pinnacles along Highway 240, the Badlands Loop Road. Consider a trip back via Highway 44 with views of the southern Badlands and Buffalo Gap National Grasslands.

Spearfish Canyon Scenic Byway, Highway 14A out of Spearfish, is a picturesque and leisurely ride through thousand-foot-high limestone palisades along Spearfish Creek. Enjoy the deep canyon's scenery, including a roadside view of Bridal Veil Falls, wildlife, and sweeping curves. To continue the trip, you might like to experience US Highway 85 into Wyoming or the Black Hills Parkway, US Highway 385 via Lead, which connects many of the scenic rides throughout the region.



Custer State Park, along with the Needles Highway and Iron Mountain Road, is a favorite among riders and considered by many to be the most scenic ride in the area. Iron Mountain's pigtail turns, switchbacks and tunnels that frame Mt. Rushmore were created so visitors could enjoy the beauty of the Black Hills. Ride the park's wildlife loop to view diverse scenery and wildlife, including around 1,300 head of wild buffalo before hitting the Needles Highway's granite spires and sharp turns.

While in the area, you'll want to experience our one-of-a-kind

experiences at Mt. Rushmore National Memorial and Crazy Horse Memorial. These memorials are surrounded by stimulating rides along Highways 16, 244 and 385.

Other rides that should be considered for your trip itinerary include Boulder Canyon between the rally's hometown of Sturgis and historic Deadwood; Highway 44 west out of Rapid City to Norris Peak and Nemo Road; Vanocker Canyon out of Sturgis; Highway 385 south through Hill City, past Crazy Horse and to Custer and Hot Springs; and Highway 17 to Rochford.

With so many amazing experiences to be had along these riding routes, you will surely plan to come back to this region time and again. To view these and more great Black Hills and Badlands rides, along with their skill ratings, view the [Black Hills & Badlands Motorcycle Map](#).



Riding washes from the soul  
the dust of everyday life.



BIKER HEAVEN:

*Free Road*

*Full Tank*

*Full Throttle*



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## Million Mile Harley

Between its vintage motorcycles and memorabilia, a visit to the Sturgis Motorcycle Museum & Hall of Fame already comes highly recommended. If you're a motorcycle history buff, particularly in regards to the Sturgis Rally, then paying a visit to the museum is a must. It packs a lot of history into what used to be an old post office building. And while there are treasures galore inside, be sure to seek out one of the most interesting motorcycles in the collection, Dave Zien's "Million Mile" 1991 Harley-Davidson FXRT. Any vehicle that lasts a million miles deserves recognition, but to accomplish this feat on one motorcycle makes the feat even more special. The old Harley wears the scars of the road openly, from the frayed tape of its grips to the collection of faded stickers on its wind-screen. Zien, a veteran, and former Wisconsin state senator has been inducted into both the Sturgis Motorcycle Hall of Fame and the AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame for his accomplishments. All of the motorcycle's travels have been painstakingly documented, and every time he reached another 100,000-mile milestone, Zien logged the date on the side of his top case below his homemade verse "Gold Wings and BMWs Dream & Weep, This High Mile Harley Ain't Gonna Sleep."



The Daimler Petroleum Reitwagen ("riding car") or Einspur ("single track") was a motor vehicle made by Gottlieb Daimler and Wilhelm Maybach in 1885. It is widely recognized as the first motorcycle. Daimler is often called "the father of the motorcycle" for this invention.



In 1894 Hildebrand & Wolfmüller became the [first series production motorcycle](#), and the first to be called a "motorcycle". It is estimated that somewhere in between 800 and 2,000 motorbikes were made – of which only a dozen survive worldwide.



The MTT Turbine Superbike, which is powered by a Rolls Royce Allison gas turbine engine, cost \$185,000 in 2004, making it the most expensive production motorcycle ever to go on sale. The bike's Rolls Royce turbine engine produces 213 kW (286 hp) of power at the rear wheel.





