

# American of Montana Newsletter Bikers Aiming Toward Education



## The “BOOT LEG”

Volume 16, Issue 5

September - October 2011

For a complete listing of  
ABATE of Montana  
Chapters and  
their events, please check  
our website at:

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

**Read this article** that a very good friend of mine that grow up here in Montana and now lives in Michigan sent me. Then answer that question.....

A recent article reported that the two Democratic gubernatorial candidates agreed. Michigan's outdated helmet law for motorcyclists must go.

Michigan's economy is based on tourism, and this law discourages out-of-state riders from traveling to this great state.

Our outdated helmet law is a barrier to motorcycle tourism. At the same time, the current law does nothing to reduce motorcycle injuries and fatalities. Michigan is the only Great Lakes state with a mandatory helmet law. Surveys repeatedly show that an overwhelming majority of motorcyclists in neighboring states refuse to visit Michigan because of this law.

According to a study done by Michigan Consultants in Lansing, Michigan is losing millions of tourism dollars and approximately \$1.2 billion in overall economic benefit because of this law.

For example, Harley Davidson's 105th anniversary in 2008 brought more than \$135 million to Wisconsin's economy during the four-day event. After Florida modified its helmet law, the state took in more than \$100 million in additional revenue -- just from new motorcycle registrations. Florida also had an increase of 110% in motorcycle registrations with a significant reduction in motorcycle fatalities.

Michigan could use a boost to its economy, too. There are no major motorcycle events in Michigan.

There is, however, a "Bike Week" in Florida, Ohio, South Carolina, North Dakota and New Hampshire, as well as other events that Michigan is losing out on.

Fact is, the 30 states allowing adult choice on motorcycle helmets enjoy lower fatality rates. Head injuries are not higher in helmet choice states. No state has increased its insurance rates after modifying its helmet law, and no state has lowered insurance rates with the implementation of a helmet law. Add to this the economic benefit, and the helmet law should go.

According to the Fatal Accident Reporting System, sometimes cited by opponents of freedom of choice, "there is no significant difference in fatality rates between states requiring or not requiring helmet usage." In committee hearings, opponents were asked if insurance rates would increase if we modify this law. Their response was that insurance rates would not increase.

Having NO helmet law does not prevent anyone from wearing a helmet. We believe the key to motorcycle safety, accident reduction and injury prevention lies in rider education and car driver awareness programs. Helmet laws do not make a safer rider, nor do they prevent accidents.

NOW AFTER READING THIS ASK YOURSELF, WHAT WOULD A HELMET LAW DO TO MONTANA'S ECONOMY?

*Article Submitted By: Pam Howard*

### **ATTENTION!!!**

Email us your picture/s of your “BOOTLEG” shots. We can crop them down to use them so any size will work. So get out there and get us some pics!!

Another Members “BOOTLEG” above!!



1-800-922-BIKE  
<http://motorcycle.msun.edu>



## STATE & CHAPTER OFFICER CONTACTS

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## NEWSLETTER

The **deadline** for the next newsletter will be **October 1st**. So please submit all your articles, ads, run dates and just about anything before this date, thank you.

The cost for ads are as follows;  
Full page - \$130, Half page - \$70,  
Quarter page - \$40, Business card - \$10,  
Classifieds - free to members, \$5 for non-members, articles from any member are always appreciated and welcome.

**Please send your requests to BOTH Editors in the same email. Thank you.**

Deadlines for the year:

- December 1st for the January - February issue.
- February 1st for the March - April issue.
- April 1st for the May - June issue.
- June 1st for the July - August issue.
- August 1st for the September - October issue.

## PRODUCTS:

### Year Pins:

- First to Ninth year - \$2.25
- Tenth year - \$3.00
- Eleventh to Nineteenth year - \$2.25
- Twentieth year - \$3.00
- Twenty First year - \$2.25
- 25th Anniversary pin - \$4.00

### Patches:

- State Logo Patches - \$6.00
- DBBNF patch - \$ 3.00

### Can Coozies:

- Blue or Black - \$2.00
- Purchase all of the above through the Products Coordinator.

Digital Flags (\$20) and Embroidered Flags (\$25) of the State Logo can be purchased through the State Treasurer.

(All contact information is above!)



