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1-800-843-0252  
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1-410-263-9185  
Out of State

ABATE OF MARYLAND, INC  
Dedicated to Responsible Motorcycle Legislation

# ABATE OF MARYLAND NEWSLETTER

April/May 1994

16th Annual

## ABATE of Maryland, Inc.

Presents



### Spring Bike Show and Swap Meet - 1994

Coming to the Anne Arundel Fairgrounds  
Sunday, April 17, 1994

Admission: \$5 for ABATE Members, \$7 for Nonmembers

Bike Entries: \$10

Food, Beer, Snacks, and Beverages Available

Setup Begins at 8 am, Gates Open at 10 am

Trophies to be Awarded at 4:00 pm

#### DIRECTIONS

From Washington: Rt. 50 E. to Rt. 450 Crownsville, Exit, Right at Light, continue straight to 178, Fairgrounds on Left (about 7 miles).

From Baltimore: I-695 to I-97 South, to Exit #5 Crownsville, Rt. 178, Fairgrounds on Right (about 3 miles).

For more information call:  
1-800-843-0252 (toll free in MD)  
1-410-263-9185 (outside of MD)

**Rain or Shine**

Vendor Spaces Available  
10'x10' - \$25

(Used Parts Vendors: 10'x10' - \$20)



Live  
Music by  
Roughhouse

#### Motorcycle Show

Custom (Over 20 Alterations)  
Street Custom (11 to 20 Alterations)  
Street (0 to 10 Alterations)  
Indian  
European Custom  
European Classic  
Japanese Custom  
Japanese Classic  
Dresser  
Restored (1965 - Down)  
Trike  
Best Paint and Best of the Show

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

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(301) 779-3235

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(301) 460-7141

### Secretary

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### Newsletter Editor

Mike Sage  
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OF ABATE OF MARYLAND INC. ABATE OF  
MARYLAND INC. ACCEPTS NO RESPONSIBILITY  
FOR THE COMMENTS OR OPINIONS  
CONTAINED WITHIN THIS PUBLICATION.

## FROM THE EDITOR :

UNITY This is something that all motorcyclists should be striving for. Since the fight to retain our personnel freedoms seems to be a hill that just keeps getting steeper and steeper we need to do something about knocking down the hill. The best way to knock down a hill is with a machine. This machine in order to work properly must be well maintained. By now you are probably thinking to yourself what the heck is this guy writing about bulldozers for. Well I'm not writing about a bulldozer, I am writing about Motorcyclist's rights..

The machine that I speak about is ABATE, and the way to keep it maintained and well oiled is to support it. And when I speak of support I mean all riders need to support ABATE. When all riders support us the we will be unified as an even more powerful machine than we already are. Whether you support ABATE by becoming a member or by doing more in attending events the machine grows and no matter how large or small the part it still runs.

If you haven't figured it out yet we have a new Newsletter Editor and I'm not that great a writer but I will allways try to give it my best shot. Until next time remember keep the rubber on the road.

## ABATE of Maryland

### Members

Classified ads are free to you with your active ABATE of Maryland membership. If you have something you want to buy, sell, trade, find, etc., this is for you. To get your classified in the next newsletter, send a written request with the information you want on the ad, along with the your name, address, and membership expiration date (we will check) to the office in Annapolis.

**1968 Triumph 250 Trophy.  
Runs ,looks good, includes  
basket case bike, manuals.  
\$1000.00 O.B.O.  
(410)437-9799**

# SALE

THE NEXT BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS MEETING IS  
JUNE 4, 1994 AT 12 NOON  
IN ANNAPOLIS, EACH  
CHAPTER SHOULD HAVE A  
REPRESENTATIVE ATTEND.

## ADVERTISING RATES

<b>BUSINESS CARD</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>
<b>ONE QUARTER PAGE</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>
<b>HALF PAGE</b>	<b>\$75.00</b>
<b>FULL PAGE</b>	<b>\$125.00</b>

(advertising rates are for one issue only ,multi issue rates are available Call the editor for more info)

# **THE DIRECTORS PAGE**

Greetings,

We've been real busy in Annapolis this session. ABATE members have been in Annapolis every Monday night since the session started in January. A full legislative report is later in this Newsletter. It's time to look forward.

Spring is here, and plans for the big events are gearing up. So get yourself and your ride ready for our kick-off event: The 16th Annual Spring Bike Show and Swap Meet.

ABATE has another raffle bike! Thanks to Devon Battley, proprietor of Rockville Harley Davidson and his sales staff, for saving one for us. New Harleys are very difficult to get. We are very fortunate to have this opportunity to do the raffle again. So get your tickets, while you still can. Most, if not all the Chapter Directors have tickets, and the bike will be a select number of events this spring. (See flyer in this issue).

Another event happening soon is the NCOM convention. (See the flyer in this issue.) This National Motorcycle Rights Convention is turning International. If you think things are getting ridiculous in Maryland, wait 'til you here what the bikers in Europe and Canada have to put up with (e.g. leg protectors, search and seizures, ect.). The point is, this convention is in Pennsylvania, very close. If you are interested in going, come to your next chapter meeting and let your Director know, or call the ABATE office.

I just can't contain my thoughts about the 1994 legislature any longer. I have to let you in on some of the outrageous politics in Annapolis. Senator Baker, the sponsor of the bill for helmet law repeal for adults, is the Chairman of the Judicial Proceedings Committee. It is a high profile committee, and I dare say the most important committee in the Senate. For example, all the gun legislation is heard in that committee, until this year. Senator Pica sponsored a bill to ban assault weapons in the State House. From the beginning of the session the Gun Associations

remove the word "house". Guess what? Yup, but not only did this bill get through; it was the method used to do it. Because the bill regarded the State House it was heard in the Economic and Environmental Matters Committee. About now some of you might be getting steamed thinking "what does this have to do with motorcycle rights" "ABATE shouldn't be concerned with this issue". Let me guarantee to you, guns are not the issue. Personal freedoms, the right to be able to decide what is good for ourselves - as we are responsible adults, and the fact that the government which is supposed to listen to me and you because we are their constituents, government that was founded by leaders such as Jefferson, Madison, and Lincoln. Government by the people, and for the people -that is the issue. Not the government that reacts to what is "politically correct" as defined by the media. It is time for the people to take back our government.

If you are not registered to vote. Pick up your phone and dial 411. Get the number to your county election board. Call them and get registered. Don't make some excuse about not wanting to be on jury duty. The motor-voter registrations will be here soon-but not before this election. And it is this election that we have to pick a governor that is not going to veto a helmet repeal bill. The primary elections are held in September. So stay tuned, we'll tell you what we know about the candidates in upcoming ABATE Newsletters.

Until then - See you at the events!

-Sally

**ABATE of Maryland's**  
**CUMBERLAND PARTY**  
**at the Allegany County Fairgrounds**  
 (A weekend of fun in scenic Western Maryland.)

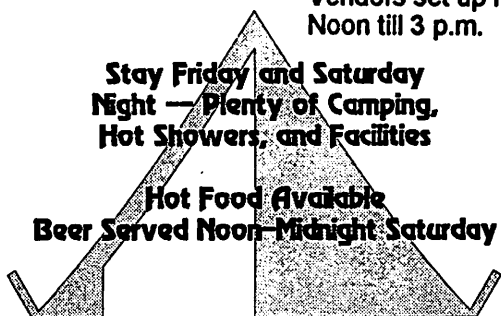
**June 10 - 12, 1994**

(Gates Open 4 pm)

Vendors set up Friday  
 Noon till 3 p.m.

Stay Friday and Saturday  
 Night — Plenty of Camping,  
 Hot Showers, and Facilities

Hot Food Available  
 Beer Served Noon-Midnight Saturday



**Live Music**

Two Bands on Stage Saturday - Featuring

**Cracked Actor**

Headling Band:

*GREAT  
 TRAIN  
 ROBBERY*

Party Activities Include: Vendors, Tattoo Contests, Field  
 Events (Come see Maryland's state sport --jousting  
 --on motorcycles!), Plus Drawing for 1994 FXR  
 (Raffle Bike to be Awarded at 11 p.m. Saturday Night!)

**ADMISSION**

\$20 for card-carrying ABATE  
 members — includes  
 bottomless beverage mug!

\$25 for nonmembers —  
 admission only — no mug.  
 (Mug may be purchased  
 separately.)

