

THE FREEDOM WRITER

May/June

2025 ISSUE #48

WWW.ABATENY.ORG

Dedicated to Freedom of the Road

**May is
Motorcycle Safety
Awareness Month**



ABATE OF NEW YORK

111 HAMPTON AVE,
RENSSELAER NY 12144

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Region D - Open

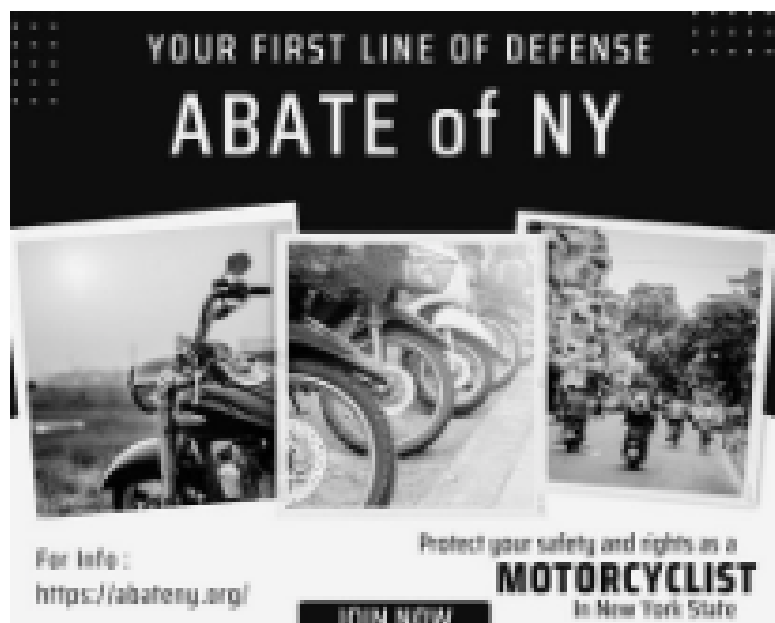
Region E - John Boice

Webmaster - John Cholewa

Office Manager - Sandi Pecchio

Newsletter - Jess Vitale

Office Phone 888 344 4400



PRESIDENTS

Message

Hello everyone, its finally here the good weather. Its May motorcycle awareness month. Motorcycles will be everywhere. Prayers to all for save journeys.

That said, there are many things to be aware of maintenance, one of the biggest is your tires proper air pressure and condition, inspection, registration don't give the police a reason to pull you over.

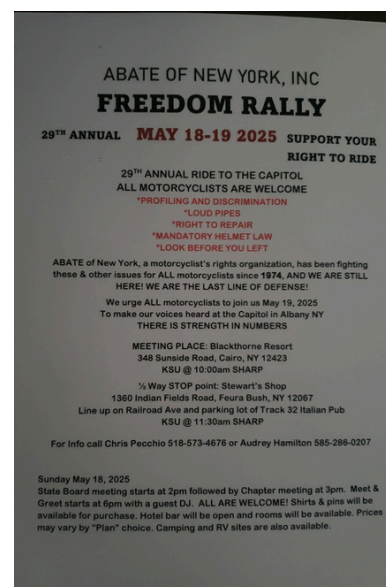
I know it's been brought up before, but do you have proper insurance, do you have enough? That cheap policy won't cover you in case of an accident.

Remember, also, cagers are not paying attention. Those driver "aids" make drivers lazy! Make sure you can be seen, stay back from big trucks, buses so you are not hidden. Try to stay toward the left of the lane, if possible, your most visible in the sight angle plus it may give you an escape path if need be. Wear proper gear sandals, crocks are no type of protection. Shorts? Eye wear. We all know we need to look out for ourselves.

That said if you do have an accident do you have a proper lawyer? A health proxy? A will? These are all things that can make an accident more bearable. It's bad enough to possibly be in a hospital, but knowing your family and your wishes are being taken care of will make healing or forbid passing easier. I unfortunately have witnessed both situations and it's very sad. So please be safe out there.

In closing may the sun shine on your face, let the rain be at your back and enjoy the freedom.

Thank you,
Chris Pecchio
President, ABATE of New York



OFFICE

news

From The State Office

I am getting a lot of returned mail to the office and making calls to the phone numbers on our files, with the majority not calling me back. Please make sure all your information is up to date. Did you move in the last year? Did you change your phone number or email address? The State Office needs to know, as this not only affects your renewal letters and/or renewal packets, but also receiving the Newsletter. Please call the office with any changes or contact your chapter.

