



Columbia County Chapter Newsletter March 2011

CABIN FEVER PARTY

Columbia County Chapter - ABATE of New York, Inc.

SATURDAY

March 19, 2011

5pm – 8pm

Joe's Bar- Fairview Ave.

\$10 cover Pizza and Wings

Beverage not included.

Help us fight
for your riding rights!

Become a Member
\$25 Annually and No Cover
charge for the event

Think you know who we are??



ABATE is a non-profit, member based organization, dedicated to promote and protect the individual interests of **all** NY motorcyclists through political change, public education, and safety awareness.

ABATE is active in the elimination of unfair legislation as it concerns motorcyclists, promoting motorcycle safety through both motorist and rider education.

ABATE is open to anyone interested in motorcycling, whether you ride or not. We don't all ride motorcycles, but the majority of us do share this interest. Whether you wear a patch, any patch, or ride independently, your "Right-To-Ride" is our agenda, our goal, our only concern. In order to remain fair and objective, we will not endorse any one club, group, or organization. Likewise, we will not discriminate against the same.

WE are working for ALL New York BIKERS! Join us in the fight!

For more info; Joel Dyslin, Chapter President 518.378.6944
Or Paula Palleschi 518.821.5698

www.columbiaabate.org

columbiaabate@yahoo.com

TENTATIVE 2010/2011 Events
All must be verified by your new President, Joel Dyslin

MARCH	19	Cabin Fever	
APRIL	1	Spring Fun Run	19-21 MRF "Beast of the East" SC Regional meeting
MAY	6	Chapter Memorial Run	Sat 21 State chapter meeting Mon 16 NY State Freedom Rally
JUNE	3	Chapter Freedom Run Flag Day Parade	6-11 Americade Lake George, NY 12-20 Laconia, NH 24-26 Harley Rendezvous
JULY	1		Regional meeting
AUGUST	5	Mountain Run	Sat 20 State chapter meeting
SEPTEMBER	9	31-5 Columbia County Fair chapter booth	11-14 Catskill, Mountain Thunder 24-26 MRF Meeting Of The Minds in Illinois
OCTOBER	7	Sun 2 Toy Run	Regional meeting
NOVEMBER	4		Sat 19 State chapter meeting
DECEMBER	??	Holiday party & meeting	

What is ABATE?

AMERICAN BIKERS AIMED TOWARD EDUCATION is a non-profit corporation formed to promote and protect the interests of New York Motorcyclists. **ABATE** monitors and interacts with the legislative process, enhancing the image of the sport, and providing educational and social opportunities for members as well as non-members. **ABATE** will continue to strive to become acquainted with both the issues and people of the motorcycling community.

We encourage all our members to be informed registered voters. "New Rider" education classes with certified safety instructors are currently being offered by some Chapters throughout the state. We welcome interested persons to any of our activities and to join our organization.

ABATE does not discriminate - all makes of motorcycles are WELCOME.

Dedicated to Freedom of the Road

Chapter Address: ABATE of Columbia County, P.O. Box 227, Hudson, NY 12534

Chapter e-mail: columbiaabate@yahoo.com

Chapter website: <http://www.columbiaabate.org>

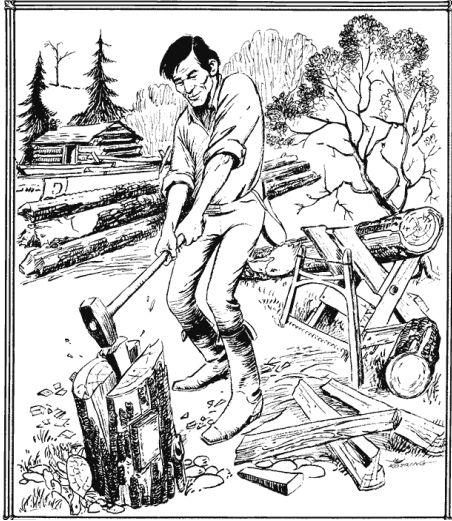
ABATE of NY State website: <http://www.abateny.org>

*Anything for publication in the newsletter can be
 Passed along at a Chapter Meeting or e-mailed
 to:*

*columbiaabate@yahoo.com
 or mail to: ABATE of CL
 P O Box 227 Hudson, NY 12534*

**Chapter meetings on first
 Thursday of the month
 Next meeting
 April 7th, 7pm
 at the Whitestone Café'**

Musings From The Woodpile



Happy winter to you all. Soon, riding weather will return and we will be humming that old tune, "Happy Times Are Here Again". Hang in there!! In the meantime I'll just keep splitting and burning and staying hunched over the old woodstove.

