

THE FREEDOM WRITER

JAN / FEB

2025 ISSUE #46

WWW.ABATENY.ORG

Dedicated to Freedom of the Road

“

BIKERS LIVE BY A CODE
RESPECT, HONOR, LOYALTY,
HONESTY, INTEGRITY, TRUST,
COURTESY, CHARITY.

”

ABATE OF NEW YORK
111 HAMPTON AVE,
RENSSELAER NY 12144

PRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
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CHATHAM, NY
PERMIT NO. 199

PRESIDENTS

Message

STATE BOARD

Members

Good day everyone.

Hope all are well. The weather is still cold outside but will be changing soon. Its time to get that check list ready for spring. Make sure your bike is ready. Check your tires, charge that battery, oil changed and so on. Is your paper work good. Make those changes to your insurance if need be. Remember safety starts before you ride. Also on that first ride take it slow; sitting around all winter can take the edge off our skill level.

The Freedom Rally will be coming soon, I'm hoping to see a great turn out this year. Let's all make the effort to show support to our organization and to ourselves and show those in the Capital we are here. We have the right to be seen as any other motorist. If we plan to accomplish our goals of passing or negating legislation that will help us, our voice needs to be strong, loud, and many. Go in that building,. come to the event; the more that do the bigger our voice. There are thousands of riders in this state and they don't need to be ABATE members to show, though it would be better, let's represent our interests.

In the coming months, I look forward to working with all of you to make decisions and bring abate back to its stature. Remember if we work together we can get it done.

"Do you see me now"

Thank you,
Chris Pecchio
President,
ABATE of New York



- President - Chris Pecchio 518-573-4676
- V President - Audrey R. Hamilton 585-286-0207
- Secretary - Prospector Boellner 518-239-4560
- Treasurer - Pete Campanella 716-435-4042
- Sgt. Arms - Rob Hagenbuch 585-330-8116
- Legislation - Chris Genovese 716-220-8001
- Public Relations -
- Region A - Jody Ferrara 585-746-5097
- Region B - OPEN
- Region C - Dennis Pelmeur 315-447-0182
- Region D -
- Region E - John Boice 518-325-9889
- Webmaster - John Cholewa 845-705-6370
- Office Manager - Sandi Pecchio
- Newsletter -

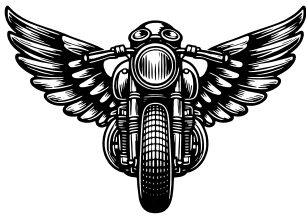
YOUR FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE

ABATE of NY

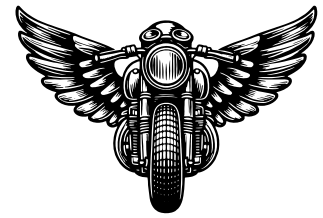
For Info : <https://abateny.org/>

Protect your safety and rights as a **MOTORCYCLIST** In New York State

JOIN NOW



VP's *Message*



Greetings to all members !

ABATE of NY Inc is a volunteer organization .Let's revisit what a volunteer organization is and what volunteers are.

A volunteer is someone who performs a service or task without receiving compensation. Volunteering can be a way to give back to a community , gain experience or meet new people.

Volunteers perform tasks to help an organization ,community or individual. Formal volunteering is organized by an organization. Informal volunteering is volunteering within a community. Benefits of volunteering include meeting new people , building a support network and learning about resources and activities you enjoy.

Every member of ABATE of NY is a volunteer whether it is at State board level , local chapter board level or being a member assisting one's respective chapter.

Without the spirit of volunteering , many simple tasks and yearly events would not take place. It is up to all of us within ABATE , to keep persevering with volunteering so that what we love to be a part of continues to thrive.

Often as we work hard to keep our chapters going by planning events , sending mail , record keeping , updating current events , reaching out to prospective members , we forget at times to thank those that step up and work hard to make everything happen. We all get busy or distracted by our own lives.

A simple thank you goes a long way . Acknowledgement of someone's efforts in a positive manner for help given is always welcome. I am going to cite emails as one example . Should you get an email that has pertinent information , simply respond with a thank you or I got it . The sender no doubt has put in time and effort to relay what was sent and will appreciate the email was read. This takes very little time.

Let us all not forget to be thankful and grateful for the help we receive and lend within our organization. I thank each and every one of our members for continuing to keep ABATE of NY alive and thriving . THANK YOU !

Lastly , Many thanks and appreciation going out to everyone that made seminar 2025 a success ! Thank you Buff Erie chapter for hosting , John Watson President Buff Erie for being one of our guest speakers , Sue Texido , member success stories , Anne Oxley for navigating the location and contract , Chris Genovese our Legislative coordinator for putting this together , Kantor Gullo law firm for sponsoring the breakfast/lunch , Steve Kantor motorcycle injury atty and Abate member 15 yrs , Ray lamb for speaking regarding younger riders . Ed Abdo , Zoar Valley Motorsports reunions .