# MEMBER me news

## MEMBERS PLEASE SUBMIT

Articles..Pictures..Run Experiences  
Bike Pictures..Children & Grandchildren  
Pictures.. Milestone Event Articles  
ANYTHING YOU LIKE

This publication is all about the members and the  
**ABATE** association news. A list of ideas that you  
may want to submit for **YOUR** publication.

### CLUB NEWS

New Legislation, State Rulings

### BIKE RUN & TRAVEL EXPERIENCES

Photos and Written Articles

### MEMBER FAMILIES

Photos /Memories / Stories

### FEATURED BIKES

Photos and Written Stories

### CHARITY RUNS

Photos /Memories / Stories

### COMEDY & HUMOR

Share Something Funny

### LOCAL BIKE RETAILERS

Parts, Repairs, Painting, Transportation

### FAVORITE LOCAL HANG OUTS

Food, Drink, Gatherings

**PLEASE SEND ALL INFORMATION TO**

[longislandabate@aol.com](mailto:longislandabate@aol.com)

## Good Doctor

A mechanic was removing a cylinder-head from the motor of a Harley motorcycle when he spotted a well-known cardiologist in his shop.

The cardiologist was there waiting for the service manager to come and take a look at his bike when the mechanic shouted across the garage..

"Hey, Doc, want to take a look at this?"

The cardiologist, a bit surprised, walked over to where the mechanic was working on the motorcycle. The mechanic straightened up, wiped his hands on a rag and asked, "So Doc, look at this engine. I open its' heart, take the valves out, repair any damage, and then put them back in, and when I finish, it works just like new. So how come I make \$39,675 a year and you get the really big bucks (\$1,695,759) when you and I are doing basically the same work?"

The cardiologist paused, smiled and leaned over, then whispered to the mechanic

"Try doing it with the engine running....."



## RUSSIAN Steampunk Trike

Steampunk is an art inspired by steam energy of the XIX century. It's always about metal. Unfortunately it's more an art object than a functional motorcycle. It was made in Saint-Petersburg Russia in a custom shop, Asook Customs.

# LONG ISLAND ABATE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

YEAR BORN: \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to comply with L.I. ABATE Inc.'s by-laws and promote motorcycle awareness, & education.

SIGN: \_\_\_\_\_

## CHECK ONE BELOW:

New or Renew                      Junior FREE \_\_\_\_\_

1 year \$20.00 \_\_\_\_\_      5 year \$80.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Life Membership (25-years paid) x \$15 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

MC/Organization Name \_\_\_\_\_

SIGN DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT PAID: \_\_\_\_\_

CIRCLE ONE: Cash or Check# \_\_\_\_\_

CC# \_\_\_\_\_

CVC# \_\_\_\_\_ EXP: \_\_\_\_\_ Billing ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

# ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

# \$20

**Q&A** ...What are the membership rewards ?

★ **FREE** ★

- ★ Patch & Yearly Anniversary Pins
- ★ Monthly Newsletter & Annual Handbook
- ★ **\$4000 Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance**
- ★ Food at all Monthly Meetings
- ★ **Discounts & Rewards at Events & Biker Related Establishments**

