



## The Death of "Kool"

As the DOT, EPA, and other federal and state agencies subtly crack down on our motorcycle culture there will be layers of victims. When things are done quietly we tend to not react or dismiss the action as though it didn't exist.

What victims? Customization of our bikes will be almost nonexistent other than paint or some bolt-on parts. This will put a heavy burden on the aftermarket parts industry and small shops specializing in performance work. A much more subtle victim will be our following generation. How will electric motors that sound like sewing machines be interesting? Every bike will be a stock factory product.

Many of us growing up watched movies like *The Wild One* and *Easyrider*. We walked out of the theater and couldn't wait to get a bike and cut some parts off it. How many magazines did we devour in our quest to have a cool bike that reflected our attitude? Judging from the bike boom of the last few years I think the dream stayed alive inside a lot of people who couldn't put it together back in the day. I know this is speculation on my part. However you got to riding today, how many of you changed your stock pipes? How about handlebars? Enhanced your motors' level of performance? Frame?

Guess what: There are kids watching *Biker Build Off* shows, *Motorcycle Mania* specials, and devouring bike magazines today. They see Jesse James help a shop class at Ballou High School in D.C. They see kids in the class getting hands on experience doing something really, really cool. They are creating, imagining, and building. This is alot of constructive stuff. (Cont. on page 13 "Kool")

## ABATE of the Garden State Winner of Best Overall Float

Story on Page 20

American Bikers Advocating Training & Education



### Inside This Issue

What is ABATE?.....	2
Editor's View.....	2
ABATE Newsletter Information.....	3
Letters to the Editor.....	3
Membership .....	5
Safety Zone.....	6
Legislative Report.....	7
Insurance and Your Motorcycle.....	8
Supporting Clubs.....	9
Chairman's Report.....	10
Motorcycle Awareness.....	12
Pictures.....	14-15
Dateline Daytona.....	16
Why Are Bikers Targets.....	17
Products.....	18
ABATE State Business.....	19
ABATE Best Overall Float.....	20-21
District 1.....	22
District 3.....	23
District 4.....	24
District 5.....	25
Districts 6.....	26
10 Reasons to Check Out the Website.....	27
ABATE Membership Form.....	27
Ten Points.....	27

# ***What is ABATE? American Bikers Advocating Training and Education***

***ABATE of the Garden State Information:***

## ***Mission Statement***

*A.B.A.T.E. of the Garden State's intended purpose is to enhance the common good and general welfare of the motorcycling community by promoting education, motorcycle awareness, and safety concerns. We seek to foster a mutual understanding by motorcyclists and motorists alike. Furthermore, we will investigate legislation concerning motorcyclists locally, statewide, and nationally. Finally, we will engage in charitable activities befitting our organization, and benefitting both the motorcycling community and society at large.*

### **ABATE of the Garden State**

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## **View From the Editor,**

This is the time for reflection on the past year and anticipation for the new year. It is a time for soul searching and goal setting.

I recently heard the term "Comfort Zone" mentioned in a speech by a politician. She stated she was shy and found it difficult at first to initiate meeting new people. "However", she added, "I stepped out of my comfort zone because I believed in what I was doing."

I wonder: Are you doing what you believe in? Are you watching others live your life? Are others doing things you wish you could do? Are you preventing yourself from evolving into a better person because of your "comfort zone"?

Many have the assumption that the leaders of organizations are comfortable in their roles. I am sure some may thrive in their surroundings, but for the majority of us we are taking several steps outside our comfort zone. Very few start out as speakers, writers, or leaders of a cause. In our organization 99% of our leaders started out as bikers. Bikers who wanted to see change. The difference between the leaders and you is that they made a decision to create change.

What will this new year have in store for you? Are you going to make a difference in this organization or sit on the sidelines and watch others become leaders and change the climate of the motorcycle world?

By joining **ABATE of the Garden State** you took the first step to preserving your freedoms. Now, it is time to take the next step: the one that moves you from *your* "Comfort Zone" to the front of the pack. It is a big step, but one that is worthwhile and rewarding. Contact a state board member and they will assist you. You can do it!

See you on the mountain top. What a view! ~Tink



*Postnote: Recently I stepped out of my "Comfort Zone" and attended a dinner to honor District 3 Leaders. Above are pictures of myself with Salem County Freeholder, Julie Acton and Alloway Mayor, Joe Fedora. ~ Tink*

**ABATE of the Garden State  
Newsletter.**

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**ABATE of the Garden State Newsletter**

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The deadline for submissions (advertising, columns, district news, pictures, or event posters) is the 10th of the month prior to publication. All pictures should have the names, event, and date written LIGHTLY on the back (a label works best). To have pictures or original submissions returned, a self-addressed stamped envelope should also be provided. E-mailed submission of pictures should be in the form of a PDF or JPG.

**ADVERTISING RATES**

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Classified ad	\$5.00	NA

Ads must be paid in advance and submitted camera-ready. Districts will receive 15% of any advertisement they solicit. The editor reserves the right of ad placement. **ABATE of the Garden State** is not responsible for the condition of any items sold in the classified ads.

**Letters to the Editor** should be limited to 500 words and will not be printed if they are deemed obscene, damaging, slanderous, or negative. "Negative" decisions made by the editorial staff concerning the content of **any** submission will be confirmed by at least one member of the Board of Trustees of **ABATE of the Garden State**. The information contained in **Letters to the Editor** has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable. However, **ABATE of the Garden State** does not guarantee that the contents of this publication are correct and statements attributed to other sources do not necessarily reflect the opinion of **ABATE of the Garden State**.

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**"Look Twice, Save a Life"  
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Dear Tink,

**Freedom Has a Price!**

The toughest thing for any organization to accomplish is CHANGE. With the organizing of **ABATE of the Garden State**, it is time to expand our minds and look to the future. It is time to evolve from what was NJMA (New Jersey Motorcyclists' Alliance.) The only way to accomplish changes that affect every motorcyclist is to have state-wide support. The only way to do that is to establish member districts, which can evolve into local grass root communities that can support the State Organization.

Some people think that their district should be the exception-to-the-rule, as far as membership is concerned. Why can't we keep our original membership? I've heard this comment a few times and the answer is simple...Freedom Has A Price. The challenge should be "how can we help establish the districts and really make an impact for the organization?" United we stand, divided we fall...that's reality. Districts "need" those members that can influence change and help establish local support within districts. We need the old guard to help the new guard. We need everyone's experience for the mission...which in case anyone has forgotten ...is to protect EVERYONE'S RIGHTS.

Can you be a member in any district that you choose? Yes, you have the right to do that. But what is the sense of pumping-up or soliciting membership for one particular district, just because that is where **ABATE of the Garden State** began? That seems to defeat the purpose of the mission. The goal should be to "help" your brothers and sisters to establish districts. Be a part of the **solution**. Ask to help the new districts get a foot hold and guide them through the process. Although everyone has a lot of things to do and limited time to dedicate, maybe you can take a little time to help the evolution of **ABATE of the Garden State** and really make an impact on the challenges that face all of us.