Lieutenant Greg Jankowiak NY State trooper Motorcycle Unit and Captain Warren Luick from Erie county Sheriff's Office Motorcycle Unit.

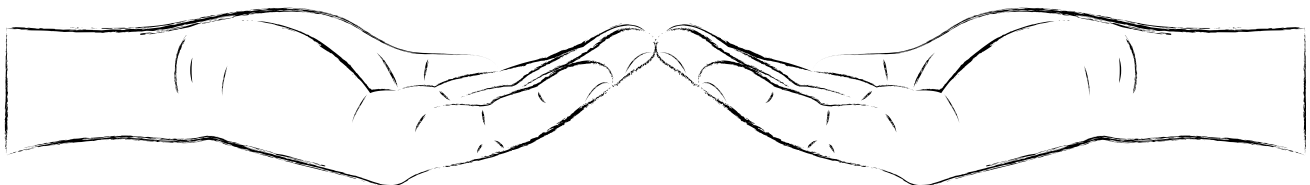
To all board Officers and Chapters who attended . Thank you very much !

Safe travels

Audrey Rindfleisch-Hamilton

Vice President,

Abate of NY Inc



REGION A *Report*

Being winter and this writer spending time with family in SW Florida not much has or been informed of things going on.

Several things happened this writer while traveling in SWFL. The first weekend down there was the Gibtown Rally in Gibtown FL which is the south end of Tampa. It was cold, in the low 50's. While there I ran into one of the riders of the Conesus Lake Riders who also was vacationing in FL. Small world.

Upon returning here in the snowy depths of Western NY, the day I returned was the Buff-Erie Newsletter Party. This was a sold-out event, and it was good to see people again. There were over 100 baskets/prizes that you could get in on. Turns out to be a small world also because one the members of this chapter just happens to be a local fellow Islander/classmate. We grew up about 3 blocks from each other in Brentwood, wild. What also was nice is that 3 of the Region A chapters were at this event. Orleans and Genesee members came to support Buff-Erie. That was impressive.

We need to have this kind of support throughout this organization supporting each other. In supporting we also need to show more support in the "MRF" which is the Motorcycle Riders Federation. For those that are unfamiliar with the MRF this in a nutshell is the national ABATE organization. They represent us in D.C. with the employees we elected to represent us.

We as ABATE members are the local representation and the ones who need to contact our local employees of issues pertaining to our safety, and rights as motorcyclists.

Congressmen Sean Duffy has been appointed as the new Secretary of Transportation (NHTSA). He has been supportive of the motorcycle community, and we hope to see good things come from here. On the local level again, Gov. Hochul has again veto a bill that would have benefited all NY'ers, (Grieving Families Bill); go to the vetoed website to read more.

In reviewing the roster list of who is a member there are a number of members who are active with both NY ABATE and the MRF. Of the chapters though we are lacking. There are currently only 5 chapters with current membership and 2 of them are in Region A.

The "Meeting of the Minds" MRF conference which I have attended and found them interesting, and enlightening in being able to network with others and to see that other states have the same issues as we do here in NY. If you can take the time, I encourage you to go to the conference. This year it will be in Shreveport Louisiana.

On Sat. Feb. 1 this writer took a ride cross the state to attend the Red Barn Riders Winter BBQ at the Blackthorne. I went there for several reasons. The first was to support them because 2 years ago they came out in force to our Freedom Rally in Albany and made up more then half the riders to be there for the low turnout. The second was to meet the anchor of the "Motorcycle Mayhem Radio" show Johnny Rizzo. The show is on Monday night on YouTube or Facebook from 8-9 pm he has the local Long Island ABATE folks on, and they focus on the issues of the motorcycle community informing on what goes on on LI but also in the state. And you wonder so? Well from time to time I'm responding on the show show and have in the beginning to be mistaken for a her instead of a him. Chris B of LI ABATE straighten that out and we have fun with it now.

While there this writer ran into several of the Columbia County Chapter members that showed up. Like in Alice's Restaurant while Arlo was on the group W bench we all had a good time telling stories and having fun. I also brought some Country Sweet wings sauce for LJ James the DJ who lived in the Rochester area at one time and talked about it on the last show.

Remember May 18-19 Freedom Rally in Albany that's also a State meeting weekend.



Join The MRF — mrf.org - Ride With The Leaders

 mrf.org



DUFFY CONFIRMED BY SENATE

JANUARY 29, 2025 - WASHINGTON DC

Sean Duffy was confirmed on Tuesday as U.S. Secretary of Transportation by a bipartisan 77-22 vote in the Senate. Before resigning his seat in 2019, Representative Duffy was elected five (5) times to represent the 7th congressional district of Wisconsin.

Mr. Duffy will head a department that oversees agencies of critical importance to motorcyclists, including the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHA).

