

*December 2009*  
*Monthly Newsletter*

# **WILL COUNTY CHAPTER**

## **ABATE OF ILLINOIS**

**A BROTHERHOOD AIMED TOWARDS EDUCATION**



### **OUR MISSION**

The mission of the Will County Chapter and A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois is to preserve the universal right to a safe, unrestricted motorcycling environment.

**Dedicated to Freedom of the Road  
Let Those Who Ride Decide!**

*Will County ABATE, P.O. Box 928, Plainfield, IL 60544*

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

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## This Month's Highlights



- **THE ELECTION IS HERE!! REMINDER: CHECK YOUR MEMBERSHIP STATUS. YOU CAN NOT VOTE IF YOUR MEMBERSHIP HAS EXPIRED.**
- **ABSENTEE BALLOTS MUST BE RECEIVED IN OUR P.O. BOX BY 12/09/09!!**

**Next General Membership Meeting**  
**Wednesday, December 9th – 7:30pm**  
**at Harwood Post**

**President: Jay**

Hello everyone. It has been a very busy and productive year at Will County Chapter. On behalf of the Board, we would like to thank all of the members who participated in spreading the word about our ABATE organization, also the hard work & activities all of you participated in. With your help, the Board was able to keep this chapter moving forward in the motorcycle rights organization world. Although the Board may have not agreed all the time, we were still able to come to an agreement which was always in the best interest of the chapter.

Over the past few months I have been able to attend the two northeast region meetings. One of the main topics has been the flag events. It was the consensus that

most everyone feels that they have run their course due to the lack of participation. Estimating the figure, our membership donated over \$2,000 to other chapters in the NE Region this year. In 2009, there were 9 flag events. It has been proposed to have a one-day event for the region chapters. We discussed this at the November membership meeting and our members in attendance thought it was a good idea. We will wait to hear from the other chapters and it will be decided to do this or not at the state seminar in January.

Jackie and I would like to wish everyone a happy & safe holiday season.

Ride Safe. Be courteous to others on the road.

Jay

**Letter of Intent: Randy**

I'm Randy and I'm running for State Board Rep for Will County Chapter. I'm a founding member of the Chapter and have been Legislative Coordinator and State Board Rep in the past. I'm passionate about motorcycle rights and would love to have the opportunity to serve you again. I'll make it a point to maintain good relation-

ships with other chapters in the NE Region and throughout the state, while making Will County's position known and voting according to the wishes of the membership. I promise to keep the Chapter informed on all state-level issues and to represent our interests. I'd appreciate your vote.

Sincerely,  
Randy

**WILL COUNTY ABATE NOMINATIONS – NOVEMBER MEETING**

<b><u>Position/Name</u></b>	<b><u>Nominated By</u></b>	<b><u>Status</u></b>
<u>President</u> Ed	Billy	Declined
<u>State Rep</u> Randy	Brian	Accepted
<u>Newsletter</u> John	Kat	Accepted
<u>Merchandise</u> Lauren Laurie Sandi	Jackie Jackie Lauren	Declined Declined Accepted
<u>Safety &amp; Ed</u> Pam	Billy	Declined
<u>Membership</u> Helen	Mad Maxx	Accepted
<u>Road Captain</u> Jim TC Ron Billy Eric Tony	Mr. Ed Mike Brenda John Monty Ron	Declined Declined Declined Declined Declined Accepted
<u>Sgt. At Arms</u> Eric Jim Kat	Barb TC Billy	Declined Accepted Declined
<u>Public Relations</u> Freak	Lauren	Accepted

**Activities: Brenda**

Well, Christmas time will be here in a few weeks. Mr. Ed and the Big Hearted Bikers (Will Co. members) will be at the Walmart on Rt. 59 in Shorewood on Saturday,

December 19th from 9am-5pm—ringing the bell for the Salvation Army. Come on out and enjoy the fun. Hope to see everyone there.