Expand your mind and vision. Help a district get started. Establishing more districts means serious growth statewide and a larger pool of support for each district, the State Organization, and any and all events respectively. Sincerely, Tim Everett

Dear Tim,

*Thank you for writing. We have received other communications from **ABATE** members confused and concerned about being forced to choose a certain chapter. The #1 consideration for our members is to stay focused on the mission. In every organization there are over-inflated egos who take it upon themselves to buck the establishment and try to do it their way. Maybe it is the fear of change or the fear of growth, but regardless of the reason it is counterproductive to the goals of **ABATE of the Garden State**. The state board has asked me to once again assure our members that they are members of a state organization and are welcome to attend any and all meetings being held throughout the state. They are **encouraged** however, to participate in the local organization which serves their own legislative district. By doing so we can achieve maximum impact politically, and that's what we are about. The state board's goal is to have unified information disseminated throughout the organization by way of our website, **The Garden Statement**, and the district/chapter meetings. We encourage all members to become familiar with their local and district politics. Our vote is the #1 asset we have to influence NJ legislators. Legislators count votes in their districts, not members in a particular chapter. For more information about membership contact Biff at: 856-339-0279 or [gsabatemembership@yahoo.com](mailto:gsabatemembership@yahoo.com) (cont. pg 16...Letters)*



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# The Safety Zone

~ By Dave Wittick



Good Day,

I have been asked to write a piece on safe motorcycling. I would like to first point out that I am no expert but I tend to learn from my own mistakes as well as reading about and listening to the mistakes and misfortunes of others.

As many riders, I started riding because it was just simply a blast and I enjoyed riding from the first time I sat on a motorcycle. Riding is both fun and invigorating. But no matter why you became a motorcyclist, or how experienced you are, you will no doubt eventually face some challenging situations. These situations will define what kind of motorcyclist you will end up being.

Let's start by saying MOST accidents can be avoided. If you have not heard about a study done in the early 1980's called the "Hurt Report", it was a study by researcher Harry Hurt, funded by The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration which analyzed and investigated almost every aspect of 900 motorcycle accidents and 3,600 accident reports in a single geographical area. I would like to share with you just some of the findings.

Approximately 25% of these accidents were single vehicle accidents; accidents where only the motorcycle was involved. In these accidents only 3% were attributed to vehicle failure. Motorcycle rider error was typically a slide out and fall due to over braking or running wide on a curve due to excess speed or under cornering.

The motorcycle riders involved in accidents were essentially without training; 92% were self-taught or learned from family or friends. More than half of the accidents involved motorcycle riders who had less than 5 months experience on the vehicle they were riding. Lack of attention to the driving task is a common factor for the motorcyclist in an accident.

Almost half of the FATAL accidents showed alcohol involvement. The typical motorcycle accident allows a motorcyclist just less than 2 seconds to complete all collision avoidance action. Injury severity increases with speed, alcohol and motorcycle size.

If we look at these facts alone we can see and draw one common thread. You and you alone are ultimately responsible for your own safety. How we ride is who we are and how we are perceived by others. Know the limitations of your machine and more importantly know your own limitations.

If a collision is imminent, **DO SOMETHING**. Many riders fear locking their brakes, or haven't learned the proper way to swerve to avoid an accident. Many inexperienced riders (and too many seasoned riders) use only their rear brake in an emergency, resulting in unnecessary impacts

in some cases. Fact is, your rear brake can at most provide about 30% of your motorcycle's potential stopping power. Of course there are times when full force braking is not the correct technique such as when the road surface is wet, loose, or rough. The point is, brake with care. When leaned over in a corner, avoid braking. Straighten up before braking. Better yet, slow down before entering a curve. Over-braking when leaned over where traction is limited may result in losing traction and control of the motorcycle.

Not everyone is as thrilled to hear the sound of a finely tuned machine cruising the boulevard so we should be aware that sharing our time on this planet is exactly that, a shared experience. Be as safe as possible and remember to thank a person who has, or does put their life on the line to ensure that we continue to live as people who are free to speak their minds and live with the freedoms that we all enjoy.

Thank you ~Dave Wittick

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# Legislative Report ~ By Tom Gordon



I recently attended a special reception on October 11, 2007, for all Democratic candidates in District 3 (Senator Sweeney, Assemblyman Burzichelli, and Assemblyman Fisher). The guest speaker was the head of the Assembly, Assemblyman Roberts (D-5). I was an invited guest of Joe Smith, an active member of **ABATE of the Garden State**. We had the opportunity to talk with all of them. They know about ABATE and our agenda, and will meet with us after the election to discuss getting pending bills passed by the end of this legislative session.

A compliment must go out to all ABATE legislative members. I constantly hear from our legislators that they prefer meeting with us and discussing our issues rather than other individuals/groups. We are prepared, not demanding, and cordial. With this attitude we have gained their respect. Again, thank you to Joe Smith of Peach Country Tractor for his dedication and hard work for **ABATE**.

The day after the state election we must all get back to work to get pending bills passed. We have been in contact with the leadership of State Senate and Assembly committees to get the following bills heard:

Bill A-3701 to establish a task force to investigate the plausibility of legalized lane splitting for motorcycles. This bill is confusing and a concern for all the legislators that we talked to. This bill is just to create a committee/task force to study and make recommendations regarding lane splitting in New Jersey. When you explain it to them they are more agreeable to it. Remember the "E" in ABATE is for education. This means educating everyone.

Bill S-1004 would establish additional penalties for motor vehicle right of way encroachment violations. This bill is endorsed by the AMA (American Motorcyclist Association) **Justice for All** campaign.

Also a new bill that will get a number and be introduced right after the election will be to increase fines for tailgating, especially motorcycles. This is sponsored by Senator McCollough of Mays Landing (D-2).

On a good and bad note, May is officially "**Motorcycle Awareness Month**" in New Jersey. Governor Corzine signed it into law August 6, 2007 privately. Due to a communication error (by the Governor's

staff) it was put on his desk and we did not get the public signing that we were promised. We are trying to rectify this to make sure bills that **ABATE of the Garden State** has supported get the proper public recognition.

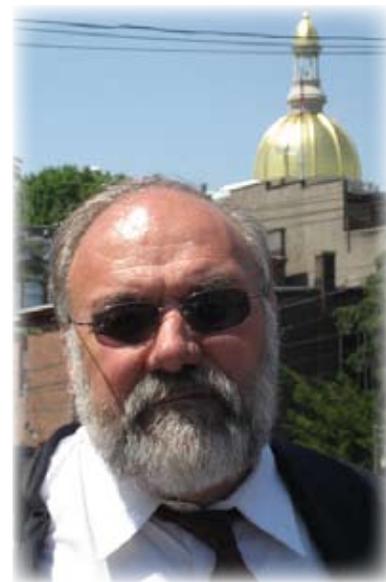
On the federal level, we must send members to Washington DC to meet with the MRF (Motorcycle Riders Foundation) and members of our Congress before November 16, 2007. I will be in Washington the first week in November.

The NTSB (National Transportation Safety Board) has a program to pressure states into enacting mandatory helmet laws. Go to [www.mrf.org](http://www.mrf.org) for more detailed information. We have defeated a similar Senate bill sponsored by our own New Jersey Senator Lautenberg.

We need to get members of the New Jersey Congress to support federal bills S-616 and HR 2006 to close the loophole allowing unions and health insurance providers to deny insurance coverage for accidents that stem from horseback riding, snowmobiling, snow skiing, motorcycle riding, etc. A strong motorcycle voice can make a difference. Puerto Rico recently passed a law requiring all motorcycle and scooter riders to wear helmets, gloves, long pants, and reflective vests. A day after this law went into effect the law was temporarily rescinded due to massive protest from concerned motorcyclists. Delray Beach, Florida wanted to ban bikers from a portion of the town. Again a strong voice delayed this ban.

