

ABATE of Florida, Inc. • Polk County Chapter

The Iron Press

DEDICATED TO FREEDOM OF THE ROAD - LET THOSE WHO RIDE DECIDE

July 2015

Chapter Meeting – July 19th at 1:00pm



American **B**ikers **A**imed **T**oward **E**ducation

Our Mission Statement: WHO WE ARE

ABATE is a non-profit organization of motorcycle enthusiast from all walks of life. We lobby and educate the government and general public to promote motorcycling in a safe and positive image. We endeavor to enlist the cooperation and participation of all organizations and individuals that share a similar interest in preserving our American tradition of Freedom. We promote motorcycle safety, training & political awareness. We ARE NOT A CLUB OR A GANG. We fund our work through toy runs, poker runs, campouts, and other motorcycle activities. We are your neighbors and friends who work, pay taxes, and get involved with our community. We serve and support our country and believe in freedom. We use all legal means to protect our rights without infringing on the rights of others.

- 🏍️ ABATE of Florida, Inc. is incorporated under the laws of Florida as a motorcycle rights organization or a "MRO".
- 🏍️ ABATE of Florida, Inc. currently is the only political MRO in Florida representing the interests of it's members and the motorcycling public at large.
- 🏍️ ABATE of Florida, Inc. is dedicated to securing and protecting the rights of all motorcyclists in the state

ABATE'S Objectives are to:

- 🏍️ Keep all bikers informed on legislative actions and events that affect their safety and rights.
- 🏍️ Be a powerful political force in legislation that affects Motorcycle safety and rights.
- 🏍️ Provide a lobbyist that will represent ABATE interests at State and National levels.
- 🏍️ Promote voter registration and to motivate members to speak up for their rights.
- 🏍️ Promote safety without infringing on individual rights and freedoms.
- 🏍️ Educate the public and Motorcycle Awareness and safety Issues.

ABATE's Accomplishments:

- 🏍️ ABATE was the driving force behind the changes in Florida's Helmet Law. Florida Motorcyclist, over the age of 21 and who carry at least \$10,000 medical insurance coverage now enjoy the Freedom to Choose whether to wear a helmet or not.
- 🏍️ ABATE has developed & copyrighted "The Motorcycle Safety & Awareness Program" (MSAP). The program is presented to non-motorcyclists to educate them on how to safely share the road with motorcycles. It is taught in local schools & to civic organizations at no charge in the hope of reducing motorcycle accidents and deaths through education, not legislation.
- 🏍️ ABATE had gained a positive and respected position in Tallahassee. Because of our Lobbyist and Legislative efforts, State Representatives are aware of ABATE members and our vigilant quest.
- 🏍️ ABATE reminds travelers every day to "Look Twice Save a Life, Motorcycles are everywhere" through our billboard campaign.
- 🏍️

Disclaimer

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of ABATE of Polk County Chapter or ABATE of Florida Inc. This newsletter encourages all members to submit ABATE related material, photos, events, and commentaries, etc. ABATE of Florida, Inc. and the Polk County Chapter of ABATE accepts no responsibility for the comments, views or opinions contained in the newsletter. Polk County Chapter reserves the right to edit or omit any article submitted for publication. All materials submitted to Polk County Chapter for use in this letter becomes property of the chapter.

Guidelines for Submissions

Members are asked to submit articles, photos and other materials that would be of interest to their fellow members by 11:00pm on Friday following the Meeting. All board members are encouraged to submit their articles as soon as possible following the monthly meeting. Please do not submit slanderous or accusing letters, profanity or nudity.

Identification Statement

ABATE of Florida, Inc.

Polk County Chapter

PO Box 2743

Lakeland, FL 33806



Board Officers

State

Position	Name	Email
President	James "Doc" Reichenbach	statepresident@abateflorida.com
Vice President	Dennis "Mudder" Rudoi	statevice-president@abateflorida.com
Secretary	Shelly Johnston	statesecretary@abateflorida.com
Treasurer	Patti Nasrallah	statetreasurer@abateflorida.com
Sgt. at Arms	TJ Painter	statesgtatarms@abateflorida.com
PR/Communications	Sarabeth Kohl	statepr@abateflorida.com
Webmaster	Dan "Slo Mo" Henderson	statewebmaster@abateflorida.com
Masterlink Editor	C/O State Office	masterlinkeditor@abateflorida.com
Membership	Grace Lord	statemembership@abateflorida.com
Safety Program	John Massoth	safetydirector@abateflorida.com
Legislative	Darrin "Scribe" Brooks	statelegislative@abateflorida.com
Products	Steve "Caretaker" Knee	stateproducts@abateflorida.com
Legal	Larry Crow	statelegalcounsel@abateflorida.com

Polk County Chapter

Position	Name	Phone	Email
President	Zman	863-559-9550	president.polkcountyabate@gmail.com
Vice President	Greg Vernon	863-934-9719	vicepresident.polkcountyabate@gmail.com
Secretary	Lo Alexander	863-688-3161	secretary@polk.abateflorida.com
Treasurer	Ralph Snearly	813-206-9028	
Sgt. at Arms	George Swatzbaugh	410-852-6663	
Membership	Deb Daggett	863-594-6661	membershipabatepolk@hotmail.com
Safety	Bill Cone	813-393-0875	safety@polkabateflorida.com
Products	Lo Alexander	863-688-3161	
PR	Linda Vernon	863-934-9333	
Legislative	ZMan	863-559-9550	legislative.polkcountyabate@gmail.com
Delegates	Tim McDermott	863-688-3161	
	Dewey Cain	863-688-0608	
Newsletter	Deb Daggett	863-594-6661	abatnewsletter@hotmail.com
Webmaster	Steve Ammerman	813-363-9540	webmaster.polkcountyabate@gmail.com

