



THE FREEDOM WRITER

Dedicated to Freedom of the Road

ABATE OF NEW YORK, INC.



Andrew Liuzzi

April 29, 1961 - November 24, 2023

PRESIDENT

A TRIBUTE

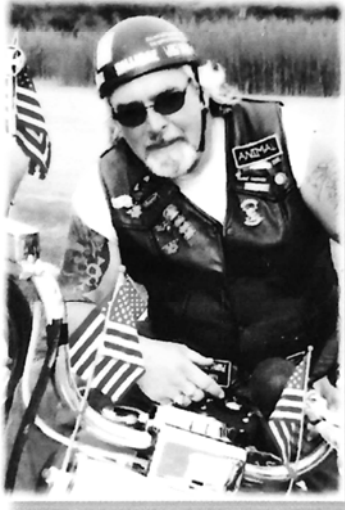
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In Loving Memory



Andrew W. Liuzzi

April 29, 1961 ~ November 24, 2023

"Lo, there do I see my father
Lo, there do I see my mother
my sisters and my brothers
Lo, there do I see the line of my people
Back to the beginning
Lo, they do call to me and bid me
To take my place among them
In the Halls of Valhalla
Where the Brave may live forever!!"

Andy, may you ride free, wherever you
are, and always keep an eye on us.
Have fun in Paradise brother!!
We'll miss you!!

Andrew Liuzzi Obituary

COLONIE – Andrew W. Liuzzi, 62, crossed over to the other side to join his loved ones that have passed before him. He entered into eternal life on November 24, 2023.

Born the youngest son of the late Francis J. and Ruth Elliott Liuzzi. Andrew was a lifelong resident of Colonie.

Andrew loved reading, writing and motorcycling. His Harley Davidson was his life! He enjoyed being surrounded by his friends and biker family having fun. Andrew had a knack for making people laugh. His quick wit and dry humor will be remembered always. Andrew worked for Hamilton News Co. in Glenmont. He ran his own remodeling business, Talon Enterprises, and most recently worked for South Colonie School District, prior to retirement seven years ago.

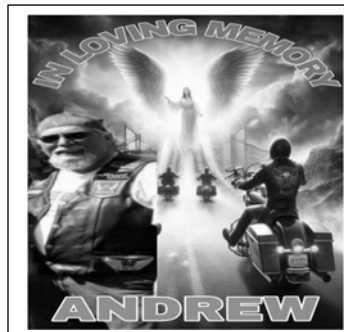
Andrew is survived by his loving wife, Stacy L. Liuzzi, fur babies Tiger, Max and Mayla. Also survived by his siblings, Margaret Liuzzi of Syracuse, Francis J. Liuzzi Jr., of Fla., Rocco A. Liuzzi of Nedrow, NY and Dianne (Ron) Hagan of North Carolina. Andrew is survived by several nieces and nephews.

Andrew also leaves behind his wonderful family in the BMC. Andrew loved leading rides through the mountains of New York and assures his motorcycle "Family" that he'll be riding on the other side! Andrew was the State President of ABATE of NY Inc. and Albany Chapter President for multiple years. Andrew was always willing to speak to and help new and seasoned riders. He was also a huge advocate for Creto's Law and the rights of others killed by distracted drivers. He was a supporter of our Veterans and motorcycle community. Andrew was also a speaker at the Albany County STOP DWI impact panels.



From your Brothers
and Sisters Ontario
County ABATE you
will be missed
Animal.

We keep up the fight
for you



Abate of NY 5Boroughs Chapter. We picked
Purple Resilient, because it reminds us of the
ever resilient person Andrew was. Purple for the
King he was resilient, for He never lost hope
Prez Michael Rock Whetstone A5BC

RIP my friend Prayers and thoughts
from ABATE Region A members.
Jody Ferrara

I pray, with a broken
heart, you really knew
just how big your Army
is 🙏



My friend and a mentor to all, Andy
I am going to miss you so very
much! Heaven has its gates open
for an extraordinary man and

brother. RIP sir



Rest in eternal peace, my friend. I
totally admired you for who you
were and what you stood for. It
was my honor to interview you
many times for the Mountain
Eagle newspaper and to have you
on my radio show at WIOX. It was
an honor to know you, my friend.

I would like to
say it was an
honor to share a
lane, with u my
friend and
brother and
Stacy too, I love
u ty for riding
with me I miss u

Greetings ABATE Brothers and Sisters.
We enter into a season of what should be
a time of joy and happiness.

Life as we know, brings many tests and
trials when least expected.

Our hearts become sore; our souls are
filled with an emptiness that is unbearable.
We all at some times have endured
the loss of a spouse, a parent, a child, a
friend, those that are dear to us and gave
our lives meaning.

We feel the heavy weight of darkness upon
us that seems unending, unrelenting.
Tears sting our face. The heart fills with
sorrow. The soul weeps for what has been
torn asunder.

Take great comfort. Once again there will
be light and with the light peace, comfort
and restoration for the weariness we carry
within ourselves.

I would like to leave you with a psalm for
reflection.

PSALM 62:5-6

For God alone my soul waits in silence. For
my help is with Him. He alone is my rock
and salvation, my fortress. I shall not be
shaken.

May we all once again enter into a season
of comfort, peace, joy and goodness.

Audrey Rindfleisch-Hamilton.
Acting President
ABATE of NY

Andy,

You will never know, how you touched so
many.

I say Andy because I didn't know "animal",
though I still think we would have got along.
Sharing stories and such.

This chapter (Rensselaer County ABATE) owes
you and your wonderful wife Stacy a great
appreciation as if not for your help and
guidance it probably would not be here today.

There is no reaching out for bs conversation, or
to let off a bit of steam, I've almost sent a
meme once or twice.

No, you will be missed by many, especially
Rensselaer County Abate, and myself. Peace
on your new journey, keep the roads safe till
my job here is done, and I retire.