The purchase or consumption of alcohol by minors  
 is illegal and will be cause for arrest and removal

**AMA Pro/Am Dirt Track Races  
 at the Fairgrounds on Sunday!**

No Pets, Firearms, or Fireworks  
 Concession Rights Reserved  
 Commemorative Rights Reserved  
 Security on Premises  
 Persons under 18 must be  
 accompanied by adult.

1/2 Price Admission to the Races  
 Tickets on sale at the ABATE  
 Products Booth during the Party!



**Directions:** From the Baltimore/Washington area, take Interstate 70 West  
 to Interstate 68 West to Route 220 South, 5 miles to fairgrounds on left.

**Rain or  
 Shine!**

For more information call ABATE of Maryland — 24 Hours  
 Outside Maryland — (410) 263-9185  
 Inside Maryland — (800) 843-0252



ABATE OF MARYLAND, INC.




**Presents**

**Pro-Am Dirt Track**

# **RACING**

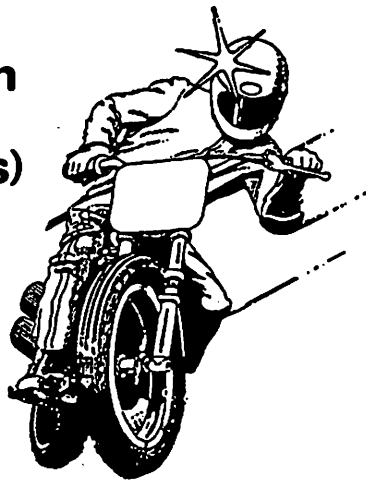
**Sunday, June 12, 1994**  
**Allegheny Fairgrounds**

**Historical Cumberland 1/2 Mile Track**  
**MOTORCYCLE RACING IS BACK!**

-  **AMA Sanctioned -**
- District #7 Points -**
- Pro Classes**
-  **All Amateur and Youth**
- Classes**
-  **Vintage (AHRMA Rules)**

**\$7.50 Gate**  
**\$20.00 Sign-Up All Amateurs**  
**\$25.00 Experts and Pros**

**Gates Open 10 am, Practice at 11 am**  
**Racers Gate Open at 9 am**  
**Racing Starts at 1 pm**  
**Food and Refreshments Available**



**ABATE of**  
**Maryland's**  
**Annual**  
**Cumberland**  
**Party**  
**June 10-12**  
**Field Events,**  
**Live Music,**  
**Ride-In Bike**  
**Show, Lots of**  
**Entertainment**  
**(Come to the**  
**party and get**  
**1/2 off race.)**

**For More Information Call (410) 263-9185 or (301) 845-8868**

# COUNTY CORNERS

## ANNE ARUNDLE

Coordinator : John Odell  
(410)647-1159

Meetings are the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the True Pit BBQ on Route 3 in Crofton. The food is good so come early and have dinner first.

We've had a lot of change in the past months; John Odell is now travelling out of state most of the time, Prez has moved to New Jersey, and two other officers have stepped down. We need all members to get involved at some level to keep our chapter going strong through these changes.

Mary Frazier has been very busy with the legislative session. In addition to keeping us informed on bills of interest, she has been trying to schedule appointments for chapter members to visit with their district representatives. If you have not been contacted about seeing you representatives give Mary a call at 410-956-3161 or Joyce Henderson at 301-261-6815.

We have several events planned for the year, starting with a bike show at the Rt.3/True Pit Shopping Center in May. Find out more at the next chapter meeting and also ask about the Pyrotechnic Poker Run and Shotgun Bowling.

## BALTIMORE CITY/COUNTY

Coordinator : Wil Crum  
(410)780-9342

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at The New Ritz, 8013 Philadelphia Road, Balto., Maryland 21237

Well folks, one again we had to move our meeting place. Beginning in March, our meetings will be held at The New Ritz, which is located on the corner of Chesaco Avenue and Philadelphia Road, one block off Pulaski Highway (Route 40), on the east side of Baltimore.

Tommy, who runs the establishment, said he will be happy to accommodate us. They serve food and alcoholic beverages. They also have live music every night starting at 9:30 p.m. Due to the music, we will be starting our meetings promptly at 7:30 p.m.

The reason we moved is because "Ron's Golden 50's" went out of business. It's too bad, Ron was very good to us. If any of the Baltimore Chapter members run into Ron, please take the time to thank him for all he's done.

Well, I sure hope to see more of our members attend meetings as the riding season draws near.

Take care and I'll see ya....

WIL

## CALVERT

Coordinator : Gene Gullickson  
(301)855-7999

Meetings are held at The Paris Station restaurant and bar, formerly known as Lazy J's Bar, located on Rt. 260 (about 2 miles east of MD. Rt. 2) in Owings, Md., on the first Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

## CARROLL

Coordinator : Tina Keith  
(410)857-5846

Hello, Our county meeting is at Frisco Pub, located across from Shoney's on Rt. 144 in Westminster. All meetings will be on the last Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. Our chapter needs some serious work on working as a team, 1 person does not make a team! If we are going to fight for our rights and get that helmet off our heads, we need to pull together. The county's 4th Annual Dance is going to be April 2nd of 1994.

## CECIL

Coordinator : Bob Grier  
(410)287-6970

Cecil County meetings are the second Sunday of each month at the North East VFW, Post 6027. Meetings are held at 6:00 p.m.

We also have a Swap Meet approaching and a committee will be formed. If you are interested in helping contact Bobby Grier at (410)287-6970 or Guy Parent at (410)658-9602.

## FREDERICK

Coordinator : Pat Mullen  
(301)898-3626

Meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at Tank's Place in Frederick.

## HARFORD

Coordinator : Merrill Paden  
(410)838-6219

Meetings are held upstairs at Harvey's Place on Rt. 1 in Dublin on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

## HOWARD

Coordinators : Tom Greenbank  
(301)854-0228  
Don Felner  
(410)465-7829

Meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month at the Friendly Inn on Rt. 144, between the intersection of Folley Quarter Rd. and Marriotsville Rd.

**MID SHORES**  
**(CAROLINE/KENT/**  
**DORCHESTER/TALBOT)**  
**QUEEN ANNE'S**

Coordinators:

(Caroline) (410)820-9323

Kenny Eaton

(Kent)

(Dorchester)

Wayne McCarty

(Queen Anne's) (410)758-2234

Bill Kukendall

(Talbot)

(410)745-5136

Marty Shultz

Meetings are at Manny's Restaurant, Rt 50 East in Easton on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

**MONTGOMERY**

Coordinator : Jeff Folkes

(301)916-6361

Our meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at Red Hot and Blue Restaurant on Shady Grove Rd. and Crabbs Branch Way in Gaithersburg at 8:00 p.m. Our second meeting has moved to a new location on the third Tuesday of each month at the Layhill Cafe in Silver Spring, Md. at 8:00 p.m.

**SOUTHERN MD**

**(CHARLES/P.G.)**

Call Pam Myers at (301)292-4027 for information.

**ST. MARY'S**

Coordinator: Mike Lewis

(301)863-0377

Meetings are held on the second Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the VFW Post #2632 in California, Maryland.

With the legislature in full swing, we need all members to stay informed on the legislative issues. Write letters and make calls to all of your Senators and Delegates. They must be told how you feel and what you want from them. Your voice must be heard if you want to get the right laws either passed or repealed.

We were fortunate enough this year to be able to afford to send eight members to the Jersey ABATE Two Wheel Convention. It is amazing how psyched folks get when they attend one of these conferences. The workshops provide excellent tools and lessons on how to better do the things we must to compete in this tough and complicated political arena. We will attempt to send some additional members to the Pennsylvania NCOM conference that is upcoming. I highly recommend that all members give serious thought to attending one of these conferences in the future.

We are looking forward to having a great year. Our schedule of events includes at least one Chapter event each month. Couple that with all of the other events in the state and you are never at a loss for something exciting to do. Besides what better way to spend your time than with the people who make up ABATE of Maryland.

A reminder to all that ABATE is an organization that is dedicated to motorcyclists rights. We are a grass roots political organization. Our events are geared to support our political activity. We are also a volunteer organization. We do not have full time staff or paid positions within the organization. We depend solely on the generous efforts of our dedicated officers, members, and volunteers. If you believe in what we stand for and what we do, give a little extra time to help out. We most certainly appreciate it and you

might find it very rewarding to be more involved with our organization and its efforts. Also keep in mind that we do not have all the answers. If you have ideas on how to accomplish a task please speak up. We need folks to express their opinions. If there is something about the organization you do not like, talk to one of the officers about it. We cannot fix something if we do not know about it. Remember that you cannot make changes only by complaining to others. Speak out to the people who can help. Get involved in the process and work to change it. ABATE of Maryland is recognized throughout the country as being very good at lobbying. We should all be proud.