From the President's Desk

Zman

Hey Y'all,

First of all, I want to thank those of you that wanted me to be President of our chapter for the next year. I will do my best to make you feel you made the right choice. And I'd like to thank those who stepped up to hold other offices necessary to run a chapter. As a "rookie" president, I am thankful to share duties with many years of experience my fellow Office Holders bring to the Chapter. As different as we sometimes may be, we all have the common bond of motorcycling, and a goal to make that as safe and fun for all on two wheels. I look forward to sharing that bond and making it what it really is, a "brotherhood" & "sisterhood" of a common passion. Together, we all can make ABATE Polk County Chapter a positive, not only in our own lives, but to our Community to.

I would also like to ask that you keep Lex Taylor, our ABATE Brother, in your thoughts & prayers as he recovers from suffering a stroke. Get well soon Lex, to enjoy some "wind therapy".

Til next month, Ride Safe and Enjoy. Zman



Vice-President

Greg Vernon

Hey All

The last meeting went great. Thank you to the last year's Board, they did a fantastic job. I know this year's Board will be steadfast and forward and we will get the job done with looking to upcoming events and rocking Tallahassee's boat and help get some laws passed that protect us as motorcyclist. As for me I'm doing ok with my injuries, broken bones take time to heal. Let's not forget about Lex Taylor, one of our charter members, prayers go out to him and his family. All that's going to Vero Beach for the state seminars ride safe. Linda and I are going up the 10th leaving Lakeland around noon if anybody wants to ride with us contact me @ 863-934-9719. We'll see everyone at the next meeting,

Ride Safe & Ride Free

Greg Vernon

Vice President, Polk County Chapter

Secretary



Lo Alexander

June 21, 2015 ABATE of FLORIDA, INC., POLK COUNTY CHAPTER MINUTES Johnny G's 5153 North US 98, Lakeland, Florida 33809

THANK YOU to today's meeting attendees: Lo Alex, Cathy Mitchell, John T. McDermott, Rawsom M. Goff "Rusty", Linda Vernon, Greg Vernon, Robert Fletcher, Mark Dillon, Zman, Crazy Rick, Kim Struve, Bill Hardy, Maria Griffith, Sharon Lane, Debbie Daggett, Diane and Peet Ranney, Ralph Snearly, Earl, Jessie,

1:15 The Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence were led by President Robert Fletcher. Bob thanked everyone for their support. He thanked the Highway Beautification Committee for their hard work. He reminded us to get ready for the BIG RODEO that POLK COUNTY CHAPTER IS partnering with Inerstate Chapter to put on for the state meeting in AVON PARK in OCTOBER.

VP, Greg Vernon thanked everyone for supporting his benefit event yesterday at the VFW. [See Greg's article in this newsletter.]

Secretary, Lo Alexander thanked everyone for coming out and signing in. There were no corrections noted to last month's minutes. Zman moved they be accepted. Dillon seconded. MOTION CARRIED

Treasurer, Jessie Hicks gave her report. We are doing well. Dillon moved to accept Jessie's report and Kim seconded. MOTION CARRIED

Sgt. at Arms, Tim McDermott thanked the Highway Beautification group: Dewey, Ralph, Bill Cone, Maria, Lo, Zman, George, Bob...Tim was pleased that so many ABATE supporters came out for the BREAKFAST FUN RUN which is definitely NOT an ABATE event. [Riding is so much more FUN with a group-more didactic, too.]

PR, Linda Vernon told us that the next Meet & Greet [It's a casual get together –not an ABATE event] will be in August.

Safety Officer, Bill Cone brought safety items as usual. Bill, with much appreciated help from Maria and Linda, set up a safety display yesterday at Greg's event at VFW Post #8002 where there were many and varied enthusiasts.

Membership AND Newsletter, Deb Daggett related that our numbers are really UP. Send Deb your letters and photos. The Iron Press now has a Classified Section.

Legislation, Zman: 1.Florida House & Senate pass 2015 – 2016 Budget, which includes the Motorcycle Safety Awareness money, 2. Penalty for refusing breath test upheld, 3.U.S. D.O.T. wants additional safety requirements for motorcycle helmets, 4.Motorcycle fatalities have DROPPED for the second straight year, 5.Black Box Privacy Protection Act, 6. More on E15 (Ethanol levels), 7.NHTSA and Helmets. See Zman's article in this newsletter.

Products, Lo Alexander noted that new ideas are coming in for the T-SHIRT COMMITTEE. See Lo or Bill Hardy to contribute.

Webmaster, Steve Ammerman is working in the Carolinas, but you can reach him on-line.

DELEGATE'S REPORT, Rusty reported that **ABATE** will NOT be issuing a statement regarding Waco; we might invite our ABATE insurance agent to address us at a chapter meeting [rather than contacting us individually at home]; changes in dues is still being debated; the toy run lawsuit is still on; and VOLUNTEERS are needed for the AVON PARK EVENT in October.

