

Early Times: The Birth of ABATE of Wisconsin

January 12, 2013 marks the date of this historic event. Historic is an understatement. You'll hear from founder, Tony "Pan" Sanfelipo, Dave Zien and Ron "Tick" Leonard about the beginnings of the rights movement, how outlaw clubs had a heavy influence in the formation of rights organizations and how Wisconsin ABATE evolved from the Concerned Motorcyclists of Wisconsin to become the state's largest and most successful motorcycle rights organization.

This isn't a watered down, politically correct lecture. This is history as it was lived. After attending this event you will come away with a renewed appreciation and contentment of being a member of ABATE.

Learn about the struggles in forming ABATE. Hear why we were mostly located on the eastern side of Wisconsin. Listen to Tick as he describes what it was like being the first District Director of the north-western counties. Dave Zien will speak about the early rallies and his association with the Wisconsin Better Bikers Association.

You may be surprised to learn about all the activities we were involved in and you'll marvel at our success rate. ABATE of Wisconsin has become, in my humble opinion, the best biker's rights organization in the country. Others can claim that they are number one, but no other state has the record of achievements that Wisconsin has. No other repeal state has had decades of freedom from recurring attempts at helmet law reinstatement. No other state has a veto override to defeat a helmet law. We were among the first to address the HOV lane question on a state level. We were the first to pass legislation dealing directly with property rights concerning motorcycles. We were among the first to correct the red light sensor problem. The list goes on and on, including the most members in the Sturgis Freedom Fighter Hall of Fame of any state and two succeeding leadership roles at the MRF helm. Be proud of who you are and where you came from. Attend the Early Times: The Birth of ABATE of Wisconsin and get the whole story.

Book a motel room at one of the motels listed to the right and stay over for the ABATE Board of Directors meeting on Sunday. Everyone is welcome to attend the board meeting including non-members.

Free Rider Press Article by Dave Zien, December 2012;

We are ever so fortunate that the Free Rider Press is continuing. This is indeed our best publication to mirror the Biker lifestyle. The uniqueness and reality of the Free Rider Press is outstanding! We must seize the opportunity to explain and reflect the Biker way of life. To explain the ecstasy and empowerment that evolves throughout our being when we are on the Open Road is needed! Each of us should be writing down the substance of our motorcycling related experiences; a weekly, if not daily basis. Just think of the adventure, cohesiveness and camaraderie that are blessing us.

Rick Mathews (in charge of Funerals at the Wisconsin Dept. of Veteran Affairs) has written a book that will soon be going to press. The substance, feelings revealed and his unique perspective is reflective of each and every one of us. His command of the English language is outstanding. When you read the book, you will be saying "Yeah, that sounds like me or I forgot all about that." Please consider writing down your perspectives.

The American Motorcyclists Tribute is about to be shared, after years of non-promotion. It has three entities right here in Wisconsin. Keep your eyes on the Free Rider Press!

The American Freedom Warrior Foundation, Inc. has been incorporated for seven years. Both of these monuments will be reflected in future Freedom Press articles.

Your contribution of articles, testimonials is as ever appreciated. Thank you for being the heart and soul of the Free Rider Press. God Bless You. Dave Zien Former State Senator Million Mile Motorcycle Man

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FROM THE DESK OF JOE WEIGEL:

Anti-lock brakes for bikes? I am not sure. Anti-lock brakes are great for cars. However, how do you lay your bike down with anti-lock brakes? If the wheels do not lock, you will have to lay the bike down by falling in front of the bike and have the bike push you into whatever obstruction you are trying to avoid. If I have to lay my bike down, I know that if I jam on the rear brake only the rear will skid; the bike will end up sideways and I can put it down with the bike sliding in front of me. My comments are not the result of any scientific testing; just my guy feeling based upon over 40 years as a biker. Maybe, the government should stay out of it and let the anti-lock brakes be an option for those who want them. Let those who ride decide.

THE INDEPENDENT SHOP ASSOCIATION