We need to get better at some other things like membership, fundraising and communication. My point to all this is that ABATE of Maryland is a good organization that can be better, but only with the support of all of its members. Ride Saf

**LOWER EASTERN**

**SHORE**

**(WICOMICO/WORCESTER)**

Coordinators : Linda Wainer

(WICOMICO) (410)749-2647

Evelyn Reter

(WORCESTER) (410)957-1690

Meetings are held the first Sunday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at English's Restaurant, Rt. 13 South, Salisbury.

**WASHINGTON**

Coordinator : Gary Boward

(301)824-2782

Meetings are held on the second Sunday of each month at 4:00 p.m. at the Greenbriar Inn, Rt. 40, East of Hagerstown.

# REPORT FROM THE MRF CONVENTION :

By: Mike Lewis

When the subject of the MRF Meeting of the Minds first came up, I thought that it would be nice to attend but I didn't really have any extra money to spend on going to a convention. Even with ABATE covering some of the expenses, I wasn't sure it would be worth my while to go. Now don't misunderstand me, you can always learn something no matter where you are. But, I just wasn't sure that the Meeting of the Minds was going to be a value added experience. Well let me tell you how wrong I was about this one. First of all, there was somewhere in excess of 400 of the best freedom fighters from over 38 states in attendance. If you have never been around a large group of dedicated bikers who have a single focus of protecting their rights, you have really missed something. These folks are the experts when it comes to grass roots lobbying. Trading experiences both good and bad with these folks can give you the chills. The single biggest reward of the week was getting to know the people who represent other motorcycle rights organizations throughout the country. The yuppies would call it networking. Well call it what you like, it is the best way to contact and develop a relationship with folks like us who are continually fighting to keep free. Since my return, I have had to contact several of my new friends and brothers from other states to ask questions about their states accidents data, lobbying strategies, public service videos, and most importantly just to jaw with them. If I had taken nothing else from Denver, the names and numbers of folks I met and came to know was more than worth the trip. In case you have haven't figured it out the Meeting of the Minds was in Denver. Nice town, great people, especially the Colorado ABATE folks who hosted the event. They deserve alot of credit for the work they put into organizing the convention. Maryland ought seriously consider hosting one of these things in 2-3 years from now.

I've rambled enough about the place and people.

Let me spend a little time telling you about the workshops that were held. Once again the top people available were brought in for these sessions. Workshops on organization, lobbying, media relations, generating media copy, statistical analysis, federal funding, police relations, legislative process, putting on events and many more were held over a two day period. Because of the time frames and number of of topics, all of the Maryland attendees split up so we could cover all of the workshops being offered. Each of us was rewarded with some insight that we are able to apply to our cause here at home. Pappy picked up some info about 402 funds. I got some good tips about dealing with the media. Tips like never answer a question without first repeating the question. Never invite press to an event and leave them unattended. Without an escort you never know what they might get into and twist around on you. If you make up flyers, print something on both sides to make use of the paper and discourage them from becoming someone elses scratch paper. A membership application or organizational promotion is always a good filler. I also learned tips on writing good news copy or press releases. Granted my style in this article is not very polished or formal, but that's because I tend to write conversationally to my friends. I was able to attend the workshop on statistics. The primary lesson from this session was to question the data sources and how the data are applied to the material being presented. Virtually all statistical data can be presented in a manner that will support opposing viewpoints. We should be very careful of using statistical data and examine all data used to support our opponents views with a very careful eye. I found the police relations workshop interesting but left feeling that the officer who conducted it would have done better to focus more on problems relating to helmet tickets. It was still a good work shop but the helmet area was weak primarily due to the fact that the officer was from a non-helmet



law state. I did however, get a good insight on how the various types of radar and VASCAR work. I hope that you're beginning to see that the Meeting of the Minds was a working experience. Now that doesn't mean that we didn't have any fun. Friday night we went to a fundraiser for Senator Ben "Night Horse" Campbell. This guy is our best friend and ally in Congress. He is the most straightforward outspoken and real person I have ever met in politics. It has to something with his heritage and being a motorcyclist. Now if we could only get a few hundred more like him. He spoke to us again on Saturday morning and told us that we must constantly be on guard to protect our freedoms. He suggested that the upcoming health care battles and some other "Clinton" initiatives could be tough on us and we need to keep our eyes open. The banquet on Saturday night was a ball. The awards ceremony was touching, funny, and for many richly deserved. I was very proud when ABATE of Maryland was singled out for the efforts all of us put forth to save the Motorcycle Safety Program. Yes, if you have any doubts, other states watch what we do with our legislature just as much as we watch them. I could not help but feel proud of ABATE of Maryland when a complete stranger came up to me and asked how we convinced Steny Hoyer to cosponsor H.R.

799.

I left BWI for Denver not knowing what to expect from the Meeting of the Minds. I really wasn't sure what I would get out of it. Now that I'm back, I'm sure that what I got there was well worth the time and expense. In fact some of it was priceless. I came back charged with a sense of purpose. You cannot help but get pumped by being with the folks who are the spearhead of the motorcycle rights organizations. The fact that I was surround by some of our best people just made the trip all the more enjoyable. I want to thank Lynn Oldenburg, Tom Greenbank, Gary Boward, Tom Bruce, Linda Wainer, Chuck Blankenship and Mike Sage for being gracious enough to help me share and learn from this entire experience. I would like to close by saying that every member of ABATE who believes in what we are doing should consider attending some type of conference such as this one. It does not have to be the MRF conference in St. Louis next year. It can be a regional meeting such as the Two Wheel Convention in New Jersey or the Pennsylvania meeting Mother' Day weekend. The point is that these events tend to motivate our people, train our people and unite our people. I'm trying to stash a little extra coin now because I hope to go to St. Louis



High-Performance  
by Custom Chrome

PARTS AND ACC.  
ON ALL MAKES!!  
SERVICE TOO!



Shady Grove Cycle



## ATTENTION HARLEY OWNERS!

**24-Hour Special Order Service on 10% OFF for ABATE Members!**  
**CUSTOM CHROME Parts in Most Cases!**

**Biker Jackets \$129.95 Chaps \$99.95 DOT Approved 1/2 Shells \$44.95**

### GIVE US A CALL!



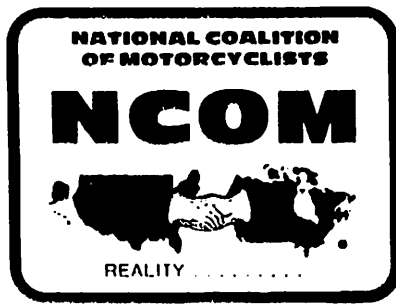
**SHADY GROVE CYCLE**

16760 Oakmont Avenue  
Gaithersburg, MD 20877  
**(301)948-8086**

STORE HOURS  
10-7 MON-FRI  
10-5 SAT  
CLOSED SUNDAY



**nempco, Inc.**  
The Biker's Choice



# 9th ANNUAL CONVENTION

MAY 5-8, 1994  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA



## MOTORCYCLING ISSUES ACROSS THE COUNTRY AND AROUND THE WORLD

- Why Helmets Fail — Legal Workshop
- Biker Anti-Discrimination Panel
- Legislative Task Force Strategy Meeting
- Confederation of Clubs Meeting
- A.I.M. Attorney Conference
- Informative Workshops
- Distinguished Guest Speakers
- Get Acquainted Parties
- General Session & Regional Meetings

### Silver Spoke Awards Banquet Saturday Night

(recipients to be announced)

**• ALL MOTORCYCLISTS WELCOME •**

**HOLIDAY INN - HARRISBURG WEST**  
5401 Carlisle Pike, Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania

*For Reservations Call (800) 772-7829*

*\$50 Single – \$54.00 Double (mention NCOM Convention for rate)*

*Convention Registration – \$45.00 (Including Banquet)*

Updates and more details in upcoming Press Releases  
for more information call NCOM (800) 525-5355



UNITED STATES SENATE  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20510

October 7, 1993

301 NIGHTHORSE CAMPBELL  
COLORADO

TO: A.B.A.T.E. Newsletter Editor

Dear Editor,

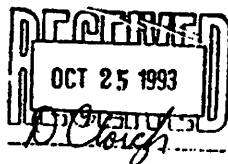
The first Four Corners Iron Horse Rally is now history and, from every aspect, was a huge success. This new rally, located in America's scenic southwest, was hosted by Region 8 of Colorado A.B.A.T.E. and the Tres Rios Chapter of A.B.A.T.E. of New Mexico. The rally drew 6,500 riders and 1,500 spectators to four activity-filled days. Riders came from 38 states and four countries. National publicity was carried by the associated press, CNN and "Good Morning, America" and was a big hit with the local community.

