



ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC.

PALM BEACH CHAPTER

*DEDICATED TO FREEDOM OF CHOICE,
FREEDOM OF THE ROAD*

ISSUE 2007-5

VISIT US AT: ABATEPALMBEACH.COM

MAY, 2007

ABATE

of Florida, Inc.



A MERICAN
B ITERS
A IMING
T OWARD
E DUCATION

**NEXT
CHAPTER
MEETING
11:30AM**

**SATURDAY
May 19TH**



**LET THOSE
WHO RIDE
DECIDE!**

ABATE of Florida, Inc

Lake County Chapter



Is hosting the June State Meeting

June 8-9-10, 2007 ** Lake County FL
State Board Meeting June 9th, Saturday ** starts at 12 noon
Delegates Meeting at 2:00

LOCATION: University of FL Extension Office ** AG Center *(map available at hotel)*
1951 Woodlea Road, Tavares, FL 32778



Hotel: 352-429-9033 Howard Johnson (next to the Palace Hotel) 20329 N US Hwy 27, Clermont 34711— We have 45 rooms blocked off at \$60 each, mention ABATE. Must make reservations by June 4th to get this rate. Located ¼ mile south of FI Turnpike on US 27, Clermont.

Camping: 352-429-2116 Bee's RV Resort 20260 N US Hwy 27, ¼ mile from hotel. Tent & RV camping.

For more info:
Griz Prez: 352-742-7754 PM
Casey Chapter PR/ 407-469-2455

Thank you to our Sponsors:

Dizzy's Lounge 4101 CR 561, Tavares *
352-742-9500
JMJ Trucking * Bruce & Casey LIFE mbrs
Ferdale, FL
WHDeaver Trucking * Griz LIFE mbr
Astatula, FL

We are doing it again! State Meeting for June 9, 07, lodging facilities in Clermont/Groveland near the south bound entrance of the FI Turnpike off of Hwy 27. Lake County members will greet the Delegates on Fri evening at hotel. Since this will be Lake County Chapter's 20th year since its original charter in June of 1987, a celebration with Live entertainment and food is being planned for Sat.

More Maps and Info is on our chapter website <http://lake.abateflorida.com>

Donations to ABATE of Florida, Inc are not deductible for Federal Income Tax purposes. ABATE of Florida, Inc does not condone drinking and driving.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2005-2006

<p>PRESIDENT - BUDD "STRONGBOW" AUBRY 561-483-4283 PRESIDENT@ABATEPALMBEACH.COM</p>	<p>LEGISLATIVE LIAISON- STEVEN "MAC" NOVAK - 561-434-0633</p>
<p>VICE PRESIDENT JOHN "PAPA BEAR" OLSEY - 561-702-1941 VICEPRESIDENT@ABATEPALMBEACH.COM</p>	<p>LEGAL COUNSEL -</p>
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<p>SGT-AT-ARMS - DAVE "LOWRIDER" KNOTT 561-306-3540</p>	<p>PHOTOGRAPHER - OPEN</p>
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<p>SAFETY DIR -JOHN "PAPA BEAR" OLSEY 561-702-1941 SAFETY@ABATEPALMBEACH.COM</p>	



**ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC.
PALM BEACH CHAPTER**

MEETINGS ARE:

11:30 am THIRD SATURDAY EVERY MONTH



Membership Application

Membership Dues: \$20.00 per person for 1 year or \$150 for Life Membership

Fill out form, print, sign, and attach your check or money order and mail to:

**ABATE - Palm Beach Chapter
P.O. Box 971073
Boca Raton, FL 33497-1073**

or Credit Card Information (below) and fax to:
561-883-2678

Date: _____ **New Member** __ **Renew** __ **Inactive** __ **Address Change** __ **Transfer** __

Full Name: _____ **Road Name:** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____ **Cell:** _____ **Email:** _____

Registered Voter? _____ **State House:** __ **Senate:** __ **US Dist.** __

How can you best help ABATE? (Time, Labor, Money, ETC.) _____

Signature: _____

Contact: Strongbow for more information 561-483-4283 email: President@abatepalmbeach.com

Order Your Patch:

Large Chapter Patch (recommended): Width: 10"x 10 1/2": \$35.00 ea. Qty. _____ Total: \$ _____

Small Chapter Patch: Width: 5" x 5 1/2": \$10.00 ea. Total: \$ _____

Cash or money order

Visa: __ Master Card: __ (Add 5% processing fee -credit card orders-Processed by Les Schwartz, INC.)

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Name of Card Holder: _____ C.C.V. Code: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: __ Zip: _____

Please note there is a 20% re processing fee on all charge backs.

YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD AND/OR PATCH WILL BE MAILED WITHIN TWO WEEKS

ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC.

LET THOSE WHO RIDE DECIDE

DEDICATED TO THE FREEDOM OF THE ROAD



ATTENTION MEMBERS

Dear ABATE Member:

ABATE of Florida is very pleased to announce additional benefits at **NO COST TO YOU** for all members. These benefits are being provided through American Income Life Insurance Company, a company with a **50-year history of serving Unions, Credit Unions, and Associations Nationwide**. You are provided with the following benefit:

ACCIDENTAL DEATH & DISMEMBERMENT BENEFIT \$2,000 for Each Member

With your response, you will also receive:

HEALTH SERVICE DISCOUNT PROGRAM

This entitles you and your family to 20% to 60% discounts on:

- ♦ Vision ♦ Hearing ♦ Chiropractic ♦ Prescriptions ♦

AND

CHILD SAFE KITS

These kits help you collect vital data on your child, which will help authorities if your child is ever lost or abducted.

**WE ASK EVERY MEMBER TO COMPLETE AND RETURN THE
ENCLOSED REPLY CARD SO YOU MAY RECEIVE YOUR
CERTIFICATE AND DESIGNATE YOUR BENEFICIARY.
A POSTAGE-PAID ENVELOPE IS PROVIDED
TO PROTECT YOUR PRIVACY.**

OR

**TO COMPLETE THE CARD ONLINE PLEASE VISIT
www.ailife.com/benefits/sgbis**

You are provided with the Accidental Death & Dismemberment benefit without responding to this letter. However, if you fail to designate your beneficiary the benefit will be paid to your estate and may be taxed.

Sincerely Yours,

Doc Reichenbach
State President

P.S. You and your family may qualify for additional insurance benefits offered at this time. Please take a few minutes and listen to the A.I.L. representative who will be calling on you. **If you have any questions about these benefits please call or e-mail Marilyn Gonzalez of American Income Life at 407-625-7866 or marilyn@ailfl.com. Thank you.**



President's Message

Brothers and Sisters,

MOTORCYCLIST HITS UTILITY POLE ON FEDERAL HIGHWAY, DIES

A 26-YEAR-OLD MAN DIED IN A TRAFFIC CRASH ABOUT 7:45 P.M. WEDNESDAY IN THE 1400 BLOCK OF NORTH FEDERAL HIGHWAY DURING HIS FIRST RIDE ON HIS NEW MOTORCYCLE, POLICE SAID.

ANTHONY THOMPSON WAS KILLED WHEN HE LOST CONTROL OF THE BIKE AND HIT A UTILITY POLE, POLICE SAID.

HE BOUGHT HIS BLACK YAMAHA YZF-R1 MOTORCYCLE TUESDAY AND PICKED IT UP AT MOTORSPORTS OF DELRAY IN THE 1900 BLOCK OF NORTH FEDERAL HIGHWAY IN DELRAY BEACH ABOUT A HALF-HOUR BEFORE THE CRASH, POLICE SAID.

THOMPSON, WHO WAS DRIVING THE SPEED LIMIT AND WEARING A HELMET, APPARENTLY TRIED TO DRIVE AROUND TRAFFIC, THEN HIT A CURB AND ADDED GAS TO CORRECT HIMSELF, VEERING INTO THE POLE, POLICE SAID.

MOTORCYCLIST KILLED IN CRASH WITH CAR IN WEST BOCA

WEST BOCA -- A 20-YEAR-OLD MAN FROM WEST OF BOCA RATON RIDING A MOTORCYCLE WAS KILLED IN A CRASH ABOUT 7:45 P.M. MONDAY ON LYONS ROAD NORTH OF GLADES ROAD WEST OF BOCA RATON, THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE SAID.

JAMES ADAMS, WHO WAS WEARING A HELMET, WAS SOUTHBOUND ON LYONS ROAD APPROACHING THE INTERSECTION OF SOUTH CHARLESTON ROAD WHEN HALVOR ROBERTS, 71, WHO ALSO LIVES WEST OF BOCA RATON, TURNED HIS 2005 JEEP IN THE PATH OF THE 1999 YAMAHA.

ADAMS WAS EJECTED, LANDED ON THE STREET AND PRONOUNCED DEAD AT THE SCENE, INVESTIGATORS SAID. ROBERTS WAS NOT INJURED. CHARGES ARE PENDING THE OUTCOME OF THE INVESTIGATION, PBSO SAID.

President's Message - Cont'd

WHAT DO THESE TWO TRAGIC ACCIDENTS HAVE IN COMMON? ONE OF THE MOST OBVIOUS IS THAT THEY BOTH WERE WEARING A HELMET AND IT DIDN'T SAVE THEIR LIVES. IF IN FACT THESE RIDERS WERE GOING THE SPEED LIMIT, THEY WERE TRAVELING AT 45 M.P.H., THE HELMET DIDN'T SAVE THEIR LIVES. BOTH WERE RIDING YAMAHA SPORT BIKES. THE FIRST RIDER WAS PASSING ON THE RIGHT, WHICH IN MY OPINION IS IN ITSELF A DANGEROUS MANEUVER. OBVIOUSLY A LACK OF EDUCATION ON SAFETY. HAVING JUST PURCHASED THE BIKE A HALF HOUR BEFORE THE WRECK THE RIDER OBVIOUSLY WASN'T FAMILIAR WITH ITS CHARACTERISTICS. THE POWER TO WEIGHT RATIO ON SPORT BIKES IS COMPLETELY OUT OF BALANCE. THE ACCELERATION RATE ON A SPORT BIKE IS INCREDIBLY QUICK AND IN MOST CASES FOR AN INEXPERIENCED RIDER IT'S OVERWHELMING. THE SECOND INVOLVED A CAR TURNING LEFT IN FRONT OF THE MOTORCYCLE. THESE ARTICLES CONTAIN SOME KEY ISSUES THAT WE (ABATE) HAVE BEEN BATTLING FOR YEARS.

THERE IS A LAW AGAINST TURNING LEFT IN FRONT OF ANOTHER VEHICLE, RECENTLY ABATE OF FLORIDA HAS SUCCEEDED IN HAVING THIS LAW AMENDED TO HAVE STIFFER PENALTIES FOR MOTORISTS TURNING LEFT IN FRONT OF ANOTHER VEHICLE. UNTIL JULY OF LAST YEAR THE ONLY PENALTY A CAGER WOULD GET FOR THIS MINDLESS ACT IS A \$50 FINE OR THE EQUIVALENT THERE OF IN COMMUNITY SERVICE TIME. USUALLY THEY WERE NEVER EVEN PROSECUTED. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE THEY'RE STILL NOT BEING PROSECUTED PENDING SOME RIDICULOUS INVESTIGATION. "INVESTIGATE THIS"!

