

# ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. SOUTHEAST CHAPTER

A Newsletter for Motorcycle Safety & Awareness

FEBRUARY

2022

**ISSUE 457** 



A MERICAN B IKERS A IMING T OWARD E DUCATION



NEXT CHAPTER MEETING

FEBRUARY 20, 2022

At American Legion Post 142 \*\*





\*\* Due to Covid19 , ALL events are subject to change and or cancellation\*\*

## "This page is sponsored by Attorney Brad Winston" 2021 - 2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS www.abatese.org Hotline (954-480-3100)

www.abatefloridainc.com

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: On or by the 2nd Sunday of each month for articles, ads, flyers, etc.

Send to Ada"Abby Normal" Hibbs at: news.abatese@gmail.com

To Advertise in this Publication, please contact: Hope Travis at: 954-415-1758 Email: billing.abatese@gmail.com, or any B.O.D. Member in this list.

(See page 40 for Application)

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### SPONSOR THIS PAGE PROGRAM....see page 32 for detail 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.

ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. DOES NOT CONDONE DRINKING AND RIDING. DONATIONS TO ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. ARE NOT DEDUCTIBLE FOR FEDERAL INCOME TAX PURPOSES. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOESNOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. WWW.800 HELPFLA.COM1-800-435-7352.

#### SPONSOR THIS PAGE PROGRAM....see page 32 for detail



ABATE of Florida,Inc. PO Box 6140 Cantonment, FL 32533\* (386) 943-9610 www.abatefloridainc.com



#### Some of ABATE of Florida, Inc.'s Accomplishments

• On July 1, 2000, we had the 30 year old Florida Helmet law repealed; July 1, 2010 was our 10th Anniversary of Freedom of Choice.

• We've become the 4th largest State Motorcycle Rights Organization (MRO) in the country (IN & IL are 1&2, we regularly switch for 3rd & 4th with PA).

• We got the handlebar heights law modified.

• We successfully fought a bill that would forbid our children from riding on our bikes.

• We successfully fought the bill that would confiscate motorcycles for going 30MPH over the speed limit.

• We developed an effective MSAP program that has raised motorist's perceptions and awareness of motorcycles, and have received funding from the State of FL totaling over \$750,000 to promote motorcycle safety and awareness.

- We successfully fought the bill against vertical tags that had over \$1,100 in fines for a first offense.
- Supported and fought for a texting-while-driving ban for the last few years.

• Our 2009-2010 Stiffer Penalties Bill made it through five of the FL House & Senate's committees; this is the farthest it has gone in the number of years we have tried. On the last day of session, a committee member strenuously attempted to attach a revival of the helmet law to our Bill. To avoid a new helmet law in Florida, we had to kill the Bill.

• We publish monthly Press Releases and/or Articles of Interest in many online & print publications, including Florida Full Throttle.

• The President of ABATE of Florida, Inc. has been asked to be on and currently sits as a member of The Motorcyclist Advisory Council (MAC) to the Federal Highway Administration in Washington, D.C. The Secretary of the U.S. Dept. of Transportation may appoint a representative from only two State MROs throughout the entire U.S.A. to be on this council.

• The President of ABATE of Florida, Inc. sits as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Collation of Motorcyclists (NCOM). NCOM has over 1000 member organizations.

#### For more information:

#### Contact the President of the Southeast Chapter

#### Johnny Rose 954-868-4390

pres.abatese@gmail.com

#### Or vísít our websíte: www.abatese.org

## "This page sponsored by Frank T. (GBNF) & Lisa

## From Your President

Man, the things you got go through in South Florida just to get perfect riding weather. You all know what I'm talking about, that one heavy rain band that pushes through ahead of the cold front. Anyway, like the song says, "you got to go to hell to get to heaven". I want to thank everybody who swam out to Mickey's for our Semi-Annual Event in January. Just kidding about the swimming, but thank you to those who came out to support us. We did get wet, from one good rain band that blew through, and then a LOT of light rain after that. Once again, Alan, from Mickey's Tiki came through for us. Thank you, bro!!! He hooked us up with some music because the band didn't want to set up on such a rainy day, and I can't blame them. We were under a tornado warning for a while, but thank God, none came through to us. Once again, I was amazed at how many ABATE members we had to work the Semi-Annual, over 20 of us showed up and everybody stayed from beginning to end. Believe it or not, I had a freaking blast. I think it's because we all pulled together and did what we had to do to pull off our Semi-Annual. And because there were fewer people attending, we all got more time hang out together.

Well, I need a favor from everybody. Please look at your ABATE membership cards and make sure you're up to date. If you're not up to date, we have a membership application and beneficiary form on page 50 in our newsletter and our address is on the form, so you can mail in your application. You can also use this form to update your beneficiary. If you don't have a card, but think you are a member, check with our Membership Trustee, Sheila Rose, and she will send you a new card.

I'm going to be pushing my members to go out there and get new members and advertisers. We need to make up for the rainy Semi-Annual we had. The way we keep our newsletter going is through membership, advertising, and the three events we have each year. For those of you who might not know it, one of ABATE's most important jobs is to keep everybody informed on what's going on in our state government, concerning motorcycles, and local community.

In the middle of February, we have an important ride going on to the State Capitol. We will ride up Saturday and hang out with everybody from the other ABATE Chapters. Then



Sunday, we will have the State ABATE meeting and then go find a good place to watch the Superbowl. Monday will be the ride to the Capital. We start with a Ringing of the Bell Ceremony on the State Capitol steps, where we will ring a bell, and announce the names, one-by-one, of all the brothers and sisters that we have lost in the last few years. We put out a giant American flag across the steps too. It's very solemn and pretty cool. The best thing is that we get to park our motorcycles in the Capitol courtyard where vehicles are not allowed. That is some good respect for us bikers. We will enter the Capital and try to talk to all of our Congressmen. We want to talk to them about the two Bills that we're trying to get passed, that are now in Committee, to try and generate some support for those. In my President's article for March, I will tell you about everything that happened and how it all went.

Please support all your American Legions and VFWs. God Bless America, the military, and the veterans who have helped keep this Country free.

And to the younger people out there, you have the chance to inherit an organization that stands up and fights for biker rights and safety. Help us make a difference, now, and for the future!

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

God bless America!!!!

Peace, Johnny Rose President Southeast Chapter



## ABATE SAFETY MONEY, HELP US GET IT BACK TO ALL ABATE MEMBERS

I sent the email below today, to my Florida State Rep, that I found by searching https://www.myfloridahouse.gov/.../myrepresentative.aspx

Rep emails are like this

#### firstname.lastname@myfloridahouse.gov

Please do the same, change your name, of course, copy and paste the email to your rep. AND pass it on to any other ABATE members. Thanks!!!

Subject "Support HB 2573"

Dear Representative xxxxxxxxxx

My name is xxxxxx xxxxxx. I am a member of ABATE of Florida, Inc., Southeast Chapter. I am writing to ask for your support of HB 2573 ABATE of Florida Safety and Education by Rep. Mc-Cain.