Since this was an A.B.A.T.E. sponsored event and the "2nd Annual" is already being planned, it has been suggested that perhaps it is time for a National A.B.A.T.E. rally. I would ask that this question be posed to A.B.A.T.E. chapters nationwide through the various state newsletters to see if this idea has merit.

Mark Buckner, Colorado state A.B.A.T.E. coordinator and Vice President of the Motorcycle Riders Foundation, will soon be contacting your state coordinator for some feedback. Clearly, we would like to have our rally designated as the "National A.B.A.T.E. Rally" but whether that is in the cards or not, isn't it time we do a national event for A.B.A.T.E. members?

Sincerely,

Ben Nighthorse Campbell  
U.S. Senator  
Colorado A.B.A.T.E. member



# 2nd ANNUAL FOUR CORNERS IRON HORSE MOTORCYCLE RALLY

Ignacio, Colorado September 2-5 1994  
Labor Day Holidays

HOSTED BY:

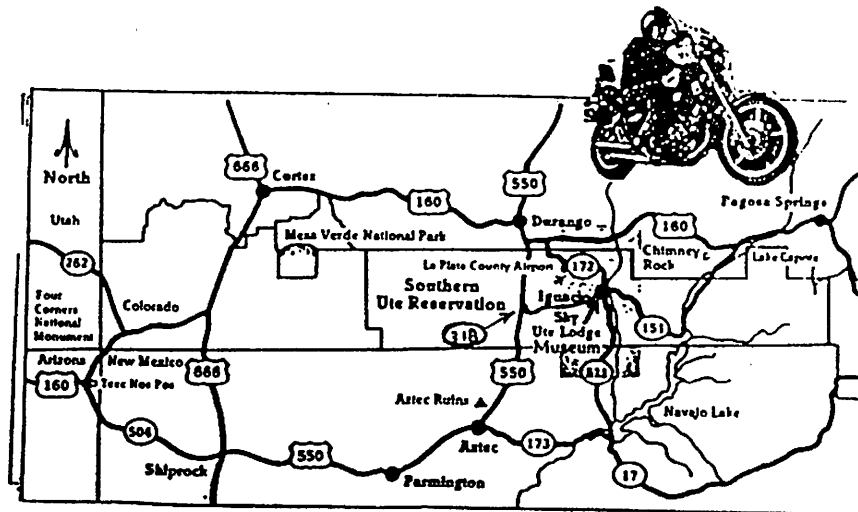
\*Tres Rios Chapter, NM A.B.A.T.E. \*U.S. Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell  
\*Colorado District 8 A.B.A.T.E. \*Southern Ute Indian Tribe

CORPORATE SPONSORS:

\*Pepsi-Cola Company \*Budweiser Beer  
\*U.S. West \*Great Western Casinos

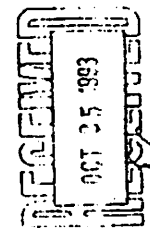
ACTIVITIES INCLUDE: \*Governor's Cup Awards \*Poker Run \*Side Tours  
\*Field Events \*Show Bikes \*Trade Show \*Swap Meet \*Bands \*Blessing of the  
Bikes \*Parade of the Iron Horses \*Casino Gambling \*Cookouts \*Ancient Indian  
Ruins \*Skydivers \*High Stakes Bingo \*Factory Outlet Stores \*Speedway Racing  
\*Motorcross

GATE FEE: \$6.00 per day per person, or \$15.00 for all four days.



RALLY INFORMATION: Tim Craig: (303) 563-4502-Booths and Vendors, Mike Lovato: (303) 247-8916-  
Events Coordinator, Gib Motto: (505) 632-3940-Tres Rios Chapter A.B.A.T.E., U.S. Senator Ben  
Nighthorse Campbell: (303) 247-1689

LODGING INFORMATION: In Farmington, NM-(505) 325-0279; Durango, CO-(303) 247-0312; Ignacio,  
CO-(303) 563-4531; Aztec, NM-(505) 334-9551; Bloomfield, NM-(505) 632-0880 Nearby Camping is also  
available



**Operation: God Bless America IV**  
**MOTORCYCLISTS RIDE FOR VETERANS**



Registration

**SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 1994 - 10:00 till 11:30**

\$5.00 per person donation — Buckhorn Plaza 181 & Rt. 16, Greencastle, PA.

Destination

Departure is set for 12:00 Noon — Martinsburg VA Hospital, Martinsburg, WV

Agenda

Arrival at Martinsburg at approximately 1:00

Ceremony and presentation of monies at 1:30

Picnic and Visitation with veterans til 3:00

**NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES PERMITTED**

**ALL MOTORCYCLE ENTHUSIASTS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND**

**RAIN OR SHINE**

For more information, contact Rob McCulloh (chairman) 717-328-9063

**Operation: God Bless America IV**  
**MOTORCYCLISTS RIDE FOR VETERANS**



Registration

**SUNDAY JUNE 5, 1994 - 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.**

\$5.00 per person donation - American Legion Post 191-801 Prospect Rd. Mt. Airy, MD

Departure is set for 11:00 a.m. - Martinsburg VA Hospital, Martinsburg, WV

Agenda

All you can eat breakfast 8-10:30 at American Legion Post 191 Mt. Airy **PRESALES ONLY** for ticket information contact Charles Levy 301-831-7116

Arrival at Martinsburg VA approximately 1:00 p.m.

Ceremony and presentation of contributions at 1:30 p.m.

Picnic and Visitation with veterans till 3:00 p.m. **NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES PERMITTED**

**ALL MOTORCYCLE ENTHUSIASTS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND**

**RAIN OR SHINE**

For more information, contact Rob McCulloh (chairman) 717-328-9063

Two departure locations.



A.B.A.T.E. of Arkansas, Inc.

State Office  
P.O. Box 190864 Little Rock, AR 72219  
Tel. 501-888-4123

Motorcycle Rider Course  
P.O. Box 2233 Little Rock, AR 72203  
Tel. 501-371-7447

President Bill Clinton  
White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

I'm writing this letter to enlist your support of Motorcycle Rider Education in Arkansas and across the United States. Arkansas Bikers Aiming Toward Education, Inc. (A.B.A.T.E.), a non-profit organization, has been conducting Motorcycle Safety Foundation certified motorcycle rider education courses both for beginners and experienced riders since 1989.

Governors, Mayors, and city managers across the U.S. declare May "Motorcycle Awareness" month in their states each year. ABATE was the proud recipient of this proclamation, signed by yourself, for the first time two years ago.

To commemorate 1 million riders being trained in 1993, we ask you to endorse a proclamation declaring May "Motorcycle Awareness" month nationwide. I have included the proposed wording for the proclamation and would like to extend an invitation to you and your family to present this proclamation at the ABATE of Arkansas Motorcycle Awareness Day ceremonies to be held on Saturday April 30th. at War Memorial Stadium.

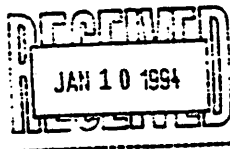
With assistance from the MSF, State Agencies and Colleges, 4500 dedicated instructors belonging to Motorcyclists Rights Organizations such as ours, are now training beginner and experienced riders at 900 U.S. sites and throughout the world on military installations.

Statistics show that 90% of motorcycle accidents resulting in fatalities involve an untrained rider and 70% of all accidents involving motorcycles and automobiles, the motorist is found to be at fault. With increased motorcycle safety training and more aggressive motorist awareness campaigns, we believe these statistics will be dramatically reduced.

Thank you for your consideration in this endeavor that ultimately affects over 10 million motorcyclists in America. Please respond in the affirmative to the Motorcycle Rider Course address above as soon as possible, giving us time to properly prepare for this event.