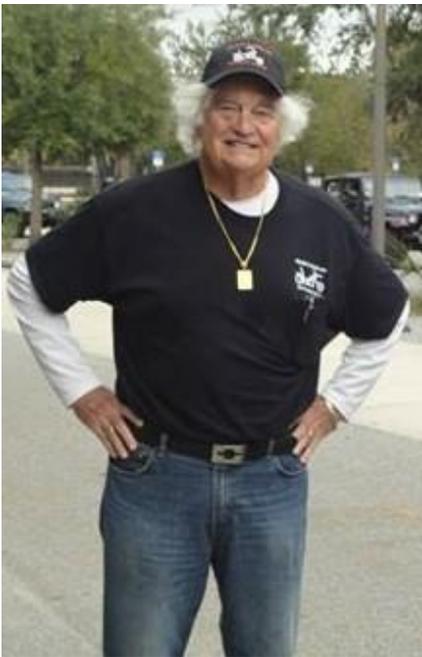
OLD BUSINESS: Election Supervisor, Barbara Watkins was absent. **Crazy Rick stepped up** and oversaw the 2015-2016 Polk Co. Board of Directors Election. Results are:

President	Mark Zinser	Delegates	Tim McDermott, Dewey Cain
VP	Greg Vernon	Alternate Delegate	Rusty Goff
Secretary	Lo McDermott	Products	Lo McDermott
Treasurer	Ralph Snearly	PR	Linda Vernon
Sgt of Arms	George Swatzbaugh	Webmaster	Steve Ammerman
Safety Officer	Bill Cone	Legislator	Zman
Membership	Deb Daggett		
Newsletter	Deb Daggett		

NEW BUSINESS: The new officers took their seats. **Jessie graciously** offered to help newly elected Treasurer, Ralph, and thanked us for a good year. We are grateful to Jessie for looking after our money. She also runs Johnny G's and provides an excellent lunch for us all. New Prez, **ZMAN** thanked everyone and spoke of the value of PARTICIPATION and VOLUNTEERISM.

Good of the Order: Lex had a stroke. He's getting rehab at Tampa General. Send cards to his office. BIKE NIGHT is the 1st Thursday @ 6p @ VFW Post #8002! Johnny G's is the 3rd Thursday! Thanks for the hospitality, Johnny G.

Adjourn: Bob moved and Dillon seconded. At 2:45 ALL AGREED Respectfully submitted, Lo Alexander



We have a fellow Abate member/brother that needs our prayers. Lex Taylor suffered a stroke a few weeks ago and is still in intensive care in a Tampa hospital. The prognosis is not looking too good at the moment but we are all hoping he makes some improvement soon. Please keep Lex in your prayers and even more so....his family and his friends.

CLASSIFIEDS.....

Ads are free to Abate Members

Any Runs in this section are NON-ABATE events

Want to Ride?

Tim McDermott (better known as "Roadmap") is going on a **FUN RUN** before our meeting on June 21st. He would love for you to join him!! If you're interested meet at the **Brunch Box on 92 in Lakeland** at **8:00 am** if you want to have breakfast first, **KSU 9:00 am** sharp.

Meeting of Friends

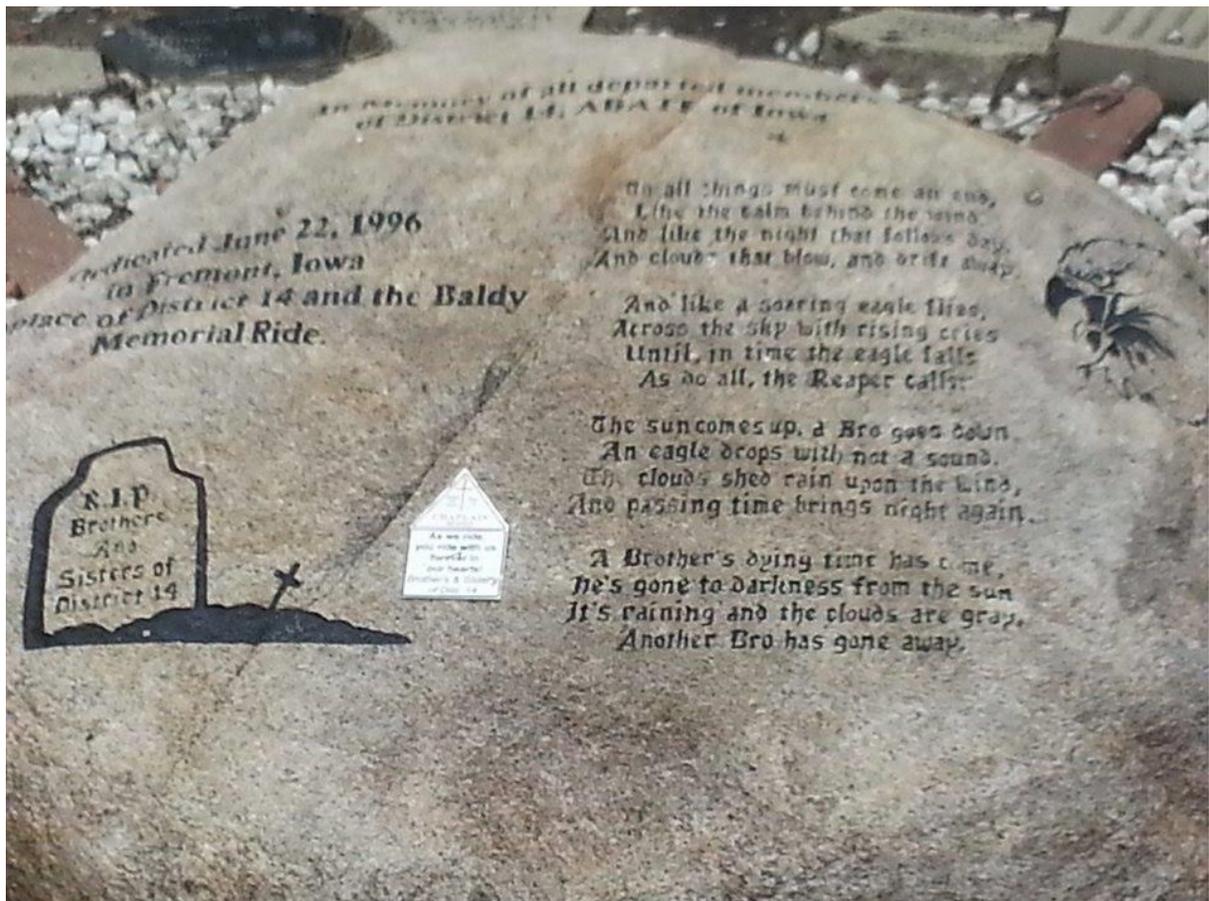
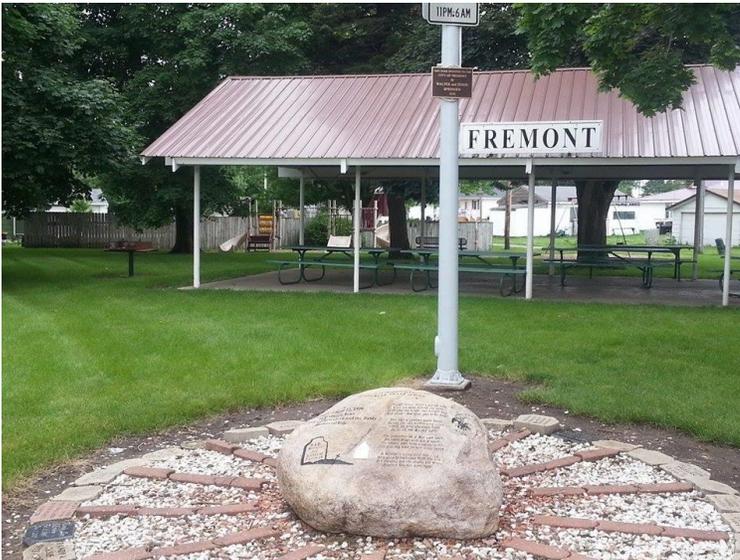
This will be in August due to Seminars in July.