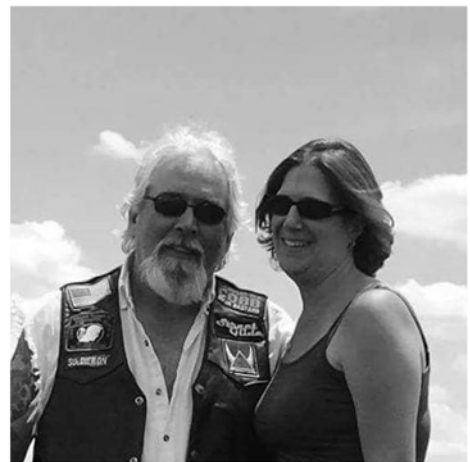
I'll need a good long ride, maybe in the rain.

Chris Pecchio,

Rensselaer County ABATE President,

ABATE of NY, Inc Sgt. at Arms

And Rensselaer County Abate members.



I am so very sorry for your loss Stacy ❤️ Heaven has gained a wonderful "brother" who was a tireless advocate for the improvement of laws for the betterment and safety of motorcyclists, bicyclists, the handicapped and pedestrians. Folks please join me in prayer for comfort and peace for Stacy, family and friends.

Rest in peace my brother
❤️ 🙏 you will be greatly missed.



RIP Andy. You were an Earth angel for all you did for others and now you're an angel in Heaven. Prayers for Stacy and your family. 🙏🙏

Heaven gained one hell of an angel today! May you Rest in Peace my friend, Andy Luizzi. I was so lucky to have known you and your beautiful wife Stacy.

Enjoy your eternal ride..
"Four wheels move the body, but two wheels move the soul."

On the morning of November 24, 2023, ABATE of New York, Inc along with the motorcycling community, friends, family and acquaintances suffered a huge loss when Andy "Animal" Liuzzi passed away. For ABATE he was our state President and leader that had a dedication almost as big as his heart. All that knew Andy knew he was a fair, giving man with a great talent for speaking that you immediately felt comfortable with. There were no fake personas with Andy, what you seen is what you got! His love for motorcycles, I am sure is what led him to his crusade of efforts to help convince our state government to pass bills that would keep the roads not only safe, but free for all riders. I only met Andy a few years ago when I joined Columbia County ABATE, he was the president of Albany County ABATE, which along with Rensselaer County ABATE made up District E.

When I agreed to become Newsletter Editor, that is when Andy became a mentor to me, not knowing a thing about doing a state newsletter I dived in with the guidance and patience Andy gave me. I learned so much from Andy and will always keep his suggestions and guidance through everything that I do. Meeting Stacy, Andy's beloved wife was such a pleasure and I always thought to myself "what a team", their kindness and generosity shines through in everything they do; from their friendship to the efforts to raise money for charities, they did it all while having fun.

Andy's value to ABATE and all the other things he was involved with is irreplaceable but, going on to the future ABATE must keep up his dedication and pick up where he left off. His job is done and now it is up to each one of us, every member of ABATE to give the dedication Andy gave to our organization and its mission.

Audrey Rindfleisch-Hamilton our Vice President has graciously accepted the position of Acting President until Andy's term is up in November 2024 and with the help of membership, she will continue the work Andy started and I am sure she will do that with all the dedication and heart Andy had!

Linda O'Dell Gaylord
ABATE of New York, Public Relations
ABATE of New York, Newsletter Editor



Columbia County ABATE

What to say that has not already been said of our Brother and State President Andrew Liuzzi?

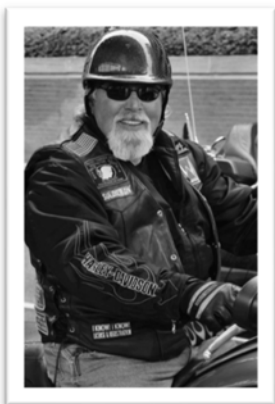
My first meeting of him was in 2018 a mutual friend "Big Scotty" asked if i wanted tickets to a cruise on the Hudson River for Toys For Tots of course I said "sure" and he gave me a phone number to a guy named "Animal;" meeting him at a local Fuel station I received 20 tickets or so to sell not needing money up front.

This started a mutual respect and friendship with a man I had never met trusting a man he had never met but that was Andy. Our friendship grew and expanded between Andy, Stacy, my wife. Linda O'Dell Gaylord and I. Andy's greatest compliment to me was calling me "brother" one he may have taken lightly but I did not, it truly met the world to me.

Now I sit here, 67 years old, tears in my eyes trying to find the words to express my Respect and Love for a man I am proud to call my Brother gone way too soon and to his wife, who became part of my small group of family and friends.

Love you Brother and we will miss you more than words can say because I cannot find the words but they are in my heart, and you know them, may God Bless you with his light and a wonderful Scooter to enjoy the wind in your hair and on your face.

Gene Gaylord
Columbia County ABATE
President



Columbia County ABATE Edith Casey Toy Run Drop Off



Our Edith Casey Toy run this year was able to raise funds to purchase 16 brand new bikes and boxes and bags of toys for area needy children. Our continued dedication to this charity helps put smiles on children's (and parents) faces every Christmas Morning! It was our 44th year of doing the run.

Andy –

When I first met Andy, it was before the Columbia County Fair. We needed more road signs and I was told to call Andy. He was so accommodating and helpful. After that seeing him and his beautiful wife at the seminars, I got to know the true Andy. He was so warm and helpful he always made me feel so much better about everything. Even thru his horrible health issues he would text me to ask how I was. My issues were nothing compared to his and yet he was always there for me the support so I felt comfortable being treasurer. He took away my anxiety and stress.

He always was there for all of us and was such a beautiful warm and cherished friend. I can't imagine life without him. The amount of people he touched was amazing! I still can't believe that he is gone. Nobody can ever do what he did and nobody will ever replace him. He was one of a kind and interacted with so many people and organizations he always put everyone before himself.

