

ABATE OF FLORIDA SOUTHEAST CHAPTER

NEW WEB: www.abatese.org • HOTLINE: 954.310.INFO (4636)

ISSUE
309

April 2009



A MERICAN
B IKERS
A IMING
T OWARD
E DUCATION

NEXT
CHAPTER
MEETING
10 AM
Sunday
April 19, 2009



LET THOSE
WHO RIDE
DECIDE!

"Freedom of Choice" July 1, 2009

ABATE of Florida, Inc. **Lake** Cnty Chapter

Presents – Open to Everyone –
CAMPING for Leesburg BikeFest™

Campground is located off of Hwy 27 & CR 46-4.5 miles S from downtown Leesburg. Coming from the N on 27 pass CR 33 & turn right at the BP, by the lake. Coming from the S, 1st lile once you come into Leesburg, turn left onto CR 46 * look for the sign.
West Dixie & Walgroens on the corner. A map is published on the Leesburg Bikefest's web site: <http://www.leesburgbikefest.com>

RV's are Welcome – NO hook ups- NO Reservations- sorry

* 24 Hr
security

DATES: April 23-24-25-26, 2009

* Bonfire
Fri & Sat

WHERE: 27150 Haywood Worm Farms Rd
Okahumpka 34762 Eagles Aerie # 4273

* hot
showers

TIME: gates open Thurs 23rd @ 9:00 a.m.

* Hot Dogs Fri
@ 9:00 by fire

COST: \$12. pp – per nite tax included.

* VENDORS

Kids 12 & under FREE - \$10. one time Trailer/RV fee.

* VENDORS

We can NOT accept reservations.

Breakfast Buffett/Supper * Beverages & Entertainment
available at Eagles. Live Band Fri & Sat nite.

NO individual site fires
NO Weapons
NO Pets
NO Alitudes
NO EXCEPTIONS

Take-A-Break Poker Run

Sat April 25th-sign up at the ABATE membership/safety
booth downtown or campground 1st card drawn at campground.

ABATE of FL, Inc - Nature Coast & Seminole Chapter ABATE are hosting a campground at the Moose Lodge #1271,
located on W State Road 44, Leesburg

**Be on the lookout for the ABATE SE Chapter
Memorial Day Flyer coming soon!**

2008 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

www.abatese.org Hotline (954)310-INFO (4636)

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ABATE of Florida, Inc. • www.AbateFlorida.com • flabate@bellsouth.net • (386)943-9610(voice & fax)

TO PLACE ADVERTISEMENTS



You must submit print ready ads or PC compatible disk. Black type on white paper, including business cards, required. Ads and copy must be prepaid to "SE ABATE Chapter" and submitted at or before the chapter meeting to be included in that issue. Due to limited space all ads must be paid to date or they will be dropped without notification. THE ADVERTISER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL COPY AND AD CHANGES. Non-camera ready advertisements will incur a minimum \$25 layout charge and will be billed separately.

The Southeast Chapter Newsletter is published monthly by ABATE of Florida, Inc. Southeast Chapter, PO BOX 292693, Ft. Lauderdale FL 33329-2693 1600+ NEWSLETTERS PUBLISHED MONTHLY

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC., or the Southeast Chapter. This publication encourages its members to express their own beliefs and/or opinions. ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. and the Southeast Chapter accepts no responsibility for the opinions, views, or comments contained in this publication. Southeast Chapter reserves the right to edit any article submitted for publication for misspellings or inappropriate language.

Membership Due Thanks if you have already renewed

March	Rich Herrera	Kevin Vail	David "Dave the Kid" Valeo	Darrell Byers	Joel Jeknick	James Myers
Melissa Allen	Ken Horlick	Brian Valinski	Estelle "Gran Ma" Valeo	Ted Casey	Bianca Kasper	Laurie Nicolaus
Bob Amann	Debi Horlick	Gretchen Valinski	Robert Van Donge	Charles Clark	Gerry Kekates	David Perez
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Alyssa Bednarek	Billy Lambert	Kenneth Wells	Elizabeth Alvarez	Andrew Corsetti	Robert Kirchuff	Sergio Pontillo
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Ronald Bond	Shannon Miller	Laurel Youngman	Vicente Andreu	Dennis Diaz	Hank Konczynski	Hennau Ramirez
Robert Brown	Tom "Moonman" Caggiano	April	Julio Andujar	Patti Dollard	Joyce Konczynski	Scott Reilly
Joe "Sharkey" Caggiano	Mooney	Nestor Alvarez	German Aristegui	Allan Downard	Robert Kraft	Alain Rodriguez
Julie Ann Clay	Bruno Moretti	Sergio Caldas	Lowell Arnold	John Edge	Michael Kuse	Victor Rodriguez
Steven Cohen	Dion Potter	Donna "Big D" Chomiak	Charlotte Auth	Bill Farley	John Lefkowitz	Victor Roman
Brian Damick	Luis Rayon	Paul M Davis	Joseph Auth	Hector Fernandez	Marty Lux	Jorge Sanchez
Jim Dawson	Jeff "Big Jeff" Richmond	James E Douglas	Abe Avila	Denise "Trouble" Fitzgerald	Laurie L Mackrell	Mike Savino
Ron Dawson	Scott Rohrbach	Mel 'Griz' Hastings	Luzbin Barbosa	Fitzgerald	Steve Maham	Tom Schongar
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Jorge Hasbun			James Buckley	Donald Holt	Amy Montellanico	Jody Swett
					Silvio Mulder	Steve Urrch
						Angel Vega

You have 30 days from the last day of your expiration month to renew your membership or be deleted from the State's List. Also (very important) be sure to notify us of any change of address to continue receiving your newsletter and Masterlink.

Pick up your newsletter here:

- 84 Diner
- Blue Jays
- Broward Motor Sports
- Southern Fox
- Kelly's Bowl
- HD South
- JP Mulligans
- Vin "EZ" Cycle Parts
- HD FTL
- VFW Post 9697
- Johnny Fucifino's
- Kings Head Pub
- Big Dawgs
- Daisy Dukes
- American Legion 321
- Keltics MC
- Bear Barn
- Top Guns Cycle
- Wheels of ManMC
- HD Pompano
- HD Sunrise
- Ballers
- FOE- Eagles
- HD North
- Heaven Cycles
- Lou's Tattoos (2 shops)
- DP's on Beach
- Crotch Rockets to
- Bar Hoppers
- Thunder Cycles
- CycleLab
- Biker's Inc.
- Mastermailer.

- Players Pub
- On the road again
- Texas Rose
- Flossie's
- Mickey's
- Lukes
- Wetz



Miami Mike's
Wheels on the Road
 4851 NW 103 Ave., Suite 44E
 Sunrise, Florida 33351
 Phone 954-578-2900
 Fax 954-578-2929
 Cell 954-812-0479



ATTENTION

When you renew your ABATE membership, you may also purchase a yearly membership pin. Shirts and patches available also .

Call Brett Gerber (561)704-2639 for details!!

President's Message

Jimmy Les Lesniak



ABATE of Florida is encouraging all of the municipalities in the state of Florida to Proclaim May (or another month of choice) as Motorcycle Awareness Month. The State of Florida has made

May a State wide Proclamation for many years. At this time ABATE of Florida, Southeast Chapter has already received their first proclamation. Commissioner Heidi O'Sheehan from district 3 of the City of Hollywood attended our monthly meeting at the American Legion Post 321. She presented Southeast Chapter with their first proclamation that May will be Motorcycle Awareness Month. Southeast Chapter has approached several cities in the area and believes we will have more positive responses from other cities by the time this is printed.