FOR SALE

If anyone has something they would like to sell and want to put it in the newsletter, feel free to contact me at abatnewsletter@hotmail.com and I will gladly put it here. Pictures with ad would be great.



These pictures were sent in by Earl Wemer. They were taken in Fremont Iowa, it is a Memorial the Abate chapter has there for their fallen members.



Membership

Debbie D

Membership Report

Total Members: 150

Welcome to NEW Members: Debbie Zinser, Dian Ranney, Patrick Ranney and new LIFE member Roxann Ditmer

Thank you for renewal: Cecil Mitchell, Maria Griffith, Charlie Cline, and Kim Struve who is now a LIFE member

Past Due in June: Ed Cottrell, Judith and Melvin Gulley, Cecil Mitchell, Joe Towry

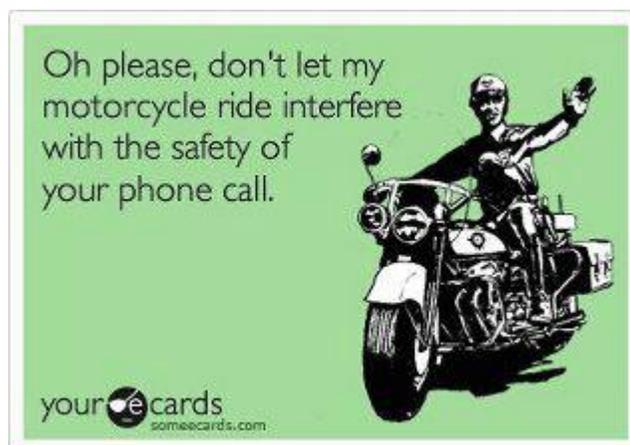
Due in July: April Angle, Melissa and Sonny Brown, Margaret Mullins, Lori McMillan, William Poindexter, Ryan Roman,

Due in AUGUST: Derrick Degroat, Theresa Degroat, John Gardner, Jessie Hicks, Alicia MacDonald, Carole Lewandowski, and Christopher Parsels

Reminder for Renewal: **Please be sure to check your membership cards**

Please renew a month early to avoid expiring and losing your years of continuous membership. Dues can be paid at our Chapter meeting or mailed to our PO Box 2743 Lakeland, FL 33806

If you have not updated your contact information recently or email or did not receive your renewal card, please send me an email with your correct info at membershipabatepolk@hotmail.com or mail updates to ABATE of Florida Inc. – Polk County Chapter PO Box 2743 Lakeland, FL 33806.