Each time a motorcyclist registers their motorcycle, we pay an extra \$2.50 fee that goes toward motorcycle safety and awareness education.

The money collected ONLY comes from motorcyclists.

ABATE of Florida, Inc. is asking for a small percentage of the registration fees to promote motorcycle safety and awareness education. 100% of the money used by ABATE of Florida, Inc. goes toward safety and education material for the general public.

In the past, when ABATE was granted our request for the safety and education money, motorcycle deaths and serious injuries declined.

Please help motorcyclists' lives and support HB 2573. Thank you!!!

### Motorcycle Rights & Safety Dedicated to

#### "Freedom of Choice, Freedom of the Road"

You may know us as the motorcycle organization that got the helmet law repealed in Florida or from our motorcycle rights and safety rally's throughout the year. ABATE of Florida is not a club, we are a motorcycle rights & safety organization dedicated to promoting motorcycle safety while remaining ever vigilant of the legislative issues concerning motorcyclists' nationwide.

#### We Are Not ANTI-HELMET, We are ANTI-HELMET Law!

One of the most popular misconceptions about ABATE is that we are anti-helmet. Nothing could be further from the truth. We are "anti-helmet law" if you choose to ride with or without a helmet it's your choice, it is your right to decide whether wearing a helmet is right for you. ABATE is an organization fighting to protect your rights.

"This page is sponsored by "Abby Normal" Hibbs

MEMBERSHIPS DUE FOR FEBRUARY 2022 BOB ANZ **CANDY CARNEVALE** BARRY CARUSO SHANE FOGELMAN FRED GEARING STEVEN T. GRAHAM SR. INDIAN ALAN HOOVER CHASE JONES "CRAZY AL" HOWARD LUNT **ROBIN PATRELLA** FREDDIE RODRIGUEZ-LANDRAU LOUIS TRACZ BRIAN TULL LAURA ULRICH **CARLOS URRUTIA** 

#### MEMBERSHIPS DUE FOR JANUARY 2022 WARD BLANCHARD DARRELL BYERS PAUL CHATFIELD JR. CAROL CLARKIN GERALD CLARKIN JR. GARY CLIETT BRIAN DAVIS DEDEDAVIS ALAN DOWNARD LARRY FAY **RENEA FIALKOWSKY** MEG FRONTERA ROBER GARAY LISA GARCIA ROBERT GEITH BRYAN HESS CHRISTING JANOSKI ALDO LANCIANO FREDERICK LANE KARLA LAWLER MARELYS LAZO AMY MONTILLANICO ED NEWMAN TODD NICHOLS MYRIAM NUNEZ **ROBIN PATRELLA** TONY QUAGLIERI EDWIN QUINONES STIAN ROENNING JILLIAN ROSE AIMEE SALZLEIN JOHN SALSLEIN LUIS VILA BILL VIVEIROS MIKE VOLGER JOE WEBER

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Delora "G.O.T." Randy Gettinger Adam Gould LaDonna Keber Don Sarko Linda Swerdloff







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# *Wice-* President TALLAHASSEE CAPITAL RIDE

ABATE is many things but foremost it's a Motorcyclist's Organization that fights for your legal rights that concerns each of us that ride. Over the many years Abate has learned as with most things, just sitting around bitch'n about it gives no results. The old adage out of sight out of mind also applies. That's why number one, Abate, has a full-time lobbyist in Tallahassee that meets with our representatives to give insight on what the motorcycle community wants and needs for our safety. Out of the \$20 annual membership dues, \$10 goes to pay for the lobbyist and the other \$10 goes to pay for the distribution of this newsletter each month. Abate is a Non-profit Volunteer Organization.

You can't image some of the crazy ideas nonmotorcyclist have tried to propose to be laws. Did you know if it was not for Abate that helped fight down a proposed legislative Bill we would all be required by law to wear a fluorescent suit each time we ride?

Unfortunately, what gets the attention of the politicians is not so much the cause but the numbers, and I'm talking number of bikers Abate has registered on the books as voting members. This month counting all the Abate chapters in Florida we are a little over 6.000 voting members strong. To an elected politician that can mean more than dollars. That's where our lobbyist gets it's leverage and power when with they sit with the State Representatives. That many voting members can be a big stick but unfortunately sometimes not big enough. That's why even if you are not going to be an actively participating member, you still need to become one just to increase our numbers which makes that big stick described above a little stronger. In the back of each newsletter there is a membership application. Fill it out and send it in.

And if that's not enough, each year as many members as possible from all over the state ride and converge on the Capital steps to speak our voice and actually go door to door inside the Capital to meet our representatives. As many as 100 bikers or more will ride and park directly in the center courtyard at the Capital. That many bikers with revving Harley's right on their doorstep brings attention and helps eliminate that out of site out of mind. This mass of leather clad bikers walking the halls of the Capital turns the heads of everyone there. Trust me when I say. each and every representative on both sides of the isle recognizes we are a force and a voting block power to be reckoned with when we show up. It's a great time and each of you are invited to participate. Check the Tallahassee Ride flyer in this newsletter and if you have any additional questions, please feel free to reach out to us for more information about the ride.

Your VP

Troy



# **25th ANNUAL FREEDOM GATHERING**

Florida, Inc.

State Meeting Sunday, February 13, 2022 at 2:00pm State Board Meeting Sunday, February 13 at Noon American Legion Hall - 1065 S. Water St., Monticello, FL 32344 Directions to Hall: Go 2 blocks west of the Opera House on US 90, then turn west on Water Street. Go 1/2 mile to the Legion Hall

"We in America do not have government by the majority. We have

# government by the majority who participate." ~ Thomas Jefferson

# Ride to the Capitol Monday, February 14,2022 Kickstands up at 9:00am - Behind the Super 8 in Monticello

POC Abate of Florida Inc. State Office Brandy (850) 485-3853

Super 8 Monticello: 140 Pafford Rd., Monticello, FL 32336. Phone: 850-997-8888 Take I-10 to Exit 225 South on US 19. The hotel is located on the West side.

Days Inn Monticello: 44 Woodworth Dr., Monticello, FL 32336. Phone: 850-997-5988. Take I-10 to Exit 225 South on US 19. The hotel is located on the East side.

There are other hotels and campgrounds in the area. The two listed above offer discounts to ABATE members. Please make reservations early.

Membership & Safety Information Available ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. DOES NOT CONDONE DRINKING AND RIDING. DONATIONS TO ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. ARE NOT DEDUCTIBLE FOR FEDERAL INCOME TAX PURPOSES. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REDISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTIMED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRA-TION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT. APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE WWW.SOMELPFLA.COM 1-800-436-7352.



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Southeast Chapter Meeting Minutes Held at American Legion Post 142 171 SW 2nd St Pompano Beach Fl, 33060 January 9, 2022

Johnny Rose called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m., and there were 18 members present. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Teddy Bear, and a prayer by our Assistant Chaplain, "Bear".

