

Good Afternoon, Freedom Lovers!

I have four quick items of note:

1. We had a good meeting at the Biker Shack 411 last Saturday. After the meeting, Fat Dog led us on a ride around Little River Canyon. We saw the gate to Randy Owens' place, and we had some BBQ at the Lookout Mountain Parkway Restaurant. Slide show here:

<http://s756.photobucket.com/albums/xx202/KrisCook/ABATE%2010-08-21/?albumview=slideshow> We never did make it to any swimming holes, but it was still a fantastic ride.

2. We want to have our next meeting as a breakfast meeting on Sunday, September 19, in the Birmingham area. Does anyone know a restaurant where we could get a good breakfast, that would have a quiet place where we could meet and eat? All I can think of is Cracker Barrel, but I don't think they can provide a quiet spot for us, even though the food is wonderful.

3. We spent quite a bit of time Saturday discussing the hot topic of federal funding from the National Highway Traffic Safety Association for "open warrant" checkpoint stops for only motorcyclists. Here are a couple of links to articles about the subject: <http://usridernews.com/2010/08/12/nhtsa-funds-motorcycle-only-checkpoints/>
<http://bikersofamerica.blogspot.com/2010/05/article-about-police-motorcycle-stops.html>

I don't know if Alabama has received any of this funding. If Alabama law enforcement offers are setting up any checkpoints here yet, I haven't heard. But we discussed organizing for a thorough protest if need be. If anyone has first hand knowledge about this, drop me an email and bring me up to speed.

4. Our website is recently expanded to include a forum, live chat, the ability to send and receive private messages (much like email) from within the forum, and the ability for people to join up online and use PayPal to check out. If you haven't visited the website recently, give it a whirl. I'll link you to the forum here:

<http://www.dixieabate.org/smf/index.php>

For you that are not yet paying members, we have dropped the annual price of membership to \$20.00 single and \$30.00 couple. Membership runs from January 1 to December 31. Everyone's 2011 membership fee will be due and payable on December 1, and will be delinquent by January

1. I'll send reminders. So go ahead and join! You know you want to.

RUMBLE ON NOBLE NEXT SATURDAY -- drop by the Dixie ABATE tent and say hello. And buy a T-shirt.

<http://rumbleonnable.com/>

Thanks, and....

Ride Safe!

Kris