Legislative

Zman

LEGISLATIVE REPORT for JULY 2015 NEWSLETTER

1. Florida House & Senate pass 2015 – 2016 Budget, which includes the Motorcycle Safety Awareness money.
 2. Penalty for refusing breath test upheld.
 3. U.S. D.O.T. wants additional safety requirements for motorcycle helmets.
 4. Motorcycle fatalities have DROPPED for the second straight year.
 5. Black Box Privacy Protection Act
 6. More on E15 (Ethanol levels)
 7. NHTSA and Helmets
-
1. Sorry y'all, but the Governor vetoed a record \$461.4 million from the 2015 – 2016 budget, which included our Motorcycle Safety Awareness money. We'll try again next year. Thanks so much for the phone calls & emails that were sent. We won't give up! (This makes any fund raising we do for this year even more crucial).
 2. **PENALTY FOR REFUSING BREATH TEST UPHELD**
An appeals court Friday upheld the constitutionality of a state law that allows criminal charges to be filed against suspected drunken drivers who refuse to take breath tests. The 18-page ruling by the 5th District Court of Appeal came in a Volusia County case that stemmed from the October 2013 arrest of William Williams on a suspicion of driving under the influence. A police officer asked Williams to take a breath test but did not have a warrant. Williams refused to take the test. The case centered, at least in part, on a law that applies to people who refuse to submit to breath tests after also refusing to submit to tests in earlier DUI cases, according to Friday's ruling. That law allows such people to be charged with first-degree misdemeanors. Williams, who had previously refused a breath test, entered a no-contest plea in the October 2013 arrest, with the caveat that he could appeal. The appeals-court ruling weighed whether the Florida law violates the U.S. Constitution's Fourth Amendment, which prohibits unreasonable searches and seizures. The court focused on whether it is unconstitutional to file criminal charges when officers do not have warrants for breath tests. "Here, balancing the state's legitimate interest against the degree to which the breath-alcohol test would have intruded upon Williams' privacy, we conclude that the warrantless test would have been reasonable under the Fourth Amendment," said the ruling, written by Judge Jay Cohen and joined by judges Thomas Sawaya and Richard Orfinger. "The state clearly has a legitimate interest in decreasing and prosecuting drunk driving."
 3. **FROM THE AMA**
WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The U.S. Department of Transportation has called for additional safety requirements for motorcycle helmets to reduce the use of "novelty helmets" that offer little protection in a crash. The DOT proposal includes standards for helmet thickness, compression ability and other features. Novelty helmets generally cover less head area and are made of less impact-resistant material compared to DOT certified helmets, according to the DOT.
WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Motorcyclist fatalities appear to have dropped for the second straight year, according to preliminary 2014 data from the Governors Highway Safety Association. GHSA projects the final motorcyclist fatality total for 2014 will be 4,584 – about 1.8 percent less than the 4,668 recorded in 2013. This will be the second straight year in which this number has decreased, and the third decrease since 1997.
GHSA adjusts its numbers to account for underreporting. The report includes preliminary data from each state and the District of Columbia for the first nine months of 2014. Compared to the first nine months of 2013, motorcyclist fatalities decreased in 27 states, increased in 19 states, and remained the same in four states plus the District of Columbia, according to the report authored by Allan Willams, former chief scientist at the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety.

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Black Box Privacy Protection Act, introduced by U.S. Reps. Mike Capuano (D-Mass.) and Jim Sensenbrenner (R-Wis.), would protect motorcyclists' rights by requiring manufacturers to prominently disclose to consumers whether an event data recorder, commonly known as a black box, is installed on their motorcycles.

The bill – H.R. 2526 -- would clarify that the owner of the motorcycle owns the black box data and that the data may not be accessed without the permission of the owner. This bill also would require that manufacturers provide consumers with the option of controlling the recording function in automobiles or motorcycles that are equipped with black boxes, allowing owners could turn the recorder on or off.

4. **FROM THE MRF**

From Jeff Hennie

Motorcycle Rider Foundation, Vice President Government Relations and Public Affairs

5.

A quick, short recess week saw little congressional or regulatory action. On Friday, Obama's Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) dealt what could be the beginning of the end for ethanol fuel growth. The EPA has been sitting on a proposal for a year and, half to lower ethanol requirements for oil refineries. The Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) is a law passed by Congress that mandates the amount of ethanol to be included in the nation's fuel supply. Each year the RFS ticks up a little bit, until now. The EPA has proposed that levels be slashed in 2015 and 2016 to the tune of about four and five million gallons, respectively. The drop in production requirements has angered those in the ethanol production world, and delighted those who do not want more ethanol in the fuel stream.

As for motorcyclists, the news is encouraging; the less ethanol being required will mean that the smaller amounts of ethanol will have to be spread thinner. This in theory, removes the need to increase the blend to E15 levels. The EPA knows that ethanol is unpopular and cites this as the main reason to lower production requirements. The market has spoken, and it is not in favor of ethanol.

Starting this Monday the short-term highway bill countdown begins. The new extension expires July 31. Look for another extension this summer, unless someone finds \$550 billion dollars lying around in the next 60 days.

6. NHTSA issues a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to amend Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 218, which concerns motorcycle safety helmets. NHTSA proposes to modify the existing performance requirements of the standard by adding construction requirements. The reasoning behind this is to aid state and local law enforcement officers in enforcing FMVSS No. 218, allowing an officer to visually determine whether a helmet meets the safety standard. NHTSA is currently accepting public comments on this proposal, and will continue to do so until July 20, 2015.

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation opposes NHTSA's proposal. The proposal fails to take into consideration the rapid pace of technological change in this area. By adopting arbitrary dimension and compression requirements, NHTSA will effectively be shutting out manufacturers who utilize technology to construct helmets which, while failing to meet NHTSA's construction requirements, may very well exceed their performance requirements. It is conceivable that, by the time the new proposals were adopted, they would already be obsolete. To compound that problem, if such a situation did arise—and it almost certainly will—the process of amending the safety standard is so long and complicated that it is not feasible to make periodic changes in order to include technological advancements in motorcycle helmet construction. FMVSS No. 218 should remain primarily a performance standard, not a construction standard.