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT - JOHNNY ROSE:

Johnny thanked everyone for coming. He gave us the Sean "Bugsy" update. He is doing good, driving now. He spoke of the upcoming ABATE of Florida Annual Freedom Gathering in Tallahassee, our State President stands on the Capitol steps and reads the names of the brothers and sisters who passed away the past year, ringing a bell for each name. Last year, in 2021, there was no event due to COVID, so 2020 & 2021 names are: "Frank T", "Boomer", "Half Ton" - Kingdom of Brothers MC, "Hobo" 1%er - Outlaws MC, "Gypsy Rider", "Wisconsin Les", "Boots", "Trash", "Chazman", and "JR". If missed any, please let him know.

We have A LOT of flyers for this Freedom Gathering. Please, if you can, take some with you, and ask local businesses that you go to, to post the flyer for us. The more people who go, the louder our voices, for Motorcycle Rights and Safety, will be heard in the State government.

We have a sign-up sheet for volunteers for our Semi-Annual next weekend and another one, for parking volunteers for the Dania Beach Vintage Motorcycle Show. We need 6 to 8 parking volunteers.

#### VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT – TROY WAUGH:

Excused.

#### <u>SECRETARY'S REPORT –</u> <u>HOLLIE "DREAMER" SADOFF</u>:

Motion to approve minutes in newsletter, motioned, seconded, approved.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT – SHEILA ROSE:

Sheila read the Treasurer's report for December, motioned, seconded, approved.

#### <u>SERGEANT AT ARMS REPORT –</u> <u>MIKE "BUBBA" TRAVIS:</u>

Excused.

#### ROAD CAPTAIN'S REPORT - TROY WAUGH:

Excused - Report from Johnny Rose Sunday Jan 9 Wings of Gold MC Annual Sunday Jan 16 Southeast Chapter Semi-Annual Saturday Jan 29 Dania Beach Vintage Motorcycle Show Sunday Jan 30 Der Krieger MC annual Sunday, Feb 6 Gideons MC Annual Sunday Feb 13 South Florida AOA MC Annual Monday Feb 14 ABATE of Florida Annual Freedom Gathering Ride to the Capitol Saturday Feb 19 Wheels of Man MC Annual Saturday Feb 26, Scurvy Few MC Pirate Party

#### <u>SAFETY DIRECTOR'S REPORT –</u> JON "WAVY" VIGER:

Excused.

#### STATE REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT-MIKE "BUBBA" TRAVIS AND HOPE TRAVIS: Excused.

#### PRODUCTS REPORT - LAUREL "LITTLE BIT" CONNER:

"Little Bit" let all know that you get a 10% discount on all ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC - SOUTHEAST CHAPTER t-shirts at our Semi-Annual if you show a current ABATE membership card.

#### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT – SHEILA ROSE**:

Sheila read in the Membership report. We have over 650 members

#### EVENTS COORDINATOR - GABE CARRERA:

Excused.

#### NEWSLETTER EDITOR - ADA "ABBY NORMAL" HIBBS:

"Abby Normal", articles are due today. If you have pictures for the newsletter or Facebook, email them to her.

#### **<u>NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION – JON "WAVY" VIGE</u>r:** Excused.

#### LEGISLATIVE LIAISON - BRAD WINSTON:

Excused - Report by Johnny Rose

House Bill 2573 is the bill for ABATE's Safety and Education money, \$300,000, and of November, it was in the Infrastructure & Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee. The 2022 Florida Legislative Session starts on January 11, slated to wrap up on March 11th, so now is a great time to reach out to your State Representatives, and let them know to please support our Bill. We have flyers to let you know how to do this, take a few, share with your friends, let our voices be heard.

Our Vulnerable Road Users bill, Senate Bill 1252, has been assigned to it committees and the first committee it will be heard in is the Senate Transportation Committee. Please see the flyer with the contact information for the Senators that sit on the Transportation committee. Please take a few minutes to contact them and ask for their support of SB 1252 when it is heard in the Transportation committee. Take a few, share with your friends, let our voices be heard.

<u>LEGAL COUNSEL – BRAD WINSTON:</u> Excused.

<u>PUBLIC RELATIONS –</u> <u>DAWNE "THUNDER" KIRK-WATERS:</u> Excused.

BILLING AND INVOICING – HOPE TRAVIS: Excused.

#### <u>SOCIAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT – BARRY "BEAR"</u> <u>CROWN</u>:

"Bear" brought his famous brownies and cheesecake cupcakes.

#### QUARTERMASTER REPORT – MIKE "BUBBA" TRAVIS: Excused.

#### <u>PHOTOGRAPHER'S REPORT –</u> <u>BARRY "BOATMAN" BLUNDELL</u>:

Resigned effective immediately. Thank you, Barry, for all you have done! Ada "Abby Normal", our Assistant Photographer will now step up.

#### WEBMASTER'S REPORT – MIKE "ROGUE" HAGER:

"Rogue" was excused, all is going well. Please also send pictures to the Webmaster to post on the website.

#### CHAPLAIN - CHRISSY LEONHARDT:

Chrissy was excused. Bear said keep all those who are injured and ill in your prayers.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

None

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Our April 17th Chapter meeting falls on Easter. We would like to get a Vote of Confidence to move the Chapter meeting to April 24th. Motioned, second, approved.

#### GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Flyers on the table for upcoming events.

Motion to adjourn at 10:28am. Next meeting will be held at American Legion Post 142 at 10:00am on February 20, 2022.

Hollie "Dreamer" Sadoff Secretary Southeast Chapter









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SAFETY DIRECTOR

Good Day,

This is already February, wow this year is moving fast.

Just a thought to put in your head, which is motorcycle theft is on the rise.

Here are some suggestions to help-

Lock your ignition and don't forget to remove the key

Most bike thefts occur when the ignition is not locked

Lock the forks or use a disc brake lock

If traveling in a group, lock the motorcycles together when possible.

If riding and traveling alone, lock your bike to a secure stationary object.

If possible, add an audible alarm.

Don't store the title, registration or insurance card on your bike. Keep the title at home and a copy of the registration and insurance in your wallet. Florida does allow you to keep electronic copies of these documents on your phone. But it is recommended if you keep any documents on your phone, to keep your phone locked.

Put a special mark somewhere on your bike and take a picture to show police if it were to be stolen.

Also would like to thank all that came and worked our semi annual last month.

Also an big thanks to all who attended

That's all for now, for more information go to nhtse.gov/safety/motorcycles.gov

Thank you

Jon "Wavy" Viger





Taken from the "Motorcycle Safety Awareness" training program.