Lisa Caproni
Columbia County ABATE





ORLEANS COUNTY CHAPTER

2023 LAYING OF THE WREATHS



ONTARIO COUNTY CHAPTER



Today, we're overflowing with gratitude and joy at Naples Open Cupboard, thanks to the incredible generosity of Rob, Lynn, Jackie, and the dedicated members of Ontario County ABATE (American Bikers Aimed Toward Education).

Your Generosity is a Beacon of Hope, in a world where food insecurity continues to be a pressing issue, your kind donation is not just a gift of nourishment, but a symbol of hope and community spirit. Your contribution is helping us wage a significant battle against hunger in our Naples community.

🍌 Together, We Can Make a Difference!





**2024 ABATE of New York, Inc
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OPEN ***

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STATE CHAPTER MEETINGS 2024 12PM / 1PM

- **FEBRUARY 17, 2024**
- **MAY 19, 2024 (LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED) ****
- **AUGUST 17, 2024**
- **NOVEMBER 16, 2024**

STATE BOARD MEETINGS 2024 11AM

- **MARCH 17, 2024**
- **JUNE 15, 2024**
- **SEPTEMBER 15, 2024**
- **DECEMBER 15, 2024**

ALL MEETINGS EXCEPT MAY 19, 2024 ARE HELD AT:

**AMERICAN LEGION POST 92
8083 ROUTE 20
WATERVILLE, NY 13480**

STATE MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 18, 2023

Call to order by Vice President at 1:00PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence

Roll call: 7 Chapters present

MOTION# S23-6: Ontario/Rensselaer; waive reading of minutes, Unan

State Board Nominations:

Vice President: None

Region A Coordinator: None

Region C Coordinator: Dennis Pelmeur (via phone)

Region E Coordinator: None

Legislative Coordinator: Chris Genovese (via phone)

Sgt. at Arms: None

MOTION# S23-7: Rensselaer / Ontario; Call Pelmeur and Genovese for nomination 6 aye, 1 nay

DISCUSSION: Increase in traffic fatalities; be alert

DISCUSSION: Milestone pins, there will now be a pin for new members

Treasury Report: Tom

MOTION# S23-9: Columbia / Rensselaer; accept treasurers report. Unan

Public Relations: Linda; seminar is booked, send articles, photos etc. to newsletter

Sgt. at Arms: no report

Freedom Rally: Tom; we need participation

Seminar: Info on website and newsletter. Onondaga took exception to having event taken from then.

Audrey explained that there was no communication or report of any kind, so as VP she took over the committee.

Bylaw Committee: Duane Loomis will be added to the committee

2024 Budget Vote 6 aye, 1 nay, budget approved

Onondaga: we need to build membership, we should keep membership pins

MOTION# S23-10: Columbia / Rensselaer; adjourn

Meeting adjourned 2:57pm



Submitted by,
Prospector Boellner



Federal Government Finalizes 2021 Crash Data

This month the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) released its annual report, Traffic Safety Facts 2021: A Compilation of Motor Vehicle Traffic Crash Data. The 225-page report contains information on crash types, causes and participants involved. Remember that while we are nearing the end of 2023, this report is 2021 data. NHTSA spent nearly two years compiling these figures before releasing the report. The data on motorcyclist fatalities is especially troubling. According to the report, in 2021, motorcyclists made up 13.8% of all nationwide traffic fatalities, with 5,932 motorcyclists killed on our nation's roadways. That is the highest number since data collection began in 1975. In comparison, the pre-Covid year of 2019 saw 5,044 bikers killed. The number of those injured on motorcycles reported in 2021 was 82,686, which is fewer than the all-time high of 104,442 in 2016. This total injury count represents 3.3% of the 2.5 million people injured in all motor vehicle crashes. It is important to note that 2021 showed a substantial increase in motorcycles registered. The data also shows an increase in vehicle miles traveled by bikers. NHTSA data shows 9.8 million registered motorcycles with approximately 19.6 billion miles traveled in 2021. Those increases mean that while the total number of fatalities and injuries went up, fortunately, the rate per 100,000 registered motorcycles went down.

Here are other takeaways:

- Riders accounted for 95% of deaths, while 5% were motorcycle passengers.
- 57% of fatalities occurred by collision with another vehicle, 26% resulted from a collision with a fixed object, 4% collision with a non-fixed object, while 13% of fatalities occurred without a collision.
- 34% of fatalities involved a rider impaired by alcohol. That number is in line with the 31% of alcohol-related fatalities nationwide.
- Riders were wearing helmets in 59% of fatalities, while riders were not wearing helmets in 38% of fatalities. Another 3% of fatalities occurred where helmet usage was unknown.
- 29% of fatalities involved an unlicensed rider.

While it is easy to get lost in the facts and figures, it is crucial to remember that every death is heartbreaking to members of our community. We all must do better! Alcohol-related fatalities and those involving unlicensed riders are especially disheartening, as they are avoidable. Riding sober, trained and licensed are basic steps to help protect lives.

The burden of fixing this problem involves various groups. At the state level, motorcyclists continue to fight for stronger laws against distracted drivers. Educating young drivers and holding those who break the law accountable is critical.

States like Wisconsin have passed increased registration fees with that money earmarked for motorcycle safety programs. However, motorcycle funding at the state and federal levels remains low. This past year, the federal government awarded states \$5.5 million for motorcycle safety programs. With the total registered motorcycles at 9.8 million, the federal government is spending just fifty-six (56) cents per motorcycle on safety grants.

The growing prevalence of self-driving cars also should be addressed. A former NHTSA official recently spoke publicly about the threat these cars pose to bikers, yet the federal government has been slow to act. Reports like this galvanize the groups that want to keep us off the road. However, the Motorcycle Riders Foundation will continue to fight for our safety and survival! It is up to all of us to stop the rising death toll.

