



# DuKane Chapter A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois

*A BROTHERHOOD AIMED TOWARDS EDUCATION*



• Volume 32 • Issue 9

February 2020

## From the President: Chris Hansen

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Happy February DuKane members!

Well, lets hope that Punxsutawney Phil is right, and Woodstock Willie is wrong! Phil says we'll be riding early this year, and I'm ready for it.

We're only a month into 2020 and there's already so much happening. The A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois S.T.E.E.L. (Seminar to Empower Educate Lead) in Springfield was a HUGE success. I, personally, enjoyed taking a class on off-road and ATV issues and things that A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois is working on. The class was taught by "Hunter" John Harris and was very enlightening to the issues that deal with those vehicles. Having conversations with some in Kane County – including Sheriff Ron Hain – there is some interest in bringing an off-road/ATV park to Kane County, so that's something to watch for in the future.



What I want to touch on this month is our ongoing issue of motorcyclist profiling. This problem keeps rearing its ugly head, both nationally and locally. As many of you are aware – Knucklehead Bob brought it up at our last membership meeting – there was an issue with motorcyclist profiling in Tinley Park with the motorcycle swap meet. Tinley Park had a "No Colors" policy in place for the event. Terri King got in contact with Josh Witkowski about this and A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois went to work. The policy then changed to "No MC Colors". That is still motorcyclist profiling. A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois – and the DuKane Chapter of A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois – will not stand for any profiling of motorcyclists. That includes discriminating against MCs only. A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois and Attorney Joel Rabb of Chicago A.B.A.T.E. worked with the Village of Tinley Park to get the "No Colors" policy dropped, allowing all motorcyclists into the event. It was great work by all involved to fight for motorcyclists rights and the event was a great success. On the national level, H. Res. 255 is rolling in Washington D.C. and currently has 133 co-sponsors to bring awareness to motorcyclist profiling and work to eliminate the issue. Of the 133, 6 are Illinois Representatives. Mike Bost, Cheri Bustos, Rodney Davis, Adam Kinzinger, Darin LaHood, and John Shimkus have all signed on to this bi-partisan bill and we thank them! A reminder was sent out from A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois that Raja Krishnamoorthi (IL-8) met with A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois members and told them face to face that he was with Illinois motorcyclists 100%. He has yet to sign on to this bill. Now, it's on us remind him of his promise. Please call his DC Office at 202-225-3711 and his Schaumburg Office at 847-413-1959 and RESPECTFULLY let him know that you're with A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois and that you want the Congressman to honor his promise to Illinois Bikers and co-sponsor H. Res. 255. A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois will continue to work on this issue and fight for motorcyclists rights in Illinois.

I look forward to seeing all of you at upcoming events like the International Motorcycle Show, the A.B.C. – A.B.A.T.E. Bowling Classic, A.B.A.T.E. Legislative Day, Bikers Inside the Beltway, Heartland S.T.E.A.M., and more. Don't forget to purchase you're A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois State Raffle Tickets!

Until next time,

Chris Hansen

DuKane Chapter of A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois President  
IL A.B.A.T.E. PAC NE Trustee

\*\*\* Notice \*\*\*

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# Vice President: Joe Barnes

A Bit from the “ViP”

Thanks to the board and members for their attendance at various seminars and political engagements this past month. I've been a bit consumed nursing our Membership and Public Relations Office back to health. I'm going to do my best to cover for Linda this month while she recovers from gallbladder surgery. Linda has been handling the membership position for a year now, and **we were delighted to learn that she was awarded the Membership Coordinator Award for 2019!** This award is bestowed on one coordinator by the Office Manager for ABATE of Illinois. The following criteria are assessed to choose the winner: Timely submission of membership applications, supplying all membership criteria including accurate voting districts and renewal efforts. Per the Office Manager, “DuKane has come along way with getting memberships back on track-not an easy job with a large chapter.” I'm including details on the memberships expiring in March and those that have not renewed yet for memberships that expired in January or at the end of this month. Linda will be back in the saddle later this month.



Are you ready to get rolling and bowling at the ABC bowling event on March 22<sup>nd</sup>? This is our 3<sup>rd</sup> year hosting this event at Bowlero and I'm looking forward to seeing our members and supporters at the event. More details are in the flyer you'll find on another page in this newsletter.