*A friendly entrance into the biker community*

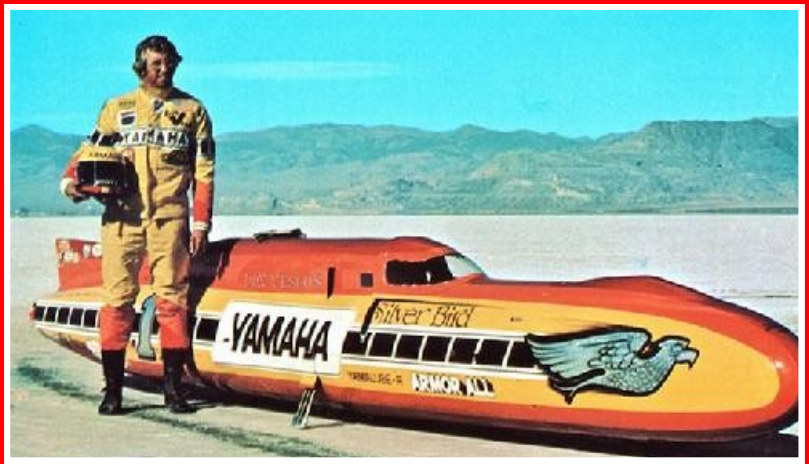
When you join you receive your ABATE patch, window sticker, membership card, welcome letter and insurance.

## ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP



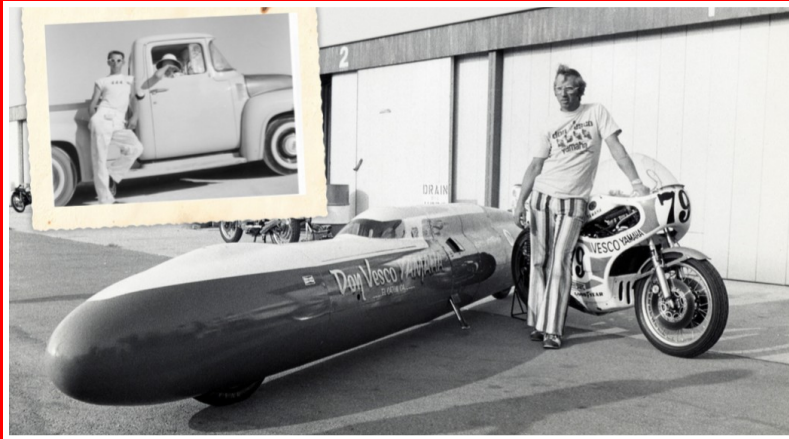
*Join the cause & become a member today !*

**Don Vesco** was an American businessperson, motorcycle racer, and multiple motorcycle land-speed record and wheel-driven land speed record holder. He set 18 motorcycle and 6 automobile speed records during his life. In celebration of the 15th year since Don Vesco set the World's Wheel Driven Automotive record, we take a look back at his accomplishments in both motorcycle and automotive record setting history. To honor this 46 years of record breaking, we are undertaking the "Don Vesco Legacy" restoration project. Don's 1978 motorcycle land speed record, set with his "Lightning Bolt," powered by Kawasaki twin KZ1000 engines streaked across the Bonneville Salt Flats with a one way speed of 333 mph, ultimately setting an F.I.M record at 318.330 mph. The record held for over a decade.



Don's automobile record setting began as a young man in his dad's 1957 Model B Ford streamliner known as "Little Giant." In this car Don gained entry into the prestigious 200 mph Club in 1963.

It was in 2001 that legendary Don Vesco blazed across the Bonneville Salt Flats in the beautiful 30 ft. long "Turbinator" streamliner setting the F.I.A. Absolute Wheel Driven Landspeed Record @ 458 mph, (a record that still stands today!) Weeks before the record run, Don made his fastest pass down the flats @ an amazing 470 mph! After this "test" run Don was certain he could achieve his ultimate goal of 500 mph. However, cancer claimed his life the following year, leaving his goal and dreams unmet. We celebrate Don's life and take a look back at the man - the forever racer.



The Motorsports Hall of Fame of America is dedicated to both educating and entertaining the public

while honoring and immortalizing the men and women and the exciting machines that made motorsports history. The Hall of Fame pays tribute to racers who have demonstrated skill and excellence in motorsports. In 2004 Don was honored as an inductee into this prestigious group. Brother Rick accepted the honor on behalf of Don, who had passed away 2 years before. We humbly thank and appreciate the Hall of Fame for the great work they do in preserving the memory of those who have contributed to American racing history. The Hall is located in Novi, MI.