You may wonder why we take the time to approach the cities and municipalities to ask them to make the proclamation; May is Motorcycle Awareness Month. One reason is exposure. It returns to the number one. If one person hears of the proclamation and takes one minute to think about it, subconsciously remembers it and while driving their car, then takes one more look for a motorcycle...it just might save a life. We all know someone whose life has been changed because of a car that should have taken one more look. Another reason is communication with our elected officials. It is helpful to our legislative cause to interact in a positive way with the elected officials. It is important to be noticed and recognized as a viable, reputable political rights organization.

Tallahassee is now in session. Our legislators are looking at the proposed bills that will change our

lives. They are discussing how these changes or additions to our laws will affect the lives of the people living in Florida and how the changes will add to the general welfare of the state. Many times when the legislators read a bill (many which sound great at first but would have a negative effect on our rights and freedoms) they may feel this would help promote or protect the citizens in their districts from themselves. It is up to the people who live in this state to examine the bills and if they decide the bills will deny us some of our rights, they need to let the politicians know that the changes they are considering should not be enacted into laws. This is the reason I am an ABATE member - because our personal voices collectively carry a lot of weight to those people in Tallahassee. It is a fact, ABATE of Florida Inc. is present in Tallahassee and in communication with the persons responsible for enacting laws. There are approximately a dozen different bills being discussed at this time. ABATE Southeast chapter has been looking into them and discussing how they will effect us and whether ABATE of Florida will support the passing of the same.

Several of the bills involve distracted driving which includes the use of cell phones and texting of messages while operating a motor vehicle. We have all had close calls with people who are involved with these activities and trying to drive at the same time. Distracted driving includes all types of activities. Have you ever had something to eat while you drove? Smoked a cigarette? How about a passenger? If you have a passenger in the car and you are holding a conversation with them, are you distracted? What is the difference between someone on a hands-free cell phone talking to someone miles away and talking to a passenger a few feet away? I will agree many people who are talking on a cell phone should be paying more attention to their driving, but what limits should be enforced? If anyone has ever ridden in a car full

of children, you must know how distracting they can be. Should we outlaw children in vehicles? How about smoking and eating? There is a problem with cell phones, but what is the responsible action to follow? I believe ABATE of Florida will cautiously support some of the cell phone bills. There are bills that involve drivers under 18 years of age texting and talking on cell phones while driving. More on this at a later date.

One of the major bills ABATE of Florida is supporting the House Bill 1161 introduced by Representative Greg Evers. This bill introduces stiffer penalties that include larger fines and jail time if a driver injures or kills someone in a motor vehicle accident. This House Bill 1161 and a similar Senate Bill 968 by Senator Garcia are being heard in committee at this time. On a final note NCOM is suing the city of Myrtle Beach in South Carolina. They have passed laws that are stricter than state and are limited to many motorcycles, motorcyclists and motorcycle events. If the city of Myrtle Beach wins these law suits it could have a ripple effect that will reach South Florida. If so, this can and will make life very difficult for riders in South Florida.

Till next time Ride Safe and Free



Jimmy Les

Call to Action

At the top in the choices on the left, click on the new selection "Legislative Info Center"

Once you are in the new Legislative Info Center, at the top left, you cannot miss the SIGN UP NOW message. Click on that and proceed with the sign up as indicated.

Website at <http://www.abateflorida.com/>

**To stop delivery of your newsletter to your home email:
membership@abatese.org**



**ABATE of Florida, Southeast Chapter
Meeting Minutes
Mar. 15, 2009**

The meeting was called to order at 10:04am by 1st Sgt. @ Arms BARS with 49 chapter members and 1 At-Large member in attendance. Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence we started the meeting with a prayer from our chaplain, Tumbleweed.

President's Report

Jimmy thanked all our members for coming and welcomed our newest members: Phil, Rick, Susan and Stewart. On a sad note member Armando Diaz is in Coral Springs Hospital, please keep him in your thoughts and prayers. We had a good month with Bike Week in Daytona, BBRA Rides for Smiles, H/D Anniversary party. We have a lot to talk about in legislation. The new mayor of Davie is Judy Paul. We have a special guest; Heidi O'Sheehan Commissioner in Hollywood who will make a presentation under the Safety Director's report.

Vice-President's Report

Jimbo thanked all for coming out today. One of the most important state meetings is next month in Tallahassee. The Freedom Rights Rally on 4/11 and 4/12 with the ride to the capitol on 4/13/09. This is an awesome ride, free tent camping. We have a list going around if interested please sign up. We will be meeting at 84 diner on Sat. 4/11/09 leaving promptly at 800am. If we get at least 2000 on the capitol run, State Vice President "Doc Fish" will proudly be wearing a bunny suit on the capitol steps.

Secretary's Report

A motion was made to accept the minutes of February meeting as printed in the newsletter. Motion seconded, all in favor, motion passed.

Treasurer Report

Alice read February's report. A motion to accept, seconded. All in favor. Motion passed

Sergeant at Arms Report

Leo the Lion thanked all of our members for coming. After witnessing a horrible crash reminded our members to look right, left and right again. Please be safe out there.

Road Captain's Report

Jimbo reported right after today's meeting we will be riding over to the Keltics MC party at JP Mulligan's 3/22/09 – Fiasco Brothers MC in Vero Beach. Meet at the Eagles at 1000am, leaving at 1130am
3/28/09 – Outcast MC Annual. Meet at Johnny Fucifino's at 700pm, leaving at 730pm
3/29/09 – States MC Annual. Meet at the Eagles at 1000am, leaving at 1130am
4/5/09 – AOA West Palm Beach. Check the hotline.
4/5/09 – Cruise for Critters'. Meet at the legion leaving promptly 0830 Sign in at 900is. Ride starts at 1000am. This is a police escorted ride.
4/11/09 Freedom rights run in Tallahassee. Meet at 84 dinner leaving promptly at 800am
4/11/09 Hermedad MC Party. Check the hotline for information.
4/12/09 CMA Easter Services at Petersons North. Breakfast at 1000 Services start 1130am.
Check out the website: www.sgtchrisreyka.com. From 3/28/09 to 4/4/09 a ride around the State of Florida.
3/28 & 29 Travel the East coast. 3/31 & 4/1 travel the Panhandle, 4/3 travel the West Coast Finale on 4/4/09 in Ft. Lauderdale. You can ride 1 or all days. There is also drawing for a 2001 H/D Electra Glide classis. \$25.00 per chance only 1000 tickets being
Each Thursday and Friday are fun rides. Meeting at the legion between 730pm and 800pm. Come on out as we hit the bike nights and visit the MC clubhouses.

Safety Director's Report

Geo reported last month we discussed meeting with our local officials to have May proclaimed as Motorcycle Safety Month. It is an honor and privilege to introduce a motorcycle riding official, a military veteran who is the Commissioner in the City of Hollywood: Heidi O'Sheehan who read and presented a proclamation proclaiming May as Motorcycle Safety Month in the City of Hollywood. Thank you very much.