IF YOU HAVE EVER SEEN A COMMERCIAL FOR YAMAHA, SUZUKI, HONDA OR ANY OF THE OTHER HIGH PERFORMANCE MOTORCYCLE MANUFACTURERS YOU SEE A RIDER IN FULL FACE HELMET AND WHAT IS CONSIDERED SAFETY GEAR SCREAMING DOWN THE ROAD AT SPEEDS OBVIOUSLY OVER THE LIMIT. IT'S THE SAME KIND OF IRRESPONSIBLE MARKETING DONE WITH THE CAR COMMERCIALS. THEY SHOW RED LINE TACHOMETERS AS THE DRIVER SLAMS THROUGH THE GEARS, WIDE OPEN IN CITY TRAFFIC OR DOWN WINDING 2 LANE RURAL ROADS. BUT THEY NEVER SHOW THE SPEEDOMETER. OF COURSE IN OUR WORLD TODAY WHERE EVERYBODY IS TRYING TO BEAT THE CLOCK, THE HIGH PERFORMANCE CAR OR BIKE HAS BECOME A DEADLY OBSESSION.

THE MENTALITY, OR LACK THERE OF A YOUNGER GENERATION IS TO WIN AT ALL COST, AND HAVE GROWN UP BELIEVING THAT THEY HAVE TO CONSTANTLY COMPETE AGAINST EVERYONE. IF SOMEONE DOES SOMETHING EXTREME, OUTRAGEOUS OR JUST PLAIN STUPID, THEY HAVE TODP SOMETHING MORE EXTREME OR OUTRAGEOUS AND STUPID TO WIN THE COMPETITION. THAT MENTALITY COMBINED WITH THE CAPABILITIES OF SPORT BIKES IS A FORMULA FOR DISASTER. WE'VE ALL SEEN IT, WHEELIE COMPETITIONS ON THE HIGHWAYS AND THE INSANE STREET RACES IN CITY, WEAVING IN AND OUT OF TRAFFIC AT SPEEDS WELL OVER THE POSTED LIMIT

President's Message - Cont'd

WITH NO REGARD FOR TRAFFIC LAWS OR EVEN RATIONAL THINKING. THERE'S AN ANCIENT JAPANESE SAYING "THERE'S NO CURE FOR STUPIDITY".

WELL, HERE WE ARE AGAIN, REALIZING THAT THERE IS NO CURE WE MUST NOW TRY TO FIND A WAY TO IMPOSE EVEN MORE RESTRICTIONS WITHOUT IMPOSING ON ANOTHER PERSON'S FREEDOM OF CHOICE. AS WITH THE CELL PHONE ISSUE IT HAS BEEN IGNORED FOR SO LONG THAT THE ONLY WAY TO RECTIFY THE PROBLEM IS THROUGH LEGISLATION. SINCE THERE IS NO CURE FOR STUPID IT BECOMES EVIDENT THAT SOMEONE HAS TO BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE AND RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS CARNAGE. THIS TIME, I THINK THE RESPONSIBILITY SHOULD FALL SQUARELY ON THE SHOULDERS OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND LAWS REGARDING IMPORT OF SPORT BIKES CAPABLE OF SPEEDS IN EXCESS OF 150 MPH FOR STREET USE.

CURRENTLY, ANYONE WANTING TO BUY A BIKE WITH THAT CAPABILITY CAN WALK INTO THE SHOW ROOM AND RIDE OUT ON WHAT IS ESSENTIALLY A RACE BIKE. THESE HIDEOUS LOOKING MARVELS OF ENGINEERING CAN'T POSSIBLY BE COMFORTABLE WITH THE RIDER IN WHAT HAS BEEN CALLED THE "GAY POSITION". THERE'S A REASON FOR THAT, THE BIKE WAS NOT DESIGNED FOR COMFORT IT WAS DESIGNED FOR SPEED. IT KEEPS THE RIDER CLOSE TO THE CENTER OF GRAVITY BY PLACING THEM IN A PRONE POSITION BASICALLY FLOATING ON AIR AT HIGH SPEEDS. THE IDEA IS TO REDUCE DRAG AT HIGH SPEEDS. AS ONE SPORT BIKE RIDER TOLD ME "THE BIKE IS ONLY COMFORTABLE WHEN YOU'RE OVER 120 MPH". OK, IF THAT'S NOT BAD ENOUGH THEY PUT A PASSENGER ON THE BACK TO COMPLETELY THROW THE WHOLE GEOMETRY OF THE BIKE OUT OF BALANCE. THEY WEREN'T INTENDED TO BE TWO PASSENGER BIKES.

RECENTLY THERE HAS BEEN TALK ABOUT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT BEING INTERESTED IN ADOPTING SAFETY REGULATIONS BEING EMPLOYED IN EUROPE THROUGH THE UNITED NATIONS. KEVLAR SUITS AND HELMETS EVEN AIR BAG SUITS. THE PROBLEM WITH ADOPTING THOSE REGULATIONS IS THAT THERE ARE ALSO SOME REGULATIONS ON THE SIZE BIKE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO RIDE UNTIL YOU GRADUATE THROUGH THE COURSES FROM A 250 CC TO A MAXIMUM OF 1,000 CC. IF THESE REGULATIONS ARE ADOPTED IT COULD MEAN THAT ANYONE WANTING TO BUY A MOTORCYCLE WILL HAVE TO START OUT ON A 250 CLASS BIKE REGARDLESS OF HOW LONG YOU'VE BEEN RIDING AND MOST OF US WONT BE ABLE TO RIDE OUR OWN BIKES EVEN AFTER COMPLETING ALL THE COURSES BECAUSE OF THE 1,000 CC LIMIT.

THAT IN CONJUNCTION TO THE PROPOSED BILL ALREADY ON THE TABLE IN TALLAHASSEE TO RECLASSIFY MOTORCYCLES AS MOTOR VEHICLES FOR INSURANCE PURPOSES SHOULD PRETTY MUCH PUT AN END TO OUR LIFESTYLE WITH LITTLE HOPE OF EVER REGAINING OUR RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF CHOICE FROM THE KIND OF BIKE WE CHOOSE TO RIDE TO HOW MUCH WE WILL PAY IN INSURANCE IN ORDER TO RIDE AT ALL.

President's Message - Cont'd

FORTUNATELY, AND THANKS TO THE EFFORTS OF DOC REICHENBACH STATE PRESIDENT OF ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. AND LOBBYIST, HAS PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN HAVING THIS BILL TEMPORARILY POSTPONED. THAT DOESN'T MEAN IT'S GONE, IT WILL UNDOUBTEDLY RAISE IT UGLY HEAD AGAIN, MAYBE AS A RIDER ON ANOTHER BILL.

CURRENTLY THE INSURANCE COMPANIES ARE STILL TRYING TO RECOVER MONEY THEY WERE TOLD THEY LOST BY THEIR "MARKETING GURU'S" BY TRYING TO PASS A BILL, REQUIRING ALL MOTORCYCLIST RIDING WITHOUT A HELMET TO PURCHASE \$50,000 IN PERSONAL INJURY INSURANCE TO DO SO. WE BEAT IT DOWN ONCE AND NOW WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT TO DO IT AGAIN.

WE ARE CALLING FOR YOUR SUPPORT TO HELP US KEEP A VIGILANT EYE ON THE ISSUES THAT AFFECT ALL MOTORCYCLISTS. JOIN US BY BECOMING A MEMBER OR MAKE A DONATION TO THE CAUSE. (*DONATIONS ARE NOT TAX DEDUCTIBLE, DO IT BECAUSE YOU WANT TO*).

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL ABATE CHAPTER.

RIDE FREE RIDE SAFE

STRONGBOW - PRESIDENT

ABATE P.B.C.

561-483-4283 Fax. 561-451-4243

PRESIDENT@ABATEPALMBEACH.COM



**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.

THERE ARE NO MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

Because we are not a club there are no mandatory rides or meetings to attend. We do not require our members to wear our patch. If you are currently a member of a motorcycle club or any other motorcycle association or organization we welcome your support as a member.

YOUR COLORS OR PATCH ARE ALWAYS WELCOME IN OUR HOUSE

Our most recent victories include the passing of Bill HB1697 requiring stiffer penalties for a motorist turning left in front of another motorist, one of the leading causes of injury and death to motorcyclist'. A reformed bill regarding "Ape Hangers" has also been passed, handlebars are now to be measured from the riders shoulders rather than the seat. We also helped beat down legislation proposed by Senator Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ) on an amendment to the transportation, reauthorization bill (SAFE-TEA) that would re-institute a federal helmet law for all riders by denying federal transportation and safety dollars to that state

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 chose 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.

"FREEDOM OF CHOICE, FREEDOM OF THE ROAD"

There are over 7,000 members of ABATE in the state of Florida with over 30 active chapters. We feel Palm Beach County has huge potential in becoming one of the largest chapters in the state.

With its large expanse and thousands of motorcyclist', a Palm Beach County chapter would become a viable and influential voice in raising motorcycle rights, safety and awareness. This chapter borders will be primarily Northern Broward County and all of Palm Beach County.

**For more information contact Strongbow President ABATE P.B.C. 561-483-4283
President@abatepalmbeach.com**

**ABATE of Florida, Inc.
Palm Beach Chapter
American Bikers Aiming Toward Education**

Please Contact
Alison (RIO) 561-482-4346/Fax 561-883-2678/ **E-MAIL - NEWSLETTER@ABATEPALMBEACH.COM**
Strongbow 561-483-4283
or any member of the
Board of Directors

Mail you information and check to:

ABATE of Florida
Palm Beach Chapter
P.O. Box 971073
Boca Raton, FL 33497-1073

You will be contacted ASAP

Thank you for your support!

Newsletter AD Rates:
(Rates shown are for the entire period, 6.5% sales tax included).

<u>BUSINESS CARD</u>	
1 - Month	\$ 1 0 . 6 0
3 - Months	\$ 2 2 . 2 6
6 - Months	\$ 4 1 . 3 4
One Year	\$ 7 4 . 4 1

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	1 - Month - \$ 21.20	
1	3 - Months - \$ 42.40	U
/	6 - Months - \$ 77.38	L
2	One Year - \$139.28	L
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A	3 - Months - \$65.72	P
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CONTACT: _____

SIZE AND DURATION OF AD: _____

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Your support is essential to the survival of our newsletter

ABATE is a not-for-profit Motorcycle Rights Organization; our mission is to lobby and educate the government and the general public to promote motorcycling in a safe and positive image.