If all motorcyclists would put their differences aside and work together we would have the strongest voice in the country to prevent losing our freedoms. Please join and support your State Motorcycle Rights Organization, **ABATE of the Garden State**, the MRF and the AMA. We need to be proactive to keep our lifestyle alive.

Ride Safe, Ride Free!  
American by Birth - Biker by Choice  
Tom Gordon



**Contact Tom at: [tomgordon67@verizon.net](mailto:tomgordon67@verizon.net)**

# Insurance And Your Motorcycle

by Jerry Friedman



Since 1998, New Jersey allows automobile insurance companies to offer a “basic policy” as a low-cost option to drivers wishing to choose reduced limits of coverage vs. the “standard policy”, which was and is still offered. These policies only apply to automobiles, but may affect you in a motorcycle accident. When

reading the comparative analysis that follows, think about the coverages that you want and that the guy who hits you might have.

## Bodily Injury Coverage

This provides coverage for claims by people who are injured. The “standard policy” provides minimum limits of \$15,000.00 with higher optional limits available. The “basic policy” provides *no* bodily injury coverage, but offers an *optional* \$10,000.00 per accident. If a driver with the “basic policy” hits you on your bike or in your car, he essentially has no coverage to pay your injury claim. If you have the “basic policy” on your automobile, you essentially have no liability injury coverage.

## PIP Coverage

Personal injury protection coverage, or PIP, pays your medical bills as a result of an automobile accident. There is no PIP for motorcycle accidents. The “standard policy” provides for \$250,000.00 of medical expense coverage. The “basic policy” coverage limit is \$15,000.00. If you have the “basic policy” on your automobile, you essentially have no medical benefits for an automobile accident.

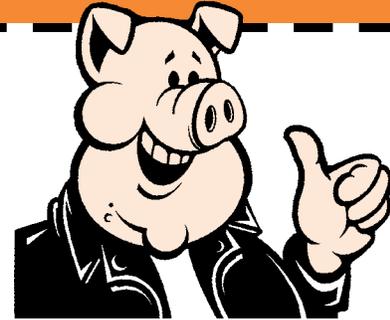
## Uninsured (UM) and Underinsured (UIM) Coverage

This protects you if you are in an automobile or motorcycle accident caused by someone who either has no insurance or less insurance than you. The “standard policy” includes basic UM/UIM limits of \$15,000/\$30,000. However, you may purchase higher limits to provide greater protection. The “basic policy” includes no UM/UIM coverage. If you have the “basic policy” on your automobile, you have no protection from uninsured and underinsured drivers. Riders are urged to increase their UM and UIM motorcycle coverage to the maximum.

If you choose the “basic policy” for your automobile you will have no insurance to cover people who might be injured by *your* negligence. You and your family will have

limited medical expenses and no additional benefits if *someone hits you*. If you are struck on your motorcycle or automobile by a driver with a “basic policy”, he will have little or no insurance to compensate you. It is essential that you purchase a “standard policy” with increased UM/UIM limits to protect you in all instances. *Full coverage* is not the same thing as *adequate coverage*. Being in an accident is always a surprise. Finding out there is inadequate insurance to compensate you can be an even bigger one!

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# Supporting Clubs

~By Mike Fleming

United we stand. We've all heard that one before, but how does it apply to ABATE? Unity is the only muscle we have when it comes to the political arena. By banding together we substantiate our numbers and present a unified voice. Only in this way can we hope to have our concerns heard.



Unity also implies that we prioritize and keep our goals clearly in sight. As motorcyclists we have numerous issues that apply to us, our safety and education. Keeping the focus on these issues will allow us to succeed.

Uniting the freedom loving individuals that make up our community is no easy task. By definition, we are not the type that follows the crowd. We are a tiny minority. But if we want to enjoy and maintain our freedoms we have to make our voices heard as one.

What type of riders does ABATE represent? How

about *every single one*. We all face the same risks on the road and crashing on a sport bike will ruin your day just as quickly as crashing on a cruiser. The asphalt doesn't care what you ride and neither does that driver who just turned into your space.

So let's keep focused on the important issues. There are riders out there dying every day. There are also people getting away with manslaughter. This has got to stop.

We will probably never agree on all the issues and their order of importance. All groups face these same trials. So let's get past our differences and get on with the work we know must be done.

Once united, we can make a stand. We're still working on the unity side of this equation. It will take the efforts of all of us to achieve this. It will require tolerance and the respect for our differences too. The public at large sees all motorcyclists as a single group. We have to resist dividing ourselves into myriad factions and cliques based on the type of riding we do or the marque we choose. Devisive thinking will not help us reach our goals at all. So open your mind to unity; only then can we stand.



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## Greetings

~By Bob Hicks, Chairman

I would like to welcome the new members and new districts (chapters) to **ABATE of the Garden State**. I have met some of the new members and leaders in which I see experienced, quality people who will help us grow and achieve our goals. Elections are coming in December for the districts. Let's talk to our members and reach out to the best persons to take on those positions and responsibilities. I am very happy to see **ABATE** growing at such a steady pace.

The hard work of the state board and our members to get the word out has made this possible. We have had some growing pains, but I believe most of those problems have been worked out. It is great to see **ABATE of the Garden State** districts supporting each others events. In closing, I would personally like to thank everyone who has worked at the local or state level to make **ABATE of the Garden State** the success which it is becoming.

Thank you. ~ Bob



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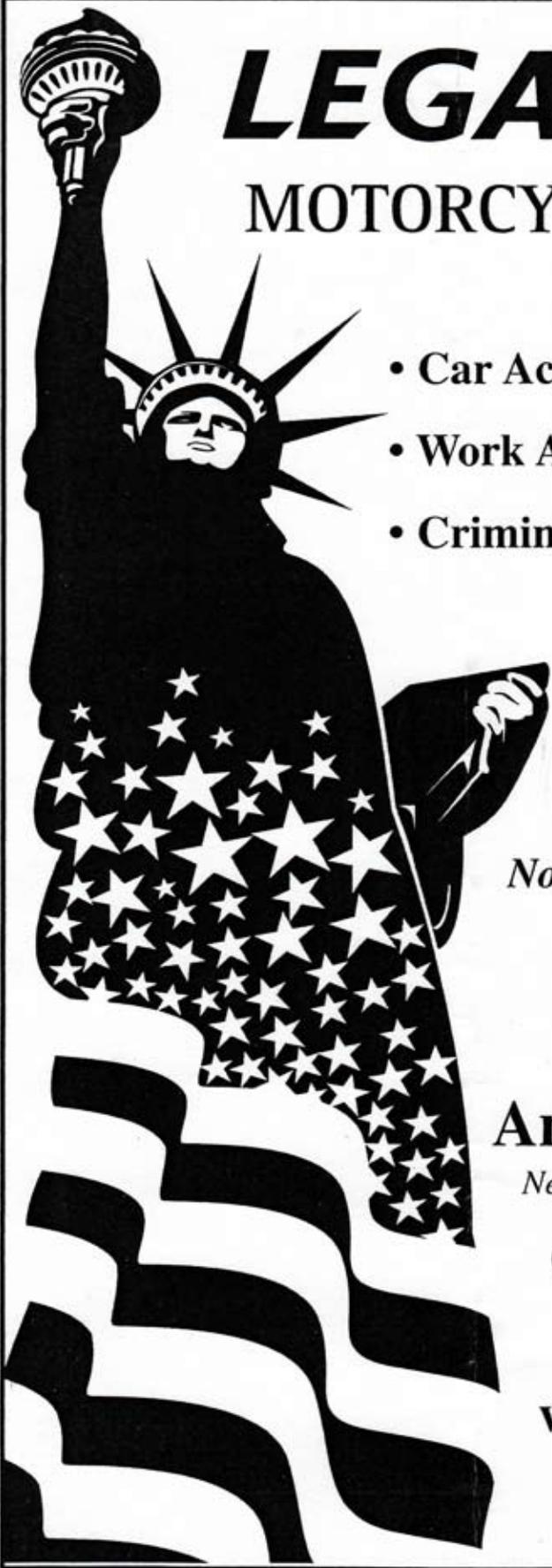
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# Motorcycle Awareness

~ By Steve Friedrich

Greetings fellow riders. My name is Steve Friedrich and I was recently appointed Chairperson of the Motorcycle Awareness Committee for **ABATE of the Garden State**.