As mentioned previously, pins are guaranteed every 5 years, all others will be sent until the stock is gone. If you lost a pin and need a replacement, please call the office to make sure available before you place the order. I will set aside and mail it once payment is received. I cannot refund, and it will be considered a donation.

To our new members, welcome to ABATE! Your cards are safe at the office as I await the delivery of the new member patches. With the cost of postage, I don't want to mail twice.

I wish you safe travels out there. Look twice is not just for the cagers!

*Sandi Pecchio
State Office Manager
1-888-344-4400*

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.

FREEDOM WRITER

Advertisement information

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

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

A note from your editor

Hello NY ABATE Members.

I am seeking your input to make the newsletter more interesting and engaging.

Is there information or topics you'd like to see included in these bi-monthly newsletters?

Are there sections in the newsletter that you'd like to see changed?

Would you like to contribute to the newsletters by writing an article or an editorial?

If you've answered "yes" to any of these questions, send me your ideas at thefreedomwriter.abateny@gmail.com

I like to hear your ideas.

Jess Vitale

ABATE of New York Newsletter Editor

thefreedomwriter.abateny@gmail.com



REGION C

ABATE REGION C

CAYUGA – ONONDAGA – OSWEGO – SOUTHERN TIER

Another Region C Chapters visit. Thank you, Onondaga, for having me at your meeting and it was a pleasure to ride in your Blessing of the Bikes ride to St. Daniel's Church. 1st day out for my bike. Whew, it ran well. The weather was great for April 13th, great turnout and organization through the City of Syracuse. Thank you, VP Audrey, for attending too. The after the blessing of the bikes gathering at the Loop Grill had great food and comradery. Well done. As mentioned, we secured the Month of May Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Proclamation from Onondaga County. Thank you to the County Executive Ryan McMahon and County Legislator Julie Abbot for making this happen. On May 8th the City of Auburn will be presenting their proclamation for Motorcycle Safety and Awareness to us. These are all good for public relations and free for the asking. Hopefully we will get many across the state. We have been handing out Finger Lakes tourism maps. These are great for individual rides and group rides, covering from the West of Rochester to Oneida, South to the East to Binghamton. Plan a ride. If you can't have a group ride, plan a scramble ride. They are very successful and remove much of the headaches of large rides. As mentioned last time we need your input and your events to reach more of the motorcycle community. Please keep your Facebook pages updated and information current in our newsletter and communicate with other groups and their events. We need each other. Competing on the same day hurts us all. There are many social media outlets that let you post your events.

Membership needs some building. Each month all chapters get their membership report. We also have available an expired membership report. This gives the history of what members have left. I have brought past information to the meetings that I've been to. It is an eye opener. We need to stop the membership bleeding. Communication is our best tool. The last newsletter had some questions to ask. All Freedom Writer publications are available on the ABATE of New York website. You can go back a few years. Great information, past events, ideas.

Again, please check the state website frequently. It changes often. Especially events and our updates from Chris Genovese our State Legislative Coordinator. Chris keeps us informed of what is current in NYS and at the national level. Remember the session ends in June for Albany. The Freedom Rally is scheduled for May 18th and 19th. It will be held at the Blackthorne Resort in East Durham. Meet and Greet on the 18th, general meeting with much to discuss. We ride to the Capital on the 19th and meet with elected officials.

Safe travel and safe riding.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dennis Pelmeier
Region C Coordinator

Thank you Onondaga County Executive and County Legislator Julie Abbott for your support recognizing the month of May as Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month.



LEGISLATION

Report

Chris Genovese, Legislative Coordinator, May 9, 2025

By the time you're reading this, our Freedom Rally will be history. So, I'd just like to thank the Legislative Coordinators and members of ABATE who took the time to get involved and set up meetings with their chapter area legislators while we're in Albany.

I'd also like to thank those members who got busy during April and "hit the ground running" for Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month. I've seen some great social posts and news stories about ABATE awareness events across the state, and I know that a lot of work before the fact goes into making these events generate the level of motorcycle awareness that we're after. When you read the hateful and ignorant comments left below these stories and social posts, you see why we need to do what we do!