# ABATE of FLORIDA, Inc.

## offers the Motorcycle Safety Awareness Program

to any organization or school free of charge. For more information or to arrange for a presentation, please contact

> ABATE SAFETY DIRECTOR Jon "Wavy" Viger

> > at

safetydir.abatese@gmail.com 954-261-9242





bsauers@ailife.com

members in good standing are provided a fully paid group \$4000 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 Income Life, or visit

www.ailife.com/benefits/sgbis Sauers at American Income Life, or Visit Members can also get/submit the website for answers to your questions. their beneficiary card online



## FROM OUR ROAD CAPTAIN

### **INTERSECTIONS BEWARE**

As Bikers, we all know the dangers associated with riding a motorcycle, we accept it and ride on. But that doesn't mean we should just ignore all the safety and precautions that go along with it. I've been riding now for over 52 years and I am still learning and not ashamed to admit it. Think you know it all? Check out the Motorcycle Safety Foundation website, www.msf-usa.org, take the quiz and you will realize there is a lot out there you don't know. If nothing else it will refresh the common sense practices all motorcyclist should follow. And at most of our ages, goodness knows we could use a refresher.

When riding, there are so many hazards we need to be aware of but especially when it comes to intersections. They can be death traps because there are so many different scenarios and bad things that can happen. The classic is the cager making a left turn in front of you. If possible, try to ride in the right side of the lane when approaching an intersection. It will provide a better angle for the oncoming car to see you and also day or night, flash your lights at them before you reach the intersection, get their attention, it may save your life. Other areas your mental checklist should be going through is crossing traffic. Just because you have the green light or the right of way doesn't mean they are going to stop. Be defensive and anticipate they are not going to stop until you make eye contact or you're fully convinced they are going to give you the right of way. Pedestrians or the less fortunate homeless population can be walking zombies, especially at night. It has happened to me more than once when a person is either standing in the road or at the last-minute steps into my lane. Bicycles, another hazard, think they are cagers and own the road but don't have to follow the laws. Merging traffic, slick spots, water puddles are just a few more areas of concern. Even when completely stopped at intersections can be a high hazard situation. Always check your rearview mirror for being hit from behind is a real cause for alarm.

Never let your guard down. Stay alert and as you approach an intersection, scan it each time you cross it, go thru that mental check list for at every Intersection Beware.

Your Road Captain, Troy









I hate to say it but our world appears to be coming apart at the seams. Instead of the unity we were promised by the candidate who sits in the oval office, we are frayed and tattered. Just watching the news brings daily proof that our nation is divided more than ever before. How can we ever get back to the way it used to be? Most of you who are reading this truly understand the concept of brotherhood (and sisterhood) and what it means to be joined together as a whole. The members of our local associations and clubs mix and mingle at events throughout the year, no matter the race or creed.

Sadly, I've had to miss several of the events on our calendar. One of the things I enjoy most is seeing friends from numerous local clubs. And no matter the patch, we gather in support of one another. It's a time to ride, catch up and spend time together. (This is probably an appropriate place for me to plug the Wheels of Man 49th annual on February 19th. I'll be there - I hope you will be too!)

Proverbs 17:17 says, "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity."

1 Peter 2:17 says, "Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Respect the king."

Ecclesiastes 4:9-11 says, "Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble.

# STICKING TOGETHER

The best definition I've heard of true brotherhood is what Jesus told his disciples: "Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13). Jesus followed his own words. He laid down his life for all of us. He proved to us that if you really love your friends, you would do anything for them. By dying for all of us, you could say Jesus took this truth all the way to the cross!

I can't stress enough the importance of standing with your brother, especially through thick and thin. I'm honored to be a part of the motorcycle community and know that in the days to come, we will be glad we stuck together. We are stronger united as a whole than we are as separate parts.

Riding together, Chrissy Leonhardt - Chaplain



ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC - SOUTHEAST CHAPTER

20

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Where do I start. We'll I have a penchant for getting myself into projects and volunteering, and have a hard time passing up opportunities to help others. A friend and I went and visited another friend of mine up in Louisiana back in November 2021. And man was it cold.

Coldness aside, he took us on tour of his home town and showed us how they're still trying to recover from being hit by Hurricane Ida. In his words "In the history of Louisiana, no one was expecting the amount of flooding they got." Homes on high ground that never got flooded before, had water in their homes. On the coast the United Houma Nation was also devastated, many of their members lost their homes. In our tour we met up with the Mayor of Lafitte who is also a good friend of my friend. They got to talking about Christmas and if the town was even gonna do something. After hearing the stress in the Mayor's voice, I asked if he would be okay

if I started a donation drive for their community. And that's how I ended up on the month longcampaign to get donations for Lafitte and the Houma Nation.

When I do something, I go full steam ahead and with a go home or go broke attitude. With that I rented a 26 ft. Uhaul with the goal to pack it full. After posting up a Facebook event page for the donation drive, it got a life of its own. People on both coast of Florida volunteered their homes for drop off locations, and I organized a benefit concert at my business Buffalo Tiger Airboats to 1) collect more toy donations, and 2) have a good time while doing a good deed.

Needless to say it was a great success with the help of my fellow brother and sisters of ABATE and the riding community along with complete strangers who saw my post, Floridians came out big time with donations and I filled the Uhaul. We ended up also raising \$4,100 in cash in which the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians matched making it \$8,200 that was donated to the United Houma Nation.

On November 20th, with a friend to ride shotgun we started the marathon driving trip to deliver the toys and other donations to Louisiana. I took us a day and half to get to Lafitte. The look on the volunteers faces when we opened the truck, solidified that we made the right decision in helping make Christmas possible for this community.

After Lafitte, we headed over to the United Houma Nation. As we were unloading they told us about how they're still trying to get their people into fema trailers, and most of their people totally lost their homes in Ida. They are still going to need help for the long haul.

God willing, I plan to go back at the end of February with more donations. I can't adequately express my gratitude to everyone who donated and made this trip possible.

# Betty



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# WEEKLY EVENTS

ABATE Southeast Chapter Safety and Membership Booth will be at :

Thursday before the Chapter Meeting 1st Friday of the Month

ABATE SE Chapter EBoard Meeting ABATE SE Safety Booth Hosted by Viking Customs 6-9



<u>SUNDAY</u>

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

MONDAY >Ladies Nite at Sharkey's 9PM-2AM 2-for-1 drinks >Mickey's Karoeke 8PM-12AM

<u>WEDNESDAY</u> >Blues Nite at Mickey's >Mickey's Open Mic and Karaoke 8PM-12AM

THURSDAY >Mickey's Bike Night Live Bands 8PM

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<sup>\*\*</sup> Due to Covid19, ALL events are subject to change and or cancellation

2022 Sunday	Monday	FEI		RY Thursday	This pag	e sponsored b 2022 <sub>Saturday</sub>
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 AOA FT LAUD - <u>ANNUAL</u> ABATE State Meeting	14 Ride to the Capitol.	15	16	17 E-Board Meeting	18	19 WHEELS OF MAN MC 49TH ANNUAL
20 ABATE SE Meeting	21	22	23	24	25	26 SCURVY FEW MC - PARTY
27	28					