Brenda

**IMPORTANT: WILL COUNTY ABATE BOARD ELECTIONS**

The nominees for president shall disclose the name of their running mate/vice president before the December election.

**President**

Jay

**Vice President**

Al

**Newsletter Editor: Kat**

I would like to take a moment to say thank you. Thanks to the Chapter for allowing me to do the newsletter for the last 2 years. It has been a great experience and I had fun doing it. Thank you for all the ideas and feedback.

To the entire Board, thank you for your support and assistance that you gave me.

To all our advertisers, thank you for your showing your support for motorcycles by putting an ad in our newsletter and supporting our events.

And last but not least, thank you Al for ALL the help you gave me. I couldn't have done it without you!

John: I wish you well and have fun!!!

-Kat



**Legislative: Brian**

Greetings Will County Chapter! I'm writing this before our November meeting so Kat can get the newsletter out quickly, since our Chapter elections are next month. Last night, (11-07-09), the U.S. House passed the Healthcare Reform bill at 11:15pm, by a margin of 5 votes. If you read Jeff Hennie's MRF Bulletin I posted in our Yahoo group, you know that the bill was written entirely by House Democratic Leadership, with no input whatever from rank-and-file members of Congress. So much for the United States being a "representative democracy." The bulk of the bill was handed out to members the day of the vote, so we have no idea what kind of booby traps for motorcyclists or other "high risk" people are lurking in those 2,000 pages. One thing's for sure: Jeff and the MRF staff and Imre Szauter and the AMA staff are already studying the text to find out. Expect lots of Bulletins and Calls to Action when the bill gets sent to the Senate. Speaking of Bulletins, if you haven't already done so, go to the Legislative page on [www.willcoabate.org](http://www.willcoabate.org) and click on the links to sign up for MRF and AMA updates on federal issues, and Ondgo for state issues. You can't fight for your rights if you don't know what's going on and those

who would steal your rights are counting on your apathy!

Next year is a midterm election year, and there are LOTS of contenders already for state offices. More than ever, we need to help our friends so they can help us, so PLEASE lend a hand when they ask. Several bills from the 96th Session are still lurking in the Rules Committee, so when the Legislature reconvenes on Jan. 12, I'll be checking their status daily so I can let you know if we need to make phone calls. Actually, you can check the bills yourself by going to [www.ilga.gov](http://www.ilga.gov) and typing in the bill number. In next month's newsletter, I'll give you a list of bills to watch.

At last month's Pactoberfest party, our new State Coordinator, Mike and State Legislative Coordinator, George, were in attendance, as well as long-time friend of ABATE, 11th Dist. Congresswoman Debbie Halvorson, who thought enough of us to come to the party after a day of appearances that started at 7am! Her Regional Director took some pics of her with some of our members, which I'll forward to John so he can get 'em online. I got to talk with George for quite awhile, and I must say, other than his propensity for talking, he

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doesn't fit the "lawyer stereotype." He really listened to what I had to say, and he really is committed to ABATE and motorcycling. He lives literally 3 blocks from the Capitol, so he can get there quickly when something comes up. He's into vintage iron, and he's proud of the fact that his "newest" bike has a 12-volt electrical system! He's got lots of ideas for increasing membership in ABATE, and in attracting young members in particular. I'll admit, when he first told me these ideas, I thought they were a little off the wall, but after a couple days' thought, I think he just might be able to address our "image problem", attract younger riders,

and get them involved in ABATE, so the organization continues long after we're all wearing Depends and pushing walkers around.

Finally, thanks to Barb for all her hard work on Pactoberfest, and to my right-hand man, Keith, for donating items for the Prize Drawing.

Until next month,  
Brian  
Legislative Curmudgeon

"Every decent man is ashamed of the government he lives under." --  
H.L. Mencken

**State Rep: Monty**

State elections are over. The two contested positions that we placed a vote on went the other way. Assistant State coordinator position was won by Roger and the Legislative Coordinator position was won by George.

