

CHAPTER BUSINESS

Val & Scott Tucker had requested Liberty chapter go in on ads for the Drive at Five hour. Our cost will be \$100 for 3 months of ads. It will say, "Drive at Five sponsored by The Local on 45 and Liberty ABATE.

The Local on 45 will be doing a calendar this year and Angela Bradbury will be the photographer. Half of the proceeds will go to Camp New Hope and half will go to Liberty's toy run and fruit baskets.

State Board-

The off road riding park in Brown County still has not been given to us by the State of IL. Please call your IL senator, Dale Righter and ask why we have not received the 1000 acres as promised. We have been working on this for two years and it is currently being blocked by the Sierra Club and a hunting organization.

NEWS FROM STATE SEMINAR-

Carol and I attended the state seminar last month here are a few of the highlights. Liberty received a certificate of appreciation for our donations to safety and education. Also we had several donations to the State Pac and Fed Pac auction, which raised over two hundred dollars, all of which goes to defend your right to ride.

The Illinois DOT was there and had some good news to share. Motorcycle fatalities were down in 2014, to 115, which is still too many but an improvement over 2013 when there were 152 fatalities. The motorcycle beginning training course was taken by 15,000 participants, with 919 taking the intermediate course and 355 taking the advanced course. Not many realize that there is a trike training course since only 16 took that class. Its low profile is understandable. The DOT has budgeted for 21,000 riders, so don't be shy and sign up for one of the classes. More information can be found at startseeingmotorcycles.org.

Dukane chapter reported on their new program, Junior ABATE. This program was started on a trial basis, and is for anyone under 18, usually kids or grandkids of members. The parents or guardian sign a waiver of liability and for \$5.00 receive a patch and t-shirt. The idea is to get more participation by members and their families. The bylaws would have to be amended to allow under 18 members, so stay tuned for further developments. For all events they are involved in, Dukane made a very good handout, which contains a membership application, why join ABATE, with a bit of the history of ABATE, and a schedule of events for the year. It is a very effective recruitment tool, and with 360,188 motorcycles registered in Illinois, there is a lot of potential for growth.

Consider attending the state seminar next year, it's very informative but it's not all just business, there is also time left to party!

Joel Wannemacher State Board and Legislative



Membership-

We have 109 members.

Activities-

January 31, 2015 – Broomstick Pool & Chili

Cook Off – Winners were:

- Chili – 1st Dave Myers
2nd Alan Ferguson
- Pool - 1st Sam Addis
2nd Chris Lindsay

ANNIVERSARY PARTY- (if you wish to help setup please be there at 1 PM).

Our 28th anniversary party is almost here, so set aside the date, **February 14th. Doors open at 5 at the Mattoon Moose**, with silent auction, live auction, we have a wheelbarrow of goodies to raffle off, along with the gun raffle drawing. Music is by the Mudwinders, which if you haven't heard them they are a great band playing all the classic and modern rock. The chapter will be providing food, chicken and pulled pork and salads. Members are encouraged to bring finger foods to share.

Riding season is just around the corner, we just have to hang in there a little longer!
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February 22, 2015- ABATE sponsored Swap Meet in Springfield, IL.

April 11, 2015- Moonshine Run we will meet at the Roadhouse at 9 am with kickstands up at 9:30. Head to Moonshine for a burger!

April 12, 2015- Backwoods Biker Bash committee will be meeting at 11 am at The Local on 45

April 25, 2015- Blessing of the bikes and shakedown ride we will meet at Lytle Park at 11 am with kickstands up by 11:30 am. This is the time to get your bike ready for the riding season!

DATE CHANGE**2015 Motorcycle Awareness Rally - April 26, 2015**

Due to a reenactment of Abraham Lincoln's Funeral in downtown Springfield on May 3rd, the ABATE of Illinois Motorcycle Awareness Rally will take place on April 26, 2015.

All efforts have been exhausted in an attempt to keep the rally on the originally scheduled date, but, in the end, it had to be moved.

The rally will begin with a gathering at the IDOT building on Dirksen Parkway and continue with a motorcycle parade to the State Capitol.....

Glenn Liberty Abate webmaster

May 9, 2015- Membership drive at Peterson Park during car show.

Gary Reynolds got us the information to adopt a highway. We had to provide two choices:
1st Mattoon northern city limits going 1 mile north on hwy. 45
2nd Trilla road on hwy. 45 going 1 mile south

Gary has also volunteered to find us a semi-flatbed to participate in parades if we wish.

Alan Ferguson discussed that we need to address age requirements to participate in our events. We currently have not addressed that which needs to be done in our bylaws.

Make sure to check out our website. If you haven't visited the website it can be found at:
<http://libertyabate.org/>

We can be found on Facebook at:
<https://www.facebook.com/liberty.abate>

Merchandise-

Safety Green Shirts	\$13
2014 Anniversary Party Shirts	\$12
Ladies of Liberty Shirts	\$10
Suntan Santa Shirts	\$5
Fleece Headbands	\$8
Patches	\$3
Koozies	\$2

Photos-

I received a suggestion from a member – send in your photos. Examples are first bike and current bike, first rally, kids/grandkids wearing liberty clothing, etc..... I will try to get them into our newsletter.



They Say It Is Your Birthday.....

- Pam Ferguson 3/1
- Chris Lindsay 3/1
- Jim Hanken 3/10
- David Myers 3/11
- Dwight Fitt 3/12
- Michael Edwards Sr. 3/14
- Ryan Simpson 3/17
- Bridget Adamson 3/22
- Gary Reynolds 3/24
- Melody Colbert 3/25
- Jim Dye 3/26

Memberships due in March-

- Joseph Abbott
- Amy Abbott
- Dwight Fitt
- Lolly Lowe
- Jerrold Myer Sr.

If you have an email address please let me know at onfire@consolidated.net so I may email the newsletter to you. Let me know if there is anything you would like to see in the newsletter or anything you need posted.

ADVERTISEMENTS

Rekindling the ad section - you may purchase an ad at the following prices:

- business card size ad** \$5/month or \$50/year
- half page ad** \$15/month or \$150/year
- full page ad** \$30/month or \$300/year

NEXT MEETING

March 8, 2015 at the Moose Lodge in Mattoon, IL. Officers meet at 1 PM and chapter meeting at 1:30 PM.

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HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!

