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Abate Never Stops

While most of you are getting the bikes put away for the winter, and organizing projects to get done before next riding season, ABATE of Wisconsin Inc still working hard to protect your rights and freedoms as bikers year round. Now may be a good time to see how you can help protect your freedoms and make riding safer and more enjoyable for everyone.

With our Roadway Users Responsibility Act 466 being passed this spring, 2006 shaped up to a banner year for ABATE of Wisconsin Inc. At the recent MRF (Motorcycle Riders Foundation) Meeting of the Minds in Indiana, ABATE of WI received a well earned award for largest legislation passed in the United States for the five points of our RURA Act. As Public Relations Director, I've spent a good part of this fall getting the word out that all this legislation took effect October 1st. If you would like an ABATE of Wisconsin Inc representative to speak at a meeting of your club or organization about this recent legislation or future issues, please contact me at 262-253-9898 or pubrel@abatewis.org.

Besides attending meetings promoting RURA this fall, I've also had to attend some meetings that normally I only attend in the springtime. And because of the article last month that came from bikernet.com, I feel that I should let everyone know about the inevitable crackdowns that occur year round concerning noise. For everyone that enjoys riding in the Southern Kettle Moraine in Wisconsin, the Village of Eagle has said we've had enough. At a recent meeting with their Chief of Police I was assured that the violations were not discriminatory, and after further review of the violations through open records laws, I would agree. People move to small towns to get away from the noise of the city, and don't need it shoved in their face. I believe a conscious effort by the local business owners to post signage to promote "respect our neighbors, please keep noise down" will curb an aggressive stance against noise by local police departments. ABATE of Wisconsin Inc has never promoted breaking the law, and we are not in favor of irresponsible or disturbing motorcycle noise. If bikers don't start doing something to help themselves with "throttle management" these situations are only likely to get worse. This winter would be a good time to decide what pipes will work best with your attitude. If you like to crack the throttle a lot, straight pipes and other pipes without restrictions are not for you. I don't ever remember running a bike with stock exhaust and I've never gotten a ticket for loud exhaust in over 200,000 miles of riding. Attitude is everything, know when to keep off the throttle and insure that we can all continue to ride safe.

ABATE of Wisconsin Inc will be finalizing their legislative agenda for 2007 in the next few months and everyone should take the time to be involved in issues that concern us most. Even though RURA gave us increased right of way violation penalties, we need to sink our teeth into this issue and make sure the penalties for killing a biker are at least as severe as DUI penalties in Wisconsin. Until motorists learn that it is not an accident when you choose not to look twice for a biker, it is the direct cause of ignorance of the important and responsible task of driving a motor vehicle, it is a motorcycle rights organizations duty to spread awareness to the general public. We weren't able to fix our health insurance loopholes through congress, so now it's time to bring it up at the state level. If you have been denied coverage while riding a motorcycle let us know. This kind of discrimination will not be tolerated by ABATE of Wisconsin Inc and we will be working hard in 2007 to fix the loophole that allows it to happen. If you have an idea that would fit on our legislative agenda, please contact us and get involved in helping bikers enjoy their freedom of the road.

One consideration for our 2007 legislative agenda is being tackled by ABATE of WI Region 1A (Milwaukee County) this month. Consideration of motorcycles in highway design and transportation systems, roadway repairs and maintenance, excessive "tar snakes" and cold patches is something that we are considering putting on our agenda and to get things rolling. Milwaukee is having a special meeting Nov. 14th to address some of these issues.

John Hawks Pub (100 E. Wisconsin Ave) will be filled with bikers that want to address some of the local officials that decide how road conditions are addressed in Southeastern Wisconsin. At 7:30 pm, our regular ABATE meeting will begin, with appetizers and n.a. refreshments sponsored by Hupy/Abraham law firm. After getting usual ABATE business out of the way our guest speakers from both Milwaukee and Waukesha Counties will take the floor to give presentations of current road building plans and to field questions concerning bikers in these areas. County Executives, public works department and state transportation officials have been invited and expect to attend. It's time to quit bitchin to each other about road conditions that threaten to injure us everyday and do your talking where it will do some good, to the people that can change it for us. For information concerning this meeting, directions, etc. please contact Tony "Pan" Sanfelipo at 800-800-5678 or Paul Vita at 414-698-7285. Hope to see you there.

Whether its promoting awareness, fighting discrimination, or keeping your freedom of choice intact, ABATE of Wisconsin Inc is there for the bikers in Wisconsin all year round. Take the time this winter to get involved and show your support for those that choose to make freedom a priority. Join us at ABATE of Wisconsin Inc. Until next month...Ride Free.

AMA "Justice for all" Rolls into California

PICKERINGTON, Ohio -- The American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) has announced that California has enacted a law supporting the goals of the AMA's "Justice for All" campaign.

California SB-1021, which was signed into law by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger on September 30, imposes additional fines when a motorist is convicted of a traffic offense that causes "bodily injury" or "serious bodily injury" to another person. The new law also mandates that the California Driver's Handbook and the curriculum of traffic-violator schools include information about "respecting the right-of-way of others, particularly pedestrians, bicycle riders, and motorcycle riders."

"California's new law shows what can be accomplished when lawmakers and motorcyclists work together," said Nick Haris, AMA Western States Representative.

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ABATE - A Brotherhood Against Totalitarian Excesses
Protecting Your Rights to Ride Free for Over 39 Years

ABATE of Wisconsin, Inc.

Our Most Recent Triumph

Roadway Users Responsibility Act 464

Effective October 1st, 2006

This law will:

1. Allow motorcyclists to proceed through a vehicle-actuated red light after 45 seconds when the signal fails to recognize the motorcycle.
2. Increases the penalties for right-of-way violations.
3. Will require that Share the Road, a motorcycle awareness class be taught in all driver education classes in the state.
4. Require that a person who violates the right-of-way of a motorcyclist and causes a crash to attend a Share the Road class.
5. Allow a graduate of the basic rider course obtain a motorcycle endorsement without holding an instruction (learners) permit.

Go to www.abatewis.org or call 800-386-4442 to join or for more info

NORTHWEST WISCONSIN'S BEST MOTORCYCLE SWAP MEET



9:00 AM - 5:00 PM • SUNDAY, JAN. 28, 2007

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