

ABATE of Wisconsin will be holding a Madison Lobby Day on Thursday, February 26, 2009. Attendance at Lobby Day is open to ALL members at NO CHARGE. Once again we will be sponsoring buses to transport our members from all areas of the state.

Please read on for more information...

The ABATE of Wisconsin Legislative Committee has been working throughout the past year to make your participation in our February 26, 2009 Lobby Day as easy of possible and even better than last year's event. Last October we trained an additional 63 people to be available to assist our membership in the process of grassroots lobbying (which is what it is called when a private citizen contacts a legislative body regarding a concern or issue.) When we say **No Experience Necessary**, we mean it. We believe that we have all the tools in place that will make it possible for any one of our members (or motorcycling non-members) to successfully participate in Lobby Day.

If you are wondering how the day goes, here is a short course of what we have in place to assist you.

- **Meeting Appointments:** Many Regional Reps or Regional Legislative Officers have already made an appointment to meet with the legislators from your area. Contact your Regional Rep to see if there is a meeting you may join.
- **If you need to make your own appointment** call your legislators and tell them that you are part of ABATE Lobby Day. They may have another appointment already scheduled that you could sit in on. If not, ask them to please make an appointment for you. Your legislator's office staff can handle this for you, you do not need to speak directly to the legislator to make an appointment.
- **If you legislator is not available for appointments on February 26, accept an appointment with their office staff.** This is not a problem. You can be assured that any information that you give to the office staff will be relayed to the legislator. It can be just as important to get to know the legislator's staff as meeting with the legislator personally.
- **If you have made an appointment with your legislator(s) please let us know. Email the following information to news@abatewis.org**

Your Name

Legislator(s) Name

Appointment Time

Appointment Location (room number)

- **When you get to Madison on February 26, 2009**
- **If you drive in on your own** you are welcomed to park your car at the CC Rider's MC Clubhouse on Parkside Dr (turn off of East Washington at the corner of E Washington and Lien Road (Wendy's in on the corner) go one block to Parkside Dr, turn right, and the Clubhouse is at the end of the block.) We will be operating a shuttle from the Clubhouse to the Inn on the Park every half hour from 8am to 4:30.

- **If you come in on one of our buses** you will be dropped off right at Inn on the Park where the ABATE "Information Center" is located.
- **When you get to Inn on the Park** follow the signs directing you to the location of the ABATE Information Center. At this location ABATE members will be set up to
 - Sign you in for the day so you will be counted towards the total attendance
 - Give the lead person for each legislative appointment a folder containing the information for the legislator
 - Help you determine your legislative district if needed
 - Answer any questions you may have and provide you with a map of the capitol building if you need one
 - We will even have people available to attend your meetings with you if you don't have an experienced person to go with to make you more comfortable.
 - Coffee and water will be available at the Information Center, however you will be on your own for lunch. Inn on the Park has a restaurant available and many others are very close. Please plan lunch around the 12:30 group photo so you don't miss that.

• **Meeting with your Legislator(s)**

- **Feel free to "dress like a biker"**, in fact we encourage the wearing of leather/denim and ABATE of Wisconsin Products... but please, nothing offensive. Duck-tape is handy for temporarily covering offensive patches.
- **Remember that courtesy is appreciated at all times.** You are trying to inform your legislator about ABATE of Wisconsin's issues, and he or she will appreciate your help.
- **You don't need to be "an expert"**. The folder we will have prepared for each legislator has fact sheets in it that present ABATE of Wisconsin's current motorcycle issues. If at any time you are asked a question that you don't know the answer to, simply state the fact that you do not know, but you can find out and get back to them. When you return to the Control Center someone there can help you with the question.
 - If you are attending a meeting with a large group, there will be an experienced person with the group that can answer almost any question that comes up.
 - **Bring along your camera** and ask for a photo with your legislator.
- **After you meet with your legislators** please return to the Information Center at Inn on the Park at that time we ask that you
 - **Complete a short "Exit Survey"** to let us know if we need to change/improve anything and what your legislator may have said about our issues.
 - When you turn in your survey you will receive an "I Lobbied in Madison" patch (first time attendees) as well as a 2009 rocker to go with the **Lobby Day Patch**.
 - **Thank your legislator and their staff** for meeting with you. Everybody appreciates a complimentary letter – and remembers it. We will have ABATE of Wisconsin postcards at the Control Center along with sample text and legislators' addresses for you to write a brief thank you note before you leave.
 - **If extending an invitation** or requesting a meeting in the district (like attending one of your local ABATE meetings or events, suggest a time and date, or several dates, for the visit. Be flexible and accommodating.

A Few Final "Do's and Don't's"

DON'T be critical of personalities. Make your points about issues not persons.

DON'T tell half-truths, distort the truth, or lie. Do not conceal important facts, you will lose any credibility as a source of information. If asked a question you do not know the answer to, admit that you do not know the answer and continue on.

DON'T make public assumptions about another person's motives.

DO try to achieve a consensus, remembering that it is rare for anyone to get everything she or he wants.

DO try to be accessible to your legislator on other occasions after you make contact

DO try to talk with your opponents. You may find you have common ground and be able to arrange a compromise, or you may find that you agree on other matters. ☺

Scroll down for our Bus-Route / Schedule.

“NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY” to ride the bus and lobby. All participants riding the buses will be provided with Issue Papers and more information. Each bus will have someone on board who “knows the issues” and can discuss them with you.

Everyone is asked to be available for a group photo at 12:30

p.m. The photo will be staged on the steps at the WEST Exit of the Capitol (State Street Exit). Please arrive a little before 12:30 p.m. to allow for getting everyone in place.

