

Happy  
Thanksgiving

# ABATE

OF GEORGIA

AMERICAN BIKERS ACTIVE TOWARDS EDUCATION



ROLLIN' WHEELS OF FREEDOM

NOVEMBER  
NEWSLETTER  
2023



# 2023 State BOARD Members

## State Director

David "Junkyard" Jackson

## Northern Regional Director

Frank Chaney

## Southern Regional Director

Trea Burgstiner

trea709@yahoo.com

## Legislative Director

Tom Quaranto

## Treasurer

Janet Heaney

treasurerabatega@yahoo.com

## Membership Director

Terri Wade

abateofgeorgiamembership@gmail.com

## Activities Director

Steve Murrin

## State Secretary

Tim Farmer

secretary@abatega.org

## State Sargeant At Arms

William Galloway

## ABATE Legal Advisor

Steve Murrin

www.americanbikerlawyer.com

## ABATE Georgia Lobbyist

Daisha Schwear

## Website Administrator

secretary@abatega.org

## Newsletter Editorial Team

Janet Heaney

Stephanie Cruwys

Ruby Galloway

## MRF Representative

Stephanie Cruwys

## Assistant MRF Representative

TBD



# Georgia Districts

CLICK on link below for information.

## DISTRICT 1

<https://www.facebook.com/ABATE-of-Georgia-District-1-372659083113605/>

## DISTRICT 1WEST

<https://www.facebook.com/abategad1W/>

## DISTRICT 2

<https://www.facebook.com/people/ABATE-of-GA-District-2/100066585791713/>

## DISTRICT 3

<https://www.facebook.com/ABATEGA.d3/>

## DISTRICT 5

<https://www.facebook.com/ABATEGA.d5/>

## DISTRICT 5 NORTH

<https://www.facebook.com/abategad5N>

## DISTRICT 6

<https://www.Facebook.com/groups/555242154636096>

## DISTRICT 7

<https://www.facebook.com/Abate-of-Georgia-District-7-246309632417954/>

## DISTRICT 9

<https://www.facebook.com/abategadistrict9/>

## DISTRICT 11

<https://www.facebook.com/Abate-of-GA-Dist-11-259684410728091/>

## DISTRICT 13

<https://www.facebook.com/AbateofGaDistrict13/>

## DISTRICT 15

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1678902582341023/>

## CURRENT INACTIVE DISTRICTS

4-8-10-12-14

Interested in opening





"IT DOES NOT MATTER  
WHAT YOU RIDE  
WE ALL RIDE FOR  
FREEDOM OF THE ROAD"

We Want You



To Ride With Us!

# ABATE of Georgia

ABATE of Georgia's mission is centered on education. We preserve the freedom of the road by protecting the rights of all motorcycle riders through fair and reasonable legislation; education and public awareness.

We promote a positive public image of the motorcycle riding community. Our members are from all areas of the state, from all walks of life, who ride all makes of bikes. ABATE is not a club, it is a 501(c)(4) nonprofit educational organization. We are affiliated with national groups like the American Motorcyclist Association (AMA), the Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) and the National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM).

## NOTICE

All articles and photo's within the contents of this newsletter and our website are the property of ...

### ABATE of GEORGIA

You may not use them without the express written consent of the newsletter editor, webmaster or the association board.

### MAILING ADDRESS

ABATE of Georgia  
1875 Old Alabama Rd. BOX 230  
Roswell, GA 30076



### HOTLINE

Call the **HOTLINE** anytime for any info or to contact any officer

**1-912-441-7586**

*ABATE of GEORGIA encourages all members to submit letters, articles or cartoons they feel may be of interest to fellow members. ABATE of GEORGIA supports the rights of ALL motorcyclists. ABATE of GEORGIA does not endorse any products or services other than its own.*

## DISCLAIMER

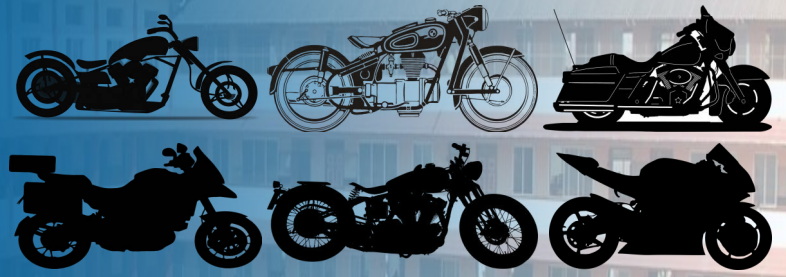
*The thoughts and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual contributors alone and do not necessarily reflect the views of the ABATE of GEORGIA board and it's members.*

happy  
THANKSGIVING

From Our Family To Yours!



FROM THE  
**STATE DIRECTOR**



# *Happy Thanksgiving!*

Hope everyone is doing good and having fun riding and enjoying this fall weather.

We have had to move our November BOD back to Oct 21st, however we will be back on track with the quarterly in person meeting schedule starting in February.

We are still working on some legislation, but as usual, in dealing with the state, you have hurdles to jump over and roadblocks to get through along the way. I could go on a rant about our local, state and federal government but I might get myself in trouble. All I can say is we voted these people into office to represent us...LMAO... and all they do is look out for themselves and sell us out to foreign investors. They will look you right in the face while running their campaign and tell you everything you want to hear, then turn their backs when you contact them.

People understand this, my and your rights are being taken away behind close doors and we know nothing until it's done. You can't sit around and point a finger at someone else if you are not doing your part. You as I don't like the adult day care going on in Washington or the crap that the state politicians or local one's are doing. Get off your butts and support your local groups that watchdog these people to protect your rights. ABATE and MRF are fighting everyday to stay aware of any and all legislation that affects us. Remember politicians work for you, the voter, and because of that, you have the right to fire them also.

**Junkyard.....**

**State Director**



# Editor's **NOTE**

## Editorial Staff

Janet Heaney   Stephanie Cruwys   Ruby Galloway

Happy Thanksgiving y'all and welcome to our November edition!

This is a great time of year to get out on your bike and support all of the local charities, including the many toy runs for the kids! The North Georgia Toy Run is just one of many. Please take a look through the newsletter for upcoming events!

We had our last board of directors meeting of 2023 on October 21<sup>st</sup> at the VFW hall in Macon. Thanks to all who attended. Discussions included updating our bylaws and constitution, the upcoming legislative year and updating our communications process for the new year!