In April, we also got busy trying to get our state's motorcycle safety schools opened up. The contract that the schools need to award successful students with endorsements for licenses was held up, and at the worst possible time of the year. From my perspective, per the AMA's "call to action," it seemed like there might have been some problem at the DMV, so we circulated the link on our social accounts and encouraged riders to click, share, and send a message to the DMV Commissioner. A post from the Motorcycle Safety School encouraged folks to contact their Assembly Member, state Senator, and Governor Hochul to ask for immediate actions. Long Island ABATE was helpful in getting coverage for this story with News 12, and other media outlets caught on.

In Buffalo, we reached out to the Erie County Clerk's office, which runs our local DMV locations, and asked for their help. Deputy County Clerk, Mike Cecchini was very responsive and helpful. Both he and County Clerk Mickey Kearns reached out to their contacts at the DMV, including Commissioner Mark Schroeder, and asked for the schools to be immediately opened under the previous contract while the impasse continued. Their contacts indicated that the holdup was with the state Comptroller's office and encouraged us to contact them directly.

Over the course of a couple of weeks, it's apparent to me that ABATE members, the AMA, MSS, and our riding friends/family that took action across the state were able to get the attention of our elected officials. The contract was signed on April 25th and schools immediately began opening back up.

This experience has reinforced two things for me, with regard to our abilities to "make a difference" in our state. First, I can say that whenever I've reached out to one of our elected state officials, I've received a prompt and courteous response. No matter the political party, I've come to realize that ALL elected officials are inclined to welcome the feedback of their constituents when that communication is courteous and respectful. Second, as members of ABATE of NY, we absolutely can and must make a difference for the motorcycle riding community in our state based on the conditions that we face on our roads and for the sake of the safety of all traveling on two or three wheels.



ABATE of NY Legislative Position Paper – May, 1 2025

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 advanced to third reading in the Transportation Committee on 5/1/25

A3172 - Relates to reckless driving; relates to culpability regarding criminal homicide involving the use of a motor vehicle.

All too often, irresponsible and dangerous driving leads to tragic outcomes for motorcycle riders, and those responsible face minimal consequences. This legislation represents a necessary step toward justice and deterrence, reinforcing the principle that all lives on the road matter, and those who cause harm through recklessness can be held criminally accountable when their actions result in a fatal crash.

A3172 referred to Codes Committee on 1/23/25

A7659/S6601 – Requires the municipal police training council to ensure that issues related to motorcycle profiling are addressed in basic law enforcement training.

This legislation represents a significant stride towards eliminating discriminatory practices against motorcyclists by ensuring law enforcement officers receive training to recognize and mitigate motorcycle rider profiling. By mandating training programs that educate officers about the unfair targeting and stereotyping of motorcyclists solely based on their choice of transportation, A7659/S6601 seeks to foster a more equitable and respectful interaction between law enforcement and the motorcycle community.

A7659 referred to the Governmental Operations Committee on 4/4/25

S6601 referred to Finance Committee on 3/18/25

A6063/S4423 - Provides for the types of damages that may be awarded to the persons for whose benefit an action for wrongful death is brought.

The Grieving Families Act helps ensure justice for the families of those who are wrongfully killed by the acts of others, including riders killed by negligent drivers. This important legislation provides surviving families the ability to seek fair compensation for their pain and suffering, addressing the emotional and financial hardships that come with such a devastating loss. By expanding the definition of "family" to include not only traditional relatives but also those who have close, dependent relationships with the deceased, the Grieving Families Act recognizes the wide-ranging impact of such tragedies. This bill is crucial for holding negligent drivers accountable and providing much-needed support to those left behind.

A6063 referred to Judiciary Committee on 2/26/25 S4423 advanced to third reading on 3/3/25



ABATE of NY Legislative Position Paper – May, 1 2025

A7/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.

Assembly – referred to Cities Committee on 3/20/25 (no bill number found as of 5/1/25)
S2436 passed and delivered to the Assembly on 3/20/25

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.

A2552a/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, A2552a/S3156 ensures that motorcyclists can enjoy the freedom to choose exhaust systems that meet both legal standards and their individual preferences without facing undue penalties.

A2552a amended and recommitted to Transportation Committee on 4/21/25.
S3156 referred to Transportation Committee on 1/23/25.



