

CHAPTER BUSINESS

News from the State Board-

Hi everyone-our December state board meeting had some interesting developments and I thought I would share it with the membership. The Slingshot-several of our members have expressed an interest in this new vehicle, and for those of you who don't know it's a new side by side 3 wheel vehicle by Polaris. I have heard several opinions on how it looks, some say a boat or spaceship, guess it's a matter of opinion! But one thing is certain it is completely new and a lot of people have expressed interest. BUT according to the State of Illinois what it is not - is a motorcycle. It is a new class called an autocycle, defined as having side by side seating or a steering wheel. A motorcycle is defined as having two or three wheels and a straddle seat. So the Board of Directors voted to not get involved. As defined the Slingshot does not fall under the motorcycle mandate so we will not take a stand on them, pro or con. Insurance-Yeah I know big yawn, but it is really important. Up till now the liability costs for all of our events have been covered by ABATE of Illinois. So our events, such as poker runs or anniversary parties have had insurance coverage. However, times change and we have to change too. Membership across the state is down, costs go up and as a result the state has a large gap between income and expenses. For instance, expense in the last year has exceeded revenue by about \$56,000.00. So to help close the gap we voted to charge each chapter \$120.00 for insurance each year. And just to let you know, this is actually about half of the total liability insurance cost

Other items of interest-

We have some new officers this year along with some familiar faces this year. A big thank you to all who took the time to return the surveys that Susie sent out this year. All the officers of Liberty Chapter really appreciate the feedback from the membership. All comments are taken with great interest and concern by all the officers. Its Quiz time- what is the best way to share your concerns, thoughts and interests

with the chapter? Answer-come to the meetings and let the officers and membership know what you feel needs to be addressed and where we can improve. We need this input to keep moving forward as an organization. Let us all, keep our Liberty Chapter goals, always in mind-to RIDE FREE!

Joel Wannemacher State Board and Legislative



Activities-

January 16-18, 2015 – State Seminar at the Northfield Inn, Springfield, IL.

January 31, 2015 – **Broomstick Pool & Chili Cook Off** at The Local on 45 with sign in from 1-2 PM and a \$5 entry fee for one event or both events.

February 22, 2015- ABATE sponsored Swap Meet in Springfield, IL.

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.....

- Diane Dow 2/12
- Tanya Arnold 2/13
- Mike Osborn 2/17
- Alan Ingle 2/17
- Sharon Kneisler 2/18
- Susie Hexum 2/20
- Angie Snider 2/21
- KC Franklin 2/25
- Jeff Jenkins 2/28

Memberships due in February-

- Tiffany Boyett
- Ryan Monfort
- Jim Hanken
- Jerry Dunn
- Kevin Bills
- Kenneth Griswold
- Marsha Homann
- Michael Greenwood
- Debbie Ponder
- Gary Reynolds
- Randy Seeley

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.

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NEXT MEETING

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