For those of you that purchased and wore the annual event t-shirt last year I say thank you one last time. We tried something new and will give the annual T a break this year and assess whether to do one next year.

If you'd like to get more involved, please give me a call or shoot me a note.  
630-251-4565 / [joseph.barnes@att.net](mailto:joseph.barnes@att.net)

Let's get this year started, we've got some new board members and it's a very exciting time with new ideas.

Ready to Ride,  
Joe Barnes

# Legislative: Patty Smith

## Definition:

Grass-roots. adj. (colloq.), originating among or carried on by the common people: as, a grass-roots political movement.

This is how A.B.A.T.E. was started and this is what we continue to be, a grass-roots political movement. Sure, we do a lot more, but it all boils down to the same thing. We are common people talking with other common people about our passion - motorcycling. Some of these common people just happen to be politicians.

## Legislation Day

On Wednesday, March 25, we will converge on Springfield at the Wyndham City Center hotel. Our day will begin with an early morning briefing and then we're off to the Capitol where we will (hopefully) meet with out legislators to talk about our A.B.A.T.E issues. We will try to make as many appointments as possible. Keep in mind that they are still in session however, we can take them out of session if it becomes necessary.

We are still looking for at least six more people to join us that day. The more folks who come down the better for our cause. It's a good day's work, a catered luncheon and an evening reception with legislators. I can't tell you how important it is that we have someone from each legislator's district there to greet them. It reflects badly on A.B.A.T.E. if we do not have someone for each legislator who joins us. Sign up at a meeting or call Patty/Chris for more information or to tell us "Count me in!"



A few of us have been "planting" signs the past couple weeks. Check with a candidate in your area to see how you may help them. Place their sign in your own yard. Talk them up with your friends and neighbors. Help them deliver and "plant" signs. Remember, if we want them to (continue to) help us then we have to reciprocate. We need to get them into or keep them in the position where they can do us the most good. You know, Quid Pro Quo.

I have campaign signs available for the following candidates:  
Corinne Pierog for Kane County Board  
Beth Goncher for IL Senate 25  
Jeanette Ward for IL Senate 25  
Jeanne Ives for US Congress Dist.6

Don't forget to check your state newsletter for the 2020 Primary Voter's Guide. A.B.A.T E. does not tell you how to vote, or for whom you have to vote. This is just a guide about candidates thoughts on motorcycling issues. YES you may take this into the voting booth with you for reference.

Early voting began on February 6. Check with the Clerk's office in your county for the early voting locations in your area. If you're not an early voter don't forget to vote on Tuesday, March 17. That's the same day as our membership meeting.

**VOTEVOTEVOTEVOTEVOTEVOTEVOTE**



# Local Candidates Endorsed by A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois PAC



**A.B.A.T.E.**  
of  
Illinois



ABATE  
PAC



**A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois PAC**  
endorses  
**Corinne Pierog**  
for  
Kane County Board Chair



**A.B.A.T.E.**  
of  
Illinois



ABATE  
PAC



**A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois PAC**  
endorses  
**Rob Russell**  
for  
Kane County Coroner

Where does a candidate stand on motorcycle related issues? What are their thoughts on safety issues? Will their opinions have an effect on what you do? These are a few of the things to consider before you vote.

# Local Candidates Endorsed by A.B.A.T.E.of Illinois PAC

**A.B.A.T.E.**



of  
Illinois



**A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois PAC**

endorses

**Cristina Castro**

for

Illinois 22nd Senate District

**A.B.A.T.E.**



of  
Illinois



**A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois PAC**

endorses

**Randy Ramey**

for

Illinois 45th Representative District

Where does a candidate stand on motorcycle related issues? What are their thoughts on safety issues? Will their opinions have an effect on what you do? These are a few of the things to consider before you vote.

# Local Candidates Endorsed by A.B.A.T.E.of Illinois PAC

A.B.A.T.E.  
of Illinois



**A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois PAC**  
endorses  
**Laura Curtis**  
for  
Illinois 49th Representative District

A.B.A.T.E.  
of Illinois



**A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois PAC**  
endorses  
**Allen Skillicorn**  
for  
Illinois 66th Representative District

Where does a candidate stand on motorcycle related issues? What are their thoughts on safety issues? Will their opinions have an effect on what you do? These are a few of the things to consider before you vote.