Since assuming office in January, your chapter president has attended the State Chapter Meeting and Seminar held in Owego on January 14th and 15th along with Jenn Ross, Mark Zigler and Peter Shufelt and Prospector. I also attended the Region E Meeting in Greenville on January 23rd. Following that meeting, Peter Shufelt, Prospector and I attended the ABATE State Chapter Meeting in Binghamton on February 19th. Thank you for allowing me to represent you at these meetings. Being new to ABATE at the State level, means that we are on a learning curve of sort. Few comments and a great deal of listening are necessary for the time being. The State Board members, with the exception of Peter Shufelt, are new to their positions this year, however, I have observed that they are all extremely well qualified and are dedicated to the tasks before them. The meetings are open to ABATE members so if any of you would like to attend and I encourage you to do so, let me know and you can ride along with me.

Cattaraugus County ABATE has offered again this year to host a State Party with camping. They are located in the southwest corner of the State with Allegany State Park, Olean and Salamanca nearby. It is about a five to six hour ride from here. The date has not been set although August 6-7 is tentative.

The State Freedom Rally is scheduled for May 16th. Peter Shufelt is coordinating the events this year due to the resignation of last year's chairman. Details of the Rally will be available soon.

Again, this year, a bunch of us are planning to head to Washington D.C. on May 27th for Memorial Day Weekend and Rolling Thunder. It doesn't matter if you are a veteran or not, all are welcome. For me, it is one of the highlight events of the year. There is nothing so heartwarming as sharing the weekend with 500,000 or so trained killers. The crowds are enthusiastic and the residents are grateful for us, and that definitely makes you sit taller in the saddle.

In closing, I look forward to your comments, suggestions and offers to help our Chapter. I can be reached at home - 392-5723 or cell phone – 378-6944 or Dyslin@fairpoint.net.

Respectfully submitted
Joel E. Dyslin, CL Chapter President

ABATE of New York, Inc.
Columbia County Chapter
Secretary's Minutes Thursday, February 3, 2011

The meeting called to order at 7:05 pm at Whitestone Café by President Joel Dyslin, with 13 members in attendance including 4 officers. Pledge to the flag was recited. Joel thanked everyone for coming to tonight's meeting.

SECRETARY – Pete made **MOTION #04-2011** to waive the minutes of the January 2011 meeting, seconded by Prospector with all in favor.

TREASURER -- Mark Sigler gave his report as follows: Beginning balance: \$3,797.02 with Income of \$326.00 from product sales received tonight from Paula, and Expenses of \$637.60 for the January seminar hotel and dinner reservations, leaving an ending balance of \$3,485.42; savings balance for 200 Club is \$241.52. **MOTION #05-2011** made by Denise, seconded by Paula to accept the treasurer's report with all in favor. Mark stated he learned a lot from attending the state seminar. He also stated that he will need receipts for everything sold or purchased in order to track everything, including receipts from Paula for future product sales. Joel, Mark and Pete, talked about attending the State seminar last month, which was a learning experience for them. They feel that the new slate of officers will be good for the state. One of the seminar speakers was Mitch Proner, who is the attorney for the class action suit for safety stop checkpoints. The lawsuit is progressing through the court system. The new state president Tom Alton expressed a major goal of his while in office will be to increase ABATE membership by 15 percent; along with shortening board meetings, which tend to be too long.

MEMBERSHIP There was no membership report at tonight's meeting as Jen Ross has not received membership from the new State Office Manager.

LEGISLATIVE— Prospector reports that he's submitted his resume' to become member of the Albany Co. Traffic Safety Board, and has to get an appointment within the next two weeks. He stated that someone is needed for Columbia County.

He saw new faces at the state seminar that were enthusiastic and knowledgeable, and conducted workshops.

He has met with most of the 39 new legislators. He wants to concentrate on the Confiscation Bill, the language needs to be "tweaked" further. The bill is not in print yet, but he has three new assemblymen on board to co-sponsor and sign on, including one from Rochester who rides.

Work with the Senate Transportation Committee is still in the early stages.

He is watching the new Governor, and is working to try and get an appointment to meet with him. This has never happened before, but he is hopeful as the new Governor owns a Harley and rides.

The State has a two-Republican majority, with four Democrats, who are now independent and can vote either way. He said that the Lt. Governor can break a tie vote with any bill now, as there is no clear majority.

Prospector went on to say there may be a new Bill introduced regarding motorcyclists, whom have held a license for ten years enabling them to ride without a helmet. He is uncertain about this bill, because it would create two separate classes of bikers, and a dilemma as to how to differentiate between the two. He said it's in a research stage right now, and is not a fan of it because it would make checkpoints necessary to determine the status of the license.