NHTSA's answer to this problem is to create a list of motorcycle helmets that will be exempt from the proposed construction requirements. The helmets on this list will comply with the

performance requirements of FMVSS No. 218, but while they fail to meet its proposed construction requirements, they will nonetheless be deemed to have met the proposed safety standard. This confusing strategy ignores the fact that the law enforcement officer on the street will not have immediate access to such a list. At best, the officer would not know that the motorcyclist's helmet meets FMVSS No. 218 until after the motorcyclist has been deprived of his or her liberty by being detained and subjected to an inspection of their helmet. At worst, the fact that the motorcyclist's helmet meets the standard would not come to light until after the motorcyclist was forced to come to court.

Finally, NHTSA has not fully taken into consideration the very nature of motorcycle helmet enforcement in the United States. Such enforcement is not done federally; it is done at the state and local level according to state laws which may or may not have adopted FMVSS No. 218. Not every state has adopted the federal safety standard. Many that have done so have also adopted alternative safety standards, while others require only that a helmet meet the performance requirements set out in FMVSS No. 218 and not the labeling requirements.

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation believes that motorcycle helmet enforcement is a state issue and not a federal issue. This is evidenced by the fact that motorcycle helmet laws vary greatly from state to state. If a particular state is having an issue enforcing its own motorcycle helmet law, that problem is best addressed by that state's elected officials. It does not make sense to address the enforcement of a state statute on the federal level, but that is what the proposed amendments to FMVSS NO. 218 attempt to do.

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation urges all riders and rider organizations to comment upon this proposal and to point out the legitimate concerns raised by it. You may submit comments to the proposal by any of the following methods:

You may utilize the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal:

Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

You may mail comments to the Docket Management Facility:

U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590-0001.

You may also fax comments to the Docket Management Facility:

U.S. Department of Transportation at (202) 493-2251

When submitting comments, make sure to reference **Docket No. NHTSA-2015-0045**.

If you wish to view the entire proposal you may do so at the following link:

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-05-21/pdf/2015-11756.pdf>

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I would like to also thank all members for voting me as Legislative Trustee for the last 2 years, and again for this upcoming year. I will do my best to keep y'all informed on the concerns facing bikers in the political realm.

Till next month, ride safe and enjoy. Zman

PR

Hello Everyone, Hope everyone had a great month. I want to thank everyone for your confidence in me for another year as PR. I am looking forward to another great year. I also want to thank everyone for your support at Greg's Benefit. It meant a lot to Greg and I for so many A.B.A.T.E. members to come out in support. We have the most caring and awesome people in our chapter. We will be doing our monthly meet and greets as we did last year along with our events. Our first meet and greet will be in August as many of us will be at the seminars in July. More on that to come. If anyone has any ideas on what we want to do, please let me know. I hope everyone has a great month and we will see many of you at the seminars... Please ride safe out there.

Linda Vernon
Public Relations



Webmaster

Hi Polk County,

I'm still on the road, although I'll make it home for the July 4th week before heading back out. Glad to see that our new board is set and I'm looking forward to a new year.

Governor Scott has once again vetoed the motorcycle education funding for the next year, so it's up to us once again. The State ABATE has the Rally in Avon Park coming up on October 2nd, 3rd & 4th to help with state funding. Polk County will be running the rodeo in Avon Park. It will be a fun time for all.

On the local level, Polk County will be repeating our Scooters & Shooters poker run which was a "blast". Everyone involved agreed that it was one of our best fund raisers ever. We learned a lot from the first one and although it was a learning experience, it was some of the most fun we've had as a group. Once we figured out the process it flowed right along, except for the jerk that woke everyone up by firing off a cannon (OK, so it was me). We will be planning the next one soon and are in the process of designing an event shirt for it.

Stay safe out there and keep an eye out for the cagers... they certainly are not watching out for us!!!

Steve Ammerman
Webmaster

ABATE of Florida, Inc.



Leadership Seminars

Saturday, July 11, 2015

President's Meeting

Sunday, July 12, 2015

At the Vero Beach Inn and Suites

8797 20th St, Vero Beach, FL 32966, For Reservations Call: (772-567-8321)

Deadline for ABATE Special Rates June 12, 2015

These Leadership Seminars are for **ALL CHAPTER OFFICERS AND INTERESTED PARTIES.**

Each seminar will be presented by the State Board Member based on his or her respective office.

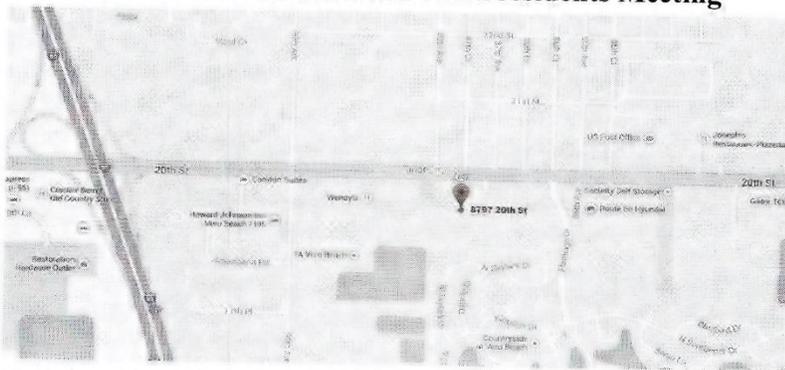
These seminars will offer a good overview of the duties and responsibilities of a Chapter Officer and will give attendees a chance to get answers to their questions on an individual basis.

