

April 2013



A Chapter of A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois, Inc.

WILL COUNTY A.B.A.T.E.

A Brotherhood Aimed Toward Education

April General Meeting
changed to Wednesday,
April 10th at 7:30pm
Mike Myers to present
Ride Smart, Ride Safe
campaign

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Will County ABATE
P.O. Box 928
Plainfield, IL 60544
www.willcoabate.org

Mark Your Calendars

Upcoming Meetings & Events:

April —Book Run Starts

April 3 @ 7pm Officers meeting

@ Dale A.C. in Rockdale

April 10 @ 7:30pm General meeting *

(Mike Myers Presentation)

April 27 Candlelight Bowling (see flyer)

May 1 @ 7pm Officers meeting

@ Dale A.C. in Rockdale

May 8 @ 7:30pm General meeting*

May 11 Presidents Run

* Harwood Post (I80 & Larkin)

2013 Will County A.B.A.T.E. Officers			
President	Jim	jim @ willcoabate . org	815.482.4445
Vice President	Mike	mikec @ willcoabate . org	
Secretary	Paul	paul @ willcoabate . org	815.514.7599
Treasurer	Kim	kim @ willcoabate . org	815-529-0704
Legislative	Brian	brian @ willcoabate . org	815.725.4357
Safety & Education	John	john @ willcoabate . org	815.342.6928
Activities	Pam	pam @ willcoabate.org	815.791.3897
BOD Repre.	Mad Maxx	maxx @ willcoabate . org	
Editor	Pat	editor @ willcoabate.org	815.258.6113
Membership	Helen	helen @ willcoabate . org	815.723.6839
Merchandise	Sandi	sandi @ willcoabate . org	815.213.3946
Public Relations	Freak	freak @ willcoabate . org	
Road Captain	Mike	mikew @ willcoabate . org	815.954.0740
Sgt. At Arms	Brian	brian _ p @ willcoabate . org	815.909.8753
Webmaster	John	webmaster @ willcoabate . org	

Interested in getting more involved?

Would you like to know what is involved in volunteering?

Come to an officers meeting
the first Thursday of the month 7:00pm at
Harwood Post.

This is a way you can see what is involved
and what YOU can do to help.

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Owner – Kevin “Kalbo” Ruth
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www.kalbosperformancecycle.com

ABATE MEMBERS DON'T FORGET TO ASK FOR YOUR ABATE DISCOUNT!
(Must show card.)



Legislative

By: Brian

Hello, Will Co Chapter & Friends!

What a difference a year makes.

At this time last year, it was in the 80s and we were riding every day.

Also, at this time last year, we were pretty sure who our friends in the Statehouse were. But as the weather has thrown us for a loop, so have redistricting and the 2012 elections. So when we went to Springfield for this year's Legislative Day, we had to get ac-

quainted with some new lawmakers and present our case to them.

While our numbers were smaller this year, I still feel Will County Chapter had a successful day.

Thanks to Shy Vi, Mike & Deb, Barb, Dan, Mad Maxx, Mike and Pink for representing the Chapter.

And a special thanks to Mike & Barb for driving their vehicles, thus saving us the cost of van rental, and to Dan for setting up our lunch facilities and for finding us a great pizza carryout!

Our lawmakers were for the most part receptive to our views, and we also met with a couple of them about something not on the "official" agenda, but very important to this chapter nonetheless.

We explained why SB52 and HB165, the E-15 ethanol bills, are bad for Illinois consumers and vehicle owners. We tried to gain support for HB1539, which would allow for non-police traffic controllers and intersection blockers for large rides and events. Barb did a lot of the legwork on this bill by compiling the costs of using police at different functions. We explained the need for passing HB2253, a "hold harmless" bill which would exempt property owners who permit Cycle Rider Training classes on their land from civil lawsuits in case of injury. And we mentioned SB1960, a shell bill ABATE plans to use to fix problems with poker runs and other events that the Gaming Commission and Liquor Control Board are treating as gambling. It would exempt poker runs, marble runs, dice runs etc. from regulation by these agencies.

After lunch, some of us who don't have the stamina we used to had to take a rest. No problem, we had several more physically fit members who were eager to get back to the meeting and greeting, for which I'm in their debt—especially when I looked at the line leading from the street to both sides of the front Capitol steps. The State Rifle Association had around 7000 members on hand for

their lobby day. Man, what ABATE could do with that kind of turnout!