We will be revamping our email communications process and everyone will now be receiving the electronic newsletter monthly. If we don't have your current email address (or if you have not received any communications from us), please notify Terri Wade, Abate Membership Director. Her email address is: [abateofgeorgiamembership@gmail.com](mailto:abateofgeorgiamembership@gmail.com).

We are also looking into membership options on our website, including auto-renew. Until this has been completed, you can still visit our website to join/renew at: [www.Abategeorgia.com](http://www.Abategeorgia.com)!

We look forward to seeing everyone soon!

Keep the Shiny Side Up!

Keep the Shiny Side Up!

**ABATE of Georgia Editorial Staff--**

**Janet Heaney**

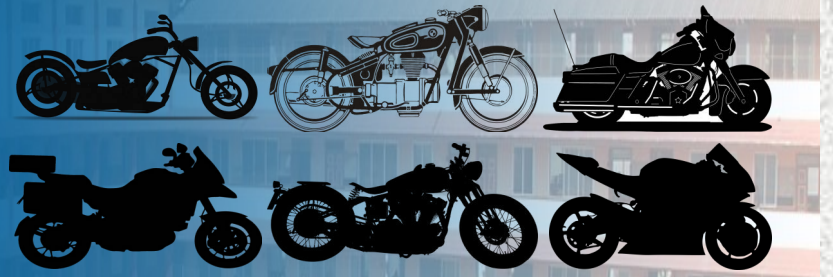
**Stephanie Cruwys**

**Ruby Galloway**



FROM THE

# SGT AT ARMS



Hi all,

Here's an update since my last article. I've done some hat changes and am expending my energy differently. I've stepped down as the ABATE of Georgia State Sargeant at Arms and stepped up as the Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) Georgia State representative. This means I will be a liaison between ABATE GA and MRF and other State Motorcycle Rights Organizations (MROS). I also will be more active in legislative issues at both a state and national level. I have access to the MRF Action Alert system and will be working closely with Brooklyn Tom and Daisha Schwear in putting together important alerts for important legislation. For example, Brooklyn Tom, as he's shared, has found a sponsor for the Georgia Anti-profiling bill. Since we will need co-sponsors, an action alert can be sent out requesting people "click the link" and request your Representative to support this bill. When it's assigned to committee, we can send out an action alert for people to "click the link" and push the committee members to pass it out of committee favorably. Then, another action alert can help us get "Aye" votes for it to be shuttled to the Senate. So, a few action alerts later, we can send out one to encourage Governor Kemp to sign the bill into law... or maybe it's a resolution... but the goal is to let our Georgia General Assembly know we are here and we are serious.

Also, as a co-editor for the ABATE GA newsletter, we are working on getting readership analytics. As it turns out, analytics can only be gathered if people "click that link" from an email. SO, moving forward, the newsletter will only be distributed by us via email. This may be a weird statement to put in a newsletter you might not have received, but... if the newsletter is not received, it could be we don't have a current email address. It could be it ended up in spam or junk. It could be that in transferring email addresses from the database spreadsheet to the email list spreadsheet, I screwed up. I am asking for people to verify their email addresses with your District Membership Coordinator, your District Coordinator, or the State Membership Director. I'm very excited about being able to get this distributed to all the current members. And, member article/photo submissions are welcomed.

In September I went up to Harrisburg PA for this year's MRF Meeting of the Minds. It was fantastic. This time, I got to participate in reviewing and voting on MRF's legislative priorities. They categorize them in High, Medium and Watch/Low priority levels. Biggies are making sure that Internal Combustion Engines continue to exist, with the push for clean energy, making sure that small businesses have The Right To Repair and that corporate manufacturers don't monopolize technology to the point of making small shops disappear. And keeping a close eye on Autonomous Vehicles and their "relationship" with motorcycles. A great panel discussion occurred with Hardtail, Bob Kay and Chris Callen regarding the threats to the small independent motorcycle aftermarket businesses by the large, monopolizing, manufacturers. Here is a link to the video from that panel discussion. [https://youtu.be/jrC23\\_pS-Z0?si=ofyXclO2iEssAxwB](https://youtu.be/jrC23_pS-Z0?si=ofyXclO2iEssAxwB)

Finally, my bike needs some important work, so I'll be out of the saddle for a bit. Thank goodness for independent motorcycle shops! Oops, another finally, I am still actively involved in District 15 and we have a booth at each First Friday in Brunswick. We have MRF information and ABATE information available.

*Stephanie*

Stephanie Cruwys

**State Sgt at Arms**



# 65" 4K SMART TV RAFFLE

ABATE of GEORGIA



PHILIPS 65" CLASS 4K ULTRA HD (2160P) ANDROID SMART LED TV



DO NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT TO WIN

Drawing to be held at District 15 meeting at Buffalo Wild Wings





# 2024 Federal Legislative Agenda

The MRF's Legislative Committee held a legislative strategy session at the 2023 Motorcycle Riders Foundation's (MRF) 39th annual Meeting of the Minds Conference held in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The purpose of the session was to establish and prioritize the MRF's 2024 Federal Legislative Agenda.

Legislative issues fall into one of three categories, high, medium and monitor. This list remains fluid and can be adapted depending on the issue and political environment.

## 2024 HIGH PRIORITY OBJECTIVES

(1) Autonomous Vehicles: Advocate and monitor any legislation or regulations related to motorcycles concerning connected and autonomous vehicles (AV):

(a) Endorse rulemaking to set new standards specific to seeing, detecting, and properly reacting to motorcycles.

(b) Ensure motorcycles are part of all testing and development procedures.

(c) Promote that any AV public user advisory committees should include a representative from the motorcycle community and a motorcycle manufacturer.

(d) Require a public, easily accessible, and searchable database where consumers can look up important safety information such as the limitations and capabilities of different products offered by AV manufacturers or service providers.

(e) Require that all AV manufacturers must submit safety evaluation reports to detail and make public how their vehicles identify motorcycles among other road users. Manufacturers must also include human error analysis in safety reports.

(f) Require that all AV manufacturers must publicly report crash data share incidents between AVs and motorcycles just as they would incidents between AVs and other road users.

(g) Protect the safety of motorcyclists with any rules or standards as it relates to electronic and cybersecurity systems including the clarification of rights of data ownership of any recorded data in the context of connected and autonomous vehicles.

(h) Inclusion of motorcyclists' perspectives in discussions regarding the Intelligent Transportation System (ITS).

(i) Work to ensure motorcycles are a separate classification of vehicle and road user for purposes of regulation and testing of AVs.