**YAMAHA**



**2006 Honda GL1800 Gold Wing**... 28,900 original miles, original owner. Every '06 option except for air bag; CB, 6 CD Changer, GPS, Intercom, AM/FM, Heated Seats and Grips, TPMS, Battery monitor, Battery charger, Rear Spoiler w/flashing brake light and lots of Kuryakin extras, including drivers seat back.

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UPCOMING

# EVENTS

# NEWS

**NOTE:** All dates are subject to be changed/postponed/cancelled. Please reach out to the organization regarding their event.

August 7th - August 16th

The **Sturgis Motorcycle Rally** is the world's largest motorcycle rally, attracting upward of 700,000 people each year. During the event, the entire town is overrun with motorcycles, parties, bike shows and live concerts. People from all over the world attend to ride, sightsee and experience the unique atmosphere



AUGUST 21 - AUGUST 30

Laconia Motorcycle Week is a motorcycle rally held annually in Laconia, New Hampshire. The rally has its origin in the Loudon Classic motorcycle race started in 1923 and the Gypsy tour, where many motorcyclists passed through Laconia.

[laconiamcweek.com](http://laconiamcweek.com)

9/11 Memorial "Run for Richie" Motorcycle Ride

September 13

Kick Stands Up at 1 p.m. leaving parking lot of Aqueduct Racetrack to WTC, 2 hour ride time through SCENIC NYC!



LEFT TURN SIGNS ARE READY! Get yours **FREE** at any Long Island **ABATE** meeting



**2020**  
Long Island **ABATE** Officers and Board Members Sworn in by Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone.

# SUPPORT YOUR MOTORCYCLE RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS





We have such a passion to ride those amazing machines that were created for us. Yet we still have issues we're dealing with and seeing around us and in the news. The virus that doesn't see skin color or ethnicity, it takes whoever it wants, whenever it wants. And the BLM... creating protests, riots, arrests, pain and suffering, and anger in many directions. Remember when bikers were, **regardless** of skin color or ethnicity, dis-

**TRUE FACTS!!!**



Dodge built and sold nine motorcycles with a Viper V-10 engine called the **Dodge Tomahawk**. The motorcycle featured 500 horsepower with dual front and rear 20" wheels and tires. Each sold for between \$500k and \$700k

criminated against, yet we continued to ride our machines. What's the point to this? Regardless of who we are or what we do, we are all going unrighteousness the same stuff. Some have more than others, some have less than others, but, at the end of the day, we all have challenges...a virus, an unstable economy, and not enough places open to go, to calm us.

Brothers and sisters, we are all different and all the same. To agree or disagree is a freedom we are privileged to have. Don't abuse it, don't over emphasize it, just understand that we all have it. Do some things in society need to change? Absolutely, but let's work together. Angry, yes be angry...but we really are in this together.

July on Long Island...ride safe, be safe, love your neighbor, and work through the struggles. Have a great month enjoying life and helping others enjoy theirs.

JESUS Loves You All!!!!

As always, honored to serve,  
Pastor G...Gerry  
BIKERS for CHRIST



The Givenchy 'motorcycle jacket' was listed in 2016 as **the most expensive jacket on the market**. At \$9,100, the women's Hooded Biker Jacket is clearly one of those pieces that was designed for the sake of fashion rather than wearing while riding. Most of the jacket is made of lambskin, but pillow lamb fur lines the collar and inside of the hood.

## PRONER & PRONER

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# Top Non-Harley Baggers For 2020

BMW and Honda all make baggers not named Street or Road Glide.

By Andrew Cherney HOTBIKE January 31, 2020



We're not sure of its status these days, but for many years the top-selling motorcycle in the US has been Harley Davidson, a powerful, 1,750cc V-twin with a sleek, batwing-style fairing and roomy, hard saddlebags that'll swallow plenty of cargo. Thanks to its comfort, performance, accommodations, and creature comforts like a windscreen, stereo, and GPS, it's a great bike for most any purpose, whether you're cruising the boardwalk, rolling through the mountains, or eating up interstate miles.