ABATE of NY Legislative Position Paper – May, 1 2025

A5693/S4370 – Provides for congestion pricing for motorcycles in the central business district.

Motorcycles reduce congestion and environmental impact, as they obviously take up less space and generate less emissions as compared to cars powered by internal combustion. These facts make motorcycles a more efficient and “cleaner” transportation option, and discounting the tolls on them in the central business district encourages their use over larger, less efficient vehicles.

A5693 referred to Corporations, Authorities, and Commissions Committee on 2/20/25.
S4370 referred to Transportation Committee on 2/4/25.

A.B.A.T.E. of New York • 111 Hampton Ave. • Rensselaer, NY 12144



AMERICAN MOTORCYCLIST ASSOCIATION

ROAD CAPTAIN WORKSHOP

Are you ready to take your ride leadership skills to the next level, and gain the requisite knowledge required to lead an AMA-sanctioned road riding event?

The American Motorcyclist Association developed this Road Captain Workshop exclusively for AMA members who want to lead group road rides more successfully and safely.

Typically offered in the spring and fall of each year at the AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame in Pickerington, Ohio (and occasionally at other locations), this workshop averages two hours in length and covers topics ranging from route planning, paperwork, emergency preparedness and response, hand signals, actions during the ride, and more. Note: this workshop is not a certification, but rather a forum to share best practices and ideas.



Road Captain Workshop - American Motorcyclist Association
<https://americanmotorcyclist.com/riding/riding-resources/road-captain-workshop/>

CHAPTER NEWS

CAYUGA CHAPTER NEWS

On May 8th, the Cayuga Chapter met with the City of Auburn to accept a Proclamation for Motorcycle Safety and Awareness from Mayor Giannettino and the city council. Accepting the proclamation were Dennis Pelmear, Region C Coordinator, Audrey Rindfleisch-Hamilton, Hamilton State VP, and Paul Loperfido. Sergeant at Arms for Cayuga.



ONONDAGA COUNTY

Bike Blessing at St. Daniel's



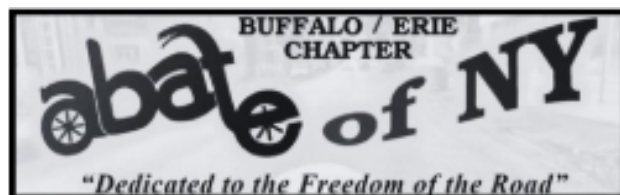
Board members William Babcock, President, Michael Whitney, Treasurer, Tara Smith, legislative coordinator, John Magill Sgt. at Arms, & Beth Schleuter, Road Captain.



BUFFALO/ERIE



Safety Awareness Ride May 3rd.



ONTARIO COUNTY



We are raffling this amazing quilt.

The drawing will be Oct. 5th.
Contact Roland Hage for raffle tickets.
Our first run is June 22nd. Come out
and share your support for ABATE
of Ontario County

A.B.A.T.E. of Ontario Co.



**All are invited to join us as we ride
thru the beautiful Finger Lakes area.**

WHEN: JUNE 22 2025

WHERE: On The Rocks

3852 Rt 5 & 20, Canandaigua

REGISTRATION: 10:30am

REGISTRATION FEE: \$10

KSU: NOON



5 BOROUGH8

AMERICAN BIKERS AIMED TOWARDS EDUCATION
A★B★A★T★E
NEW YORK
BOROUGH8★CHAPTER★

**SATURDAY
MAY 31, 2025**
In Memory of Bills

ABATE OF NY 5 BOROUGH8 CHAPTER
**4TH ANNUAL 5 BOROUGH8 MOTORCYCLE
SAFETY & AWARENESS CHARITY RIDE!**
(Police Escorted)








**IN CONJUNCTION WITH
FDNY EMS**

Proceeds will be donated to the FDNY EMS Help Fund
Registration starts at 9am
FDNY EMS STATION 22
460 Brielle Avenue, Staten Island, NY
\$20 per rider/\$10 passenger

Ride ends at
Fort Totten Parade Grounds, Queens

Food & Music directly after at
Steel Horses MC CH

LET'S RIDE! ALL
MC'S/INDYS ON 2s & 3s ARE
WELCOME AS WE RIDE
THROUGH THE
5 BOROUGH8 OF NYC
MAKE THEM SEE US!