# EVENTS CALENDAR

August 26-28 - Bottom's Up Run Motorcycle Rally, Marmarth, ND (701)523-3676

August 27 - Hi-Line, Glacier Run, Leave 15 West 9AM

August 27 - Sand Drags, Billings Motorcycle Club (BMC) Grounds, Billings,

August 31 - Bike Night, Sugar's Roadhouse, Mt Pleasant, TN (Every Wednesday)

September 3 - Night Time "Nightmare" Hill Climb, BMC Grounds, Billings

September 9 - 9th Annual Patriot Day Commemorative Prayer Breakfast, Helena

September 9/11 - Run to the Cascades / Resurrection 2011 (541)647-1630

September 10 - Bump-n-Run, Glendive, LY Chapter Sponsors #31 (Rod Chouinard)

September 10 - Hi-Line, Fall Closure, Leave 15 West 12PM Ends @ "Zurich" Park

**ABOVE:** This is a great event to go to! Dang good people and location!! Contact Mugs

September 11 - Fall Classic Motocross, BMC Grounds, Billings

September 17 - State Meeting, Bones in Billings, 1PM

September 18 - 7th Montana Cross Country Race, Contact BMC For Location

September 24 - Fall Hill Climb Series #1, BMC Grounds, Billings

September 25 - Fall Hill Climb Series #2, BMC Grounds, Billings

October 2 - Fall Hill Climb Series #3, BMC Grounds, Billings



# HELP!!

## ABATE OF MICHIGAN REQUESTS YOUR IMMEDIATE ACTION

This urgent Call To Action is on behalf of ABATE of Michigan, requesting the help of all motorcyclists in their fight for freedom.

"Senate Bill 291 passed the Michigan Senate in late June," writes ABATE President Vince Consiglio. "We are asking all rights activists to send a post card to Michigan's Governor, Rick Snyder, urging him to support motorcycle helmet choice for adults."

Consiglio further advises that; "A postcard from a 'FREE' state may help him realize that Michigan loses motorcycle money every day of the summer with a mandatory helmet law. Governor Snyder prides himself on being all about business and helping business. Please urge Governor Snyder to support adult choice." MAIL to: Governor Rick Snyder, State Capital, P.O. Box 30013, Lansing, MI 48909 or call (517) 373-3400 or e-mail Rick.Snyder@michigan.gov.

## CLASSIFIEDS FOR SALE

2005 Kawasaki Ninja 250-Brand New off the floor It only has 600 miles on it Bought at \$3,495 asking \$3,200 no less than \$3,000.00



Pics speak for themselves, all miles are in-town. Thanks and if you need any other

information you can call me (Dawn) at 406-234-4092 if I'm not home leave a message or call my cell phone 406-853-2143. Other pics are available from yendor1@midrivers.com.

**FOR SALE** Or.... Just about anything you want to put in the classifieds!! Wanted, Will Trade, Renting, Need Work and Etc.



## **ABATE CHATTER**

### **State Coordinator**

Here we are in the middle of summer motorcycles everywhere, on the road to Sturgis, over unknown back roads two lane highways of hidden wonders long forgotten because of the fast moving freeways. I was told once by a good friend that so many people are in a hurry to get where they're going that they never see past the edge of the ditch or the edge of the road. We were Elk hunting in the Bighorns at the time and he pulled over in the middle of the mountain on a side trail, we walked over the ridge and there below was a swampy area with a cow and calf Moose in the water eating, duck swimming you couldn't hear the road traffic, just the smell of the pines what a beautiful place, I'd driven by it a hundred times going over the mountain, wow! What I'm trying to say is when you're on the big ride alone, with your mate, with your good friends don't forget to walk off the beaten trail and see what lays beyond and behind what everyone else see's that's why we are the people we are, why we ride to get away from the daily grinds, and whatever it is!

I lost my little Brother on the 6th of July, 30th of July he'd have been 44, 5 years younger, we came from different parts of the sixties. He found that he'd seen too much and couldn't go on, I feel I haven't seen enough and I'm always looking for more. Because even if we don't see it there are new friends around every corner, interesting people at every stop. We aren't alone even if we sometimes feel that way. So in memory of my little Bro, I'll carry on and see as much as I can, take that extra minute to say Hi!, say Thanks!, too call those I've forgotten. We sometimes feel really busy but then at

the bad times, the sad times. We sometimes see we need to take time to share. Thinking that there's always a tomorrow keeps us going on, but also helps us to forget life can be short and seasons shorter. With all the deer out anymore we need to see way beyond our focused travels. A prayer for all those lost on the road this year, along with all those already to the deer. Safe driving to all, hope your summer is filled with fun.