Washington, D.C. —

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation has announced the establishment of the Motorcyclist Advisory Council for a two-year period. The MAC will coordinate with and advise the Secretary of Transportation, the NHTSA administrator and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) administrator on transportation issues of concern to motorcyclists, including motorcycle and motorcyclist safety; barrier, road design, construction, and maintenance practices; and the architecture and implementation of intelligent transportation system technologies. NHTSA is also soliciting nominations for appointment to the MAC.

Consistent with the statute, the MAC shall be comprised of 13 members appointed by the Secretary of Transportation for a single term of up to two years. The MAC seeks to have a balanced membership with expertise in motorcycle and motorcyclist safety, highway engineering, and safety analysis.

MAC members will not receive pay or other compensation from NHTSA for their MAC service, but are entitled to reimbursement for their travel expenses, including per diem. The MAC shall meet approximately twice a Federal fiscal year. Members appointed solely for their expertise will serve as special Government employees and relevant ethics laws will apply. Members will be selected based on their expertise, training, experience and ability to represent one of the identified groups. Individuals interested in serving on the MAC are invited to apply for appointment by submitting a resume or curriculum vitae. Individuals also may submit letters of recommendation that highlight their qualifications as to expertise, training, experience or ability to represent one of the identified groups.

Suggestions for Insurance

by Ben Rabin

When purchasing insurance for your motorcycle, keep in mind that NY State Insurance Laws specifically exclude motorcycles from certain benefits. One of those benefits is No-Fault. No-Fault benefits normally pay for things like medical bills, lost wages, and transportation costs. But Bikers can't get No-Fault benefits, and so all the damages from a motorcycle accident that was caused by someone else must be covered by the at-fault vehicle's insurance. Those damages include lost wages, medical expenses and money for pain and suffering. Since the minimum insurance in NY State is only \$25,000, very often the other vehicle does not have enough to cover the damage it causes.

Even if you have other insurance to help you, like health insurance and disability insurance, those insurance contracts almost always require the injured party to pay the funds back to the insurance company if the injured party gets money from the person at fault from the accident.

What does this all mean? It means that if you get into a motorcycle accident, and it is completely someone else's fault, you still may not be able to get full compensation. This is because New York only requires drivers to carry \$25,000 of insurance to pay to other people (bikers included) who get hurt. If you are a biker, and are seriously hurt, your medical, wage and other losses could easily be greater than \$25,000. Even if you have health insurance, your health insurance company can ask you for that \$25,000 to repay them for what they covered, leaving you nothing!

What is the answer? You need to make sure you have insurance to cover yourself so that you are not relying on the other person's insurance because it might not be enough. Ask your insurance agent for Supplemental Underinsured Motorist (SUM) coverage. If your agent doesn't agree that you need it, go somewhere else!

RABIN LAW FIRM, L.L.C.



REMINDERS AND REQUESTS

Please return any completed **NILICO** Beneficiary cards to NILICO in the postage paid envelope provided.

If you have any corrections or updates for our address and email lists for "The Freedom Writer" please contact **Laurie Frederick**, State Office Manager at nysabateoffice@gmail.com.

Corrections to the publication should be made directly to the Newsletter Editor at thefreedomwriter.abateny@gmail.com or 518-567-6780

ABATE of New York Calendar of Events

ALL MEMBERS:

ATTENTION:

List Your NY Motorcycle Related Event for **FREE**. Send email to:

johncholewa@outlook.com

Please contact us for corrections and updates.

We are not responsible for erroneous event listings.

Go to see events: <http://abateny.org/events/>



ARE YOU MOVING OR HAS YOUR ADDRESS CHANGED??

Please make sure you update all of your contact information is updated with the state office when renewing membership,

packets are being returned because we do not have your correct address adding to our expense. Submit changes to:

Laurie Frederick

ABATE of New York, Inc.

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Northville, NY 12134

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ABATE OF NEW YORK SUPPORTS THIS PROGRAM FOR ITS MEMBERS

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We are endorsed by the National Coalition of Motorcyclists and more than 800 motorcycle groups throughout the United States and Canada, and serve as Legal Counsel for the Confederations of Clubs.

ATTENTION ABATE/CNMO MEMBERS: Our nationwide network of A.J.M. attorneys devote a significant portion of their legal fees from motorcycle accident settlements back into subsidizing by being the sole financial sponsor of the National Coalition of Motorcyclists.

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LEGISLATIVE COORDINATOR

SEPTEMBER 30TH, 2023

NYS 2023-2024 SESSION

Please find the status of ABATE bills supported and opposed as of Sept.30th 2023. Please contact your local elected representatives and let them know.

Please go to these links and look up the bills. www.nyassembly.gov

www.nysenate.gov

BILLS WE SUPPORT:

Creto Law- Currently expired and no sponsors currently. The name will be changing.

Bill No: S4704 – Motorcycle profiling: Introduced by James Sanders. Training for local police agencies. No assembly version. or action, still active, in committee.

Bill No: A1987 and S1388 – Installation of “Watch for Motorcycles” signs on state highways. still active. In committee. Senate and Assembly

Bill No. Senate No. S5707 and A3932 – Tougher fines and requirements for accidents caused by inattentive drivers. In committee. It was passed last year by the Senate and reintroduced this session., by the senate and passed, Assembly version in committee. Please encourage the Assembly to do the same.

Bill No: S07603 NEW by Senator Helming. Authorizes and directs the commissioner of transportation to conduct a study of removing all existing cable guide rails and replacing such guide rails with safer alternatives. Extremely important relating to injury to motorcycle riders,

BILLS WE OPPOSE:

Bill No: A2690 – Prohibits children under the age of 12 from riding on a motorcycle. No action, in committee, PREVIOUS VERSION introduced had. a 6-year-old limit.

