

March 2013

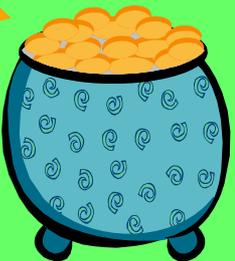


A Chapter of A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois, Inc.

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

A Brotherhood Aimed Toward Education

Happy
St. Patrick's
Day!



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Will County ABATE

P.O. Box 928

Plainfield, IL 60544

www.willcoabate.org



President
By: Jim "Ebs"

Hi everyone don't have a whole lot, weather is starting to come around so hopefully it won't be too much longer before there is some nice riding. Pam and the book run committee have done a great job so far getting it in order. The book will suggest some great runs this summer.

March 6th we will be going to Springfield to meet with our legislative leaders and address the real issues that we are facing

this year. Thanks to Brian for leading Will County in this effort. Job well done!

We do have an issue that has come up after last month's meeting about colors being worn. This will be addressed at the March 7th board meeting and then at the general membership meeting on March 13th. Please attend both if you wish to voice your opinion, it is your chapter.

If you're out riding now please be safe the cages aren't ready to see us yet so see them first. That's it for now see ya'll soon.

Jim



2013 Will County A.B.A.T.E. Officers			
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Vice President	Mike	mikec @ willcoabate . org	
Secretary	Paul	paul @ willcoabate . org	815.514.7599
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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	815.342.6928

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



Legislative

By: Brian

Greetings Will County Chapter!

The bulk of the action on the legislative front this month concerns the fight over E15 fuel. SB52 and its counterpart HB165 would change the definition of gasohol to 15% ethanol content. The tax rate would change to make 10% ethanol fuels more expensive—to the tune of 10-15 cents a gallon. The opposition to this bill is so strong that its sponsor, Sen. Sullivan, is not calling it at the present. In fact, the opposition includes the Illinois Petroleum Marketers Association; the Illinois Petroleum Council; the American Automobile Association; the National Marine Manufacturers Association; the Outdoor Power Equipment Institute; the Illinois Motorcycle Dealers Association; and, of course, ABATE of Illinois. However, this fight is nowhere near over, as the Big Agriculture lobby has endlessly deep pockets, and therefore, endless influence. And those of you in Sen. Toi Hutchinson's district need to contact her and let her know of your adamant opposition to this bill, as she's one of the co-sponsors. Her local number is 708-756-0882 and her Statehouse number is 217-782-7419. If

anyone is in Linda Holmes' district, she's on the Agriculture Committee, where the bill was assigned. Her numbers are 630-801-8985 and 217-782-0422. Be sure and identify yourself as an ABATE member. The House companion bill is HB165, which is still in the Rules Committee.

The City of Springfield has been charging ABATE for traffic control at the Awareness Rally, which consists of a short ride from the IDOT building to the State Capitol. Every year the charge goes up, and this year it will be \$2400. They charged Lincolnland Chapter \$800 for blocking intersections for their toy run. If other municipalities and/or police departments decide to do this, it could spell the end for most large group rides such as the Illinois Freedom Run, or large chapter events such as Hooters & Scooters, or even lunch and dinner runs. George Tinkham, the Legislative Coordinator for Lincolnland and a retired lawyer for IDOT, is drafting a bill (with a lot of help from our own Barb FitzPatrick) that would allow authorized individuals to regulate traffic for specific events. The Illinois Vehicle Code already mentions this in a couple places, but it needs to be clarified and

Legislative cont'd on page 8

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www.willcoabate.org

TO OPT OUT OF A MAILED
NEWSLETTER COPY SEND A REQUEST TO:

helen@willcoabate.org

For those interested in receiving the newsletter online, It will be on the website the last week of the month. If you would like to be notified via email when it is posted, please sign up for our Yahoo group

(<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/willcoabate/>)

This will also keep you up to date with legislative issues and Will County ABATE activities. If you are having problems joining the Yahoo group, please send an email to

pink_floyd67@comcast.net

and an invite will be sent out. This is the most efficient way to keep our members up to date with all of our information.

ADVERTISING COST

SIZE	1 MONTH	6 MONTHS	1 YEAR
1/4 page	\$15	\$75	\$150
1/2 page	\$20	\$100	\$200
Full Page (Flyer)	\$25	\$150	\$250
Classified Ads	\$5 mo	\$10 w/picture	
MUST BE MOTORCYCLE RELATED. NO EXCEPTIONS!			

Ad must have artwork ready and in .jpeg format

Payment must be received by the 15th of the month.

Email: editor@willcoabate.org



**Safety and
Education**

By: John

By the time you read this, Paul will have made our first presentation of 2013 at Plainfield North High School. He told me there will be 200 students this time around. Good start to the year, Paul!

I have invited Mike Myers to give his presentation about motorcycle accident causation to our chapter at the April general meeting. Some of the officers have mentioned some of the statistics recently, so we thought it a good idea to get the official presentation from the man who dug through all of the data. I will post more information to

Facebook and the Yahoo! board as necessary.