One thing I noticed this year is that several lawmakers didn't want to see anyone who wasn't a constituent; I'm guessing this is because they're tired of the endless parade of lobbyists. No problem, Barb and I both live in House Minority Leader Tom Cross' district, so I scheduled a meeting with him to discuss the need for improvements at the intersection of Rt. 126 and County Line Rd. in particular, and 126 west out of Plainfield in general. You'll remember that one of our members, Ron Oswald, lost his life at 126 and County Line, and our member "Monty" Montgomery lost his son, Tyler, at 126 and Schlapp Rd. Plainfield has named this roadwork a "top priority" for 2013. Rep. Cross was very receptive to our request, and said he'd be making some calls as soon as his meeting with us was over. As we were leaving the reception that evening, new 49th District Senator Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant walked in. I ran over and introduced myself and ABATE, and buttonholed her about Rt. 126. She knows the intersection all too well, and agreed that there's an urgent need for improvements. I told her Tom Cross was on board with the pro-

ject; she said she'd call him to work on a game plan, letting him take the lead. Maybe bipartisan-ship isn't completely dead! Again as I tried to leave, State Treasurer and GOOD friend of ABATE, Dan Rutherford arrived with several staffers. After exchanging greetings, he thanked us for all of ABATE's support over the years; I told him it was our great pleasure to help him. Then he said, "What can I do for YOU?" I said "seriously?" And he replied "yes." So I told him it was probably outside his scope of authority, but we were trying to get funding for a road project in my district that's very important to our members. He called over one of his staffers, told him to find a quiet spot, and take notes on what I said. So I explained the situation as the guy wrote furiously, and when I was done he said, "Let me get together with Dan and we'll see how to shake some money loose. It may take a few days, but I'll be in touch. Definitely." With that, I finally got out of the reception, with a feeling of accomplishment. Yeah, we had a smaller group this year, but we were definitely effective.

Legislative cont'd on page 8



Safety and Education

By: John

Paul gave our first presentation of the year to 208 students at Plainfield North HS on March 1st. Great job, Paul!

Look closely at the picture accompanying this article. This is a photo of a ratchet and strap used on flatbed trailers to hold a load to the trailer. Every so often, they fail and fall off of the trailer. This particular ratchet fell off in traffic on I-294, slid for awhile and then bounced around under a car owned by one of my co-workers. As it bounced around, it destroyed the oil pan and damaged a few exhaust heat shields. No one was hurt, but the car sustained around

\$1200.00 in damage and took over a week to fix.

Imagine if he had been riding a motorcycle instead of driving a car. The results could have been much more costly than an oil pan and exhaust parts.

While leaving a large space around us while riding isn't always practical in Chicagoland traffic, we need to constantly be aware of potential hazards. Hazards won't always be the inattentive or distracted driver. Hazards can come from anywhere.



For those of you who do not have an “M” classification on your license, PLEASE attend a **FREE** Motorcycle Rider Safety Training Course. After passing the course, you will automatically qualify for the “M” classification. If you already have an “M” classification, there is also an Experienced Rider Safety Course available to sharpen your skills. Course information is available from the **Illinois Department of Transportation.**

They can be reached at

<http://www.dot.il.gov/cycle2.html>

The regional center for the Will County area can be reached at

[1-800-252-3348](tel:1-800-252-3348)

or

<http://www.mrp.uiuc.edu/>



President

By: Jim "Ebs" Ebersohl

It's riding season and when it comes to riding we need to ride smart. If you can only make one meeting a year this month's meeting is it, Wednesday April 10th, Mike Myers our State Coordinator for Abate of

Illinois will be presenting the new program that he put together after reviewing the Illinois State Police records of the fatalities from the past years. The only way to prevent accidents is to understand the cause so join us this month and learn. Ride Smart, Ride Safe.

See you at the meeting.



Activities

By: Pam

So are you ready to ride? Are you ready to roll? I am let's do it!

April starts the annual book run; we will have 50 stops including bonus stops. I have to give a big thank you to the book run committee for all of their hard work! Look for posts on the Will County A.B.A.T.E. website, Facebook page and yahoo group for all the details.

4/27 We are bringing back our Candlelight bowl. It starts at 6 pm, sign up your team or individually. Bowling starts promptly at 7 pm. It will be held at Crest Hill Bowl (Keglers Bar & Grill). \$15 per person and that includes bowling, shoes, pizza and pop. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Tickets will be on sale at the April meeting, must be purchased by 4/19. Contact pam@willcoabate.org for tickets.

5/11 We will be celebrating 10 years of Will County A.B.A.T.E. by RIDING as a

chapter and as friends. Join us for the 2013 Presidents Run at American Legion Harwood Post. Registration starts at 9:30 am, bikes out at 11:00 am. Route to be determined yet. We invite all the founding board members, past Presidents, past officers and all current and past members. Let's show Will County what we are all about!!