Your options have never been better or more varied. One of the bikes

## BMW K 1600 B

BMW does not do things by halves, and its K 1600 B bagger is proof positive, even in this traditionally minded cruiser segment. It all starts down below, with an incredibly smooth, liquid-cooled 1,649cc inline six-cylinder mill dishing out a crazy 160 hp and 129 pound-feet of torque (claimed). Fit and finish are excellent, and you even get floorboards, but there's no mistaking this model for a V-twin bagger—the dynamic sloping line is the first sign that BMW doesn't subscribe to the usual cruiser styling tropes. While it's not fully automatic, it is almost effortless thanks to BMW's Shift Assist and it's even got a reverse gear. What else? Right—there are cruise and traction control, ABS, ride modes, Electronic Suspension Adjustment, and a zillion other high-tech features including standard heated seats and grips. At just north of \$20K, that's a lot of bang for your deutsche mark—er, sorry, euro—but that's partly because there's no standard navigation and the stereo is a bit lame. Which really don't seem like deal breakers to us. MSRP for the 2020 model is \$20,095.



## Honda Gold Wing

Honda completely redesigned its flagship tourer back in 2018, deleting the top case, trimming its girth, and shaving almost 100 pounds of weight. What you're looking at is called simply "Gold Wing" these days. exploits its new, slimmer physique fully with that 1,833cc flat-six mill, which is now free of the extra pounds and can better uncork those 125 horses. The Honda-patented double-wishbone front end makes for a plush ride, and the perfectly neutral riding position coupled with a surprisingly deep lean angle just begs pilots to seek out twisty corners. For \$23,800, you can have a bagger unlike any other, replete with all the high-tech accoutrements—full-color display, cruise control, ABS, stereo, etc.—and an incredibly responsive powerband with crisp handling, excellent braking, and phenomenal suspension. And \$1,200 more—that's \$25K flat, a full \$2,000 less than a new Street Glide Special—you can have it with DCT, Honda's groundbreaking automatic transmission. MSRP for the base 2020 model is \$23,800.



## The MRF's primary goals include:

- Monitoring and influencing federal legislation for any impact on the motorcycling community at large
- Representing street motorcyclists by participating in federal research and advisory committees
- Protecting street motorcyclists from unfair or burdensome federal agency restrictions and regulations
- Ending discrimination against street motorcyclists
- Providing all street motorcyclists with direction and information to protect their motorcycling rights
- Promoting motorcycling safety, training, education, licensing and public awareness on American roads



## WHO WE ARE

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation is the Nation's premiere motorcyclists' rights organization that is chiefly concerned with issues at the national and international levels that impact the freedom and safety of American street motorcyclists. We are also committed to educating rights advocates to improve effectiveness at the state and local levels. The MRF works together with street motorcyclists, State Motorcyclists' Rights Organizations (SMROs), the motorcycle industry, the media and other organizations, assisting them with state and local agendas as well as working with them to influence action and policy in Washington, DC - from the Congress to government departments and agencies to the Office of the President of the United States. We also work with allies in Canada, Europe and Asia to influence talks on vehicle globalization and harmonization that are proceeding under the United Nations and the World Health Organization.

## History of the MRF

The first words of the street rider's first voice in Washington were uttered in 1985 in St. Louis, Missouri. There, the very founders of the motorcyclists' rights movement in America gathered for a meeting of the minds. Leaders of State Motorcyclists' Rights Organizations (SMROs), they wanted to catapult to the national scene the clout and effectiveness of SMROs — the strong, effective grassroots of state-based motorcyclists' rights.

They knew it had to be done. Riders' rights had to go national, because the threat was national. Our founders at this meeting of the minds shared a keen sense that danger was not just on the horizon but dead ahead, as freedom's foes had just attacked with a ban on motorcycles in the United States Congress.