#### SEE PAGE 28 FOR OTHER WEEKLY EVENTS

#### **ADDITIONAL INFO, EVENTS OR PARTIES ARE LISTED HERE**

Wings of Gold MC Open House Ft. Lauderdale 7PM States MC Taco Tuesday 6:30-9PM

#### WEDNESDAY

2nd and 4th Wed Hermandad MC Open House 8:00pm - 2:00am,

#### THURSDAY

1st & 3rd Thurs - Leathernecks MC Open House 8-mid Hermandad MC Open House, 8PM-2AM Scurvey Few MC Texas Holdem/Karaoke -7:30PM

#### FRIDAY

Der Krieger MC Open House - 8PM Mystic Seven MC- Open House - 8PM Scurvy Few MC Open House at 7:30PM States MC - Fri Night Pizza 6-8PM 1<sup>St</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Fri - Kingdom of Brothers MC Open House Gideons Motorcycle Club 8PM Everv other Fridav Fearless MC Open House 8PM-1AM SATURDAY 1st & 3rd Sat - AOA MC Dania Open House 8PM 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sat - Kingdom of Brothers MC Open House 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat --Scurvy Few Monthly Birthday Party Fly-In Wheels Open House 9PM 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat -Last Saturday-Leatherneck MC Charity Poker Fly-In Wheels Open House 9PM

\*\* Due to Covid19 , ALL events are subject to change  $^{\langle}$ 

HOTLINE DEADLINE: Information needs to be to Fern before midnight Sundays for that week's Hotline. Email Flyer or info to: Rkinrobin1@bellsouth.net 954-573-7573 (Landline)

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: On or by the 2nd Sunday of each month for articles, ads, flyers, etc.

## Anna & Jon (Wavy) Viger

2022 Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	CH Thursday	Friday	2022 Saturday
, i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i		1	2	3	4 80th Daytona Bike Week	5
6 <b>«</b>	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 80th Daytona Bike Week	14	15	16	17 E-Board Meeting	18	19
20 HERMANDAD MC -ANNUAL ABATE SE Meeting	21	22	23	24	25	26 Fly-In Wheel Annual
27 US MILITARY VETS MC CH.1 - PARTY	28					

#### SEE PAGE 28 FOR OTHER WEEKLY EVENTS

#### ADDITIONAL INFO, EVENTS OR PARTIES ARE LISTED HERE

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1st & 3rd Thurs - Leathernecks MC Open House 8-mid Hermandad MC Open House, 8PM-2AM Scurvey Few MC Texas Holdem/Karaoke -7:30PM

#### FRIDAY

Der Krieger MC Open House - 8PM Mystic Seven MC- Open House - 8PM Scurvy Few MC Open House at 7:30PM States MC - Fri Night Pizza 6-8PM 1<sup>St</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Fri - Kingdom of Brothers MC Open House Gideons Motorcycle Club 8PM

Every other Friday

Fearless MC Open House 8PM-1AM

#### SATURDAY

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat - AOA MC Dania Open House 8PM 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sat - Kingdom of Brothers MC Open House 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat - -Scurvy Few Monthly Birthday Party 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat - Fly-In Wheels Open House 9PM Last Saturday-Leatherneck MC Charity Poker Fly-In Wheels Open House 9PM

\*\* Due to Covid19 , ALL events are subject to change and or cancellation

HOTLINE DEADLINE: Information needs to be to Fern before midnight Sundays for that week's Hotline. Email Flyer or info to: Rkinrobin1@bellsouth.net 954-573-7573 (Landline)

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: On or by the 2nd Sunday of each month for articles, ads, flyers, etc.

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MAY 7th-Sat 8th-Sun 8th-Sun 14th-Sat 15th-Sat 21st-Sat 22nd-Sun 28th-Sat 29th-Sun

# 2022 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### FEBRUARY

5th-Sat	US MILITARY VETS MC HOMESTEAD - ANNUAL
13th-Sun 14th-Sun 19th-Sat	AOA FT. LAUD ANNUAL Valentines Day WHEELS OF MAN MC - 49th ANNUAL
26th-Sat	SCURVY FEW MC - PARTY
MARCH 4th-13th 17th-Thur 20th-Sun 26th-Sat 27th-Sun	80th DAYTONA BIKE WEEK St. Patrick's Day <b>HERMANDAD MC -ANNUAL Fly-In Wheels Annual</b> US MILITARY VETS MC CH.1 - PARTY
<u>APRIL</u> 2nd-Sat	

2nd-Sat 3rd-Sun 9th-Sat 10th-Sun 16th-Sat 17th-Sun 23rd-Sat 22nd-24th

MYSTIC SEVEN MC - PARTY

STATES MC - ANNUAL

CMA - EASTER SERVICE

LEESBURG BIKEFEST???



\*\* Due to Covid19 , ALL events are subject to change and or cancellation

SOUTHERN MC - ANNUAL

Mothers Day OUTCAST MC - ANNUAL LEATHERNECKS MC - PARTY

#### **NEW ATTITUDES MC - ANNUAL**

S.E. ABATE - MEMORIAL DAY EVENT Memorial Day

30tht-Mon

#### <u>JUNE</u> 4th-Sat

5th-Sun

11th-Sat

12th-Sun 18th-Sat 19th-Sun 25th-Sat AOA SOUTH FLORIDA MEMORIAL GBNF 1%ers WINGS OF GOLD MC FT. LAUD. PARTY MIDNIGHT CLUB REAPERS MC ANNUAL

Fathers Day US MILITARY VETS MC S BROWARD - ANNUAL

26th-Sun



### GET THE LATEST INFO IN THE MOTORCYCLE COMMUNITY **(954-480-3100)**

Information needs to be to Fern before midnight

Sundays for that week's Hotline.

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rthday

ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC - SOUTHEAST CHAPTER

"Mac"



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#### ABATE SOUTHEAST CHAPTER SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM



we are bringing back our old Sponsorship Program. This was an idea to help raise money for our Chapter, and also to recognize those brothers and sisters who provide extra monetary support, to promote the Chapter's mission. Members, or other individuals, who provide a donation to the Chapter, will have name recognition in our Monthly Newsletter and on the Chapter's website, for one year. The categories are: Platinum Donor \$125+; Diamond Donor \$100-\$124, Gold Donor \$75-\$99, Silver Donor \$50-\$74, and Bronze Donor \$25-\$49.

Approximately 40% of our members are Life Members, which means they do not pay annual dues, so they do not financially support the Chapter through dues. They do buy products, pay to attend events, post ads in our Newsletter, and make monetary donations, but they have no obligation to do so. This is another opportunity for them to contribute, if they wish, but anyone can do this.

This is an opportunity for all Southeast Chapter brothers and sister to become ABATE Southeast Chapter Sponsors. Platinum Donors also get to select a page in our Newsletter, to sponsor, where you name will be listed in a banner at the top of the chosen page, and first come, first serve.