Mike and I would like to thank our A.B.A.T.E family for all of the support our kids got at the benefit for John Simpson our son-in-law. The support from our family, friends and the community was unbelievably overwhelming. Thank you!!!

Look forward to having a great time on the road with everyone!

Pam
Activities Director

"The Best of the West"

2013 Triathlon Winners



POOL WINNERS
Mike W. & Kim F.



BAG WINNERS
Jerry G. & Mike D.



DART WINNERS
Tom K. &
Sue S.
(not pictured)

Legislative cont'd from page 5

Now an update on a couple of our bills: The Senate Agriculture Committee held a hearing on SB52 on March 12th. The 3 professionals testifying against the bill stated that the piping in gas stations can't withstand the higher alcohol content of E-15. Fuel distributors serving areas close to Missouri and Iowa stated that Illinois is already losing a huge amount of money due to drivers buying gas in lower-tax states, and the situation will only get worse if E-10 becomes more costly in Illinois than E-15.

HB1539, the road guard bill, will be heard soon in the House Transportation Committee, and IDOT

supports this bill, which helps our cause immensely.

Finally, HR875, the bill in the U.S. House that would require a thorough independent test of the effects of E-15 on engines before it could be sold, needs sponsors! If you haven't done so, now's the time to call your person in Congress, explain the problems with E-15, and urge them to sign on as a cosponsor of this bill. If we want the bill to move forward, we need as many cosponsors as possible!

That's it for this month. Stay alert, somebody's always out to get ya!

Brian
Legislative Curmudgeon



It's been a few years so we are bringing it back.

That's right let's see how you REALLY roll!!!

Will County ABATE Candlelight Bowl

Saturday April 27, 2013

at

Crest Hill Lanes (Keglers Bar & Grill)

on

905 Theodore St in Crest Hill, IL.

There are 16 lanes available so let's fill it this night.

Sign in at 6 pm

Sign in as a team or individual

Bowling starts promptly at 7 pm.

Costs \$15 a person which includes bowling, shoes, pizza and pop.

Cash bar available.

Tickets will be sold at the April meeting.

Tickets must be paid in advance by April 19th.

For more information contact pam@willcoabate.org

Most Wanted

April 2013

May 2013

Member's names are published only in the printed version of the newsletter.

See the printed newsletter for the names of members coming up for renewal

A.B.A.T.E. of ILLINOIS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

New Member (1) _____ (2) _____ Renewal (1) _____ (2) _____ Membership # (1) _____ (2) _____ Date _____

Original Date Joined (if renewal) (1) _____ (2) _____ Chapter Preference WILL COUNTY A.B.A.T.E. CHAPTER

Name (1) _____ (2) _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone (_____) _____ County _____

E-Mail address (1) _____ (2) _____

Congressional District _____ Senatorial District _____ Representative District _____ Registered Voter (1) _____ (2) _____

Date of Birth (1) _____ (2) _____ Occupation (1) _____ (2) _____

Completed a MSF Course (1) _____ (2) _____ Where did you hear about ABATE? _____

I understand that A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois cannot assume responsibility for my safety and that if I participate in any sanctioned event, I do so voluntarily, assuming all risk. I release and hold A.B.A.T.E. harmless for any injury or loss to my personal property which may result therefrom. I understand this means that I agree not to sue A.B.A.T.E. for any injury resulting to myself or my property at any event. I agree to comply with the Bylaws and act in the best interest of A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois. A copy of ABATE-PAC's report is or will be filed with the State Board of Elections, Springfield, IL.

Signature(s) _____

MEMBERSHIP & RENEWAL FEES: \$25.00 PER YEAR SINGLE \$45.00 PER YEAR COUPLE

• **MONEYSAVER SPECIAL:** \$100.00 - 5 YEARS / SINGLE \$180.00 - 5 YEARS / COUPLE

• **ABATE-PAC SUPPORT:** Add \$1.00 per year to above dues amount to support legislative contributions.

*** \$2. of each members dues is allocated to lobbying expense. ***

Amount \$ _____ Check enclosed. Charge to: Visa Mastercard Discover Exp. Date: _____

Credit Card No. _____ Signature _____
(Credit Card Registration can be faxed to A.B.A.T.E. @ 309-343-6387)

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO/MAIL TO: WILL COUNTY A.B.A.T.E. CHAPTER • PO BOX 928 • PLAINFIELD, ILLINOIS 60544-9998
 • **MUST BE 18 TO JOIN • 815-723-6839 Membership Coordinator • membership@willcoabate.org**



04-2013

**Will County A.B.A.T.E.
P.O. Box 928
Plainfield, IL 60544**



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