They knew it had to be done right. The founders wanted a staff that was all muscle and no fat, supported not by casual members but driven by a team of dedicated volunteers, with each volunteer committed to shouldering his or her share of the demands of liberty. They envisioned a team committed to core values like respect for riders' diverse lifestyles and opinions, integrity in conduct, excellence and boldness in facing challenges head-on and, above all, leadership — leadership in the unrelenting struggle for the safety and freedom of American motorcyclists.

So, at a meeting of the minds of grassroots leaders, a new leader was born: The Motorcycle Riders Foundation. The first motorcyclists' rights advocacy organization with a full-time legislative and political presence in our nation's capital. The only Washington voice devoted exclusively to you, the street rider. And each year, the leaders of the now-worldwide community gather for motorcycling's premier political leadership summit — named to commemorate the gathering at which we were founded: The MRF Meeting of the Minds.

Throughout the USA and across the world, the torch of freedom burns in the hearts of motorcyclists. One by one, they recognize the need to become volunteers as co-partners in an organization committed to integrity, respect, leadership, teamwork and excellence.

One by one, in every continent and culture, motorcyclists are deciding to Ride with the Leaders™.

- Annual Individual Membership \$35
- Annual Joint Membership \$60
- Annual Sustaining Membership \$100
- Annual Industry Council Membership \$100



- 3-Year Individual Membership \$95
- 3-Year Joint Membership \$140
- Sustaining Membership Club \$100
- Freedom Fighter Donation \$10 \$25 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Motorcycle Riders Foundation  
PO Box 250 Highland, IL 62249

Phone: 202.546.0983

[www.mrf.org](http://www.mrf.org)

[mrfoffice@mrf.org](mailto:mrfoffice@mrf.org)

### It's time you did something more to protect your rights!

#### Join and Support Motorcycle Riders Foundation...

- New
- Renewal
- Referred by \_\_\_\_\_
- Please Check if you are a US Citizen
- Check here to NOT receive Patches and Pins
- Check here to NOT receive MRF Email Alerts
- Check here to receive MRF Reports electronically (email)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Visa  MasterCard  AmEx

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



# Hidden In Plain Sight — Empire State Motorcycle Safety Education Program

In nature, the chameleon has the ability to camouflage itself with its surroundings. This gives the reptile an edge while attacking its prey but more importantly, it is a key defensive system for survival. While in life, man has worked constantly to replicate and perfect the same aspect of being hidden from others (primarily in the military and hunting fields) for that edge and survival; the art of blending with our surroundings as a motorcyclist can have a devastating effect – one that all of us rather not encounter.

That ever infamous statement of “I didn’t see him/her” should be a driving force for us to approach certain scenarios differently with a possible positive outcome – nothing happening at times can be a great thing! I have heard many riders, instructors, etc. state that we should consider ourselves invisible to the driving world around us. While that may be a good start and something close to the truth, we need to look at points that we can take to protect ourselves whether we are invisible or not.

One point I have mentioned several times when it comes to being conspicuous is the gear we wear while riding. Bright colors and reflective materials work far better than the traditional black that bikers have been traditionally associated with. I recently attended an event where at least 70% of the attendees were wearing Hi Viz gear and clothing, perhaps Hi Viz is slowly becoming the new black? Couldn’t hurt. Another thing we can do when it comes to our machines is install additional lighting. It just makes common sense that the more illumination you have either front, rear, or sides that it should hopefully help present more of an awareness of you to others. Once again – couldn’t hurt, except for your wallet but if it prevents a conflict and/or injury I think it certainly would be worth the cost.