Bob reported each month we will discuss a different safety tip. This month is new tires. New tires are real slick for the first 100 miles due to a coating which is applied to them.

So take it easy check your tire pressures and inspect your bike regularly

State Reps Report

There was no state meeting. Next month's State Meeting is the Freedom Rights Ride in Tallahassee.

Products Report

Brett was out of town. If you need anything please call him. His number is listed in the newsletter.

Membership Report

Val reported 611 members on the state list. If you know of anyone on the list in the newsletter who has not renewed, please get them to renew. Reminder, when filling out the application form, PLEASE WRITE OR PRINT LEGIBLY. Jimmy Les called for a vote of confidence for George 'Blue Trike' Torrence who will be taking over as membership trustee. A motion was made, seconded and all were in favor. A special Thank you to Connie for all her hard work as membership trustee.

Newsletter Editor

Suzanne apologized for the newsletter getting to our members later than usual. Unfortunately our printers are going out of business. We are currently taking bids for a new printer. If you know of anyone please call Suzanne or any board member also we pay up front the cost of printing, no billing or nothing. Since we have 1 of the best advertising rates around and you know of anyone who needs some great exposure, have them call us. We do have a few outstanding invoices, please see her if you can stop at any of them to pick up payment. A personal touch works the best. To help save the chapter on the cost of mailing, if you want to receive your newsletter electronically, please e-mail her. With today's costs, every little bit will help.

If you have any articles, pictures for the newsletter, please have them to her no later than Wednesday.

Jimmy Les reported we have been recognized by our state office, we have one of the best newsletters out there. Maureen reported we need help with the distribution of the newsletter. If you can make 3 to 4 drops once a month will be appreciated. If you can help in anyway, please call her. Her number is listed in the newsletter.

Legislative Report

Old Hippy gave a recap on the following bills: SB 112- Cell phone use in a school zone. SB 172 the Heather Law, more restrictive use of cell phones. SB 968 Stiffer penalties bill sponsored by Rudy Garcia. HB

439 Electronic ticketing. Also discussed a number of restrictions for drivers under 18 and mandatory drivers for anyone under 18 years old. Discussion on the vertical tag law and the municipal helmet law in Myrtle Beach SC. No updates as yet on these 2 important issues.

Advertising

Suzanne reported we need advertisers. No matter where you go to shop ask them for an ad. We have the best advertising rates out there. Also very important is to support our advertisers. Make sure you tell them, you say their ad in our newsletter. A very special Thank you to Princess who has taken a sponsor ad for 3 months. She will be sponsoring a picture page for our use. The same goes for Luke's. As they also pay for an ad but give us most of the space for our use. Remember "It's on the way home"

Events Coordinator Jimmy Les reported our next event will be our Memorial Day rally will be held on 5/24/09. At this time we are in negotiations with several establishments which should be finalized within the next 2 weeks. Check the hotline for event planning meeting dates and times.

Social Director's Report

Karin reported if you want to have your birthday in the newsletter, you must contact her. We do not have a list of everyone birthdays. This month's birthdays will be celebrated at Lukes on 3/21/09 starting around 700pm. Come on out and enjoy.

Quartermaster's Report

Shaky Bob reported the grill is finished. It looks great and we can't wait to use it.

Photographer's Report

Axman was not present. Jimmy Les reported all pictures are up and on our web-site. If you wish to purchase any of the pictures he has taken check out his web-site at axmanpictures.com. At the Keltics MC party today he is having a sale. Framed pictures - \$10.00, unframed \$5.00. If you want any pictures from his web-site for your own use, just let him know. Off the web they are only \$5.00 a piece. Such a deal.

Web-Master's Report

Tank was not present. Jimmy Les reported our Asst. Webmaster "Ricky Mouse" was learning our system. The web should be up and running smoothly very shortly

Trash master's Report

Aaron was not present. No report.

Old Business

None

New Business

Sgt @ Arms Leo the Lion opened nominations for the 2009-2010 term of Board of Directors and Trustees. Nominated are listed separately.

Nominations closed for March

Good of the Order

We will be leaving for Keltics MC Party right after we adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 11:34 am.



These minutes summarized and Respectfully submitted

Paul A. Melcer

Secretary

Nominated for the 2009-2010 Board of Trustee and Directors:

- President: James Lesniak
- Vice President: Jimbo Sherrow
- Secretary: Paul A. Melcer
- Treasurer: Alice Calabrese
- Sgt at Arms: BARS, Old Hippy Leavitt
- Road. Captain: Jimbo Sherrow, Cutter
- Safety Director: Suzanne Keen, Bob Anz, Geo Bograkos
- State Delegates: Jimmy Lesniak, Suzanne Keen, Old Hippy Leavitt, Chris Sharp, Demetrious Kirkiles, Chuck Widle, Tony Denito
- Products: Brett Garber, Majorie Rheume, BARS, Linda Michnowicz, Hope Lanius, Susan Jordan.
- Membership: George Torrence
- Newsletter: Suzanne Keen, LeAnn "Wildcat" Lewis
- Legislative: Chuck Widle, Old Hippy Leavitt, Tony Denito, Demetrious Kirkiles
- Legal Council: Demetrious Kirkiles, Chris Sharp
- Public Relations: Rick Hernandez, Cutter, Marjorie Rheume, Axman, Al Newcomer
- Advertising: Rick Hernandez, Suzanne Keen, Maureen Rheume, Hope Lanius, Linda Michnowicz
- Events: Rick Hernandez, Shaky Bob
- Social Director: Karin Rylands, Bill Farley, LeAnn "Wildcat" Lewis, Princess Sharon
- Quartermaster: Bob Anz
- Photographer: Axman, LeAnn "Wildcat" Lewis, Hope Lanius, Mike Hager
- Web Master: Ricky Mouse Jans, Mike Hager
- Trashmaster: Aaron Sutton, Hank Ski, Doctor Bob
- Chaplain: Tumbleweed



14th ANNUAL FREEDOM RIGHTS RALLY

April 10th - April 13th, 2009

State Meeting: Sun. - April 12th at 2:00pm
State Board Meeting: Sun. - April 12th at 12:00pm Noon
 in Monticello at the American Legion Hall

Ride to the Capitol Monday, April 13th, 2009
from the Monticello KOA Campground at 9:00am

!! ALL ARE WELCOME !!

Free Camping for Tenters

RV Hookups Available at \$50.00 for the weekend

Located at exit 225 at I-10 in Monticello. Call (850) 997-3890 for directions only. 20 miles east of Tallahassee & 6 miles S.W. of Monticello. From I-10 at US19, proceed south 600ft., then west on C158B for 2 miles, then north of S259 for 1/2 mile, then follow signs.

American Legion Hall: Go 2 blocks west of the opera house on US90, then turn west on Waters Street. Go 1/2 mile to Legion Hall on the Hall on the right.

Reservations for RV Hookups (for pop-up campers, Van, RV's) need to be made through the state office (386) 943-9610. RV sites are limited

Super 8 Hotel - Monticello I-10 at exit 225
 Reservations: (800) 800-8000 or (850) 997-8888

Days Inn - Monticello I-10 at exit 225
 Reservations: (800) 329-7466 or (850) 997-5988

For further information please contact:
 ABATE of FLORIDA, INC.
 State Office: (386) 943-9610

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 ABATE of Florida, Inc., does not condone drinking and driving.