Bill No. S2773 - NEW Prohibits sale of ATVS and off-road motorcycles in NYC which have been plaguing many cities with youth and gangs. The AMA strongly opposes this ban. While the bill’s goal is to address illegal use of OHVs on public roads, it instead needlessly punishes law abiding residents and will do nothing to address illegal use of off-highway vehicles on city streets. Thousands of New Yorkers are avid off-road riders and should not lose their right to buy or sell their vehicles within city limits.

In Assembly committee, referred to Cities Committee.

Respectfully Submitted.

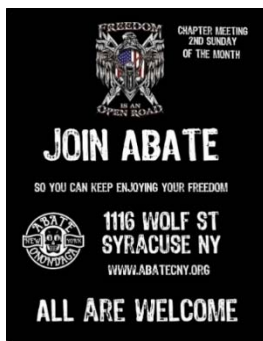
Dennis Pelmeur- ABATE Legislative Coordinator

BUFFALO / ERIE CHAPTER

Canada's Friday the 13th event, in Port Dover, started back in 1981 with just 25 bikers. The event grew quickly over the years. A typical summer event can attract over 100,000 people with more than 10,000 motorcycles.

- > October 13th, 2023, was the 73rd event. It is estimated that 50,000 people/ motorcycles were in attendance.
- > Some members of the Buffalo Erie A.B.A.T.E. chapter attended the event. They had the pleasure of meeting several members of Canada's Ontario A.B.A.T.E. chapter. They were impressed with the number of members we have in our chapter.
- > I was also pictured with the famous Thong Man, who is 81 years young. He attends every event year round, except when he was in a motorcycle accident.
- > The next Friday the 13th event will be in September 2024. Mark your calendar, as it is an event everyone should attend at least once.





Second Sunday, 116 Wolf St, The Loop



Second Thursday @ 3pm

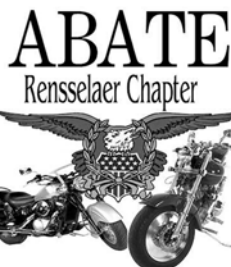


First Sunday of each month at 10:00am. at

Mimi's Drive-In, 201 N 2nd Street, Fulton, NY



3rd Tuesday, 7pm Gateway Diner, Central Avenue, Albany



2nd Saturday, 5pm Alexis Diner, East
Greenbush Rd., Troy

Chapter Meetings – Dates, Times and Locations



2nd Sunday, Noon, VFW Medina



2nd Tuesday, 7pm, VFW 44 E. Genesee St., Auburn



3rd Friday, 7pm Wise Guys Diner, Dewey Ave. Rochester



1st Sundays, 10a, Roy's Restaurant, Manchester



1st Thursday, 7pm, Whitestone Café, Ghent



MRF - The Biker's Voice in Washington, DC since 1987!

- Overturned federal law attempting to blackmail states into passing a mandatory helmet law for all riders.
- Passed legislation banning federal agencies from lobbying against motorcyclists
- Ensured motorcycles are considered in all autonomous (self-driving) vehicle plans
- Protected the motorcycle aftermarket from restrictive federal legislation and ensured that riders can continue to modify their machines
- Actively fighting against motorcycle profiling
- Ensured motorcycle rider concerns are addressed in all federal highway bills
- Working with biker friendly legislators and federal agencies that impact motorcycling for more than 30 years!

Help Support Motorcycling - Join the MRF today!

Mail to: Motorcycle Riders Foundation – PO Box 250 – Highland IL 62249 – Phone: 202.546.0983 – www.mrf.org – mrffoffice@mrf.org

- ☐ Annual Individual Membership \$35
- ☐ Annual Joint Membership \$60
- ☐ Annual Sustaining Membership \$100
- ☐ Annual Industry Council Membership \$100

- ☐ 3-Year Individual Membership \$95
- ☐ 3-Year Joint Membership \$140
- ☐ Sustaining Membership Club \$100
- ☐ Freedom Fighter Donation \$10 \$25 \$_____



Ride with the Leaders™

Member(s) Name _____
Phone _____
Email _____

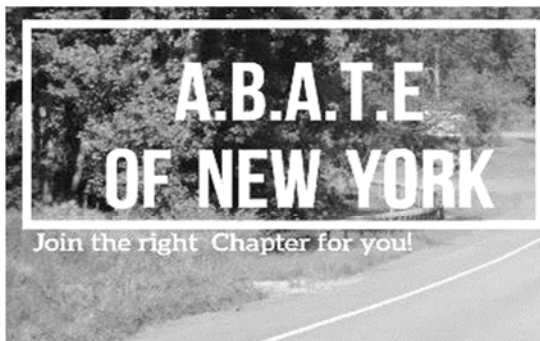
Date _____

☐ New ☐ Renewal

Referred by: _____

Billing Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Name on CC _____
Card Number:
Expiration Date _____ CVV _____