MEMBERSHIPS DUE

FEBRUARY

Michael Smith
Stuart Brysen
Robert "Preacher Bob" Jordan
Paul "Waldo" Corcoran
Leo C Filip
Natasha "Tash" Bianco
Bonnie "Bebe" Bloom

MARCH

Donald "Doni Sho" Shoquist
Diane Sykes
Bob Sykes
Lena "Talulah" Soldano
Robbie "Smoke" Merritt
Sandy Merritt

APRIL

Scott F. "9 Yards" Tomasko
Robert "Bobby" Miller
Denis "FAH Q" Wilson
Lenny "Leo" Nicola
Bradley "Polinator" Bradsetter
Mark "Lurch" Olsen



MAY

Jim "Free Spirit" Shine
Thomas "Ramblin Man" Botticelli
John "Shorty" Durante
Bill "Wizard" Dorn

JUNE

Athena "The Vagabon Chickie" Ransom
Bill "Boca Bill" Welch
Ray Edwards
Sara Edwards
Chuck "Mailman" Ennis
James McGill
Kelly "Boots" Cassel Heller
Charles "Freeze" Housman

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



Vice President's Message

AS YOUR CHAPTER PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT, STRONGBOW AND I ARE OFTEN INVITED TO MOTORCYCLE CLUBS OR OTHER ASSOCIATION MEETINGS OR EVENTS TO PARTICIPATE AND OFTEN SPEAK. BECAUSE OF MY NEW WORK SCHEDULE, STRONGBOW ATTENDS MORE THAN I, BUT

WE GENERALLY DISCUSS THE EVENTS THAT TRANSPIRED. THIS MONTH I WAS FORTUNATE TO HAVE HAD THE TIME OFF TO ATTEND A MEETING AT THE BROWARD COUNTY CLUBHOUSE FOR THE **STATES MC**. STRONGBOW AND I WERE JOINED BY AL "BIG WHEEL" LOPER "VICE PRESIDENT ABATE SOUTHEAST CHAPTER" AND JIM "JIMBO" SHERROW, THEIR SERGEANT AT ARMS.

STRONGBOW AND I SPOKE ABOUT WHAT ABATE IS AND WHAT ABATE IS CURRENTLY DOING FOR THE INTERESTS OF ALL MOTORCYCLE RIDERS IN FLORIDA. THEY WERE VERY INTERESTED AND WE EXPECT THAT MANY OF THE PALM BEACH COUNTY RESIDENTS AS MEMBERS. AS IT WAS TOLD TO ME, **STATES MC** IS THE OLDEST MC IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA. I'VE KNOWN SOME OF THESE MEN FOR A WHILE NOW, STRONGBOW KNOWS MANY OF THEM EVEN LONGER AND I AM SURE HE WILL AGREE THAT JUST BY HANGING WITH THEM FOR A SHORT WHILE YOU CAN EASILY SEE THE BROTHERHOOD THEY EXUDE. THEY ARE A GREAT EXAMPLE OF HOW IMPORTANT IT IS TO REACH OUT TO THE MOTORCYCLE CLUBS IN THE AREA AND ATTEMPT TO GET THEIR SUPPORT AND INVOLVEMENT BECAUSE WE GET STRONGER AND BETTER BY OUR ASSOCIATION WITH THEM. THE BEST WAY TO GET THE ATTENTION OF THE MC'S IS ACTUALLY VERY EASY; WE HAVE TO BE MORE VISIBLE IN OUR BIKER COMMUNITY BY ATTENDING CLUB SPONSORED EVENTS.

ON APRIL 22ND, WE RODE TOGETHER TO THE 3RD ANNIVERSARY PARTY AT THE LATIN AMERICAN MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION WEST PALM BEACH CHAPTER. WHAT A GREAT PARTY!!! I WAS VERY PROUD TO RECEIVE RECOGNITION FROM LAMA WEST PALM BEACH CHAPTER FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY ABATE IN RECOGNITION OF OUR SUPPORT OF THEIR ASSOCIATION, BUT STRONGBOW AND I TOOK SPECIAL PLEASURE IN ACCEPTING THE CERTIFICATION OF APPRECIATION

Vice President's Message - Cont'd

FOR THE MOST MEMBERS AT THE EVENT. WE RODE IN WITH APPROXIMATELY 30 BIKES AND WERE JOINED BY OUR ABATE BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN LAMA, THE LEGION RIDERS, WIDOWS SONS MC AND ABATE SOUTHEAST CHAPTER. WHAT A GREAT FEELING IT WAS TO SHARE A DAY OF CELEBRATION WITH SO MANY BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF LIKE INTERESTS AND CONCERNS. WE WERE ABLE TO DISCUSS MANY OF THE TOPICS ABATE IS CURRENTLY INVOLVED WITH, BUT OF EQUAL VALUE WAS THE TIME SPENT BONDING WITH SO MANY GREAT PEOPLE.

I MUST BEG YOUR INDULGENCE ON CLOSING MY MESSAGE THIS MONTH WITH A PERSONAL NOTE REGARDING A GREAT BROTHER. I ASK ALL OF YOU TO JOIN ME IN WISHING ALL THE VERY BEST TO OUR BROTHER AND CHAPLAIN, ROCKY WHO IS ABOUT TO SHARE HIS LIFE IN MARRIAGE WITH A GREAT LADY. GOD BLESS YOU BOTH BROTHER!

GOD BLESS, RIDE SAFE AND RIDE FREE.

JOHN "PAPA BEAR" OLSEY
YOUR, VICE PRESIDENT

MEMORIAL DAY HAPPENINGS



MEMORIAL DAY PARTY

TO BENEFIT
THE SPINA BIFIDA FOUNDATION

SUNDAY, MAY 27TH

AT
NOTLIFY FANCY
BAR & GRILL
4645 Gun Club Rd. | West Palm Beach, FL
(NW Corner of Gun Club Rd. & Military Trail)
Phone: 561-488-2244

- 5 Class Bike Show only \$15.00 per bike
- Poker hands with prizes \$5.00 per hand
- Live music by Sonnie and the Road Kings
- Door Prizes
- T-shirt Sales
- 50/50 Drawing

Leslie Kay's, Inc. is donating their proceeds from this event to The Spina Bifida Foundation of South Florida.

PROGRESSIVE

For More Information Contact Leslie Kays at: 561.736.5400

ABATE of FLORIDA, INC. SOUTHEAST CHAPTER

MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATION

Noon-6PM, Sunday, May 27th, 2007

at **CAFE 27** 4690 US27, Sunrise Ranches 33332
954-659-9957 • 1/4 mi north of Griffin Rd

Live Music by
Shakey Dave & the Bar Stools

Service & Honor Guard

Vendors • 50/50

Door Prizes

Contests

CMA Memorial Wall

Vietnam Memorial Wall

You'll have a Great Time!

\$3/person
\$5/couple

Rain or Shine

All Bikes Welcome

ABATE

STPG

ABATE of FL, Inc DOES NOT condone drinking & driving. All Drivers in ABATE are not deductible for Federal Tax purposes

754-244-2322 or 954-881-6571 for more info.

LET THOSE WHO RIDE DECIDE



We the People

2007 Annual

MEMORIAL DAY BIKE RALLY

May 26 & May 27, 2007

Gates Open From 9AM-9PM

Okeechobee Agri-Civic Center

4200 Highway 70 East Okeechobee, Florida

Live Music ★ Food ★ Specials ★ Bike Contest

100 Plus Vendors

FREE T-Shirts To The 1st 100 People

Yamaha Suzuki Honda KTM

BEER VENTURES

JIM BEAN

WOODBRIDGE

AND COLA

Great American RVs

RIVERSIDE BANK

Travel Easy RV

Taylor Rental Okeechobee Sebring

James Clockwork

Eli's

Presented By **SPLINTER PRODUCTIONS**

Laura K. Sims, CPA
www.splintpro.com

Presented By **SPLINTER PRODUCTIONS**

Okeechobee Memorial Day Bike Rally

Saturday, May 26, 2007 - Sunday, May 27, 2007

Location: Okeechobee Agri-Civic Center, 4200 Highway 70E, Okeechobee, Florida
For Advertising and Vendor Info: 863-634-8980 or 863-634-4151, www.splintpro.com
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PRICING: Children 12 and under FREE. \$10 per person Saturday, \$10 per person Sunday or Full weekend pass only \$15 per person. Tickets will include parking, access to all events, vendors, music and shows. Percentage of proceeds will support Big Lake Missions, Pregnancy Resource Center, and More 2 Life Ministries.

RULES: All clubs welcome. We expect ALL to conduct themselves accordingly. NO open containers. Alcohol will be available. No drugs, guns, weapons of any kind. ZERO TOLERANCE.

TIMES: Saturday & Sunday gates open at 9am.

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2007 CALENDAR

© 2007 SOUTH FLORIDA PRESIDENTS COUNCIL
SFPC MANDATORY MOTORCYCLE CLUB EVENTS
 ARE LISTED IN LARGER LETTERS
 SOUTH FLORIDA PRESIDENTS COUNCIL
 of Presidents Clubs and Organizations
 CALENDAR EVENTS
 Call (954) 430-9697 or (954) 578-2900
 for changes, deletions, additions or inquiries

MAY

- 5 & 6 - Ft. Laud. Air & Sea Show
- 6 - Southern MC Annual
- 19 - Nates Toy Run Bicycle Drive at WETZ Pub - Sunrise
- 20 - Black Pistons MC Keys Annual
- 26 - Mojo's Birthday at Mystic Seven MC
- 27 - SE ABATE Memorial Day Event

JUNE

- 2 - New Attitudes MC Annual
- 10 - AOA MC Treasure Coast Annual
- 17 - Peterson's North Store Fathers Day Event
- 22 - Nam Knights Annual at Cafe 27
- 24 - Nate's Toy Run Bicycle Drive at Parrot Lounge
- 30 - Black Pistons MC West Palm Annual

JULY

- 1 - USMV MC Chapter 2
- 7 - Mystic Seven MC, 7-7-7 Mardi Gras Party
- 8 - States Lake Worth off annual
- 21 - Wheels of Man Chili Cookoff
- 22 - Nate's Toy Run Bicycle Drive
- 29 - Black Pistons MC Ft. Laud Annual

AUGUST

- 3-12 67th Annual Sturgis Bike Week
- 10-12 - 12th International South Florida Tattoo Expo
- 12 - AOA MC 40th Anniversary
- 26 - Wings of Gold MC Stuart Annual

SEPTEMBER

- 2 - US Military Vets MC Pompano Annual
- 9 - States MC 14th Annual Key West Tuneup Party
- 14-16 - Phil Peterson's 35th Key West Poker Run
- 23 - Southern MC Teddy Bear Run
- 30 - Black Pistons MC Ft Keys off annual