In the next two years, Congress must consider a new surface transportation authorization (AKA Highway Bill). Additionally, there remains the need for policymakers to balance new construction and maintenance priorities with the ever-dwindling dollars allocated for transportation projects.

Among the goals stated during his confirmation will be to create a national set of rules for automated vehicles instead of a patchwork of regulations that vary from state to state. While some are concerned this will take investigatory heat off Tesla, Duffy stated, "I will let NHTSA do its investigation," referring to several ongoing investigations regarding Tesla's safety record.

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation has high hopes for Transportation under Duffy's leadership but vows to remain vigilant in Washington D.C., on behalf of our nation's street motorcyclists.

OFFICE

news

From State Office

It was brought to my attention that letters were sent to some, if not all, to the recently closed Albany chapter members. It was relayed to me this letter advised that all the Life members must choose another chapter or lose their Life status. This information is incorrect. You are a Life member no matter what. Both Life and annual paying members have the choice to be placed as At Large (attached to no chapter) or can choose one of the neighboring chapters, Columbia or Rensselaer.

As the Life memberships are sent automatically, I will reach out as they are due OR If you want to make the switch now, please call the office 1-888-344-4400 or email nysabateoffice@gmail.com Either way of contact, please leave your name, ABATE member ID# and chapter of choice. I will make a new card and send it out. For annual paid members, you can also make the switch now, wait and notate the renewal form or make a note on your PayPal order.

I need to touch base on yearly pins, again. First and foremost, you never have to pay for your current year's pin, if available it will be mailed with your new card. If you have lost a past year pin or patch, those are \$6 each and you must reach out to the office to see if it is available. As I have mentioned before, I have no means to reimburse if you order a pin we no longer have. You will receive a pin with each 5-year milestone and any in between will be sent until no longer available. **If you have pins and do not want them and wish to donate back, you can mail to NY ABATE, 111 Hampton Ave, Rensselaer NY 12144 If someone from your chapter attends the Board/State meetings, you can give to them to bring and drop off.

Stay Safe
Sandi Pecchio
NY ABATE office manager

FREEDOM WRITER

Advertisement information

If you would like to place an advertisement into "The Freedom Writer" please email nysabateoffice@gmail.com to receive a price list or fill out the form in the back of this publication and directions on how to get your ad to reach every ABATE member.

THIS NEWSLETTER IS THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF ABATE OF NEW YORK, 111 HAMPTON AVE., RENSSELAER, NY 12144

OPINIONS EXPRESSED HEREIN ARE SOLELY THOSE OF THE AUTHORS AND DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT THOSE OF ABATE OF NY, IT'S OFFICERS OR REPRESENTATIVES. ABATE OF NY WILL NOT KNOWINGLY CONTRACT OR DO BUSINESS WITH ANY ENTITY THAT DISCRIMINATES AGAINST MOTORCYCLISTS IN ANY WAY.

“ PLEASE BE ADVISED, EMAIL ADDRESSES FOR MEMBERS WILL NO LONGER BE PUBLISHED, TOO MANY SPAM EMAILS ARE BEING SENT. ”

CHAPTER *Events*



Columbia County ABATE brothers along with East Coast Riders and Jody Ferrara, Regional Coordinator for region A, other MC, RC's attending a winter BBQ hosted by Red Barn Riders at the Blackthorn Resort in Durham, NY. Red Barn Riders are frequent supporters of ABATE of NY.
Thanks to Jody for the picture.

CHAPTER *Events*



“

I'd like to thank everyone who helped make the our Abate Newsletter Fundraiser party a huge success. Thank you to all that attended, donated or contributed large and small. It takes a large team to pull off a event like this. Because of everyone's help and support we can continue to provide a Buffalo/Erie ABATE Newsletter for it's members. The ONLY chapter in the state to do so!



”

LEGISLATION

Report

By **Chris Genovese**, Legislative Coordinator

First, I'd like to thank our President, Chris Pecchio, and Annie Oxley-Pitt, V.P. of our Buffalo Chapter, for all of their hard work on the ABATE of NY Seminar for 2025. With a short window of time to "pull it off," our team from the Buffalo Erie Chapter did a fine job hosting!

President Chris Pecchio has also stated that our organization's focus for 2025 will be on our membership, which includes recruiting new members and retaining our current ones. So we tried to focus on that theme with our guest speakers. Those speakers also included two of the officers that have escorted our Buffalo/Erie chapter rides, Lieutenant Greg Jankowiak from the NY State Troopers and Captain Warren Luick from the Erie County Sheriff's Office - who spoke to us about the challenges riders face on our roads and motorcycle safety. Their talk proved to be the most stimulating and interactive, as members really had a lot of great questions for them. Later, we noticed that they shared pictures of their speech on the E.C. Sheriff's Facebook page. Keith Bryan, Chief of Staff for NY Senator Patrick Gallivan (R-Elma) spoke to us about the Grieving Families Act, which of course, was vetoed by the Governor for the third straight time in late December 2024. Senator Gallivan was a sponsor of the bill, which I believe will be re-introduced for 2025, as it has always had broad support from both parties and in both chambers of the Legislature. His suggestion to us was to find a new way to present our position, perhaps including stories of those that have suffered because New York does not adequately protect victims of wrongful deaths (as 48 other states do). He also mentioned that new data could be helpful, and said that folks at the University of Albany might be helpful with that.

