

ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. SOUTHEAST CHAPTER

a Newsletter for Motorcycle Safety & Awareness

ISSUE 413

December 2017



A MERICAN
B ITERS
A IMING
T OWARD
E DUCATION



**NEXT
CHAPTER
MEETING
10 AM
December 17,
2017
at American Legion
Post 222**



**LET THOSE WHO
RIDE DECIDE!**

STATES
M.C. FLORIDA
26th ANNUAL
Blessing of the Bikes
Sunday January 7th, 2018
Starts noon until ??

50/50
Independents Welcome
Door Prizes
Great Food Vendors

This is a nondenominational event all faiths welcome

Bikes will be blessed by
Father Sean & Mother Karen



Live Entertainment:

Cost:
\$3 Single
\$5 Couple



Clubhouse (954) 786-2259
761 S W 13th Ct, Pompano Beach
All Vendors Welcome - Call Pepsi (561) 929-0133

A Day In A South Florida Park 12th Annual Dania Beach Vintage Motorcycle Show January 27, 2018



Frost Park

300 NE 2nd Street • Dania Beach, Florida

Classes include American, European, Japanese, English, Competition & Scooter 35 years and older
Featured Class: Competition  Reunion

Sign up 7am - 10am • Show 10am - 5pm

View over 380 Vintage Motorcycles along with:

Field Games, Vendors, Antique Bicycle Display, Bike Parts Swap Meet,
 Live Music by "The Whipping Post", Roller Derby Girls, Kiddie Play Area, Food
 Dealer Displays and More! **Awards at 4pm**



Registration, Information & Updates: www.DaniaBeachVintageBikeShow.com

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Member in this list.

WATCH
FOR
MOTORCYCLES

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

WATCH
FOR
MOTORCYCLES

WHO WE ARE

- ABATE of Florida, Inc. is a non–profit organization of motorcycle enthusiasts from all walks of life.
- We lobby and educate the government and the general public to promote motorcycling in a safe and positive image.
- We endeavor to enlist the cooperation and participation of all organizations and individuals that share a similar interest in preserving our American tradition of FREEDOM.
- We promote motorcycle safety, training, and political awareness.
- We fund our work by holding a series of annual events at different locations within our service area and other motorcycle activities.
- We are your neighbors and friends who work, pay taxes, and get involved with our community.
- We serve and support our country and believe in freedom.
- We use all legal means to protect our rights without infringing on the rights of others.
- ABATE of Florida, Inc. is incorporated under the laws of Florida as a motorcycle rights organization or MRO. We are currently the only political MRO in Florida representing the interest of its members and the motorcycling public at-large.
- WE ARE NOT A CLUB OR A GANG.

ABATE is open to all individuals age 18 and older interested in motorcycle rights, safety or education. It doesn't matter what you ride or even if you ride. Everyone is welcome to join ABATE of Florida, Inc., which ensures YOUR opinion and views on motorcycle laws will be heard.

There are no requirements to join us and we respect and welcome all motorcycle clubs or any other motorcycle associations or organizations. We do not have any mandatory meetings or rides.

Paid Membership Includes:

- ABATE Voting Privileges
- Free \$4,000 Accidental Death or Dismemberment Insurance Policy from the American Income Life Insurance Company. As long as your membership is current, you are covered.
- Free classified advertising in the Southeast Chapter and State ABATE newsletters.
- Motorcycle Safety and Educational Updates.
- A full-time ABATE of Florida, Inc. lobbyist who fights for your rights at the state and national levels.



FREEDOM IS NEVER FREE, WE HAVE TO FIGHT TO KEEP IT

Stand up for your right to choose - join Florida's only Motorcycle Rights Organization that got the Helmet Law removed in 2000 **& stopped it AGAIN in 2017!**

Make your voice heard - ABATE of Florida, Inc.'s lobbyist is in Tallahassee working for or against, all legislation that affects your lives, your rights & your freedoms. Not just as Motorcycle Riders but as Free Americans.

Help make a difference - by supporting ABATE of Florida, Inc.'s Motorcycle Safety & Awareness Program (MSAP). ABATE's Certified instructors bring the MSAP into our High School Drivers Education classes. This is the only program in the state that teaches Florida students to **WATCH FOR MOTORCYCLES**. The first step in teaching drivers how to not run us over.

Become informed – ABATE of Florida, Inc. Southeast chapter publishes a monthly newsletter (online & in print) that provides first-hand knowledge of legislative updates, bills & regulations that are being proposed, introduced or up for vote in the Florida House and/or Senate, as well as some regulations coming out of the Federal Government that affect or could affect us as riders.

The more members and voters we have, the more pressure our lobbyist can put on Lawmakers to pass legislation that helps us and stop legislation that hurts us. Join us not only in our fight for our freedoms, but also in the camaraderie in the brotherhood/sisterhood of ABATE of Florida, Inc.

Isn't your freedom worth \$20.00 a year? Join us now.

See Page 47 for Membership Application



From Your President

Greetings brothers and sisters, and thank you for picking up and reading this issue of our newsletter!!!

First thing, I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable Thanksgiving Holiday!!!

I would like to see a good turn out for the for the 30th Annual SFPC Toys in the Sun Run happening on Sunday, December 10th, 2017, not just to help us with our safety booth, but also to help out the kids of Joe DiMaggio's Children's Hospital which is what this event is all about!

Also keep in mind that the 12th Annual Dania Beach Vintage Motorcycle Show (as seen on page 2) is right around the corner and we will need help with that safety

booth as well!

I will now address something that I heard mentioned at the November meeting, and I know I have mentioned this before, but it has become clear to me that it bears repeating. The thing that I heard mentioned was "...this is a volunteer organization bro!" That statement is correct, UNTIL a member gets nominated/voted in or appointed into either a board position or a trustee position and accepts that position. Once the member accepts said position, that member then also accepts the obligation, duty, and responsibility of said position! With that also comes following a chain of command! Every member that is in either a board or trustee position follows a chain of command! Even the President of a chapter answers to the President of ABATE of Florida, Inc.

I would also like to remind everyone, most especially the membership, that we are here for a cause, a cause that helps EVERYONE in the motorcycle community!!! Also note that it is a reciprocal Community, that means the more you put into the community, the more you will get out of it! DO IT FOR THE CAUSE, NOT THE APPLAUSE!!!

The last thing I would like to convey, but most assuredly not least, goes to whom so ever may pick up this newsletter to read it that is not a member. If you are a motorcycle rider, no matter what make or model, or just a motorcycle enthusiast, or someone who is a family member of a rider or enthusiast, I would strongly urge you to consider becoming a member. I cordially invite you to attend our next chapter meeting in order to get a better idea of how we operate and what we stand for.

So with that, I'd like to thank everyone for his or her continued support of our chapter and state organization!

I wish everyone a Happy and Safe Holiday season, and as always...

May Saint Christopher, Holy Patron of Travelers, guide and protect you and your loved ones so that you may RIDE FREE AND RIDE SAFE my brothers and sisters!!!

With Honor and Respect,

William G. "MAGNETO" Prewitt
President
ABATE of Florida, Inc.
Southeast Chapter





because of the soldiers, like the one lying here.

I couldn't help wonder how many lay alone,
 on a cold Christmas Eve in a land far from home.
 The very thought brought a tear to my eye,
 I dropped to my knees and started to cry.
 The soldier awakened and I heard a rough voice,
 "Santa don't cry, this life is my choice;

I fight for freedom, I don't ask for more,
 my life is my God, my country, my corps."
 The soldier rolled over and soon drifted to sleep,
 I couldn't control it, I continued to weep.
 I kept watch for hours, so silent and still,
 and we both shivered from the cold evening's chill.