OCTOBER

- 7 - Mystic 7 MC Annual
- 14 - AOA Treasure Coast off annual
- 14 - Bobby B's "Boss" Hrly's Grand Octoberfest Party
- 18-21 - Daytona Biketoberfest
- 27 - 33rd Annual Wheels of Man MC Halloween Party
- 28 - SE ABATE 27th Annual Motorcyclists Rights Rally

NOVEMBER

- 4 - Alternative MC Annual
- 11 - USMV MC National 20th Annual Party
- 17 - Nat's Toy Run Bike Drive
- 18 - CMA Memorial Event
- 25 - 3rd Annual Keltics for Kids Fun-Raiser

DECEMBER

- 2-Heaven Cycles 30th Annual-30 FREE Kegs!
- 9 - 20th SFPC Christmas Toys in the Sun Run
- 15 - 8th Annual SFLCOC Christmas Party
- 15 - Drawing for the Toy Run bike at H-D of Miami
- 23 - Calvary Chapel Christmas Service

Anniversary Party & Chopper Show

Post 277

American Legion Riders

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Black Pistons

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 Greenacres Community Park

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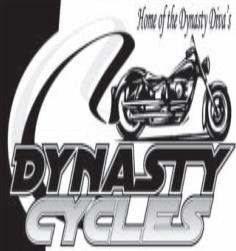


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*FROM: TUMBLEWEED
CHAPLAIN, ABATE P.B.C.*

BROTHERS AND SISTER OF PALM BEACH ABATE

AS I SPOKE AT THE LAST MEETING OF "LOSING YOUR JOY" I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE A GOOD TIME FOR ME TO EXPOUND ON THIS. SATAN LOVES TO STEAL YOUR JOY. BUT WHAT IS JOY? JOY IS HAPPINESS, CHEER. WHEN YOU HAVE JOY IN YOUR HEART. SATAN GETS UPSET.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS A LOT ABOUT JOY, ABOUT ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY FOUR TIMES. BUT YOU MUST REMEMBER THAT SATAN IS A THIEF AND HE WILL ATTEMPT TO STEAL THE JOY FROM YOU. IN EPHESIANS 6: 11, IT SAYS "PUT ON ALL OF GODS ARMOR SO THAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO STAND SAFE AGAINST ALL STRATEGIES AND TRICKS OF SATAN. (TLB)

DOES SATAN TRY TO STEAL MY JOY? YOU BET HE DOES. NOT ONLY WILL HE TRY TO STEAL MY JOY, BUT HE WILL ALSO TRY TO KILL ME, LIKE ON MY TRIP TO TALLAHASSEE WHEN I ALMOST GOT FLATTEN BY A SEMI TRUCK. NO ONE KNEW HOW MUCH I PRAISED THE LORD THAT DAY FOR THE ANGEL THAT PUSH ME OUT OF HARMS WAY. JUST REMEMBER SATAN IS A MURDER, A THIEF, AND A LIAR. HE WALKS AROUND LIKE A ROARING LION SEEKING WHOM HE MAY DEVOUR (1ST PETER 5:8).

IF YOU DON'T KNOW JESUS OR IF YOU DO AND NEED TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE ARMOR OF GOD CONTACT OR STOP ME AT THE NEXT MEETING.

UNTIL THEN MAY GOD BLESS.

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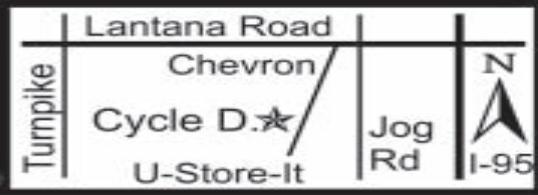
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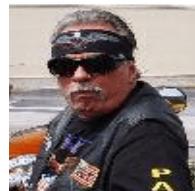
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Tallahassee 2007



There were only four of us: Tumbleweed, Butch, Lady Di and myself. We started off with breakfast in Lake Worth on April 14th 2007—a nice day for riding. In Tallahassee there were forecasts of tornadoes and violent weather for later on that day. Lady Di took hold of the whip and was the road captain. She did a good job of keeping the troops in line and on schedule. Thanks to her we were able to beat the bad weather and make it to our hotel by 4 pm, where we kicked back with a cold brew in our hands.



Later that evening there was warning of a hailstorm headed our way. Together with the Hillsborough chapter we were able to make a ramp to pull our bikes up under the covering. Thankfully, whatever weather did come through during the night, did not affect us at all.



Sunday morning with the chilly weather, we were all in search of any type of warm clothing we could get our hands on. With a trip to the local dollar shop we were able to find gloves, ski masks, and Butch improvised a T-shirt to wrap around his head. After the informative state meeting, we meet up with Ed (Gunner), to see his campground accommodations—his car. Ed drove up in his car and trailered his motorcycle for the ride on Monday.



Monday morning we awoke to a crisp, sunny and cold 42 degrees. We lined up for a 9:00am departure. Riding down Apalachee Parkway is a thrilling ride that everyone should experience. After the ceremony we visited the various state representatives, then we headed back to the warm South Florida weather. It was an enjoyable weekend but everyone looked forward to going home.

Submitted by:

Pete Calvagno - ABATE Palm Beach Chapter



DISORDER IN THE COURT PART 2

THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE WORKED WITH ATTORNEY'S WILL FIND THIS VERY EASY TO UNDERSTAND. OTHERS WILL FIND IT EASIER.

ATTORNEY: SO THE DATE OF CONCEPTION (OF THE BABY) WAS AUGUST 8TH?

WITNESS: Yes.

ATTORNEY: AND WHAT WERE YOU DOING AT THAT TIME?

WITNESS: UH...

ATTORNEY: SHE HAD THREE CHILDREN, RIGHT?

WITNESS: Yes.

ATTORNEY: HOW MANY WERE BOYS?

WITNESS: NONE.

ATTORNEY: WERE THERE ANY GIRLS?

ATTORNEY: HOW WAS YOUR FIRST MARRIAGE TERMINATED?

WITNESS: BY DEATH.

ATTORNEY: AND BY WHOSE DEATH WAS IT TERMINATED?

ATTORNEY: CAN YOU DESCRIBE THE INDIVIDUAL?

WITNESS: HE WAS ABOUT MEDIUM HEIGHT AND HAD A BEARD.

ATTORNEY: WAS THIS A MALE OR A FEMALE?

ATTORNEY: IS YOUR APPEARANCE HERE THIS MORNING PURSUANT TO A DEPOSITION NOTICE WHICH I SENT TO YOUR ATTORNEY?

WITNESS: No, THIS IS HOW I DRESS WHEN I GO TO WORK.

ATTORNEY: DOCTOR, HOW MANY OF YOUR AUTOPSIES HAVE YOU PERFORMED ON DEAD PEOPLE?

WITNESS: ALL MY AUTOPSIES ARE PERFORMED ON DEAD PEOPLE.

ATTORNEY: ALL YOUR RESPONSES MUST BE ORAL, OK? WHAT SCHOOL DID YOU GO TO?

WITNESS: ORAL.

ATTORNEY: DO YOU RECALL THE TIME THAT YOU EXAMINED THE BODY?

WITNESS: THE AUTOPSY STARTED AROUND 8:30 P.M.

ATTORNEY: AND MR. DENTON WAS DEAD AT THE TIME?

WITNESS: No, HE WAS SITTING ON THE TABLE WONDERING WHY I WAS DOING AN AUTOPSY ON HIM!

ATTORNEY: ARE YOU QUALIFIED TO GIVE A URINE SAMPLE?

WITNESS: HUH?

ATTORNEY: DOCTOR, BEFORE YOU PERFORMED THE AUTOPSY, DID YOU CHECK FOR A PULSE?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: DID YOU CHECK FOR BLOOD PRESSURE?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: DID YOU CHECK FOR BREATHING?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: So, THEN IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE PATIENT WAS ALIVE WHEN YOU BEGAN THE AUTOPSY?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: HOW CAN YOU BE SO SURE, DOCTOR?

WITNESS: BECAUSE HIS BRAIN WAS SITTING ON MY DESK IN A JAR.

ATTORNEY: BUT COULD THE PATIENT HAVE STILL BEEN ALIVE, NEVERTHELESS?

WITNESS: YES, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT HE COULD HAVE BEEN ALIVE AND PRACTICING LAW.

"I GET PAID FOR SEEING THAT MY CLIENT GETS EVERY BREAK THE LAW WILL ALLOW. I HAVE KNOWINGLY DEFENDED SOME GUILTY MEN. BUT THE GUILTY NEVER ESCAPE UNSCATHED. MY FEES ARE SUFFICIENT PUNISHMENT FOR ANYONE". F. LEE BAILY

"THE IDEAL CLIENT IS A VERY WEALTHY MAN IN VERY GREAT TROUBLE" JOHN STERLING

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>May 2007</h1>						
		1 Iron Eagle Bike Nite	2 Island Jack's - Bike Night- Margate & WPB	3	4 State's MC - Lake Worth - Open House Lama - Open House	5
6	7	8 Iron Eagle Bike Nite	9 Island Jack's - Bike Night- Margate & WPB	10	11 State's MC - Lake Worth - Open House Lama - Open House	12 Memorial run for Tweety Bird Black Pistons MC - GBNF
13	14	15 Iron Eagle Bike Nite	16 Island Jack's - Bike Night- Margate & WPB	17	18 State's MC - Lake Worth - Open House Lama - Open House	19 ABATE-PBC MEETING 11:30 ----- American Legion Riders 277 Anniverday Party - Pg 15
20 Black Pistons MC - Florida Keys - 2 nd Annual Pg 15 9 th Annual Rock-n-Roll Greenacres - Pg 16	21	22 Iron Eagle Bike Nite	23 Island Jack's - Bike Night- Margate & WPB	24	25 State's MC - Lake Worth - Open House Lama - Open House	26 MoJo's Birthday Mystic 7 MC
27 For Memorial Day Events See Page 14 Leslie Kay, S.E. Abate, Bike Rally Okeechobee	28	29 Iron Eagle Bike Nite	30 Island Jack's - Bike Night- Margate & WPB	31		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>June 2007</h1>						
					1 State's MC - Lake Worth - Open House Lama - Open House	2 New Attitudes MC Annual Pg 16
3	4	5 Iron Eagle Bike Nite	6 Island Jack's - Bike Night- Margate & WPB	7	8 State's MC - Lake Worth - Open House Lama - Open House	9
10 AOA MC Treasure Coast Annual	11	12 Iron Eagle Bike Nite	13 Island Jack's - Bike Night- Margate & WPB	14	15 State's MC - Lake Worth - Open House Lama - Open House	16 ABATE-PBC MEETING 11:30
17	18	19 Iron Eagle Bike Nite	20 Island Jack's - Bike Night- Margate & WPB	21	22 State's MC - Lake Worth - Open House Lama - Open House	23 Nam Knights Annual - Café <u>27</u> Wings of Gold Off Annual
24 Nate's Toy Run - Bike Drive - Parrott Lounge, FT. LDLE	25	26 Iron Eagle Bike Nite	27 Island Jack's - Bike Night- Margate & WPB	28	29 State's MC - Lake Worth - Open House Lama - Open House	30 Black Pistons MC WPB Annual