(j) Protect the set aside radio spectrums necessary for DSRC vehicle to vehicle communications.

(k) Protect additional spectrum as needed for Vehicle to Everything technology (V2X).

(2) Crash Avoidance: Continue to promote the theme of crash avoidance versus safer crashing urging NHTSA and the DOT to focus on crash prevention and support rider education by providing funding and other resources.

(3) Data Recording: Pursue legislative language that any collected or available vehicle data is the property of the consumer and in which the consumer has the choice of whether to opt-in to having their personal data communicated to interested parties.

(4) Definition of a Motorcycle: Educate policymakers and advocate for change to the current definition that better reflects the current two and three-wheel motorcycle landscape. Collaborate with appropriate stakeholders concerning the federal definition of a motorcycle, ensuring that crash and fatality statistics continue to be separate from other classes of vehicles including autocycles, non-motorcycle powered vehicles such as mopeds, scooters, motorized bicycles, and various cabin-based steering wheel type vehicles.



(5) Emission Regulations: Engage the EPA & Congress on any activity related to motorcycle emission regulations including the RPM ACT, H.R. 3281, S. 2736 or similar legislation.

(6) Work against any efforts by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) that endangers the future of motorcycling.

Helmet Laws:

(7) Oppose any mandatory federal helmet, apparel, or conspicuity requirements. Advocate for limiting funding of any federal government entity with increasing involvement in advocating for a universal helmet law or similar initiatives.

(8) Internal Combustion Engines: Work to ensure the survival of internal combustion engines, including elimination of the California air quality exemption waivers which allows California to enact different standards and threatens combustion engine production.

(9) Profiling: Sustain lobbying efforts for the passage of resolutions or legislation that promotes awareness and prohibition of motorcyclists profiling.

Seek opportunities including, but not limited to H. Res 366, with language that:

Promotes increased public awareness on the issue of profiling of motorcyclists.

Encourages collaboration and communication with the motorcycling community and law enforcement to engage in efforts to end profiling of motorcyclists.

Urges state law enforcement officials to include statements condemning profiling of motorcyclists in written policies and training materials.

Outlaws the practice of profiling of motorcyclists.

Oppose any motorcycling, motorcycle, or motorcyclist-based discriminatory legislation or rules proposed by the U.S. Congress or by any governmental agency.

(10) Renewable Fuels: Advocate for targeted changes to the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) including the following actions:

Support the universal availability of approved fuel blends, containing no more than 10 percent ethanol by volume.

Promote additional research and independent studies concerning the effects of higher blends of renewable fuels on motorcycles.

Ensure the availability of separate pumps (i.e., no multi-dispensing) to minimize the risk of damage to motorcycle engines where higher blend of renewable fuel blends is available.

Sustain lobbying efforts for the passage of the Consumer Protection and Fuel Transparency Act of 2019 (H.R. 1024) or similar legislation which requires information to be provided to the public about the risks associated with the improper use of E15 fuel (or higher) in certain vehicles, engines, and equipment.

This legislation:

Revises current EPA rule to include warning label requirements for fuel pumps that dispense E15.

Requires the EPA to create a public education campaign about the risks of unauthorized use of E15, as well as the vehicles, engines and equipment prohibited from using E15.

Defines multi-dispensing nozzle and requires an additional warning label on multi-dispensing nozzles to warn consumers of the residual fuel left in gasoline pump hoses from the previous individual dispensing.

(11) Right to Repair:

Protect and advocate for "Right to Repair" provisions that allow consumers the ability to repair and modify their own products.

Vulnerable Roadway User Terminology:

Monitor and ensure that motorcycles and motorcyclists are a specific and unique category or classification.



# 2024 MEDIUM PRIORITY OBJECTIVES

## (1) Gang, Club and Other Language:

Monitor and respond to federal legislative or regulatory activity concerning the usage of the terms gang, club, known associate, associate or any derogatory term when referring to motorcyclists.

(2) Lane Filtering and/or Lane Splitting: Monitor and support federal efforts to study and review the benefits and concerns of lane splitting and lane filtering.

## (3) Surface Transportation Reauthorization (Highway Bill):

Advocate and pursue legislative efforts related to the next highway bill reauthorization (expiring in 2026). Ensure the following provisions are included:

Preserve the Motorcycle Education & Awareness Program Grant Funding.

Preserve the ban on federal funding for Motorcycle Only Checkpoints.

Preserve the NHTSA Lobbying Ban and expand to other federal agencies.

Preserve the Motorcycle Advisory Council (MAC) to advise the FHWA.

Preserve motorcycles are not considered single-occupancy vehicles for HOV lane access.

Oppose any motorcycling related federal blackmails or federal sanctions.

Monitor for any action that would negatively impact motorcycles, motorcycling, and motorcyclists.

Advocate the integration of an updated federal definition of a motorcycle.

Advocate a mandate that autonomous vehicles must detect and respond to motorcycles.

Advocate for expanding opportunities to address motorcyclist profiling.

Ensure motorcycles are not banned from federally funded roads.

All high priority issues and emerging technologies

(12) Taxes: Encourage fair treatment of motorcyclists in any change to federal taxes related to transportation. Vehicle miles traveled and other tax proposals must account for the different impact motorcycles have on infrastructure.

# 2024 MONITOR ITEMS

## (1) Distracted Driving:

Work to discourage any/all forms of distracted driving.

## (2) EV Incentives:

Seek fair tax rebate and or credits for the purchase of electric motorcycles similar to those offered for electric automobiles.

## (3) Exhaust Systems:

Monitor and vigorously oppose any federal standard proposing stamping and certifying of motorcycle exhaust systems.

## (4) International Partnerships:

Continue participation in motorcycle-related activity in the European Union, United Nations, and Canada informing the membership of key developments.

## (5) National Studies:

Continue monitoring any national studies concerning motorcycles (i.e., Federal Crash Causation Study or MSF Naturalistic Study).

## (6) Opponents:

Monitor private and public organizations that oppose the legislative agenda or mission of the MRF.

## (7) Sound Testing:

Monitor any SAE Motorcycle Roadside Sound Testing (addressed by individual states).

Monitor any action by the EPA Office of Noise Abatement



(8) Tariffs:

Monitor any tariffs on imported motorcycles, parts, or apparel.

(9) MRF2Tolling:

Monitor fair tolling concepts on federally funded roadways and projects supported by federal bonds.

Monitor any congestion tolling concerning motorcyclists by federal, state, or local governmental agencies.