SATURDAY, JULY 11, 2015

TIME	ROOM A	ROOM B	ROOM C
8:00 - 9:00	Treasury (part 1)		
9:00 - 10:00	Treasury (part 2)	Products	PR/Communications
10:00 - 11:00	Treasury (part 3)	Legislative	Membership
11:00 - 12:00	Treasury (part 4)	Sgt-At-Arms	Delegates
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1:00 - 2:00	Safety (part 1)	Secretary	Newsletter
2:00 - 3:00	Safety (part 2)	Insurance	Websites

SUNDAY, JULY 12, 2015

9am - 12 Noon Presidents/Vice Presidents Meeting



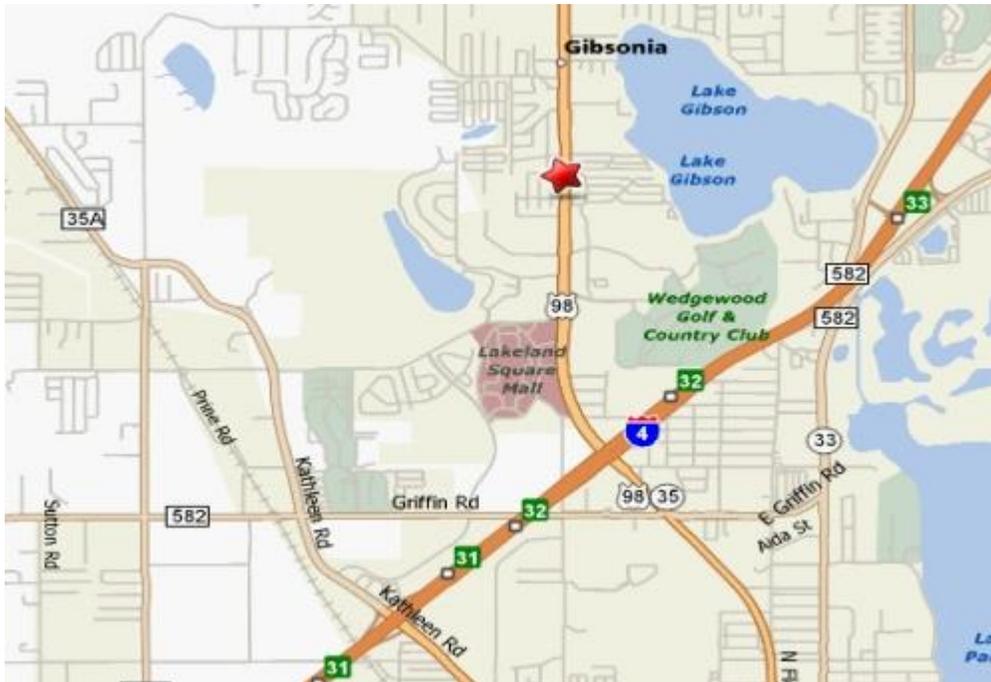
For further information contact: ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. State Office (386) 943-9610
 DONATIONS TO ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. ARE NOT DEDUCTIBLE FOR INCOME TAX PURPOSES ABATE DOES NOT CONDONE DRINKING AND DRIVING

Join Us!

At our next meeting July 19th, 2015 at **1:00PM**

Johnny G's

5153 US Hwy 98 North
Lakeland, FL



Editor

Hey Guys!!

Hope everyone had a happy and safe July4th!! As always, please make sure I have your current **email address** or **home address** so that you can get the newsletter or renewed Membership card. If you have anything you would like to put in the newsletter let me know, always enjoy new pictures to put in. We have a "Classified" section in the newsletter now so if you have anything you would like to add to that section or if anyone has something they want to sell and want to put it in newsletter, contact me **abatnewsletter@hotmail.com**.

Until next time, enjoy the ride and be safe!

Deb

Please note any political information in the chapter newsletter is for your educational purposes only and is not meant as promotional materials.

All members are encouraged to submit articles, photos, and other materials that would be of interest to their fellow members by 11:00pm on Friday following the chapter meeting except when announced otherwise. All board members are encouraged to submit their articles as soon as possible following the monthly meeting. Please do not submit slanderous or accusing letters, profanity or nudity.

Calling all members we are looking for letters from YOU!!!

It does not have to be about the chapter it can be about legislative issues, community activities that have happened or other vital information. Please send your submissions to either PO Box 2743 Lakeland, FL 33806 or email abatnewsletter@hotmail.com

History of ABATE of Florida, Inc

ABATE came to Florida in the mid 1970's. At that time it was a group of individual and unaffiliated chapters. In 1979, ABATE of Florida, Inc. was formed by the individual chapters. This union was the basis for today's organization. Throughout the years, ABATE of Florida, Inc. has strived to be an effective political force for the rights of motorcyclists in Florida. We have also attempted to keep up to date on all legislation on a federal level and have tried to input our concerns to our federal officials.

ABATE of Florida, Inc. has hired a professional lobbyist to aid us in our fight for freedom of choice. Our lobbyist has also been instructed to keep a close watch on all State or National legislation that would affect all motorcyclists.



Upcoming ABATE Events

Polk County Chapter

July 19th 🏍️ **Chapter Meeting 1:00pm @ Johnny G's, 5153 Hwy 98 North**
 July 24th 🏍️ **Newsletter submission deadline**

State

July 11/12th **Leadership Seminars, Vero Beach**
 August 15th 🏍️ **State Meeting Hosted by Lake County Chapter**

Other Chapters

July 3-5th 🏍️ **Black Creek Meet and Greet**
 July 19th 🏍️ **Gator Alley Preservation Run**
 July 25th 🏍️ **Freedom Rat Run**

BIKE NIGHTS IN THE AREA

Every TUES	🏍️	6 - 9 PM	BEEF O'BRADYS Northside Lakeland
Every WED	🏍️	6 PM - ??	MOJO's - Lakeland
Every THURS	🏍️	7 PM - ??	JOHNNY G's – Lakeland
Every Thurs		7 PM - ??	LA's MIDWAY – Across from Winter Haven Airport
Every FRI	🏍️	7 PM - ??	POUR HOUSE – Havendale Blvd, Winter Haven
First THURS,	🏍️	6PM - ??	VFW on North 98

GET WITH DEWEY CAIN IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BUYING ANY TICKETS FOR THIS DRAWING IN MARCH!!!