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WOUNDED WARRIOR ASSISTANCE ACT PASSES HOUSE

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HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS
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CONTACT: KRISTAL DEKLEER (202) 225-9756

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: MARCH 28, 2007

BILL ENSURES TROOPS EXPERIENCE THE SEAMLESS TRANSITION THEY DESERVE

WASHINGTON, D.C. - ON WEDNESDAY, THE HOUSE PASSED H.R. 1538, THE WOUNDED WARRIORS ASSISTANCE ACT OF 2007. THIS LEGISLATION IS A COOPERATIVE EFFORT BETWEEN THE HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE AND THE HOUSE VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEMS FACING WOUNDED SERVICE MEMBERS AND TO IMPROVE THEIR TRANSITION FROM THE MILITARY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

"OUR TEST AS A CONGRESS AND AS A NATION IS HOW WE ARE GOING TO RESPOND TO THE PROBLEMS WE HAVE LEARNED ABOUT IN MILITARY AND VETERANS' HEALTH CARE," SAID CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, BOB FILNER (D-CA). "THE WOUNDED WARRIORS ASSISTANCE ACT IS A GREAT FIRST STEP TOWARDS PROVIDING A 'SEAMLESS TRANSITION' BETWEEN ACTIVE DUTY AND VETERANS' STATUS: ONE PHYSICAL EVALUATION FOR BOTH EXIT (FROM ACTIVE DUTY) AND ENTRANCE (TO VA SYSTEM) AND ONE SYSTEM FOR ELECTRONIC HEALTH CARE RECORDS."

THE WOUNDED WARRIOR ASSISTANCE ACT PROVIDES THE PEOPLE, TRAINING, AND OVERSIGHT MECHANISMS NEEDED TO ENSURE THAT OUR

WOUNDED WARRIORS FEEL SECURE THAT THEY WILL ALWAYS RECEIVE COMMITTED QUALITY CARE AND THAT THE SYSTEM WILL NOT FAIL THEM. THE LEGISLATION ALSO SETS THE STAGE FOR MUCH NEEDED REFORM OF ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESSES THAT WILL RESTORE MEMBER CONFIDENCE IN THE INTEGRITY AND EFFICIENCY OF THE DISABILITY EVALUATION SYSTEM AND BEGIN THE PROCESS OF ACHIEVING A TRULY SEAMLESS TRANSITION OF SERVICE MEMBERS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS PROGRAMS.

"THE HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE HAS WORKED CLOSELY WITH THE HOUSE VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE TO DEVELOP THIS LEGISLATION, AND I AM GRATEFUL THAT THIS COOPERATION ALLOWED US TO BRING THIS BILL BEFORE THE HOUSE SO QUICKLY," SAID CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE, IKE SKELTON (D-MO). "HOUSE APPROVAL OF THE WOUNDED WARRIORS ASSISTANCE ACT IS AN IMPORTANT FIRST STEP, BUT MORE WORK WILL NEED TO BE DONE. IN THE DAYS AHEAD, BOTH OF OUR COMMITTEES WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE A MORE COMPREHENSIVE LOOK AT THE CHALLENGES SERVICE MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES FACE DURING RECOVERY."

THE TEXT OF THE LEGISLATION CAN BE FOUND AT [HTTP://WWW.THOMAS.GOV/CGI-BIN/BDQUERY/Z?D110:H.R.O1538](http://www.thomas.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d110:h.r.o1538):



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WRITTEN BY AN AUSTRALIAN DENTIST....AND TOO GOOD TO DELETE....

TO KILL AN AMERICAN

YOU PROBABLY MISSED IT IN THE RUSH OF NEWS LAST WEEK, BUT THERE WAS ACTUALLY A REPORT THAT SOMEONE IN PAKISTAN HAD PUBLISHED IN A NEWSPAPER AN OFFER OF A REWARD TO ANYONE WHO KILLED AN AMERICAN, ANY AMERICAN.

SO AN AUSTRALIAN DENTIST WROTE AN EDITORIAL THE FOLLOWING DAY TO LET EVERYONE KNOW WHAT AN AMERICAN IS . SO THEY WOULD KNOW WHEN THEY FOUND ONE. (GOOD ONE, MATE!!!!)

"AN AMERICAN IS ENGLISH, OR FRENCH, OR ITALIAN, IRISH, GERMAN, SPANISH, POLISH, RUSSIAN OR GREEK. AN AMERICAN MAY ALSO BE CANADIAN, MEXICAN, AFRICAN, INDIAN, CHINESE, JAPANESE, KOREAN, AUSTRALIAN, IRANIAN, ASIAN, OR ARAB, OR PAKISTANI OR AFGHAN.

AN AMERICAN MAY ALSO BE A COMANCHE, CHEROKEE, OSAGE, BLACKFOOT, NAVAHO, APACHE, SEMINOLE OR ONE OF THE MANY OTHER TRIBES KNOWN AS NATIVE AMERICANS.

AN AMERICAN IS CHRISTIAN, OR HE COULD BE JEWISH, OR BUDDHIST, OR MUSLIM. IN FACT, THERE ARE MORE MUSLIMS IN AMERICA THAN IN AFGHANISTAN. THE ONLY DIFFERENCE IS THAT IN AMERICA THEY ARE FREE TO WORSHIP AS EACH OF THEM CHOOSES.

AN AMERICAN IS ALSO FREE TO BELIEVE IN NO RELIGION. FOR THAT HE WILL ANSWER ONLY TO GOD, NOT TO THE GOVERNMENT, OR TO ARMED THUGS CLAIMING TO SPEAK FOR THE GOVERNMENT AND FOR GOD.

AN AMERICAN LIVES IN THE MOST PROSPEROUS LAND IN THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD. THE ROOT OF THAT PROSPERITY CAN BE FOUND IN THE DECLARATION OF

INDEPENDENCE, WHICH RECOGNIZES THE GOD GIVEN RIGHT OF EACH PERSON TO THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS.

AN AMERICAN IS GENEROUS. AMERICANS HAVE HELPED OUT JUST ABOUT EVERY OTHER NATION IN THE WORLD IN THEIR TIME OF NEED, NEVER ASKING A THING IN RETURN.

WHEN AFGHANISTAN WAS OVER-RUN BY THE SOVIET ARMY 20 YEARS AGO, AMERICANS CAME WITH ARMS AND SUPPLIES TO ENABLE THE PEOPLE TO WIN BACK THEIR COUNTRY!

AS OF THE MORNING OF SEPTEMBER 11, AMERICANS HAD GIVEN MORE THAN ANY OTHER NATION TO THE POOR IN AFGHANISTAN. AMERICANS WELCOME THE BEST OF EVERYTHING...THE BEST PRODUCTS, THE BEST BOOKS, THE BEST MUSIC, THE BEST FOOD, THE BEST SERVICES. BUT THEY ALSO WELCOME THE LEAST.

THE NATIONAL SYMBOL OF AMERICA, THE STATUE OF LIBERTY, WELCOMES YOUR TIRED AND YOUR POOR, THE WRETCHED REFUSE OF YOUR TEEMING SHORES, THE HOMELESS, TEMPEST TOSSED. THESE IN FACT ARE THE PEOPLE WHO BUILT AMERICA.

SOME OF THEM WERE WORKING IN THE TWIN TOWERS THE MORNING OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 EARNING A BETTER LIFE FOR THEIR FAMILIES. IT'S BEEN TOLD THAT THE WORLD TRADE CENTER VICTIMS WERE FROM AT LEAST 30 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES, CULTURES, AND FIRST LANGUAGES, INCLUDING THOSE THAT AIDED AND ABETTED THE TERRORISTS.

SO YOU CAN TRY TO KILL AN AMERICAN IF YOU MUST. HITLER DID. SO DID GENERAL TOJO, AND STALIN, AND MAO TSE-TUNG, AND OTHER BLOOD-THIRSTY TYRANTS IN THE WORLD. BUT, IN DOING SO YOU WOULD JUST BE KILLING YOURSELF. BECAUSE AMERICANS ARE NOT A PARTICULAR PEOPLE FROM A PARTICULAR PLACE. THEY ARE THE EMBODIMENT OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT OF FREEDOM. EVERYONE WHO HOLDS TO THAT SPIRIT, EVERYWHERE, IS AN AMERICAN.

PLEASE KEEP THIS GOING! PASS THIS AROUND THE WORLD; THEN PASS IT AROUND AGAIN. IT SAYS IT ALL, FOR ALL OF US

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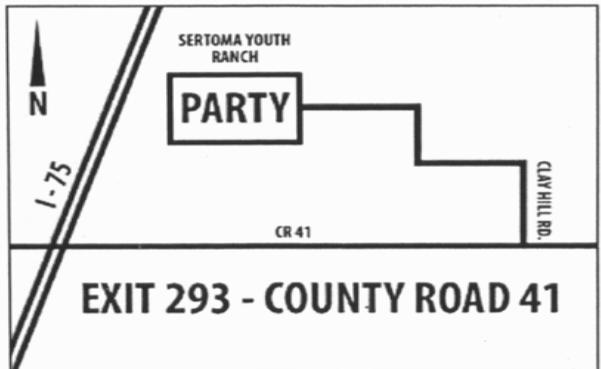
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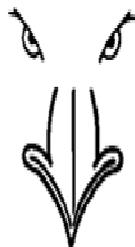
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CELL PHONE LEGISLATION 2007

26 MARCH 2007

HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE FLORIDA STATE LEGISLATURE:

PROPOSED LEGISLATION--INCLUDING BILLS SB620, SB1944 AND SB2372--IS CURRENTLY BEFORE YOU THAT IS INTENDED TO STEM THE RISING TIDE OF DEATHS AND INJURIES ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE INATTENTIONAL BLINDNESS OF MOTOR VEHICLE OPERATORS DISTRACTED TO THE POINT OF IMPAIRMENT AS A RESULT OF THEIR ENGAGING IN CELL PHONE CONVERSATIONS WHILE DRIVING. AS YOU ADDRESS THIS ISSUE, I ASK THAT YOU PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THAT IT IS THE CONVERSATION--NOT THE COMMUNICATIONS DEVICE--THAT CREATES THE DANGEROUS DISTRACTION. IN OTHER WORDS, IF YOUR AIM IS TO

MITIGATE INATTENTIONAL BLINDNESS BY RESTRICTING THE USE OF CELLULAR COMMUNICATIONS DEVICES WHILE DRIVING, YOU MUST RESTRICT THE USE OF ALL SUCH DEVICES, INCLUDING "HANDS-FREE" AS WELL AS "HAND-HELD" TECHNOLOGIES.