In order to remain vigilant until all aspects are complete, some references to legislation or resources could appear not to be timely.

# What Are the Odds?

**U.S. drivers have a 1 in 164 likelihood of having a claim involving a collision with deer, elk or moose according to new claims data from State Farm®**

**In comparison, here are a few other similar likelihoods of interesting things happening:**



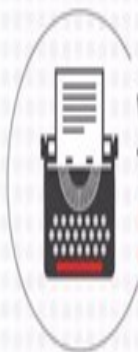
Being a Twin in  
North America  
**1 in 90**



Being Audited  
by the IRS  
**1 in 175**



Dating a  
Millionaire  
**1 in 215**



Writing a New York  
Times Bestseller  
**1 in 220**



Finding out your  
child is a genius  
**1 in 250**



Catching a ball at a  
major league ballgame  
**1 in 563**



“The Official Lawyer of ABATE of Georgia”

# STEVE MURRIN

THE ORIGINAL BIKER LAWYER



A MOTORCYCLE WRECK IS SERIOUS BUSINESS.  
GET A SERIOUS LAWYER

VISIT STEVE AT

[WWW.AMERICANBIKERLAWYER.COM](http://WWW.AMERICANBIKERLAWYER.COM)

NO BIKER LAWYER HAS HANDLED MORE BIKER INJURY CASES,  
HAS TRIED MORE BIKER INJURY TRIALS, OR RECOVERED MORE  
MONEY ON BEHALF OF HIS BIKER CLIENTS!

FREE PHONE CONSULTATION  
404-688-6600 OR 888-944-BIKE  
OFFICES IN ATLANTA, ROSWELL  
AND NEW YORK



LIFE MEMBER HOG,  
LIFE MEMBER AMA  
AND LIFE MEMBER ABATE

APPOINTED TO THE GOVERNOR'S  
MOTORCYCLE SAFETY TASK FORCE IN GEORGIA



# The Biker Word “BROTHER”

By Steve Murrin

I have three sisters- Patti, Coleen, and Kerry. I am grateful to God for each of them. They are the three best sisters you could imagine. They each have quirks, traits, and habits that reflect our collective upbringing. They are neither bikers nor married to bikers, although they will jump on my bike at a moment's notice. There were no brothers in my house growing up, except me. I was the lone 'male child' and always yearned for a brother. I was sometimes saddened by my lack of one. At times I pretended to have one and sometimes even imagined that my play friends were, in fact, my brothers. But this was folly, as my parents had no other male offspring.

It was not until adulthood that the word “brother” was liberated from its genetic confines in my head. During adolescence, I often found brotherhood in the sporting arena. Later in life, I found it in the camaraderie of motorcycling and, ultimately, in the purest form of human loyalty. All too often, we as bikers, throw the phrase “brother” around with abandon. I question the intent of the stranger who addresses me as “brother.” For example, “*Alright Brother, do you want cheese on that hamburger?*” – or “*Thanks, BRO...*” when I hand the valet my keys. It may just be me, but the phrase “brother” and “sister” alike are reserved for a small number of people in my life. I hear it so often in the motorcycling world nonchalantly. Mainly, I hear it in the peripheral biker world of biker bars, businesses, rallies, rides, and fundraisers. Most apropos, I hear it in the motorcycle club world. I've heard it phrased as “true brother” or “blood brother” most often when introducing one club brother by another to a stranger.

However, I pay careful attention to its use, regard the term with respect and loyalty, and do not use it very often or carelessly. It is a serious word deserving of deliberate consideration before invoking, especially in the biker world. Its origins are simple, and Webster defines the word as a noun, describing it as “*a male offspring.*” Surely it's more complicated than that. Ecclesiastically it is reserved for a “*lay member of a religious order that has a priesthood who devotes himself to religious study without taking Holy Orders.*” I fondly remember many “brothers” of the Catholic faith who led my sports teams in school, taught us class lessons, and guided our religious studies as youngsters. I called them “Brother,” but simply as a title. Further research on the origin of the word “brother” describes its use in the Urban Dictionary as “*the address of one black male to a fellow black male.*”

This led me to think back to one of my earliest childhood memories, which coincidentally contains the word. Long before motorcycles were part of my life, when perhaps a 'big wheel' was my transportation, I was on a bus somewhere in hot and steamy New York City with my mother. I'm guessing I was 5. The bus line was most likely the 'Q-5 Hillside Avenue Express', which we often took shopping. It ran at the top of our street (213<sup>th</sup>) from a bus stop filled with strange faces that my Mom advised me not to stare directly at. This was 1960s New York, not the current cuddly post-Giuliani New York. I remember seeing a black man stride up the steps of the bus we had boarded a few stops before and drop his metal token into the glass box at the top of the steps. There was no 'swipe' card in those days. He sat next to me in the first seat behind the driver, and of course, I stared at him. His Afro hairstyle was as wide as a 10-gallon hat, complete with a pick comb. He smiled at me and must have known his great hairdo had caught my childish attention. It intrigued me, and in my youthful innocence, I could not help but stare.



My family was very ethnic Irish and surrounded by the same, and black people lived in a different neighborhood a few stops down the Q5 line. It was about 1968 or 1969, as my family had not yet migrated north to exchange the Q-5 for a backyard and cleaner air. In the commotion around me, I remember the man jump to his feet to help his brother up the steps of the bus at the next stop. I knew it was his brother because the boarding man was laden with tool bags, and the 'Afro Man' reached down the steps of the bus and said, "Hey BROTHER, let me help you up with those tools." The oncoming passenger was happy to have the help and smiled and nodded thankfully. At the very next stop, the man with the tools stepped down and helped a woman with a grocery buggy and three small kids up the steps, who was obviously his sister. I knew this to be true because the tool man said to her: "Hey SISTER, let me help you with those bags" – or something like that. I thought to myself that if the lady was sister to the 2<sup>nd</sup> man, then that made her sister to the first man as well! I wondered what the chances were that three siblings lived on three consecutive bus stops right here in Queens, New York.

I was so intrigued by that fact that I recall asking my mother about it. I remember her earnest explanation of the cultural custom of people of color who addressed each other as "Brothers" and even "Sisters." I recall being shocked and, upon reflection, envious. I was smitten with the idea and remember a sense of jealousy that my culture had no similar custom. We had some cool stuff like kilts, St. Patrick's Day, and support for the IRA (Hell, I was 5 in 1968), but no one called each other "brother." In my childhood innocence, I yearned to be black to engage in 'brotherly' interaction with my peers, none of whom happened to be black. It was not to be. I was not black; I had no blood brothers, no one outside my sisters called me brother, and I could say it to no one. I would have to wait 30 or more years to use the phrase earnestly.