1 Down 5 Up

VERDE

WATCH FOR MOTORCYCLES



REDBARNRIDERS.ORG

000669



**A Blood Drive in Support of
Sergeant Station Commander
*Sam Mattina***




Sunday, May 18, 2025
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
6566 Dysinger Rd., Lockport, 14094
On The ConnectLife Bus

On Friday, September 13, 2024, 10 year Veteran Sgt. Station Commander Salvatore Mattina, of the Town of Niagara Trooper barracks, was in a motorcycle accident while on duty. Sam was rushed to ECMC where he has needed several surgeries, blood transfusions and immediate medical attention for his brain bleed and multiple complex fractures. Sam is so grateful for ECMC and all their work. Please consider supporting the family with this blood drive.

**Donors will receive a pair of tickets to a
Bisons home game!**



Schedule an Appointment Today!
Scan the QR code, OR call ConnectLife at
716.529.4270 OR visit ConnectLifeGiveBlood.org
& enter sponsor code: 000998

CALLING ALL PATRIOTS

Saturday, June 7th @ 2 PM



Rally and march to the family home and back.

For the 1st time in several years, we are calling all NYS and surrounding state Patriots to rally in support of Tom Homan, our Border "Czar", in Sackets Harbor, NY. Please share this far & wide to all Patriot groups! The Liberal Media have been spewing false information and we want to show Tom and ICE overwhelming support that We The People have their backs. They rallied 500 protestors. We want to rally 1,000 or more supporters!

Please meet at the **Sackets Harbor Visitor Center front lawn** at 301 W. Main Street, Sackets Harbor, NY 13685

Public Bathrooms. Local restaurants. visitsacketsharbor.com



Group Tours for The Wall That Heals

Seeking Groups of People of All Ages - Including, But Not Limited to:
Schools, Home Schools, Scouts & Youth Groups
Active Military, Veterans Organizations, First Responders
Fraternal, Civic, Church, and Community Groups
Senior Centers, Retirement, Assisted Living & Nursing Homes, etc.

**Guided Tours - June 5-7,
La Salle Institute
174 Williams Road, Troy, NY (Near HVCC)**

All Invited to Attend ~ Free Admission ~ Open 24 Hours
Closes Sunday at 2:00 p.m. (No Tours Offered on Sunday)

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

Board : 12pm

Chapter 1pm

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.



<https://abateny.org/>

ABATE of New York

State Board Meetings

3/16/2025

9/21/2025

6/14/2025

12/21/2025

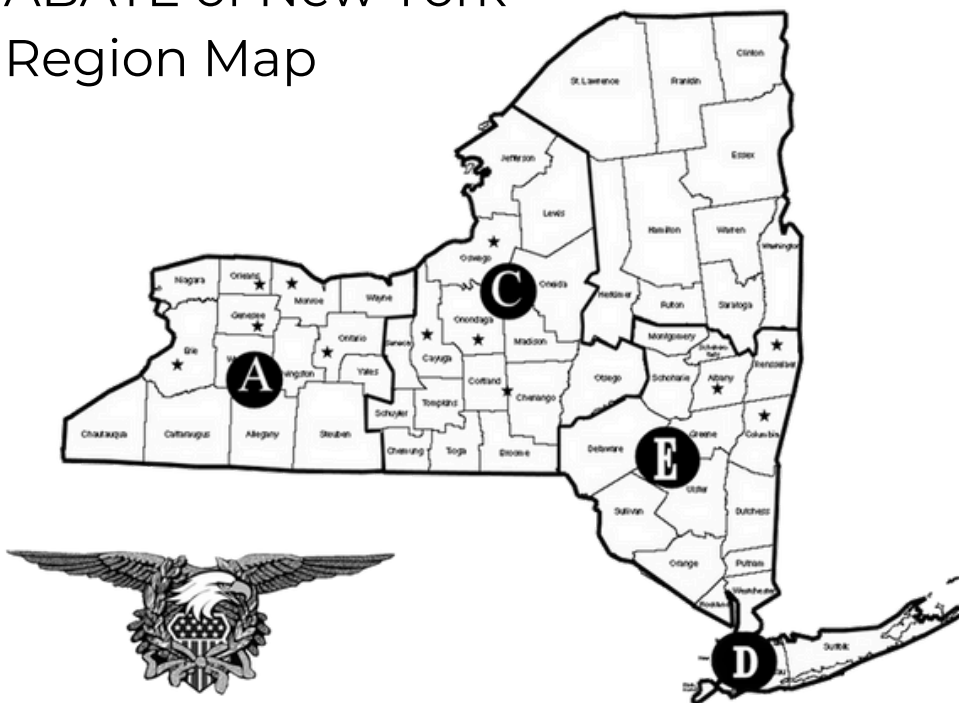
ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD AT:

AMERICAN LEGION POST 92
8083 ROUTE 20
WATERVILLE, NY 13480

Board : 11am

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
Ghent, NY

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

Rensselaer

The Paddock
6 Ridge Rd
Rensselaer NY 12144

Meetings 2nd Saturday (monthly) / 5pm



Motorcycle Riders Foundation, Washington, D.C.

Yesterday at 9:00 AM · 🌐

BIKERS INSIDE THE BELTWAY

The Voice of Many Forming a Chorus of One

Responding to MRF Calls to Action, now, only days away, you still have time to let your voice join a chorus of voices from throughout the country at the upcoming Bikers Inside the Beltway.

Members of Congress listen to our collective voice. Especially when all 535 of their offices receive the MRF's Legislative Agenda. The MRF shows up, wins, and keeps coming back.

Winning on Capitol Hill is about commitment, showing up, following through, and believing that winning is within our grasp. Bikers Inside the Beltway – a 15-year record of getting the job done.

Working from a Legislative Agenda that could only be written by street-riding, freedom-loving motorcyclists' rights advocates, we will continue to be effective on Capitol Hill.

How effective? Anti-profiling legislation signed into law puts NHTSA on notice that ignoring motorcyclists is a misguided strategy. Now, encouraging members of Congress to support HR 1566, S1379, HR 2175 and HJ Res. 87 & HJ Res. 88, covering a span of issues supporting motorcyclists' rights.

Your voice on Capitol Hill grows stronger when you attend Bikers Inside the Beltway. Congress knows the MRF is on its way and the MRF will not be tuned out. Thank you for your Call to Action and joining the MRF on May 19 & 20.



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



"With Great Power Comes Great Responsibility"

Whether you drive a car, truck, bus, minivan, SUV, or ride a motorcycle – you have great power.

- You have the power to help you and your family get home safely
- You have the power to help me and my family get home safely
- You have the power to allow, cause, or prevent great damage, injury, suffering, and even death on our roads

With this power comes the responsibility to use it wisely and with due caution. When a crash happens, many times we hear the phrase *"I didn't mean to."* We have to ask ourselves honestly what the difference is between *"I didn't mean to"* and *"I meant NOT to."*

'Meaning NOT to' says that the driver (or rider) took action and precautions to be prepared for something to go wrong and allowed enough time, space, and attention to be able to prevent a crash. THAT is taking responsibility. Here are just a few examples of things we see every day in traffic that show this responsibility:

- Keeping at least a 2-3 second following distance
- Letting another driver into the traffic flow (courtesy)
- Keeping eyes on the road (and not on a phone, book, laptop, passengers, the radio, etc.)
- Coming to a full stop at a stop sign
- When the light turns green, waiting for the car in front to go BEFORE taking a foot off the brake
- Stopping for pedestrians and bicycles
- Slowing down in school zones
- Ensuring everyone in the car is buckled up (or wearing good riding gear on the motorcycle)

On the other hand, we also see many examples of drivers and riders who have the power, but do not exercise responsibility. Here are just a few examples where the driver or rider may have forgotten that they are responsible for the safety of themselves, their passengers, and the other road users:

- Aggressive driving
- Tailgating
- Driving while distracted
- 'Rushing' – this does not mean just speeding, it means being more focused on getting somewhere quickly than getting there safely
- Drinking and driving/riding

The holidays are coming up, and I find myself thinking about my family. My wife, my 18 month old son, my parents, my brothers and sisters. I want them all to be safe and sound this holiday season – and I bet you feel the same. When someone on the road is not being responsible for your family's safety, I bet you get upset. Me, too.

Let's all do our part – in cars, and on bikes – to be responsible for each other. The promise of freedom brings with it the burden of responsibility. When we share the road, we are taking on this responsibility.

My promise to you – I will do my part to help keep your family safe. I ask that you do the same.

-Ax



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.



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/>

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- 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!

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

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