# Local Candidates Endorsed by A.B.A.T.E.of Illinois PAC

A.B.A.T.E.  
of Illinois



**A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois PAC**  
endorses  
**Barbara Hernandez**  
for  
Illinois 83rd Representative District

A.B.A.T.E.  
of Illinois



**A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois PAC**  
endorses  
**Stephanie Kifowit**  
for  
Illinois 84th Representative District

Where does a candidate stand on motorcycle related issues? What are their thoughts on safety issues? Will their opinions have an effect on what you do? These are a few of the things to consider before you vote.

# Local Candidates Endorsed by A.B.A.T.E.of Illinois PAC

On Sunday February 9th, members of your DuKane A.B.A.T.E. Chapter, along with Northern Illinois A.B.A.T.E., met with United States 14th Congressional District Candidate Sue Rezin in DeKalb. Time was spent talking about her stance on E15 and ethanol issues. Sue is endorsed by A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois FEDPAC in the 2020 Primary Election.



# Membership: Linda Barnes

## Membership Updates from Linda Barnes

At this time last year (1/1/2019) A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois had 6,980 members we now have 6,356. That is a loss of 624 members or about 8.93%. DuKane had 259 members at 1/1/19 and at 1/1/20 we have 311. The good news to all this for DuKane is that we are holding our own as compared to a majority of the other chapters in the state. The other two largest chapters in the state are Lincoln Land with 548 members (last year 1/1/2019 it was 694) and Starved Rock with 297 (last year 1/1/2019 they had 335). Both have seen a decrease, and that is the trend with most chapters in Illinois.

This coming year I am working on a special project with Cathy Brush (Past ABATE of Illinois Secretary and 2020 Public Relations Officer). Our project is to work on the membership. The first part of the project was to survey the chapters in the state. Some of the questions asked were: what is the number one issue you have with getting new members, how does your chapter try to gain new members, how does your chapter remind members they need to renew, do you know why members are not renewing, what support does your chapter need from the state office, and anything else you would like to share. Stay tuned for our chapter's responses and our request from you to help us.

### Membership is an awesome gift!

DuKane's current process for renewing expiring memberships: An email requesting they renew via Square is sent at least 1 month prior to the expiration. If we do not have an e-mail we will send a note via USPS.

Send an email with the following information to [dukanemembership@att.net](mailto:dukanemembership@att.net) and we will get you an application and create an invoice in Squareup:

*New Member Name, Full Address, Cell Phone Number, Date of Birth, email address and if this will be a single or couple membership. Singles are \$25 per year of \$100 for 5 years and a couple is \$45 for a year or \$180 for 5 years.*

### Welcome New Members



### Thanks for continuing to support A.B.A.T.E

Suzanne Kalfus Joann Nowak Jerry Nowak		Steve Waltz Angelo Valdes Norina Valdes
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# Membership: Linda Barnes

## Memberships that Expire in March:



Richard Artz  
Denice Bausano  
Dave Benway  
Eddie DesParrois  
Reed & Sue Edwards  
Leroy Flint  
Amanda Gotte  
Raymond Heck  
Brian Hyzy  
David Johnson  
Tim Kearney  
Mark & Jeanne Lander  
Harold Lassen  
Michael Laurance  
Ed Lawler  
Tim Lawrence  
Deanna Link  
Marty & Erin Lyle  
Robert Meiner

Amy Nelson  
Bill Neylon  
Mike & Carol Nicholson  
Hunter Prine  
Joseph Rayner  
Diane Robinson  
Kurt Ruppenthal  
Randy Schoof  
Bill & Debbie Sims  
Ron Siwula  
David Sobol  
Justin Sorci  
Josh Spooner  
Bruce Trawle  
Joaquin Trevino  
John Usyak  
Robert & Sara Wendell  
John Woodruff  
David Zimmerman

If you have not received the notice please contact [dukanemembership@att.net](mailto:dukanemembership@att.net)  
Notices are being emailed soon, please watch your inbox.