While this winter isn't quite as mild, there have been a few days warm enough to get out for a little ride. If you do ride for the first time in a few weeks, or months, remember to check the bike thoroughly, especially tire pressure, before you just jump on and ride.

Also, check your wallet. Wallet? Yes, wallet. Specifically, check your driver's license. You do have an "M" listed in the classification section, don't you? If not, see the information elsewhere in this newsletter about taking the state sponsored classes. They're fun and free!

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/>

Mark Your Calendars

Upcoming Meetings & Events:

March 6—Legislative Day—Springfield, IL
March 7 @ 7pm Officers meeting*
March 13 @ 7:30pm meeting*
March 22– 24 Heartland STEAM—Peoria, IL

April —Book Run Starts
April 4 @ 7pm Officers meeting*
General meeting TBA
April 27 tentative day Candlelight Bowling
(More info to come)

* Harwood Post (I80 & Larkin)

Activities

By: Pam

Wow it's March already and we are hearing the birds sing. I actually saw a Cardinal yesterday, so spring is near. With spring comes riding and you will be excited to know that the Book Run is right on target and the books should be ready by April 1st. The committee has been working really hard on making this year's book exciting. We are

looking at 50 regular stops and 6-7 bonus stops but most important there are a lot of **new** stops to visit. So keep your eyes and ears posted as news of the book run will be finalized. We will announce at the next meeting the final details so come to the March meeting to hear all about it.

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Legislative cont'd from page 4

strengthened so there's no misunderstanding. The Minnesota Legislature passed such a bill last year, so there is a precedent for this. One more item on the local/state level: With the crash that took the life of our friend and brother Ron Oswald still fresh in our minds, there's some positive news to report: The village of Plainfield has made intersection reconstruction, adding turn lanes and traffic signals at Rt. 126 and County Line Rd. a "high priority" project. This is based on project readiness, feasibility, potential for receiving matching funds, and PUBLIC INPUT. If you want to see this project happen, call Rep. Tom Cross at 815-254-0000 and Sen. Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant at 815-254-4211 and let them know that this project needs to move forward NOW! You can bet this will be brought up at Legislative Day.

In national news, longtime New Jersey Senator and pain in the a\$\$ to motorcyclists, Frank Lautenberg, has finally decided to call it a day at age 89. He sat on the Transportation Committee and other committees that pertained to highway funding, and considered it his life's calling to attach language requiring mandatory nationwide helmet use to every bill that passed in front of him.

Finally, as we continue to fight against the switch to E15 at the state level, the fight also continues in Washington: On Feb.14, Senators Roger Wicker (R-Miss.) and David Vitter (R-La.) introduced S.344, which would overturn the EPA waivers that allowed gasoline containing 15% ethanol to be used for many automobiles and light-duty trucks. "EPA's flawed waivers allowing E15 amount to government bureaucrats issuing short-sighted regulations that negatively impact families and businesses across the country," says Senator Wicker, who's a member of the Environment and Public Works Committee. "The concerns surrounding E15 that existed prior to the waivers have increased instead of diminishing." He goes on to reiterate the dangers of using E15 in most engines, and says the EPA is "irresponsible" to allow E15 without sufficient testing, and says the agency is "experimenting" at the expense of consumers. We need to call Sen. Durbin at 202-224-2152 and Sen. Kirk at 202-224-2854 and urge them to support S.344.

In a small victory, the EPA seems to have dropped its idiotic 4 gallon minimum gasoline purchase as a way to avoid damage to older cars,

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Legislative cont'd from page 8

lawn, garden and farm equipment, and of course, motorcycles. They also state that they will require gas stations that sell E15 to also have a pump with a dedicated E10 hose for use by these vehicles, which, of course is an additional expense and may work to discourage stations from selling E15 in the first place. Let's hope so.

I know it gets tiring to hear over and over that we need to contact our lawmakers about this or that

bill, or help in political campaigns, but the minute we let up, someone will swoop down and try to "fix" our problems for us. And we won't like their solution.

Ride often, ride smart!

Brian
Legislative Curmudgeon

"America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we destroyed ourselves."—
Abraham Lincoln, 1838

BOD Rep

By: Madd Maxx

This month's BOD meeting was a test of patience, at well over 5 hours! The first item brought up was the chapter tax forms (990's), of which 12 chapters failed to get in on time, causing their chapters to not get a vote at the BOD meetings until they are in. There was a motion to pull chapter charters for repeat offenders (6) which was tabled so we could bring the discussion to our members.

Before new business was opened, the State Coordinator wished to straighten out some policies/ procedures dealing with 'call to question'

which is meant to keep order and limit overuse of time in our discussions, but was occasionally used to keep chapters from getting their say. There was a difference in opinion between several members, but after going through Robert's Rules (and finding differences in there as well) a fair compromise was attained.