I didn't want to leave on that cold, dark, night,
 this guardian of honor so willing to fight.
 Then the soldier rolled over, with a voice soft and
 pure,
 whispered, "Carry on Santa, it's Christmas Day, all
 is secure."

One look at my watch, and I knew he was right.
 "Merry Christmas my friend, and to all a good night."

~ By Lance Corporal James M. Schmidt

Not Everyone Will Be Home For Christmas

Support Our Troops



'Twas the night before Christmas, he all lived alone,
 in a one bedroom house made of plaster and stone.
 I had come down the chimney with presents to give,
 and to see just who in this home did live.
 I looked all about, a strange sight I did see,
 no tinsel, no presents, not even a tree.

No stocking by mantel, just boots filled with sand,
 and on the wall pictures of far distant lands.
 With medals and badges, awards of all kinds,
 a sobering thought came to my mind.
 For this house was different, so dark and so dreary,
 the home of a soldier, now I could see clearly.

The soldier lay sleeping, silent, alone,
 curled up on the floor in this one bedroom home.
 The face was so gentle, the room in such disorder,
 not how I pictured a United States soldier.
 Was this the hero of whom I just read?
 Curled up on a poncho, the floor for a bed?

I realized the families that I saw this night,
 owed their lives to these soldiers who were willing
 to fight.
 Soon round the world, the children would play,
 and grownups would celebrate a bright Christmas
 day.
 They all enjoyed freedom each month of the year,

DOUBLE SUNS - TWISTED MIRRORS



EPISODE I

BY

CHARLEY BLACKWOLF

Membership Due For
December 2017

Keith "Shaggy" Bowers
Fran "Francy pants" Cocchi-Maynard
Tony Denito
Leslie L"Wisc Les" Jensen
Herb Saldarial

-- Reminder --
Membership Due
For November 2017
Hope Lanius

If you have already renewed

Thank You

for your continued support

WELCOME



New Members for November
Bruce Klaiber

For Membership Renewals contact Sheila Rose by either email: membership@abatese.us or by phone: 786-487-4810 - See Page 47 for Membership Application

*** PLEASE NOTE ***

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 changes.

BENEFITS REMINDER: All ABATE members in good standing are provided a fully paid group \$4000 in Accidental Death and Dismemberment benefit at no cost to the member. Often members have questions regarding the coverage and/or are interested in changing their beneficiary or getting additional coverage. Please feel free to contact our local representative, Bill Sauers at American Incomeve Life , for answers to your questions.



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insurance company

Bill Sauers

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bsauers@aillife.com



ATTORNEY
BRAD WINSTON



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**AT YOUR SIDE ON THE ROAD
AND IN THE COURTS**



**Southeast Chapter Meeting Minutes
Held at American Legion Post 222
Oakland Park, FL
November 19, 2017**

Nighthawk, called the meeting to order at 10:14am by standing up and asking all to recite the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a Moment of Silence. There were 21 members present.

President's Report: Magneto thanked everyone for coming. He said that we are looking for volunteers for the Toys in the Sun Run. If you have any rifle drawing tickets, please turn them in today as Magneto and Critter need to turn them in at the State meeting on December 9th.

Vice President's Report: Johnny Rose thanked everyone for coming out. He also said we need volunteers at the Toys in the Sun Run. Please remember that this event is for the kids. Bring a toy and \$20.00 for Joe DiMaggio's Children's Hospital. Remember everything is for the kids. We will have our trailer out there Saturday night and will set up on Sunday. This is always an awesome

weekend!

Secretary's Report: Sheila Rose called for a motion to accept the minutes as printed, motion made, seconded, and all were in favor. Motion was passed.

Treasurer's Report: Critter read the Treasurer's Report for October. A motion was made to accept the report, seconded, and all were in favor. Motion was passed.

Sergeant at Arm's Report: Nighthawk said that we need everybody to help out December 10th at the Toys in the Sun Run, which is only 20 days from now. Tell your friends about the Toy Run. He also reminded everyone, that even though it is the holiday season, schools are still OPEN! Help by reminding your friends about that too. Slow down and pay attention to the flashing lights in school zones. Thirteen kids have already been hurt this year, the worst year ever, and it's only November. Slow down in school zones!!

Road Captain's Report: Wavy let everyone know that he is temporarily unable to lead rides due to medical issues. He will

still send out the texts, letting everyone know when and where the events are, and Sheila will send the email blasts. If you are not receiving the texts or emails and wish to receive them, please let him know. Upcoming events: ABATE Treasure Coast Chapter's 9th Annual Toy Run is today in Vero Beach; Flossie's Toy Drive for the SFPC Toys in the Sun Run is today at 3:30pm; American Legion Post 180 Veterans' Fair & Biker Bash is today at 1pm; and ABATE Southwest Chapter's Toy Run is December 17th. For more information on these events, please contact Wavy. Wavy will send out a text about the time to meet and ride together for the Toys in the Sun Run at Markham Park together. We need to be there and set up by 11am. Sheila will send out an email blast as well. Russ' dad, Mean Gene, will bring the trailer out on Saturday. Magneto told Russ to please thank his dad for doing this. He wished everyone a safe and happy Thanksgiving.

Safety Director's Report: This position is open

State Representative's Report: Critter said that next State Meeting is December 9th, the day before the Toy Run. Everyone please turn in all rifle drawing tickets today.

Products Report: Wavy is rearranging all of the display boards and doing new set-ups for them. He recently did an inventory and we have A LOT of products that will be for

sale at the Toys in the Sun Run.

Membership Report: Sheila Rose reported that membership is going well and we have almost consistently, for the past 3 months, had new and renewal memberships submitted to the state of 12 or more per month. I'm sure we will get quite a few at the Toy Run.

Events Coordinator: This position is open.

Newsletter Editor: Critter said that articles are due today. Barry is taking pictures, but still having some medical issues, so please, when you are out at events, take pictures and send them to Critter for the newsletter.

Newsletter Distribution: Wavy (standing in for Poppie) mentioned that Poppie is getting better but is not quite back up to speed. We will probably need someone to take this position over next year. It would be great if a few people would volunteer to help so the routes could be split up and each person would only have a few stops.

Legislative Report: Brad said the session starts in January. We are tracking bills related to auto cycles. These are the Polaris 3-wheel "cars" that have 2 wheels in the front and one in the rear. The legislators want to classify these vehicles as motorcycles. There is another bill being introduced that would move motorcycles into the definition of a "motor vehicle." If that happens it would

Continued on next page →

mean we would be required to carry PIP insurance on motorcycles. There are quite a few other bills being introduced that are related to gun rights. These bills are a result of recent events. Brad will continue to monitor them and keep up advised.

Legal Counsel: Brad said that everything was covered with the legislative report. He reminded the membership that he offers free consultations to ABATE members.

Public Relations: Fern is having a Christmas party at her house on December 3rd, BYOB, and all ABATE members are invited.

Billing and Invoicing: Sheila reported that most advertisers are up to date, but we have a few who are not. Those advertisers are being called and payment arrangements are trying to be worked out.

Social Director: Sandy Strickland is the new Social Director. She brought cake for all the November birthdays, but was unable to be at the meeting due to her health.

Quartermaster's Report: Bob Anz was excused.

Photographers Report: Barry was excused.

Webmasters Report: Rogue was excused.

Old Business: Critter has tickets for the motorcycle being raffled for the Toys in the Sun. Please see her after the meeting if

you are interested. Tickets are \$5 each and benefit the kids.

New Business: There was no new business to bring at this time.