## Memberships Expiring in February 2020. Help us connect with these members.

Andre Balderas\*M  
Greg Galeles\*\*  
Jerry Knudtson\*R  
Mike Moses(MIA)  
George & Barbara Nicoloff\*R  
Noel Weston\*\*



\*\*a renewal notice was emailed around 12/31/2019 and a paper copy was mailed on 2/3/2020

\*R=Reminder email sent on 1/30/2020

(MIA) Mailed Renewal-Returned as Undeliverable, no mail on file, left voice mail

\*M=Mailed Renewal Request, no email on file

# Membership: Linda Barnes

## Memberships that Expired in January:



**Kermit Dodson\*\*  
Robert & Julie Duermit\*\*  
Don Grotz\*\*  
Gomer Johansson(MIA)  
Jack Levitt\*R  
Mike Melvin\*R  
Jim Moore\*M**

\*a renewal notice was emailed around 12/3/2019

\*\*and a paper copy was mailed on 2/3/2020

\*R=reminder email sent on 1/30/2020

(MIA) We've e-mailed; and mailed was returned as undeliverable

\*M=Mailed Renewal Request, no email on file

If you have not received the notice please contact [dukanemembership@att.net](mailto:dukanemembership@att.net)

**Michael Biro  
Alison Bloch  
John Davies  
Donald Doty  
Bill Dunne  
Martin Fulco  
Tim Grzenia  
James Harding  
Joel Holt  
Terry Hopkins**



**Brian Hyzy  
David Johnson  
Joshua Kalfus  
Lea Kloster  
Harold Lassen  
Michael Laurance  
Chris Nitzke  
David Reno  
Bill Uchyn  
Jeff Weber**



# Events: Chris Newman

*2020 is going to be a great year for DuKane ABATE! Mark your calendars for our first DuKane event of the year, our ABC – A.B.A.T.E. Bowling Classic on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. It is being held at the Brunswick Zone on North Avenue, in Glendale Heights. You do not need to be an avid good bowler, I sure am not. Bring your friends and family for an evening of fun! A mere \$15 gets you in covering 2 games and shoe rental. If you are feeling competitive, join the 9 pin no tap tournament. All proceeds support our Downed Rider Fund. The 3 A.B.A.T.E. State Raffle bikes will be there on display as well.*



*Later that week on Wednesday March 25<sup>th</sup>, join us at the State Capital for Legislative Day! Come down to Springfield and see how the sausage is made. You get the chance to politely engage with your Legislators and share our concerns as motorcyclists. Let's show our State Representatives that A.B.A.T.E is a voting block that is to be reckoned with. Ask Patty Smith or myself for details. We have an open position for Road Captain. Please let us know if you can lead the way!*

## Save these dates!

**ABC – A.B.A.T.E. Bowling Classic**  
Glendale Heights  
**Motorcycle Awareness Day**

Sunday March 22nd 3:00 PM Brunswick Zone,

**Kneeze in the Breeze Run**

Saturday, May 9 from 11 AM Route 47, Elburn

**Bikini Bike Wash**

Sunday, July 5, 2020 The Toy Shop, Arlington Heights

**SETHtastic Motorcycle Run**

Saturday, July 18, 2020 Knuckleheads Tavern, 108 E North St, Elburn

**DuKane A.B.A.T.E. Toy & Food Run**

Saturday, July 25, 2020 9:00 AM Fox River Harley-

Sunday, October 11 at 9:30 AM

*Ride Safe, Ride Often – Chris Newman  
DuKane A.B.A.T.E. Events*

Start: Knuckleheads Tavern, 108 E North St, Elburn  
End: Sycamore Speedway, 50W086 IL-64, Maple Park



Motorcycle  
Riders  
Foundation



12TH ANNUAL  
MICHAEL "BOZ" KERR

# Bikers Inside the Beltway

May 19, 2020

*Join fellow riders from across the country  
to help educate lawmakers on the issues  
that impact your right to ride!*

Pre-event briefing May 18, 2020

Event May 19, 2020

**Governor House Inn**, 6650 Arlington Blvd, Falls Church, VA  
703-532-8900, room rate \$89 (cut-off date April 27)

**Clarion Hotel**, 6633 Falls Church, Arlington, VA  
703-532-9000, room rate \$125 (cut-off date April 27)

Pre-register at [www.mrf.org](http://www.mrf.org) (by April 27)

Sponsored by the Motorcycle Riders Foundation  
[www.mrf.org](http://www.mrf.org) | 202-546-0983

Pre-register and order your shirt TODAY and it'll  
be available when you get to Washington (Multi-sizes  
available) Short Sleeve \$20.00, Long Sleeve \$25.00

**NEW  
SHIRTS!**



Short Sleeve and  
Long Sleeve  
available



# A.B.A.T.E. Annual Freedom Rally

Sunday May 3, 2020

*Come Support Your Rights*

Line up starts at 8 AM

At the IDOT parking lot

2300 South Dirksen Parkway

Springfield, Illinois

Kickstands up at 1 PM

Parade to the capital

**START SEEING  
MOTORCYCLES**

All vehicles, clubs & organizations

Welcome!