I have been riding motorcycles on and off since 1977. Unfortunately, my riding days were cut short early. On April 18, 1979, a beautiful Spring day great for riding, I was on my way home from college when a 1977 Ford Thunderbird ran a red light at one-thirty in the afternoon. I just happened to be in the middle of the intersection when he ran the light....needless to say I was busted up pretty good. This inattentiveness on the motorist's part cut my riding days short.

In 2003 I bought my first Harley Davidson motorcycle. I thought the 100th Anniversary of an American Legend was a great time to get back into riding. I purchased a 2003 Dyna Wide Glide and have been on two wheels ever since. Considering it was nearly twenty four years since I rode consistently, I enrolled in the state's BRC, Beginner Rider Course. I can not say enough great things about the Rider Training Program offered by the state and I encourage all riders to take advantage of this program. The following year I enrolled in the ERC, Experienced Rider Course to further sharpen my riding skills.

Last year I became involved in **ABATE of Cape May** when I ran into Pat Boylan, President of District One and a good friend, at the New Jersey HOG Rally in Wildwood. When Pat shared with me his involvement with **ABATE** and what they were trying to do for motorcycle rights it was a no brainer. I have been an active HOG member since 2003 and was actively working with our local chapter to increase awareness of motorcycles and add some motorcycle education language to the NJ State Driver Manual.

When I got back into riding, I told myself "I would do what I could to increase motorcycle safety and awareness to other motorists".

My goals are simple;

- > To help raise the driving public's awareness of motorcycles on the road.
- > Personalize motorcyclists as Family, Friends, Fathers, Mothers, Sisters, and Brothers, Aunts and Uncles, Children, and Spouses who share a common love of motorcycling. We all love the outdoors and the freedom that motorcycling brings.

- > Work with the Motor Vehicle Commission to add motorcycle awareness and education in the Drivers' Manual.
- > Launch a Motorcycle Awareness Campaign on the state level to promote Resolution #9 designating May as **Motorcycle Awareness Month**.
- > Raise the overall public awareness of motorcycles.
- > Increase training, safety, and awareness on NJ roads.
- > To continue to make motorcycling fun and "SAFE".

## Progress to date;

- > October 4, 2007, I met with the South Jersey Traffic Safety Alliance to discuss mutual interest of promoting Motorcycle Safety and Awareness.
- > Working with Tom Gordon to meet key members of the legislature at the state level.
- > October 28, 2007, met with Nick Asselta, State Senator, and discussed scheduling a meeting with Sharon Harrington, Chief Administrator, Motor Vehicle Commission.

Please know, I am open to any, and all ideas from all members, future members, riders, passengers, future riders, and even four wheelers as to how we can increase public awareness of motorcycles on the roads and the safety and riding pleasure for all.

Let's work together to make New Jersey roads safe for motorcycles.

"Show you care... Ride aware" ~ Steve Friedrich

When you discover your mission, you will feel its demand. It will fill you with enthusiasm and a burning desire to get to work on it. ~ *W. Clement Stone*

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"Kool"...continued from page one. There are people who may dismiss this pursuit of "kool". Schools should be for learning. My guess is that many of these kids will not be lawyers, doctors, or accountants. By being into the motorcycle culture they will develop a passion to learn what they have to in pursuit of their dreams. Fuel, spark, combustion, motion, torque, psi = Physics. Rake, degrees, trail = Geometry. Welding, oxygen, acetylene, argon, helium, current, voltage, tensile strength, and metallurgy = Science. Gear ratios, gaps, working with a thousandth of an inch = Math. Someday America may need these kids to rebuild our industrial strength and secure our nation as engineers, innovators, metal workers, tool and die makers, machine operators, the new NASA pioneers, and the list goes on.

Motorcycles are a great motivator. Let's keep it cool, imaginative, and creative to inspire the next generation. As we chill out this winter check Kennedy High Schools' Chopper Project. Just type it into a search engine and see how shop teacher Kevin Baas motivates his students through the pursuit of "kool". Keep it alive!

It's faith in something and enthusiasm for something that makes a life worth living.

~Oliver Wendell Holmes

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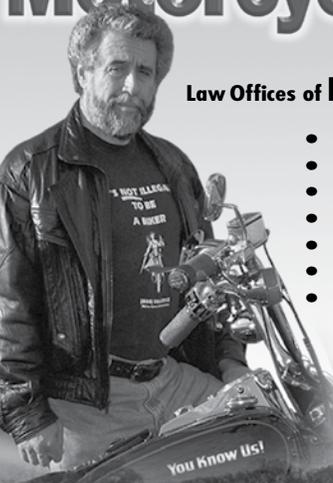
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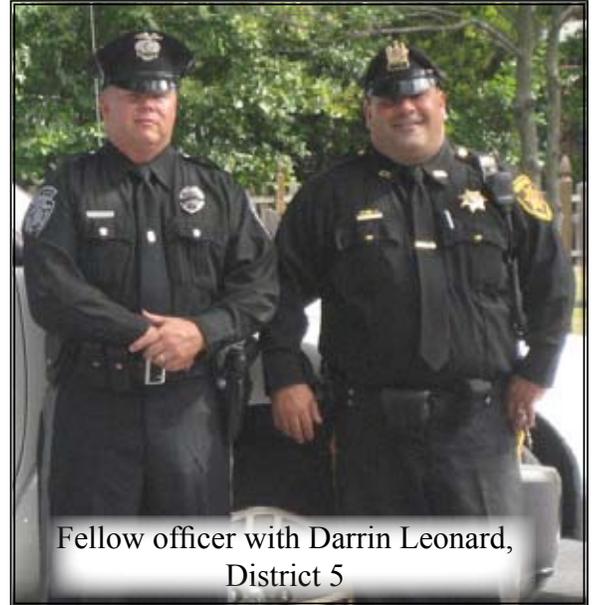
# *ABATE of the Garden State Members Walking the Walk and Talking the Talk*

## Funeral of Marine Lance Corporal Jon Hicks

**ABATE members showed their respect by joining with the Patriot Guard in honoring a fallen soldier.**



ABATE members Victor Cintron,  
Greg Fayer, Biff, and Dave Peterson



Fellow officer with Darrin Leonard,  
District 5

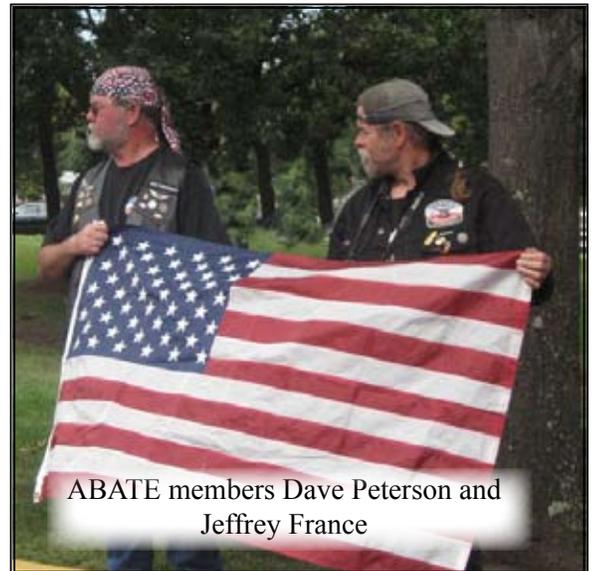
BALTIMORE (AP) - November 1, 2007 - Members of a fundamentalist Kansas church ordered to pay nearly \$11 million in damages to a grieving father smiled as they walked out of the courtroom, vowing that the verdict would not deter them from protesting at military funerals.