On January 8th, the new 2025 legislative session began with a "clean slate," as all of the bills that haven't been passed into law are now considered "dead", therefore odd numbered years (like 2025) begin with zero bills pending. So this past month we've been seeing many of the bills in the ABATE of NY Position Paper being re-introduced. As of this writing, the following bills that we either support or oppose are "back" for the 2025 session:

- A1788/S2061 – Provides for certain presumptions for reckless driving and the implementation of a reckless driving and vehicular violence awareness component of the pre-licensing course for a driver's license.
- S2436 – Prohibits the sale of ATVs and off-highway motorcycles in the city of New York; provides enforcement mechanisms and penalties.
- A966/S2308 – Relates to motorcycle awareness on state highways by affixing signs stating "Watch for Motorcycles."
- A2552 - Makes certain exceptions for violations pertaining to certain mufflers and exhaust systems. I've been discussing our potential support for Bentley's Law with our state board members, legislative coordinators, and other members, and the results have been split so far. You may recall that Bentley's Law has been passed in six states, (TN, KY, TX, ME, UT, & SD), and the law requires that those found guilty of drunk driving incidents that kill a supporting parent be required to pay for their child support. While personally, I 130% support the law, I am falling on the side of not adding it to the ABATE of NY position paper. I believe it's not a bill that is focused enough on the rights of riders, and in my opinion, not as important to our community as the other bills on our paper such as the reckless driving bill. And with just over half of those I've polled so far also falling on the side of not adding it, we'll keep an eye on it but not prioritize it for ABATE of NY at this time.

LEGISLATION

Report

Back home in Buffalo, we hosted our annual Newsletter Party on January 25th, and I decided to take the advice of Keith Bryan with regard to our advocacy for the Grieving Families Act. So, even though there are no bills currently pending,

I wrote a letter to the Governor and told her the story that we all know about a biker that lost his life back in 2010. His family asked that we NOT invoke their name anymore, but we told Governor Hochul that this biker died at the hands of a negligent driver, and left behind a one-year-old son that would never experience the love and life lessons that his father would have shared with him. I was very pleased to send her 66 of these individually signed letters, asking her to “do the right thing and sign the Grieving Families Act” into law the next time she had an opportunity to do so. I then emailed the letter around to our leaders and chapters across the state and asked them to do the same.



LEGISLATIVE

Position '25



A1788/S2061 – Provides for certain presumptions for reckless driving and the implementation of a reckless driving and vehicular violence awareness component of the pre-licensing course for a driver's license. By introducing presumptions for reckless driving, this bill aims to hold accountable those who endanger others through their actions behind the wheel. Additionally, integrating a vehicular violence awareness component into the pre-licensing course underscores the importance of fostering a culture of responsibility and respect among drivers. ABATE of NY believes that such initiatives will not only enhance road safety but also contribute to a more informed and conscientious driving community. Through education and awareness, ABATE of NY seeks to reduce the incidence of reckless driving and vehicular violence, ultimately creating safer roads for all users in New York State.

A1788 referred to Transportation Committee on 1/14/25. S2061 referred to Transportation Committee on 1/15/25

S2436 – Prohibits the sale of ATVs and off-highway motorcycles in the city of New York; provides enforcement mechanisms and penalties. Such a blanket ban would unjustly restrict the rights of individuals to own and enjoy these recreational vehicles within city limits. While ABATE of NY acknowledges the need for responsible use and regulation of these vehicles to ensure public safety, it argues that a total ban is an overreaching measure that penalizes law-abiding enthusiasts. Rather than outright prohibition, ABATE of NY advocates for comprehensive education, training, and enforcement initiatives to promote safe and responsible ATV and off-highway motorcycle use.

S2436 referred to Cities Committee on 1/17/25.

A966/S2308 – Relates to motorcycle awareness on state highways by affixing signs stating “Watch for Motorcycles.” By advocating for the installation of motorcycle awareness signs on state highways, ABATE aims to promote mutual respect and understanding between motorcyclists and other drivers. These signs serve as valuable reminders for motorists to remain vigilant and share the road responsibly, ultimately reducing the risk of collisions and injuries involving motorcycles.

A966 referred to Transportation Committee on 1/8/25. S2308 referred to Transportation Committee on 1/16/25.

A2552/S3156 – Makes certain exceptions for violations pertaining to certain mufflers and exhaust systems. This bill proposes essential exceptions for violations related to specific exhaust systems on motorcycles and other vehicles. By allowing for reasonable exceptions, A36/S3332 ensures that motorcyclists can enjoy the freedom to choose exhaust systems that meet both legal standards and their individual preferences without facing undue penalties.