() Diamond Donor

() Silver Donor

I want to sponsor ABATE Southeast Chapter with the following donation (not tax-deductible). Check one:

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-by: Sheila, Sandy, Little Bit, & Thunder



We were sitting around, talking about boring stuff, politics, but that moved on to politics, and if any of them ride. I think we all know that Mike Pence, our former Vice President, rides a Harley-Davidson. We've seen the pictures. It turns out that he doesn't ride a lot, but when he does, it if for a good cause, fundraisers. There are a few other politicians, Governor Ann Richards of Texas, Senator John Kerry, and President George W. Bush, but really, of these three, only our "girl", Ann, can really be called a biker, a real motorcycle enthusiast, and avid rider.

Politicians are a bit boring, so we checked out some celebrity bikers, some that you might already know, but we are sharing them here.

Comedian Jay Leno is probably the most famous celebrity motorcyclist. Leno owns 181 cars and 160 motorcycles, all of which are worth a significant sum when combined. However, Leno admits he's in this for a personal hobby and not for fame or fortune. He plans to restore whatever needs restoring and he only buys what he likes, not opting to buy any bikes to flip or sell.

Singer Steven Tyler launched a custom motorcycle company along with his cousin, Stephen Talarico, and cycle designer Mark Dirico. The trio called the company Red Wing Motorcycles. ... Each bike comes pre-signed by none other than... Steven Tyler, of course.

Singer Billy Joel frequently rides around on a vintage WWII bike, but the Piano Man's latest expression of his two-wheel enthusiasm is a garage/museum/ called 20th Century Cycles-which is now open to the public on weekends. The modest space is set up in Oyster Bay, New York. The simple garage holds 56 prized bikes.

Fabio Lanzoni is a model and actor well known for appearing in commercials for "I Can't Believe It's Not Butter!" Lesser

known is the fact that he is a rider who has a collection of more than 200 street and dirt bikes.

Actor Orlando Bloom owns several bikes including a custom BMW S 1000 R. His girlfriend, singer Katy Perry, released a single in 2019 called "Harleys in Hawaii" that she says was inspired by riding as a passenger with Bloom on a bike in Hawaii.

Actress Catherine Bell, best known for starring in the TV show "JAG" and the "Good Witch" TV movies, began riding as a teenager and favors sport bikes.

Singer Pink is a rider who has owned a Triumph Bonneville T100 and a Harley-Davidson Sportster Iron 883. Her husband is Carey Hart, a former pro freestyle moto crosser.

Actor Keanu Reeves not only rides motorcycles but also builds and sells them. About a decade ago Reaves partnered with motorcycle designer Gard Hollinger to form ARCH Motorcycle, which sold its first custom machine in 2014. His own collection includes a 1973 Norton Commando 850 MK2A, which is the second motorcycle he ever bought. He also is the "custodian" of the 2004 Ducati 998 painted a special green that was in the movie "Matrix Reloaded."

Actor Brad Pitt rides and owns several machines, including an Indian Larry bike called "When Push Comes to Shove." In the movie "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button," Pitt rode a couple classic machines: a red 1931 Indian 101 Scout and a blue 1956 Triumph T110.

Actress Angelina Jolie was a rider and at one point received an MV Agusta from her then-husband Brad Pitt. She rode a Triumph Street Triple R in the 2010 movie "Salt" and a Yamaha TRX 850 in the 2001 movie "Lara Croft: Tomb Raider."

Continued on page 36 ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC - SOUTHEAST CHAPTER



Actor Tom Cruise is another rider who also finds a way to ride bikes in his movies. Some of the bikes he has ridden on film include a Kawasaki GPZ900R ("Top Gun"), Honda CRF450X ("Oblivion"), Triumph Speed Triple ("Mission Impossible II") and Triumph Bonneville Scrambler ("Mission Impossible III").

Actor and politician Arnold Schwarzenegger is a rider. The 1991 Harley-Davidson Fat Boy he rode in "Terminator 2: Judgement Day" sold at auction in 2018 for \$520,000.

Actor John Travolta said at a press conference promoting the 2007 movie "Wild Hogs" that there was only one rider in the cast who crashed his bike. In the movie, four middleaged friends (Travolta, Tim Allen, Martin Lawrence and William Macy) feel they are in a rut with their lives, so they decide to take a motorcycle road trip. Travolta said Allen was the only one who crashed, but he only crashed because he was showing off.

Actor Ewan McGregor of "Star Wars" fame has appeared in several "Long Way" motorcycling documentaries: "Long Way Round" (2004) follows McGregor and fellow actor Charley Boorman on an 19,000-mile trek riding from London, England, to New York City; "Long Way Down" (2007) in which they ride from Scotland to South Africa, covering 15,000 miles; and "Long Way Up" (2020) in which they ride 13,000 miles from Argentina through South and Central America to Los Angeles.

Actor Perry King starred in the television series "Riptide" and guest starred in several different television series. He also appeared in numerous movies including "Slaughterhouse Five," "The Lords of Flatbush" and "The Day After Tomorrow." A lifelong motorcyclist, King for years has given his time and talent to both the AMA and the AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame.

Singer Kid Rock appeared in the 2003 movie "Biker Boyz," a movie starring Laurence Fishburne as the leader of a black motorcycle club. Rock played Dogg, the leader of a rival gang.

Horror novelist Stephen King is a rider and made a guest appearance in one show of the television series "Sons of Anarchy." He played a "cleaner" on the wrong side of the law who rode a Harley-Davidson Road Glide and cleaned up crime scenes.

Former English soccer player David Beckman served as a spokesman for Triumph Motorcycles. He starred in the 90-minute BBC documentary "Beckham into the Unknown" in which he rode in the Amazon rainforest on a custom Triumph Bonneville T100.

Twisted Sister lead singer Dee Snider rides and has been holding a charity ride for almost two decades.

Actor Mark Wahlberg served as Indian Motorcycle ambassador in 2015. In the 2015 movie "Daddy's Home" in one scene he rode an Indian Chief Classic.

Actress Pamela Anderson is a rider who once owned a 2004 Honda Valkyrie Rune. The former "Baywatch" TV series actress starred in the 1996 superhero movie "Barb Wire" in which she rode an 885cc Triumph Thunderbird. She has also done public service announcements promoting safe motorcycling.

So I think we are all in some pretty good company, and a bunch of bad ass celebrities, you go, girls, Catherine, Pink, Angelina and Pamela!!!!

Till next time.....and hope to see you then.

"Risk is good. Not managing your risk is a dangerous leap." Evel Knievel




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### OLD GLORY -STARS AND STRIPES

From the inception, the American flag has been an important part of our nations history. Surviving over 200 years, the flag has both physically and symbolically grown and developed in times of both achievement and crisis. The American flag is a symbol known worldwide. The flag is so important that it's history tells the story of America itself. The flag has been used to display our nationalism as well as rebellion and everything in between. Our flag represents freedom, dignity and the true meaning of being an American. It's been with the American people through times of war and times of great sadness, joy and triumphs. The flag went through many variations before becoming the flag we all know and love.