“Absolutely, don’t you understand this was an act in futility?” said Shirley Phelps-Roper, whose father founded the Westboro Baptist Church. Members promised to picket future funerals with placards bearing such slogans as “Thank God for dead soldiers” and “God hates fags.” They believe that U.S. deaths in the Iraq war are punishment for the nation’s tolerance of homosexuality. They say they are entitled to protest at funerals under the First Amendment, which guarantees freedom of speech and religion.

Albert Snyder, of York, Pa., sued the Topeka, Kan., church after a protest last year at the funeral of his son, Marine Lance Cpl. Matthew Snyder, who was killed in Iraq. He claimed the protests intruded upon what should have been a private ceremony and sullied his memory of the event.

A jury agreed. On Wednesday, the church and three of its leaders - Fred Phelps and his two daughters, Phelps-Roper and Rebekah Phelps-Davis - were found liable for invasion of privacy and intent to inflict emotional distress. Jurors awarded Snyder \$2.9 million in compensatory damages and \$8 million in punitive damages.

The attorney had urged jurors to award damages that would send a message to the church: “Do not bring your circus of hate to Maryland again.”



ABATE members Dave Peterson and  
Jeffrey France



Bob Bray, District 6/SW with Shaun and  
Sandy Crouch, District 3.



# *ABATE of the Garden State Members Talking the Talk and Walking the Walk*



George Steitz, District 23, and Diane Boylan, Dist. 1 working with Biff at the booth in Wildwood.



Mike "Murf" Murphy, District 6 /SW selling products in Wildwood



Danny Coleman, District 6/SW directing bikes at the ABATE Toy Run.



Monica and Sideshow Barrett and Kimmy and Jimmy Smith at The Brian Probasco Benefit



*District 5 sponsored a benefit on October 13th for Brian Probasco (left) who is suffering from cancer. \$7,500.00 was raised. His parents, (right) Walt and Jody Lutz are ABATE members.*



# DATELINE: Daytona Beach Shores,

Friday, October 19, 2007

The second official day of Biketoberfest dawned sunny and the day grew hotter as preparations got underway for the inaugural **ABATE of the Garden State "Meet & Greet"**. ABATE members welcomed guests from South Carolina, Indiana, Florida, Ohio, Tennessee, and New Jersey under the beach front party pavilion at the **Ocean Court Motel**. Everyone enjoyed the refreshments which included hot dogs, burgers, chips, dips, beverages, and all the fixin's. The day sped by as the conversations ranged from the joy of riding to the bike we ride, and the situations we encounter riding. As the sun set we all said good-by to our new ABATE friends. Thanks to RJ, Elevator Bob, Tink, and Biff who hosted the event and signed up three new members.



New members, Karl from Indiana and Dee from Tennessee



Biff, Alloway, NJ; JD, Glenwood, NJ; Rob, Williamstown, NJ; and Bob, Audubon, NJ.



Brandy and John of Columbus, OH



Jim from Florida



JD from Glenwood, NJ, signing up as a new member as Bob looks on.



House from Fort Mill, SC



Bob and Biff talking with Hot Rod from Fort Mill, SC

*(Letters..continued from page 3)*

Dear Tink,

My husband and I are **ABATE** members and live in Bordentown. We can't make the State meetings and do not have a local district organization yet. Is there any way we can get the information from the state meetings?

Sincerely, Carol

Dear Carol,

Hopefully in the near future we will have an active organization in District 30, but meanwhile the staff has added an **ABATE of the Garden State Business Page** (see page 19). This page will cover the highlights of the state meetings. We will try to expand on this page in future issues of

*"The Garden Statement" Thank you for your interest.*

~ Tink

Dear Tink,

Thanks Tink and all the newsletter staff for your hard work.

Without your dedication the **ABATE of the Garden State** Members would not be getting this vital information. Keep it up!!

Sincerely, Jeneen DeBoer-Menweg ~ Renegade Classics

Dear Jeneen,

The staff thanks you for your support. ~ Tink





# Why Are Bikers Targets?



By Patman

Just kicking around on bike forums I've noticed what seems to be a growing trend by towns to target bikers.

● A proposed bill in Florida for reckless driving in violation of s. 316.192, or exceeding the speed limit by 30 mph or more in violation of s. 316.183(2), s. 316.187, or s. 316.189 while operating or in actual physical control of a motorcycle, the officer shall arrest the person, and seize the motorcycle, which shall be subject to forfeiture under the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act. It goes on to say that upon conviction the court shall revoke a person's privilege to operate a motorcycle for a period of 10 years. This act shall take effect October 1, 2008. (Have you ever cracked your throttle on a 50mph back road, hit 80 mph for a few seconds before backing off? Just for the thrill of it? I wonder how this would fly if it also applied to cages. Even our governor and his driver had a lapse in judgment. (Sounds more like a law that should be geared to major drug dealers).

● Back in October many bikers were riding up to Marcus Dairy and just before the Connecticut border there were flashing signs about every 3 miles or so that read "ALL MOTORCYCLES MUST PULL OVER AT REST STOP". NY State Troopers had patrol cars everywhere as well as a helicopter. They allegedly wrote tickets for bike modifications and helmets. I wonder how this would fly if it also applied to cages?

● One of the beach towns in Florida decided to ban motorcycles from its downtown section for the better part of the day and night. Bikers came out against the action and it was overturned. I wonder how that would fly if it also applied to cages?

● Denver, Colorado has a harsh noise ordinance clearly aimed at bikers. Here is a rough outline of the situation.

1. Bike must register under 82 db from 25 feet.
2. The measurement can be taken at ANY condition idle, rev up, rev down – they can make you rev the bike until you fail.
3. Its illegal to install any muffler on a bike made after 1982 that doesn't bear an EPA stamp of approval.
4. Its illegal to operate a bike made after 1982 with a muffler that doesn't bear an EPA stamp

fix the problem or pay a \$500.00 fine. I did read that only one biker got a ticket. In court it came to light that the police dept. did not have equipment to measure decibel levels. The officer gave him the ticket based on his gut feeling. The guy got lucky, this time. I wonder how that would fly if it also applied to cages?

Many of these laws probably do apply to cages but that is not who is being targeted. We are! When did we become such outlaws?

If you are a member of **ABATE** we need you to become more active. If you are not a member, please turn off the TV, go to [www.gardenstateabate.org](http://www.gardenstateabate.org) and get yourself connected. Don't wait until these stories are local!