A2552 referred to Transportation Committee on 1/17/25. S3156 referred to Transportation Committee on 1/23/25.

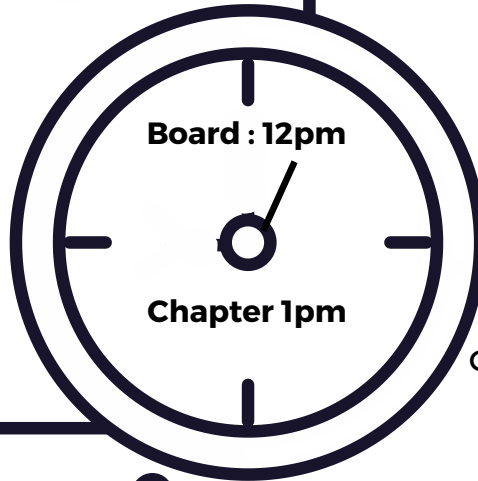
ABATE of New York
State Chapter Meetings

2/15/2025	8/16/2025
5/18/2025**	11/15/2025

To Be Determined

ALL MEETINGS EXCEPT MAY 18, 2025 ARE HELD AT

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



All meetings (excluding May) are held at the American Legion, Post 92 located at 8083 Route 20 in Waterville, NY

All members are encouraged and welcome to attend all State Chapter Meetings. Chapter meetings begin at 1pm. At minimum all chapters should send at least 1 member to represent their chapter. Each Chapter attending receives 1 vote. This should be a recognized member of the Chapters' Board or at the discretion of the Chapter President can designate in writing a member whom may cast that vote on behalf of the Chapter.

Chapters should be conscientious attending the meetings so you insure you have a voice in your organization.

All meeting minutes, are shared with each Chapter by the Secretary and should be shared with your members.

The May Chapter meeting is always the Sunday before ABATE of New York biggest event, The Freedom Rally! This event is why ABATE exists; your rights and safety as a motorcyclist! It is held once a year in NY's capital, Albany and it is a day when we advocate for legislation that affects all of us.

Any questions can be directed to your Chapters' Board.

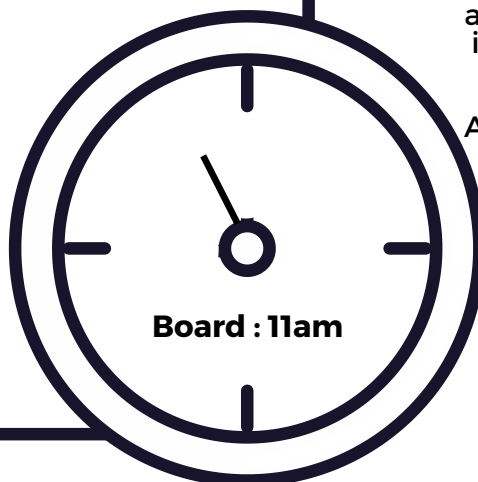


ABATE of New York
State Board Meetings

3/16/2025	9/21/2025
6/14/2025	12/21/2025

ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD AT:

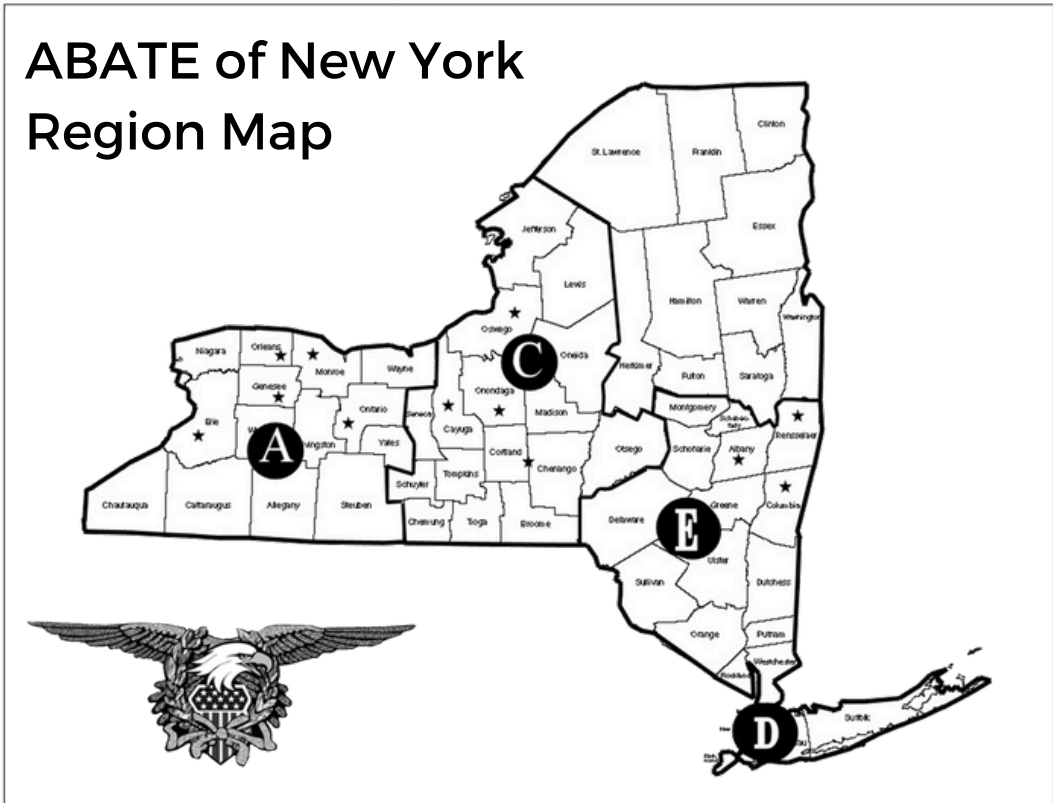
**AMERICAN LEGION POST 92
8083 ROUTE 20
WATERVILLE, NY 13480**