Sincerely,

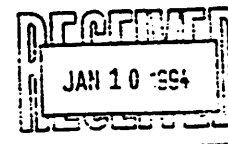
*Jeanie Murray*  
Jeanie Murray  
ABATE Rider Education Coordinator



- WHEREAS: There are over 10 million licensed motorcyclists in the United States, 90% of accidents resulting in fatalities involve untrained riders and 70% of all accidents involving motorcycles and automobiles are found to be the fault of motorists; and
- WHEREAS: Spring is the time when motorcyclists from all over the nation begin to appear on our roadways making Motorcycle Rider Education and Motorist Awareness urgently needed during this season; and
- WHEREAS: The United States government is progressive and aware of the need to decrease motorcycle accidents through rider education and the encouragement of motorists to be more aware of motorcycles when sharing the road; and
- WHEREAS: It is vitally important for those who operate motorcycles to have a thorough understanding of rider safety and possess the skills necessary to practice defensive driving; and
- WHEREAS: Pursuant to Motorcycle Safety Foundation certification, there are 4500 dedicated instructors training at 900 U.S. sites and hundreds of military installations internationally.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Clinton, President of the United States, do hereby proclaim from this day forth, May 1 - May 31 to be "MOTORCYCLE AWARENESS" month.

- BE IT ALSO RESOLVED: That the President urges drivers of automobiles and like vehicles to develop safer driving skills in relationship to motorcycles; and
- BE IT ALSO RESOLVED: That the President urges those who operate a motorcycle to participate in a Motorcycle Safety Foundation certified Rider Education Course taught by certified instructors.



# Little Mike's Bike Show

1003 West Washington Street  
Hagerstown, MD

*Proudly serving*



## May 22, 1994

*Fun, Food, & Drink for All!*

### \$ 7.00 Registration Fee

Registration 9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

*Public Invited  
Door Prizes  
50/50*

### Call 301-791-5081

*Supported by Abate of Washington County*

10 Classes  
31 Trophies



Cecil County Chapter  
of  
ABATE of Maryland  
presents



## ANNUAL BIKE SHOW AND SWAP MEET

11:00 a.m.  
to 5:00 p.m.

Sunday May 15th, 1994  
Rain or Shine

Live Music, Food, and Beverages Available

Location: Burkheimer's Auction Gallery  
North East, MD

Admissions: \$5.00 for ABATE members  
& Active Military

\$6.00 for all others

Bike Registration 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
Fee: \$7.50

For more information and Vendor Space Availability  
Call: Bob Grier at 410-287-6970  
or Merrill Padden at 410-838-6219  
No dogs, glass containers, kegs, or coolers.  
Security on Premises  
Commemorative Rights and Concession Rights Reserved

**CAMPBELL INTRODUCES BILL TO DELAY PENALTIES ON STATES THAT DON'T MANDATE HELMET\SEATBELT LAWS, ADVOCATES EDUCATION**

U. S. Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell today introduced legislation that delays for two years the penalizing of states that have not passed laws mandating helmet and seatbelt use, giving states the option of either passing helmet and seatbelt laws, or establishing motor safety programs, exempting those states that already have safety programs in place.

"Penalizing these states is not only a burdensome Federal mandate placed on the backs of state legislatures, but it is also an erosion of civil liberties and personal freedom," Campbell said. "These penalties are imposed regardless of whether the state has already allocated funds to helmet and seatbelt safety programs, and regardless of a state's individual safety record."

Campbell's bill will provide relief to 29 states - Colorado among them - that have been financially penalized under the Intermodal Surface Transportation Act of 1991 (ISTEA) for not having passed laws mandating helmet and seatbelt use by Oct. 1, 1993. These states face penalties in fiscal years 1995, 1996 and 1997, and will be required to transfer transportation and construction dollars to safety programs outlined in ISTEA.

Initially, these 29 states are being forced to shift 1.5 percent of their federal highway dollars to safety programs. If a state has still not enacted seatbelt and

helmet laws by Sept. 30, 1994, it is required to shift three percent of its' federal highway funds into safety programs.

Campbell noted that Colorado does not have a mandatory helmet law and that a bill to implement one recently introduced in the state legislature failed to pass. Despite this, Colorado has a motorcycle fatality rate almost 30 percent below the average for states with mandatory helmet laws. Of the top 12 states with the best motorcycle safety records, only one has a helmet law.

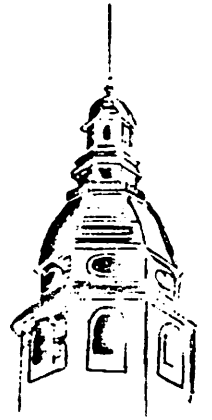
"Evidence clearly indicates that the most effective way to reduce motorcycle accidents and motorcycle fatalities is through comprehensive education programs, as opposed to mandating helmet usage," Campbell said. "Currently, 42 states have established and funded some sort of safety program."

I realize the motivations behind ISTEA and those who wish to force states into passing helmet and seatbelt laws are doing so out of concern for the safety of the traveling public, but, clearly, mandating helmet usage will not address the real problem of rider inexperience and lack of training."



U.S. Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell is recognized for his efforts in protecting motorcyclists' freedoms across the Nation. Members of ABATE of Maryland gave him a plaque at the International Motorcycle Show. (from left to right- Lynn Oldenburg, Bob Ritter, Senator Campbell, Paul Jackson, Dave Sherman, Jay Block, and Merrill Padden)





## Legislative Update: Maryland General Assembly 1994

*Delegates Owings and Astle* who both ride motorcycles, sponsored a bill which would allow more than one motorcycle to park in a metered spot. They both testified before their committee as a pair. It went something like this: "Hi I'm Delegate Owings." "Hi I'm Delegate Astle." "I ride a motorcycle." "I ride a motorcycle, too." "And when we ride on our motorcycles all over the state we really enjoy it." "Except when we park our motorcycles side by side, because we can get ticketed." Several ABATE members testified that this would ease parking congestion, and further explained that if one bike parks first and then the rider returns later to find another bike in the spot as well and if they get ticketed they both get ticketed. Prince George's County and Howard County municipalities submitted to record that they would not lose any revenue if this bill were passed. Their was not opposition testimony at the hearing. Unfortunately, other municipalities lobbied against this bill behind the scene and it died in committee. Only three members of the committee voted for this bill: Delegates Astle, Owings, and Roesser. If this bill comes back next year, we will have to lobby just as strong as the municipalities, in order to get this into law.

*The anti-discrimination bill* was heard in the Senate Judicial Proceedings committee. The guys from the Baltimore Chapter, Lee Dix and Wil Crum, are responsible for getting this bill into being. Working with Senator Collins, they were able to get several co-sponsors. The testimony was excellent for our side of this issue. There was no opposition that testified. The bill was passed unanimously out of the committee and had a 2/3 majority in the full Senate. At Press-time a hearing is scheduled for the House Judiciary Committee and if we can get it out of committee we have an excellent chance to see this one come into law. If you want to see a copy of this bill it is reprinted on the next page.

*The helmet bill* was heard in the Senate Judicial Proceedings committee. We had the votes before the bill was heard. Hundred of ABATE members had been to Monday Night lobbying and sat in the balcony of the Senate Chambers. We had quite a few Senators that said they would vote our way if it came out of committee. Unfortunately, the media swarmed into Annapolis the day of the hearing. Dr. Alcorta, temporary head of the EMS - has since the hearing stepped down, and his cronies jammed the media with their cooked statistics. I'm sure you must have heard, "In the year following the passage of the helmet law motorcycle fatalities have decreased 20%". Well the year in which he refers to is the calendar year. Remember when the helmet law went into effect. Sure you do, it was October 1, 1992. So any statistics have to be compiled from that date forward. Not January - December. The state police compile the fatality data from month to month, so it isn't as if it is difficult. It just proves the old saying, "Figures don't lie, but liars figure".

*The media* was in Annapolis in force because the Governor had called a press conference that afternoon to announce what Maryland was doing about the Asian Cholera outbreak effecting the waterfowl and fish eating birds in the Chesapeake. (Up to this point I don't think the man even knew about the bill.) Well, a reporter interrupted this press conference and asked his opinion about the repeal bill and Governor Schaeffer's face turned beet red. And he responded vowing to veto this bill if it got to his desk. And then the political machine started turning it's wheels and that ladies and gentlemen is that. You can



read about some of the legislative efforts to regain our freedoms by reading the newspaper article reprinted in this issue.