BIG DAWGS SPORTS BAR

LONGEST HAPPY HOUR IN TOWN

\$1.00 DOM. DRAFTS

\$1.50 WELL DRINKS

MONDAY - FRIDAY 11am - 7pm

ALL DAY SATURDAY \$1.00 DOM.DRAFTS



MONDAY NIGHT - DOM. BUCKETS 5 FOR 10.00 & \$ 6.00 DOM PITCHERS

WEDNESDAY NIGHT - JAM & OPEN MIC NIGHT COME OUT AND JAM WITH USLOTS OF FUN ----\$ 2.00 DOM . DRAFTS.

THURSDAY NIGHT - \$ 6.00 DOM. PITCHERS.

SUN DAY NASCAR DOM. BUCKETS 4 FOR \$ 10.00

SUNDAY NIGHT-- BIKE NIGHT
FREE BUFFET - FREE POOL - BAND
.50 CENT DOM. DRAFTS

IF YOU GET LOST-JUST PUT YOUR JOHNSON IN YOUR PALM AND YOUR THERE.....

10000 N.W. 6th CT PEMBROKE PINES. 954-435-2901

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**April Special - Mention WOTR get \$5 off
Dinner (only) - \$35 or more (Sun-Thurs)**

Meet here before your ride

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FOOD PHOTOS SHOT BY PAUL CASTLE

Old Hippy's Corner

Bike week is over, weather was good and from some of the stories that were told to me, the police department was able to bring in additional cash to their municipalities. I have been warning you that all cities and municipalities are in need, which translate to finding means to “make ends meet”, and traffic tickets have proven to be a reliable way to accomplish this.



Face it! Where else can you have that many bikes in one place at one time, and be able to just stand there and wait for a bike to come by to write a ticket. Sure, most if not all the people ticketed “knew” they had the possibility to be cited, but to what extent???

There was a rider that rode all the way from New Mexico to Daytona with \$ 700.00 for the trip and was given a nice Florida welcome, BAM!!! He got a ticket for a vertical license plate, normally this would have been a \$60.00 fine, but NOOOOOO... He got the big one!!!! Like to the tune of \$1150! Unfortunately, even though the Police Chief stop his officers from writing anymore these(that day) and admitted it was a excessive, this rider, along with a slew of others that where also given the “winning ticket” will have to wait to take it before a judge or hire a lawyer to represent them. (Judges and Lawyers are hurting too you know).

Wasn't the usual one's enough??? Loud Pipes, handle bar height, parking, revving of engines and my favorite one, Boob Flashing, didn't do it for them??? I guess Flagler Beach is trying to plan for a slow summer and figures this will help. I did hear of a person getting a break. He trailed his bike up and thought he would avoid the hassle in town, ride his custom chopper elsewhere. Well , you guessed it... as he was taking a leisure ride and enjoying the day the next thing he knew an Officer of the Law “jumps out of the bushes” about 100 feet in front of him and waves him over. Can we all surmise how many things he found by this “chance encounter”?? For starters, the owner didn't like the looks of mirrors on his creation, his seat was either too low or his ape hangers where too high, that he was kind of missing any form of a muffler and of course the vertical plate. Lucky for him the officer let him off with just a ticket for the lack of mirrors after he informed him that he could do worst, like having him towed like so many others did that week.

Remember Vertical tags are not legal and you are taking a chance of being cited for either \$ 60 or the \$1000. The latter you have to go before a Judge if you want to save yourself about \$ 940 bucks till this BS part of this law gets changed. There are other cases where I've heard vertical plate violations are being used as “get even” tactic. At Everglades Holiday Park a few weeks ago, someone got cited for that “tag” thing and when he pleaded his case to Officer, the Officer did like his attitude and raised it from \$60 to \$500 dollars fine. Frank Zappa was right, “America is a nation of laws, poorly written and randomly enforced” and this law is proof. Until we can get this change, beware you “big time” law breakers with your vertical tags, you are eligible to receive the “winning ticket”.

In this Legislative session they have reintroduced a lot of cell phone restriction bills that are aimed at eliminating or reducing the usage in vehicles. They are: SB 112, HB 677, which deals with usage in a school zone. Heather's bill, SB 172, HB 345, which looks at prohibiting the use of a cell phone unless it is completely hands free. SB 212, HB 261 and HB 377 also touch on the subject, adding types of ear pieces that can be used.

There are also a lot of bills introduce dealing with under the age of 21 drivers, from driver training to age and amount of under 21 passenger the under 21 driver can have in the vehicle. They are HB 7, HB 139, SB 402, and SB 608 and there in a Transportation Bill, is something that deals with motorcycles, SB 986. It restricts person, less than 16 years of age from riding a motorcycle, which means on and off road usage.

An interesting Bill introduced is HB 439, creating the “Mark Wandall Traffic Safety Act”. It is requiring all county or municipality to enact and ordinance in order to use a traffic infraction detector to identify a motor vehicle that fails to stop at a steady red light. This will hopefully help in those intersections where the cagers have a tendency to stretch the yellow lights, plus, of course bring in \$\$\$\$\$ to the Government.

The two bills I like are, SB 968 and HB 1161. Both of them deal with criminal penalties for moving violations that cause serious injuries to a driver or a passenger. SB 968 spells out Motorcycle and HB 1161 deals with all vehicles, and has already, as of March 11 received a favorable recommendation, a 17-2 vote in the House Roads, Bridges & Ports Policy committee.

I know we have all heard about the City of Myrtle Beach passing an ordinance last year (2008-64) making it mandatory for helmet and eye wear to be worn while riding a motorcycle on public or private property. This is important fight that the riding community needs to pay close attention to. If this holds up, then look out!!!! This will open the door for any city, county or municipality to make up their "own" restrictions. South Carolina already has a Helmet law, but it is for under 21 years of age riders (section 56-5-3660 of SC Code of Laws) and did you know those helmets need to be "reflectorized" on both sides? Hell, riders must look like moving light houses riding down the road.

WE HAVE TO FIND A WAY TO NIP THIS ACT OF TOTALITARIANISM IN THE BUD....NOW before we LOSE more OF "OUR FREEDOM AND RIGHTS."

We need a good showing of our concerns for our rights and freedom by trying to make an effort to join all our Brothers and Sisters on the ride to Tallahassee that is coming up. This coupled with opening up communication line with you all your elected officials, we might, who knows, keep us from losing our rights and having us to look like a moving traffic barricade with all the reflective clothing and helmets we might have to wear.

Keep the Shiny Side up and ride Safe and Free

OldHippy

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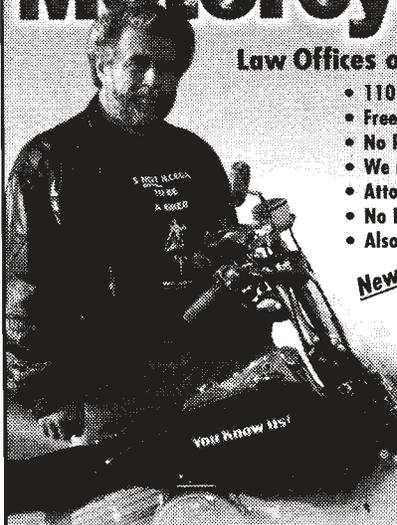
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Birthday Greetings -- if you want to be recognized in the Newsletter Birthday greetings contact Karin with your information Happy Birthday!