Will County elections are going to be at the December meeting. Please come on out and vote for your representatives.

I have one more BOD meeting to attend for Will County, December. It has been great serving such a great chapter.

Bike raffle tickets are for sale. Buy a book for \$50.00/10 tickets. It is only a \$5 expense to have a chance at winning a new Harley or other great prizes.

Monty

**Safety & Ed: MJ**

It was bound to happen. The colder weather is here. For you more rugged individuals, it just means more layers. Remember that exposed skin can get frostbite quickly. Even if just your nose or around your eyes is exposed, riding makes it even colder on your skin. It can be “invigorating” to ride in Toys for Tots or any of the other colder weather events (notice I did not use the “w” word). Protect your skin. Believe it or not, alcohol doesn’t keep you warm. It actually does the opposite. Your blood vessels become dilated and rise toward the surface of your skin. You lose body heat faster. Wait till your done riding to have a drink. You’ll stay warmer and safer!

We still have schools to visit. Please be checking the web site. I’m still scheduling with schools for the last half of the semester (notice I didn’t use the “w” word again). Thanks to Maria, Allison and Monty for doing

all those presentations. We also have a new pamphlet we’re giving to the students, but they’ll be good for every one. They address DISTRATED DRIVING. We should all be good examples and put down the cell phones when we drive and ALWAYS encourage others to do likewise.

Happy Holidays!

And of course,  
Don’t Ride Faster Than Your  
Guardian Angel Can Fly.

MJ



**2009**

December 4	Plainfield East
December 14	Plainfield North

**2010**

February 5	Plainfield East
February 12	Plainfield North
April 9	Plainfield East
April 30	Plainfield North

<b>2009 Will County ABATE Board Contact List</b>			
Jay	President	815/693-6645	<a href="mailto:jay@willcoabate.org">jay@willcoabate.org</a>
Sylvia	Vice President	815/545-2956	<a href="mailto:sylvia@willcoabate.org">sylvia@willcoabate.org</a>
Jackie	Secretary	815/467-1529	<a href="mailto:jackie@willcoabate.org">jackie@willcoabate.org</a>
Pat	Treasurer	815/258-6113	<a href="mailto:pat@willcoabate.org">pat@willcoabate.org</a>
Brenda	Activities	815/693-4400	<a href="mailto:activities@willcoabate.org">activities@willcoabate.org</a>
Brian	Legislative	815/210-1715 c 815/725-4357 h	<a href="mailto:brian@willcoabate.org">brian@willcoabate.org</a>
Monty	State Rep	630/973-6911	<a href="mailto:monty@willcoabate.org">monty@willcoabate.org</a>
Kat	Newsletter Editor	815/955-5950	<a href="mailto:kat@willcoabate.org">kat@willcoabate.org</a>
Lauren	Merchandise	815/557-6933	<a href="mailto:lauren@willcoabate.org">lauren@willcoabate.org</a>
MJ	Safety & Education	815/341-8295	<a href="mailto:mj@willcoabate.org">mj@willcoabate.org</a>
Helen	Membership	815/723-6839	<a href="mailto:helen@willcoabate.org">helen@willcoabate.org</a>
Ron	Road Captain	815/791-3555	<a href="mailto:ron@willcoabate.org">ron@willcoabate.org</a>
Eric	Sgt. At Arms	815/954-6474	<a href="mailto:eric@willcoabate.org">eric@willcoabate.org</a>
Ken	Public Relations	815/260-2644	<a href="mailto:ken@willcoabate.org">ken@willcoabate.org</a>

**Membership: Helen**

**DID YOU KNOW:** You need to be a member in good standing in order to vote for officers? Elections are coming up in December. If you wish to run for an office or vote for the candidate of your choice, please make sure your membership has not expired.

The last chance for nominations is at the November meeting. Come out and vote at the December meeting.

**MOST WANTED – RENEWALS**

Don't worry if your name shows on the most wanted list and you have renewed. Sometimes the article goes in before I receive the renewal.