I have personally found that talking about remodeling is a lot easier then when you're in the middle of it. As usual keep the shiny side up rubber side down. Let the Wind blow through your hair and the bugs comb easily out of your beard that makes me think of something else! Anyways, Hopefully there will be at least one Ice cold wet T-shirt contest in your future. Check the ABATE of Montana web page Yendor has been working hard to keep it up to date with every body's info.

Harry Wanker SC

### **State Deputy Coordinator**

### **State Secretary**

### **State Treasurer**

Howdy!!!

**TO ALL OF THE TREASURERS....., Just in case your Officer or Chapter Rep has not told you since the last State meeting...., A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL!!**

With the added paperwork that was asked for and provided by the chapters the cost of the taxes being prepared was almost cut in half. Plus the time I was having to spend at the accountants was significantly less! So once again **THANK YOU!** We will keep doing it the same way for 2011 as well.

I do hope a lot of the Chapter Officers can make it for this next State meeting (September 17th, @ Bones in Billings, IPM) as there were two things in particular that was suppose to go back to the chapters to look over and see what



you all think. The State will need help from all on these two matters.

One could really help the State get back to where we could put out a newsletter and a few other things that we have had to drop because of money. Please remember as of right now the State's only income is Membership monies. As always if there are any suggestions on how the State can make some money, PLEASE come to a State meeting and voice your suggestion.

Hopefully we can go over everything on the 17th and either move forward or just keep plugging along at the State level. I ask you to remember one thing, most of the State Officer's are Chapter Officer's and are burning the tire from the tube to the tread. There are a lot of you we have not seen at a State meeting and a lot of only once! Please make the effort to make as we the State Officer's do.

Thank You

Rodney "Yendor" Comer

**State Membership**  
**Black Eagle Chapter**

This is just a short note to let you all know we picked up some new members at the 4th Annual Ramble Biker Weekend on July 29, 30, and 31st 2011.

What an awesome weekend we all had. Friday night we had the pleasure of drinkin and dancin to Barbed Wire. Saturday morning we had breakfast made for us by Jack and Cathy Sanders, actually it was cooked for us by their son Jerry, awesome job Jerry Sanders!!! Then we had the poker run that started at 11am. The poker run was 140+ miles with the first stop at the Oasis bar in Wolf Creek, where we picked up a scavenger hunt clue, then we were on to Craig, Missouri River Inn, Cascade and the Driftwood and then the last stop at Tuffy's in Sun Prairie. It was one "hot sun of a beast" of a ride, but it's always beautiful out when you get to ride your bike! I stopped in Ulm on my way from Cascade to Tuffy's in Sun Prairie. Quigley's has this soft ice cream cone thing goin on there that I

couldn't resist, besides I had to stop and pick up one of my scavenger hunt items, a scratch off tickets. I took a break, sat on the curb by my bike, enjoyed my ice cream and did some people watchin. I know what you're thinkin, sounds real biker like, huh! Well let me tell ya, I was sure feelin cool, kickin back with my ice cream cone! :o)

The Blue Angels were putting on an air show, so the speed limit was dropped to 55 mph on I15 going past the airport. When we got to Tuffy's we could see the Blue Angels in flight. What an awesome sight! Back at the Ramble we cooled off and cleaned up and got ready for Voo Doo Cadillac!!! We ate some good food, pork, chicken, potato salad, corn on the cob, beans mmm what a spread!!! Then we had some age appropriate games :o) winners and some laughs. Sunday we woke to breakfast provided by the Sanders :o) then some visiting and packin up to head home.

I got to say, the crew at the Ramble really know how to make people feel welcome, cared for and appreciated! I do believe I made a couple good friends over the weekend there at the Ramble and I'm lookin forward to seeing them again!

Tim Neuroth did an awesome job bringing in new members over the weekend and lookin after some of the old members while they were there :o) Thank you Tim!