Hello Everybody,

The March Birthday Party at Luke's was wonderful 44 of you celebrated. Since none of you having a Birthday attended "Blondie" AKA Joyce blew out the candles for you. Thank you all for being there!

We had great music, great food, cake and service thanks to Kathleen, Royce, Kelly, Diane and Sid. We had a blast!

The Birthday Party for April will be at Texas Rose on Apr.18. We'll meet at the same time as always between 7-8pm. For directions listen to the hotline please or see Texas Rose's ad in the newsletter. I hope to see everybody there and have a wonderful Birthday to everybody below!

**Tony "Big T" Calvino
Bob Amann
Darryl Byers
Peter Graves "Sneaky Pete"**

Remember if you name is not mentioned please contact me at 954-430-0487 or socialdirector@abatese.org Till next month,

Ride Safe and Free
Karin



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for changes, deletions, additions or inquiries

APRIL

- *5 - **AOA MC West Palm Annual**
- 4 & 5 - Peterson's South Anniversary Weekend
- 11 - Hermandad MC Party
- *12 - **CMA Annual**
- 18 - Mystic Seven MC & Mojo's Birthday Party
- 18 - SE Police Rodeo
- *26 - **Wings of Gold MC Ft. Laud Stars & Stripes Annual**
- 24, 25, 26 - Leesberg Bikefest

DATE CHANGE

MAY

- *3 - **Southern MC Annual**
- 16 - Wings of Gold MC Ft. St. Lucie Party
- 17 - USMVMC West Palm Party
- 24 - SE ABATE Memorial Day Party
- *31 - **Soldiers for Jesus MC West Palm Beach Annual**

JUNE

- *7 - **AOA MC Treasure Coast Annual**
- *13 - **New Attitudes MC Annual**
- *14 - **Wings of Gold MC West Palm Annual**
- 21 - Peterson's North Store Fathers Day Event
- 21 - Alternative Epilipsy Run & Party
- 27 - Palm Beach ABATE Annual Event
- *28 - **Wings of Gold MC Miami Annual**

JULY

- 5 - USMVMC South Broward Party
- 12 - States MC Lake Worth Party
- 18 - Wheels of Man MC Chili Cook-Off & Party
- 19 - AOA MC West Palm Party
- *26 - **Black Pistons MC Ft. Laud. Annual**

AUGUST

- 3-9 69th Annual Sturgis Bike Week
- 14, 15, 16, - 14th International South Florida Tattoo Expo
- 16 - AOA MC 42nd Anniversary Party
- *23 - **Wings of Gold MC Port Saint Lucie Annual**
- 30 - US Military Vets MC Pompano Party

SEPTEMBER

- 12 - Outcast MC Party
- 13 - States Pompano MC 16th Key West Tuneup Party
- 18-20 - Phil Peterson's 37th Annual Key West Poker Run
- 27 - Southern MC Teddy Bear Run & Party

OCTOBER

- *4 - **Mystic Seven MC Annual**
- 11 - AOA MC Treasure Coast Party
- 15-18 - Daytona Biketoberfest
- 25 - SE ABATE 29th Annual Motorcyclists Rights Rally
- 31 - Wheels of Man MC 36th Annual Halloween Party

NOVEMBER

- *1 - **Alternative Ft. Laud. MC Annual**
- *8 - **USMVMC National 22nd Annual**
- 14 - Soldiers for Jesus MC West Palm Beach Party
- 15 - Wings of Gold MC Palm Beach Party
- 22 - CMA Memorial Event
- 29 - Keltics MC Minni Party
- 29 - Heaven Cycles 32nd Anniversary Party

DECEMBER

- *6 - **22nd Annual SFPC Christmas Toys in the Sun Run**
- 12 - Drawing for the Toy Run bike at H-D of Miami
- 13 - ABATE West Palm Beach Party
- 19 - SFLCOC Christmas Dinner Party
- 20 - Calvary Chapel 10th Annual Christmas Service

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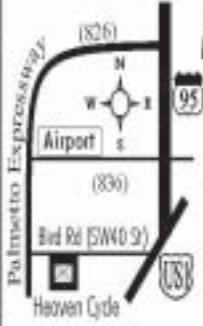


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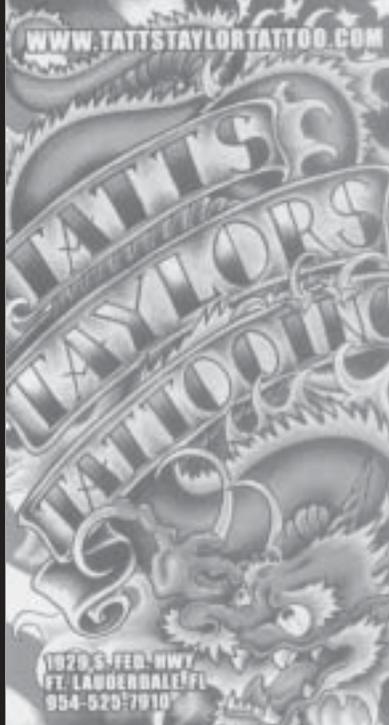
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TECH TIP OF THE MONTH!!!!

Here are some tech tips on tire pressure!!

Hey I know we love to just get out and ride and one thing we (myself included) overlook is tire pressures in our bikes !!!

I know that temperature has a effect on tire pressure the hotter it is outside the higher the pressure gets inside the tire !! As it gets colder the pressure inside the tire decreases. Motorcycles are very nimble machines and we only have two tires instead of four. So we really need to keep on top of tire pressure on a bike . Low tire pressure will make our bikes handle like @#*%\$ (BAD) while too much pressure will cause not enough tire on the pavement (that sucks on a wet road) and could cause a washout in a tight turn!!

I went online and did some research and here is what I found

Always keep the motorcycle manufacturer's recommended air pressure in both tires. This is an important requirement for tire safety and mileage. On some motorcycles, the recommended front and rear tire pressures will be different. The pressures stamped on the sidewall of the tire are only for maximum loads. On some occasions, these pressures will also be the manufacturers recommended settings as well.

. Consult your owner's manual for the recommended inflation and other tire information.

there's absolutely no disagreement that under inflated (below the manufacturer's recommendation for a given load) is bad, very bad. There's also no disagreement that inflating above the max pressure listed on the sidewall is bad, very bad. We're talking now about that range in between the motorcycle manufacturer's recommended and the tire manufacturer's maximum.

When to check you tire pressure ?????

Check your tire pressure often and adjust as necessary, using an accurate tire gauge.

Motorcycle tire manufacturers recommend checking pressure at least once a week.

However, many motorcycle safety experts recommend checking tire pressure and tread wear every time you take your bike out. After all, you ask more of your motorcycle tires than you do your car tires. So it's wise to ensure they're roadworthy each time you ride.

So ride safe and keep your tires at proper tire pressure

Brett G



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Here's the Deals in April!

- 10th - 'Relay for Life Benefit Signup Party' with live music by Southern Rock Society. Raffles, 50/50, Free Food
- 24th - Live Music by Hat Trick for Matt's Birthday Party 9PM
- 25th - Owner Amy's Bare Butt & Stuff Birthday Party 8PM
- Mon - 5-4-\$10 Domestic & \$13 Import 8-close
- Wed - Pool League starting at 8PM
- Thurs - Free Pool
- Fri - Live Music 5-8PM
- Sat Nite Twister Game (call for weekly theme)
- Sat - Buckets 5-4-\$10 Domestic

ALWAYS FREE NUTS!!! (and other snacks...)