The earliest use of stripes in flags and what was to become America, is from the Sons of Liberty flag. The Sons of Liberty were the original "Tea Party" members. These are the guys who threw the chests of tea overboard into the Boston harbor.

Starting after the stamp act of 1765 the Sons of Liberty began protesting. They came up with a flag that looked similar only with less stripes and could be displayed horizontally and vertically. In 1775 at the beginning of the revolution, independence had not yet been declared. The continental congress was meeting in Philadelphia when a militia Colonel from Virginia came forward and volunteered to take command of the troops outside of Boston. That Colonel was George Washington. When he left Philadelphia he took with him two flags. The Grand Union or the Continental as it was called then, was the first flag under which Continental soldiers fought. This flag was similar to the Sons of Liberty flag only there were only 13 stripes to signify the 13 colonies. Instead of stars on a blue field it had the Kings Colors which was also known as Union Jack ...which meant we were fighting as 13 united colonies but under the British rule.

The other flag that Washington took with him was known as Washington's Headquarters flag. The entire field was blue with 13 stars. The unusual thing about this was that the stars were six pointed and arranged in five rows with alternating patterns of 3-2-3-2-3.

A year later on July 4, 1776 Congress declared independence from Great Britain. A flag came about one year later on June 14, 1777 when Congress passed the first major flag acts. This act stated that the flag of the United States shall consist of 13 alternating stripes of red on white with 13 stars on the blue field forming a new constellation.

So who actually designed the flag? At this point these questions were hovering: Were the stripes to be horizontal or vertical? Where was the blue field to be placed? What was the star pattern to be used? How many points on the stars?

And so this is where the legend of Betsy Ross comes in the play... we know that Betsy Ross was an upholsterer who made flags for the Pennsylvania Navy. There is great controversy concerning whether or not she actually designed the first flag or just sewed the first flag? In 1870 Betsy Ross' grandson addressed the historical society of Philadelphia and said his grandmother told him she met with George Washington and designed the flag. But did she really? Or did Francis Hopkinson design it?

Francis Hopkinson was a signer of the Declaration of Independence from the state of New Jersey. The only evidence of who made the flag is a bill submitted to Congress by Hopkinson that simply said the bill was for the designing of the flag.

So the mystery remains !

Regardless of these facts the legend lives on in the first flag of the revolution period, it is

ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC - SOUTHEAST CHAPTER

referred to as the Betsy Ross flag.

In 1912 president Taft established the pattern of stars on the flag as we know it today. Our flag is an inspiring Symbol that unites us all as American citizens. Today our flag remains a vibrant symbol of the American principles of democracy, justice and freedom and of course the everlasting memory of those who have sacrificed their lives defending these principles of the United States of America.

I encourage you all to remember how our flags waved across the country after 9/11...we were United as a country symbolized by the Red, White and Blue!

Where did all those flags go? Where did all our patriotism go?

The Stars and Stripes is a symbol of America and continues to carry the inspirational and fundamental convictions of our great nation binding all Americans together from east to west and north to south.

May our flag forever wave! God Bless America !







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<u>NCOM BIKER NEWSBYTES</u> Compiled & Edited by Bill Bish, National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM)

#### <u>NEW YEAR = NEW LEGISLATION</u>

With 2021 in the rearview, New Year 2022 has hit the ground running in several states considering pro- and anti-biker laws, including some helmet legislation, profiling, noise, motorcycle safety, lane splitting, bike parking and lighting issues.

Freedom of Choice on helmet use is on the docket in some of the 18 states that still mandate riders to wear them, such as Massachusetts (H3524 & S2328: helmet standards), Nebraska (LB581) and West Virginia (HB2711 / SB127), while New York seeks to study the efficacy of helmets (A1107) and Alabama's legislature will consider requiring reflective headgear (SB65).

Lane splitting has been a hot topic lately, and Massachusetts (H3513 & S2315), Virginia (HB838) and Washington (HB1106 / SB5622 & HB1254) hope to join California, Montana, Utah & Hawaii in allowing motorcycles to bypass slow moving vehicles in heavy traffic situations.

Likewise, anti-biker profiling by law enforcement has been on many states' agendas since being enacted in Washington, Maryland, Louisiana and most recently Idaho, and now New York is the first this year among many more to introduce legislation (A1747 / S3869) in hopes of preventing police from discriminating against motorcyclists in their application of the law.

By sheer numbers, Massachusetts takes the prize for the most pro-motorcycle bills introduced already this session, with 11 pieces of legislation including H3487 / S2329 to advance motorcycle safety, H3417 / S2331 relative to a motorcycle safety fund, and H3438 to clarify testing and enforcement of motorcycle sound emissions.

On the "anti-" side of the dockets, New York is once again considering a prohibition on children under the age of 12 from riding on a motorcycle (A148), and Virginia will debate "excessive noise" (HB367 and HB632 / SB180).

The year is young, with many more issues of interest on the horizon, pro and con, that concerned riders need to track and stay on top of, and one of the best ways to do so is to join your state motorcyclists' rights organization (SMRO) and subscribe to the monthly NCOM Biker Newsbytes by e-mailing "Subscribe" to NCOMBish@ aol.com.

### BIKER ANTI-PROFILING RESOLUTION NEEDS

Since the federal Highway Bill passed Congress and was signed into law by President Biden without most of the pro-motorcycle provisions that bikers across America lobbied to include, it is now imperative that riders turn their attention toward garnering support for the stand-alone measure in the House that would help prevent anti-biker profiling.

Nearly three years ago, the U.S. Senate unanimously passed a nonbinding resolution condemning the discriminatory profiling of motorcyclists by law enforcement (S. Res. 154), and now the U.S. House of Representatives is again considering a similar bipartisan measure in the 117th Congress, H. Res. 366; "Promoting awareness of motorcyclist profiling and encouraging collaboration and communication with the motorcycle community and law enforcement officials to pre-

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vent instances of profiling."

Sponsored once again by Rep. Tim Walberg (R-MI) along with original co-sponsors Congressman Michael Burgess (R-TX), Congresswoman Cheri Bustos (D-IL) and Congressman Mark Pocan (D-WI), the anti-profiling resolution was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives on April 30, 2021 to thwart "the illegal use of the fact that a person rides a motorcycle or wears motorcycle related apparel as a factor in deciding to stop and question, take enforcement action, arrest, or search a person or vehicle with or without legal basis under the Constitution of the United States," as profiling is defined in the resolution.

H.R. 366 acknowledges that "complaints surrounding motorcyclist profiling have been cited in all 50 States," and the bipartisan resolution denotes three actionable items;

(1) promotes increased public awareness on the issue of motorcyclist profiling;

(2) encourages collaboration and communication with the motorcyclist community and law enforcement to engage in efforts to end motorcyclist profiling; and

(3) urges State law enforcement officials to include statements condemning motorcyclist profiling in written policies and training materials.