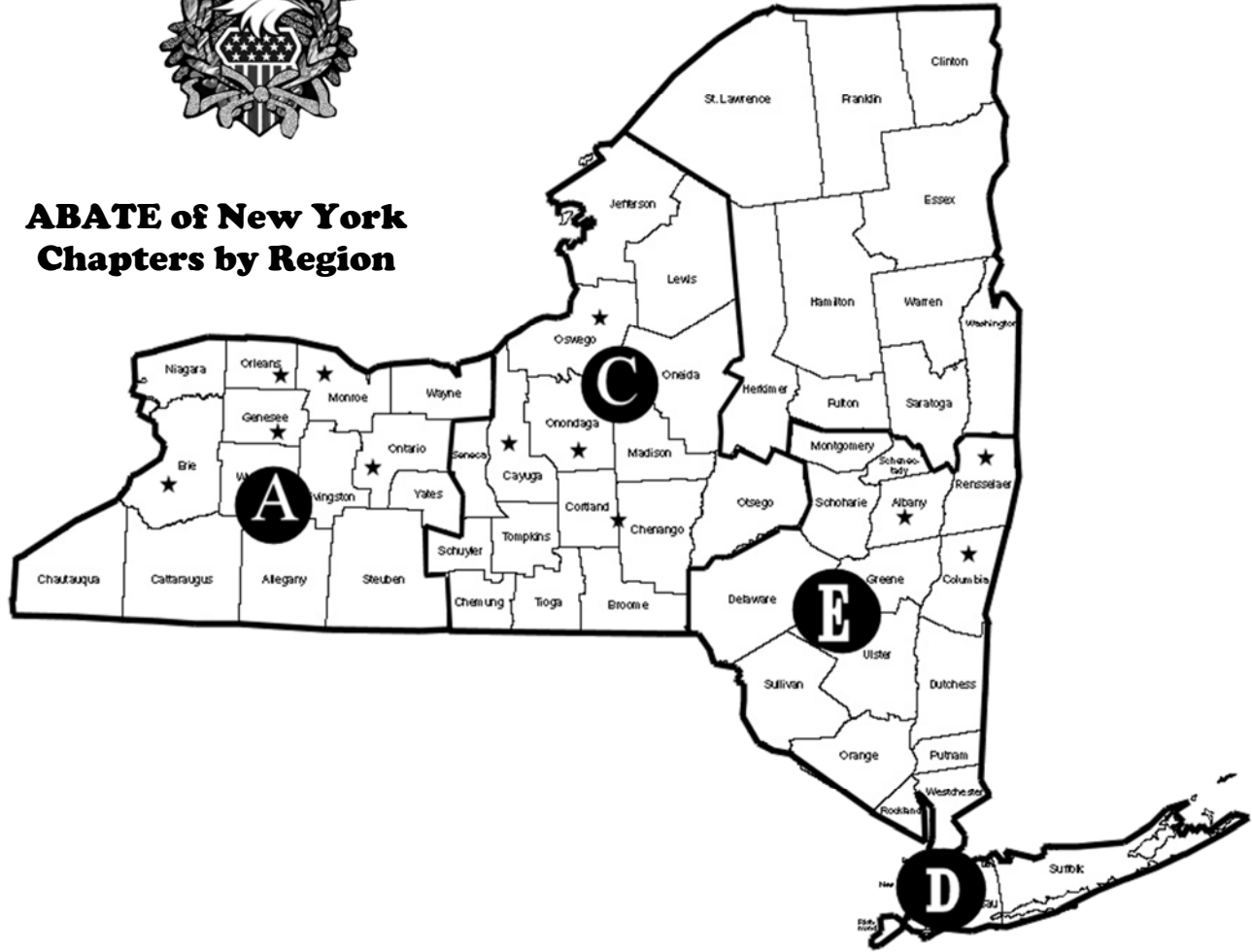
- ☐ Please Check if you are a US Citizen
- ☐ Check here to NOT receive Patches and Pins
- ☐ Check here to NOT receive MRF Email Alerts
- ☐ Check here to receive MRF Reports electronically (email)



GET OUT AND EXPLORE



ABATE of New York Chapters by Region



Region A

Western Region

Buffalo/Erie

PO Box 286
West Seneca
14224

Monroe

PO Box 13277
Rochester
14613

Genesee

PO Box 1801
Batavia
14024

Ontario

PO Box 546
Canandaigua
14424

Orleans

PO Box 43
Medina
14103

Region C

Scenic Region

Cayuga

PO Box 74
Auburn
13021

Onondaga

PO Box 11575
Syracuse
13218

Cortland/Chenango

PO Box 128
Homer
13077

Oswego

PO Box 285
Fulton
13069

Southern Tier

PO Box 2441
Binghamton
13902

Region D

Metro / Long Island Region

5 Boroughs

740 E. 98th St
Brooklyn
11216

Brooklyn

PO Box 245064
Brooklyn
11224

Region E

Hudson Valley / Mohawk Region

Albany

PO Box 3808
Albany
12203

Columbia

PO Box 124
Chatham
12037

Rensselaer

PO Box 462
East Greenbush
12061



As motorcycling technology continues to advance, your ability to repair your own motorcycle or seek out an independent mechanic may get restricted as manufacturers do not make repair information or parts available for purchase.

Consumers are facing this problem with almost every product they own, from their phone, to their tractor and for AMA members, their motorcycles and ATVs. This issue is collectively known as "Right to Repair" and put in the simplest terms, right to repair is the idea that when you buy something, you have the right to repair it or seek an independent repair shop to do the work and manufacturers must make the parts and information needed for these repairs available to the public for a fair and reasonable price.

Fortunately, the U.S. House of Representatives has reintroduced the REPAIR Act (Right to Equitable and Professional Auto Industry Repair), [H.R. 906](#), for the 118th Congress. The bill would ensure that motorcyclists and independent repair shops have access to the information, tools, and parts needed to repair motorcycles. On November 2, 2023, the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Innovation, Data, and Commerce held a [markup](#) on the REPAIR Act. Republicans and Democrats both agree this legislation is important for consumers to make repair decisions best suited for their situation. Lawmakers in the markup offered bipartisan amendments to protect personally identifiable data associated with your vehicle. The AMA is asking you to tell your Representative to co-sponsor this bi-partisan bill and protect your right to repair.

If you would like to learn more about Right to Repair, you can read the Federal Trade Commission Report to Congress from May 2021 "[Nixing the Fix](#)" which details the ways some manufacturers limit repairs by consumers.