NEWSLETTER - Joel stated that after the January meeting wherein Karen said she would continue working on the newsletter, he received correspondence from her stating she is backing away and stepping down from this duty. After the March issue, he will work with Jenn and Jill to get the newsletter out. Jill has good ideas and the mailing can be cut down to about 75 with the rest being emailed to members whose email addresses we have on file.

Jill said that she is involved with the women's consortium, they've asked us to sponsor a ride to benefit cancer patients here in Columbia County, and to help women and families affected by cancer. The director has asked that Kozels be the ending place where there will be a band donating their time; cost would be \$10/\$20 person. Jill wanted to put the proposal out there, and let us think about it, maybe for sometime this summer.

PRODUCTS -- Paula stated that she did not bring products to the meeting tonight, but will have it available at the Cabin Fever party in March.

SGT. of ARMS -- There is no report.

ROAD CAPTAIN -- There is no report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – PRESIDENT Joel stated that he attended the Region E meeting on January 23rd and spoke with Matt Grossman, (Greene Co chapter President) who expressed interest in getting ABATE groups together and riding together. Joel said that he has invited Mr. Grossman to the presentation that we want to put together in May at the hospitality room at the Albany airport, and also invited the other chapters in our region (we will need definite date of this event). He also stated that we would be hosting the October quarterly Region meeting at the White Stone, and that they are open to anyone who wants to attend. Future places of meetings will be in Delhi and Kingston.

VICE PRESIDENT -Pete reported that he met with new congressman Chris Gibson regarding motorcycle rights, who stated that he wants to attend another meeting and an event ride. He wants to do a good job and would like our support in getting him re-elected next year. Pete stated that ABATE of NY, is “in the hole” because of miscalculations regarding membership dues rebates. Chapters will not be receiving membership rebates this year; but the state also cannot raise membership fees at this time; but *can* vote to raise membership fees without the chapters’ approval. We need to retain the membership base we already have, hang on and do the best we can, and get new people to sign up.

Pete said that he went to Brooklyn with Topaz (State Office Manager) and moved 50 to 60 boxes of ABATE records out of the storage unit there. Topaz will work on going through the files, throw out old stuff, and put other stuff on micro-film/disks for retention. Joel said that the Columbia County chapter is more active than the Brooklyn chapter w/ 600 members, and only a handful of members in attendance at meetings. Columbia County is the only continuous, running chapter in the state without any break in membership or charter.

Both Paul and Prospector brought up the need to increase membership in conjunction with the Cabin Fever party. Prospector suggested sending an invite through the newsletter letting everyone know of the monthly meeting night and social hour. Pete stated that in the past he has made personal phone calls to new members, and he thinks this is a good idea. It was suggested that potential new members be invited to the Cabin Fever party.

MOTION #06-2011 was made by Prospector, seconded by Paula with all in favor, to invite non-members who show up at the Cabin Fever party to get in free if they join ABATE that night. Paula said that an article should be put in the local newspapers too, thanking motorists for watching out for motorcycles, showing appreciation and support, and for being careful; and also advertising a membership drive.

Cabin Fever Party – Will be held on Saturday, March 19 starting at 5:00 pm, for \$10 per person. Paula said that Joe’s Bar in Greenport/Hudson will be happy to host the party with pizza and wings; they have been remodeling and would appreciate the business. She will make sure the party gets in the newspapers.

Other committees are in the process of being formed; a committee for the 200 club event is being worked up, and a meeting will be put together soon.

NEW BUSINESS Regarding the ABATE billboard near Frank’s farm on Route 66; Paula asked if the sign could be replaced, as it’s unattractive and unfriendly, and does not seem to advertise ABATE in a positive way. Denise stated that there was a 10-year contract for four billboards. The contract is done, but was automatically renewed with a new company. There was a lawsuit at one time to remove the billboard sign, but it will stay put, as it is “grand-fathered”. The sign is vinyl and holding up well with very little fading, but we can’t do anything about removing or replacing the sign at this time.

Denise also wanted to let everyone know about the Rolling Thunder event in Washington, DC. She said 13 rooms are taken so far out of 30 rooms booked at the reduced rate. The cut-off date has been moved up and is now March 27, so people who want to attend need to sign up as soon as possible. Jill mentioned that the Elks Lodge in Washington up the street from the motel will be having a dinner catered to vets and bikers and all are welcome to attend.

There being no other business to come before the meeting, **MOTION #07-2011** was made by Bob Mayo, seconded by Jenn, to adjourn the meeting with all in favor; meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm. The PAC hat collected \$21.