Connie Anderson BE Secretary

**Helena Chapter**

**H-Line Chapter**

**Houndstooth Chapter**

**Lower Yellowstone Chapter**

**Northern Chapter**

**Prairie Riders Chapter**

*Our members are all over the PLACE, Sturgis, BMC & now MarMarth. A better update to come next newsletter. Hopefully!!!!!!! With pictures?!?!? Who knows?? Keep The Shiny Side UP!*

**Southeastern Chapter**



# IN THE SPOTLIGHT



**Name - Larry D. Myran (Wanker)**

**Gender - Yes**

**Date Of Birth - 07 - 01 - 62**

**Status - Married all the time.**

**Occupation - Engineer on railroad. I'm the one you cuss at the railroad crossing when the train won't move out of the way.**

**Tattoos - 7 and still growing.**

**Piercings - Tried it once the second time it didn't work out.**

**Smoke - Only when I'm finished. But never before lunch.**

**Drink - One after another until my wife catches me. Or not!!**

**Favorite Food - Do you need a Holiday for this? Usually the see food diet.**

**Favorite Drink - Margarita Strawberry**

**Favorite Holiday - Christmas**

**Favorite Bike - Roadking**

**Favorite Bike Ride - The one when I rode through Idaho with my Nephew on our Hog's was a week ride. Also enjoyed Evil Knieval days in Butte before State ABATE Meeting.**

**Favorite Bike Event - I tried but couldn't remember.**

**Favorite Non-Bike Event - Looking at women's equipment.**

**BEST EVER Bike Ride - The first time my middle son Nick rode along to Miles City with me on the Sportster and I was on the Road King with 6 of my good friends for lunch. I was a Happy Dad!!**

**BEST EVER Bike Event - The first one!**

**BEST EVER Non-Bike Event - This blonde gal I met at Redlodge rodeo!**

**Best Famous Person You Have Met - I got sick that day!**

**How You Would Change/Influence ABATE - Get more young people to join soon!**





## Help support ABATE of Montana

**YOU** can be the next ABATE of Montana Business sponsor.

**Only \$100.00 per year.**

Your business will be listed in every Montana ABATE State Newsletter, a link to your business on our website and a ¼ page ad valued at \$40.00 for you to use once per year, in the newsletter printing of your choice.

**ONLY \$100 PER YEAR** provides our members your business information in every ABATE of Montana Newsletter.

**Advertising at this cost is priceless.**

Motorcycle Clubs are also encouraged to participate and support ABATE of Montana.

**Contact the Newsletter Editor's today for details  
(Contact info on 2nd page).**

## ABATE OF MONTANA SUPPORTS NCOM

# Motorcycle Accident?

HIRE ATTORNEYS WHO RIDE

Over  
\$200 Million  
Recovered For  
Our Clients

Law Offices of **RICHARD M. LESTER** Founder, Aid to Injured Motorcyclists

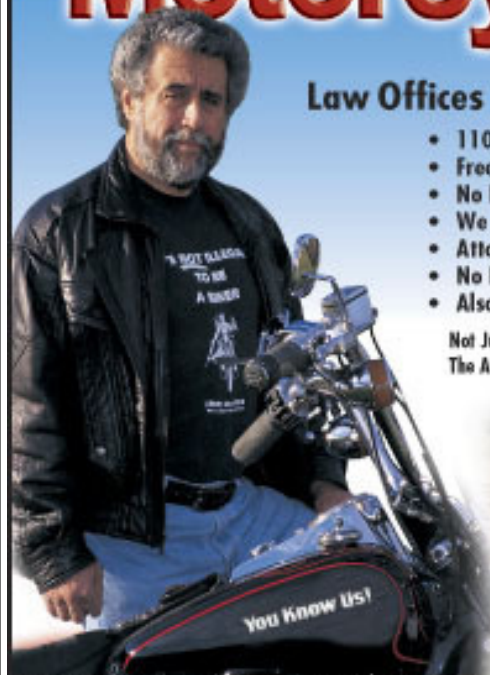
- 110 Offices Throughout North America
- Free Legal Consultation
- No Recovery = No Fee
- We Make House Calls
- Attorneys in Every State and Province Who Ride
- No Fee on Motorcycle Damage Recovery
- Also Auto Accidents

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**(800) ON-A-BIKE**

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Not Just ONE Attorney  
The AIM Team to Help YOU



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**Check us out!** Ask us to send you free written information about our qualifications and experience. Hiring a lawyer is an important decision and should not be based solely upon advertisements. Also ask the next biker you see about us.

**ATTENTION ABATE OF MONTANA MEMBERS:** Our nationwide network of A.I.M. Attorneys donate a significant portion of their legal fees from motorcycle accident settlements back into motorcycling by being the sole financial sponsor of the **National Coalition of Motorcyclists**.