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**Tuesday:**  
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**Wednesday:**  
Bike Night ~ 50cent Off Drafts

**Thursday:**  
Karaoke 8:00pm ~ Martini Night

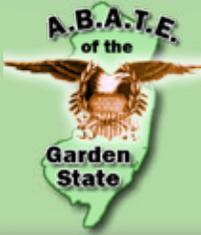
**Friday:**  
1/2 Price Appetizers ~ Shot Special

**Saturday:**  
Live Music

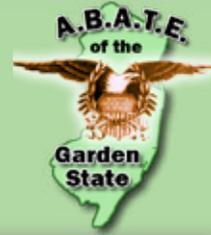
**Sunday:**  
Cheesesteak & Draft Specials



Come in and see our custom Panhead Bobber, built by Nick's Custom Cycles. It's one of a kind and so are we!



# ABATE of the Garden State Product Page



## GS ABATE Socks

Over the calf riding socks. Made in Reading, PA, 81% Acrylic, 18% Nylon, 1% Spandex. Donation: \$5.00. Great Gift Idea.

## ABATE of the Garden State Patch

All members of ABATE of the Garden State have received their patches. Extra patches will be available at events for \$3.00 each. Postage and handling will be added to mail orders. Contact Biff at [gsabatemembership@yahoo.com](mailto:gsabatemembership@yahoo.com) or 856-339-0279.



## ABATE of the Garden State

### Custom Embroidery

Along with our ABATE of the Garden State Logo Patch and socks we can now offer our members custom embroidery. The custom embroidery will be available through The Monogram Shoppe on Broad St., Woodbury, NJ. (856-845-9299) The cost of the state logo embroidery is \$15.00 (your name is extra.) You may provide a garment of your choosing to personalize. T-shirts, sweats, denim shirts, jackets, etc, can all be done. Leather is too heavy.

Contact Biff for information. He will be glad to help with the logistics.

## RENEGADE CLASSICS™

Jeneen Menweg, owner of Renegade Classics in Williamstown, NJ, and an ABATE Member, has offered to provide ABATE of the Garden State members a great deal on a man's denim shirt for our ABATE patch or embroidery.



The denim shirt (see above) will sell for \$10.00. Additionally, Jeneen will make a \$3.00 donation to ABATE for every shirt sold. Available in sizes small thru 5X. You must show your ABATE membership to qualify for this discount.

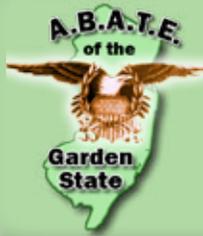
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Any questions contact Jeneen at: 856-740-6666  
[renegadeclassics@gmail.com](mailto:renegadeclassics@gmail.com)

Consider ABATE of the Garden State Products for your gift giving ideas. We will make every attempt to assist you in finishing your holiday shopping.

Please note: Any product with the ABATE of the Garden State Logo must be approved by the State Board. The only approved patch for ABATE of the Garden State is the one pictured on this page.



# ABATE of the Garden State State Business



## *Motions from the August 28, 2007 State Meeting.*

(Excerpts from the Secretary's minutes)

- ~ Motion made by Tony to accept the Trade Agreement (as amended), Seconded by Biff, carried.
- ~ Motion made by Ruth Ann for a rocker over the top of the ABATE logo patch in the same color as patch. Seconded by Rob T., carried.
- ~ Motion made by Ruth Ann to purchase two 10 by 10 canopies, 2 banners, 2 tables, and chairs for event areas. Seconded by Spike, carried.

## *Motions from the September 25, 2007 State Meeting.*

(Excerpts from the Secretary's minutes)

- ~ Motion made by Spike to hold elections in April as previously discussed to allow new representatives and alternates to have some exposure to State meetings. Seconded by Mike F., carried.
- ~ Motion made by Biff that present officers will stay in place until new officers elected. Seconded by Spike, carried.
- ~ Motion made by Biff to approve only the use of the present small green patch by the State and State affiliated districts/chapters. Seconded by Mike F., carried.
- ~ Motion made by Tom Gordon to set up a Media/Public Relations Committee. Seconded by Gerald carried. (Note: Steve Friedrich accepted to chair committee.)

## *Motions from the October 30, 2007 State Meeting.*

(Excerpts from the Secretary's minutes)

- ~ Motion made by Spike to cancel December meeting. Seconded by Gerald, carried.
- ~ Motion made by Janet G., the state will reimburse attendance fee to the PA ABATE Leadership Conference upon attending, and after return the cost of 5 State Trustees, and 2 members from each District/Chapter (\$130.00 with respect to District/Chapter). Seconded by Biff, carried.
- ~ Motion made by Biff for the state secretary will keep file of minutes from district/chapter meetings, no second.
- ~ Motion made by Biff for a mandatory district/chapter to provide Tom Gordon (State Legislative Rep) a point of contact for their individual district/chapter for the purpose of legislative action and information dissemination. No second.
- ~ Motion made by Biff to move Annual Meeting from December to April. Seconded by Spike, carried.
- ~ Motion made by Spike for Pay Pal account needing 2 signatures and 1 alternate. Bob H., Gerald, and George S. as alternate. Seconded by Biff, carried.

Answer to puzzle on page 5. The vowel "E" does not appear anywhere in the paragraph. Very unusual!

## *Welcome Aboard!*

ABATE of the Garden State is pleased to welcome our newest member to the state board. Don Moser will be serving as an Alternate Representative for District 5. He has been riding for over twenty years.

Don has also agreed to be a columnist for "The Garden Statement". He has served as a Financial Consultant for Janney Montgomery Scott LLC for nearly 20 years. Don assists his clients with personalized attention and a conservative investment philosophy focusing on diversification and asset allocation.

Don's columns will focus on financial planning as your life changes and your financial goals change. He will have articles ranging from starting a family to retirement.

If you have a financial concern you would like to see addressed in this column please contact Don at: 856-985-4907 or email him at: [dmoser@jmsonline.com](mailto:dmoser@jmsonline.com)

## *A Great Idea!!!*

When you are making out your Holiday card list this year, please include the following:

***A Recovering American Soldier***  
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**Do you have a picture of an ABATE member volunteering their time at an event or doing something special for their community? Just send in their picture with name, district, and event and we will try to print the picture in the**



**next issue of "The Garden Statement". Emailed pictures are preferred. Contact the editor with any questions: [gsabate-newsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:gsabate-newsletter@yahoo.com).**

# *“AHOY Mateys,” G.S. ABATE*

## *Impresses the Crowd and the Judges*

Pirates rode motorcycles and swaggered through the streets taking the village of Alloway in Salem County by storm. Bikers from **ABATE of the Garden State** Districts 3,4,5, and 6 as well as family and friends participated in the annual Halloween Parade the evening of Saturday October 27, 2007. Some 5,000 spectators looked on as a 2 masted pirate ship adorned by a golden figurehead, bristling with cannons and festooned with loot sailed through the tiny town. Gaily costumed pirates brandished swords and blunderbusses in front of the judges' stand as they “battled” for a chest of “gold and jewels” stashed in an ABATE member's front yard before fading into the dark of night.

The goal of attaining public awareness for motorcyclists was achieved as the effort was rewarded with recognition for **Best Original Theme** and a trophy for **Best Overall** entry. The event was sponsored by Districts 3 and 5.





# District One ~ Cape May

~ By Pat Boylan

The most common question I am asked is “Why should I join ABATE?”

In a way it’s a really tough question. What ABATE means to me is different than what it means to other members of our chapter.

For some it means parties, toy rides, and poker runs. To others it is a vehicle to promote safety and education. To me it is a struggle against government legislation in my life: helmet laws, handle bar heights, exhaust pipe decibel levels, emission standards, hours I can ride my bike, insurance regulations, targeted police crackdowns, forfeiture laws, parking laws, and little education aimed toward the driving population.