So we covered making ourselves more visible via our gear and bikes, but is there anything we can do while riding? Absolutely. One factor that many within the safety skills industry feels is an important one to consider is lane positioning. Where we place ourselves for a situation or scenario can perhaps make a major difference as to what could or couldn’t happen to us. Lane positioning is a constant adjustment; if we are moving then situations change as quickly as we roll. We want to keep ourselves in the best position of the lane where we have the best visual input for ourselves as well as to be in best visual view for those around us.

The constant adjustments to achieve this require a better sense of awareness for us to take in all the information around us and play the “what if” game. If you are always taking in your surroundings you may recognize things that you can adjust for way before any bad problems have a chance to happen. If you’re in traffic or riding within a town or city you would definitely consider that you just may blend in to the surroundings and not be seen. Though there is no definitive corrective action but it could be as simple as slowing down to adjust for anything or covering your controls for a quick reaction or shifting lane positions prior to intersections, maybe just your movement will help develop awareness to others.

The one thing I am a bit leery about is flashing your headlights; there is a chance that a driver may interpret the information differently and where your intention was to bring awareness, they might consider it as a signal to proceed into your path of travel. The same can be said for oscillating headlights, though I have heard many positive comments from users of these devices; I have also been told of the times that drivers didn’t know what was ongoing and mistook the lights for a signal to proceed. Just another thing to consider.

Even if we wear the brightest of gear, install the brightest illumination available and become vigilant with our awareness of our surroundings and always adjust correctly for the conditions we encounter, can that guarantee the elimination of the risks we deal with other vehicles and drivers? Definitely not; but I believe, as well as many others, that each step we take is one closer to reducing the risks and likelihood of living the world of the chameleon where we are hidden in plain sight.



# WHEELS THROUGH TIME

The Museum That Runs

62 Vintage Lane  
Maggie Valley, NC 28751  
828.926.6266  
[www.wheelsthroughtime.com](http://www.wheelsthroughtime.com)

On July 4th, 2002 Wheels Through Time Museum became a reality when it opened its 38,000 square foot facility in Maggie Valley, North Carolina. Now in its 18th year of operation, the facility features one of the world's premier collections of Vintage American Transportation, guiding visitors through the evolution of American motorcycling and automotive history. The museum has attracted worldwide media attention and brought hundreds of thousands of visitors to Maggie Valley, North Carolina from all over the globe. Many visitors consider the displays equally as interesting as the rare machines that are within them. The museum layout is more than a timeline of machines. It has the feel of an old garage, but is touched by relevant artwork of the era and houses precious items of memorabilia by the thousands. The museum is literally a cornucopia of American history.

The automobile collection is equally as interesting as the two-wheeled marvels. A pair of '32 roadsters, Packard and Lincoln from the classic era are surrounded by distinctive "one off" autos such as the 1949 Veritas and the massive 1915 Locomobile built during the gilded age of American history. The collection was started by Museum Founder Dale Walksler in 1969 in Glen Ellyn, Illinois. In 1977 the collection moved to Mt. Vernon Illinois where it was housed at the Harley-Davidson dealership founded by Dale. As the collection matured it became obvious the potential for a truly incredible museum was at hand. In 2002, the collection moved to its present location in Maggie Valley, North Carolina. A 501c3 not-for-profit status was attained, and Wheels Through Time was on its way to preserving forever a most unique aspect of our American history.



# MERCHANT IN THE SPOTLIGHT



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**ONE STOP CUSTOM BIKE SHOP**

*"Specializing In Big Wheel Baggers"*

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**10% DISCOUNT  
TO ALL  
LI ABATE MEMBERS**

Hello Ladies and Gentlemen,

Every month we will be featuring a merchant who provides discounts and special services to LI ABATE members and their families.

As we enter the next phase of business openings we are that much closer to the "new normal". More businesses are open and we can actually socialize and go out to eat as well as shop.

This month's featured merchant is a family of motorcycle repair and custom bike builders, Twisted Cycles, they specialize in Harley, Indian and Victory motorcycles

After talking with the folks of Twisted Cycles about their love for motorcycles I found out a bit more about them.