Food, beverages & ABATE Products

Available 8 AM to 1 PM

**ALCOHOLIC  
BEVERAGES  
PROHIBITED**

Protecting motorcyclists rights for over 30 years!

1-800-87-ABATE

[www.abate-il.org](http://www.abate-il.org) [www.facebook.com/ABATE4IL/](http://www.facebook.com/ABATE4IL/)

# Events: Chris Newman



## Invites you to attend the 31st Annual Heartland S.T.E.A.M

April 3 - 4, 2020

Join members of motorcycle rights groups from Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin and Nebraska as we unite to keep our freedoms. The Heartland STEAM conference will feature seminars to assist motorcyclists in defending, building and strengthening our grassroots organizations. All profits from Heartland STEAM support the Motorcycle Rider's Foundation (MRF).

### Hotel Information:

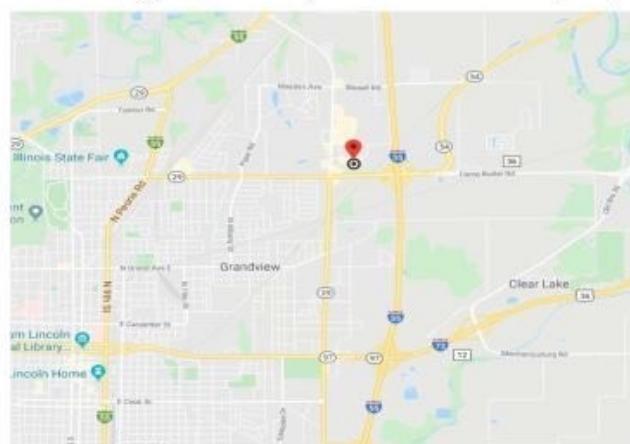
#### Northfield Inn, Suites & Conference Center

3280 Northfield Dr  
Springfield, IL 62702  
[www.northfieldinn.com](http://www.northfieldinn.com)  
217-523-7900 or 866-577-7900

Across the street-  
Ramada Inn  
3281 Northfield Dr  
Springfield, IL 62702  
217-523-4000 or 800-854-9517

Single or Double rooms are \$100.00/night +tax

Guest rooms include complimentary breakfast per room. Be sure to mention Heartland STEAM



Room Discount Expires March 20, 2020

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

### Registration Costs:

**\$50 per person before March 20, 2020 - \$65 after March 20, 2020**

Option to pre-order t-shirt. \$20.00 per t-shirt      Size: \_\_\_\_\_

### Registration Options:

Major credit cards will be accepted starting December 27, 2019 at [www.abate-il.org](http://www.abate-il.org) or mail this registration form with a check or money order to:

**ABATE of Illinois Inc - Heartland STEAM Seminar**  
311 E Main St. Ste 418  
Galesburg, IL 61401

Questions?? Email: [mouse91151@yahoo.com](mailto:mouse91151@yahoo.com) or [cbrush1@outlook.com](mailto:cbrush1@outlook.com) or Call: 815-674-5944

# **ABATE OF ILLINOIS, INC**

## **LEGISLATIVE DAY - 2020**



### **RALLY FOR MOTORCYCLIST'S RIGHTS**

**Wednesday March 25th, 2020**

**Wyndham City Centre - Springfield, IL**

**Register 8-9:30am - Parking in Garage at 7th & Monroe**

***Let's Pack the Dome with Leather and Chrome!***

***Group Photo in the Rotunda & Catered Lunch***

**Food, Drinks, and Reception afterwards at the Wyndham**

**5-8pm - Live DJ & Pictures on the State Raffle Bike**

**Sign Up for Legislative Alerts & Learn More!**

Scan the QR Code with your smartphone or visit us at

[www.abate-il.org](http://www.abate-il.org) & [www.facebook.com/ABATE4IL](https://www.facebook.com/ABATE4IL)



# Events: Chris Newman

3RD ANNUAL

# RBC

A.B.A.T.E. BOWLING CLASSIC

**MARCH 22 4PM START**

**2020 A.B.A.T.E. OF ILLINOIS RAFFLE**

Tickets For Sale & Winnable Prizes On-Site!!!