IN A 21 JANUARY 2007 LETTER TO NICOLE R. NASON, ADMINISTRATOR OF THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION ("NHTSA")...

[HTTP://AUTOSAFETY.ORG/UPLOADS/PHPWMD6VH_CELLPHONEPETITIONFINAL.PDF](http://AUTOSAFETY.ORG/UPLOADS/PHPWMD6VH_CELLPHONEPETITIONFINAL.PDF)

...THE CENTER FOR AUTO SAFETY'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CLARENCE DITLOW NOTED THE FOLLOWING:

"RESEARCH HAS CONSISTENTLY SHOWN THAT OPERATING A MOTOR VEHICLE WHILE TALKING ON A CELL PHONE--WHETHER HAND-HELD OR HANDS-FREE--INCREASES THE RISK OF AN ACCIDENT TO THREE TO FOUR TIMES THE EXPERIENCE OF ATTENTIVE DRIVERS.(6) THE GENERAL CONSENSUS OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY IS THAT THERE IS LITTLE, IF ANY, DIFFERENCE IN CRASH RATES INVOLVING HANDS-FREE VERSUS HAND-HELD CELL PHONES. THE TWO-WAY CONVERSATION ON A CELLULAR PHONE, NOT THE TASK OF HOLDING THE PHONE, CAUSES A COGNITIVE DISTRACTION. THIS DISTRACTION INDUCES 'INATTENTION BLINDNESS,' INHIBITING DRIVERS' ABILITIES TO DETECT CHANGE IN ROAD CONDITIONS.

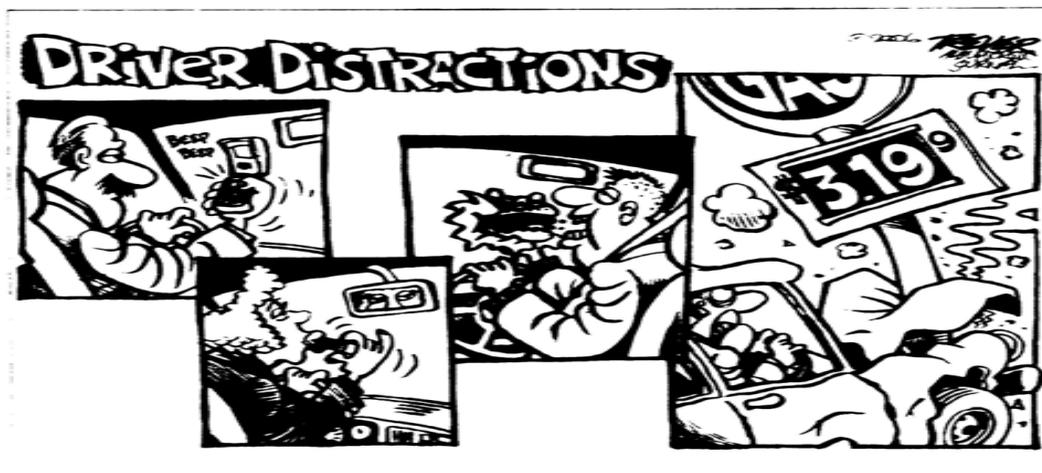
(7)"THESE CONCLUSIONS ARE CORROBORATED BY NUMEROUS SCIENTIFIC STUDIES, INCLUDING ONE BY THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH'S DAVID L. STRAYER, FRANK A. DREWS, AND DENNIS J. CROUCH ENTITLED "A COMPARISON OF THE CELL PHONE DRIVER AND THE DRUNK DRIVER"... WHICH CONCLUDED: "WHEN DRIVERS WERE CONVERSING ON EITHER A HANDHELD OR HANDS-



FREE CELL PHONE, THEIR BRAKING REACTIONS WERE DELAYED AND THEY WERE INVOLVED IN MORE TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS THAN WHEN THEY WERE NOT CONVERSING ON A CELL PHONE. BY CONTRAST, WHEN DRIVERS WERE INTOXICATED FROM ETHANOL THEY EXHIBITED A MORE AGGRESSIVE DRIVING STYLE, FOLLOWING CLOSER TO THE VEHICLE IMMEDIATELY IN FRONT OF THEM AND APPLYING MORE FORCE WHILE BRAKING. CONCLUSION: WHEN DRIVING CONDITIONS AND TIME ON TASK WERE CONTROLLED FOR, THE IMPAIRMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH USING A CELL PHONE WHILE DRIVING CAN BE AS PROFOUND AS THOSE ASSOCIATED WITH DRIVING WHILE DRUNK."

THE FACTS ARE IRREFUTABLE: IN ORDER FOR ANY BAN ON THE USE OF CELLULAR COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY WHILE DRIVING TO ACHIEVE THE DESIRED EFFECT OF MITIGATING INATTENTIONAL BLINDNESS AND REDUCING THE RESULTANT CRASHES, INJURIES AND DEATHS, THE CALLS MUST BE RESTRICTED REGARDLESS OF THE TECHNOLOGY--E.G., HAND-HELD OR HANDS-FREE--USED TO ENABLE THEM. AGAIN CITING CLARENCE DITLOW'S LETTER:

'THE CENTER FOR AUTO SAFETY THEREFORE PETITIONS NHTSA TO INITIATE RULEMAKING TO PROHIBIT THE USE OF INTEGRATED CELLULAR TELEPHONES AND OTHER INTERACTIVE COMMUNICATION AND DATA TRANSMISSION DEVICES THAT CAN BE USED FOR PERSONAL CONVERSATIONS AND OTHER INTERACTIVE PERSONAL COMMUNICATION OR MESSAGING WHILE A VEHICLE IS IN MOTION. AS A FIRST STEP, THE CENTER PETITIONS NHTSA TO ISSUE A NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING WHICH WOULD AMEND FMVSS 102 TO ADD A NEW PROVISION READING: 'ANY VEHICLE INTEGRATED PERSONAL COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS INCLUDING CELLULAR PHONES AND TEXT MESSAGING SYSTEMS SHALL BE INOPERATIVE WHEN THE TRANSMISSION SHIFT LEVER IS IN A FORWARD OR REVERSE DRIVE POSITION.'



On the Waterfront

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The Mechanic - submitted by: Dan "Slo-Motion" Henderson

A MECHANIC WAS REMOVING A CYLINDER-HEAD FROM THE MOTOR OF A HARLEY MOTORCYCLE WHEN HE SPOTTED A WELL-KNOWN CARDIOLOGIST IN HIS SHOP. THE CARDIOLOGIST WAS THERE WAITING FOR THE SERVICE MANAGER TO COME TAKE A LOOK AT HIS BIKE WHEN THE MECHANIC SHOUTED ACROSS THE GARAGE, "HEY DOC, WANT TO TAKE A LOOK AT THIS?"

THE CARDIOLOGIST, A BIT SURPRISED, WALKED OVER TO WHERE THE MECHANIC WAS WORKING ON THE MOTORCYCLE. THE MECHANIC STRAIGHTENED UP, WIPED HIS HANDS ON A RAG AND ASKED, "SO DOC, LOOK AT THIS ENGINE. I OPEN ITS HEART, TAKE THE VALVES OUT, REPAIR ANY DAMAGE, AND THEN PUT THEM BACK IN, AND WHEN I FINISH, IT WORKS JUST LIKE NEW. SO HOW COME I MAKE \$39,675 A YEAR AND YOU GET THE REALLY BIG BUCKS (\$1,695,759) WHEN YOU AND I ARE DOING BASICALLY THE SAME WORK?"

THE CARDIOLOGIST PAUSED, SMILED AND LEANED OVER, THEN WHISPERED TO THE MECHANIC...

"TRY DOING IT WITH THE ENGINE RUNNING."

DIVISION OF FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL

TROOP E HEADQUARTERS

April 11, 1996

TO: All Troop E Personnel

FROM: Major Grady Carrick *GC*
Troop Commander

SUBJECT: HOV Lane Enforcement - Motorcycle Exemption

As has been related to you in the past, the high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane restrictions do not apply to motorcycles. Motorcycles are exempt from the laws that govern the use of HOV lanes, as per Federal requirements found in the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991. If you engage in enforcement of this violation, please be aware that this exemption exists.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

GTC

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SELECTIVE REPORTING?

YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED AS I HAVE THAT EVERY ACCIDENT REPORTED INVOLVING A MOTORCYCLE BY THE NEWS MEDIA HAS MADE MENTION OF WHETHER OR NOT THE RIDER WAS WEARING A HELMET. THEY KIND OF SKIPPED IT THIS TIME. MAYBE BECAUSE HE WAS A POLICE OFFICER AND WASN'T WEARING A HELMET? MAYBE HE WAS WEARING A HELMET AND IT WOULDN'T HAVE MATTERED? I JUST FOUND IT KIND OF CURIOUS. I AM ENCOURAGED THAT AT LEAST THEY ARE NOW REPORTING THE KIND OF BIKE THAT WAS INVOLVED.

April 29, 2007

Florida

County deputy critically hurt en route to motorcycle festival

A Palm Beach County sheriff's deputy was critically injured during a car accident about 8:30 a.m. Saturday on Florida's Turnpike, the Florida Highway Patrol said.

Sgt. David Bradford, 41, of the traffic unit, was traveling with four other off-duty deputies about 20 miles south of St. Cloud, to a motorcycle festival when Monica Cook, 22, of Miami was being pulled over for going 104 mph in a 70 mph zone, FHP said.

As Cook, who was traveling with a passenger, changed lanes in her 2007 BMW to pull over, she struck Bradford, a 19-year veteran, on his 2001 Harley Davidson, FHP said. He flipped several times and was thrown from his motorcycle, FHP said. He was taken to Orlando Regional Medical Center and is in critical condition, according to FHP.

Cook was cited for speeding and unlawful lane change.

ONE OTHER THING THAT'S MISSING IS THE PART WHERE IT IS MENTIONED THAT THE ACCIDENT IS UNDER INVESTIGATION. GRANTED HE HAD AN EXCELLENT WITNESS. IN THIS REPORT IT DOESN'T MENTION THAT

MS. COOK IS BEING CHARGED FOR HITTING THE MOTORCYCLE. PROBABLY BECAUSE OF MR. BRADFORD'S CONDITION. OUR PRAYERS GO OUT TO HIM AND HIS FAMILY.

STRONGBOW

STORY SUBMITTED BY: RIO

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**National Coalition
of Motorcyclists**



NCOM NEWS BYTES

compiled and edited by Bill Bish - March 2007

NATIONAL COALITION OF MOTORCYCLISTS (NCOM)

FEDERAL BILLS TO END HEALTHCARE DISCRIMINATION AGAINST BIKERS BIPARTISAN COMPANION BILLS WERE INTRODUCED ON FEBRUARY 15TH IN BOTH THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND U.S. SENATE THAT WOULD END HEALTH INSURANCE DISCRIMINATION AGAINST MOTORCYCLE RIDERS BY PREVENTING INSURERS FROM DENYING COVERAGE TO INJURED MOTORCYCLISTS AND OTHERS PARTICIPATING IN LEGAL BUT SO-CALLED "RISKY ACTIVITIES".