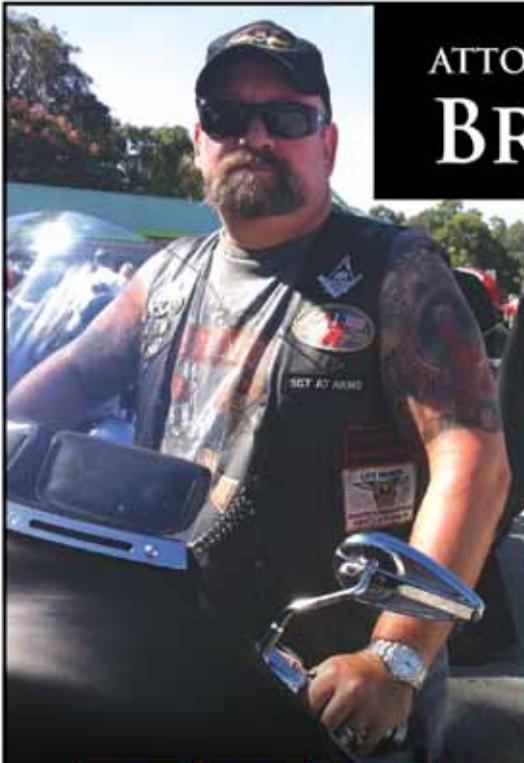
Good of the Order: Nighthawk advised everyone that BSO is on high alert for the coming holidays and motorcycle police will be out in force. Be alert and be safe.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was called for at 11:05am, was seconded, and all were in favor. Our next Chapter meeting is December 17, 2017 at the American Legion Post 222, in Oakland Park, FL. See you all at our next meeting!!

“Have yourself a very Merry Christmas! Have yourself a good time, but remember the kids who have nothing, while you are drinking down your wine.” ~ Father Christmas, by The Kinks

Sheila Rose
Secretary,
Southeast Chapter





ATTORNEY
BRAD WINSTON

AT YOUR SIDE
ON THE ROAD
AND IN THE
COURTS

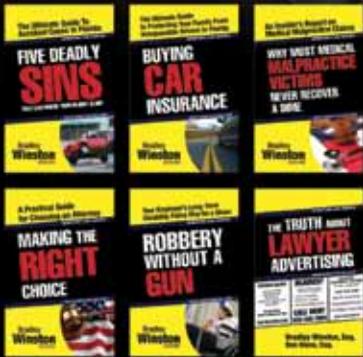


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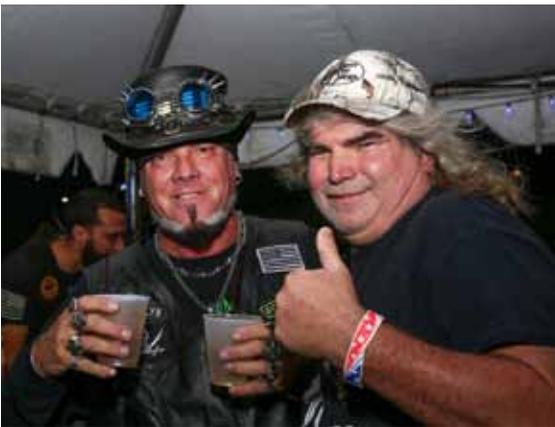
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A MESSAGE FROM YOUR VICE PRESIDENT



I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving with their friends and family!!

Remember during this upcoming holiday season, we have a lot of people coming down from other states and Canada. There may be some alcohol consumption and they are not familiar with our roads. Keep in mind 99% of them are in cages, so please be extra safe and keep your eyes open and be aware of your surroundings.

I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas, a Happy Hanukkah, and anything else you may celebrate this season. Our prayers go out to the families and friends of the brothers and sisters that we lost this year in our motorcycling community. This was a hard year. When you are celebrating with your friends and families, please take a moment to say a prayer for those who we lost and a prayer of thanks for those who are still with us.

God bless America!!!!

ANYONE WHO RIDES SHOULD BE A MEMBER OF ABATE!!!!

Peace,
Johnny Rose



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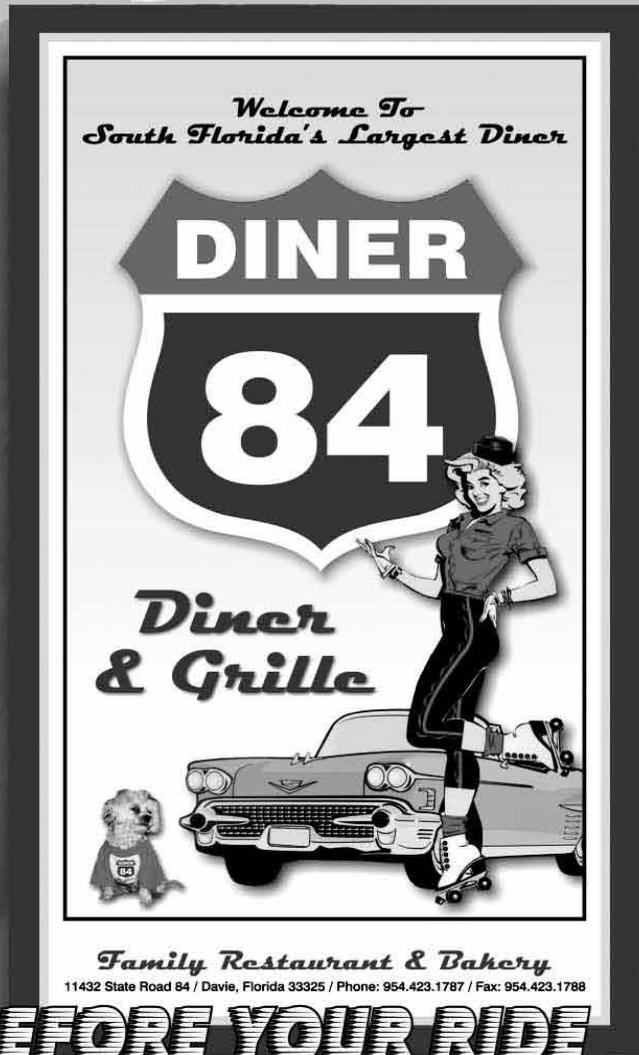
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BILLS IN THE HOUSE AND SENATE



HB 419 Seeks to require insurance for motorcycles

General Bill by Rep. Don Hahnfeldt (R - District 33)

Motor Vehicle Insurance: Revises definitions of “motor vehicle,” “motor vehicle insurance,” & “policy” to include motorcycles in provisions relating to financial responsibility for property damage, regulation of insurance rates, motor vehicle insurance contracts, & Florida Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law.

Effective Date: July 1, 2018

Last Event: Referred to Insurance and Banking Subcommittee; Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee; Commerce Committee (At this time there has not been a companion bill filed in the Senate.)

HB 215 This is the bill that is trying to classify the new “autocycles” as motorcycles

General Bill by Rep Bobby Payne (R - District 19) and Rep. Joseph Geller (D - District 100)

Autocycles; Defines “autocycle” & revises definition of “motorcycle”; requires safety belt usage by autocycle operator/passenger; authorizes autocycle operation without motorcycle endorsement; provides applicability.

Effective Date: 7/1/2018

Last Action: Autocycles passed its first committee by a vote of 12-2 and is now in the Transportation & Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee.

CS/SB 346 Motorcycle and Moped Riders

General Bill by Senator Keith Perry (Republican - District 8)

Motorcycle and Moped Riders; Increasing the age at which persons who are operating or riding upon a certain motorcycle or a moped are exempt from protective headgear requirements; requiring a moped registered to a person under a specified age to display a license plate that is unique in design and color, etc.

Effective Date: 7/1/2018

Last Action: SB 346 Motorcycles & Moped Riders bill was temporarily postponed by the Senate Transportation Committee because Sen. Perry was not able to attend the meeting because he was in another committee meeting. It has been slated to be heard at a future Transportation committee meeting.

