

2010 Summer Hummer is June 17-20th

ABATE of Wisconsin's Summer Hummer 2009

As seen in Thunder Press Magazine

How many of you are ABATE members? I am hoping many of you said yes. For those that said no, and think ABATE is just those helmet rights people, well I've got some interesting news for you. There are many things ABATE does and partying is one of them.

I recently attended the ABATE of Wisconsin annual State party at their land, "ABATE Acres" located in Greenwood, WI. This 80 acres of secluded land makes for the perfect spot. This year's event was held June 18-21st.

The Summer Hummer is the party of the year where ABATE members and non-members alike get together and "let their hair down", as the old quote says.

We had great weather unlike some of those in the past. Rain, tornado's and cool weather have all reared their ugly side in past years, but this year was perfect. Sunny, good times and fun was had by all the 1300 plus people that showed up starting Wednesday.

During the 4 day party you can find all the different regions and districts set up throughout the property. Some sites are plain while others are elaborate with themes.

I hooked up with region 1A out of Milwaukee. I figure since I moved from there 11 years ago and knew most of the group it would be a perfect fit. Their theme was a "pirate way of thinking". But these Brothers and sisters had a way of spinning it to another realm of huh! I guess alcohol can make anything happen. It was great to see them in action with their eye patches, swashbuckling clothing and swords along with them slurring "Arrrr" at the drop of a hat. And just for the record, I did not witness any pillaging of other campsites. "Wink-Wink".

ABATE acres has transformed into a great facility with restrooms that are cleaned every four hours, showers, covered building for the beer, abate products and raffles. First aid staff and security is on hand for any problems that may arise from such activities as the bar stool races, beer bobbing and bike games during the day. Bands starting at noon throughout the weekend kept the crowd dancing into the morning hours. Friday night brought out Lukyn' Skywyrd of Milwaukee, WI www.myspace.com/lukynskywyrd with some kick ass "Northern Bred Southern Rock", and Saturday night we were entertained with the rockin' rhythm's, blues and biker music of the Charlie Brechtel Band. www.charliebrechtel.com

Vendors were on the grounds with their wares including many food vendors for a good variety of chow.

The ABATE state wide poker run ends at the Hummer and is the time of big money hopes for many folks that have spent the year traveling Wisconsin for the stamps that are needed for a chance at the \$10,000 up for grabs. Some have a single book while others turn in multiple books in hopes of upping their chances. (I had 5 books, and all I won was the memories of the back country roads ridden. But there is always next year)

The growth of any event is always the people behind the scenes and those that attend. This party is no different. The Summer Hummer committee works tirelessly (like many of us that fight for motorcyclists rights) to make for a great event, but they get to plan this particular event for fun, fun and more fun. See you next year for what will be an even better time, guaranteed.

Since 1977, when we got the helmet law repealed in Wisconsin, we have continued to grow into a focused organization that has implemented programs like Share the Road. Share the Road is a program that allows us bikers into the classroom to teach students how to see motorcycles, and that they have as much right on the road as a car does. In the past few years we have enacted

Right of Way legislation and have fought the never-ending deluge of the "safetycrats" trying to protect us from ourselves.

ABATE of Wisconsin www.abatewis.org is one of the nations leaders in the biker rights fight. We can only keep this going with the support of ALL riders that cherish their rights of the roads. And events like the Summer Hummer raise the much needed funds to do just that.

Written and Photo's by Preacher- www.freeriderspress.us



The Pirates of ABATE Acres



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