50th Anniversary **1974-2024**

Dedicated to Freedom of the Road

Next year marks the 50th Anniversary of ABATE of New York, it is an opportunity for Chapters to create anniversary rides and events to both encourage membership and educate the public and members on the work ABATE does for motorcyclists. Here is a bit of history take from the Library of New York:

ABATE of New York was organized in 1974. Its mission is "to ensure that the motorcycling lifestyle will still be an enjoyable lifestyle for our children and grandchildren. [They] do this by making sure that motorcyclists' point of view is presented to ... legislators. "

The idea for such an organization originated with Lou Kimzey, editor of Easyriders, in an early edition of that motorcycle magazine. In 1971 the National Custom Cycle Association (NCCA) was formed by Kimzey, with assistance from Easyriders' associate editor Keith Ball. Because of a naming-rights conflict, the NCCA changed its name to A Brotherhood Against Totalitarian Enactments (ABATE). The meaning of the acronym was soon changed to American Bikers Aimed Toward Education.

In 1974 Kimzey and Ball allowed for the creation of state-level ABATE organizations and began to issue state charters. George Vigars founded the New York State chapter. Not long after the creation of ABATE of New York, county and city chapters were started throughout the state.

Since its creation, ABATE of New York has advocated for weakening New York's mandatory helmet law, the elimination of laws restricting the height of handle bars, changing manufacturing standards of helmets in an attempt to reduce overheating, reducing Thruway tolls, and other laws and standards related to motorcycling.

ABATE of New York, Inc

Membership Application

(Membership is open to all persons regardless of gender, age, race, religion or political affiliation).

- ☐ \$30.00 – Full Membership; Includes membership packet, bi-monthly newsletter and all benefits in accordance with state by-laws of ABATE of New York, Inc.
- ☐ \$25.00 – Associate Member – all benefits of a Full Membership minus a printed Newsletter.
- ☐ \$30.00 – Member at Large (does not belong to a chapter) All benefits of a full member.
- ☐ Life Member* 6-10 year \$500.00 ☐ 11-15 \$350.00 ☐ 16-24 \$200.00
- ☐ Change of Address (Please list new address on application and check this box)

Name: _____ Date: _____ Chapter _____
Address: _____ State: _____ Zip _____
City: _____ County: _____
Phone: _____ Contact Number: _____
Method of Payment: Cash amt. _____ Check amt: _____ Credit card authorization _____
Email for Pay Pal invoice: _____ DOB: _____ Please initial for PP Invoice
Email for Chapter Correspondence: _____
I want to receive the Newsletter via: Email _____ US Postal Service: (Full and at Large only) _____
I agree to abide with all ABATE of New York Inc. bylaws (Initial Please) _____
Renewal Member (please list membership number) _____
How did you learn about ABATE _____

Signature: _____

Mail completed application to: ABATE of NY

Do not send cash PO Box 1417
Northville, NY 12137



Scan QR code to
Sign up online!

You can also bring to any ABATE Chapter Meeting

ABATE of NY - Forever Members

The ABATE of NY State Board is honored to present another level of membership, designed to memorialize members who have passed. The ABATE of New York Forever Member will be memorialized through a unique card and memorial certificate, and continuing Milestone ABATE of New York pins. Forever Members' names will be published in a special section of every issue of *The Freedom Writer* and on the ABATE of NY website. The card and certificate are meant for the memorializing party to treasure and the publication so all remember. ***Forever Membership has been established as a one-time cost of \$100, and eligibility is limited to those who were members of ABATE of New York at the time of their death.***

Contact the State Office Manager at 1-888-344-4400 for more information

***The Life Membership** consists of a 1-time payment (amount reflected by the number of years you have been an ABATE member) beginning in their 25th year, dues are waived and they become a Charter Life Member. Additional benefits for Life Members include al Life Member patch and membership card and milestone pins.

*****Please note, ABATE pins are limited to milestones, they are not issued on a yearly basis.**



The ABATE newsletter "The Freedom Writer" advertising price list:

Run an ad for your business, event or service in our newsletter and have it delivered right to our members.

Our newsletter is printed bi-monthly, January, March, May, July, September and November. Deadlines are Dec. 1st for January issue. February 1st for March issue, April 1st for May issue, June 1st for July issue, August 1st for September issue and October 1st for November issue.

Supply your artwork and text with this form or email it to nysabate@gmail.com. If you do not have a suitable ad, we can prepare one for you. Supply us with ad text and any graphics you may have.

ABATE of NY Inc. reserves the right to refuse any advertisement that is not in the best interest of our organization. **All advertisements must be pre-paid, please remit payment with form below.**

Advertisement Acceptance in the NYS ABATE Inc. newsletter (The Freedom Writer) and on the website (abateny.org)

NYS ABATE Inc. reserves the right to reject any advertisement either in our newsletter or on our website regarded as objectionable in wording or appearance or against the aims of our organization. All advertisements are accepted and published upon the representation that the agency and/or advertiser is of good repute and authorized to publish the entire contents and the subject matter of the advertisement. The agency and/or advertiser will indemnify and hold the NYS ABATE Inc. harmless from any loss or expense resulting from claims or suits for defamation, libel, violation of right of privacy, plagiarism, or copyright infringement

Including, but not limited to trademarks, trade names and patents

SIX ISSUES		FIVE ISSUES		FOUR ISSUES	
Back Page	\$1500	Back Page	\$1313	Back Page	\$1100
Inside Front Page	\$1200	Inside Front Page	\$1050	Inside Front Page	\$880
Inside Back Page	\$1200	Inside Back Page	\$1050	Inside Back Page	\$880
½ Page	\$500	½ Page	\$438	½ Page	\$367
¼ Page	\$300	¼ Page	\$263	¼ Page	\$220
Business Card	\$175	Business Card	\$153	Business Card	\$128
THREE ISSUES		TWO ISSUES		SINGLE ISSUE	
Back Page	\$863	Back Page	\$600	Back Page	\$313
Inside Front Page	\$690	Inside Front Page	\$480	Inside Front Page	\$250
Inside Back Page	\$690	Inside Back Page	\$480	Inside Back Page	\$250
½ Page	\$288	½ Page	\$200	½ Page	\$104
¼ Page	\$173	¼ Page	\$120	¼ Page	\$63
Business Card	\$101	Business Card	\$70	Business Card	\$36