Eventually, I set out on the open road and learned the biker's way. I absorbed the freedom of the highway and the linguistics that came along with the biker lifestyle like a sponge. I came to understand the difference between a fat boy and a soft tail. The nuances of 'the wave' to other bikers passing in oncoming traffic, the proper way to park curbside, and the details of interacting safely in the 'club world.' All of these were learned over the years and miles, and they have become second nature. I've loosened my internal restrictions on the "brother" thing. I am less uptight about it now. If the bartender wants to call me "brother," well – that's his prerogative. I have even taken to calling my three brothers-in-law "brother." After all, they are married to my sisters. Out on the open road, when the time is right, the curves are right, and the company is right, you may hear it from my mouth. If you do, remember it. It was a long time coming.

Well, signing off for now. Remember, ride hard, . ' safe, and in the end make sure you ride home. Steve







# Motorcycle Riders Foundation



## Motorcyclist Advisory Council Being Established!

Monday morning, after nearly two years of delay, the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) announced the initial steps to establish the Motorcyclist Advisory Council (MAC). In November of 2021, Congress passed, and President Biden signed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. Included in the law was reformation of the MAC.

The MAC will coordinate with and advise the Secretary of Transportation, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Administrator, and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Administrator on transportation issues of concern to motorcyclists, including motorcycle and motorcyclist safety; barrier and road design, construction, and maintenance practices; and the architecture and implementation of intelligent transportation system technologies.

As stated in the announcement, "The MAC seeks to have a fairly balanced membership with expertise in motorcycle and motorcyclist safety, highway engineering, and safety analysis." Of the 13 seats open on the MAC, "One shall be a representative of a national motorcyclist foundation." The Motorcycle Riders Foundation looks forward to putting qualified candidates forward to fill not only this designated seat but other seats on the board as well.

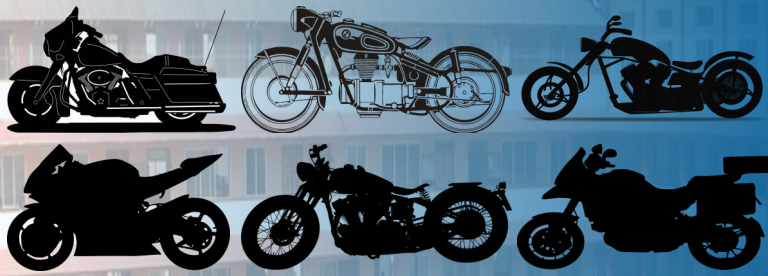
Nominations are due by December 15, 2023. If you would like to read more about the MAC, its mission, and its membership click [here](#) to read the full announcement from the Federal Register.

The MRF would like to thank all lawmakers in Washington D.C. who fought for the creation and establishment of the MAC. Special thanks to the 13 Members of the House of Representatives who sent this letter to USDOT in May.

The MRF will share more news on the MAC, its membership, future hearings, and findings in the coming months.

As always Ride Safe and Ride Free!





# LEGISLATIVE

We wanted to add to an existing bill on profiling, there was none. So we will have to submit a new bill. It would have been easier to add to a bill. A new bill will be more difficult to pass. The bill will not be ready till after November. What will be critical to moving the bill along is Contacting your representatives. The plan is to send a letter by email to be filled out and sent to your representative. We therefore need districts to get emails for all their members so we can alert them. If we don't do these steps our bill will have almost no chance. Speaking on profiling while going through the Denver airport wearing my Harley hat and a field jacket given to me by my sister in law, not only was my luggage checked twice after being scanned and was put through screening again, but I was put through a full pat down. It reminded me of the first Rambo's movie where he had on a similar jacket. One guess as to why I was checked ??? Finally I spoke to Cam, Legislative Coordinator, of Dist 5n who was asked by a diamond about possible Facial recognition Flock cameras. Flock is a company. I looked into it They are the same as the cameras at stop lights or schools. They cannot do Facial recognition. They take plate numbers and compare to a list of numbers the police are looking for. If it matches it's sent out if not within 30 days the info is erased. Since it takes all vehicles they are not considered to be profiling. Do I agree with this NO however it does not fall under our anti-Profiling bill.

I want to wish everyone a safe and Happy Thanksgiving.

I can be contacted at. [Brooklyntomtenn@att.net](mailto:Brooklyntomtenn@att.net) or 470-281-0417

**Brooklyn Tom** Acting State Legislative Director



## An Educational Minute

Janet Heaney...Editorial Staff

With the winter months now upon us, this is a great time to either catch up on some bike maintenance that you have been putting off (including reading up on how to improve your rider skills). Here is a quick checklist:

- Check your tires (and air pressure)-is there noticeable wear and tear? Is there any visible dry rot?
- If you are putting your bike away for the winter, is the gas tank full? You may want to consider adding some dry gas to the tank to keep the moisture at bay.
- Where will you store it? There are lots of storage options if you don't have a garage available to you (storage units offer climate controlled units at a reasonable cost for the winter)
- Are there any upgrades that need to be made? This is the best time of year to get any upgrades done, since motorcycle mechanics have more availability during the winter months. Take advantage of the downtime!
- Get some good reading materials on how to improve your riding skills. Proficient Motorcycling: The Ultimate Guide to Riding Well is a great resource book.

Stay warm friends and keep the shiny side down!



### The One Minute EDUCATOR

**LIFE IS A ROAD**  
the Soul Is a Motorcycle



## Southern Biker Gear

JACKETS...HELMETS...BOOTS...VESTS...CHAPS  
EVERYTHING Leather Related to Motorcycles PLUS MORE!

### HELMETS

(full face, half, 3/4)

### GLOVES

### GUARDIAN BELLS

### PATCHES

(sewing available)

### SADDLE BAGS

### RAIN GEAR

### JEWELRY

and so much more!

Visit our website

<https://southernbikergear.com/>

EMAIL: [RAY@SOUTHERNBIKERGEAR.com](mailto:RAY@SOUTHERNBIKERGEAR.com)



**NEW!** ONLINE STORE

**NOW OPEN**

Click to Visit...

<https://southernbikergear.net/>

### RETAIL STORE

4158 U.S HWY 17

Richmond Hill, Georgia

**912.228.5252**





1)... To initiate, endorse and sponsor educational programs such as rider safety, public awareness, legislative and affirmative action and, individual freedoms and rights.