May 9th - Glenn's (Candy's Cycle Shop) "Pimps & Ho's" Birthday Party (yeah - Gary will be there)

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Sun-Thurs - 9-2
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Vice President

We are coming into a very busy time of year. Those of you who attended our March chapter meeting know that we had our first round of nominations for our June elections.

You still have three months to step forward. We have a few positions going uncontested.

While this signals that people are content with the jobs being done by these current board members, it also can be seen as an unwillingness of others to get involved. I can't stress often enough that this is your chapter. For those who have never been to one of our monthly meetings you owe it to yourself to attend one. They are very informative. They generally last just two hours. Products are always available. You can purchase breakfast. Everyone who attends receives a chance to win a one year membership free (life members excluded) plus participate in 50/50 drawings. We also usually have a group ride following the meeting for anyone who would like to ride.

The ride to the Capitol is upon us again (April 13th). We always have people go up and spend the weekend. If you are interested in going please contact any board member. I personally haven't been able to make this trip, but from what I understand it is a great experience. This is an opportunity to show our legislators that the motorcycle community is strong in numbers and voters. We are no longer insignificant when it comes to being players in the political arena. This annual ride has grown through the years and politicians are taking notice.

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Tues. Ladies nite 2-4-1 Domestic Beer & Well
Wed. Guys Night Bucket specials 2-4-1 Well & Drafts
Thurs Free Pool & Wii Bowling, Jenna's \$4 Shot??
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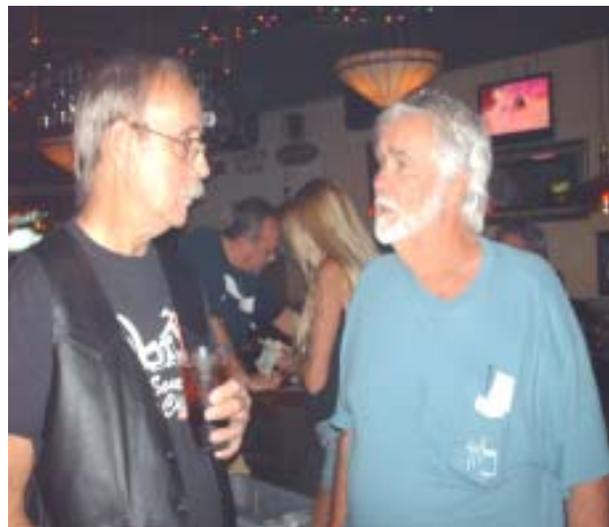
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Apr-09

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Petersons Anniversary weekend WOG Mia Open House
5 AOA WPB annual	6	7	8	9	10	11 ABATE Tallahassee weekend Hermandad Spring Fling
12 Easter ABATE State mtg. CMA Annual	13 ABATE ride to the Capital	14	15	16	17	18 Mystic 7 Mojo B'day ABATE B'day Party
19 ABATE BOD& Chapter Meeting Hog Chili Cookoff	20	21	22	23	24	25 Leesburg Weekend
26 WOG FTL annual	27	28	29	30		

May-09

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Southern MC annual	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 WOG Port St. Lucie
17 ABATE BOD& Chapter Meeting USMVMC WPB	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 ABATE Memorial Day Celebration	25	26	27	28	29	30
						31 Sunday Soldiers for Jesus WPB

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Thu: Cafe 27

Sat: JPMulligan

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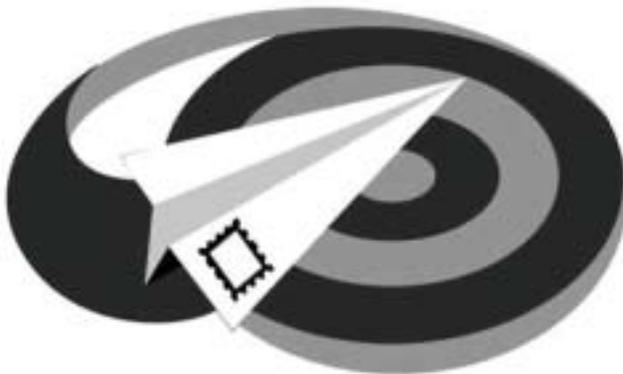
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This is one way to fight helmet lawsOldHippy NO LIST? NO LAW!

By permission of BOLT of California

Ever wonder about the phrase “No List/ No law???”

What we are saying is the one sure way to cure the defect of vagueness in a mandatory helmet law is to provide a list of both approved and unapproved helmets.

One list issued and maintained by the Federal Government would fix the problem for all fifty states.

Why won't they do that?

“He who certifies, Indemnifies” or put another way, is liable for what they approve.

Now we all know that the government enjoys pretty much blanket immunity for their actions except for Constitutional rights violations. So... why not a list? Easy, the other accepted cause of action against the government is for, Negligence.

Especially for gross negligence, with reckless disregard. “Gross negligence with reckless disregard??” Sure, their statistics at best are inconclusive regarding helmet safety benefits. For the Government to require you to use a specific list to make your choice of helmets from, places the burden on them to prove their requirement, in fact does what they say it does. Since we have for 30 years challenged the safety argument regarding helmets the Gov. can't say they didn't know. We told them a thousand times.

To issue a list without the ability to prove the safety benefit in spite of our challenges, in my opinion takes them to the negligence stage and open to cases seeking damages for injuries due to their list.

When a claimant points out the Governments inability to prove their claim of safety benefit and then, further points out the governments knowledge of the increased risk of spinal injury due to their list, I believe the Government has now gone to “gross negligence with reckless disregard “. Who would you rather be, the Governments Lawyer or, the paraplegics attorney in front of a sympathetic jury ? After all what will it hurt for the jury to give away some of the Governments [money](#) to this poor guy and his family?

So , in my humble opinion that's why the slogan “ No List/No law “ is the one to beat the government over the head with because they will never do what we demand (the list) , And us? Well we are just trying to fix the problem by offering a sensible solution to a complex problem, which the government refuses to do; instead they leave us open to unconstitutional treatment by their refusal to accept their responsibility and admit their mistake or, give us a list!

Remember, the Federal Government self insures so any monetary award from a jury comes right out of their pocket not some insurance companies pocket. After they give away a few hundred million dollars due to their mandatory helmet law they'll lose their love of helmets or at least the love of helmet laws.

This may or may not be a clear concise picture of why we demand a list and there might also be further reasons which I failed to touch upon, one thing for sure, my explanation is a damned good reason to chase that list at every turn...

Now that you know, get out there and demand that list! No list? / No law!



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Is this some great riding weather or what? Hopefully you're getting out there and enjoying it. Before long we will be in the grips of the hot and wet weather patterns of South Florida. Of course compared to the cold, wet and windy conditions that we dealt with in Daytona for partm mof bike week, I guess that warm and wet ain't so bad. Once again I 'd like to ask anyone with suggestions for a group ride to please contact any board member or myself. We are alwaysinterested in new destinations.