To find your Representative:

<http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Representatives/myrepresentative.aspx>

To find your Senator:

<http://www.flsenate.gov/senators/districts>

For more information on any of the bills on this page please contact our State State Legislative Rep - Darrin “Scribe” Brooks at: flabatestevp@gmail.com

ABATE OF FLORIDA SUPPORTS NCOM

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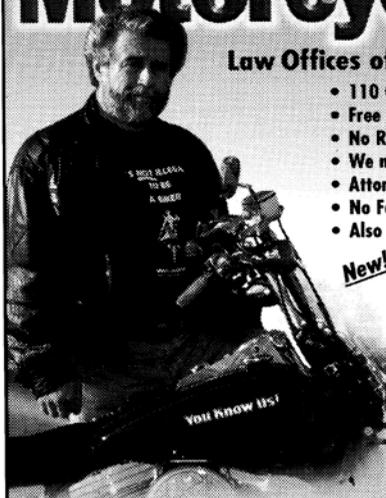
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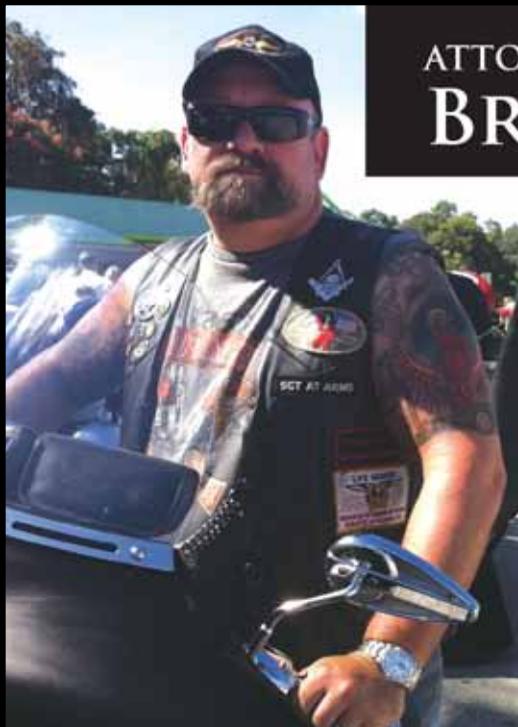
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ATTORNEY BRAD WINSTON

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AND IN THE COURTS



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NEWS from our State Legislative Rep - Darrin "Scribe" Brooks

LAWMAKERS RENEW PUSH TO TOUGHEN TEXTING LAW

A bipartisan group of lawmakers embarked Tuesday on a road that has resulted in a dead end in the past: getting the House and Senate to make texting while driving a "primary" traffic offense in Florida. The Senate Communications, Energy and Public Utilities Committee voted 7-1 --- following testimony from family members of people killed by texting motorists --- to approve a primary-offense bill (SB 90). But the measure already faces questions over how the ban could be enforced without requiring motorists to be completely hands-free of wireless devices or if the law would create any noticeable change in motorists' behavior. Sen. Dana Young, a Tampa Republican who voted for the measure, said the bill might also not go far enough in tackling the issue of drivers distracted by watching movies, scrolling through music playlists, applying makeup or even reading books. "Why would you not just deal with the issue, which is the elephant in the room, which is distracted driving, careless driving," Young said.



DOZENS OF CHANGES PROPOSED FOR STATE CONSTITUTION

From banning the death penalty to creating an elected secretary of state, members of the Florida Constitution Revision Commission have filed more than five-dozen proposals to change the state Constitution. The 37 members of the commission, which meets every 20 years and has the power to place amendments directly on the November 2018 ballot, had until just before midnight Tuesday to file their proposals. As of early Tuesday evening, 64 proposals were posted on the commission's website. That list is expected to grow, said Meredith Beatrice, a commission spokeswoman. She said the commission will announce the final list when it is complete, perhaps sometime Wednesday. The proposals reflect a wide array of issues affecting the judiciary, public schools, criminal justice, elections, environmental issues, ethics and higher education. One popular measure filed by four commissioners would raise the mandatory retirement age for judges from 70 to 75. Commissioner Don Gaetz, a former Senate president, added a variation in his proposal (P8) that would also require justices appointed to the Florida Supreme Court and judges appointed to state appellate courts to be confirmed by the Senate.

SUPREME COURT ASKED TO DECIDE IF CAR CAN BE 'WEAPON'

The Florida Supreme Court could decide whether a car can be considered a weapon in criminal cases. Attorneys have filed a notice asking the Supreme Court to take up the issue in a Duval County manslaughter case stemming from the death of a man who was fatally struck by a car after an altercation at a bar. The 1st District Court of Appeal last month upheld the conviction of the driver of the car, Adam Lloyd Shepard, on a charge of manslaughter with a weapon. Under state law, the use of a weapon bumped up the manslaughter charge from a second-degree felony to a first-degree felony. Shepard challenged the reclassification of the crime to a first-degree felony based on the car being considered a "weapon." While the 1st District Court of Appeal rejected Shepard's argument, it acknowledged that its conclusion differed from a ruling in a case in the 2nd District Court of Appeal. In the notice filed Monday with the Supreme Court, Shepard's attorneys pointed to the conflicting appellate rulings in asking justices to resolve the issue. The Shepard case stemmed from a 2011 incident in which Shepard got into an altercation with another man at a sports bar while watching a basketball game. Shepard was convicted of hitting the man with a car in a parking lot and leaving the scene, the 1st District Court of Appeal ruling said. The appeals court did not name the victim, but Florida Times-Union reports identified him as Spencer Schott, who died of head injuries.

**BLACK
SUN**

**WHITE
SAND**

BY CHARLEY BLACKWOLF

BAEZ RESIGNS FROM HOUSE AFTER RESIDENCY PROBE Democrat Daisy Baez, a first-term lawmaker who had been considered a rising star in her party, left the state House on Wednesday as she pleaded guilty to perjury in an investigation about her legal residency. In a single-sentence letter delivered Wednesday morning to House Speaker Richard Corcoran, Baez wrote that "effective immediately, I am resigning my office." The plea deal, which ended an investigation by the **Miami-Dade County State Attorney's Office**, was a blow to House Democrats. It put Republicans on the verge of a supermajority --- which can be important for procedural reasons --- by holding 79 of the 119 occupied seats. Her seat will remain vacant until a special election, which will be called by Gov. Rick Scott. It is possible that the seat will remain vacant until after the 60-day regular legislative session, which begins Jan. 9. House Democrats announced the resignation early Wednesday, after Baez reached the agreement with the state attorney's office. The office had been investigating statements made under oath by Baez regarding her residency.

'PIP' REPEAL SPEEDS TOWARD HOUSE FLOOR An attempt to end the state's no-fault auto insurance system is on the fast track in the Florida House. As in past years, the legislation, which has been projected to save motorists an average of about \$80 a year, faces opposition from some insurers, business groups and medical providers. Meanwhile, the House and Senate are comparing different models to change the system. The House Commerce Committee voted 18-7 on Tuesday to back a measure (HB 19) by Rep. Erin Grall, R-Vero Beach, that would end the no-fault system, which requires motorists to carry personal-injury protection, or PIP, coverage to help pay for medical care after accidents. Under the bill, motorists would instead be required to carry bodily-injury coverage. The change would fully open drivers at fault in accidents to liability for damages and could shift some costs to health-care premiums. "I understand that it's going to be difficult and that change is hard," Grall said. But she added that "we will have more adequate levels of coverage for the severity of accidents on our roads." Grall, an attorney, did not want to add issues to the bill, such as increasing enforcement of uninsured motorists and making changes in the state's bad-faith laws. Bad-faith lawsuits typically involve allegations of misconduct by insurers that handle claims and can be costly. Grall said a number of interests are trying to make the proposal "more complicated than it needs to be." The Personal Insurance Federation of Florida, the Florida Justice Reform Institute and the Institute for Legal Reform, an offshoot of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, are among those that want a no-fault repeal to also address changes in the bad-faith laws.