*We put on a good campaign.* And the motorcyclists in Maryland can be proud of their relationships with the legislature. We could use several hundred more motorcyclists to come to Annapolis. Next year, with the legislature changing. We need more people from Baltimore, Montgomery, and Prince George's county on a regular basis because that is where the majority of legislators are from. Representation is based on population. We will also see more diversity in the legislature next year. So if you are a woman or a minority, come to Annapolis - your legislatures need to see you as motorcyclists. Thank you to everyone for this great legislative effort we had this year. Keep up the good work, we will have the freedom to choose again. Look in your upcoming ABATE Newsletters for a voting guide, we'll let you know who supports our efforts. If you have any questions about ABATE's legislative efforts or questions about legislators in general call the ABATE office and we'll try to help you. Toll-free in Maryland 1-800-843-0252 or 410-263-9185 (local in Anne Arundel county).

-Respectfully submitted to the Membership of ABATE of Maryland,  
Sally Bruce SENATE BILL 611

10/26/94

By: Senators Collins, Hollinger, Stone, and Piccinini  
Introduced and read first time: February 4, 1994  
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 Discrimination - Public Accommodations - Personal Appearance

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting an owner or operator of a place of public  
4 accommodation, an agent or employee of the owner or operator of a place of public  
5 accommodation, or persons or businesses licensed or regulated by the State, from  
6 discriminating against an individual because of the personal appearance or mode of  
7 transportation chosen by that individual; and generally relating to the prohibition  
8 on discriminating against individuals based on personal appearance or mode of  
9 transportation used.

S80611/197855/1 JPR  
Amendments to SB 611  
Page 2 of 2

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

11 Article 49B - Human Relations Commission

12 Section 5(a) and (b) and 8(a)

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (1991 Replacement Volume and 1993 Supplement)

On page 2, in line 19, strike "2." and substitute "3\_".

AMENDMENT NO. 2

15 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
16 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

17 Article 49B - Human Relations Commission

On page 1, in lines 21 and 22, and on page 2, in line 8, in each instance, after "PERSONAL APPEARANCE" insert "OR ASSOCIATION"; on page 1, in line 30, and on page 2, in line 17, in each instance, after "PERSONAL APPEARANCE," insert "ASSOCIATION."; and on page 2, in line 8, strike the first "OR".

AMENDMENT NO. 3

18 5.

19 (a) It is unlawful for an owner or operator of a place of public accommodation or  
20 an agent or employee of the owner or operator, because of the race, creed, sex, age, color,  
21 national origin, marital status, [or] physical or mental handicap, PERSONAL  
22 APPEARANCE, OR MODE OF TRANSPORTATION CHOSEN BY, any person, to refuse,  
23 withhold from, or deny to such person any of the accommodations, advantages, facilities  
24 and privileges of such place of public accommodation.

On page 1, after line 31, insert:

"(E)(1) FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SUBTITLE, "PERSONAL APPEARANCE" MEANS THE OUTWARD APPEARANCE OF ANY PERSON, REGARDLESS OF GENDER, WITH RESPECT TO HAIR STYLE, FACIAL HAIR, OR MANNER OF DRESS.

25 (b) Nothing in this section shall be construed or interpreted to prohibit the  
26 proprietor of any establishment, or the employees of the establishment, from the right to  
27 deny service to any person for failure to conform to the usual and regular requirements,  
28 standards and regulations for the establishment so long as the denial is not based upon  
29 discrimination on the grounds of race, sex, age, color, creed, national origin, marital  
30 status, [or] physical or mental handicap, PERSONAL APPEARANCE, OR MODE OF  
31 TRANSPORTATION USED.

(2) THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION ON THE GROUNDS OF PERSONAL APPEARANCE MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO APPLY TO A REQUIREMENT OF CLEANLINESS, UNIFORMS, OR PRESCRIBED ATTIRE WHEN UNIFORMLY APPLIED FOR ADMITTANCE TO A PLACE OF PUBLIC ACCOMMODATION OR TO A CLASS OF EMPLOYEES FOR A CUSTOMARY OR REASONABLE BUSINESS PURPOSE."

2 (a) It is unlawful for any person, business, corporation, partnership, copartnership  
3 or association or any other individual, agent, employee, group or firm which is licensed or  
4 regulated by a unit in the Department of Licensing and Regulation as set out in § 2-108  
5 of the Business Regulation Article to refuse, withhold from, deny or discriminate against  
6 any person the accommodations, advantages, facilities, privileges, sales, or services  
7 because of the race, sex, creed, color, national origin, marital status, [or] physical or  
8 mental handicap, OR PERSONAL APPEARANCE, OR MODE OF TRANSPORTATION  
9 CHOSEN BY, any person. Nothing in this section shall be construed or interpreted to  
10 prohibit any person, business, corporation, partnership, copartnership, association or any  
11 other individual, agent, employee, group or firm which is licensed or regulated by the  
12 Department of Licensing and Regulation from the right to refuse, withhold from, or deny  
13 any person for failure to conform to the usual and regular requirements, standards, and  
14 regulations of any person, business, corporation, partnership, copartnership, or  
15 association contemplated by this section so long as the denial is not based upon  
16 discrimination on the grounds of race, sex, color, creed, or national origin, marital status,  
17 [or] physical or mental handicap, PERSONAL APPEARANCE, OR MODE OF  
18 TRANSPORTATION USED.

19 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
20 October 1, 1994.

## Motorcyclists seek repeal of measure

By Marina Sarris  
Sun Staff Writer

Two years after losing the freedom to ride bareheaded, motorcyclists returned to Annapolis yesterday to renew a battle over helmets that has stretched, on and off, over the last 20 years.

Members of Maryland's largest motorcycle group asked state senators to repeal the law requiring motorcyclists to wear helmets. Although they found several sympathetic ears on the Judicial Proceedings Committee, they face an immovable opponent in the Governor's Mansion.

Gov. William Donald Schaefer yesterday vowed to quash the repeal if it manages to pass the General Assembly and land on his desk.

"I promise you I will veto the bill. Absolutely!" the governor said. "We're trying to save people's heads from being smashed in."

A governor's veto in the last year of a four-year term — such as this year — cannot be overridden by the next legislature. Supporters of Maryland's helmet law, however, hope to put an end to the repeal movement before it gets that far.

They say they have statistics — and 11 lives — on their side.

"There are 11 people alive today in the state who wouldn't be here if we had not passed the [helmet law] two years ago," testified Sen. Arthur Dorman, a Democrat from Prince George's County.

The number of highway deaths among motorcyclists dropped by 11 since the state helmet law took effect, from 54 fatalities to 43.

In addition, the number of motorcyclists admitted to the Maryland Shock Trauma Center with serious head injuries decreased by 17 percent, according to testimony by Dr. Richard Alcorta of the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems.

The less severe the injury, the less society ends up paying in medical costs for uninsured or under-insured people, helmet law supporters say.

The Maryland motorcycle group, A Brotherhood Against Totalitarian Enactments or ABATE, is skeptical of those statistics.

Chuck Blankenship, who has been riding for 28 years, said helmets actually contribute to neck and spine injuries, even if they protect wearers from head injuries. Dr. Alcorta later disputed that claim.

But Mr. Blankenship had another important weapon in his fight for re-

See HELMETS, 3B

## Eastern Shore secession bill dies

ANNAPOLIS (AP) — Accompanied by shouts of "Let them go, let them go," Sen. Walter Baker attempted Tuesday to take the Eastern Shore out of the union — or at least out of Maryland.

Mr. Baker, the sometimes crusty conservative from Cecil County, said he and Eastern Shore voters were weary of what he described as wrongheaded decisions by the 1994 General Assembly and it was time to consider secession.

The Democrat asked the Senate for permission to introduce a bill that would let Eastern Shore voters decide this fall whether to secede from the state, the United States or both.

But because the 1994 session is nearing its April 11 adjournment, the introduction of new bills requires a

two-thirds vote, and Mr. Baker's proposal fell short, 27-15.

Mr. Baker later said he wasn't sure whether he preferred that the Eastern Shore become the 51st state or an independent nation. But he said there was no doubt that given the chance, voters on the Eastern Shore would choose overwhelmingly to secede.