2)... To create and promote a positive public image of motorcyclists and motorcycle groups and to dispel and disprove media hype, unfounded propaganda and the "Hollywood" image.

3)... To encourage goodwill and mutual understanding among motorcyclists, law enforcement personnel and the general public.

4)... To serve as an information source on matters pertaining to current laws, pending legislation, personal rights, political inclinations of elected officials and their constituents, and voter awareness.

5)... To act as a central responsive agency to devise and coordinate recreational, legislative, educational, and charitable activities



I finally realized that people are prisoners of their phones... that's why it's called a "cell" phone.

# ABATE of Georgia MEMBERS



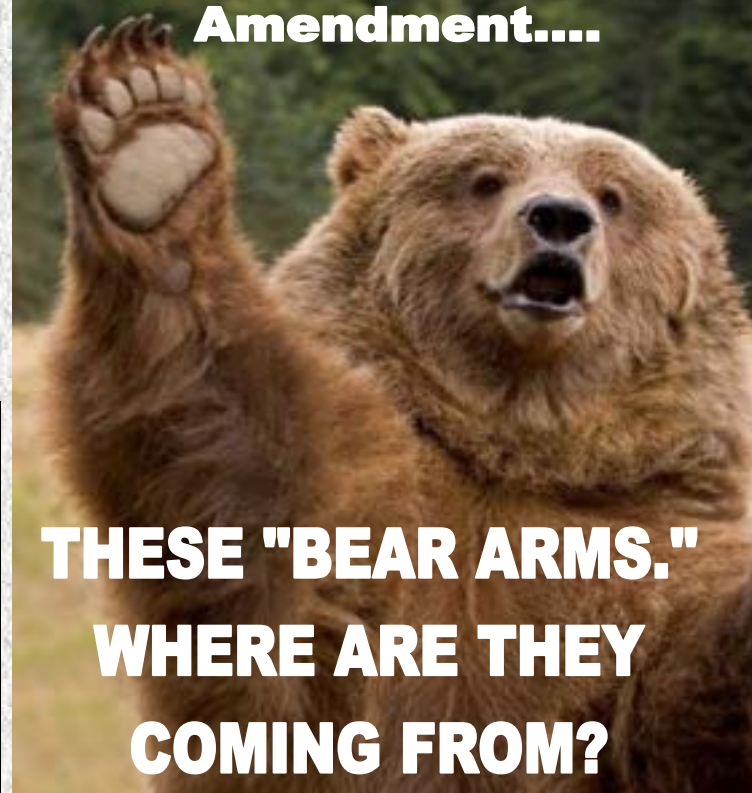
## MEMBERS PLEASE SUBMIT

Articles..Pictures..District Information  
Pictures.. Run / Party / Shows  
This is YOUR publication.

PLEASE SEND ALL INFORMATION TO

[abateganewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:abateganewsletter@gmail.com)

## YEAH, Quick Question About This Second Amendment....



THESE "BEAR ARMS."  
WHERE ARE THEY  
COMING FROM?