**MOST WANTED**

**PLEASE SEE PRINTED NEWSLETTER FOR COMPLETE LISTING OF RENEWALS OR CONTACT HELEN.**



## UPCOMING EVENTS\*

### November 2009



- 21 ABATE of IL e-Board Meeting (*Sat*)
- 26 Thanksgiving (*Thur*)
- 28 Will County ABATE Turkey Crawl: 10am @ Double J's  
Kickstands up at 11am (Jeff donating coffee and donuts)  
(*Sat*)

### December 2009

- 2 Board Meeting: 7:00pm @ Harwood (*Wed*)
- 6 Chicagoland Toys for Tots Parade: 6am Line-Up/9:30am  
Parade @ Dan Ryan Woods (*Sun*)
- 9 General Membership Meeting: 7:30pm @ Harwood (*Wed*)  
(Election of New Officers!)
- 11 Fish Fry: 4-8pm @ Harwood (*Fri*)  
(Come on out and help Mr. Ed!)
- 11 Hanukkah
- 12 ABATE of IL e-Board & BOD Meetings (*Sat*)  
(Holiday Party to Follow)
- 19 Bell Ringing for Salvation Army: All Day @ Walmart (Rt. 59)  
(*Sat*)
- 25 Christmas (*Fri*)
- 31 New Year's Eve (*Thurs*)



### January 2010

- 1 New Year's Day (*Fri*)
- 6 Board Meeting: 7:00pm @ Harwood (*Wed*)
- 8 Fish Fry: 4-8pm @ Harwood (*Fri*)  
(Come on out and help Mr. Ed!)
- 9 Will County ABATE Cabin Fever Party: 7pm @ Harwood (*Sat*)  
Bring a dish to pass!
- 13 General Membership Meeting: 7:30pm @ Harwood (*Wed*)  
(Welcome New Officers!)
- 15-17 ABATE of IL State Seminar (*Fri-Sun*)



\*Check relevant websites for updates to the calendar.

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

**Will County ABATE Member:**

Elections for 2010 Officers will be held on **Wednesday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30pm at the Harwood Post**. *Your vote makes a difference*. If you can't make it to the meeting, please use this absentee ballot.

1. Check one box per position.
2. Put this form into a *stamped* envelope and mail to: Will County ABATE Elections, P.O. Box 928, Plainfield, IL 60544.
3. If there are two (2) people voting in same household, please make a copy of the ballot and mail in *separate stamped* envelopes.
4. Please write your name clearly on the envelope so the election team can verify that you are an active Will County member. Votes are confidential. Only the election team will open the envelopes.
5. **Ballots must be received in our P.O. Box by 12/09/09 in order to be counted**. Late ballots will be discarded. The new officers' names will be posted on the website and in our newsletter.

*Thank you for being a member of Will County ABATE!*

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	<b>SGT AT ARMS</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Jay	<input type="checkbox"/> Jim
<b>TREASURER</b>	<b>SAFETY &amp; ED</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Pat	<input type="checkbox"/> Monty
<b>SECRETARY</b>	<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Jackie	<input type="checkbox"/> Helen
<b>ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>ROAD CAPTAIN</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Brenda	<input type="checkbox"/> Tony
<b>LEGISLATIVE</b>	<b>MERCHANDISE</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Brian Wendholt	<input type="checkbox"/> Sandi
<b>STATE REP</b>	<b>PUBLIC RELATIONS</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Madd Maxx <input type="checkbox"/> Randy	<input type="checkbox"/> Freak
<b>NEWSLETTER EDITOR</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> John	

## ABSENTEE BALLOT

Please mail in stamped  
envelope to:  
Will County ABATE Elections  
P.O. Box 928  
Plainfield, IL 605444

Please CLEARLY write your  
name in the return address.

Ballots MUST be received in  
our P.O. Box by 12/09/2009  
in order to be counted.