**Bowlero**  
IN GLENDALE HEIGHTS

**\$15 GETS YOU  
2 GAMES W/ SHOES**

**AN EXTRA \$10 GETS YOU IN A  
9 PIN-NO-TAP TOURNAMENT**



**2 HOURS OF FREE  
SERVICE WORK**

**The Toy Shop**

**\$100 CASH PRIZE  
(MINIMUM)**

**DUKEANE CHAPTER**

**A.B.A.T.E. OF ILLINOIS**

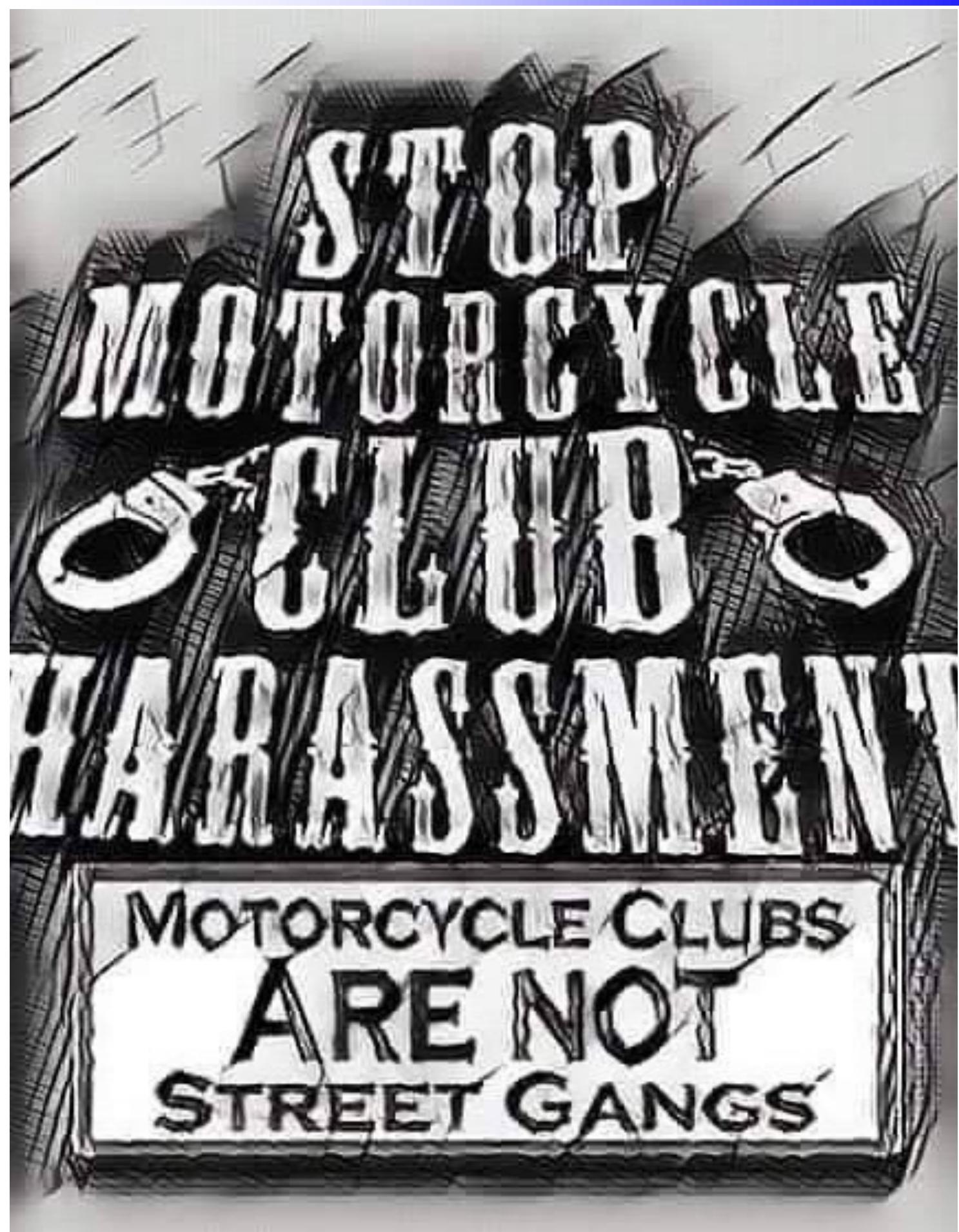