GIBSON CHOSEN TO LEAD SENATE DEMOCRATS

Senate Democrats elected Audrey Gibson to replace Jeff Clemens as the next leader of the caucus in a secret ballot Monday evening. Clemens, D-Lake Worth, resigned from his Senate seat on Oct. 27 after admitting he had an extramarital affair with a lobbyist. Gibson, D-Jacksonville, defeated Orlando Democrat Randolph Bracy in Monday night's election. She will take over as the Senate minority leader after the 2018 elections, when Democrats hope to flip several seats in a chamber where Republicans now hold a 24-15 majority. "I look forward to working with caucus members on their priorities and ensuring their voices are heard on legislation impacting all Floridians. I am also excited about bringing in new Democrat senators to the Florida Senate to create a legislative balance in the chamber," Gibson, who was elected to the Senate in 2011 after serving eight years in the House, said in a statement. Clemens' abrupt departure rocked Senate Democrats, who were pumped up after recapturing a formerly Republican-held Miami-Dade County seat in a September special election.



DECEMBER 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 States MC Pompano Dinner	5	6	7	8	9 ABATE State Meeting
10 SFPC Toys in the Sun Run	11 States MC Pompano Dinner	12 Hanukkah Begins 	13	14	15	16 Hernandad MC Alfredo Memorial & Toy Run Peterson's Toy Run Bike Drawing
17 *SEE BELOW CHAPTER MEETING	18 States MC Pompano Dinner	19	20	21	22	23
24 Christmas Eve	 25 Christmas Day	26	27	28	29	30
31		*Dec 17: ABATE Southwest Chapter Toy Run WOG Miami MC Toy Run				

Happy New Year!

JANUARY 2018



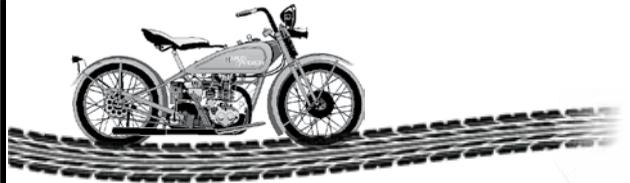
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1  <i>New Year's Day</i>	2	3	4	5	6
7 State MC Blessing of the Bikes	8 States MC Pompano Dinner	9	10	11	12	13
14 Wings of Gold MC Biker Appreciation Day	15 States MC Pompano Dinner	16	17	18	19	20
21 CHAPTER MEETING	22 States MC Pompano Dinner	23	24	25	26	27 Dania Beach Vintage Bike Show
28 DER KRIEGER ANNUAL	29 States MC Pompano Dinner	30	31			

2017-8 CALENDAR

MANDATORY CLUB EVENTS ARE LISTED IN BOLD



FOR CHANGES EMAIL:
INDIAN (WOM MC)
Indianwommc@yahoo.com
SFPC CHARIMAN



MONTHLY EVENTS

DECEMBER 2017

- 10: SFPC TOYS IN THE SUN RUN**
- 16: PETERSONS TOY RUN BIKE DRAWING
- 16: HERMANDAD MC-ALFREDO MEMORIAL & TOY RUN
- 17: WINGS OF GOLD MC MIAMI - TOY RUN
- 25: Christmas Day

JANUARY

- 7: STATES MC - BLESSING OF THE BIKES
- 14: WINGS OF GOLD FT. LAUD.- BIKER APPRECIATION DAY
- 21: S.E. ABATE - SEMI ANNUAL
- 28: DER KRIEGER MC - ANNUAL**

FEBRUARY

- 3: US MILITARY VETS MC HOMESTEAD-ANNUAL**
- 11: AOA FT. LAUD. - ANNUAL**
- 14: Valentines Day
- 17: SCURVY FEW MC - PARTY
- 24: WHEELS OF MAN MC - 45th ANNUAL**

MARCH

- 4: HERMANDAD MC - ANNUAL**
- 9-18: 77th DAYTONA BIKE WEEK
- 17: St. Patrick's Day
- 18: KELTICS MC - ANNUAL**
- 25: US MILITARY VETS MC CH.1 - PARTY

APRIL

- 1: Easter
- 1: CMA - EASTER SERVICE**
- 7: MYSTIC SEVEN MC - PARTY
- 15: STATES MC - ANNUAL**
- 22: ALTERNATIVE MC - ANNUAL**
- 27-29: LEESBURG BIKEFEST

FRIDAY

- Outlaws MC WPB Open House at 7PM
- USMV MC Ch 2 Open house at 8PM (Dania Beach)
- Der Krieger MC Open House at 8PM
- Mystic 7 MC Open House... Ladies drink FREE!
- Keltics MC Open House
- 1st Fri - Soldiers for Jesus Open House 7-10PM
- 1st & 3rd Fri - Kingdom of Brothers Open House
- 3rd Fri - Wings of Gold MC Open House Davie
- 4th Fri - American Legion Post 36 Bike Night

SATURDAY

- 1st & 3rd Sat - AOA MC Dania Open House
- 2nd Sat - USMV MC Ft. Laud. Open House
- 2nd & 4th Sat - Mystic 7 Open House
- 2nd & 4th Sat - Kingdom of Brothers Open House

SUNDAY

- Free pool at Sharkey's Lounge Margate
- Wind Rider Church Services at Mickey's

WEEK DAYS

- Mon - States MC Pompano Dinner Nite 6:30pm start
- Mon - Ladies nite at Sharkey's 9-2, 241 beverages
- Tues - Lone Legion Brotherhood Open House
- Last Tues - USMVMC Palm Bch Open House
- Wed - Scurvy Few MC Open House 954-325-6838
- Wed - Blues Nite at Mickey's
- Thurs - Leathernecks MC Open House 8-mid
- Thurs - Hermandad MC Open House, 8-2am
- 3rd Thurs - Peterson's Harley South Bike nite 6-10pm





Hey Everyone,

I hope all had a nice Thanksgiving and are all ready for the next Holiday.

Well to my regret, due to a medical condition, I have to stop riding and leading any rides. Hopefully this in only temporary.

On another note, just a reminder, please try to be patient and careful while riding and driving thru this Holiday Season. There are lots of crazies are out there. Also remember when someone makes a mistake or does something dumb, try not to yell at that person. We all make mistakes. I know when I make a mistake or do something stupid, I don't want to hear someone yelling at me. Trust me I beat myself up better than anyone else can. Try to just shake your head and laugh, if you can, I know it's not always easy to do.

So for now, have a great and safe Holiday Season and thank you for reading this and the ABATE SE Newsletter.

Jon "Wavy" Viger
Road Captain

**To be included in texts about
upcoming events Contact Wavy
at 954-261-9242**



Time for a little holiday trivia: (answers found somewhere in this issue)

1. How many American states have towns named Santa Claus?
2. The Christmas song 'Jingle Bells' was originally published under under which title?
3. True or false: Christmas Island was discovered on Christmas Day in 1643?
4. What was the name of Rudolph's dog-sled driving friend?
5. What is the last ghost called in A Christmas Carol?