Under new business, there was lengthy discussion over the Paragon Productions (Chicago Motorcycle Show) and DuKane and Southern DuPage chapters attending the show. Believe it or not, one

BOD Rep cont'd on page 10

BOD Rep cont'd from page 9

of the downstate chapters actually found and announced a loophole allowing these chapters to attend, and no punishments were extended nor motioned, other than chapters airing their feelings about these chapters and the issue. This was followed by Paragon, and all named to it, being removed from the Non-Preferred Vendors list by a secret (paper) ballot. Lincolnland Chapter President brought up a motion to try to have the State Safety and Awareness Parade run as a 'spoke' type parade with three different starting points and converging on the Capital. This was to try and avoid having police intersection control for the event. The motion failed, mainly due to timing for this year, but will be taken into consideration for future events; thanks to the Springfield PD charging ABATE \$2300 for escort/ intersection control. Last in new business was the resignation of the NW Region coordinator, for personal reasons, and his replacement.

In the Officer's reports, Mike Myers brought us some information from the fatality accidents he has viewed so far. Look for the same issues as for 2011, but

their numbers and orders may change a little. Mike is looking forward to seeing as many of us as possible when we have him give the Ride Smart Program presentation. Watch on the web site and the Chapter Facebook page for dates and times, since locations are still being coordinated, and the newsletter may not arrive in time to catch it.

Asst. State Coordinator thanked all who attended the State Seminar this year, as it was a great event with very few problems. Heartland STEAM is going to be in Peoria this year, and we would like to see a good group from this chapter to attend, since it is being hosted by our State organization this year.

Last but not least for this month, I want to remind everyone, as many of us do, that Wednesday, March 6th is the ABATE Legislative Day. Please take a day out of your busy schedule, or take a spare vacation day, and help represent your Chapter and all Illinois motorcyclists by attending this event. It isn't like we are going to force you to speak to

BOD Rep cont'd on page 11

BOD Rep cont'd from page 10

the politicians, just having the additional bodies as a show of force goes a long way. And you get to see what many of us do to make this organization as strong as it is. We have vans going down and our lunch is paid by the chapter, so it won't cost you anything. If you can attend, please contact

Brian ASAP so he has an accurate body count.

Be Safe, Ride Smart

Mad Maxx

Get ready for riding for those of you who haven't ridden in awhile.



Activities cont'd from page 7

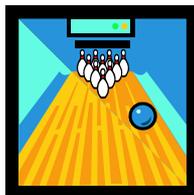
Remember when we had bowling at Lockport lanes, I do. They were always so much fun. Well we are looking at doing a candlelight bowl in April, details are being worked out. So stay tuned. Clear your calendars for May 11th, this being our 10th Anniversary of the Will County ABATE Chapter, it would be nice to have a HUGE turnout for our first Presidents Run. It will be a ride from Harwood Post with our present and past Will County ABATE Presidents leading us. We have been in touch with all the past Presidents and it is looking like they will all be there, so plan on joining us that day as we plan on something for you to remember.

And while we are talking about 10 years, look back into your photo archives and dig out some pictures from past events. I would like to get copies preferably electronically but if not I can get them scanned and returned to you. We will be doing a special presentation with these photos sometime this year.

On a personal note on March 9th there will be a benefit fundraiser for Mike and my son-in-law John Simpson at Harwood Post starting at 12 noon and going to midnight. Pinks band is also playing for us as well as 8 other bands. Entry cost is \$20 per person which also puts you in for cash drawing for \$1,000. Many of you may know Johnny from Double J's Sports Bar where he was the bar manager. John came down sick in November and has been diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia. He is on the donor lists for a bone marrow/stem cell transplant at Rush, he needs our help. Our granddaughter Kerri-gan is 19 months old and needs her Daddy to be well again. It's going to be a great day surrounded by family and friends.

In closing Mike and I would like to thank everyone for all the prayers, love and support that the kids have received from our ABATE family.

You are all the best!!!





Be Responsible

**So you can
RIDE this summer!**



Membership

By: Helen

We are in a new year and starting our membership drive. We have prizes for the top 2 members that bring in the most new members. Any member that brings in 10 or more new members, or a past member that has been expired for

over a year, you will get a free year membership from the State Office. If you are a couple then the couple gets the free membership. Have a safe month and see you in next month.

hln

Most Wanted

March 2013

ELENA	
STEVE	
JENNIFER	A
WAYNE	C
ROBERT	
MARK	
PAUL	
HJ	
VERNA	
JACK	
ERIC	
TONY	
KAREN	
STEVE	
LISA	
REBECCA	

April 2013

STAN	
MIKE	
JOHN	
CONRAD	
MAUREEN	W
JOHN	
SEAN	R
LARRY	
SANDEE	
RON	
MICHAEL	
BOB	
KENNETH	
CHRISTOPHER	
JOHN	
AL	
CARRIE	

Member's last 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)

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 • **MUST BE 18 TO JOIN • 815-723-6839 Membership Coordinator • membership@willcoabate.org**



03-2013

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