

October 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

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This Month's Highlights

- Book Run books are due Sunday—October 4th at the General Membership meeting.
- Officially fall has arrived. Are you ready for the colder weather?

Next General Membership Meeting
Sunday, October 4th – 12:00 noon
at Harwood Post

President: Jay

Hello everyone. I would like to thank everyone involved in planning & executing our Hooters & Scooters Event. Thanks to everyone who attended. What a way to show your support for your motorcycle rights organization.

Nominations open for chapter officers at the October 4th membership meeting. We encourage seeing some new members step up to help this ABATE chapter. Nominations will also be accepted at the November meeting. The election for the 2010 officers will be at the December meeting.

Over the Labor Day weekend Jackie and I road to southeast Tennessee for a short get away. We happen to meet up with a group at a motorcycle social gathering. "MAFT" - Motorcycle Awareness Foundation of Tennessee. Talking with this group we found out their members is mainly ex-ABATE of Tennessee members. They said they split off some years ago due to differences they couldn't seem to work out. This group went to the state of Tennessee and applied for a grant to fund motorcycle safety and awareness. Tennessee lawmakers appropriated the money to fund their organization. The

state lawmakers only had one stipulation and that was that the organization could not lobby to repeal the mandatory helmet law in Tennessee. I give this group a lot of credit for choosing to pick their battles. They may have lost their strength and ability to fight to maintain their rights but they didn't give up. They just took another direction. The grant money funds their motorcycle riding courses, their awareness pamphlets, their Start Seeing Motorcycles banners and t-shirts that they give away. This group was highly recognized at the 2008 MRF's Meeting of the Minds. They did want us to let everyone know ABATE of Illinois is highly respected by them for our ability to work together and fighting for what we think is in the best interest of motorcyclists. So, while you are out there riding across this beautiful country of ours, stop and talk to people like this and you may learn a lot.

Make sure you come out to the Book Run Party on Oct 10th. Many people are working very hard to make it a big success.

Ride safe and be courteous to others out there on the road.

Jay

PR: Ken

Hello sisters & brothers. Another year of Hooters & Scooters on the books with great weather, good people and a lot of hooters! A big thank you to all the Will Co. members for their help in making this year a great success. Now, like I have been saying, we have to spend some of this money on our members who support us and on our national and local politicians. We cannot and should not continue to give our money away so other organizations can put their stamp on it and take all the credit for it when we can take care of our own business in Illinois. Remember, if you are about town and run into a politician make sure you let them know who you are and thank them for their support. Please be nice.

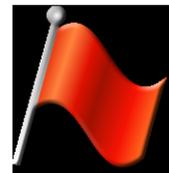
Please display your yard signs till the snow starts flying. I can't believe I said that. They will be good for next year and we might order more. I believe this helped promote motorcycle safety and awareness. If they saved one brother or sister from being hurt or worse, it is well worth it.

Remember, our elections are coming up in this chapter. Please consider running for a position. It sure would nice to have a little life added to the chapter, this includes my job. Enjoy the rest of the great weather and please be careful.

Your PR guy,
Ken



**NORTHEAST REGION
2009 FLAG EVENTS***



OCT 24TH (SAT)	NE REGION PACTOBER FEST LEO'S—ROMEOVILLE, IL 7PM TO MIDNIGHT \$15 PER PERSON
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*** Events are subject to change.
Please check county chapter websites for updates.**

Legislative: Brian

Greetings Will County Chapter! As I'm writing this article, Meeting of the Minds is still 10 days away, but I can safely tell you that one of the main topics was NOISE! It's the hot-button issue right now and more municipalities are looking into noise ordinances. That's why we need to support efforts to enact the standards recommended by the Motorcycle Industry Council and the Society of Automotive Engineers, because if these standards aren't accepted, the alternative is even tougher standards. The EPA recommends 80 decibels, which is even quieter than most stock mufflers; the SAE standards would be 92 db at idle and 96 db at 2,500 rpm. To the human ear, each increase of 3 db sounds twice as loud - so 96 db would sound roughly 5 times as loud as the EPA's 80 db. Almost all aftermarket exhausts would pass this standard, except for drag pipes. If the Feds and all the states would adopt these standards, we could all live with them and the public would probably feel like they won a victory against those damned noisy motorcycles!