It all started a little over 5 years ago when their passion of working on and building motorcycles was made into a reality.

Twisted Cycles is family owned and operated by Chris Ligi, Brian Camardella and Debbie Camardella they live and breathe what they do and put their heart and soul into what they do.

Chris is self-taught bike mechanic and builder with 30 years' experience. With an Air Force, aerospace and engineering background that is a huge attribute to building and customizing Harleys. Brian is their electrical guru! He is the electrical trouble shooting guy. Debbie, she holds her own with her abilities ranging from regular maintenance to handlebar installs to anything else that needs to be done she isn't afraid to get dirty Twisted Cycles provides a **10% discount to LI ABATE members** as well as all clubs. They are located at 177 Old Medford Ave.(Route 112) Patchogue, N.Y 11722 Phone- 888-539-2408 Website-

[www.twistedcyclesllc.com](http://www.twistedcyclesllc.com)

Their motto is "we treat your bike like our own" you are not just a customer You are family.

Ride safe, be careful and have fun,  
CHRIS BECKHANS, LIABATE



## Summer Motorcycle Safety:

**Prepare for a Safe Ride.** A safe motorcycle ride begins before you hit the road.

**TCLOCKS** - example tire pressure, lights, brakes, mirrors, oil level and your horn.

**Avoid Bad Weather Conditions** - Dangerous weather conditions can cause problems for any driver during the summer months, tor-

rential rain, or high winds are more problematic for motorcyclists. Always check the weather before riding and make any adjustments to your plans or routes. Weather apps on your smart phone can show you by radar where extreme weather is happening.

**Wear the Right Motorcycle Helmet** make sure your helmet fits properly. There is an expiration date for helmets. You might want to wear a three-quarter helmet on very hot days instead of a full helmet if it makes you cooler and less fatigue, it might help you to concentrate on the road. If you are the person who wears ATGATT, then disregard.

**Dress for Safety** with Motorcycle Gear. Gloves, boots, jackets, some jackets have elbow protection some pants have shin and knee protection.

**Watch for Hazards on the Road.** Leaves or branches on the road oil and anti-freeze spills, debris from construction, parts falling off trucks and cars, gravel, sand, dead and living animals in the roadway.

**Make Yourself Visible.** Use reflective clothing or decals on your helmet, bike, and clothing Always use your headlights use your turn signals and flash your brake lights when slowing down remember when downshifting the texting driver behind you may not realize you are slowing

down make sure you are aware of other drivers' blind spot use your horn as a warning if necessary.

Don't speed on a road that has intersections, Left turns kill.

**From the MSF SEE**

**Search, Evaluate, and Execute**- its purpose is to help increase a motorcyclist's time to react and widen safety margins.

Use your lane positioning to be seen by other drivers

Always signal your moves and lane changes in advance

Avoid weaving in and out of lanes while speeding

Give yourself extra space and time to react to other drivers' actions

**Always Drive Sober & Stay Alert.**


*Mike Lauro*

Safety Officer



**Safety** matters

# AUGUST 2020

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday   | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|--------|---|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
|        |        |   |           |          |        | 1        |
| 2      | 3      | 4   | 5         | 6        | 7      | 8        |
| 9      | 10     | <b>11 LI ABATE SUFFOLK</b><br><b>Monthly Membership Meeting</b><br>7:30PM<br>CANCELED<br>Due To Quarantine              | 12        | 13       | 14     | 15       |
| 16     | 17     | <b>18 LI ABATE NASSAU</b><br><b>Monthly Meeting recap</b><br>7:30PM<br>CANCELED<br>Due To Quarantine                    | 19        | 20       | 21     | 22       |
| 23     | 24     | <b>25 LI ABATE Board Meeting</b><br> | 26        | 27       | 28     | 29       |
| 30     | 31     |   |           |          |        |          |

ALL DATES TENATIVE  
Check Website for Update



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