Respectfully submitted, Zandra Boice, Secretary

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 WWI 3,344
 WWII 76,571
 COLD WAR 120
 KOREA 8,106
 VIETNAM 1,711
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WASHINGTON, D.C.
MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND
MAY 29, 2011

ROLLING THUNDER®, INC.
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 ARTIE

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING THIS
 EVENT WITH A LOCAL GROUP. WE LEAVE ON
 FRIDAY MORNING (5/27) AND RETURN ON
 MONDAY (5/30). THERE ARE A LIMITED NUMBER
 OF HOTEL ROOMS AVAILABLE AT A GROUP
 DISCOUNT RATE (\$85.). RESERVATION CUT-OFF
 DATE IS MARCH 27, 2011. CALL FRANK OR DENISE
 SABO FOR HOTEL PHONE # AND GROUP #.
 CALL - 518-697-8837 (leave message)

U S Senator Charles E. Schumer

Leo O'Brien Building Room 420
 1 Clinton Square Albany, NY 12207
 Phone: 518-431-4070

322 Hart Senate Office Building
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 Phone: 202-224-6542 <http://schumer.senate.gov>

US Senator Kirsten Gillibrand

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478 Russell Senate Office Building
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Representative Chris Gibson (D-20)

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Assemblyman Steven McLaughlin (R-108)

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 518-479-0542

LOB 533
 Albany, NY 12248
 518-455-5777



<http://www.mrf.org>

Do something more to protect your rights! *Register, vote, write and ride!*

JOIN AND SUPPORT **Motorcycle Riders Foundation** Freedom Fighter Donation _____
 Annual Individual Membership \$30 3-Year Individual Membership \$80 Annual Sustaining Membership \$100
 Annual Joint Membership \$50 3-Year Joint Membership \$130 New Renewal Mbr #

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE YOUR INFORMATION

Name _____ Phone () _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail Address _____

1) Have you ever been a member of MRF? Yes No

2) Are you a member of a state motorcyclists' rights organization Yes No If yes, name: _____

Mail with remittance to: Motorcycle Riders Foundation, Inc. PO Box 1808, Washington, DC 20013-1808
(202) 546-0983 FAX (202) 546-0986 <http://www.mrf.org> MRFWash@aol.com

CHARGE IT!

VISA Master Card Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

American Express Signature _____ Date _____

MRF Washington Updates Motorcycle Riders Foundation

236 Massachusetts Ave. NE | Suite 510 | Washington, DC 20002-4980

202-546-0983 (voice) | 202-546-0986 (fax) | <http://www.mrf.org>

Vice President of Government Relations and Public Affairs, Jeff Hennie

2/16/2011 Congressman Jim Sensenbrenner, Standout Supporter of Motorcyclists

United States Congressman Jim Sensenbrenner, Jr. (R-WI) has always been a staunch supporter of motorcyclists and this week, he once again went above and beyond the average member of congress. Sensenbrenner penned a letter to the USDOT last year asking for some clarification on the agency's plan to fund motorcycle-only roadside checkpoints. When the USDOT funded a program in Georgia to the tune of \$70,000 before responding to Mr Sensenbrenner's letter, it ruffled his feathers, so to speak. The Republican from Wisconsin took another tack and decided to try to defund the program entirely. Sensenbrenner introduced an amendment that would strip all funding for the controversial program. The amendment would make it illegal for the US DOT to use any money to conduct checkpoints or any program to check for helmet usage.

However, the amendment is one of 600 introduced to this particular bill and may not see the light of day. We commend Mr. Sensenbrenner for his defense of motorcyclists and fully understand that the amendment may not receive a vote. We at the Motorcycle Riders Foundation stand by, ready to assist Mr. Sensenbrenner in any way we can. The MRF will keep you informed on this issue as details develop. Since 1924, the AMA has protected the future of motorcycling and promoted the motorcycle lifestyle.

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) <http://www.mrf.org> The MRF is your national voice, acting as your Washington office. They will supply you with immediate information on issues of importance and recommend a careful course of action.

The American Motorcycle Association (AMA) <http://www.ama-cycle.org/>

Motorcycle Association of New York (MANYS) <http://www.manys.org>

New York State Dept. of Motor Vehicles <http://www.nysdmv.state.ny.us>

Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) <http://www.msf-usa.org>

For State Assembly information including members, committees and bills:

<http://www.assembly.state.ny.us>

For Senate information: <http://www.senate.state.ny.us>

For U. S. House of Representatives for Federal bills: <http://www.house.gov>

For legislative information or search bill information <http://thomas.loc.gov>