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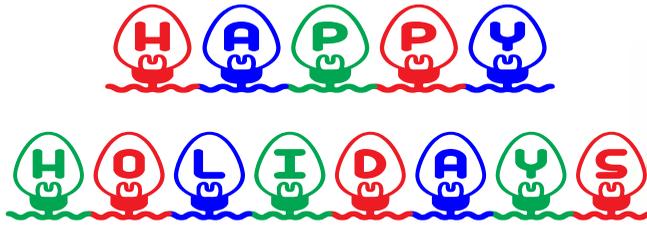
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 M K W A G F H M Y I X A N D W R H D J J I N D I T W R G N Y
 M F Z X V V L X B Q O X C O S S C U D K S R U C C J E Q M K

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Holidays

Holly
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Menorah
Mistletoe
Ornament
Party
Ribbon

Santa Claus
Shopping
Star
Stockings
Toys
Traditions
Yule Log



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Alice Calabrese
 Alyssa "Star" Saurini
 Andy Deriesthal
 Barry Blunnell
 Brian "Captain Bee" Killian
 Bunny "Bunz" Mione
 David Castle
 Donna Chomiak
 Eugene "Mean Gene" Edgeff
 Fred Adler
 George "Geo" Bograkos
 Gina Currid

Guy "Ontos" Knaak
 Joyce "Blondie" Konczynski
 Robert "Sneak 65" Torrance
 James "Shameless" McAnespie
 Lee Ann "Wildcat" Lefkowitz
 James "Jimbo" Sears
 Jody Ray
 Joe Marshall
 Jose "El Coqui" Rivera Jr.
 Joseph "Sportster" Podojack



Hyacinth Stewart
 Kevin "Shepherd" Hughes
 Luis "Big OTE" Alvarez
 Mark "Huddy" Hudson
 Patrick Behan
 Ray "Rainman" Purcell
 Richard "Dick" Burns
 Richard "Tree" Andres
 Robert Sarro
 Rick "Steak" Hernandez
 Roy Roden
 Steve "Dead Dog" Lucas
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**Don't miss the ABATE SE Chapter Holiday Party
 December 17th at A.L. Post 222 (After the meeting)**

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In God We Trust You Can't Take It With You

We all want the things we think are important to us: a bigger house; maybe a nicer car; or maybe a better motorcycle, a better job, or more money. I could go on forever;

everybody wants things.

Some people have more than others. Why? I can't answer that, but I do know that what we have is given to us by God, not to worship or see them as some kind of idols, but to enjoy. Remember you never see a U-haul trailer behind a hearse because you can't take it with you!!!!

We also see some people live longer than others and some people are sicker than others. Why? I don't know the answer to that either, only God knows. That's why He's God and I'm not.

Life does seem unfair sometimes. BUT!!!!!!

There is something that only God can give you, me, and anyone who wants it. It's given out equally, whether you're rich or poor, old or young, man or woman. It's given out to all who ask Jesus Christ for it. You can't work for it, you can't buy it. It's the one thing you can take with you when you die - your Salvation! It goes with you and stays with you for eternity. So please: Don't Leave Home without It.

God Bless You.

As always
Your Chaplain,
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Election 2018 Update

FROM OUR STATE V.P. & LEGISLATIVE REP
DARRIN "SCRIBE" BROOKS

MIAMI BEACH MAYOR LAUNCHES BID FOR GOVERNOR Miami Beach Mayor Philip Levine jumped into the Democratic primary for governor on Wednesday, promising to address climate change and to raise the minimum wage if he is elected. "Today, here in Florida, it's time to do what is right," Levine told supporters and friends in an announcement speech in Miami, echoing a phrase from civil rights icon Martin Luther King Jr. "It's time to address climate change by changing Tallahassee's climate of denial," said Levine, who was dressed in a dark business suit with a tie and white Adidas sneakers. "It's time to make a day's pay enough to avoid a lifetime of dread, fearing that one event, one illness, one bad break could break an entire family." Levine, 55, a wealthy businessman who has served two terms as Miami Beach mayor, is entering an already crowded 2018 Democratic primary, where former U.S. Rep. Gwen Graham of Tallahassee, Tallahassee Mayor Andrew Gillum and Winter Park businessman Chris King are vying to replace term-limited Gov. Rick Scott. In outlining his agenda, Levine is not much different from his Democratic rivals, who also want to address climate change and raise the minimum wage. But Levine can point to specific efforts as mayor in dealing with the issues.

SLOSBERG OPENS ACCOUNT TO RUN FOR CLEMENS SEAT Setting up a high-profile Democratic primary, former state Rep. Irv Slosberg has opened a campaign account to run for a Palm Beach County Senate seat that became vacant last week with the resignation of Lake Worth Democrat Jeff Clemens. Slosberg opened an account Thursday, joining Rep. Lori Berman, D-Lantana, in the race, according to the state Division of Elections website. Clemens, who defeated Slosberg last year for the District 31 seat, announced his resignation from the Senate last Friday after disclosures about an affair with a lobbyist. Gov. Rick Scott will call a special election to fill the seat but had not announced election dates as of Friday morning.

FELONS' RIGHTS INITIATIVE CLEARS 300,000 SIGNATURES Continuing to make progress toward reaching the 2018 ballot, backers of a proposed felons' rights constitutional amendment have submitted more than 300,000 petition signatures to the state. The political committee "Floridians for a Fair Democracy" had submitted 301,064 valid signatures as of Thursday afternoon, according to the state Division of Elections website. As an indication of the progress, that total was up from 209,079 valid signatures on Oct. 11. The committee, which is heavily supported by the American Civil Liberties Union, needs to submit a total of 766,200 signatures to get the proposal on the November 2018 ballot. The proposal would automatically restore voting rights for all nonviolent felons who have served their sentences, completed parole or probation and paid restitution. Felons convicted of violent crimes, such as murder, would not be eligible. Restoring felons' rights has long been a controversial issue in Florida.

BERMAN TO RUN FOR CLEMENS SENATE SEAT Rep. Lori Berman, D-Lantana, announced Tuesday she will run for the Florida Senate seat that Democrat Jeff Clemens abruptly left Friday after admitting he had an affair with a lobbyist. In a news release, Berman pointed to the need for "strong female leadership in Tallahassee" as "harassment and discrimination issues are coming into national focus." Berman, who has served in the House since 2010 and is the Democratic floor leader, must still wait for Gov. Rick Scott to announce special-election dates. With the 60-day legislative session starting Jan. 9, Clemens' exit could keep the Senate District 31 seat vacant throughout the session. Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections Susan Bucher asked the Florida Division of Elections on Monday to set the special primary election on Jan. 30 and the special general election on April 10. The Palm Beach County district leans Democratic. Former Rep. Irv Slosberg, a Democrat who ran unsuccessfully against Clemens last year, has told The Palm Beach Post he intends to run for the open seat.

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Wotmag

Election 2018 Update *con't. from page 35*

CANDIDATES EMERGE IN STATE HOUSE RACES With former Rep. Daisy Baez, D-Coral Gables, resigning this week after a probe into her residency, an additional candidate has emerged to try to succeed her in the state House. West Miami Republican Liz de las Cuevas opened a campaign account in Miami-Dade County's House District 114, joining three other candidates who have taken the initial steps to run for the seat, according to the state Division of Elections website. De las Cuevas was one of a series of candidates who filed paperwork this week to run for House seats across the state. In House District 2, which includes parts of Escambia and Santa Rosa counties, Gulf Breeze Republican Robert Andrade became the second candidate to open an account to try succeed Rep. Frank White, R-Pensacola, next year. White plans to run for attorney general instead of seeking another term in the House. Meanwhile, in Pinellas County's House District 69, Democrat Jennifer Webb became the fourth candidate hoping to replace Rep. Kathleen Peters, R-Treasure Island. Peters is running for a spot on the Pinellas County Commission next year. In Orange County, Rep. Carlos Guillermo Smith, D-Orlando, drew a challenge this week from Orlando Republican Jose "Pepito" Aponte in House District 49. Also, in Sarasota County's House District 72, Republican Alexandra Coe opened a campaign account this week to run in 2018. Coe will likely face the winner of a February special election in the district, which became vacant when former Rep. Alex Miller, R-Sarasota, resigned this summer.