Till next time ride free and safe,
Jimbo



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Sunday, April 12, 2009

FFPC

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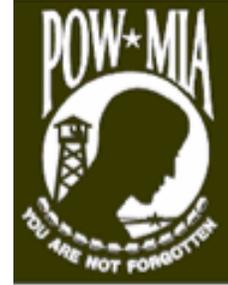
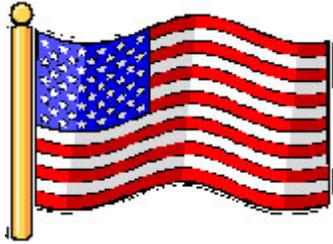
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Barbara "skyl ark" Bain



Arlington National Cemetery Website



Gravesite photo courtesy of Ron Williams

Kara Spears Hultgreen **Lieutenant, United States Navy**

A Naval Aviator, she was the first female fighter pilot killed after the Department of Defense Risk Rule was rescinded. She was killed while making a landing on an aircraft carrier off the coast of California.

She is buried in Section 60 of Arlington National Cemetery.

A young woman from San Antonio, she was the first female Navy fighter pilot cleared for combat and lost her life when her F-14 Tomcat crashed into the Pacific said the crash was unavoidable.

The October 25, 1994 death of Lieutenant Kara S. Hultgreen was as much a tragic loss for her family as it was for her country.

Her memorial service, with an F-14 flyover, was held at the San Antonio Country Club and she was buried at Arlington National Cemetery. Her flight jacket, helmet and uniforms were donated to the Smithsonian Institute.

A Grateful American

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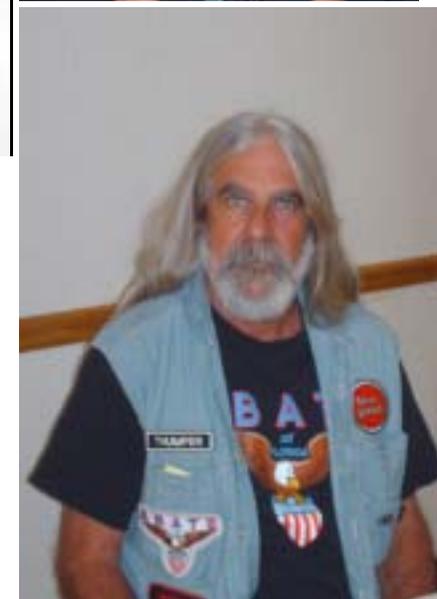
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- 24th & 25th - Double Standard
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NCOM BIKER NEWSBYTES Compiled & Edited by Bill Bish, National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM)

CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE APPROVES BILL TO PROTECT HEALTH INSURANCE FOR RIDERS

On March 4, by voice vote, the House Energy and Commerce Committee passed bipartisan legislation to strengthen health insurance coverage for injuries incurred while participating in legal recreational and transportation activities, such as motorcycling, riding ATVs, snowmobiling and horseback riding.

"This bill requires health insurance companies to be up front and honest

with their policy holders when limitations or restrictions are placed on benefits," said Rep. Bart Stupak (D-MI) who introduced the measure with Rep. Michael Burgess (R-TX)..

"Many Americans are unaware that their health insurance may not cover injuries resulting from certain recreational activities because their policy is unclear or overly broad."

H.R. 1253, the "Health Insurance Restrictions and Limitations Clarification Act of 2009", would establish new disclosure rules requiring health insurance plans to provide a description of limitations and exclusions in their policies. Specifically, the bill requires that coverage exclusions must be "explicit and clear" and that they must be disclosed to plan sponsors in advance of the point of sale. The bill further requires that plan sponsors and insurers must disclose such coverage exclusions to enrollees "in a form that is easily understandable" both before enrollment and upon their enrollment at the earliest opportunity that other materials are provided.

In January 2001, a rule was issued that created an inadvertent loophole in the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). Because of the way the rule was written, it has allowed insurers to deny health benefits for a covered injury resulting from participation in recreational activities such as skiing, horseback riding, ATV riding, snowmobiling and motorcycling.

In many situations the exclusions are unclear or overly broad, creating confusion for individuals who may ride motorcycles, horses, snowmobiles, ATVs or participate in other legal activities that could result in an injury.

"Passing this straight forward legislation would protect those across the country who ride motorcycles, horses, snowmobiles, ATVs or participate in other recreational activities from being caught by surprise," Stupak said. Stupak is a senior member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, which has jurisdiction over health policy. H.R. 1253 awaits consideration by the full House of Representatives, which previously approved the legislation in September 2008, but the bill was not considered by the Senate in the 110th Congress.

KIDDIE BIKE BAN COULD COST BILLIONS

The new lead-content rules that have banned the sales of many youth motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles could cost the industry over \$1 billion in lost economic value this year, predicts the Motorcycle Industry Council. Last year, more than 100,000 of the youth-oriented vehicles were sold. Today, more than 13,000 dealers nationwide are stuck holding onto millions of dollars in inventory as the off-road industry now finds itself crippled and rather confused in the destructive wake of the CPSIA in an already harsh economy. Motorcycle dealers across the country are fuming, saying the ban couldn't have come at a worse time, making sluggish sales in a tough economy even tougher. Powersports manufacturers are advising their dealers to pull the banned models off the sales floor or risk heavy fines under the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008, which went into force February 10th.

Intentionally or otherwise, the CPSIA has effectively banned the production, importing and sale of kids' motorcycles and ATVs because certain parts of the vehicles unavoidably contain more lead than is deemed allowable on children's products - for instance, on the battery terminals, brake components and valve stems - and the CPSC has interpreted this to mean that OHVs (off-highway vehicles) present a lead-poisoning threat to children 12 and under. Not only can they not sell the new vehicles, but they're not even allowed to sell parts for them!

Dealers from every corner of the country and other concerned individuals have flooded the CPSC and Congress with calls, e-mails and more than 100,000 letters complaining about the new law and urging support for exclusions from the act for powersports vehicles, parts and accessories.

They claim in part that the lead present in their products pose no health risk to children because the only interaction would be by hand, not mouth, and that a toxicologist study reveals that exposure is substantially less than the intake of lead from food and water.

UTAH MAY REWARD HELMET WEARERS

In a unique and interesting twist to mandatory helmet laws, the state of Utah is considering a bill that would reward riders who break the law while wearing a helmet.

The House Transportation Committee unanimously approved a proposal from Rep. Ronda Rudd Menlove (R-Garland) that would knock \$10 off of the fine for motorcyclists cited for traffic violations if they are wearing a helmet at the time.

"Instead of just punishment, why not give an incentive for people to use a helmet?," Menlove told the Standard-Examiner newspaper.

The committee also unanimously tabled a bill that would mandate helmet use for all riders in Utah's largest cities. Additionally, the measure would have increased the age limit at which motorcycle riders in Utah are required to wear helmets from 18 to 21; require anyone riding with a passenger under 21 to wear a helmet; and require riders of any age operating on a learning permit to wear a helmet. A contingent of bikers came to the committee meeting to voice their opposition to the bill. Eric Stine, education coordinator for ABATE Utah, said the focus of motorcycle safety should be on educating the public about watching for motorcyclists while driving. "We believe in accident prevention, not safer crashes. Many sports and activities are more dangerous than motorcycle riding. We will never be able to legislate the risk out of living."