Mr. Baker, who has a reputation for dry wit, said if the Eastern Shore secedes "we're going to call it the state of Maryland.

"The rest of the state can call itself whatever it wants."

Mr. Baker said he introduced the bill primarily to make clear to the rest of the state that the Eastern Shore is displeased with much of what the legislature has done this year.

THE S

### STATE HOUSE REPORT

## HELMETS: Motorcyclists renew battle

From Page 1B

peal, an argument as appealing to some senators as the open road itself. The issue is one of personal freedom, he said.

The mandatory helmet law violates the freedom of adults to decide for themselves whether or not to strap on a helmet, Mr. Blankenship said.

"I'm a veteran — I served from 1970 to '74 — and I'm always concerned about my freedoms being curtailed," he said. "Return our freedom to choose for ourselves."

The General Assembly first enacted a mandatory helmet law in the early 1970s, only to repeal it in

voted for it now serve on other committees.

One of their replacements, Sen. Nancy L. Murphy of Baltimore County, said she might vote to repeal the law because it limits freedom. "I still feel there's a question of having the liberty of doing what you want to," she said.

In the meantime, Governor Schaefer said he remains well aware of motorcyclists' opposition to the helmet law he pushed through in 1992. But he is not impressed.

"I know every six months or so 500 motorcyclists or so ride around the State House. Vrrroom vrrroom. The only thing it does is annoy my dog," he said.

**66 We're trying to save people's heads from being smashed in. 99**

**GOVERNOR SCHAEFER**

1979. Motorcyclists managed to defeat annual attempts to restore the helmet law until two years ago.

The bikers hope changes in the Senate committee's membership since then will work in their favor this year.

The mandatory helmet law squeaked out of the panel by just one vote in 1992, and two senators who

STATE HEADQUARTERS  
8 WEST STREET  
ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401  
MAILING ADDRESS  
POST OFFICE BOX 1733  
ANNAPOLIS, MD 21404



Telephone  
(410) 343-0732  
FACSIMILE  
(410) 343-0875  
TELETYPE  
(410) 343-0875

STATE HEADQUARTERS  
8 WEST STREET  
ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401  
MAILING ADDRESS  
POST OFFICE BOX 1733  
ANNAPOLIS, MD 21404



Telephone  
1-800-343-0732  
TOLL FREE IN MD  
(410) 343-9185  
OUTSIDE OF MD

## ABATE OF MARYLAND, INC.

Dedicated To Responsible Motorcycle Legislation

In support of Voluntary Use of Motorcycle Helmets for Adult Riders

Dedicated To Responsible Motorcycle Legislation

March 8, 1994

The mandatory motorcycle helmet law went into effect on October 1, 1992. According to Maryland State Police Traffic Fatality Reports (which are compiled monthly) motorcycle fatalities did not increase. Contrary to reportings by the opposition, the data cannot be cited on a calendar year. This law did not save lives, nor has it saved the Maryland taxpayers money. It actually cost the taxpayers \$1.4 million. It was reported two years ago in the press that if Maryland did not pass this law, it would lose highway funds under the Federal ISTEA. According to Maryland Fiscal Services, Maryland received just over \$600,000 in Federal incentive grants. State contributions to receive those moneys and to match the full amount of the grants was \$1.4 million higher than the level required had a helmet law not been passed.

It has been reported in the press that motorcyclists suffer head injuries that cost the state money. Motor vehicle accident victims are suffering more head injuries than motorcyclists, yet no one is suggesting mandatory helmets for motor vehicle operators and their passengers. Even with seat belts, motor vehicle accident victims suffer head trauma. According to a 1993 Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Study, entitled, "Injuries in Maryland", 70% of all head injured victims fall between two age groups: under 18 and over 75. Clearly, the majority of these are not motorcycle accident victims. Also from this report, "Motorcyclists usually hit another part of their body first" (referring to head injuries).

Motorcyclists are responsible citizens who represent a cross section of society. We have careers, pay taxes, raise families, vote in elections, own property and businesses, and contribute to society. According to the Motorcycle Industry Council 1993 Statistical

Annual motorcyclist's:

- 1) Have a median annual income of \$33,000.
- 2) Have a median age of 31 years for motorcycle owners
- 3) 39% of all motorcyclists have some college education (post high school through graduate degrees)

Media depictions of motorcyclists notwithstanding, we are no different from any other age or income group. We pay our taxes and we should not be singled out or tagged with the label "burden". We are the working age group who pay the bulk of the expenses to run this government and its programs. We tolerate the no-called cost to society of other citizen's activities. Why should we be singled out?

-Sally Bruce,  
Executive Director

Dear Senator Baker:

I would like to respond to the opponents arguments to SB 222, that the bill to require those only under the age of 18, to be required to wear a helmet while operating a motorcycle in the State of Maryland.

Most of the opponents have decided that the motorcyclists in Maryland would become a further "Social Burden" to the State if allowed the PERSONAL FREEDOM to chose whether to wear a helmet or not.

Below are some facts about the Motorcycling Public and Industry in Maryland.

Total Motorcycle Related Retail Sales (1992 estimate)	\$118,190,000.00
5% Retail Sale Tax Collected	5,909,500.00
New Registration 1992 - 4,919 X \$52.00 registration fee	224,588.00
New Title Fee 1992 - 4,919 X \$15.00 fee	73,785.00
Yearly Registration 1992 - 53,100 X \$26.00 fee	1,380,600.00
Learners Permits 1992 - 4,100 (1992 est.) X \$30.00 fee	123,000.00

TOTAL FEES AND TAXES COLLECTED 1992 \$7211,473.00

Total Licensed Motorcyclist in Maryland 154,650

Medium income of Motorcyclist	33,200.00
Total Medium Income of Maryland Motorcyclists	\$5,134,380,000.00
Total Average Income Tax - 28%	1,437,626,400.00
MARYLAND AVERAGE INCOME TAX - 7%	\$359,406,600.00

MARYLAND'S MOTORCYCLE PUBLIC AND INDUSTRY CONTRIBUTIONS  
TO THE STATE OF MARYLAND IN FEES AND TAXES \$367,737,479.00

\$367,737,479.00 in taxes and fees should be more than enough for the ADULT MOTORCYCLIST of MARYLAND to be able to exercise some FREEDOM OF CHOICE in so far as the use of HELMETS.

Respectfully,

David J. Sherman  
Membership Secretary

# FREE WHEELING

*Reprinted from the Montgomery Journal*

By **ROBERT HELLMAN**

Special to The Journal

By now the public is well acquainted with motorcyclists' resistance to mandatory helmet laws. But if legislation is any measure of the national sentiment, riders' "freedom of choice" has been steadily losing out to safety arguments and concerns about disabled riders on the medical dole.

But the public remains unaware that the helmet issue may not be as simple as that argument makes it appear.

At the same time the federal government has been using highway funds in a carrot-and-stick approach to foster state helmet laws, it has done nothing of note to advance the state of head protection. Most experts consider Department of Transportation or Snell standards for legal motorcycle headgear eccentric and as dated as the so-called "Hurt report" on motorcycle accidents.

As a result, critics of the helmet initiatives are not limited to "Easy Rider" types who have long said that helmets impair a rider's vision and hearing. Rather it is being argued that the kind of helmets the government has us wearing may imperil our health.

Dr. Rodney Cooter, an Australian expert on cranial and facial injuries, has offered evidence that today's full face helmets transmit a fatal blow to the base of the brain in many kinds of accidents. Cooter advocates a redesign of helmets to provide a chin piece able to "give" in an accident, much as the human jaw does to protect the brain.

While the merit of Cooter's arguments remain controversial, there is no disputing the fact that established helmet design has not kept pace with the

safety gains in motorcycles themselves -- such as antilock brakes introduced by BMW motorcycles five years ago.

Worse still, in addition to not having the best helmet design for tomorrow, we may not even have the best of today. Of the four top-rated helmets cited in an exhaustive Motorrad magazine test, none are sold in the United States.

Two of them, a Marushin and a BMW Systems model, were withdrawn from the U.S. market because of product liability concerns. For the same reason, Schubert, a top-rated helmet manufacturer, flatly refuses to even consider U.S. import of its models.

Accordingly, even those motorcyclists who wear helmets by choice may not be getting the kind of comfort and protection afforded the overseas rider. In short, American motorcyclists are required to wear helmets but at the same time are denied access to the best available technology.