DEMOCRATS SUE STATE OVER SPECIAL ELECTION DATES The chairman of the Florida Democratic Party filed a lawsuit Monday asking a judge to force Gov. Rick Scott to set special-election dates in a Palm Beach County Senate district and a Miami-Dade County House district. The lawsuit, filed in Leon County circuit court hours before Scott announced election dates in the Senate district, focuses on seats left vacant during the past two weeks by the departures of former Sen. Jeff Clemens, D-Lake Worth, and former Rep. Daisy Baez, D-Coral Gables. Scott on Monday night announced that he had scheduled a special primary election on Jan. 30 in Senate District 31 and a special general election on April 10. He did not announce election dates in House District 114. Clemens left the Senate seat Oct. 27 after acknowledging an affair with a lobbyist, while Baez resigned from the House seat last week after pleading guilty to perjury in a case related to her legal residency. The lawsuit, which names state Democratic Party Chairman Stephen Bittel and two residents of the districts as plaintiffs, seeks an order that would lead to holding elections in time for the replacements in Senate District 31 and House District 114 to take part in the 2018 legislative session. The session starts Jan. 9. The lawsuit alleges that the "inherent political rights of the electors of Senate District 31 and House District 114 ... are being abridged by defendant Rick Scott's failure to fix the dates of a special primary election and a special election to fill these legislative vacancies to assure representation of the residents of Senate District 31 and House District 114 in the 2018 legislative session." The dates Scott announced for the Senate special election followed a recommendation from Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections Susan Bucher, a former Democratic state House member.



Photos Courtesy of Arman Pictures



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NCOM BIKER NEWSBYTES

Compiled & Edited by Bill Bish,
National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM)

HUNG JURY FORCES MISTRIAL IN FIRST WACO

CASE It's been over two years since the bloody Twin Peaks melee in Waco, Texas, and the first trial of more than 150 of those arrested and charged has ended in a mistrial when the jury was hopelessly split on multiple counts.

Dallas Bandidos leader Jake Carrizal was charged with three criminal counts, including murder and racketeering, stemming from the May 17, 2015 brawl and gunfight with rival Cossacks members during a meeting of the Texas Confederation of Clubs and Independents that left nine bikers dead and 18 seriously injured, most shot by responding police.

The prosecution had hoped a conviction in this first "big test case," considered the state's strongest, would serve as an indicator of how solid the government's cases might be going forward, and could be used to generate plea deals amongst the remaining 153 bikers indicted, explained A.I.M. (Aid to Injured Motorcyclists) Attorney Bill Smith of Texas. Smith, who also serves as legal counsel for the Confederations of Clubs (COC) in Texas, gave a much-anticipated update to bikers from across the U.S. during a recent National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM) Regional Meeting in Oklahoma City.

Carrizal faces life in prison if found guilty, but following more than a month of testimony in proceedings that cost the Waco community over \$2 million to date, the three woman, nine man jury deliberated for just under 15 hours over two days before notifying Judge Matt Johnson they were irrevocably deadlocked and unable to reach a verdict.

Judge Johnson sent the jury home on Friday, November 10, and declared a mistrial. The State has reportedly announced they will retry the case, but at this point it is

unclear if the case will be retried on the same or amended charges, or how it will affect others under indictment.

"Just by attending a regularly scheduled monthly meeting, many of these bikers lost their jobs, lost their motorcycles, lost homes, or lost custody of a child because of their arrest for engaging in criminal activity," said Attorney Smith, "spending days, weeks or months in jail under million dollar bail bonds."

In early 2016, several of the bikers filed a civil rights lawsuit against the District Attorney, the Chief of Police and other Waco officials, and "if acquitted, they can succeed in civil action."

NCOM MEETING REPORT FROM OKC

"Many thanks to all that attended the NCOM Board of Directors meeting and NCOM Region 2 Conference this past weekend in Oklahoma City, and to all OK COC (Confederation of Clubs) Member Groups that worked so hard to ensure its success," wrote NCOM board member Tiger Mike Revere, Liaison for the Oklahoma Confederation of Clubs, in his recent OKCOC Liaison Report.

"Lots of valuable information was shared that will ultimately help improve our Motorcycling Quality of Life," Tiger Mike continues... "The seminar dealing with RICO and Biker Judicial Rights, the Texas AIM/ NCOM Attorney update on the Waco Situation, and the presentation addressing profiling and police harassment of Motorcyclists were educational. The Regional Motorcyclist Rights Forum and Multi-State COC Symposium afforded Rights Activists and Club Members from all over the Nation the opportunity to share informational updates and legislative strategy for the future. The Regional Christian Unity Meeting featured Spiritual riding groups from many states sharing their faith and community outreach experiences."

Revere goes on to say that, "The NCOM Board of Directors continues to be impressed with the degree of enthusiasm and involvement Region 2 Members demonstrate for being educated on critical issues. Particular recognition goes to those that staffed the Hospitality Room, handled logistics for the hotel and transportation, and to the vendors that took part. The Saturday Night Camaraderie Party and Dinner was a Blast! Thanks to our OKCOC Lawyers for providing the food. It was great to see how many riders showed up for Sunday's OKCOC Meeting as well--the Biltmore Hotel's Ballroom was packed with well over 400 Riders!"

He concludes with; "I deeply appreciate your passion and commitment to defending Biker Liberty, in Oklahoma and Nationwide. Be sure to put the 33rd Annual National Coalition of Motorcyclists Convention on your Calendar. It's scheduled for May 8-13, 2018 in Mobile, AL at the Riverview Plaza Renaissance Hotel, and it's going to be a great one! The Region 2 Conference was also a Veterans' Day celebration, and 150 bikes rode to the Oklahoma State Capitol on November 11 to take part in the ceremonies. Thanks very much, attendees, for honoring our Armed Forces!"

BIKERS ASSIST DISASTER VICTIMS U.S. Defenders and the Facilitators at Camp Ironhorse have been deeply involved not only in assisting Hurricane Harvey Disaster relief efforts in Texas, but also in traveling to Puerto Rico for disaster relief aid following Hurricane Maria. "Texas Defenders and Camp Ironhorse volunteers alternate every other week delivering supplies and support equipment," reports NCOM board member Tiger Mike Revere, Liaison for the Oklahoma Confederation of Clubs. "Multiple agencies in our area have donated to support efforts which benefit our fellow Americans victimized by the storms and enhance a Positive Biker Image." A critical need continues, so anyone interested in providing any support or donations, assisting in Relief Efforts, or desiring more information can contact Monte "Stick" Keiner at: wizzardproduction@yahoo.com.

NCOM Christian Unity also continues to be very responsive in meeting Disaster Victims' needs, as updated at the recent Region 2 Conference in Oklahoma. "They are working with an effort led by Central Harley-Davidson out of Austin TX," reports Revere, "and the assistance they provided is much appreciated by our awesome Motorcycling Community." For more information or to contribute, contact Louie Nobs, NCOM Christian Unity Liaison, at ncom.christianunity@gmail.com.

BIKING PASTOR SHEPHERDS TEXAS CHURCH, SITE OF MASSACRE Pastor Frank Pomeroy oversees the First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, Texas, where a crazed gunman opened fire on Sunday, November 5th and slaughtered 26 people, one unborn, and injured 20 others inside the church. "Rev. Pomeroy, a motorcycle enthusiast, also runs a ministry for bikers," and the following information was submitted to NCOM Biker Newsbytes by Becky Cakes, recipient of the National Coalition of Motorcyclists' 2013 NCOM Silver Spoke Award for Media.

