

As I usually do, I attended the ABATE of Wisconsin (abatewis.org) State Meeting Weekend at the Hotel Mead in Wisconsin Rapids. Again Lorie and I did the infamous poker walk on Friday night and headed back Saturday for a fun run that Brother Alpo set up that took us to a few really cool places in my neck of the woods (Portage & Wood County) that we had never been. These included the George W. Mead Wildlife Area, a Dairy State Cheese Factory in Rudolph and the St. Philomenas Parish Grotto that is made up of local lava stone (A must see). There were other events going on like a mystery ride, silent auction just to name a few. Later that evening we attended the awards portion of the weekend.

For those of you that are ABATE members, you know how hard the organization works for bikers/motorcyclists rights and way of life. The awards spot lighted some major contributors to ABATE like attorneys Mike Hupy and Joe Weigel. Member awards and awards from outside that ABATE of Wisconsin won. With many awards being given at the MRF meeting of the Minds in Michigan to our very own Freedom Fighters who work diligently to better our way of life.

All in all it was a fun weekend. I do look forward to next year. If you are not an ABATE of Wisconsin member please do check into it. If you enjoy helping from the background or are the in your face kind of individual, Wisconsin motorcyclists need your support.




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**ABATE Grassroots Lobby Day**

ABATE of Wisconsin has scheduled its annual Lobby Day for January 24, 2012. This event was cancelled last spring due to protestors taking up residence in the Capitol building. Word has it they may still be there when ABATE visits this year but it should all work out. In fact, the legislators might even appreciate a bunch of bikers showing up, since we are always polite and never tape signs on the walls, sing obnoxious songs or beat drums in the rotunda. We actually have something intelligent to say. This year, the main focus will be on getting AB55 passed and signed into law. It's a corrected version of the right of way violation law we got passed a few years ago. If you don't know what this is about, contact your local ABATE representatives or attend an ABATE meeting. In fact, even if you're not an ABATE member, you're welcome to join ABATE for Lobby Day. Hupy and Abraham, S.C. is sponsoring the bus for Route 7 (southeastern Wisconsin) and six other routes are picking up riders from all over the state. Check with ABATE for details (www.abatewis.org or 715-284-7415). Everyone is welcome to join in and learn how to speak to legislators. No experience needed: ABATE has experienced leaders who will lead the discussions. Do this and join ABATE. Be a part of the solution to keeping our roads free and safe for motorcyclists.

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