<https://abateny.org/>

Days / Times

ABATE of New York Region Map



REGION A

Buffalo/ Erie Chapter

American Legion Matthew Glab Post 1477,
1965 Abbott Road,
Lackawanna, NY.

Meetings 3rd Thursday (monthly) / 7:30pm

Genesee

Stans Harley Davidson 4425
West Saile Drive,
Batavia N.Y. 14020

Meetings 1st Tuesday (monthly)

Ontario

Jose & Willy's,
20 Lakeshore Dr.,
Canandaigua, NY

Meetings 1st Sunday (monthly) / 10am

Orleans

Medina VFW Post
1483, 216 E. Center St.
Medina, NY

Meetings 2nd Sunday (monthly) / 12pm

REGION C

Cayuga

VFW Post #1975
44 East Genesee St.,
Auburn NY 13021

Meetings 2nd Monday (monthly) / 7 pm

Onondaga

VFW Post #1975
44 East Genesee St.,
Auburn NY 13021

Meetings 2nd Sunday (monthly) / 12pm

Oswego

Mimi's Drive In
201 N. 2nd Ave
Fulton, NY

Meetings 1st Sunday (monthly) / 10am

Orleans

American Legion Post 1194,
363 West Services Rd
Binghamton NY 13901

Meetings 2nd Thursday (monthly) / 7pm

REGION D

5 Boroughs

Location changes monthly

Meetings 2nd Thursday (monthly) / 3 pm

REGION E

Columbia County

Whitestone Cafe
2337 NY Route 66
Chent, NY

Meetings 1st Thursday (monthly) / 6:30pm

Rensselaer

The Paddock
6 Ridge Rd
Rensselaer NY 12144

Meetings 2nd Saturday (monthly) / 5pm

New York State's driver point system has been changed to increase penalties for repeat offenders and make it easier for insurance companies to access driving records. The new system includes:

More points for certain violations

Many violations now have higher point values, including:

- DWI: 11 points
- Racing: 5 points
- Failure to exercise due care: 5 points
- Leaving the scene of a crash: 3 points
- Passing a stopped school bus: 8 points
- Speeding in a work zone: 8 points
- Aggravated unlicensed operation: 11 points

Harsher penalties for repeat offenders

- Drivers with multiple violations within 18 months face higher fines and possible license suspension

Mandatory Driver Responsibility Assessment (DRA)

- Drivers with 6 or more points within 18 months must pay an annual DRA fee for three years

Online tracking and reporting

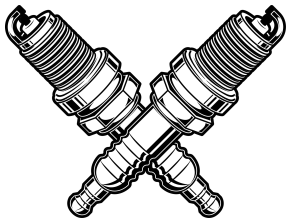
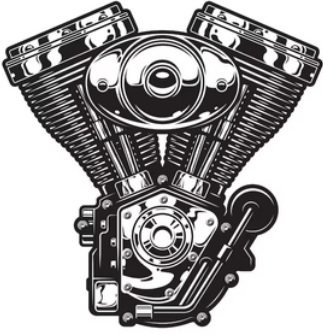
- Law enforcement and insurance companies can more easily access driving records

The new system aims to keep drivers with multiple suspensions off the road.

You can consult the New York DMV website for more information.



PRO BIKE *news*



Just hours after being confirmed as Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Secretary Sean Duffy issued a memo phrased to protect the internal combustion engine. The memo directs the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to immediately review and reconsider all existing fuel economy standards for vehicles produced from the 2022 model year forward.

The memo states, "These fuel economy standards are set at such aggressive levels that automakers cannot, as a practical matter, satisfy the standards without rapidly shifting production away from internal combustion engine vehicles to alternative electric technologies."

The Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards under review were enacted during the previous administration. CAFE standards are one of the three objectives being used in the effort to eliminate Internal Combustion Engines (ICE). The second objective is tailpipe emission standards issued by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Many presume that the Trump Administration will order the EPA to conduct a similar review of those standards, which compel carmakers to sell more electric models. The final objective in the effort to eliminate ICE is the EPA's waiver process, which allows California to enact its own rules under the Clean Air Act and is also under scrutiny.

Rewriting rules and regulations like the one mentioned will take time. Outside of actions by the executive branch, legislation and court cases may also shape the future of this debate. The Motorcycle Riders Foundation will remain engaged on this issue and fight to allow you to choose the type of engine you want in your vehicle. Duffy issued a memo phrased to protect the internal combustion engine. The memo directs the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to immediately review and reconsider all existing fuel economy standards for vehicles produced from the 2022 model year forward.



SEMINAR 2025



MANY THANKS TO BUFFALO / ERIE CHAPTER FOR HOSTING

**GREAT
JOB**

ABATE/VFW

CHILI COOK-OFF

LOCAL CELEBRITY JUDGES:
POLICE CHIEF & SHERIFF

MARCH 1ST
2:00-5:00 PM
1ST - 3RD PLACE
BASED ON # OF ENTRIES

BRING YOUR APPETITE AND JOIN US FOR A DAY OF DELICIOUS FUN

44 E. GENESEE ST AUBURN NY

\$10-INCLUDES CHILI ENTRY AND ALL YOU CAN EAT CHILI
CHILI MUST BE DROPPED OFF BETWEEN 12-1 PM TO BE JUDGED
\$5-INCLUDES ALL YOU CAN EAT CHILI
\$5 CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

VFW POST 1975

Don't miss our Movie night Thursday February 27th at 6pm. Prospector is pulling out all the stops and bringing out this all time great classic movie. Zandra is bringing snack and the elks club refreshments available for a reasonable price. Jullian has his big screen projector tuned up pick Prospectors brain for some real old school stories and have a great time out of the cold! Don't have to be a member to experience this wild ride!



WHILE IT IS STILL PRETTY CHILLY TO BE RIDING, HOW ABOUT SPENDING TIME WITH ABATE'S OTHER EVENTS



ABATE OF NY, INC.
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

New Member
Renewal Member Membership number _____ Expiration _____

Full Member \$30 per year - Includes membership packet, newsletter, and all benefits in accordance with State By-Laws

Associate Member \$25 per year - Same benefits as a Full Member except no newsletter.

- Life Member: 6-10 Years of being an ABATE Member - \$500
- Life Member: 11-15 Years of being an ABATE Member - \$350
- Life Member: 16-24 Years of being an ABATE Member - \$200

Chapter affiliation: _____ Member at Large

Name: _____ DOB \ \ _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

County: _____ Newsletter preference: Email USPS

Email address: _____

Method of Payment: Check Money Order

Make all payments to: ABATE of NY Inc.
111 Hampton Avenue
Rensselaer, NY 12144

**** You can also sign up or renew at any Chapter meeting or online at <https://abateny.org/membership/>**

ABATE of NY is an equal opportunity organization and will not allow discrimination based upon age, ethnicity, ancestry, gender, national origin, disability, race, size, religion, sexual orientation, socioeconomic background, or any other status prohibited by applicable law.



Oswego County ABATE

you
make a
A DIFFERENCE



you
make a
A DIFFERENCE

We are deeply grateful to Bob and Tena for their generous donation of food, collected by the ABATE of NY Inc., Oswego County Chapter. These contributions are invaluable in supplementing the food we purchase from the Food Bank, ensuring we can continue to support our community. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and commitment to our cause.



MORE SEMINAR 2025



Stands ready to act on items affecting motorcyclists

With a new administration in the White House as of Jan. 20, a significant number of executive orders have been signed over the past few days, and the AMA Government Relations staff is working hard to analyze how these new orders may affect motorcyclists in the future.

What exactly are executive orders? They are basically signed statements that lay out how the president wants the federal government to be managed, whether that's a request for reports, instructions to federal agencies or taking action to rescind orders signed by a previous president. Keep in mind, there are limits to the power of executive orders, and both courts and Congress can potentially block them. "Any time there's a change in federal administrations, it's common to see a flurry of executive orders released very quickly," said AMA Director of Government Relations Nick Haris, "and it's our job to work through those orders to find ways they may potentially benefit motorcyclists, or ways they could negatively affect motorcyclists. Regardless of party, we often find it's a mixed bag — some good, some bad — and those first executive orders also give us a good look at the general direction an administration may be taking in the future, so we're prepared to protect the interests of our AMA members.

Several of the recent executive orders have caught the attention of the AMA Government Relations staff, including the [America First Trade Policy](#) executive order, President Donald Trump did threaten to implement additional tariffs on Mexico, China and Canada as quickly as Feb. 1, a move that could potentially increase the price of goods made in these countries, including motorcycles, motorcycle parts and gear coming into the U.S. from these countries. While this may provide a boost for products made in America, it may also eventually affect small mom-and-pop repair shops that source their parts outside of the country.