# 33rd Annual



# Savannah

## 12•2•23

**SIGN IN**

9:00 am

**STARTS**

Harley Davidson  
1 Fort Argyle Rd,  
Savannah

**KSU**

11:00 am

**ENDS**

Savannah  
Wingmen  
Club House  
69 Ross Rd  
Savannah

# TOY RUN

Bring \$20 Cash Donation or a  
**NEW UNWRAPPED TOY** of equal value



Scan \$Savannahwingmen

food catered by



live music by



**50/50  
DOOR PRIZES**

**QUESTIONS?**

**CONTACT**

Bill Galloway  
912.690.9883

Ken Roundy  
912.659.4349

All proceeds will go to a local charity



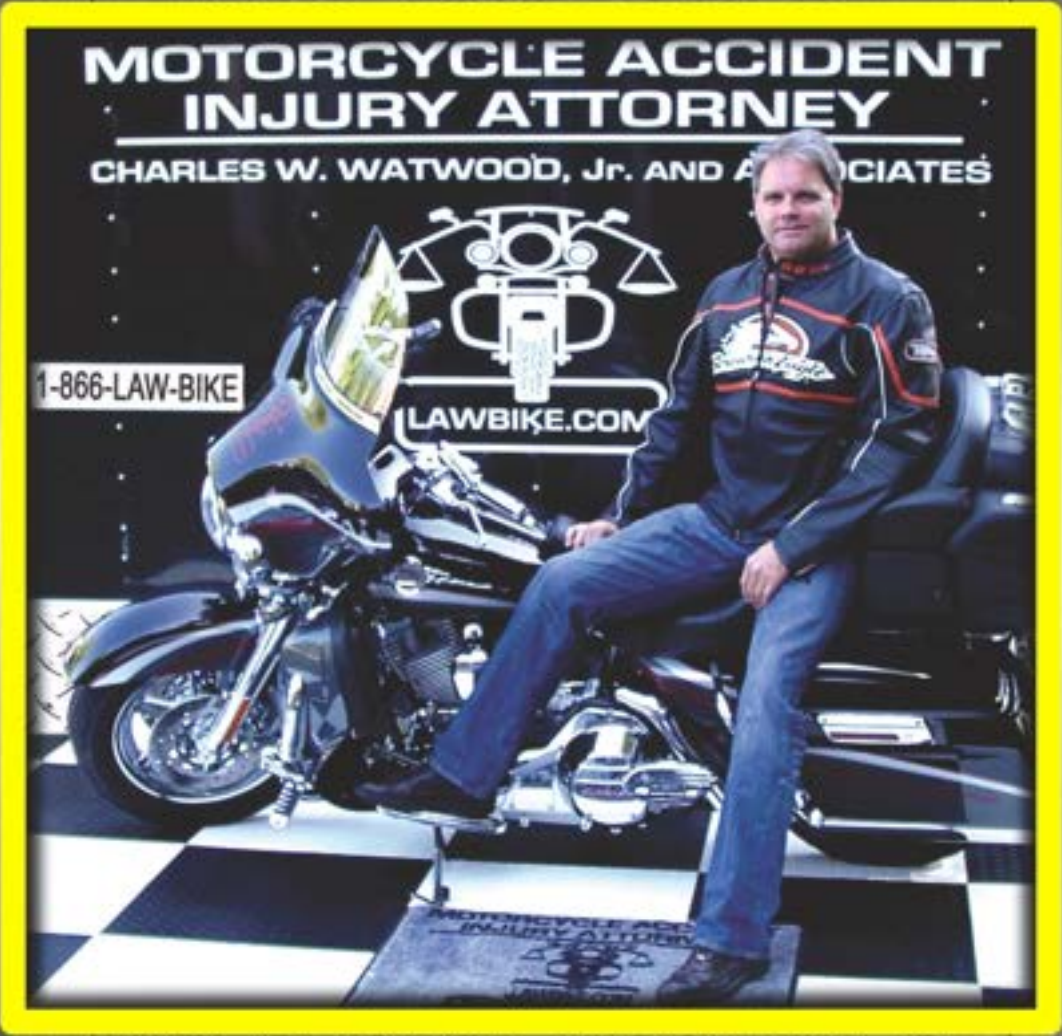
RECOVERING MILLIONS OF DOLLARS FOR GEORGIA RIDERS FOR 22.5%

# MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENT INJURY ATTORNEY

## CHARLES W. WATWOOD, JR.

### & ASSOCIATES

# 770-650-0016



## MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENTS ARE OUR ONLY BUSINESS

GET AN ATTORNEY WHO IS HERE FOR YOU. ALWAYS EXPECT TO SPEAK WITH ME WHEN YOU CALL. I WILL PERSONALLY COME VISIT YOU FOR A FREE CONSULTATION.

# WWW.LAWBIKE.COM

ABATE of Georgia Does Not Endorse Any Advertiser or Product In This Publication



**ABATE of Georgia  
Association  
State Membership  
ANNUAL DUES INFORMATION**

ABATE of Georgia MEMBERSHIP FEES		
Individual Membership	\$20	12 Months
Family Membership	\$35	12 Months
Junior Membership ( 16 and under)	\$5	12 Months
<b>Lifetime Membership</b>	\$300	10 Years

**Members Receive... FREE**

\$2,000.00 Accidental Death & Dismemberment Life Insurance Policy.

**Applications are sent bi-annually to current members with the option of purchasing additional coverage**

**CLICK to APPLY or RENEW on OUR WEBSITE BELOW**

<http://abategeorgia.com/>

**ABATE of GEORGIA**



ABATE of Georgia Does Not Endorse Any Advertiser or Product In This Publication

**Join  
Now**

**ANNUAL  
MEMBERSHIP  
DUES**

**\$20**  
SINGLE

**\$35**  
FAMILY

**Q&A** ...What are the membership rewards ?

**★ FREE ★**

- ★ Patch & Yearly Anniversary Pins
- ★ Monthly Newsletter
- ★ \$2000 Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance
- ★ Monthly Meetings
- ★ Discounts & Rewards at Events & Biker Related Establishments

*A friendly entrance into the biker community*

When you join you receive your ABATE patch, membership card, welcome letter and insurance.

**ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF  
MEMBERSHIP**



**Join the cause & become a member today !**



**District 15** recently supported the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Second Harvest Food Bank Poker Run - over 30 bikes attended, the weather was perfect, and over \$2100 was raised for the Second Harvest Food Bank. We look forward to supporting next year's and hope that we can continue to increase the numbers for that run.









# What's Happening

**NOTE:** All dates are subject to be changed/postponed/cancelled. Please reach out to the organization regarding their event.

## MILITARY APPRECIATION GRILL & CHILL

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 4



JOIN US AS WE THANK THOSE WHO ALLOW US TO RIDE FREE

FOOD & DRINKS FOR A DONATION TO OUR GRILLERS!  
SERVED AT 11AM UNTIL FOOD RUNS OUT

THIS WEEKEND'S GRILLERS ARE:




FOOD TRUCK  
PICTURES WITH SANTA  
RAFFLES  
COOKIE BAGS  
VENDORS

Best in Show  
TOP 10

CAR - 1st, Old School, Import, Domestic  
TRUCK - 1st, Old School, Lowrider, 4x4  
BIKE - 1st-3rd, Best Paint  
EXOTIC - SPECIALTY  
CLUB PARTICIPATION  
LARGEST DONATION  
KIDS CHOICE  
EASTIE AWARD




## TOYS FOR TOTS

CAR, TRUCK & BIKE SHOW



MEET & GREET, AUTOGRAPHS  
MERCH & MORE!!

12:00 - 4:00  
SATURDAY  
DECEMBER 3rd  
\$10 or new  
UNWRAPPED toys  
Spectators \$5

**Falcons Fury Harley - Davidson**  
900 Dogwood Dr  
Conyers, GA 30012

## 33rd Annual Savannah Toy Run

Saturday, 02 December 2023

Registration begins 0900 am, Kick-Stands up 1100 am  
Police Escort to Wingmen Clubhouse  
69 Ross Road, Savannah, Ga

50/50 Raffle!  
Motorcycle Raffle!  
Gun Raffle!

Food catered by: **THE PAINTED CHER**  
Live music by **HV HIGH VELOCITY**





Savannah Wingmen Toy Run

# SUPPORT YOUR MOTORCYCLE RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS





# MERCHANDISE IN THE SPOTLIGHT

## A.B.A.T.E of Georgia Back Patch Available



The new A.B.A.T.E of Georgia Embroidered Back Patch is available now!

**12" wide \$15.00**

**SMALL 5" wide \$5.00**



TEE SHIRTS \$20  
(Black or Gray)

HATS \$25

TANK TOPS \$20  
(3 Colors)

HOODIES \$40  
)Black or Gray)

LONG SLEEVE  
TEE SHIRT \$25  
(Black or Gray)

LONG SLEEVE  
Dri-Loc SHIRT \$30  
(ORANGE)



Dual sided yard signs are being offered for sale by A.B.A.T.E. of Georgia for 10.00 each. Put them in your yard or the yard of your business! **For now, we will make them available at meetings exclusively.**



To "PURCHASE the MERCH" contact...  
[Treasurerabatega@yahoo.com](mailto:Treasurerabatega@yahoo.com)

# RIDE SAFE





### DISTRICT 1 WEST

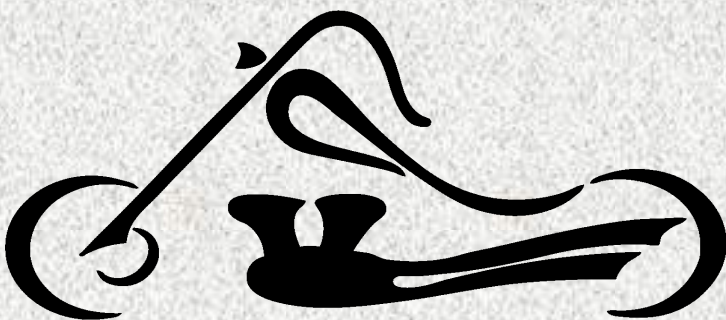
District One-West covers the Counties of: Catoosa, Dade, Fannin, Gilmer, Gordon, Murray, Pickens, Walker, and Whitfield. Meetings are the fourth Monday of each month at the Dari Dip on Villanow Street in Lafayette, GA.