**ALL ARE  
WELCOME**

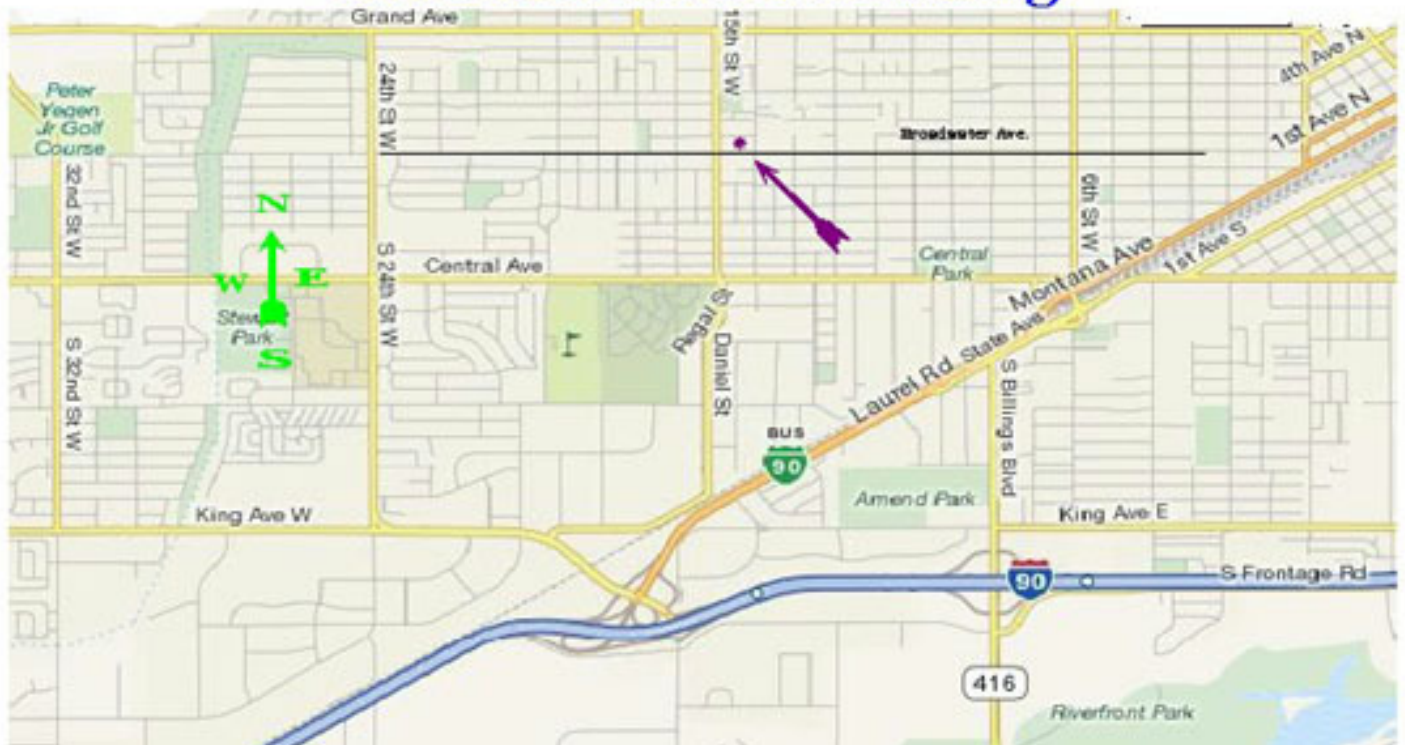


**SEE YOU  
THERE!!**

**State Meeting  
September 17th, 2011 1:00PM  
Billings, MT  
Bones/Doc & Eddys  
Broadwater Ave. / Between 14th & 15th St.**

**There are a lot of ways to get there  
so pick the easiest way for yourself.  
It is the only building between 14th  
& 15th on Broadwater Ave.**

**Parking lots on the West, East & North sides.  
You will want to come in the EAST  
entrance of the building.**





## House OKs Bill to Exempt Kids' Off-highway Vehicles from Lead Law

August 3, 2011 | By: J&P Cycle

We've harped about our battle to end the ban on youth ATV and motorcycle riding on this blog for months now, and it's beginning to look like our efforts and the efforts of the American Motorcyclist Association and other powersports organizations are making some serious headway.

This week — somewhere in between votes on debt ceilings — the U.S. House of Representatives found time to approve legislation (by a 421-2 vote) that exempts children's off-highway vehicles (OHVs) from the lead law that bans the sale of these vehicles at the end of 2011.