Also of note was the [Putting People Over Fish: Stopping Radical Environmentalism to Provide Water to Southern California](#) presidential action. While seemingly unrelated to motorcycling, AMA Director of Government Relations Nick Haris commented that it may be a sign there's potential for reform of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in the future. The ESA has long been invoked by anti-OHV interest groups and used as a surrogate issue to exclude motorized recreation from public lands. Reforming the ESA may prove useful as the AMA fights closures related to local endangered species.

President Trump's [executive order on regulatory freeze](#) is also significant, impacting any agency rulemaking that was pending at the end of the Biden administration, which gives the new administration the chance to reevaluate the impacts of pending regulation changes. Some of the issues impacting motorcyclists that may be affected by agency rulemaking include: federal emissions, fuel economy standards, autonomous vehicle regulations, changes to the New Car Assessment Program (NCAP) — which evaluates the safety of new vehicles — and monument and wilderness designations. This pause also gives stakeholders like the AMA a chance to reengage on these issues with new leadership and address any potential concerns.

Along with plenty of new orders dropping from the White House, there are new agency heads — including Sean Duffy (former five-term Republican congressman) at the Department of Transportation and Doug Burgum (former North Dakota Governor) at the Department of the Interior — and the AMA is crafting letters to these members of the new administration, requesting meetings and working to ensure they are aware of how federal issues may impact motorcyclists.

"No doubt, we'll continue to see additional executive orders released in the coming weeks and many additional changes in Washington," Haris said. "But our main goal in the AMA Government Relations Department is to analyze these actions and determine how we can best take action to protect the rights of our members." Of course, the AMA's Government Relations Department doesn't work alone. You are an important ally in our fight to protect motorcyclists' rights. Stay informed and sign up to receive AMA Action Alerts that notify you of threats to your motorcycling rights at



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Unintended Consequence: Invisibility

An important study was released last week by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) regarding high-visibility clothing. According to the IIHS, “clothing that makes pedestrians stand out to human drivers may make them invisible to automated crash prevention systems.” You read that right, test dummies wearing clothing with features like reflective strips were INVISIBLE to technology designed to prevent crashes.

While the tests were conducted using pedestrian test dummies, it’s not hard to extrapolate what these findings might mean to motorcyclists. Some bikers choose to wear high-visibility clothing in an attempt to make their presence on the road more pronounced. This study is extremely concerning and brings into question some basic assumptions about conspicuity.

Tests like these demonstrate how many factors and unknowns are involved in the deployment of technology aimed at aiding drivers. The Motorcycle Riders Foundation has long professed the importance of fully testing any new technology before it is deployed on our roadways. This announcement from the IIHS is a good reminder that you should never assume others on the road can see you.

Your motorcycle helmet and the COVID-19 vaccine may be more alike than you think.

A helmet will only be effective if you are involved in an incident, much like the COVID situation. A vaccine could only possibly protect you if you’re exposed to the COVID-19 virus. Most of the USA’s riding public do not legally have to wear a helmet. They live and ride through their lives and have no issues. Donning a helmet at times that they deem appropriate. They go without the hard hat at times they choose.

Unlike the vaccines, you can take a helmet off, you can’t undo the vaccine. Some people claim that the risks of such a medication outweigh the benefits; others claim it saved their life. I’m not a Dr. so I WILL NOT TELL ANYONE HOW TO LIVE THEIR LIFE, or if they should take a vaccine shot or wear a helmet. You cannot unride a road or time in your life. There are no do-overs in life or on the highway, so choose wisely. You can re-ride a road, and most people do re-ride the routes that they have come to love.

For me personally, many of the roads and routes that I re-ride are out of New York State. This is partly because of our helmet restriction. I wonder how popular motorcycling would be in New York if we were given the freedom to choose. We do live in a beautiful state. Unfortunately, we also have a legislative body that is less than sympathetic to the riding public.

If you think about all the great classic events, Laconia, Daytona, Sturgis. All of these events allow people to choose the way that they choose to ride. Most people do not like the whole idea of someone telling them this is MANDATORY. Most people would rather ride what they choose. Ride it how they choose. Ride it where they choose, and when they choose to.

I guess what I’m saying here is that most people choose to have the freedom of choice. I feel that we should be giving this message to our state representatives. Before long, they will be telling us what to ride, how to ride, where to ride, and when to ride. If you think this is something that could not happen, take a look at the current assault on the internal combustion engine (ICE). Does one size fit all? Well, it may fit most. What size are you?

Ride safe this year and thanks for all your work filling out those treasury reports.

THE FREEDOM WRITER

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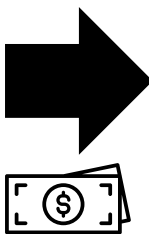
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