The First Baptist Church has a YouTube Channel where it posts videos of worship services and events, and in the last sermon posted online, Rev. Pomeroy -- the church's motorcycle-riding pastor -- used the imagery of a Harley-Davidson to illustrate his theme for the service, entitled "You Don't Need Training Wheels, You Need Christ!"

Ms. Cakes continues her post; "The pastor brought his bike into church last Sunday, set it in front of the altar and used it as a metaphor. It was safer, he said, to lean into turns on the bike, even though it felt less safe, a lesson he was trying to teach his daughter Annabelle Pomeroy, 14, on the ride there that morning, when it was only 34 degrees.

"We had a beautiful ride," he said. "She was back there cuddled behind me, and when I pointed at the temperature gauge, I felt her snuggle in even tighter."

Annabelle was shot and killed on Sunday. Mr. Pomeroy and his wife, Sherri, were out of the state. ..." (Excerpted from The Wall Street Journal, www.wsj.com).

U.S. INTERIOR DEPT CREATES RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE On November 7, 2017, Secretary of Interior Ryan Zinke announced the creation of a Recreation Advisory Committee to help improve visitor experiences on America's public lands and waters through expanded public-private partnerships. "We used to have a Bureau of Recreation -- we're bringing recreation back," Zinke said, adding that "I look forward to hearing from the best and the brightest in our private sector on how to improve the public experience on our federal lands and waters by expanding access for all Americans."

According to the Outdoor Industry Association, outdoor recreation generates \$887 billion in economic impact and supports 7.6 million jobs across the country. "The creation of the Recreation Advisory Committee -- combined with meetings, declarations and events -- is an important step in harnessing the might of the outdoor recreation economy and shows the department's commitment to supporting its continued growth," reports the Motorcycle Industry Council (MIC) in announcing the formation of the committee.

The committee will offer new opportunities for experienced and committed supporters of the Great Outdoors to collaborate with the secretary and other Interior officials on a range of issues, including expansion of world-class

visitor services and infrastructure, skillful management of peak visitation, improving fee collection, incorporating new technologies and much more.

This action is the result of numerous meetings between the Department of the Interior, the Outdoor Recreation Industry Roundtable (ORIR), of which the MIC is a member, and others.

“Creation of the Recreation Advisory Committee is great news for the outdoor recreation industry,” said MIC president and CEO Tim Buche. “We are excited to work with the Department of Interior to address issues facing outdoor recreation, including trail maintenance and expanding access to public lands.”

NEW YORK TO REQUIRE MOTORCYCLE SAFETY SAVVY BEFORE LICENSURE Those seeking a drivers license in the state of New York will soon be required to take and pass a series of Motorcycle Safety scenarios. A7486/S2119, signed into law on October 23, 2017 by Governor Andrew Cuomo, establishes a motorcycle safety awareness component as a requirement for licensing.

Introduced by Assemblyman Marcos Crespo (D-S Bronx), the legislation creates a “Motorcycle Safety” component to licensure, and requires “The commissioner to provide in the pre-licensing course, a mandatory component in “Motorcycle Safety” awareness education as a prerequisite for obtaining a license to operate a motor vehicle. The purpose of the component is to educate prospective licensees on the potential dangers to persons operating motorcycles on the roadway.”

So “Motorcycle Safety” will now join alcohol and drug education, “Road Rage” awareness and “Work Safety Zone Safety” as subject matters for the pre-licensing course.

FRAUDULENT MOTORCYCLE ENDORSEMENT DOCUMENTS IN INDIANA “It has come to our attention that some Indiana residents have been caught up in a scam regarding documents necessary to obtain a motorcycle endorsement,” reports Jay Jackson of ABATE of Indiana (www.abateonline.org), which “represents all Hoosier motorcyclists and is very concerned anytime one of us is harmed.”

Although details from the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) are incomplete, “it appears that someone

has made copies of the state form used to issue a waiver for skills test and forged the signature of a former ABATE instructor. This unlawful act of greed casts an ugly and undeserved shadow on the instructor’s reputation, as well as that of ABATE of Indiana.”

Jackson related stories of people caught up in this situation, with some paying money for these documents or attending and “passing” makeshift classes. If the BMV is unable to confirm that the applicant had successfully completed a legitimate rider course, “they suspend not only the motorcycle endorsement, but also the operator’s license, and in some cases the Commercial Driver’s License (CDL), of the individual.”

If you have any information related to this situation, please reach out and contact the Indiana State Police, or call the ABATE office at (317) 422-8040 (Indiana residents call (800) 23-ABATE). “We want to get to the bottom of this in hopes that it may assist those that were victimized.”

HUMANITY TRIUMPHS OVER MACHINERY Humans have been getting their tails handed to them by computers, as artificial intelligence (A.I.) has been regularly trouncing humanity in classic games like chess, Go, and Mortal Kombat, but at least there’s one area where we still reign supreme (for now): motorcycle racing!

In a tale bearing striking resemblance to that of folk hero John Henry, the “steel-driving man” who proved his human prowess in a race against a steam-powered contraption, an A.I.-piloted motorcycle recently lost a race against a modern-day riding champion.

Renowned MotoGP racer Valentino Rossi outperformed MOTOBOT, a motorcycle-riding robot from Yamaha that controls six actuators aboard a non-modified motorcycle; steering, throttle, both brakes, clutch and gearshift.

The Yamaha MOTOBOT project began in 2015, and after three years of trials the computer has developed a much better understanding of motorcycle racing that Yamaha hopes by 2020 will “deliver new value from Yamaha to our customers.”

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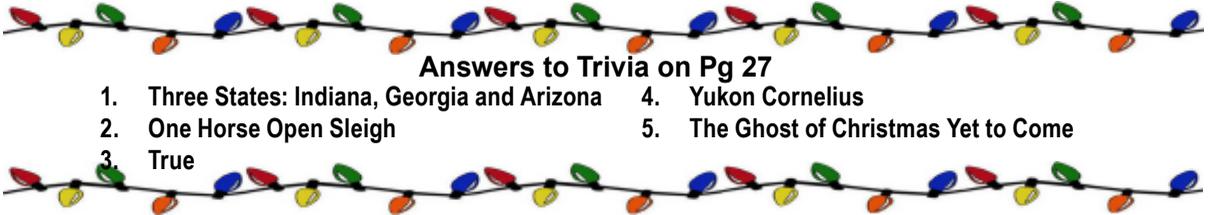
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2. One Horse Open Sleigh
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4. Yukon Cornelius
5. The Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come

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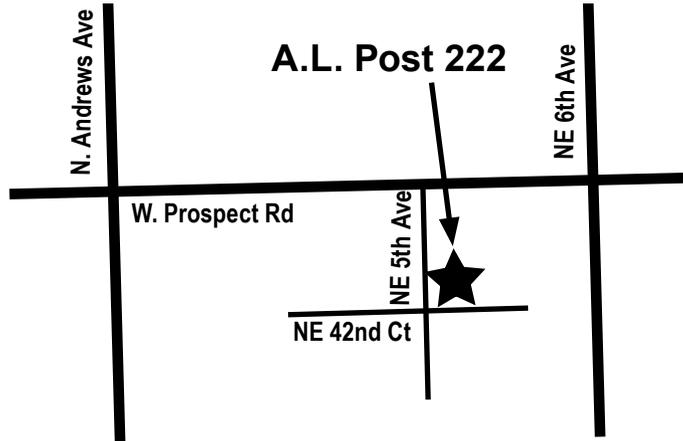
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