Our “Information Center” will be at Inn on the Park right across from the Capitol. (22 S Carroll St., Madison, WI.) “Seasoned Citizen Lobbyists” will be available there to go to appointments with “Rookies” if necessary.

Please call your Regional Rep NOW if you will be able to attend!

We urge everyone to **sign up for our ABATE of Wisconsin Email Alerts**. Go to www.abatewis.org and click on the “Subscribe Here” link under the ALERTS LIST banner on the left side of the page. This list is maintained by ABATE of Wisconsin and only used for ABATE business. Your email address will not be shared or distributed for any reason.

Lobby Day 2009 FEBRUARY 26, 2009

Updated Bus Route Information

If you have not yet reserved a spot on one of our buses and wish to do so, please contact the “Bus Leader” to make a reservation.

ROUTE 1 – Northwest Bus Leader - Andy Mathiassen 715-392-6685

4:30 am - SUPERIOR - City parking lot at 1307 Banks St.

6:00 am – SPOONER - Municipal Parking Lot, Front St.

6:40 am – RICE LAKE - Cenex at Hwy 53 & Hwy 48

8:00 am – EAU CLAIRE - Signature Cycles, S 8710 State Road 93 (4 miles S of Eau Claire) (Note: this route and

Route 1B will meet at this location and arrange riders based on bus capacity)

11:15 am – arrive Inn on the Park, Madison

Route 1B – Lower Northwest Bus Leader – Jim Miller 715-964-3328

7:30 am – ELK MOUND - Shooter’s Show Girls, I-94 & Hwy 29

8:00 am - EAU CLAIRE - Signature Cycles, S 8710 State Road 93 (See note Route 1)

11:20 am – arrive Inn on the Park, Madison

ROUTE 2 – West-central Bus Leader – Betty Roberge 608-769-4089

7:45 am – ONALASKA – Woodman’s (please park at the south end of the building by the motels)

8:30 am – TOMAH - Leisure Time Sports, Winnebago Ave & Hwy 12/16 just off I-94

9:10 am – LYNDON STATION – Skully’s BP Truck stop, I-94 & CTH HH

10:20 am – arrive Inn on the Park, Madison

ROUTE 3 – Southwest Bus Leader – Jim Skaife 608-723-7548

6:00 am—BLOOMINGTON—Warco Bus Barn, Hwy 35
6:20 am - LANCASTER - Pamida Parking Lot, Hwy 61
7:00 am – PLATTEVILLE - Pioneer Lanes, 1185 E Business 151
7:45 am – MONTFORT - Tower Junction Bowling Alley, 254 State Road 18
8:30 am – DODGEVILLE - Dodgeville Truck Stop, Junction of Highways 151 & 18
9:15 am – VERONA - Chinmi Truck Stop, 507 W Verona Ave
10:15 arrive at Inn on the Park, Madison

ROUTE 4 – North-central Bus Leader – Evan Hansen 715-344-0394

8:30 am – WAUSAU - Cruise Inn, 1724 Merrill Ave Wausau (Exit 194 off I-39)
9:20 am – PLOVER - Shooters, 5330 Harding Ave Plover (Exit 151 off I-39)
10:30 am - PORTAGE - North Side Kwik Trip, 2970 New Pinery Rd
11:15am arrive at Inn on the Park, Madison

ROUTE 5 – Northeast Bus Leaders – Bob April – 920-848-2331 and Howard Hill 920-993-9597

7:00 am SHAWANO – The Light House, W6440 Gumaeer Rd
7:55 am GREEN BAY – Ashwaubenon Bowl, 2929 Allied St
8:25 am APPLETON (Park and Ride lot off of 41 and Ballard)
8:50 am Neenah - Rick's Reunion Station, 293 Green Bay Rd

ROUTE 5B—Region 2E Bus

8:30 am - Leave Countryside Bar, W5302 Hwy 114 (Between Menasha and Sherwood)
8:50 – 9 am - Stop by Rick's Reunion Station for Overflow
9:15 am – Oshkosh (Pick up point TBD)
9:40 - Fond du Lac – Open Road Harley Davidson

ROUTE 6 – East-central Bus Leader – Roger “Bug” Woodke 920-528-8129

8:00 am – SHEBOYGAN - Deer Trace Park & Ride Lot
8:35 am – SAUKVILLE - Walmart Parking lot, Hwy 33 east of I-43
9:15 am – ALLENTON - Park & Ride lot 66-70, Hwy 33 & 41
9:45 am – HORICON - Majestic Trikes & Cycles, 306 Washington St (Hwy 33)
10:30 am – JOHNSON CREEK - Park & Ride lot 28-01, I-94 & N. Watertown St. (Hwy 26) (Note: Route 7 will also stop at this location to allow for best use of available bus seats)
11:15 arrive Inn on the Park, Madison

ROUTE 7 – Southeast (another bus may be added if demand is as high as last year) Bus Leaders – Rob DeDecker 262-997-0745 and Paul Vita 414-698-7285

8:00 am – KENOSHA - Brat Stop, I-94 & Hwy 50 (12304 75th St.)
8:30 am – RACINE - Park & Ride lot 51-20, I-94 & Hwy 20
9:00 am – CUDAHY - Park & Ride lot 40-20, I-94 & College Ave (Northeast lot)
9:30 am – WEST ALLIS - Park & Ride lot 40-55, I-94 & S. 76th St
10:00 am – PEWAUKEE - Park & Ride lot 67-45, I-94 & Hwy G (Meadowbrook Rd)
10:30 am – JOHNSON CREEK - Park & Ride lot 28-01, I-94 & N. Watertown St. (Hwy 26), Johnson Creek (see note Route 6)
11:10 arrive Inn on the Park, Madison

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