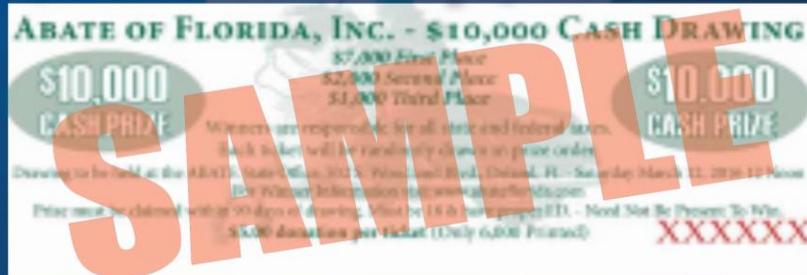
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3 Winners - \$10,000 CASH Prize
\$7,000 First Place, \$2,000 Second Place, \$1,000 Third Place

Each ticket will be randomly drawn in prize order at the ABATE State Office, 332 S. Woodland Blvd, Deland, FL Saturday March 12, 2016 at 12 Noon (need not be present to win) Must be 18 or older and have proper identification to claim prize. Prize must be claimed within 90 days of drawing. No purchase or contribution is necessary. Prizes are generated from ticket donations. Winner is responsible for all state and federal taxes. A copy of the official registration and financial information maybe obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation of the state www.800helpfla.com 1-800-435-7352

For further information contact
ABATE of Florida, Inc. State Office at 386-943-9610

Donations to ABATE of Florida, Inc. are not deductible for income tax purposes.
ABATE of Florida, Inc. does not condone drinking and driving.

Thought I would share some pictures of our Rodeo a couple of years ago to get everyone geared up to attend the Rodeo in Avon Park this October!!



ABATE of Florida Safety and Education, Inc.

presents



AVON Park Autumn Bike Fest

sponsored by



AID TO INJURED MOTORCYCLISTS

October 2, 3, 4, 2015

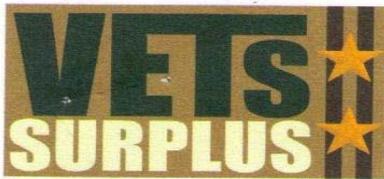
**Biker
&
Family
Activities**

Live Bands
Fri. Oct. 2
Sat. Oct. 3

**Beer
Garden
&
Food**

**Vendors
Contact**
941-613-1232
flsunbum@juno.com

**ABATE of Florida Safety and Education Inc. does not condone drinking and riding.
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President

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Phone: 863-686-6931
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Sat.

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Lakeland, FL 33813-115 Toll Free **1-800-473-4532** or visit us at www.lextaylorpa.co
ABATE of Florida member since 1993

Contact your elected officials – They work for YOU!

For corrections to this listing please email abatnewsletter@hotmail.com

Governor Rick Scott

The Capitol
400 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001
850-488-7146

Senator Darren Soto

D-District 14
Legislative Assistant: Christine Aleknovich
220 Senate Office Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100
850-487-5014
Soto.Darren.web@flsenate.gov

Senator Kelli Stargel

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Legislative Assistant: Rachel Barnes
324 Senate Office Building
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Senator Denise Gimsley

R-District 21
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Representative Neil Combee

R-District 39
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850-717-5039

Representative Seth McKeel

R-District 40
Legislative Assistant: Joseph Clements
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Tallahassee, FL 32399
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Representative John Wood

R-District 41
Legislative Assistant: Emily Nance
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Representative Mike La Rosa

R-District 42
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850-717-5042

Representative Ben Albritton

R-District 56
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Senator Bill Nelson

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Senator Marco Rubio

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Representative C.W. Bill Young

10th Congressional District
12407 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-5961 F: 202-226-9764

Representative Bill Posey

15th Congressional District
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Washington, DC 20515
202-225-3671 F: 202-225-3516

Representative Dennis Ross

R-Lakeland
12th Congressional District
404 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-1252 F: 202-225-0585

**ABATE of Florida, Inc
Polk County Chapter
PO Box 2743
Lakeland, FL 33806**



**Dues, Donations, and fees to ABATE Events, etc. are not Deductible
for federal income tax purposes**

Use a separate form for each member; duplicate form as needed.

First: _____ MI: _____ Family/Last: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Province/State: _____ Postal Code: _____ County: _____

Phone: () _____ Email: _____

Is this a contact information change: __ Yes __ No How did you hear about ABATE? _____

May we use your phone number for our Phone Tree? __ Yes __ No Are you a registered voter?: __ Yes __ No

Accommodations: All hotel accommodations and related special requests must be made directly with the hotel.

Please choose:

- New Membership \$20
- Renew Membership \$20
- Lifetime Membership \$150

Signature: _____ Date: _____

All members receive, with their paid membership, a membership card, our bi-monthly MasterLink magazine, chapter newsletter, chapter voting privileges, personal involvement in statewide legislative actions and their freedom to ride! Don't forget to renew your membership at least one month early to avoid gaps in membership.

Please contact us for more information: polkcountyabate@hotmail.com.

All applications are subject to approval

FOR ABATE OFFICE USE ONLY

Membership dues paid by: Cash Check Money Order Total Paid: \$ _____