**ALL PROCEEDS  
GO TO:**



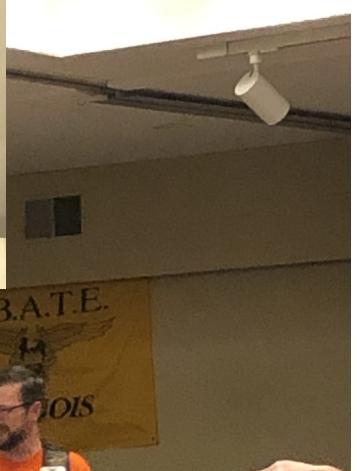
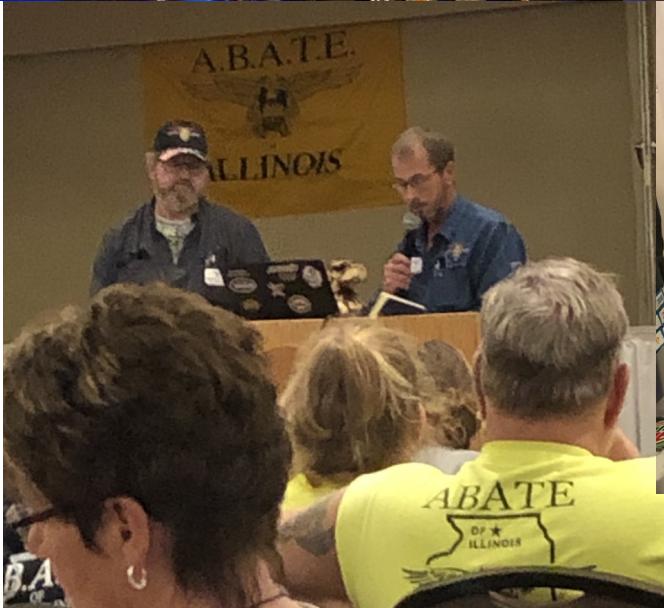
**DuKane Downed Rider Fund**

**food and drinks available!  
bring some friends and let's  
have some fun for a great cause**





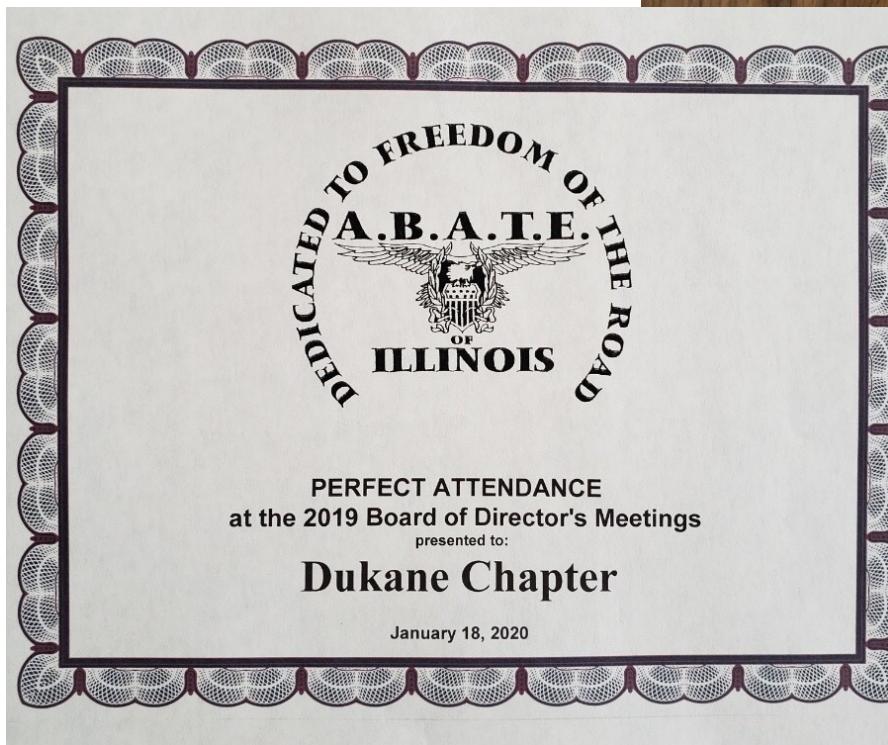
# Events: Some pictures from S.T.E.E.L.