**SELL ADS FOR THE
FREEDOM WRITER
AND EARN A
20%**

COMMISSION! *

*Commissions will be paid out quarterly. All ads must be paid for prior to running in newsletter



DATE _____ E-MAIL _____

NAME / BUSINESS NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ PHONE _____

DURATION OF AD _____ START MONTH ____/____ END MONTH ____/____

SALESMAN NAME _____ CHAPTER _____

SEND AD FILE TO THEFREEDOMWRITER.ABATENY@GMAIL.COM

SEND PAYMENT BY CHECK TO

NYS ABATE STATE OFFICE MANAGER

NYS ABATE

PO BOX 1417, NORTHVILLE, NY 12134

ABATE 50TH ANNIVERSARY SEMINAR

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

- When is it? Friday, January 19, 2024 for arrival and check in (3pm check-in)
Saturday, January 20, 2024 8am Registration 9am Start
(11am check-out of motel)
- Where is it? ABATE of NY is happy to announce that the Business Seminar will take place at the ***Blackthorne Resort*** in East Durham, NY 12423 **GPS:** 348 Sunside Road, Cairo, NY 12423
- Reservations? 518-634-2541, phone reservations only, Tell them you are reserving a room for the ABATE of NY Business Seminar. Room will be \$125.00 per night (Double occupancy)
- After Reservations? A head count of all members attending for the chapter is required ***in advance*** Please let Audrey (State Vice President) know ASAP by email or phone that you are definitely coming so the resort can plan on food. Also, if you are reserving a room let Audrey know if you would like breakfast prepared by the resort on Saturday morning the cost is \$12.99 per person and they need to know ahead of time.
- Basket Raffles? Each chapter is invited to prepare a basket to raffle off which is filled with unique items of each region. This gives chapters a chance to explore what other chapters' locations may offer or produce. Chapter participation is highly encouraged.
- Other questions? Contact Audrey at arhamilton.abateny@gmail.com or phone 585-286-0207

Click the picture for more information on Blackthorne Resort



Guest Speakers:
Don Krapf -
Columbia County Sheriff
Ben Rabin Esq.
Mike Donlon-
"NY Ride Like a Pro"

ABATE
NEW YORK



January 19, 2024
Meet and Greet
Hosted by -
Columbia County ABATE
Guest DJ
LJ James The Biker DJMC

50th Anniversary

1974-2024

RSVP to
914-714-3708

by January 7th if attending

Dedicated to Freedom of the Road

Proudly Presents

Registration
8a - 8:50am

2024 Business Seminar

January 20, 2024 9am (Registration 8am)

Blackthorne Resort

348 Sunside Rd, East Durham, NY 12423
GPS: (348 Sunside Rd. Cairo, NY)

Room Rates are \$125.00 per night for Double Occupancy and Saturday breakfast can be ordered with the room for an additional \$12.99

ABATE has reserved a block of 20 rooms so make sure when you call them you let them know you are with ABATE.

Coffee, Tea and Pastry will be provided Saturday morning by ABATE of New York

Call 1-518-634-2541 to reserve your room

Keeping the tradition, each Chapter is asked to bring a basket put together with items from your area that another chapter will enjoy.

We would like to stress that the seminar is for ALL members of ABATE, and we are extending the invitation to join the seminar and learn more about your organization and see what our mission is and how you can help the cause.

Any questions - contact Julian Caproni, Region E Coordinator at 917-714-6856



Milestone Members

5 YEARS

Sharrad Dean
Lance Gray Jr
Andrew Mayo
James Thorbs
Walter Vogel
Diane Lundy
Gary Schipani
Travis L Griner
Sandi Pecchio

10 YEARS

John "Byrd" Levy
Burtland Julien
Anthony DeFazio
Louis A Martino Sr
Stephen Drummond

15 YEARS

Correne Argyle
St. Clare Rodney
Sandra Hilfiker

20 YEARS

Charles Lion

25 YEARS

Kevin S Bradley
Todd Corwin

30 YEARS

Scott Fentzke
Leon Hall

40 YEARS

Chuck Westlake

45 YEARS

Cee Garcia

THANK YOU



for your continued support!



Forever Members



You can shed tears because they are Gone, or you can smile because they Lived.

Michelle Hall
Barbara Rancourt
Robert C. Taylor
Chris Peek
Brenda Force
Walt Rutski
Stan Bach
Dick Fulton
Victor Green
Martha Strouse
Dorothy Falt
Terry "Doc" O'Rourke
Robert Shuster
Martin Hourihan
Frank Martorana
Tom Fleming
Robert J. Ritchie
Angie Shufelt
Donald R. Blasko
Brian Paschen
Gary P Myers
John V. "Jack" Wrigley
Chris Allen
Edmund "Eddy" George Keyes
Bill Cox
Mary Walker
Jan Aguirre
Bob Gleason
"Big Deb" Matson
Vinnie Smiraglia
Wild Bill Sperry
Kurt Straub
Dan Lundy

Dan "Wind" Smallwood
Frank Sabo
Rodney W. Taylor
Andrew "Andy" Ellis
Ronald R. Jones
Chris Connolly
Robert B. Bancroft
Chris "Baldy" Klein
Jackie Baumer
Joanne Houghtaling
Luther "Dirty Luke" Hughes
Joseph Rinere
Rita Laufer
Lynn Hyland
Skip Lamphere
Mike Clerico
Mike Pascucci
Richard L. Gardner Jr.
Carl H. Baker
Peter Martino
Molly "Skully" Hamilton
Bill Healy
John S. Waterman
Deborah Harrington
Scott "Scooter" Wilson
Christina "Hippie Chick" Voloshen
Mel "Mongo" McKinstry
Tim Columbia
John McKenzie
Bruce Taylor
Tom McKay
Richard "Red-Dog" Lucas
Terry A. Cook

Nicola S. Bennett
Andrew "Animal" Liuzzi