Meeting starts at 6:30pm For more information contact Frank 706-694-8626 or email

[sgt.baldy@windstream.net](mailto:sgt.baldy@windstream.net)

or visit us on FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/abategad1W/>



### DISTRICT 3

ABATE of Georgia District 3 meets the 4th Sunday of every month at...

Buffalo's Cafe

117 East Felton Rd. Cartersville, GA

### DISTRICT 5 NORTH

**District Five North** includes Barrow, Clarke, Elbert, Greene, Lincoln, Madison, Oconee, Oglethorpe, Taliaferro, Wilkes, Rockdale, Walton, Morgan, and Newton counties.

Our meetings are on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 7 p.m. in the customer lounge at Cycle World of Athens, 4225 Atlanta Hwy, Athens, GA.

<https://www.facebook.com/ABATEGA.D5N/>

**District Five North** is also known as **District 5 North**, **D5N** and **District Five**.

We are a sustaining member of The Motorcycle Riders Foundation, aka MRF.

### District Five North Officers

**Mary Ann Callahan**

District Coordinator

Activities Director

**Tammy Gray**

Secretary

**Glenn "Doc" Hurley**

Treasurer & Safety Director

**Cam McCallister**

Membership Director

Legislative Director

**Elden Kasmier**

Road Captain

**Cindy Tatkovsky**

Assistant Activities Director

**Harry Jones**

Sargent of Arms

**John "Cowboy" Craig**

Photographer



## DISTRICT 6

District 6 meets the first Thursday of the month at Partners II Pizza, 48 Market Square Rd, Newnan, GA 30265.

Our district officers' contact information follows:

DC & Treas. – Karen Andross 585-370-4624

Legislative – Forrest Smith 770-634-8100

Membership – Davina Story 678-640-1541

Secretary – Phillip Story 678-814-9152

Sgt at Arms – Hazel Stull 770-251-2741

Activities – vacant at this time

"IT DOES NOT MATTER WHAT YOU RIDE

WE ALL RIDE FOR FREEDOM OF THE ROAD"



## DISTRICT 9

District Coordinator... Wayne Hubbard

Treasurer... Doug Pullen

Membership Officer... Gene Hartin

**ABATE D9** Columbus, GA

American Bikers Active Towards  
Education

706-718-7234

**Serving:** Troup, Meriwether, Harris,  
Talbot, Muscogee, Chattahoochee,  
Marion, Taylor, Schley, Stewart,  
Webster, and Sumter Counties



## DISTRICT 10

District 10 meets on the 4th Saturday of the month at Earnie's Lounge 706 North St. Vidalia, GA at 1pm. For more information contact Lacey Poole at 902-805-1778

District 10 covers the following Counties: Appling, Bleckley, Candler, Dodge, Emanuel, Jeff Davis, Johnson, Laurens, Montgomery, Pulaski, Tattnall, Telfair, Toombs, Treutlen, Wheeler, and Wilcox. See [https://](https://www.facebook.com/ABATE-of-Georgia-District-10-663888670676315/)

[www.facebook.com/ABATE-of-Georgia-District-10-663888670676315/](https://www.facebook.com/ABATE-of-Georgia-District-10-663888670676315/)





## DISTRICT 11

District 11 meets on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 2PM.  
The Brass Rail..GUYTON

William "Billy Bob" Galloway  
District Coordinator  
Breezy Browning  
Membership Director  
Ruby Galloway - Secretary  
Daisha Schwear - Lobbyist  
Shannon McDonald  
Legislative Director  
Hannah Valentine & Jessica Lank  
Activity Directors

Well Big Roy's has come and gone, so now we are working diligently on the upcoming ABATE Wingmen, 33rd Annual Toy Run which will be December 2, 2023. We always look forward to this event, as it is one of our largest and most successful event all year. Each year it grows larger than the year before, I believe last year we had over 900 bikes/sign in, and a closed in trailer overflowing with toys. Hopefully this year will be even better!

After that, we will go right into the "Almost World Famous" Frosty Balls Membership Drive/Poker Run, so as you can guess we are super busy, very wide open...

Hopefully we will see some of you at the Toy Run, check out our flyer on FB ABATE page, Bikers of the Coastal Empire and Low Country for detail!

Everyone, be safe our there, we will talk to you again soon!

William "Billy Bob" Galloway  
DC - District 11

## DISTRICT 13

District 13 covers the following Counties: Ben Hill, Berrien, Brooks, Colquitt, Cook, Crisp, Echols, Irwin, Lanier, Lowndes, Thomas, Tift, Turner, and Worth. Meetings are on the first Sunday of each month at 2PM at the Wiregrass Farmer on Gordon Ave in Ashburn, GA. See <https://www.facebook.com/AbateofGaDistrict13/>

Dennis at 229-924-7449 or [DC-13-ABATEGA@hotmail.com](mailto:DC-13-ABATEGA@hotmail.com) for more information

## DISTRICT 15

### MEETING

3rd Thursday of the month at 7pm  
Buffalo Wild Wings  
718 Glynn Isles  
Brunswick, GA

We are continuing our monthly presence at Downtown Brunswick's First Friday - we have a tent and swag to give out to get the public aware of ABATE's mission. We are also having a Xmas Raffle for a 65" Phillips 4K HDTV - tickets are \$5/each and the winner will be drawn during our District Meeting on December 21st.





# NOVEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
DISTRICT 2 MEETING DISTRICT 13 MEETING 2PM				DISTRICT 6 MEETING 7PM		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
DISTRICT 11 MEETING 2 PM		DISTRICT 5 MEETING 7:00PM		DISTRICT 15 MEETING 7PM		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
				HAPPY THANKSGIVING DAY		
26	27	28	29	30		
DISTRICT 3 MEETING 2PM						

provided by...

**ISLAND**

NEWSLETTERS



**ADVERTISING SPACE AVAILABLE**

Contact us... 516.359.1894

[www.ISLANDNEWSLETTERS.com](http://www.ISLANDNEWSLETTERS.com)