Speaking of Meeting of the Minds, I'm going to check with MRF lobbyist Jeff Hennie about the idea I brought up last year concerning spotlight triggers. The MRF is trying

to get language inserted in the next Transportation Funding Bill that would require all traffic control devices to recognize motorcycles, if they were paid for in any part with Federal dollars. And I also want to take this opportunity to thank the Chapter for sending Randy Scott and me to MOTM. There are so many workshops that one person can't possibly take them all in. So with two of us there, we'll be able to bring back double the information and ideas.

The Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade and Consumer Protection of the U.S. House held a hearing on the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act, the law which effectively banned youth-oriented dirt bikes and OHV's because some parts contain minute amounts of lead. Earlier this year, the Chairman of the Consumer Product Safety Commission stated that they were going to enforce the law exactly as written, although they would postpone enforcement of the youth-vehicle ban until 2011. This would give Congress enough time to pass a bill exempting kid's bikes from the ban and we now have a bill that would do just that. PLEASE take the time to write or call your Congressperson and ask them to support HR1587. Explain to them that many families ride trails together or their kids race dirt

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bikes and the law as it stands now, prevents kids from riding their own vehicles. If you need the phone number or address of your Congressperson, go to www.willcoabate.org, click on the Legislative page, and there's a link there that'll give you that information.

Closer to home, the State Legislature's fall session starts in October. We need to watch closely and be prepared to send emails or make phone calls if any of the bills we're watching gets reintroduced. We defeated the Senate's helmet bill last April, but HB925, the House version, is still sitting in the Rules Committee, with a new sponsor, none other than Mary Flowers, who tried to essentially get anyone under the age of 16 off dirt bikes and OHV's. Also in Rules are some bills we support, namely HB073, which would create the offense of Negligent Vehicular Homicide. One of its co-sponsors is Rep. Emily McAsey, from Lockport, so a friendly phone call urging her to try and help get it reintroduced might help. Another bill we support is HB4580, sponsored by Rep. Bill Black (who also is the sponsor of HB073). This bill would immediately revoke the driving privileges of anyone convicted of any traffic offense which results in the death of another person. This bill has

House Minority Leader Tom Cross as chief co-sponsor, so give him a call too. If there's any action on any of our bills, I'll get the word out. We have a special Yahoo group just for that - Willcohotline@yahogroups.com. Sign up for it, so you're kept up-to-date, because things sometimes happen really fast in Springfield! Next year is an election year, so make sure you're registered to vote. Registering doesn't mean you'll get called for jury duty - they use driver's licenses to get names of potential jurors. So, you really have no excuse for not registering; the rights you save just may be yours!

Finally, don't forget Pactoberfest on Oct. 24th, at Leo's in Romeoville. It's a fundraiser for FEDPAC, which helps fund the campaigns of motorcycle-friendly Senate and Congressional candidates. It's also the last flag event of the year and it's always a good party.

Be vigilant,
Brian
Legislative Curmudgeon

"There comes a time when every normal man is tempted to spit in his hands, hoist the black flag, and begin slitting throats!" --H.L. Mencken (a famous curmudgeon)

Will Co. Member: Mr. Ed

This is a short note from the culinary staff of the club for all old and new members. As you know the fall and winter seasons are up and coming, and as a tradition we help out the Post by working the Friday Night Fish Fry on the second Friday of the month starting October 9th until Easter week. We only work one Friday a month, always the second Friday from 4pm till 8pm. We know that everyone has commitments with jobs, kids and life in general, but it would be very appreciative if any of you folks could find time to volunteer - even for one Friday to help out. You don't have to be there at 4pm, anytime during the dinner run is great - whether to help run food to the tables or help clean up at the end. You'll be wel-

come with open arms. You won't be asked to cook or prepare orders. TC and I always take care of the kitchen duty - just the side work that helps everything come together smoothly. Many folks have come out to help out over the years and not once have I heard anyone say they didn't have a good time. By us helping out at the Post, they give us access to the kitchen and great support for the events we have during the year. Not many places do that and Jay and Mary are wonderful people. So, help the club out, help the Post and have a good time doing it. Your help will be more than appreciated!