Improved helmet safety and comfort are surely possible, but the focus seems instead to getting the riders to wear something on their heads. In Daytona this last year, many riders could be seen wearing "tin pot" helmets with either no or bogus DOT certification.

A crackdown on these helmets has begun in some jurisdictions, but this has not resolved the issue of top helmet availability. It is an old maxim in motorsports that "racing improves the breed." This is especially true in motorcycling, where the nimble chassis and powerful brakes of yesterday's race bike are now affordable and in the showroom.

And it is hard to quarrel with the results. The best-selling Honda CBR900RR exploits many of the racing breakthroughs of recent years to produce

a streetbike of extraordinary performance capability. With its lightweight and tractable power, the 900 cc machine is fully the equal of exotic superbikes of just a few years ago. In lighter displacement, much the same can be said of the Kawasaki ZX7 or Honda's CB600F2.

Where possible, innovations that have proven themselves on the race track find their way into street bikes, making the average rider's bike not only potentially faster but potentially safer as well.

In an even more direct sense, the small Italian marque Ducati has profited from its race program. In World Grand Prix as well as Superbike racing Ducati twins made a name for themselves by competing and winning against the Japanese Big Four.

The cache of Doug Polen's victories has translated into hot sales of street models such as the 750 and 900 SS sportbikes. Conversely, it is worth noting that non-racing Italian rival Moto Guzzi is not doing as well despite the long-awaited introduction of its 4-valve Daytona sports model. Racing gave Ducati visibility.

Why then doesn't everyone race? First, it costs lots of money. Second, as superexotic Bimota can attest, there is no guarantee of success. Finally, there is the rueful testimony of participants of recent racers in the recently aborted Mexican Superbike race.

After hauling their entire GP teams across the Atlantic, Ducati's Carl Fogerty was incensed when he was forced to scratch his attempt to unseat series leader Scott Russell of Kawasaki. The reason: dogs, soccer balls and pickup trucks on the track during 150 mph practice sessions. Racing may improve the breed, but it does nothing for the disposition.

## THANK YOU

### Motorcycle rights

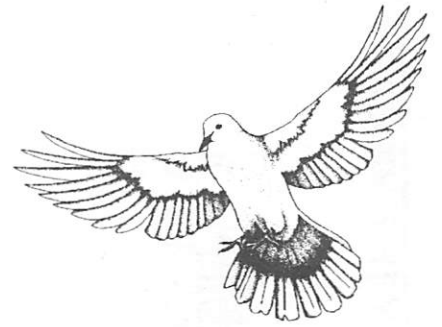
This Christmas season the members of the lower Eastern Shore chapters of Abate of Maryland decided to help a family have a better Christmas than they might have been able to afford.

Abate of Maryland is a motorcycle rights organization and contrary to the popular myth of "bikers," we have jobs, mortgages, and families and we wanted to give back something to the area we call home. "Operation Family Christmas" was a great success due to the dedication and generosity of our members; along with businesses and private citizens of our area.

Special thanks go to my husband Keith "P.J." Wainer. Without his help soliciting and organizing donations we could not have gotten the job done. On behalf of the chapters we would again like to thank our many friends at East Side Deli, Pipers Family Restaurant and their employees, Armour Cycle, Honor Honda, Sundance Cycle, Bella Donna Restaurant, quality Copy Service, and the Beverage Barn on Snow Hill Road.

Also thanks to the people who took time from their busy schedule to gather coats and clothes and buy gifts for the kids, and the food we received Santa was able to make two trips to the family. We were able to make a brighter Christmas for the family and by the giving captured the true meaning of Christmas.

Linda G. Wainer and Evelyn Reter, directors  
Lower Eastern Shore chapters  
Abate of Maryland



## IN MEMORY OF

Donations were made in the names of the following members :

Robert K Odell "OD"

Ed" Wabbit" Shaffer (President, Lynx Motorcycle Club)



Photo by Amy Schnappinger

The Mid-Shore Chapters of the American Bikers Advocating Training and Education of Maryland presented an award thanking Staff Sgt. Mike Martin of the Maryland Army National Guard for his help with their annual bike show held at the armory in Queen Anne. From left: Staff Sgt. Mike Martin, Talbot Director Marty Schultz, Caroline Director Ken Eaton, Queen Anne's and acting Kent Director Bill Kuykendall. Not pictured is Wayne McCarty, Dorchester director.

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# After 47 years, Malkus bowing out

CAMBRIDGE (AP) - When the General Assembly recesses in April, Sen. Frederick C. Malkus Jr. will get to work, writing about the 47 years he has spent there.

At age 80, the Dorchester County Democrat has decided he does not want to run again to represent the voters he has served so long - longer than any other Maryland lawmaker.

"When you get to be my age, you're not as good as you were. You're not as sharp as you were," he said. "I think I could win again, but I'm not going to put that issue to question."

Retiring will leave him with the time and energy he needs to write his book.

"I'm not doing it for the money," he told *The Baltimore Sun*. "I'm doing it maybe for history. I can tell about the legislature over that period better than anybody else."

Mr. Malkus has seen eight governors come and go, and he plans to rate them in his book.

At the top of his list is William Preston Lane, who was sworn in as governor when Mr. Malkus joined the legislature in 1947. Lane's sales tax, the

first to hit state consumers, provided Maryland with the money to build roads and improve education and health, Mr. Malkus said.

"He was a courageous governor," Mr. Malkus said.

As for current Gov. William Donald Schaefel, Mr. Malkus won't say what he'll write.

"The only thing the papers ever quoted me as saying about the governor was that he's an unusual man," Mr. Malkus said.

Mr. Malkus was an Army soldier in Belgium during World War II when he first considered a political career.

"I was sitting in an apple orchard voting for President (Franklin Delano) Roosevelt on an absentee ballot," he said. "It was raining like the devil. I came to the conclusion that if I ever got out of this mess, I was going to get into politics."

A few months after he left the Army in 1946, he filed for the Dorchester seat in the House of Delegates and won. He switched to the Senate in 1952 and has won every race for the General

Assembly, although he lost a special election for Congress against Republican Robert E. Bauman in 1973.

He attributes his success with local voters to his faithfulness to a simple axiom: "The elected official should bear out the philosophy of the people he represents."

"That's what I have done and that's the reason I have been elected over these years. I am basically conservative and so is the area I represent," he said. "A lot of things have been used against me in my elections, but my basic conservative philosophy has never been questioned."

Mr. Malkus' political positions did make some people question whether he had joined the right party.

"I've asked him to change his party affiliation," said Richard F. Colburn, a Republican who once represented part of Dorchester County in the House and is now seeking Mr. Malkus' Senate seat. "He said he wouldn't. He said he's still an FDR Democrat."

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May 1st Delmarva Convention Center  
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May 15th Burkheimer's Auction Gallery  
Cecil Chapter of ABATE Annual Bike Show and Swapmeet  
in North East

May 22nd Little Mike's Tavern  
Annual Bike Show in Hagerstown

June 10 & 11 Cumberland Fairgrounds  
Annual ABATE Party

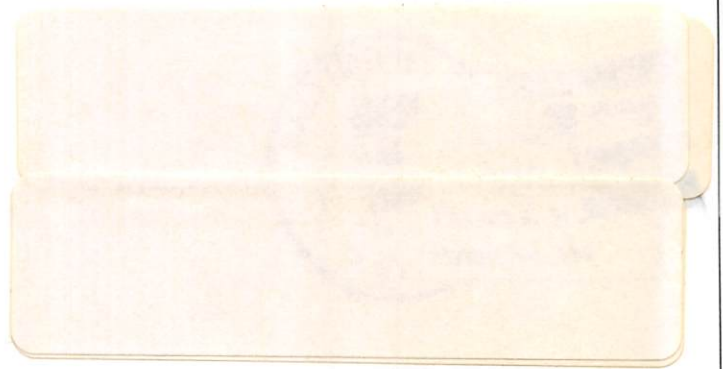
You can also purchase your tickets at Rockville H-D and see  
the bike at the dealership when it is not at these events.  
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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 9** Harford Chapter Poker Run leaving Garrett's H-D.
- April 10** Baltimore Chapter Poker Run . For info call Wil (410)282-6573.
- April 23** Mid-Shores Chapter Spring Party. Marty's Place 1p.m. For Info Call Marty(410)745-5136
- May 29** Rolling Thunder (Washington D.C.)

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