All concerned motorcyclists are encouraged to contact their Congressional Representatives at (202) 224-3121 to ask that they join with 59 other colleagues as current cosponsors of H.Res.366 and help put a stop to law enforcement unfairly targeting motorcycle riders for traffic stops, questioning and citations.

#### NOISE-DETECTING CAMERAS TO FINE LOUD MOTORCYCLES IN FRANCE

Traffic cameras that can identify excessively noisy motorcycles and vehicles are being deployed across France, with riders and drivers who flout the rules facing fines of €135 (\$153USD). The debate over the devices, which have been trialed in various countries across Europe, has run rife for some time, but the French are the first nation to initiate a wider roll-out of cameras that will flash and fine motorcycles and vehicles that exceed noise levels.

The Bruitparif-designed Meduse cameras feature microphones attached to a camera that can pick up and identify the direction of noise from the road below. Should the sound rise above a certain decibel, the camera is activated and a fine is subsequently issued.

Though noise cameras are -- officially speaking -- aimed at all vehicles, many feel motorcycles are unfairly targeted compared to cars with many routes popular with bikers used during trials.

#### MOTO-GP WILL NOT RACE IN COUNTRIES REQUIRING COVID QUARANTINES

When MotoGP resurfaced in October 2021, it looked like Grand Prix motorcycle racing might return to normal, packing the schedule with 21 rounds including eight outside Europe, but the Delta and Omicron variant waves caused many countries to reinstate travel restrictions -- including guarantines upon arrival -- forcing organizers to play musical chairs with the calendar throughout the year.

Dorna CEO Carmelo Ezpeleta sent a clear message at a recent racing forum that MotoGP will not visit countries in 2022 that require CoViD-19 quarantines; "If they tell us that we have to be quarantined for fourteen days, the answer is clear, no, I'm not going! That's the limit," Ezpeleta claimed. "As for the rest, they can ask us to have vaccination certificates or the documentation that we already did last year and that is why it was important to go to the United States as a test of what can be said to the rest of the countries."

Last year, MotoGP successfully ran events in Continued on next page Qatar and the United States, unfortunately the only races held outside Europe, while Japan and Australia are still requiring such measures, and Thailand is trending that direction.

With the Japanese and Australian Grands Prix set for September and October, 2022, the situation could hopefully change, while MotoGP's pre-season runs will also be a testing ground for Malaysia and Indonesia's ability to accommodate the international race series.

#### JAPANESE MOTORCYCLE SALES HIT 23-YEAR HIGH

Prior to the Coronavirus pandemic, motorcycle enthusiasts and OEMs alike lamented the elusive Millennial buyers and declining sales, but throughout the global health crisis, motorcycles have surprisingly surged in popularity. As a result, manufacturers experienced record sales growth, with Ducati, BMW, and Energica reporting large gains in 2020 and 2021, and Japanese OEMs have similarly benefited from the increased interest and the "Big Four" (Honda, Kawasaki, Suzuki and Yamaha) are reporting that domestic shipments hit a 23-year high in 2021 (235.755 units in-country, up 20.6%).

In addition to the sales uptick, Honda, Suzuki and Yamaha all report increased sales among younger riders.

Before the pandemic, Japan's more restrictive emissions laws thwarted ridership growth, but 2021 marks the Island Empire's most successful year since 1998, when customers purchased 318,080 new motorcycles.

#### FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH: MOTORCYCLE RACERS BLINK LESS

A recent study has found that MotoGP riders blink far less than non-racers, with one test subject going 9 minutes without blinking!

During the first round of the 2021 MotoGP season, Pramac Ducati rider Johann Zarco set a new

series top-speed record of 225 mph. At that speed, riders cover 330 feet in one second. The average blink takes 0.15 seconds, so riders traveling at that top velocity are effectively blind for nearly 50 feet of track.

That sounds like a terrifying prospect to us mere mortals, but a study between LCR Honda and Italian pharmaceutical company Sifi helps explain how MotoGP riders' eyes function in such extreme conditions. Conducted over six MotoGP seasons (2015-2021), Grand Prix riders would undergo tests prior to the race and 30 minutes following the checkered flag. The dual-test method revealed that rider reaction times and pupil performance remain in "Race Mode" for an extended period.

All racers easily exceeded the normal 4-6-second blink interval, and despite the stressful conditions, none of the subjects exhibited red, dry eyes or inflammation.

The results may be fascinating, but Sifi co-owner Carlos Chines believes this is just the beginning of a broader, long-term study.

"We basically want to continue researching the differences between 'normal' eyes and those of MotoGP riders," revealed Dr. Chines. "We also want to investigate the relationship between concentration and blink rate. From these results, we expect to understand whether one can work with little tricks, exercises, or eye drops to counteract fatigue, dry or sore eyes, and deterioration in vision."

#### **DROPPED BIKE BLUES**

Well, it's too late to write to Santa for a saddlebag stuffer, but you can contact Airbiker to acquire their portable assistive device to pick up downed motorcycles.

No matter how your bike got to the ground, you have to pick it up somehow, and while plenty of

riding instructors teach methods to help you pick up a downed bike, the moment of truth may seem much different when you eventually face it.

Plus, the bigger the bike, the more intimidating the task, and what if you have a bad back or other injury that makes it a less smart idea to manhandle your scoot?

That's the problem that French startup Airsink wants to solve with their new product called Airbiker: a small pouch with an inflatable balloon and a few CO2 cartridges inside that gives enough boost for you to grab the handlebars and guide it back upright from a completely prone position on the ground.

It all packs up in a little zippered pouch, much like countless mini air-compressor units that riders may already carry in the event of flat tires, and is available directly from Airsink (www.airsink.fr/boutique) at prices ranging from  $\leq 130$  (roughly  $\leq 147$ ) to  $\leq 195$  ( $\leq 221$ ).

### **NCOM CONVENTION ~ SAVE THE DATE!**

Some of the finest Freedom Fighters in the motorcyclists' rights movement will be among the hundreds of biker activists from across the country to gather for the 37th annual NCOM Convention in Nashville, Tennessee over the weekend of June 23-25, 2022 to teach, learn and share information relevant to our ongoing fight for Freedom of the Road.

This year's NCOM Convention will address legal and legislative topics of interest to all motorcycle riders, including informative seminars, regional meetings, special interest gatherings and group discussions, capped off with the Silver Spoke Awards Banquet.

NCOM Board Chairman James "Doc" Reichenbach reminds concerned bikers to "Mark your calendars now" and check back at www.ON-A-BIKE.com for further details as they develop.

QUOTABLE QUOTE: "We, too, born to freedom,

and believing in freedom, are willing to fight to maintain freedom. We, and all others who believe as deeply as we do, would rather die on our feet than live on our knees."

Franklin Delano Roosevelt (1882-1945),
 32nd President of the United States

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