BOTH BILLS, INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE AS S. 616 BY SENATORS SUSAN COLLINS (R) OF MAINE AND RUSS FEINGOLD (D) OF WISCONSIN, AND IN THE HOUSE AS H.R. 1076 BY CONGRESSMEN MICHAEL C. BURGESS (R) OF TEXAS AND BART STUPAK (D) OF MICHIGAN, WOULD PROHIBIT EMPLOYERS FROM DISCRIMINATING AGAINST PARTICIPANTS IN SUCH LEGAL ACTIVITIES AS MOTORCYCLING, ATV RIDING, SKIING, SNOWMOBILING OR HORSEBACK RIDING, IN THE HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE THEY PROVIDE FOR THEIR EMPLOYEES.

IN RECENT YEARS, SOME INSURANCE COMPANIES HAVE REFUSED TO COVER INSURED INJURED WHILE RIDING THEIR MOTORCYCLES, AND MOTORCYCLE RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS WORKED HARD DURING THE MID-90'S TO CONVINCE CONGRESS TO INCLUDE LANGUAGE IN THE HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1996 TO BAR INSURERS FROM DENYING COVERAGE TO INJURED RIDERS, BUT A LOOPHOLE IN HIPAA ALLOWS INSURERS TO CONTINUE THE DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICE OF DENYING SPECIFIC BENEFITS WHILE OTHERWISE PROVIDING HEALTH-CARE COVERAGE.

HELP CLOSE THIS LOOPHOLE AND PROMOTE HEALTH-CARE COVERAGE PARITY FOR MOTORCYCLISTS AND OTHERS ENGAGED IN LEGAL ACTIVITIES BY CONTACTING YOUR CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVES AND URGE THEM TO SUPPORT S. 616 IN THE SENATE AND H.R. 1078 IN THE HOUSE.

COLORADO CONSIDERS KIDDIE HELMET LAW WHILE 30 STATES ALLOW MOST ADULTS THE FREEDOM TO CHOOSE WHETHER OR NOT TO WEAR A HELMET WHEN THEY RIDE, ONLY THREE OF THOSE HAVE NO HELMET LAW AT ALL, NEITHER FOR ADULTS OR CHILDREN, AND COLORADO IS ONE OF THEM (ALSO IOWA AND ILLINOIS). AT LEAST FOR NOW"

COLORADO HASN'T HAD A HELMET RESTRICTION SINCE 1977, BUT HB 1117 INTRODUCED BY REP. DIANNE PRIMAVERA (D-BROOMFIELD) TO REQUIRE HELMETS FOR RIDERS UNDER 18 RECENTLY PASSED THROUGH THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY COMMITTEE, WHICH

Continued

PUEBLO WEST REPRESENTATIVE BUFFIE MCFADYEN CHAIRS. "THERE'S NO QUESTION THAT IN COLORADO, GROUPS LIKE ABATE OF COLORADO DON'T WANT TO SEE HELMET LAWS," SAYS REP. BUFFIE MCFADYEN (D-PUEBLO WEST). "MANY OF THE PEOPLE WHO OPPOSED THE BILL, OPPOSED IT ON THE GROUNDS OF IT BEING A SLIPPERY SLOPE, THAT IT WAS AN INFRINGEMENT ON THE RIGHTS OF PARENTS," SAYS REP. MCFADYEN.

"THIS IS PUTTING THE STATE BETWEEN THE PARENT AND THE CHILD, SAYING 'WE'RE IN CHARGE,'" REP. KEVIN LUNDBERG, R-BERTHOUD, SAID IN VOTING AGAINST THE HELMET LAW IN THE HOUSE.

REP. DON MAROSTICA, R-LOVELAND, ALSO OPPOSED THE LEGISLATION, SAYING THAT HELMETS DO NOT OFFER THAT MUCH PROTECTION. "THIS IS A FEEL-GOOD BILL BECAUSE THE ONLY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A HELMET AND NO HELMET," HE SAID "IS WHETHER YOU HAVE AN OPEN CASKET AND A CLOSED CASKET."

BUT DESPITE OBJECTIONS ABOUT GOVERNMENT INTRUSION INTO PRIVATE LIVES, THE BILL PREVAILED FEBRUARY 8 BY A VOTE OF 8-5, SPLIT ALONG PARTY LINES.

"HB 1117 'FIXES' LITTLE-TO-NOTHING; IT IS A SOLUTION IN SEARCH OF A PROBLEM," SAID ABATE OF COLORADO STATE COORDINATOR TERRY HOWARD, WHO DIRECTS ANYONE FROM OUT OF STATE WHO WANTS TO WEIGH IN ON THIS BILL TO E-MAIL THEM DIRECTLY AT HELMETBILL@ABATEOFCOLO.ORG. "WE WILL DISTRIBUTE YOUR COMMENTS TO OUR FRIENDLYS AT THE CAPITOL."

ANTI-GANG LEGISLATION IN S.C. " IN THE INTEREST OF PROMOTING AWARENESS OF CONSTITUTIONAL THREATS THAT EXIST OUT THERE, HERE'S SOME INFO REGARDING THE "ANTI-GANG LAW" SLATED TO PASS SOON IN SOUTH CAROLINA, WHICH CAN CONSTITUTE AN ASSAULT UPON THE BILL OF RIGHTS AND OUR PERSONAL FREEDOMS," WRITES TIGER MIKE REVERE, STATE COORDINATOR OF ABATE OF OKLAHOMA AND A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COALITION OF MOTORCYCLISTS (NCOM) BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AS WELL AS LIAISON TO THE OKLAHOMA CONFEDERATION OF CLUBS. "IT REMINDS ME OF THE LEGISLATION PASSED NOT TOO LONG AGO IN OHIO, AND IT'S PRETTY SCARY!"

S. 141 -- THE CRIMINAL GANG PREVENTION ACT -- HAS PASSED THE SOUTH CAROLINA SENATE AND IS NOW IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND WILL LIKELY BECOME LAW IN SOUTH CAROLINA THIS LEGISLATIVE SESSION UNLESS THE PUBLIC INTERVENES.

SO HOW DOES S. 141 DEFINE A GANG? IN THE INTEREST OF FIGHTING TERROR, ACCORDING TO THE ANTI-GANG BILL A 'CRIMINAL GANG' MEANS A FORMAL OR INFORMAL ONGOING ORGANIZATION, ASSOCIATION, OR GROUP THAT CONSISTS OF FIVE OR MORE PERSONS WHO FORM FOR THE PURPOSE OF COMMITTING CRIMINAL ACTIVITY AND WHO KNOWINGLY AND ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN A PATTERN OF CRIMINAL GANG ACTIVITY.

Continued

BY VIRTUE OF THE FACT THAT THE STATE CAN MAKE ITS CASE AS TO WHETHER OR NOT FIVE OR MORE PERSONS FORMED A FORMAL OR INFORMAL ONGOING ORGANIZATION, ASSOCIATION, OR GROUP FOR THE PURPOSE OF COMMITTING CRIMINAL ACTIVITY LEAVES THE DOOR OPEN FOR MANY GRASSROOTS ORGANIZATIONS, CIVIC GROUPS, AND SOCIAL ASSOCIATIONS TO BE INVESTIGATED BY A SOUTH CAROLINA GRAND JURY UNDER THE SUSPICION OF GANG ACTIVITY. JUST AS THE RICO ACT HAS REACHED BEYOND THE ORIGINAL INTENT OF GOING AFTER THE MAFIA, SO TOO DOES THE SOUTH CAROLINA CRIMINAL GANG ACT HAVE THE CAPACITY AND POTENTIAL TO EVENTUALLY ENGULF POLITICAL DISSENSION GROUPS AND EVEN POLITICAL PARTIES.

THE POINT IS THAT THE CRIMINAL GANGS THAT THE PUBLIC THINKS THE SC LAWMAKERS ARE TARGETING ARE ONLY A VERY SMALL COMPONENT TO THE CRIMINAL GANG PREVENTION ACT.

NO TACT, NO FACTS, BIKERS REACT "HMMM, SURE LOOKS LIKE HD IS REAL SUPPORTIVE OF MOTORCYCLIST RIGHTS, EH" " ASKS A RHETORICAL HAIRY GEORGE, LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR OF ABATE OF OHIO, AS HE POINTS OUT HARLEY-DAVIDSON'S STATED STANCE ON HELMETS AND RIDING, TAKEN DIRECTLY FROM PAGE 7 OF THEIR LATEST SPRING HD MOTORCLOTHES CATALOGUE:

"NO JACKET. NO HELMET. NO GLOVES. NO RIDING."

SIMILAR IN SENTIMENT TO THE SIGN IN RESTAURANTS AND BARS THAT SAYS "NO SHIRT. NO SHOES. NO SERVICE."

"I STRONGLY URGE EVERY MOTORCYCLIST RIGHTS ACTIVIST WHO RIDES AN H-D IN EVERY SMRO IN THIS COUNTRY TO CONTACT HARLEY-DAVIDSON AND EXPRESS HOW YOU FEEL AT THIS OUTRAGEOUS SLAP IN THE FACE TO THOSE OF US WHO SUPPORT "FREEDOM OF CHOICE", CONCLUDES HAIRY.

ARKANSAS HELMET LAW SUPPORTER RECEIVES THREATS WHETHER THE FOLLOWING IS TRUE OR NOT, IT JUST SHOWS HOW COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE INTIMIDATING LETTERS AND PHONE CALLS CAN BE WHEN YOU CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATOR.

AS THE DEBATE ABOUT WEARING MOTORCYCLE HELMETS HEATED UP, HELMET LAW SPONSOR SENATOR KIM HENDREN REPORTED GETTING THREATS. IN AN ONLINE BLOG, ONE PERSON WROTE, "THIS GUY NEEDS TO DIE AND TAKE HIS ANTIQUATED LAWS WITH HIM." HENDREN SAYS, "I THINK THAT'S UNFORTUNATE AND THAT'S NOT A WAY TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM."

WITH THE FIGHT GETTING PERSONAL, SENATOR HENDREN CONTINUED PUSHING FOR HELMETS IN A HEARING, BUT THIS TIME THERE WERE CAPITOL POLICE JUST OUTSIDE THE ROOM, AND THEY WERE ASSIGNED TO ATTEND ANY FUTURE HEARINGS INVOLVING THE HELMET ISSUE.