- MR. ED



Safety & Ed: MJ

Time to get back into the schools. Good news, we have a NEW school. We are now going to Wilmington High School. Our trip to Olivette Nazarene College in June paid off. One of those new Driver's Education instructors saw Monty and took the message to their high school. That's the way we hoped it would work. But new schools mean we need more presenters. We really need to grow this program. Here's what scheduled so far:

October 5	Lincoln-Way East
October 8 & 9	Minooka
October 19	Wilmington
October 20	Wilmington
October 29	Romeoville

Watch the website for updates. I still have schools that want to schedule and these schools will

schedule again before the year is over. This is just the warm up! Let me know if you want to come along to see what we do. It's a good time and the students are great!

The seasons are changing. Watch out for fog, late night temperature changes, road dampness and DEER! This is the time of year they have their last fling, so to say, before the winter. They're looking for something other than you! Keep those clothing items (warmer gloves, hats, sweat shirts) for layering in your saddlebags. Tired, cold muscles don't respond as quickly. Not only will you be more comfortable, it's just safer.

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

MJ



**Please come on out
and lend MJ a hand.
You'll have a great time!**



*North East Region ABATE Chapters
Proudly Present*

Pac-tober Fest

Saturday - October 24th

7PM to Midnight

Leo's Bar & Grill
210 E. Romeo Road
Romeoville, IL 60446

**FEDPAC Fundraiser to Raise Funds for
ABATE of Illinois National Lobby Efforts!!**

Suggested Donation - \$15 per person
(Includes dinner, door prizes and entertainment.)

*ABATE Members - Show your support for motorcycle rights!
Bring your friends and family to this FUN EVENT !!*

Membership: Helen

Just a quick comment, the Hooters and Scooters run this past Saturday was fantastic, as usual. We had great weather again and 464 bikes with 596 riders. GREAT DAY!

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.

If you would like to run for office let it be known to someone so you can be nominated and put on the ballot. The last chance for nominations is at the November meeting.

Have a great month and I hope to see you all at the next meeting.

hln

MOST WANTED

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



UPCOMING EVENTS*

October 2009



- 3 Peotone Swap Meet *(Sat)*
- 4 Board Meeting: 10:30am @ Harwood *(Sun)*
- 4 General Membership Meeting: 12:00 Noon @ Harwood *(Sun)*
(Officer Nominations!)
- 4 DeKalb County Swap Meet in Sandwich *(Sun)*
- 9 Fish Fry: 4-8pm @ Harwood *(Fri)*
(Come on out and help Mr. Ed!)
- 10 Will Co. ABATE Book Run Party: 6-11pm @ Harwood *(Sat)*
- 12 Columbus Day *(Mon)*
- 17 ABATE of IL e-Board & BOD Meetings *(Sat)*
- 17 South Suburban's Halloween Party *(Sat)*
- 24 NE Region Pactober Fest: 7pm @ Leo's—Romeoville *(Sat)* 🇺🇸
- 31 Halloween *(Sat)*

November 2009



- 3 ELECTION DAY! *(Tues)*
- 4 Board Meeting: 7:00pm @ Harwood *(Wed)*
- 11 General Membership Meeting: 7:30pm @ Harwood *(Wed)*
(Officer Nominations!)
- 21 ABATE of IL e-Board Meeting *(Sat)*
- 26 Thanksgiving *(Thur)*
- 28 Will County ABATE Turkey Crawl: TBD *(Sat)*

December 2009



- 2 Board Meeting: 7:00pm @ Harwood *(Wed)*
- 9 General Membership Meeting: 7:30pm @ Harwood *(Wed)*
(Election of New Officers!)
- 12 ABATE of IL e-Board & BOD Meetings *(Sat)*
(Holiday Party to Follow)
- 25 Christmas *(Fri)*
- 31 New Year's Eve *(Thurs)*



*Check relevant websites for updates to the calendar.

www.willcoabate.org