SHOW-ME FREEDOM

Missouri is the latest state looking to give adult motorcycle riders the choice of wearing a helmet while riding. The Missouri Senate has endorsed legislation that, if signed into law, would repeal their decades-old helmet law and allow motorcyclists 21 and older the option to ride without a helmet. Many feel the bill stands a good chance of passing because Senators this year tacked the helmet provisions onto a larger bill regarding motorcycle insurance. The bill, sponsored by State Senator Luann Ridgeway of District 17, was approved with little debate and is expected to pass easily in the House, which generally has been more receptive to efforts to repeal helmet requirements for adults. According to Freedom of Road Riders (FORR-MO), a non-profit motorcyclists' advocacy group, the change in legislation would be a welcome one.

In the meantime, several other states are reviewing motorcycle helmet laws, including Arkansas where a proposal to require motorcyclists to wear a helmet or carry thousands of dollars in health insurance failed to make it out of committee.

Senate Bill 29 by Sen. Kim Hendren (R-Gravette) would have compelled motorcyclists to provide proof of at least \$10,000 in health insurance coverage if they opted to not wear a helmet, but the proposal failed to get a motion recommending its passage and died in the Senate Transportation, Technology and Legislative Affairs Committee. Legislators were overwhelmed by calls to committee members from motorcycle enthusiasts, lead by ABATE of Arkansas, who argued that the measure would unfairly target them, negatively impact tourism, and would drive business away from the state's motorcycle dealers. In Nevada, Assemblyman Don Gustavson (R-Sparks) has introduced AB300 to repeal state law which has mandated helmet usage since 1971. In seeking to modify current law to allow choice for motorcyclists 21 years or older with at least one year experience, Gustavson is citing studies which prove that mandated helmet laws injure the economy while doing little to increase safety. Using California as an example, Gustavson said the death rate was 2% higher after passage of mandated helmet usage, while revenues continually declined due to loss of registration fees and sales taxes from weakened motorcycle sales. "Our neighbor suffered a 26% drop in new motorcycle sales in 1992-93 after passage of their mandatory helmet law resulting in job loss and costing the state nearly \$17 million in lost tax & fee revenue." Gustavson said that tourism will increase in Nevada after the law is modified. Using Pennsylvania as an example, Gustavson pointed out that "Thunder in the Valley" saw attendance jump from 70,000 to over 100,000 the very first year after their law was modified.

Gustavson also emphasized that repeal of current law will add jobs and multiply revenues to Nevada through additional sales and payroll taxes without increasing any new fees or taxes. After Florida reformed their helmet law, motorcycle sales jumped 143% in Florida in five years generating \$166 million in sales tax revenue.

Last November, Assemblyman Gustavson was selected by the NCOM Board of Directors to receive the Silver Spoke Award for Government at the upcoming NCOM Convention, May 7-10, 2009 at the Nugget Casino & Resort in Reno, Nevada. For more information, call the National Coalition of Motorcyclists at (800) 525-5355 or visit www.ON-A-BIKE.com.

RIDE SMART - MOTORCYCLES IMPROVE BRAIN FUNCTION

Riding motorcycles helps keep drivers young by invigorating their brains, the scientist behind popular "Brain Training" computer software said recently, citing a new scientific study.

"The driver's brain gets activated by riding motorbikes" in part because it requires heightened alertness, Japanese neuroscientist Ryuta Kawashima said after his research team and Yamaha Motor conducted a string of experiments involving middle-aged men.

"In a convenient and easy environment, the human mind and body get used to setting the hurdle low," he warned. "Our final conclusion is that riding motorcycles can lead to smart ageing."

Kawashima is the designer of "Brain Training" software, which incorporates quizzes and other games and is available on the Nintendo DS game console under the name "Brain Age". A self-professed motorcycle fan, 49-year-old Kawashima cited a new study conducted jointly by Yamaha and Tohoku University, for which he works.

One experiment involved 22 men in their 40s and 50s who held motorcycle licenses but had not operated a cycle for at least a decade. They were randomly split into two groups, with one asked to resume riding motorcycles in everyday life for two months, and another that kept using bicycles or cars. Kawashima says research showed the motorcycle-riding team demonstrated improvements in memory, space recognition and other functions of the prefrontal area. The area covers memory, information processing and concentration functions.

"The group that rode motorbikes posted higher marks in cognitive function tests," Kawashima said.

In a test requiring the men to remember a set of numbers in reverse order, the riders' scores jumped by more than 50 percent in two months, while the non-riders' marks deteriorated slightly, he said.

The riders also said they made fewer mistakes at work and felt happier.

"Mental care is a very big issue in modern society," said Kawashima. "I think we made an interesting stir here as data showed you can improve your mental condition simply by using motorbikes to commute."

In 2003, Kawashima authored "Train Your Brain: 60 Days to a Better Brain". More recently, he teamed with Toyota to help develop intelligent cars designed to help seniors drive safely.

SMOG CHECKS MAY INCLUDE MOTORCYCLES

SB 435, introduced by California State Senator Fran Pavely (D-Beverly Hills), would include motorcycles in the state's Smog Check Program. In a review of the Smog Check Program, the California Inspection and Maintenance Review Committee's recommendations included "implement a non-

loaded mode biennial Smog Check inspection on motorcycles."

In a brief explanation of their strategy, the report states: "Inspection of Motorcycles: Include motorcycle inspections as part of Smog Check. Studies indicate that motorcycles are subject to high rates of exhaust system tampering which subsequently increases the vehicle emissions."

Existing law exempts motorcycles from inspection "until the department implements test procedures applicable to motorcycles," which the legislation seeks to accomplish. If passed the new emissions law would require motorcycle owners in California to get Smog checks for their motorcycles once every two years. The law would take effect January 1, 2012 and cover all on-highway motorcycles model year 2000 or newer.

Opponents say the bill is simply a thinly veiled attempt to levy yet another fee to offset the states record budget deficit and point to a recent raid of the OHV trust fund of \$90 million dollars for non-OHV related expenditures. The bikes potentially affected are in fact the cleanest in the nation, having already been required to meet the stricter California CARB emissions standards years prior to similar requirements being adopted nationally by the federal EPA. For a long time the Golden State has been granted special waivers from the Environmental Protection Agency to enact stiffer emissions regulations for autos and motorcycles.

During the Bush administration, a dozen other states requested EPA waivers to increase their own regulations to match California's, but were denied. It is expected that the new Obama administration will reverse this decision, which may lead to variable emissions rules from state to state for automobiles, and potentially for motorcycles.

QUOTABLE QUOTE: "Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did. So throw off the bowlines, Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream."

Mark Twain (aka Samuel Clemens, 1835-1910), American writer & humorist

"Freedom of Choice" July 1, 2000

ABATE of Florida, Inc **Lake** Cnty Chapter



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Winn Dixie & Walgreens on the corner. A map is published on the Leesburg Bikefest's web site. <http://www.leesburgbikefest.com>

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**(Left to right) Attorneys Harold Rosen and Bob Switkes
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Come and join the ranks of those who care to be involved!!

GOALS & PURPOSES OF ABATE

To print a newsletter to keep all bikers informed with regard to legislative actions and events around the state and throughout the country.

To become a powerful and viable political force in legislative matters concerning all motorcyclists rights.

To provide a lobbyist to represent ABATE of Florida, Inc. on the state and national level.

To promote voter registration and motivate members to write their legislators.

To promote safe riding habits without infringing on individual rights.

To educate the public about motorcycle awareness.