# Events: From S.T.E.E.L.

Just a couple of reasons to be proud to be a member of the DuKane Chapter.

Congratulations to Linda Barnes and Kley Abel.



# State BOD Representative: Kley Abel

Not a whole lot of anything exciting happening at the state level to really report on again this month. However, just a few reminders, when you're posting things on your own PERSONAL social media accounts, PLEASE state somewhere that these are of your OWN opinions and do NOT reflect those of any of your affiliated organizations - i.e. ABATE of Illinois. If you happen to be friends with some of your local, state or other governmental officials, they can interpret your personal views as those of your affiliated organizations.



Expanding on this, if you DO have the opportunity to speak with said officials via email, phone call or in person, please make sure you fully understand our position on the issues as to not misconstrue any information or messages we're trying to convey. We need to have a unified message that needs to be consistently delivered.

Eg: Ski cited an example of a member chatting with their state legislator and became confused by this individual's comments regarding accent lighting and autonomous vehicles. To the extent, that this particular legislator went to ski inquiring more information about how this member in question thought we didn't need accent lights on our bikes, but they belong on those dang autonomous vehicles so we could more easily identify them! (insert eyeroll here)

Speaking of Ski, if you don't think you're getting his email blasts about legislative updates, feel free to contact him to confirm whether or not you're having an issue. He can track as to whether or not you are, in fact, receiving them - in which case, they may be going to your junk mail folder. Also, once again it's bill filing season, if you catch wind of any bills, please take much of that with the grain of salt as they all are filing bills right now and time will tell as to see what "sticks". If there's anything that's worthy of our attention, he has a system now called TrackBill that is constantly watching for keywords and will fire off a notice to him should ANYTHING come up that we might want to watch out for. One example is the recently filed bill (HB4571) requiring a gas station attendant come out and pump gas for you for ANY motor vehicle. This particular bill has been sent to the rule committee, where it COULD see an early death, but we're keeping an eye on it in case it does start gaining traction.

HB3851 - TA Plates - ABATE is going after this one. Right now, as it's written it's going to fully repeal the \$100 increase on TA trailer plates, however, depending on how this one plays out, we may end up settling with it going up to \$38/year. They are trying to fast track this one with the hope that we can get it thru both chambers and signed in plenty of time for it to take effect by 4/1/2020 so we can all dodge that increase for renewal year 2020.

Ski is trying to get red/blue accent lights approved this year - he's got all his ducks in a row on this one, just needing the legislation to make it official. Got tinted lenses on any of your vehicles? Yeah, there's a bill up that will make them illegal. Working to get that one shot down as well.

That's about it from the February state Board of Directors meeting, more to come in April...

## Webmaster: Nathan Klapatch

Hey there. I made another major update to the website recently, and it was for...well, the newsletter page, which is something I've wanted to improve for a while. Instead of having a long, vertical list of links to each letter, the new page organizes the newsletters by year and uses buttons that can fit dynamically into rows. That means that they'll form rows that fit across screens of different widths and potentially save vertical space on the page.

Other than that, as a new board member of ABATE, I attended my first STEEL seminar a couple of weeks ago. It was my first time making a long overnight trip by myself, and it was for a nice conference. I learned a few new things, and true to my profession, I was able to share some ideas with the state about their website, since there was some room for improvement on it.

Also, I learned that if I ever get myself a motorcycle, I shouldn't put anything pointy or protruding on it.



## Independent Rep.: John Bloch

Today I went to the Motorcycle Show at Rosemont on Saturday February 8. The show appeared well attended, although the show used less floor space than in previous years. I picked up many maps for my upcoming trip around the United States on my motorcycle. I talked to a gentleman, Biker Bob, concerning a ride on Highway 12 in Utah to take in the sites of Escalante National Monument, Capital Reef, Lake Powel National Park and Navajo National Monument. He assured me this would be well worth my time spent to include this route as part of my adventure.

The trip I am planning is to ride to the four corners of the United States, the NW corner of Washington, the SW corner of California, Key West in Florida and the NE corner of Maine. Of course I will be leaving from and return to the Chicago area.

I'll be at the Tuesday members meeting in West Chicago if you would like to discuss other locations I should include in my trip.

John Bloch



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