The helmet law issue has been with us at least thirty-five years. I watched and read how tens of thousands of bikers converged on state capitals against the helmet laws, organized political groups, wrote articles, spent money on lobbyists, and learned where the seeds of ABATE took root. Many states have overturned their helmet laws. Many other states never recovered from when the federal government threatened to withhold highway funds from states that didn’t enact helmet laws. They blackmailed us with our own money. What amazes me most is that ANY other group would have accomplished its goals with the time, effort, money, and resources we have used in fighting helmet laws.

When I read Senator Lautenberg’s letter to governors across the United States urging them to enact helmet laws I became incensed. Somewhere along the line I bought into the idea of “We the People, By the People.” To me the idea of wearing or not wearing a helmet isn’t the issue, it’s the catalyst. In our Senator’s letter he cites the monetary burden injured cyclists place on society. I’m not sure where his figures came from. What I do know is I live in a

state with the highest property taxes, highest sales tax, probably the most toll roads, most population density, and probably some of the highest incomes. Did I mention income tax? And, unless I’m missing something, the state is close to bankruptcy. No



money to fulfill its obligations. Our roads and bridges have seen better days, our ports’ security is questionable, political corruption seems to be the order of the day, our kids are off fighting for Iraq’s rights and freedoms, and for some reason we are a burden. Huh??

We contribute to the economy by purchasing motorcycles, apparel, parts, and insurance (to help lessen the burden). We contribute to society by going to events, poker runs, and parties that raise money for cancer victims, injured veterans, hospitals (some of the same ones that label us organ donors), families in need - you get the point. Toys for Tots, and food drives are always well attended and fun. When they came up with our high cost to society I wonder if uninsured motorists that run us over, tailgate us, change lanes without looking, plow into us at traffic lights, don’t yield the right of way, and make turns in front of us with no warning are figured into the equation. Burden???

I think the politicians have more pressing issues to deal with than forcing their ideas of how I should run my life into law.

Why do you belong to ABATE?

## Contact Pat at: [njpatman@comcast.net](mailto:njpatman@comcast.net)

District 1 encompasses Avalon Borough, Buena Borough, Buena Vista Township, Cape May City, Cape May Point Borough, Dennis Township, Lower Township, Maurice River Township, Middle Township, Millville City, North Wildwood City, Ocean City, Sea Isle City, Somers Point City, Stone Harbor Borough, Upper Township, Vineland City, West Cape May Borough, West Wildwood Borough, Wildwood City, Wildwood Crest Borough, Woodbine Borough.

District 1 meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm. Call or email for location. Patrick Boylan, President of Cape May ABATE can be reached at [njpatman@comcast.net](mailto:njpatman@comcast.net). Michael Fleming is the representative to the state and can be reached at [nocarbiker@yahoo.com](mailto:nocarbiker@yahoo.com) or call: 856-327-5444. Alternate: Kevin Haines: [kjh64@comcast.net](mailto:kjh64@comcast.net)

## District 3 ~ By Biff

As the membership roster of District 3 continues to grow new friendships and new working relationships are being formed. Irrefutable evidence of this was displayed during our successful first event held in conjunction with District 5 (See Pirate Party Page 20 ) Kudos to those involved.

As we mature into a more structured organization our leadership is poised to guide us into the new year and help us effectively influence our legislators on behalf of riders throughout the state. Kudos to them as well.

We look forward to continued growth, more political involvement, attending others' events and visits to other motorcycle organizations so that we can emphasize the importance of protecting motorcyclists' rights. We are excited to see members stepping forward and becoming leaders in our organization. We look forward to helping others establish themselves as solid members. Thank you to all and kudos to us all!



District 3 encompasses Alloway Township, Bridgeton City, Carneys Point Township, Clayton Borough, Commercial Township, Deerfield Township, Downe Township, East Greenwich Township, Elk Township, Elmer Borough, Elsinboro Township, Fairfield Township, Greenwich Township (Cumberland), Greenwich Township (Gloucester), Harrison Township, Hopewell Township, Lawrence Township, Logan Township, Lower Alloways Creek Township, Mantua Township, Mannington Township, Mantua Township, National Park Borough, Oldmans Township, Paulsboro Borough, Penns Grove Borough, Pennsville Township, Pilesgrove Township, Pittsgrove Township, Quinton Township, Salem City, Shiloh Borough, South Harrison Township, Stow Creek Township, Swedesboro Borough, Upper Deerfield Township, Upper Pittsgrove Township, Wenonah Borough, West Deptford Township, Woodstown Borough, Woolwich Township.

District 3 meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month: Upcoming meetings:

November 21,  
December 19,  
January 16,  
February 20.

Location through February:

Alloway Village Inn

Telegraph Rd Alloway, NJ

(856)-935-8666

Contact information: Biff Crossley  
gsabatemembership@yahoo.com or  
856-339-0279.

District Rep: Rob Tursi: rjt317jr@aol.com

Alternate: Janet Garrison

Legislator Representative:

Kurt Reichert

*Happy Holidays to all our ABATE friends and families. Best wishes for a healthy and prosperous New year in 2008.*

### Alloway plays host to Halloween fun

Heather Simione

hsimione@njnews.com

ALLOWAY TWP. -Thousands from New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, and Pennsylvania turned out for the 39th Annual Alloway Happy Halloween Parade.

As the sun forced itself onto rain-soaked roads, young and old bounded with enthusiasm to partake in the festivities. With 84 entries and 15 queens from

around New Jersey, participants lined up hours in advance to be staged.

Of course, with the many floats being represented spectators had their choice of ghoulish to whimsical as they watched organizations such as Granny's Pumpkins Patch Kids and Penns Grove Elks Lodge.

The local chapter of American Bikers Aimed Toward Education (A.B.A.T.E.) chose a Pirates of the

Caribbean-themed float to represent their organization by promoting public awareness for the 200,000 riders of the state's motorcycle community.

"This is our first year in the parade and we wanted to show people what our organization is all about and it's just plain fun," said Biff Crossley, A.B.A.T.E. state trustee.

The young men of Ranch Hope (See PARADE, Page A-4)

## ALLOWAY VILLAGE INN

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**District 3 ABATE meets here on the 3rd Wednesday  
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## District 4

Starting small with big plans is a good way to characterize the first 2 meetings held by District 4. We anticipate continued growth and an increased ability to represent all riders in our area, and we look forward to developing a good working relationship with the legislators who voice our concerns in Trenton. If you live in any of the communities comprising District 4 we encourage you to join us in our attempt to make a difference here at home and, by combined effort, throughout New Jersey.