AS THOSE AGAINST THE PROPOSAL SPOKE, ONE OPPONENT SAID HE'S NOT SURE WHERE THE THREAT CAME FROM. BIKE SHOP OWNER AND ABATE OF ARKANSAS SPOKESPERSON RODNEY

Continued

ROBERTS SAID, "I KNOW THOUSANDS AND THOUSANDS OF MOTORCYCLISTS AND I DON'T KNOW A MOTORCYCLIST THAT WOULD SEND AN E-MAIL LIKE THIS." FORTUNATELY, THE BILL RAN INTO THE SAME OPPOSITION THAT SIMILAR BILLS HAVE FACED SINCE THE STATE REPEALED ITS MOTORCYCLE HELMET LAW IN 1997, AND THE LEGISLATION FAILED TO PASS OUT OF COMMITTEE.

BUT PLEASE REMEMBER, WHEN CONTACTING YOUR LOCAL, STATE OR FEDERAL LAWMAKERS, ALWAYS BE COURTEOUS AND CONCISE AND NEVER, EVER MAKE THREATENING OR INFLAMMATORY REMARKS!

"QUIET" HELMET TO SAVE HEARING LOSS TO RIDERS AS WE SEGUE FROM HELMET HEARINGS TO HEARING AND HELMETS, SCIENTISTS ARE TRYING TO DESIGN A HELMET TO STOP MOTORCYCLE RIDERS FROM SUFFERING HEARING LOSS CREATED BY HELMET NOISE. THE HEARING DAMAGE IS BELIEVED TO BE CAUSED BY THE NOISE CREATED AS AIR FLOWS OVER AND THROUGH THE RIDERS' HELMETS DURING A JOURNEY.

RESEARCH HAS SHOWN THAT UP TO 40 PER CENT OF PROFESSIONAL MOTORCYCLISTS SUCH AS POLICE AND PARAMEDICS SUFFER SIGNIFICANT HEARING LOSS. MANY OTHER REGULAR RIDERS COULD ALSO BE RUNNING THE RISK OF DAMAGING THEIR HEARING WITHOUT REALIZING.

A TEAM FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF BATH AND BATH SPA UNIVERSITY WILL NOW SET OUT TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM. THEIR NEW "QUIET" HELMET WOULD REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF NOISE ON THE EAR. SCIENTISTS ALSO BELIEVE THAT HIGHER NOISE LEVELS CAN REDUCE BIKERS' ABILITY TO CONCENTRATE.

DR. MICHAEL CARLEY, WHO IS LEADING THE RESEARCH PROGRAM, SAID: "OUR LONG-TERM GOAL IS TO MAKE MOTORCYCLING LESS DAMAGING, BY DESIGNING NEW HELMETS WHICH MAKE RIDING LESS NOISY."

DISTRACTED DRIVERS CAUSE 80 PERCENT OF ACCIDENTS YOU'RE HALF THE DRIVER YOU COULD BE IF YOU'RE SIMPLY LISTENING TO A PASSENGER LET ALONE TALKING TO SOMEONE -- OR DOING WORSE -- WHILE CRUISING DOWN THE HIGHWAY. BRAIN POWER ASSOCIATED WITH DRIVING DECREASES BY 40 PERCENT WHEN A DRIVER LISTENS TO SOMEONE TALK, WHETHER IT'S A PASSENGER OR ON THE RADIO, SAID MARCEL JUST, A PSYCHOLOGIST WHO DIRECTS THE CENTER FOR COGNITIVE BRAIN IMAGING AT CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY.

A STUDY LAST YEAR BY RESEARCHERS AT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION (NHTSA) AND VIRGINIA TECH UNIVERSITY FOUND THAT 80 PERCENT OF ACCIDENTS INVOLVED SOME FORM OF DRIVER INATTENTION WITHIN THREE SECONDS OF THE ACCIDENT.

YET MORE THAN 80 PERCENT OF DRIVERS RECENTLY SURVEYED BY NATIONWIDE MUTUAL INSURANCE ADMITTED THEY WERE MULTI-TASKERS IN THE CAR. SOME CONFESSED TO BLATANTLY

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HAZARDOUS BEHAVIOR WHILE DRIVING SUCH AS: STEERING WITH A FOOT; PAINTING TOENAILS; SHAVING; FEEDING A BABY; AND EVEN PEEING OUT THE WINDOW.

"WE'VE GOT A LOT OF PEOPLE OUT THERE DOING EVERYTHING BUT DRIVING," SAID BILL WINDSOR, SAFETY EXPERT AT NATIONWIDE. A MAN IN SCHENECTADY, N.Y., WAS ARRESTED IN 2004 FOR HAVING A PORNOGRAPHIC DVD PLAYING ON THE PASSENGER-SIDE SUN VISOR, AND A WOMAN WAS CAUGHT BREASTFEEDING HER 7-MONTH-OLD DAUGHTER WHILE DRIVING ON THE OHIO TURNPIKE IN 2003. IF CAUGHT, DRIVERS COULD BE CITED WITH CARELESS DRIVING, POLICE SAID.

CELL PHONES MOST OFTEN ARE BLAMED FOR POOR DRIVING. FOUR STATES -- CALIFORNIA, CONNECTICUT, NEW JERSEY AND NEW YORK -- AND WASHINGTON, D.C., HAVE BANNED HAND-HELD CELL PHONES FOR ALL DRIVERS. FOURTEEN MORE STATES SO FAR THIS YEAR HAVE INTRODUCED LEGISLATION RESTRICTING HAND-HELD CELL PHONE USE, ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES.

THAT'S FINE WITH JUST, OF THE CENTER FOR COGNITIVE BRAIN IMAGING. "THERE'S THIS WHOLE ATTITUDE TOWARD HIGHWAY SAFETY," HE SAID. "TAKING RISKS IN DRIVING IS SORT OF A SOCIAL ISSUE AND NOT JUST A PERSONAL ISSUE. IT'S A LITTLE DIFFERENT THAN NOT WEARING A MOTORCYCLE HELMET."

CHINESE MANUFACTURER IS WORLD'S LARGEST MOTORCYCLE PRODUCER ACCORDING TO CHINESE NEWS AGENCY XINHUA, CHINA'S STATE-OWNED AUTOMOTIVE COMPANY CHINA SOUTH HAS EMERGED AS THE WORLD'S LARGEST MOTORCYCLE PRODUCER WITH AN ANNUAL PRODUCTION CAPACITY OF FIVE MILLION UNITS. THE COMPANY'S PRODUCTS ARE SOLD UNDER THE BRANDS JIALING, JIANSHE, DAYANG AND JINAN QINGQI AND ARE SOLD IN OVER 100 COUNTRIES, WITH PRODUCTION AND MARKETING BASES IN 30 COUNTRIES.

IN THE MEANTIME, THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS REPORTS THAT CHINESE MOTORCYCLE, SCOOTER AND ALL-TERRAIN-VEHICLE MANUFACTURERS LOOKING TO BREAK INTO THE U.S. MARKET HAVE TURNED DALLAS INTO THEIR AMERICAN HUB. A DOZEN DISTRIBUTORS HAVE OPENED SALES OFFICES AND WAREHOUSES AROUND THE AREA OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS. MOST EMPLOY ONLY A HANDFUL OF WORKERS, BUT THEY'RE RAPIDLY ADDING HUNDREDS OF DEALERS.

WHETHER THESE DISTRIBUTORS THRIVE OR FAIL IN THE FIERCELY COMPETITIVE U.S. MARKET COULD PROVIDE CLUES AS TO HOW CHINESE AUTOMAKERS WILL FARE. THAT'S BECAUSE MOTORCYCLES HAVE TRADITIONALLY BEEN A STEPPINGSTONE TO THE SALE OF NEW CARS, AS DEMONSTRATED BY THE JAPANESE COMPANIES HONDA MOTOR CO. AND SUZUKI MOTOR CORP.

CHINESE MOTORCYCLES HAVE A POOR REPUTATION FOR QUALITY, BUT NO ONE IS COUNTING THEM OUT. THE JAPANESE COMPANIES THAT DOMINATE THE MARKET -- HONDA, SUZUKI, YAMAHA AND KAWASAKI -- OVERCAME QUALITY PROBLEMS DECADES AGO, WHEN ONE USED TO JOKE ABOUT "MADE IN JAPAN".

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CHINESE COMPANIES HAVE ALREADY BECOME A POWERFUL FORCE IN THE MOTORCYCLE INDUSTRY, PRODUCING AND EXPORTING MORE BIKES THAN ANY OTHER NATION. THE WORLD'S MOST POPULOUS COUNTRY HAS MORE THAN 80 MILLION MOTORCYCLES AND OVER 100 MANUFACTURERS PRODUCING 13 MILLION NEW MOTORCYCLES PER YEAR. BY COMPARISON, THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 6 MILLION MOTORCYCLES REGISTERED IN THE UNITED STATES, AND AMERICANS BUY ONE MILLION NEW BIKES EACH YEAR, MOSTLY IMPORTS.

WEIRD NEWS: BOOBS ON BIKES HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE, MAINLY MEN, LINED THE STREETS OF CHRISTCHURCH, NEW ZEALAND, TO WELCOME THE BOOBS ON BIKES PARADE TO PROMOTE THE START OF THE EROTICA LIFESTYLES EXPO.

BARE-CHESTED WOMEN AND GREASED MUSCLEMEN CIRCLED THE CITY ON HARLEY-DAVIDSON MOTORCYCLES, RECEIVING AN APPRECIATIVE ROAR WHEN ONE OF THE GIRLS USED HER ASSETS TO POLISH THE HELMET OF THE BEARDED BIKER PILOTING HER BIKE.

CROWD REACTION WAS DIVIDED ALMOST EXACTLY DOWN GENDER LINES, WITH A VERDICT OF "OVER-RATED" AND "UTTERLY TACKY" FROM THE LADIES, WHILE MEN LIKE SPECTATOR KLIFF TAPPIN SAID "PEOPLE SAY SEX AND PERVERSION ARE WRONG, BUT HALF THE CITY COMES OUT."

QUOTABLE QUOTE: "FREEDOM IN ART, FREEDOM IN SOCIETY, THIS IS THE DOUBLE GOAL TOWARDS WHICH ALL CONSISTENT AND LOGICAL MINDS MUST STRIVE."

VICTOR HUGO (1802-1885) FRENCH ROMANTIC POET, NOVELIST AND DRAMATIST

AND THAT'S ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS!



ABATE of Florida, Inc.
Palm Beach Chapter

P.O. BOX 971073

Boca Raton, FL 33497-1073

Next Palm Beach Chapter Meeting

**11:30 AM Saturday
May 19, 2007**

**VFW POST 5335
500 N.E. 21st AVENUE
Boynton Beach, FL 33435
561-737-4102**

Directions: Exit I-95 at Gateway go east to the R.R. tracks and turn right, before crossing the tracks. From U.S.1 turn west on Gateway and turn left immediately after crossing the tracks.

**GOALS & PURPOSES
OF ABATE**

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

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

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

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

To promote safe riding habits without infringing on individual rights.

To educate the public about motorcycle awareness.