According to the American Motorcyclist Association (AMA), the measure won House support on Monday and now heads to the Senate for its consideration. Meanwhile, the Senate is hashing out a similar law (S. 1448), called the Consumer Product Safety Flexibility Act of 2011.

Near unanimous approval of the House legislation is great news for families that participate in off-highway riding, enabling children to participate on vehicles that fit their size. The challenge now is to get both federal bodies to agree on one version of the bill and send it to the President for his signature.

A lead-law exemption for off-road vehicles would permit kids to ride dirt bikes and all-terrain vehicles, despite the amount of lead found in such recreational rides. The current Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA) of 2008 bans the manufacture, importation, distribution or sale of any product intended for kids 12 and under that contains more than a specified amount of lead in any accessible part.

We've always contended that, yes, bikes contain lead, and no, kids aren't going to be chewing on their dirt bikes or ATVs. The CPSIA has delayed enforcing the ban until the end of this year, but both legislative bodies must approve an exemption before then.

We have the AMA to thank for Monday's vote, and we know they'll be all over the Senate to approve similar legislation. And, in particular, we'd like to thank our J&P customers for responding to our Stop the Ban blog posts on the topic and taking it upon themselves to join the fray and contact their lawmakers.

If you'd like to get involved, and see what the AMA has been doing these past few years to exempt kids' off-highway vehicles from the CPSIA, visit the Kids Just Want to Ride page on the AMA website. Your efforts are paying off. Now it's one down, one to go, and then a Presidential signature. How hard can that be?

## Judge Rules Harley Bikers May Proceed with Overheating and Burn Lawsuit Against Harley Davidson

Valenica, CA August 06, 2011

Last week, a federal judge ruled that a class action lawsuit against Harley Davidson could go forward, siding with four bikers who claim their Harley Davidson motorcycles were defectively designed because their engines ran so hot as to pose a constant danger to riders of being burned and were therefore not fit for their intended use.

The complaint alleges that since 1999, Twin Cam 88, 96, 103 and 110 cubic inch engines in Harley motorcycles produce severe, excessive heat causing clothing to catch on fire, burn injuries and the danger of burn injury to riders and passengers as well as overheating causing premature engine wear and in models manufactured after 2006, transmission failure. Although Harley Davidson asked the Eastern District of California court to throw out the claims under state law, the U.S. District Judge sided with the bikers.

Greg Owen, a partner at Los Angeles personal injury attorneys Owen, Patterson & Owen and one of the lawyers representing the plaintiffs in this case, states, "Harley Davidson has known about this problem from the early 2000s and has the technology to fix it, but has chosen to sell tens of thousands of touring bikes here in California without disclosing this known defect. When Harley customers complain to Harley's dealers after purchase, Harley's response is that's normal and it refuses to offer an effective fix to the problem."

Owen believes the unsafe heat problem is due to Harley selling larger engines that cannot comply with the emission standards of many states, including California.

'The fix is pretty simple,' says Owen, "and Harley already has it - manufacture touring bikes with liquid cooled engines instead of air cooled engines. If Harley did that this serious design and safety defect would go away."

The recent ruling allows the case to move forward, and Harley Davidson will now face Class Action Certification process at the end of the month.

Class members are encouraged to contact Greg Owen at Owen, Patterson & Owen for more information, by calling (866) 654-4947.

**ABATE OF MONTANA**



AMERICAN BIKERS AIMING TOWARD EDUCATION  
PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!!!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

New Address!  Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ CK# \_\_\_\_\_ CA \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address (Optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter you would like to be involved with \_\_\_\_\_

New Member

Renewal

Adult \$15.00

Youth \$10.00 (Below)

Please make checks or money orders payable to the Chapter you wish to join and send to them. Choose from the Chapters to the right or just join at the State level. Thank You

- Black Eagle**, 221 6th LN. NE, Fairfield, MT 59436
- Hi-Line**, 531 11th St. Havre MT 59501
- Helena**, 3677 Wylie Dr., Helena MT 59602
- Houndstooth**, 2148 Lake Elmo, Billings MT 59105
- Lower Yellowstone**, P.O. Box 722, Glendive MT 59330
- Prairie Riders**, 517 N. Stacy Miles City MT 59301
- Southeastern**, P.O. Box 641 Forsyth MT 59327
- Northern**, 1609 29th St. N. Lethbridge, AB. CA. T1H5K4
- State Chapter**: 517 N. Stacy, Miles City, MT 59301

Youth Authorization (Adult Signature) \_\_\_\_\_