**District 4** will be meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm.

Location through February  
**Peach Country Tractor, Inc**

Route 322

Richwood, NJ 08074

856-589-3953

Contact information: Jodie Smith

joe@peachcountrytractor.com

609-922-3953

### AMERICAN BIKER IMAGE

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856-753-9200

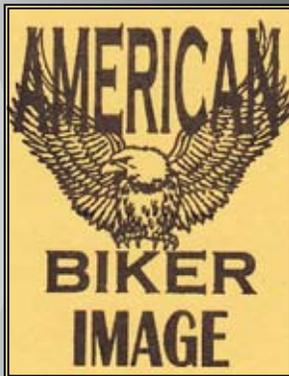
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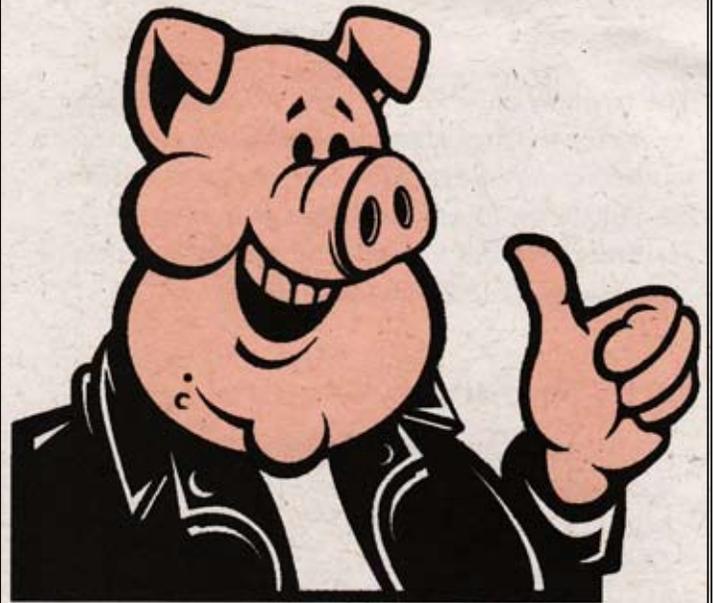
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**District 4** encompasses: Clementon Borough, Franklin Township, Glassboro Borough, Gloucester Township, Laurel Springs Borough, Lindenwold Borough, Monroe Township, Newfield Borough, Pitman Borough, Washington Township

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## District 5 ~ By Sideshow



### *“Are we losing our Hero’s?”*

Recently, talking with a friend of mine brought to light some interesting historical points. These days we are losing our veterans from World War II at an almost unbelievable rate, up to 1500 of them each day across America. This is amazing to me if you spread that out over this

past year. When you think of that it might give you some idea of how many service men and women actually fought in that war, not forgetting how many died during the war and the years after.

Are we losing our heroes? Well World War I ended around 1919, that being some 88 years ago, and if you were seventeen then that puts you at around 105 years old. Now World War II ended in 1945; that was 62 years ago, and if you were seventeen then that puts you at around 79 years old. We’re all getting older. Take a moment to honor our centenarians and the sacrifices they have made for our country. Realize also that there are no Vietnam Veterans under the age of 50. Also remember the wars fought on back through centuries before.

There are only 2 generations in the 20th century that were not at war: those of age at the turn of the century, and again in the 20’s and the 30’s. We were at war in the teens, the 40’s, the 50’s, the 60’s, the 70’s, the 80’s, and the 90’s. Now here we are at war still well into the 21st century. Drink that down with your next sip of beer!

Irony rears it’s ugly head when our government lawmakers place us in harms way, and our military men and women have to bail us out, often losing their lives fighting to protect ours. Never lose sight of what all of our history’s heroes have given up for us, and what we have because of them. Cherish your older veterans while we still have them. Honor the veterans of today; we owe them so much and they have some awesome stories to tell.

One disturbing fact is that, at any time, anyone you talk to today has lost a loved one to war. That is enough mothers’ tears to fill a small lake. I must add that some of the information in this article came from stories that have been told to me by friends that could barely get their point across to me through their own tears of memory, so forgive me if some statistical accuracy has been lost.

So are we losing our heroes? Yes, but we are never going to be without them. Young kids today join the service to be proud Americans and that is exactly what they become. War makes heroes, so it looks like we’re going to have a lot of

them. The Vietnam war was the first war of my lifetime; I have friends today who served in that war. I was very young, but it was my first experience of seeing what war can do to someone.

Part of what I do as a member of **ABATE** is protect bikers rights and freedom in our state. This is my way of giving something back to my brothers and sisters who have given so much to see that we’re safe, and is in a small way comparative to the intentions that our service men and women have in mind when they join up. Please don’t misunderstand, I am in no way making light of our military people. I’m saying that I fight for the American biker. I truly believe that if you ride you care about your rights and freedom. Even if you don’t ride you may still care. If you do care you can show your pride by standing with **ABATE**. Protect our freedom; join our fight. We band together to enjoy our “rights” as FREE Americans. Peace, Sideshow.

### District 5

Meeting night: 2nd Tuesday, Monthly 7:30pm

Screamers Custom Cycle,

1014 N. Evergreen Ave. Woodbury, NJ. 856-845-7054

Contact information:

Bob “Sideshow “ Barrett: 609-501-1007

legendrider1@comcast.net

District Rep: Spike Abrams spikeabrams@comcast.net

Alt. Rep.: Don Moser

District 5 encompasses Audubon Borough, Barrington Borough, Bellmawr Borough, Brooklawn Borough, Camden City, Deptford Township, Gloucester City, Haddon Heights Borough, Hi Nella Borough, Lawnside Borough, Magnolia Borough, Mount Ephraim Borough, Runnemede Borough, Somerdale Borough, Stratford Borough, Westville Borough, Woodbury City, Woodbury Heights Borough, Woodlynne Borough

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Woodbury, NJ

856-848-4169

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## 10 Top Reasons To Check Out ABATE of the Garden State Website

1. Articles on important motorcycle issues in other states.
2. Links to other motorcycle rights organization websites
3. ABATE speaks out. The real story behind "social burden" theory.
4. Survey results determining what New Jersey bikers think are the most important issues.
5. Information on Rider Education of New Jersey.
6. Extensive Events Calendar
7. Archives of past newsletters
8. Facts and figures to assist in discussing your favorite sport/ pasttime.
9. Fantastic video of a close encounter with a deer.
10. News from around the nation and world of motorcycling.

The website is a valuable tool to engage, enlighten, and encourage bikers to get involved with ABATE of the Garden State.

Go online and see for yourself, then spread the word to check us out.

## District Meetings Schedule

**District 1/ Cape May:**  
1st Wednesday 7:00pm

**District 3:**  
3rd Wednesday 7:30pm

**District 4:**  
3rd Tuesday 7:30pm

**District 5:**  
2nd Tuesday 7:30pm  
**District 6/ Southwest:**  
1st Wednesday 7:30pm

## Ten Points

A.B.A.T.E./New Jersey Motorcyclists Alliance is fighting for motorcycle rights on several state level issues. While the helmet issue is on our agenda, there are other issues also being brought to the attention of our legislators. Most of these issues will not only help all motorcyclists, but will either directly or indirectly help all motorists.

Top ten issues:

1. Reinforce covered load laws.
2. Improved public training programs for all motorists and motorcyclists.
3. Raising awareness of motorcycles to reduce accidents.
4. Modification of the mandatory helmet law.
5. Legal lane splitting when motorcyclists are stopped in a traffic jams.
6. Go on "Red" with unresponsive red lights.
7. Make it legal to pump your own gas.
8. Handle bar heights; make New Jersey law conform to guidelines established in other states.
9. Make it legal to park multiple bikes per spot.
10. Is New Jersey misusing funds dedicated to motorcycle safety?

### Remember:

The NHTSA has stated that education and training is the most effective way to reduce motorcycle accidents.

## ABATE of the Garden State

### Yearly Membership

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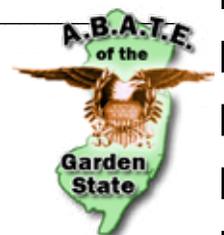
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7. Check chassis, suspension, drive and fasteners.

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Tink, Editor

*The Garden Statement*

ABATE of the Garden State Newsletter

